



No winter lasts forever.
No spring skips its turn.

PUTNAM VILLAGER

Friday, March 19, 2021

Serving Putnam since 2005

Complimentary to homes by request



Courtesy photo

Colby Livingston, Putnam High's most recent 1,000-point scorer, poses with his teammates.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

PUTNAM — With 19 seconds to play in the third quarter of the Putnam High boys' basketball team's victory over Lyman High on Friday, Feb. 26, Clippers' senior captain Colby Livingston joined an elite club.

It was at that moment, according to Putnam High athletic director

CLIPPERS' BASKETBALL PLAYING SENIOR JOINS EXCLUSIVE 1,000-POINT CLUB

Glenn Senecal, the six-foot-four, 190-pound forward became the 11th player in school history to score 1,000 points in his career.

"Our point guard, Carson Bates,

drove down the left side of the court toward the paint and drew my defender to him," Livingston said, recreating the moment one day last week in a conference room at the

school. "At that point, he kicked it out to me behind the 3-point line and I took the shot."

Livingston's jumper hit nothing but net.

"When I took it, I thought it was going in," said the 17-year-old Livingston, who entered the game needing 17 points to join the 1,000-point club.

Turn To **LIVINGSTON**, page **A2**

Killingly Town Council approves new van for schools

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KILLINGLY – A new vehicle is coming to the Killingly student transportation fleet after the Town Council approved the purchase of a new minivan to replace an old vehicle well past its prime.

Town Manager Mary Calorio brought the proposal to the council on March 9, where she explained that a van currently used to transport students had surpassed its usable life. While the Board of Education had previously considered asking the town to fund a replacement, they held off for 2020 as there had been no issues with the vehicle at the time. However, the vehicle has continued to age and the inevitability of potential issues caused the Board of Education to seek funding through the town's Capital Non-Recurring Account.

Turn To **VAN**, page **A4**

Tourtellotte National Honor Society holds Food "Drive"

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON – The Tourtellotte Memorial High School National Honor Society and Leadership Team took to the streets, literally, to help out support the TEEG food pantry through a unique event on Saturday, March 13.

The NHS Food "Drive" saw student volunteers come together to commute around Thompson collecting food from residents at their homes keeping in line with social distancing guidelines due to COVID-19. This unique approach to a food drive was the idea of NHS Treasurer John Steglitz who was inspired to put a new spin on the food collection concept after hearing his parents talk about food insecurity at the local schools.

"We always run a food drive in the school and it's successful, but not as much as I would hope. I figured why not open it up to the community and this idea was born," Steglitz said. "I think this went really well. I was



Courtesy Photo

The Tourtellotte Memorial High School National Honor Society and Leadership Team collected around 800 food items through their first Food 'Drive' event on March 13.

Turn To **FOOD DRIVE**, page **A5**

Killingly Conservation Commission presents 2020 Environmental Awards

KILLINGLY — Killingly Conservation Commission has awarded two 2020 Environmental Awards: Sharon Fekete and Bruce Kohl, both recent Conservation Commissioners for their dedication and work protecting Killingly environment.

Sharon R. Fekete has been a conservation commissioner for 18 years, the second longest service of any members. Over the years, she was active in KCC annual Walktober events, led many public walks and back roads driving tours

in "Undiscovered Killingly." In physical brush clearing and stone moving with Summer Youth Job Corps, she cleared and maintained walking trails providing a volunteer example inspiring young people. She was especially good at communicating at public KCC booths promoting interest in area conservation issues.

Bruce Kohl served for five years and has recently relocated to Utica New York near his two daughters and their families. He brought his knowledge as

an arborist, advising the KCC and the town as Deputy Tree Warden on plants, trees and invasive species. His special passion was attempting to eradicate Japanese knotwood, an invasive plant that resembles tall bamboo, a very daunting effort to be sure.

Killingly Conservation Commission, for 20 years, has been recognizing an individual, organization, school or business who contributes to the awareness, care, enhancement or protection of Killingly open spaces and natural

resources, was instrumental in creating an environmental program in the schools or community, or other environmental activities that merit recognition.

Keep this in mind as we search for another recipient for this year's 2021 award.

Killingly Conservation Commission is needing more resident environmentalists in serving our town. You don't

Turn To **AWARDS**, page **A2**

The early days of Danielson



KILLINGLY
AT 300



MARGARET
WEAVER

Do you ever wonder what Danielson(ville) was like in its “early” days, soon after the coming of the railroad in 1840? Of course, some of the most desirable business blocks were not far from the depot and tracks. For point of reference, the first Methodist Church, one of the earliest structures, was erected ca. 1842 on the lot where Danielson Surplus Sales is now situated. The original buildings were wood, and fire was a constant danger.

The Feb. 1, 1849 issue of the Windham County Telegraph, the forerunner of the Transcript, related the fate of one early building. “Fire in Danielsonville. This village was visited on Friday morning last (January 26th), by one of the most disastrous fires that ever occurred within its limits. It broke out about 1 o’clock in the morning in the large building, known as the ‘Arcade’ located near the centre of the village, and destroyed the entire building together with the greater part of its contents, some of which were invaluable...The building was owned by Messrs. Thos Backus, Wm James, and Freeman James, (was) valued at about \$2,000, and insured to the amount of \$1,500. But the greatest sufferers by this fire were those who occupied the building, and among these stands first, Hon. Thomas Backus. The contents of his office, consisting of a library worth about \$1000, about \$1500 in notes, the Probate Records of this district for the past fourteen years and many valuable papers, were all destroyed. His library, however, was insured to the amount of \$500. The office of Abial Converse, Esq., located in a more favorable part of the building met with better fate. It was entered and the most valuable part of its contents secured...Messrs. Bacon & Danielson, Furniture dealers, were also fortunate enough to secure a part of their stock, though it was considerably damaged by the smoke and its hasty removal...J. P. Chamberlin & Co.’s stock of goods, valued at about

\$5000, was entirely destroyed, together with the books and contents of the Post Office. Dr. D. D. Fisk was unfortunate in losing the entire contents of his office...Mr. Langdell, Daguerrian Artist, who occupied a room in the rear of the building, was very unfortunate. His machine, and the stock and fixtures of his room, together with a large number of pictures which he had but just finished, and the greater part of his wearing apparel, were all consumed...Many buildings in the immediate vicinity of the fire, were scorched, and several of them very much injured by it. We are told the Methodist Church actually took fire in several places from the heat of the burning building. The active, untiring and well directed exertions of our citizens, to whom much credit is due, was all that saved us from a general conflagration...And now, though it is ill-timed advice which is given a ‘day after the fair,’ we would advise our friends to club together and buy a good fire engine, and a few hooks and ladders. They will prove very useful in case we have another fire like that of Friday last. (It was not until 1854 that Danielsonville had a formally organized fire department).

The Honorable Thomas Backus served as Lt. Governor of Connecticut in 1849-1850. Several houses that he owned are still standing in the Westfield section of Danielson, north of Killingly Memorial School. He was also the uncle of noted artist/stained glass creator Louis Comfort Tiffany. (His wife was sister to Louis Comfort’s mother.)

There are always interesting donations being catalogued at the Killingly Historical Center. I think you’ll enjoy what was written on one little card, “The pleasure of your company is requested at a Party given under the auspices of Mrssrs. Oatley, Smith and Brooks. November 28, 1923 at 8 o’clock in Chase’s Hall, East Killingly. Party 8-11 p.m. Supper 11 p.m. to 12:30 AM. Dancing, 12:30 to 3 a.m. (On a post it—Allie Oatley, Carlton Smith, Harold Brooks). Do any of you know where Chase’s Hall was located? I don’t. How late do you think you would have danced?

This week, I decided to look through the photos in Wayne Magao’s “Killingly Moments and Mementos” to see what different businesses I could come across. A photo of a small truck of

E. N. Curtis in front of a Mobilgas sign on Westcott Road, sent me to Natalie Coolidge’s “Killingly Business Encyclopedia.” Edward N. Curtis was born in February 1908. An article in a 1930 Windham County Transcript Fall Supplement presented the picture of a thriving business. “With a continuous 24 hour service Mr. Curtis’ transportation adequately services the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The sectional points traversed are many and include Boston, Worcester, Webster, Putnam, Dayville, Danielson, Wauregan, Plainfield, Central Village, Moosup, Jewett City, Norwich, Willimantic, Slatersville, Woonsocket, Saylesville, Pawtucket, Povidence, East Greenwich, Westerly, Bradford, Fall River and New Bedford. Mr. Curtis owns 11 large trucks and each truck and load always carries ample insurance. Fourteen men are in his employ. In his large fire proof building, which measures 50 by 75 feet with basement, and which has sufficient area to accommodate 17 large trucks, is a large platform from which seven trucks can be loaded at one and the same time. A night man on the premises at all times and excellent sleeping quarters for the convenience of his drivers, are other features of this well managed business.” During the 1930’s, the business was located on Reynolds Street but by October 1941 it had relocated to Mechanic Street. Edward Curtis died Sept. 30, 1954 at age 46 according to his obituary from the Transcript. The business moved to Old Route 6 and was listed at the corner of Mashentuck and Westcott Roads in the 1964-65 Telephone Book. How many of you remember this business? Please feel to email your memories.

Wayne Magao also had an image of a small card from “Friendly Restaurant” Route 12 Attawaugan, Arthur J. Laparle, proprietor. “Home cooked foods, choice liquors, wines and beers. Always a friendly welcome. Television. The Killingly Business Encyclopedia had only a few entries from the telephone books. The first was 1946, the last 1964-65. They really didn’t give me much additional information so I called Bernie Mitchell, the Killingly Historical Society president, who lives in Attawaugan. Bernie said that the restaurant was situated on the westerly side of Route 12 in between a duplex

and Donais’ Package Store. The next building on the south after the package store was Donais’ Market. Arthur ran the bar while his mother did the cooking. Both lived in an apartment above the store.

Have you heard of the Rainbow Orchestra? Made up of women, according to Wayne Magao, they played for local parties. Pictured in “Killingly Moments and Mementos” are () Beaugard on the trumpet, Alice (Besette) Martin on the piano, Irene (Regis Perreault, on the violin, Cecile Woisard on the drums, and Gert Young on the accordion. If you can supply Beaugard’s first name, or an add an approximate time frame for the orchestra, or just would like to share memories about them, please email me. Thank you. I would also like to learn about other orchestras and bands in the area since we haven’t really compiled much about them for the Historical Center files. Who were you dancing to? Listening to? Let me know. Keep their memories alive!

It’s almost April and I, for one, am looking forward to April Fool’s Day this year. My favorite bookstore, Pourings and Passages, is in the process of relocating and will reopen that day at 103 Main Street in Danielson, the site of the former Trinket Shoppe. The grand reopening is Thursday, April 1 at 10 a.m. Stop in and find some new reading material.

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

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, March, 2021. Special thanks to Bernie Mitchell. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (when it reopens) or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250 (when the Historical Center reopens). Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, CT 06329.

LIVINGSTON

continued from page A1

point club. “At that point in the game, I was just playing the game and not worrying

about it. I didn’t know how many points I still needed. When I hit the shot I looked over at my dad and he was screaming. At that point I thought to myself, ‘yep, that must be it.’”

That moment confirmed what many Clippers fans have known for some time — Livingston is currently one of Putnam’s top student-athletes. In addition to his basketball accomplishments, Livingston is a starter and captain on the boys’ soccer team and the Clippers’ baseball team. He is a two-year starter at goalie in soccer — even though he never played the sport before going out for the team as a junior — and a right-handed starting pitcher in baseball who plays shortstop when not delivering a mixture of two- and four-seam fastballs and nasty sliders to opposing hitters.

As a sophomore Livingston was a Second Team Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) All-Star selection in baseball. As a junior he was an ECC First Team selection in basketball. In the fall he was an ECC First Team selection in soccer.

“Colby has come a long way in his four years. He’s always been a great kid, but he was a quiet guy for a long time,” Putnam boys’ basketball coach Shawn Deary said. “Last year I made him a captain, hoping by doing so I could get a little more leadership out of him, and it worked. If nothing else, he leads by example through his

work ethic, by always working to get better. Last year Colby also, slowly but surely, became a more vocal leader, especially on the floor during games.”

Because of COVID-19 and the global coronavirus pandemic, fans are not allowed at Connecticut high school sporting events, but Livingston’s parents, Heather and Eric Livingston, were able to be in attendance for their son’s memorable and historic moment because they were working that night as part of the crew recording the game. His younger brother Cooper, a sophomore, was there, too — he’s a starting guard for the Clippers.

“That was cool that my parents got to see it. I was happy they were able to be there,” said Livingston, who, as a freshman wasn’t dreaming of becoming a 1,000-point scorer; he was dreaming of making the varsity team. “My junior year I think I started to realize I had a shot at [1,000 career points].”

Livingston finished last season 88 points shy of the milestone. In non-pandemic times his scoring 1,000 points, if he remained healthy, would have been a no-brainer, because he finished last season averaging 18 points per game. But, these are not normal times.

“My teammates and I, we

just wanted to have a season this year,” Livingston said. “Usually we have a 20-game season; this year it was 12. I kept doing the math all season to make sure I still had a shot at scoring 1,000 career points.”

Since scoring his 1,000th career point — he finished the Lyman game with 1,004 — Livingston has moved up into the No. 6 spot on the Clippers’ all-time scoring list.

Eric Livingston, a 1991 graduate of Putnam High, also played basketball for the Clippers. He finished with 819 career points, his bid for 1,000 being derailed by an ankle injury he suffered early in his senior season.

Deary said seeing Livingston score his 1,000th career point, while memorable, is only No. 2 on his most memorable moments turned in by the player.

“My favorite Colby moment was last year when he passed his father on the career scoring list,” said Deary, who played with Eric Livingston in high school. “He passed his dad by making an eight-foot shot. After he made the shot, he ran down the sideline, looked up at his father in the stands and said, ‘gotcha!’ That’s my all-time favorite Colby Livingston moment.”

Contact Marina Capraro, Assistant Town Planner and Natural Resource Officer, mcapraro@killinglyct.gov, 860-779-5310.

or Donna Bronwell, Chair, KCC, at bronwelldonnam@gmail.com or 860 779-1164.

Check out our Web site, killinglyconservation.org.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT Audubon

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of March 8: American Woodcock, Killdeer, Northern Harrier, Eastern Meadowlark, Wood Duck, Tree Swallow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Cedar Waxwing, Wild Turkey, Barred Owl, Red-shouldered Hawk, Pileated Woodpecker, Brown Creeper, Bluebird. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.

THE SIDING STORE INC.

Siding • Roofing • Windows • Decks • Sunrooms

AFFORDABLE!

Financing available to qualified customers!
thesidingstoreinc.com

We take pride in our customer service!

860.423.7771 860.963.9035
860.886.1718 860.564.7088

References Galore • Fully Licensed • Senior Discounts • Lead Safe

Enjoy Life with Better Hearing!

Call **860-315-9656** to schedule a hearing evaluation.

Does your insurance cover hearing aids? Let us check for you. We work with Anthem BCBS, United Healthcare, Hearing Care Solutions, Amplifon, Nation's Hearing, American Hearing Benefits, and CT Medicaid.

amplisound

HEARING CARE CENTERS

19 Quinebaug Ave, Putnam
351 Merline Road, Vernon
www.amplisound.com

Hearing Solutions for all Lifestyles and Budgets since 1981

AWARDS

continued from page A1

need to be an expert, just love Killingly, are concerned about protecting its rural character and open spaces and have some energy to help create and maintain trails for public use.

Step up and make a difference!

THE NORTHEAST LAW CENTER

Borner, Smith, Aleman, Herzog & Cerrone, LLC

CORPORATE LEGAL SERVICES

Business Filings • Legal Advice • Conflict Resolution

An experienced attorney knowledgeable in corporate law can make the difference in your business' success. Atty Kate Cerrone can help you conquer your corporate legal issues with confidence!

Call attorney **Kate Cerrone** today!

The Northeast Law Center
(860) 928-2429

Estate Planning • Trusts • Probate • Elder Law • Real Estate • Business Law • Litigation • Personal Injury

Day Kimball Hospital earns Blue Distinction® Center+ for Maternity Care designation

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Hospital, part of the Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) integrated network, has again been designated as a Blue Distinction® Center+ for Maternity Care by the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association (BCBS). This achievement is part of the Blue Distinction Specialty Care national designation program recognizing health care facilities that demonstrate expertise in delivering quality patient care safely, effectively and cost-efficiently.

Maternity care centers with the Blue Distinction designation demonstrate expertise and a commitment to quality care for vaginal and cesarean section deliveries, with better overall patient satisfaction and a lower percentage of early elective deliveries. In addition, these facilities meet the requirements that align with principles that support evidence-based practices of care, as well as having initiated programs to promote successful breastfeeding. The designation also evaluates hospitals on overall patient satisfaction and cost efficiency.

In 2016, Day Kimball Hospital was one of the first hospitals nationwide to earn designation from Blue Cross Blue Shield as a Blue Distinction Center+ for its maternity care program and its expertise in the delivery of safe, efficient, high quality care to women and newborns.

“Day Kimball Hospital is proud to again be recognized by Blue Cross Blue Shield for meeting the rigorous selection criteria for maternity care set forth by this program,” said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. “Earning this re-designation is a testament to the commitment on the part of every DKH obstetrics and gynecologic physician, nurse, and staff member, whose collective dedication to providing unparalleled maternity care has helped patients achieve better outcomes.”

The Blue Distinction Specialty Care Program evaluates facilities on quality metrics developed through a process that includes input from the medical community and quality measurement experts; a review of medical literature, along with national quality and safety initiatives; and a thorough analysis of meaningful quality measures from objective, publicly available sources. The goal of the program is to set the healthcare standard for quality, cost and access, while providing a credible foundation for local Blue Plans to design benefits tailored to meet employers’ own quality and cost objectives.

“With over 400 babies born at our Burdick Family Birthing Center each year, our team of doctors, nurses and specialists are committed to providing an exceptional, high quality experience for mothers, babies and families who choose Day Kimball for one of life’s most important events,” said Erica Kesselman, MD, FACOG, OBGYN, Day Kimball Healthcare. “We are pleased to offer our community a family-centered approach to child birth including specialized infant and high risk pregnancy care.”

Blue Cross Blue Shield companies across the nation have recognized more than 524 hospitals as Blue Distinction Centers+ for Maternity Care. Hospitals recognized for these designations were assessed using a combination of publicly available quality information and cost

measures derived from BCBS companies’ medical claims.

“Day Kimball Hospital’s latest designation as a Blue Distinction Center+ demonstrates their continued dedication to providing quality care for growing families in Connecticut,” said Dr. Michael Jefferson, MD, Managing Medical Director, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut. “The Blue Distinction program is designed to recognize commitment to quality and to help consumers identify high-performing healthcare providers. Congratulations to the entire Day Kimball Hospital team for earning well-deserved honor once again.”

Since 2006, the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program has helped patients find quality providers for their specialty care needs in the areas of bariatric surgery, cardiac care, complex and rare cancers, knee and hip replacements, spine surgery and transplants. Research shows that, compared to other facilities, those designated as Blue Distinction Centers demonstrate better quality and improved outcomes for patients. On average, Blue Distinction Centers+ are also 20 percent more cost-efficient than non-Blue Distinction Center+ designated health care facilities.

Day Kimball Hospital has been recognized as a Baby-Friendly hospital since 2016, when it was named one of just six hospitals in Connecticut to hold the designation. The Baby-Friendly Initiative, a global program sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), recognizes facilities that promote breastfeeding and other postnatal practices to give babies the best start in life.

To learn more about the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program, visit www.bcbs.com/bluedistinction. For more information on Day Kimball Healthcare’s OB/GYN and Maternal Child Health services, visit daykimball.org/women.

About Day Kimball Healthcare

Day Kimball Healthcare is a nonprofit community healthcare system comprised of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare At Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. Day Kimball Healthcare’s comprehensive network offers more than 1,000 staff including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists. Its Web site is www.daykimball.org.

About Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is the trade name of Anthem Health Plans, Inc. Independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Anthem is a registered trademark of Anthem Insurance Companies, Inc. Additional information about Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut is available at www.anthem.com. Also, follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/anthem-bcbs](https://twitter.com/anthem-bcbs) and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AnthemBlueCrossBlueShield.

About Blue Distinction Centers

Blue Distinction Centers (BDC) met overall quality measures for patient safety and outcomes, developed with input from the medical community. A Local Blue Plan may require additional criteria for providers located in its own service area; for details, contact your Local Blue Plan. Blue Distinction Centers+ (BDC+) also met cost measures that address consumers’ need for affordable healthcare. Each provider’s cost of care is evaluated using data from its Local Blue Plan. Providers in CA, ID, NY, PA, and WA may lie in two Local Blue Plans’ areas, resulting in two evaluations for cost of care; and their own Local Blue Plans decide whether one or both cost of care evaluation(s) must meet BDC+ national criteria. National criteria for BDC and BDC+ are displayed on www.bcbs.com.

Individual outcomes may vary. For details on a provider’s in-network status or your own policy’s coverage, contact your Local Blue Plan and ask your provider before making an appointment. Neither Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association nor any Blue Plans are responsible for non-covered charges or other losses or damages resulting from Blue Distinction or other provider finder information or care received from Blue Distinction or other providers.

About Blue Cross Blue Shield Association

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association is a national federation of 36 independent, community-based and locally operated Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies that collectively provide health care coverage for one in three Americans. BCBSA provides health care insights through The Health of America Report series and the national BCBS Health Indexsm. For more information on BCBSA and its member companies, please visit BCBS.com. We also encourage you to connect with us on Facebook, check out our videos on YouTube and follow us on Twitter.

Math Tutoring

Get the help YOU need to **SUCCEED!**

CONTACT: Allison
Ph/Text: 860.428.8367
or tutoring4yoursuccess@gmail.com

- 10+ years experience
- Pre-Algebra through Calculus
- On-line via zoom during COVID



Fancy date



Save the date



Due date

At every age and every stage, Live Well.

Your plans don't have to change. And even now, new chapters don't have to be scary. We are experts at guiding our clients in our *Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well* process, and we're the strategic partner you need to move through every stage of life with confidence.



WEISS, HALE & ZAHANSKY
STRATEGIC WEALTH ADVISORS

Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well.™

whzwealth.com | (860) 928-2341
697 Pomfret Street, Pomfret Center, CT 06259
Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, a Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Advisor.



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

DIVORCE & FAMILY LAW

The Prue Law Group P.C.

Divorce.


We protect what's important to you.

A divorce is never easy, especially when there are children involved. Having children of our own, we understand how important they are. Make an appointment with The Prue Law Group. We have years of experience handling successful divorce and family law cases. We have built our reputation by balancing firmness in the courtroom with sincere compassion for our clients' needs.

Call The Prue Law Group today!

860-423-9231
www.PrueLawGroup.com

720 Main Street, Willimantic ~ 520 Providence Road, Brooklyn ~ 2182 Boston Turnpike, Coventry



In the Studio

CYNTHIA SAARI

In “In the Studio” is a newer feature for the Villager Newspapers. The Quiet Corner is home to many artists and makers, some of whom have national or international recognition for their work in fine art, handcraft, 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”.

I would be remiss in not including a couple of very talented emerging artists for our “In the Studio” series. So... this week we’re talking with artist Nils Lee.

Hi Nils. I’ve been impressed by the work I’ve seen you bring into Arts & Framing when I’m there. When did you start to express yourself through drawing and painting?

I started really drawing as a little kid. I can remember my uncle Bertil, who lived next door to me and my parents, going into his workshop and carving sculptures from wood with my dad. I really think it was there that my interest in art began. My uncle was also a very skilled painter and I remember seeing a painting of a farm scene he had done. I was really drawn to that painting



and wanted to do something with art from then on. I’d draw on my own from pictures I saw in books, and always liked to doodle (mainly on my home-work assignments).

Painting took me a while to get more comfortable with. As I went through high school, I took lots of art classes and became more interested in the subject. At QVCC I took painting and drawing classes, but college was not really for me. I’ve had many jobs since and now rent studio space in downtown Putnam where I produce all of my paintings. It’s been a great spot for me.

Was it a decision or an evolution to choose art as a career?

Well, I would say it was both. I still have a regular day job but am trying my best to make art more of what I do. I decided early that my dream was to be an artist of some sort, and I guess after the way things have happened in my life, I still want the same thing. What really matters to me is creating art. It

brings me so much happiness and I’m so happy when people like my stuff enough to buy it. I feel it’s a better use of my time in this world to try and stay on the path working toward something I enjoy doing.

How would you describe your painting style?

It’s vibrant and colorful with a sort of impressionist style. My work shows life through movement and mainly features nature (landscapes, flowers, water) but, as I keep painting and learning, I hope to progress to different styles. I am heavily influenced by the work of Van Gough, and love using some of his techniques.

Tell us about your studio.

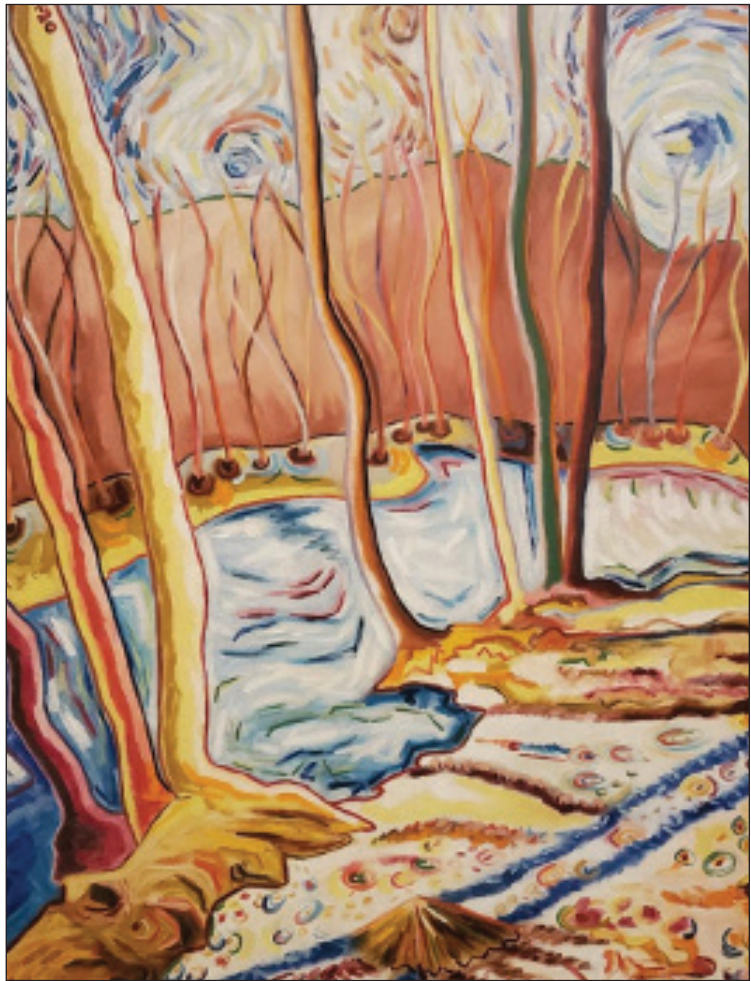
My studio is great! I’m located right above the Stomping Ground restaurant and bar in downtown Putnam in “Block 134”. My space is cozy and a perfect little spot for my easel and paints. I’m right by a window overlooking town which is nice during the summer when I can get a good breeze. I hear music from some really good bands downstairs! I’ve made my workspace a little more special with some family things about and I like the brick walls inside my studio.

Do you have any personal “art rules” for yourself?

I think the only “rule” I have for myself is to keep on painting. I’m enjoying larger canvases now (32x40”), working in oils.

What do you think of art as a small business? You’ve been quite diligent in your marketing efforts.

I would label what I’m doing as more of a lifestyle than a business. If I sell work that’s great; I’m just happy to have my work hanging in people’s homes. That said, I do need to factor in my costs. I guess I don’t want the pressure of



making art as a business, right now.

How does your work intersect with the Quiet Corner?

I think my paintings reflect the feel of this community with so many artists and creative people here. We live in such a beautifully scenic area—it’s very easy to be inspired to paint or draw what is around us.

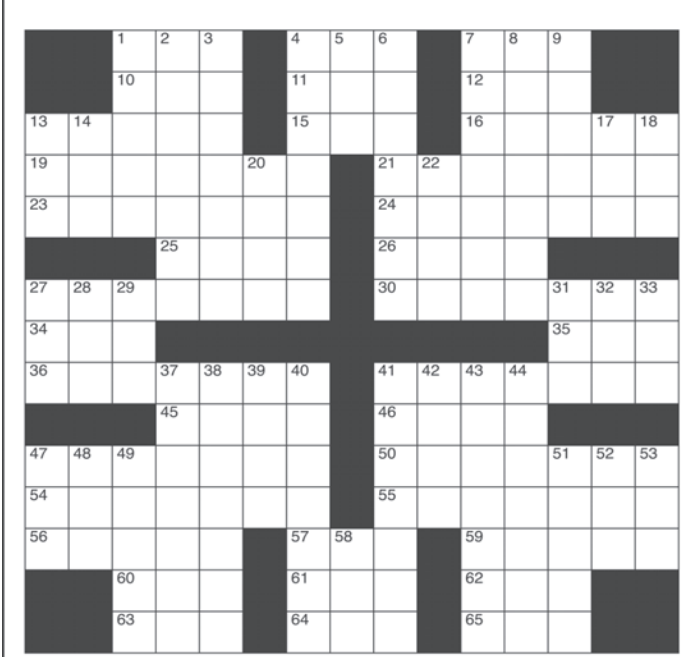
Where can people see your work?

People can visit my studio—I hang finished paintings on the walls there. And I post on social media (message me through Facebook). I’m working on a website which will probably

be called nilsjleart. A number of my paintings are hanging in local businesses downtown (Ben’s Beans, 85 Main, The Stomping Ground, Bear Hands Brewing Company, Arts & Framing).

###

About the writer: Cynthia Saari (Woodstock, CT) 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. Cynthia offers talks & workshops in the Quiet Corner; she is an adjunct professor of art at a local college.

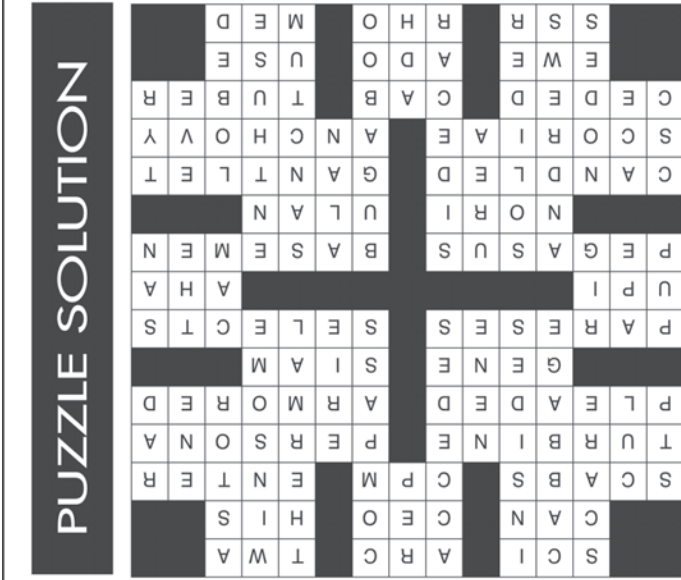


CLUES ACROSS

1. ___ fi: popular genre
4. Curved shape
7. Defunct airline
10. Beverage receptacle
11. Corporate bigwig
12. Belong to he
13. They cover cuts
15. Cost per mille
16. Walk into
19. Power-producing machine
21. Part of one’s character perceived by others
23. Emotionally appealed to
24. Protected
25. Wrestling icon Okerlund
26. Thailand’s former name
27. Muscle weaknesses
30. Chooses
34. American film studio.
35. Expression of satisfaction
36. Mythical winged horse
41. Ballplayers
45. Edible seaweed
46. Chinese politician
47. Tested for fertility
50. Glove worn with medieval armor
54. Basaltic lavas
55. Small shoaling fish
56. Surrendered
57. Taxi
59. Potato part
60. Female sheep
61. Trouble or difficulty
62. Put into service
63. Soviet Socialist Republic
64. 17th letter of Greek alphabet
65. Type of student

CLUES DOWN

1. Frighten
2. Partner to corned beef
3. Parts
4. Agrees to a demand
5. Elected official
6. Navigator’s tool
7. Relating to heat
8. Attractive
9. Wealthy US merchant
13. Engine additive
14. A passage with access only at one end
17. Midway between northeast and east
18. Cool!
20. Brazilian NBAer
22. NW Pennsylvania city
27. Young dog
28. Mimic
29. Large truck
31. The NFL’s Newton
32. One and only
33. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
37. Julie __, actress
38. More nourishing
39. Compound
40. A small carrier attached to the side of a motorcycle
41. Object of fear or alarm
42. __ Ladd, actor
43. Sacred place
44. A way to express enjoyment
47. Trigonometric function
48. A team’s best pitcher
49. Intersecting points
51. Roundishly shaped
52. Adam’s partner
53. God of battle (Scandinavian)
58. Human hormone



VAN continued from page A1

“It has over 276,000 miles on it, so it’s got a fair number of miles,” Calorio told the Town Council. “We typically estimate

the useful life of our student transportation vehicles like this for an eight-year life. It has gone beyond the eight years. It’s not a hard and fast decision when we do that. We look at every vehicle and if we feel it’s not necessarily requiring of replacement yet then we hold it another year and the Board of Education has been diligent with that. We typically do this during the budget process, and they felt last year that it would make it another year.”

This won’t be the end of the vehicle’s time in Killingly, however. While the van will be retired from transporting students it will actually be used for another purpose with an even older vehicle being completely retired and sold off by the town.

“They have an even

older vehicle that they’re currently utilizing to transport or shuttle information (and resources) between the various buildings. One of their employees does inter-office mail between the different buildings. That vehicle has definitely seen its time. So, this vehicle they’d like to retire from servicing for student transportation, but it then would be passed down to this more administrative task of just shuttling material between the different buildings,” Calorio said.

Town Council members did ask if trading in the van was considered and Calorio said the typical strategy is to retire the oldest vehicles and downgrade more usable ones to less significant roles which is why the minivan will replace and even older vehicle. The retiring vehicle will likely be sold at auction or traded in to offset costs of the new student transport vehicle.

Talbat Custom Embroidery & Heat Transfer

Embroidery Shop

Think Spring

Talbat Embroidery

NEW LOCATION:
1009 Lebanon Hill Rd., Southbridge
508-764-0555

Villager Newspapers

TO PLACE A BUSINESS AD:
MIKAELA VICTOR
RETAIL ADVERTISING
860-928-1818 EXT. 313
nikaela@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:
E-MAIL:
brendan@villagernewspapers.com
OR send to Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550
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 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

GOOD NEWS

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

High School Roundup

Killingly girls' basketball rides high with undefeated week

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — The Killingly High girls' basketball team remained undefeated with one regular-season game remaining, winning four games in an eight-day span to improve to 9-0 overall and in the Eastern Connecticut Conference's North Division.

Killingly capped off its four-win week with a 49-39 road win against Wheeler on Friday, March 12. Junior Emma Carpenter led the way with 18 points (12 coming on 3-pointers) while freshman Hannah Grudzien and sophomore Aila Gutierrez added eight each, and junior Sophia Moore chipped in with seven.

Carpenter scored a team-high 15 points and Grudzien added 14 in a 65-24 home victory over Tourtellotte on Monday, March 10. The Tigers (0-7) were led by freshman Hailey Johnson (eight points, 11 rebounds) and junior Alivia Dalpe (seven points).

Sophomore Ella Lach and Carpenter each scored 15 points in a 52-20 win over visiting Woodstock Academy on Monday, March 8. Carpenter also finished the game with six steals while Lach had five. Grudzien contributed four points, 15 rebounds and five assists. The Centaurs (3-6) were led by senior Alexa Pechie (eight points).

Grudzien scored 15 points and grabbed 13 rebounds in a 43-38 road victory against Windham on Friday, March 5. Lach added nine points and Carpenter and Moore tossed in seven each.

Elsewhere in northeastern Connecticut, Ellis Tech improved to 7-3 with wins over Norwich Tech, 35-24, on Friday, March 12, and Grasso Tech, 49-38, on Wednesday, March 10.

Senior Amber Cutler scored 18 points in the victory over Norwich Tech and 12 in the win over Grasso Tech. Cutler also scored 10 points in the Eagles only loss of the week, 40-30, to Windham High on Monday, March 8. Fellow senior Vivianna St. Jean led Ellis Tech's win over Grasso Tech with 15 points. She scored five points in the victory over Norwich Tech.

BOYS' BASKETBALL

With its 45-37 win over visiting Griswold High on Friday, March 12, Woodstock Academy improved to 8-1 and, in the process, captured the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) North Region regular season championship.

Senior Andrew Johnson paced the win with 14 points, which included an 8-for-9 effort from the free throw line. Junior Ethan Davis added 11 points, eight coming in the third quarter, during which the Centaurs pushed a taut three-point lead up to a 13-point advantage at one point. Senior Logan Talbot also scored 11 points.

Talbot poured in a game-high 30 points for WA in a 63-44 home victory over Plainfield on Wednesday, March 10. Johnson added 15 points. On Monday, March 8 the Centaurs defeated visiting Killingly, 63-53. Talbot paced WA, which converted 16-of-18 free throw chances, with 16 points while Johnson added 13.

Sophomore Yianni Baribeau, who scored a game-high 22 points in Killingly's loss to Woodstock Academy, helped lead Killingly to three wins recently — 74-21 over Wheeler on Friday, March 12, 64-24 over Tourtellotte on Wednesday, March 10, and 64-48 over Windham on Friday, March 5.

Senior captain Cole Lavigne led 7-2 Killingly's Senior Night home victory over Wheeler with a game-high 21 points. Baribeau added 10 points, 14 rebounds, and eight blocks. In Killingly's road win over Tourtellotte, Jay Grzysiewicz turned in a 14-point, 12-assist performance while Baribeau scored 12 points and blocked 10 shots. R.J. Faria chipped into the winning effort with a career-high 11 points.

Baribeau (23 points, 17 rebounds, four blocks) led the way in Killingly's home victory over Windham. Grzysiewicz added 15 points and eight assists and Lavigne chipped in 12 points and eight rebounds.

SCHOOL BASKETBALL

The Woodstock Academy Gold team (2-3) split a pair of games recently, defeating the visiting Canterbury School, 57-56, on Friday, March 5 before losing to the Canterbury School on the road, 79-73, on Sunday, March 7.

Dashon Gittens led the Centaurs' win over the Canterbury School, scoring a game-high 14 points. Julian Soumaoro (12) and Pipe Ajayi (10) also scored in double figures. **Gittens scored a game-high 33 points in WA's loss to the Canterbury School, while Soumaoro added 14.**

BOYS' ICE HOCKEY

Division 2 Woodstock Academy played valiantly against Division 1 Xavier On Monday March 8, hanging with the Falcons well into the third period before dropping a 6-2 decision in Cromwell. The Centaurs, who finished their season 3-3, scored first, Max Larkin's goal off an assist from Guerin Favreau coming just 65 seconds into the game. Favreau scored WA's second goal in the second period.

It was his second shorthanded break-away goal in as many games.

The night before the loss to Xavier the Centaurs celebrated Senior Night in style, defeating Rocky Hill Cooperative, 3-1, in Norwich. Favreau and fellow senior co-captain Gabe Geyer each scored a goal and assisted on another.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' INDOOR TRACK

Senior Adam Schimmelpfennig finished first in the 110 hurdles and the 300, and was a member of the winning 800-meter meter relay team and classmate Ethan Aspiras won the 1000 and 3,200 as Woodstock Academy defeated Plainfield, 72-13, in Plainfield on Wednesday, March 10. ... Sophomore Bella Sorrentino also performed well for the Centaurs, who defeated Plainfield, 57-10, winning the 100-meter hurdles, long jump, and shot put, and running a leg of the 800-meter relay team. Junior Linsey Arends placed first in the 1,000 and the 1,600.

FOOD DRIVE

continued from page A1

glad everybody could come out and it seemed it wasn't too difficult. I'm very happy with the turnout and glad to see the community helping out."

The event saw 20 students split into nine groups and take to the streets of Thompson in planned out routes to collect food that had been left out by donors by mailboxes and at the ends of driveways throughout the town. By the end of the morning, around 800 items had been collected to benefit TEEG's food pantry.

NHS advisor Courtney Sobanski said she was proud to see the students come together to be part of a unique event and continue the society's mission of giving back to the local community.

"We are very fortunate to have such a very great group of kids that we work with. John organized pretty much all of this and it was a really good turnout. It's great to see how much we were able to collect with all the kids going out and being a part of this. It's a really good community service effort, especially this time of year and with everything that's happened this year. It's great to see our kids do something so good for our local community," Sobanski said.

John Steglitz said he was proud of how well the event turned out and how all the students came together to make it a success. While he is a senior, Steglitz said he would like to see the food "drive" continue in the years to come and maybe become a new tradition for Thompson.

ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS

DON'T MISS A THING!

SHREWSBURY MARBLE & GRANITE, INC

BUY FACTORY DIRECT & SAVE

SPRING SALE

50 COLORS • \$39 per sq. ft. Installed (40 sq. ft. or more) Cannot be combined with other offers.

Biggest Selection of Marble, Granite & Quartz of ANY Fabrication Shop

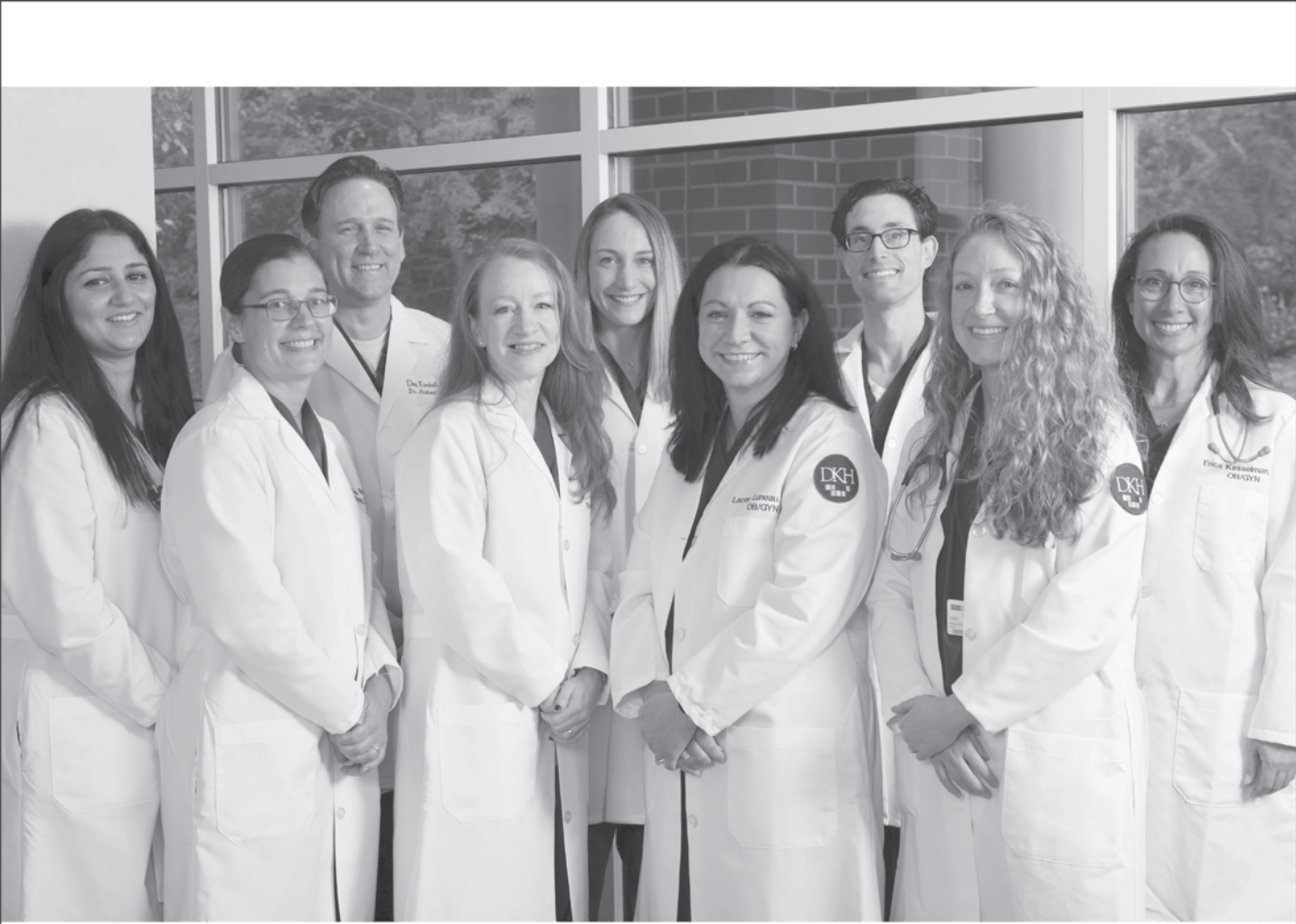
300 Colors To Choose From

Please call for appointment 508-523-3769

508-842-9800 • shrewsburymarbleandgranite.com

620 Boston Turnpike (Rte 9 E), Shrewsbury, MA (1/4 mi. east of Home Depot - Big Blue Bldg)

Mon-Thurs 8-5, Fri & Sat & 9-4



Day Kimball Healthcare's Women's Health Team

Front Row: Amna Aziz, MD; Elena Poloukhine, MD; Robyn Martin, APRN; Lacey Luneau, PA-C; Regan Murchison, MD

Back Row: Andrew MacKenzie, MD; Julie Van Saun, PA-C; Devon Jacobson, MD; Erica Kesselman, MD

When you and your baby are ready, so are we.

When it comes to having your baby, you want to know you're in the best of hands. Day Kimball's team of OB/GYN doctors, nurses, and specialists are some of the most skilled, dedicated, and compassionate experts in their fields. Most important, we're here for you and your family now... and we always have been.

Call one of our OB/GYN locations to book your appointment today.

Putnam
320 Pomfret Street
Putnam, CT
(860) 963-6699

Plainfield
12 Lathrop Road
Plainfield, CT
(860) 457-9200

Your hospital. Revolutionizing care.

DKH DAY KIMBALL HEALTHCARE

A community partner of YaleNewHavenHealth

daykimball.org/obgyn

Day Kimball Healthcare receives hospital and home care re-accreditation by Joint Commission

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Hospital and Day Kimball Healthcare At Home have again earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards.

The Joint Commission is an independent organization that accredits and certifies health care organizations and programs in the United States. Its Gold Seal is recognized as the nation's predominant symbol of health care quality, reflecting an organization's commitment to meeting specific performance standards and providing patients with safe, quality health care.

"Day Kimball is proud to receive re-accreditation from The Joint Commission, the premier health care quality improvement and accrediting body in the nation," said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. "Compliance with performance standards and best practices are

what we commit to every day at Day Kimball. This re-accreditation reflects our commitment to continual performance improvement of care with a focus on patient safety."

To maintain and earn accreditation, an extensive on-site review by a select team of professionals, such as physicians and nurses, is conducted every three years.

The Joint Commission's hospital and home care standards are developed in consultation with health care experts and providers. The standards are supported by scientific literature and expert consensus to help hospitals measure, assess, and improve performance.

While carrying out a rigorous unannounced on-site review at Day Kimball Hospital in October 2020, Joint Commission experts evaluated compliance with hospital standards related to several areas, including emergency management, environment of care, infection prevention, leadership, and

medication management, among other standards. Surveyors also conducted staff interviews.

Day Kimball Healthcare At Home also underwent an on-site survey in October 2020. Surveyors evaluated compliance with home care standards in key organizational areas including the provision of care, treatment and services, emergency management, human resources, individual rights and responsibilities, and leadership. In addition to meeting performance standards, the home care program received praise for its innovative fall prevention initiative and patient guide booklet, which was recommended by The Joint Commission for submission as a national best practice.

The Joint Commission survey of Day Kimball Hospital's stroke program occurred in February 2021. As a result of this survey, Day Kimball has achieved re-certification from The Joint Commission as an Advanced Primary

Stroke Center.

Learn more about The Joint Commission at www.jointcommission.org. For more information about Day Kimball Hospital and Day Kimball Healthcare At Home, visit www.daykimball.org.

About Day Kimball Healthcare

Day Kimball Healthcare is a nonprofit community healthcare system comprised of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare At Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. Day Kimball Healthcare's comprehensive network offers more than 1,000 staff including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists. Its website is www.daykimball.org.

KB Ambulance Corps appoints new Administrator

KILLINGLY — The Board of Directors of the KB Ambulance Corps, Inc. of Killingly announces that at its March 10 meeting, it appointed Stephen A. Varga as Administrator. Since August 2020, Mr. Varga has served in the role of Acting Administrator in addition to his position of Director of Operations.

Ronald Curran, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, says, "It is with great pleasure that I announce that Stephen Varga has been selected, and has accepted, the position of KB Ambulance Administrator.

"In addition to nearly 30 years of EMS service and six years at KB Ambulance, Stephen Varga has shown his ability to rise to the challenge when called upon. Through Stephen's career he has gained a firm understanding of the work and details associated with the operations of KB Ambulance and Paramedic services and the needs of the communities we serve.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish to thank all the members and staff at KB for your continued dedication to KB Ambulance and the people we serve. Please join us in welcoming Stephen Varga as the new KB Administrator. We look forward to a promising future."

As a state licensed Paramedic since 2004, Mr. Varga joined KB Ambulance in 2015 to provide expertise to launch its paramedic services program. Initially hired as a Supervisor for the purpose of developing and recruiting for its new paramedic program, Mr. Varga was quickly offered the Director of Operations position, in which he was responsible to oversee the day-to-day operations of KB Ambulance. In this capacity, he also assisted the

Administrator in managing all aspects of EMS operations and business at KB. His commitment helped KB secure and continue a contract since 2017 with Northeast Connecticut Council of Governments (NECCOG) to provide paramedic service to nine towns in the Northeastern Connecticut area, providing vital advanced life support medical care to the communities. During Mr. Varga's tenure, KB Ambulance also grew beyond the Town of Killingly to provide ambulance service through contracts with the towns of Pomfret, Eastford and Hampton.

Overall, Mr. Varga has 30 combined years of Emergency Medical Services experience through his volunteer status at Windham Center and Mansfield Fire Departments. He is currently a Captain at Windham Center Fire Department. Mr. Varga also has 22 years in the professional sector at emergency transport and intercept services in Connecticut. After starting as an Emergency Medical Technician in 1999 at American Ambulance Service, Inc. in Norwich, Mr. Varga transitioned to earn his Paramedic medical control in 2004 and in 2007 was promoted to Associate Supervisor. During this same time frame, he was the owner/operator of an independent retail business.

Mr. Varga serves as an appointed Board Member of the Eastern Connecticut EMS Council and is the Northeast Subdivision Chairperson. He also holds certifications for Connecticut Emergency Medical Services Instructor and American Heart Association Instructor.

Two EASTCONN students earn CAACE Learners of the Year award

WILLIMANTIC — The Connecticut Association for Adult and Continuing Education (CAACE) has named two EASTCONN Adult and Community Programs students as their 2021 Learners of the Year.

The honorees, Maria (Rosi) Lázaro and Carol Bennett, both of Willimantic, were acknowledged for their educational achievements and perseverance during the 40th Annual CAACE Conference on March 12. Each year, CAACE selects five adults from among the state's adult education programs to receive the Learner of the Year award.

"Congratulations to our Learners of the Year," said Rich Tariff, Director of EASTCONN Adult and Community Programs. "This recognition was well deserved. I am sure that they will both continue to be role models and inspirations for those who know them."

Lázaro is a 2020 Graduate of EASTCONN's Spanish GED High School Completion program. As a child, she was unable to complete her schooling because she needed to care for her siblings so her mother could go to work.

Years later, after raising a family of her own, she was able to enroll in EASTCONN's English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) program, as well as the Spanish GED program; she earned her Spanish GED last year. Next, she enrolled in EASTCONN's National Customer Service Credential program and, as an avid cook, has already completed several ServSafe certifications. Lázaro is an active member of her church and is an advocate for immigrant families in her community, especially new arrivals and those who don't speak English.

Bennett is a 2021 graduate of EASTCONN's NEDP High School Completion program. She left high school early, during a time when work, not education, was her family's focus. Eventually, she raised her own family and spent her career working in group homes caring for disabled adults. She has been the primary caretaker for several family members and volunteers at a church in Putnam, helping to prepare meals for those in need. Now that Bennett has earned her diploma, her next goal is to become a either a certified nursing assistant or a certified

medical assistant through EASTCONN's Adult and Continuing Education programs.

"It's unusual to have two winners from one adult education program, so we are doubly delighted about their achievements," said Kristin Hempel, EASTCONN's Associate Director for Adult and Community Programs. "Both of these women have demonstrated the tenacity and determination it takes to pursue their education and, ultimately, their career goals. It's humbling. We're very proud of them."

CAACE is a non-profit organization that provides leadership in advancing the concept of lifelong learning, and offering professional development conferences and activities. Learn more at <https://caace.org/>.

EASTCONN is a public, non-profit, Regional Educational Service Center that has been serving the education needs of schools and communities in northeastern Connecticut since 1980. To learn more about EASTCONN and its Adult and Community Education Programs, visit www.eastconn.org.



TRUST YOUR NEIGHBORS

Buy Local • Shop Local • Support Your Community!

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS IN BUSINESS

Overhead Door Of Windham County



Two 9'x7' Garage Doors & Two Electric Openers

Now \$2095

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

CALL 860-889-3848 / VISIT OHDCT.com

93 Hartford Rd, Brooklyn, CT 06234

Advertise on this weekly page featuring local business.

For more information call today

860-928-1818



CARPENTRY SERVICES CT, LLC

Remodeling Kitchens, Baths and More!

CALL Gene Pepper at 860-230-6105

carpentryservicesct.com

CT #0606460 • #MA-HIC#196807 • RI #763

Veteran owned and operated since '89

LEONARD ZADORA & SONS, LLC

DEMOLITION, SEPTIC SYSTEMS & EXCAVATION

FREE ESTIMATE

- New & Repaired Septic Systems
- Landscaping
- Stumping • Drainage Systems
- Sewer Connections
- Frost Walls • Cellar Holes
- Snow Plowing
- Loam • Sand • Gravel • Fill

860-774-1737



108 Thompson Pike, Dayville, CT 06241

40 Years Experience • Licensed & Insured

Transform Your Home Today!

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!





SHOWPLACE CABINETRY™

100% EMPLOYEE OWNED | MADE IN AMERICA | LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY

YOUR DREAM, CLOSER TO REALITY



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.

189 Eastford Rd., Eastford, CT 06242

ph: 860-974-1924 • fax: 860-974-0099

eastfordbuildingsupply.com

Monday-Friday 7am-5pm

Saturday: Closed

Sunday: Closed

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

Jennifer LeDuc of Day Kimball Healthcare At Home elected to board of Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home

PUTNAM — Jennifer LeDuc, RN, MSN, and director of quality and operations at Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) At Home, has been elected to the Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home (CAHCH) Board of Directors.

CAHCH represents all in-home care providers in Connecticut, including skilled home healthcare, hospice, and private-duty agencies. The Board oversees the many committees and activities of CAHCH that work to shape the future of in-home healthcare services in the state of Connecticut. These committees develop best practices for providers of skilled and un-skilled home care agencies by developing policies, providing education, and providing legislative and regulatory advocacy for in-home care providers. LeDuc's two-year term on the Board began in January 2021.

There are currently 17 members on the Board, including home health agency leaders and industry financial and quality experts from around the state. Openings on the Board are announced to all CAHCH members, and nominations are received and voted on by Board members. LeDuc was nominated by Renee Smith, RN, MSN, Vice President of Post Acute Services, Day Kimball Healthcare.

"Jenn has extensive experience in the field of home health and hospice, and her passion for our industry and the nursing profession is contagious," said Smith. "Here at Day Kimball, in our local community, and at CAHCH where she has long been active as an educator and committee member, Jenn is well respected as expert in her field. As a registered nurse who began her career providing in-home care, to leading the clinical operations



Jennifer LeDuc

of our agency today, I knew she would bring a valuable perspective to the Association's board, and I couldn't be more proud of her for being elected."

When asked about having been selected as a Board member, LeDuc said, "I am honored to have been selected. I have worked with CAHCH for many years and I believe the Association's work and advocacy for home health care and hospice is invaluable. They help ensure that the voices of home health care patients and providers are heard at the state and federal level. As

a board member, my goal is to bring forward the home health care challenges unique to our rural community, and to learn and collaborate with home health care leaders from across the state to make DKH At Home even stronger."

LeDuc's 20-year career at DKH began as a nurse intern on the medical-surgical unit before transitioning to Day Kimball HomeCare where she has held positions including intake and outreach coordinator, clinical nursing supervisor, and quality and reimburse-

ment manager. In her current role as director of quality and operations at DKH At Home, LeDuc is responsible for the agency's quality improvement program, regulatory compliance, and all clinical operations.

In 2013, LeDuc received the Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing, a statewide recognition program that honors nurses for their exceptional contributions to the profession. She is a presenter of Patient Centered Care Management for the New Home Care Clinician Series for CAHCH and a former member of the CAHCH policy committee.

Day Kimball Healthcare At Home offers a wide range of compassionate and personalized in-home care services throughout Northeast Connecticut. Day Kimball Healthcare At Home's services include Day Kimball HomeCare, Day Kimball HomeMakers, and Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut. Learn more at daykimball.org/athome or call 860-928-0422.


About Day Kimball Healthcare

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



Buy Local • Dine Local • Invest Local • Think Local • Support Local

SHOP LOCAL SHOP KILLINGLY



Tonya Brock
AVP Branch Manager

An unwavering commitment to the community.

That's part of what it means to be a division of Centreville Bank.

Putnam Bank a division of **Centreville Bank.**

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER | NML5402947 | MEMBER FDIC

**YOUR
AD
HERE!**

**Call us today at:
860-928-1818**



TAILORED KITCHENS
by Ann-Marie


**Planning your new kitchen?
Give us a call!**

We offer all-wood cabinetry, countertops, tile, plumbing fixtures, bar stools and more.
Great service too!



MERRILLAT CABINETRY


Jolley Commons Plaza
144 Wauregan Rd (Rte. 12) • Danielson, CT • **860.774.5554**
TAILOREDKITCHENSANNMARIE.COM  



FAIRWAY
INDEPENDENT MORTGAGE CORPORATION
122 Main Street, Danielson, CT 06239

**Congratulations for being the
2019 #1 LENDER in Windham County!**

Let us help you with one of the most important decisions in your life!



Suzanne Mazzarella
Branch Manager
#144468
860.377.1248

Looking for financing to purchase a home?
Ask us how to get in your dream home in 30 days with no money down! Our team has over 20 years experience and are here to serve you with the BEST customer service possible!
Offering numerous and a variety of loan programs.

2020 Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, NMLS#2289, 4750 S. Billmore Lane, Madison, WI 53718, 1-866-912-4800. All rights reserved. This is not an offer to enter into an agreement. Not all customers will qualify. Information, rates and programs are subject to change without prior notice. All products are subject to credit and property approval. Not all products are available in all states, or for all dollar amounts. Other restrictions and limitations may apply. Equal Housing Lender. MA Mortgage Broker and Lender. License#MC2289, MA Loan Originator License ML014468, Rhode Island Licensed Broker & Lender. 2020-03-27

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



**BEST FARM FRESH MEATS IN CENTRAL MA
PASTURE RAISED • NATURAL MEATS**



Crockpot Package


4lb Beef Short Ribs
2lb Soup Bones (Ossobucco)
4lb Chuck Roast

\$70.00 (\$90.00 value)

ASK US ABOUT OUR 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  



**BACK & BODY
CHIROPRACTIC**

**Auto Injuries
Workers Compensation
Most Major Medical Insurances
VA Community Care Network
Discount Program for Self-Pay**




Disc Injuries
Sciatica
Sports Injuries
Leg Pain
Muscle Spasms
Scoliosis
Fibromyalgia
Pain Related to Pregnancy

TMJ
Back Pain
Neck Pain Headaches
Pinched Nerves
Arthritis
Carpal Tunnel
Stenosis
Overall Wellness

24 Putnam Pike, Suite 3 • Dayville, CT 860-412-9016

**Join us on this
special page!**

**Call us today at:
860-928-1818**



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

Ice safety tips

Naturally, warmer temperatures in the afternoon means the lakes, ponds and rivers will start to melt; however, the cooler mornings could be deceptive as to how thick the ice actually is. More people fall through ice this time of year than in any other.

We wanted to offer some awareness, and a reminder of what to do should you find yourself or anyone else in this unfortunate situation, albeit, completely unavoidable.

First, remember to stay calm. Try not to let the shock of the freezing water take over, it'll take your breath away and is painful, which is frightening. At this time, you will have roughly ten minutes before you get too cold to pull yourself out. Experts say to leave your winter clothes on and let them act as a buoy.Hh These clothes tend to hold onto warm air and can help you float.

Next, turn back toward the direction in which you came and use solid ice to try to pull yourself out. The ice is likely thicker where you were just standing, meaning chances are it is strong enough to hold you while you pull yourself out. If you find that your clothes have trapped too much water, lift yourself up part way and lean on your elbows while the water drains out. You then want to extend your arms flat on the ice and start to shimmy yourself back onto the surface. Remember the two words "kick and pull."

If you do find yourself in a situation where ice could be an issue, carry an ice pick. Avid fishermen have been known to carry screwdrivers or nails on them just in case, as they make for better claws then gloved or bare hands.

Remember to stay flat when you are back on the surface, and don't stand up too soon, as you may cause the ice to crack again. Begin to roll away from the spot where you fell through to keep your weight distributed across the ice.

Once you are in the clear, get into dry clothes and a warm place immediately. Hypothermia kicks in roughly after 30 minutes of being submerged in ice water. Seek medical attention as your body may go into shock as the cold blood from your extremities can reach your heart, causing a heart attack.

If you are with someone who falls through the ice, do not get too close as you may be the next one to fall through. Instead yell instructions to them, on what to do, to get to safety and remain encouraging.

Reaching out to the victim without stepping onto the ice is best if at all possible. Use anything you can such as a pole, ladder or anything else that you can extend to them. If you can't reach the victim this way, try throwing them a rope or anything that you might be able to use to pull them to safety.

If none of the above are options, try to find something to float on so that you can reach the victim yourself. If a floating device is not available, do not walk upright to the victim, try instead to lay flat and roll out to the edge.

Whatever situation you are in, it will require fast action and quick thinking. The best advice is to be prepared with the proper knowledge and equipment if you do plan on spending time on the ice.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to Brendan@villagernewspapers.com
Please include your place of residence and phone number for verification, not publication. Letters must be received by noon on Tuesdays.



Say it in living color!

The world isn't black and white. So, why is your ad?

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Woodstock needs transparency

To the Editor:

As I listened to the Selectmen's budget presentation to the Board of Finance via Zoom on March 9, I was pleased to hear several Board of Finance members question the First Selectman. Specifically, was the newly-created Finance Director position posted internally and externally prior to it being filled? And, had the need to create this new position been discussed with the Board of Finance chair in advance of the budget presentation? The answer was "no" to both questions.

To be clear, I support the creation of the new Finance Director position. I voted for it. But I disagree with the process used to fill it. I believe the position should be posted to allow anyone who believes they are qualified to apply. We should be promoting transparency, fairness and openness in town government hiring.

It is puzzling to me that the need to create this new position was not discussed with the Board of Finance chair in advance of the budget presentation. The new Finance Director will support the BoF and provide its members with important information on a regular basis.

And, not posting a newly-created, municipally-funded position is not indicative of

transparency in government. Finance board members recognized that. I appreciate their questions and concern.

I want you to know that I did raise the point about not posting the job prior to our Selectmen's votes on Feb. 17. Those votes created the new position and then appointed Treasurer Karen Fitzpatrick to the position. Later, I experienced second thoughts that the position had not been posted.

So on March 4, I raised the issue of not posting the job, and offered a motion urging the selectmen consider rescinding the earlier approved motion that appointed Ms. Fitzpatrick to the job. The express purpose of doing so would then allow the position to be posted. My motion was not seconded by either Republican on the Board of Selectmen, so it failed.

Again, the Town of Woodstock should be promoting transparency, fairness and openness in all transactions that involve use of municipal funds. It's the ethical thing to do. Your comments and thoughts are always welcome.

GREG KLINE
WOODSTOCK

If you turned 65 last year, take note: Medicare general enrollment ends this month

The Medicare general enrollment period closes at the end of this month. If you turned 65 last year but missed your initial enrollment period and are not currently covered by your or your spouse's employer-sponsored health plan, the general enrollment period is your last chance to enroll in Medicare until January of 2022. Here's what those who are newly eligible for Medicare (or soon will be) should know about the sign-up process and the program.

The Important Differences – And Deadlines – Between the Medicare Initial Enrollment Period, General Enrollment Period and Open Enrollment

Your initial enrollment period is when you are first required to enroll in Medicare. It is based on your age or when you leave your or your spouse's employer's group health insurance plan. You must enroll in Medicare within the seven-month period starting three months prior to the month you reach age 65 and ending three months after the month you reach age 65. If you fail to enroll during your initial enrollment period, you will pay a lifelong 10 percent surcharge for each yearlong period that you were eligible for Medicare coverage but didn't get it – not to mention that you may face a dangerous gap in health care coverage.

You can delay enrollment if you are covered by your or your spouse's employer's group health insurance plan, but only if the employer has 20 or more employees. It's also important to note that COBRA is not treated as a group health insurance plan for purposes of avoiding the late enrollment penalty.

If you're enrolled in your former employer's retiree health insurance plan, check with your provider to see if enrollment in Medicare Part B is required and how your plan coordinates with Medicare. If you are required to enroll in Part B and fail to do so, you may find that your retiree plan will not pay for services Medicare would have covered if you had enrolled.

The general enrollment period runs from Janu. 1 through March 31 each year, and is the time when those who have missed their initial enrollment period can still enroll in Medicare for the first time – but it's important to know that coverage won't begin until July 1.

Medicare open enrollment is when people who are already on Medicare can make changes to their existing health and drug coverage or plan provider. The open enrollment period runs from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7.

Understanding and Choosing Your Medicare Coverage Options

The first step in selecting a Medicare plan is to understand the various coverage choices.

Medicare Part A, also called hospital insurance, covers care in a hospital, skilled nursing facility, and hospice. It provides limited coverage for nursing home and home health services.

Medicare Part B covers doctor visits, lab tests, outpatient surgeries, preventative care, telehealth, and medically necessary services and equipment. Together, Medicare Part A and Part B are often referred to as Original or traditional Medicare.

Medicare Part C, commonly known as Medicare Advantage, is the managed care alternative to Original Medicare that private insurance companies and health providers offer through Part C plans. The benefits and services provided by Medicare Parts A and B are included in Part C plans, but Part C plans also include telehealth coverage and may

cover other services such as dental, hearing, and vision care.

Also, since 2019, health insurance companies that offer Part C plans can create managed care plans that target specific types of illnesses, such as diabetes and end-stage renal disease. Part C plans are usually a health maintenance organization (HMO) plan or a preferred provider organization (PPO) plan. With an HMO plan, you will select a primary care doctor; except for emergencies, that doctor will refer you only to health providers within the HMO network. With a PPO, you have the option of getting care outside the network, but your copay will be higher than for visits to in-network providers.

Medicare Part D is Medicare's prescription drug benefit, and is the newest part of Medicare. Private health insurance companies offer stand-alone Part D plans for individuals who have Original Medicare. Most Part C plans include a prescription drug benefit.

Medigap is also called Medicare supplement insurance. It is not a separate part of Medicare. Medigap plans fill the cost sharing associated with the coinsurance and deductibles in Original Medicare. Private health insurance companies offer standardized Medigap plans, and each type of plan is identified by an alphabet letter. Although the benefits provided by Medigap plans are standardized, the premiums can vary by geographic area.

There are 10 types of Medigap plans, but only eight are available to new Medicare enrollees. Medigap Plans C and F are no longer available to new enrollees as of December 31, 2019, because of a change in federal law that prohibits Medigap plans from covering the Part B deductible. Medicare enrollees who had Plan C or Plan F prior to December 31, 2019, can maintain either Medigap plan. You cannot have a Medigap plan if you choose to receive your health care through a Medicare Advantage plan.

Paying for Medicare

Medicare is not free. To determine your estimated cost of Medicare coverage, you can review the information available at www.medicare.gov/your-medicare-costs. Most people do not pay a premium for Medicare Part A because they paid payroll taxes while they were working. However, there are premiums for Medicare Parts B, C and D, and for Medigap plans.

If you are already receiving social security benefits, Part B and Part D premiums may be deducted automatically from your monthly payment. The premium for Part C (Medicare Advantage), which includes both Part A and Part B, will depend upon the plan. Remember, you are still enrolled in Medicare even if you choose to have your benefits delivered through Part C. This means your Part C premium will include the Part B premium (and a Part A premium if you or your spouse do not have a sufficient work history). You are also responsible for deductibles, copayments, and/or coinsurance charged by Part D, Medicare Advantage, and Medigap plans.

To compare the costs and ratings of various Medicare Advantage and drug prescription plans, visit the Medicare website at www.medicare.gov/plan-compare. You can compare the costs of Medigap plans at www.medicare.gov/supplements-other-insurance/how-to-compare-medigap-policies. Once

United by our stories

Fully vaccinated and two weeks beyond our last shots, my husband and I set our sights on getting out of town for the first time in a year: The sense of exhilaration was palpable. We aimed north, as we often did in the past, and went to Stowe, Vt., where we knew we could cross country ski, enjoy views of the mountains and reenter the world in a gentle way in the Green Mountain state. The experience was eye-opening.

There is so much to love about Vermont. Parts of it feel like our area, perhaps because people from here settled there. The towns of Pomfret and Woodstock in Windham County commemorate the connection between the two places, but the similarities go deeper: Woodstock and Stowe are relatively fancy places, but the bulk of the state is rural, green and friendly. There are lots of dogs, pickup trucks, maple trees being tapped and businesses that have closed. Let's hope they reopen.

We stopped by the local grocery store to pick up a few items. There weren't many people around, and the clerk struck up a conversation from behind his mask. Of course, he asked where we were from. When we told him, he recounted a good story about visiting the ashram in Pomfret, called Yogaville, and meeting Swami Satchidananda. Alice Coltrane was there playing jazz. The ashram was in Pomfret Center from 1973 until 1983. It brought a people like him to the area, some of whom stayed when the Swami moved the operation to Virginia.

We shared some memories and checked out. When we are traveling, I am always pleased to meet someone whom I know or who knows our region, but this time I realized that my enthusiasm was not just for Jon, the storyteller, but because it was the first face-to-face tale I had been told by a stranger in a year: Random encounters make life much more interesting and I missed them.

At the Trapp Lodge where we stayed, the protocols were strict. Reservations were required at every restaurant, even if that merely meant signing up by cellphone outside the door. Inside, there was always a form that included email addresses of everyone in the group for contact tracing if that became necessary. It seemed invasive, but we got used to it.

One evening as I sat in the lounge reading, three people settled in nearby. They were chatting merrily. I found I couldn't stop listening. I was eavesdropping, and I enjoyed it. I hadn't looked at the people and they were wearing masks, but I found their chatter interesting. When one left to get more wine, I held my breath so I could hear what they had to say about her. Unfortunately, nothing scandalous. Once, I would have shut out their conversation. Now I wanted to hear every word.

Philosopher Jean Paul Sartre wrote in the play, "No Exit" that "Hell is other people." I saw the play in Paris when I was young. I thought I understood it. I didn't. He didn't mean that we must shun others, but that we are defined by their perceptions of us. In the play, three people are locked in the same room for eternity. What an inventive view of hell!

Our lives have been circumscribed this past year. Now that we are beginning to be free again, it is time to notice other people, see other places and even overhear other conversations. We are linked by geography, history and long ago swamis. We are united by the stories we tell each other and the need to talk to strangers.



NANCY WEISS

Is hope the anchor of our soul?

One of my first business lessons came after explaining my sales plan to my father. He asked for the details and at the end I said, “I hope it all works.” Dad smiled and said, “that’s fine, but hope isn’t a plan.”

Dad was right. Hope isn’t a plan but is an essential part of living a happy life. Hope is the foundation to making your dreams come true. So, what is hope and why is it important?

Having hope is wanting an outcome that makes your life better in some way. We all hope for a better life. Not only can hope help make a difficult present situation more bearable but it can also eventually improve our lives. Envisioning a better future motivates us to take the steps to make it happen. Hope alone isn’t enough, but hope inspires belief and action. As my dad said, hope isn’t a plan, but having hope for a better outcome is the beginning of a happier life.

I also believe that hope is where your body and soul begin to conspire to make your hope become your reality. Hope is more than just looking at the bright side of issues. Hope is where

dreams are born, and our desires begin to take root.

A life without hope is a sad life. As a history buff, I’ve read numerous accounts of Jewish life in Nazi internment camps. Almost every retelling of their time in captivity mentions that it was only hope that drove them to remain alive. I cannot imagine living a hopeless life.

While writing this, Arlene asked me what the difference was between hope and optimism. I believe hope is wishing for a better outcome and optimism is believing a better outcome will happen. I believe hope is the beginning that inspires optimism, which creates the plan to make our hopes our reality.

Hope, Optimism, Plan and Execute = H.O.P.E.

Hope for a better outcome, creates optimism that tells you that one is available, followed by the plan to achieve what you hope for, finally followed by executing the plan to make it so. As I said, it all begins with hope.

I hope to beat cancer and extend my



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

life to spend more time with my family. My hope has driven me to seek out a world-leading expert at a world-renown cancer canter to have access to cutting edge information and treatment. My hope and optimism created the beginning of the plan that brought me to Dr. Kasi and the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Iowa Hospitals. There, Dr. Kasi created the plan to extend my life and together we are now executing our plan.

Beware of those who will try to steal your hope. We all have naysayers in our lives, so we must be strong enough to cling to our hope. I’ve run across several in the medical profession who have tried to extinguish my flame of hope. So far, I’ve proven them all wrong and defied the odds. And why not? Someday, someone will be the first to beat stage four gastric cancer. Why not me? And if not, I can certainly go the distance and continue to surpass their predictions. No one has the right to steal your

hope and shame on those who may try.

Now to you ... what is it you hope for? Longer life? Better health? Higher income? A new career? Regardless of where hope leads you, life is more enjoyable and fruitful with hope. Without it, you have accepted status quo and have no dreams of a brighter future.

Hope brings beauty into our lives. Never give up your hope. Hope is the seeds of greatness living within you waiting to be planted and nurtured. Your dreams can become your reality beginning with hope.

I hope for more time with family. I hope for more time to write to you.

I believe hope is the anchor of our soul.

What do you hope for?

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, “Playing with the Enemy.” Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMoore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com

Expand your planting space



GARDEN
MOMENTS

MELINDA
MYERS

When your plant list is longer than the available gardening space it is time to expand your planting options. Create new gardening space by adding raised bed gardens, elevated planters, and containers wherever space allows.

Convert the end of the drive or edge of the patio into raised bed gardens. Just use a raised bed liner to contain the soil. Raising the garden makes planting, maintaining and harvesting easier on the back and knees. It also allows you to create the perfect soil foundation by filling your raised bed with a quality planting mix.

Long lasting cedar is a traditional choice for raised beds. Now you can also find them made of a wood and plastic composite or metal and in a variety of shapes and sizes. Finding one to complement your gardening style and space is much easier these days.

Reduce time spent watering with a self-watering metal raised bed (gardeners.com) or similar product. Self-watering raised beds have built-in water

reservoirs to extend the time between watering. Or use a raised bed drip or soaker hose irrigation system to easily apply water right to the soil where it is needed.

Elevated gardens are just containers on legs. They are perfect for patios, balconies and other hard surfaces. Use them to define space, create privacy and of course grow ornamental and edible plants. Those on wheels can easily be moved out of the way when guests arrive. Or wheel them into the gathering, so everyone can harvest and dress up their meals with garden-fresh herbs and veggies.

Just pull up a chair and start planting or weeding your elevated garden. Grow vines in those with built-in trellises and extend the season by protecting plantings with frost and insect covers. Select elevated planters with a shelf below to conveniently store gardening tools and accessories.

Even small space gardeners can expand their planting space with the help of containers. You’ll find plenty of attractive options to fit your front steps, patio, balcony or deck.

Railing planters and window boxes don’t take up floor space yet dress up any outdoor area. Grow herbs in planters located near the kitchen and flowers wherever additional color is needed. Add a few pollinator-friendly plants to attract butterflies and hummingbirds to watch and enjoy.

Extend your time outdoors with outdoor lighting. Or look for multi-functional options like solar illuminated planters. Powered by the sun and with a flip of a switch, you can choose a single or multi-changing light color display.

Don’t let the thought of frequent watering stop you from growing in containers and elevated gardens. Self-watering options are available in a variety of shapes and sizes including the classic, yet curvy self-watering Valencia window box.

Once you select your raised bed, elevated garden, or container, you will need to fill it with a planting or potting mix. Figure out exactly how much is needed with a soil calculator. Just plug the size and shape into the form. It tells you how many cubic yards or cubic feet of soil are needed for raised beds and the number of quarts for containers and elevated gardens.

Expanding the garden doesn’t have to mean a lot more work. Selecting the right option that provides convenience and ease of care can help you grow more flowers and garden-fresh produce this season.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses “How to Grow Anything” DVD series and the Melinda’s Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is



Photo Courtesy - Gardeners Supply Company

Some raised beds have built-in water reservoirs to extend the time between watering.

a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Gardeners Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

LOCAL LEGION MEMBER HONORED FOR SERVICE



Photo Courtesy

United States Navy veteran, Arthur McLean (left), a 40-year member of the Oscar Swanson American Legion Post #67 of North Grosvenordale, was honored for his service to The American Legion by District Commander Ronald P. Coderre. McLean served as the Department, District and Post National Security Officer for 12 years. He recently stepped down as Department chairman, but remains in office on the District and Post levels.

Jonathon Bickelhaupt of North Grosvenordale named to Emerson College Dean’s List

BOSTON, Mass. — Jonathon Bickelhaupt, a native of North Grosvenordale has been named to Emerson College’s Dean’s List for the Fall 2020 semester. Bickelhaupt is majoring in Creative Writing BFA and is a member of the Class of 2024. The requirement to make Emerson’s Dean’s List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher.

About Emerson College
Based in Boston, Mass., opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city’s Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning.

The College has 3,780 undergraduates and 670 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups.

Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals, with the first program launching this fall in Paris. The College has an active network of 51,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

CORDING

continued from page A8

you’ve narrowed down your choices, contact the providers for more information on the differences between plans.

Presented by Vice President, Associate 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 representative. 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. © 2021 Commonwealth Financial Network®



Thompson's Shaun Benton named Director of Operations at Quality Beverage



Shaun Benton

AUBURN — T. Conrad Wetterau, President and Chief Executive Officer of Quality Beverage L.P., one of New England's largest stand-alone independent distributors of Anheuser-Busch InBev branded products, today announced the appointment of Shaun Benton as Director of Operations at the company's Auburn Division.

"Shaun Benton's promotion exemplifies the outstanding team effort that he and every employee display while driving growth that allows Quality Beverage to move forward and prosper," said Conrad Wetterau, Chief Executive Officer and President of Quality Beverage.

In his new role, Mr. Benton will oversee day-to-day operations in Auburn. He has worked in the beer industry since 1997, most recently as Facility Manager in Auburn after serving as Inventory Manager and Team Leader. Prior to joining the former

Consolidated Beverages, Mr. Benton served the country as a proud member of the United States Coast Guard, including roles throughout the Eastern Atlantic seaboard in Search and Rescue operations, Marine Environmental Protection, and Law Enforcement.

Mr. Benton lives in Thompson with his daughter and son.

About Quality Beverage

Since 1987, Taunton-based Quality Beverage LP has provided beer drinkers with fresh, superior beer as one of New England's largest stand-alone independent Anheuser-Busch distributors. Quality Beverage enjoys exclusive distribution rights for all Anheuser-Busch InBev brands, as well as a number of additional leading import and craft brands, in 137 Massachusetts cities and towns across Worcester, Bristol, Hampden, Hampshire, Norfolk and Middlesex counties.

Eastern student athlete Bryan Albee of Danielson plays on baseball team

WILLIMANTIC — The varsity baseball and softball teams at Eastern Connecticut State University are amid their spring 2021 seasons of competition.

Among the student athletes is senior Bryan Albee of Danielson, who plays pitcher on the baseball team and majors in Criminology.

For the softball team's schedule and news, visit <https://gowarriorathletics.com/sports/softball?path=softball>.

For the baseball team's schedule and news, visit <https://gowarriorathletics.com/sports/baseball?path=baseball>.

Eastern offers a broad-based, Division III athletic program aimed at safeguarding the amateur aspects of the various sports and maintaining the proper perspective of athletics within Eastern's academic mission. By placing emphasis on the values of equity, diversity, sportsmanship, health and well-being, Eastern's athletic program encourages students to contribute more effectively to our society and live richer, fuller lives.

Eastern student athlete Vanessa Streb of Danielson competes on swim team

WILLIMANTIC — The men's and women's swimming teams at Eastern Connecticut State University are competing in abridged seasons this spring.

Among the student athletes is junior Vanessa Streb of Danielson, who participates in the free/breast event and majors in Biology.

The men's team's second and final meet is on March 20 against Plymouth State University. The women's team's fourth and final meet is also on March 20 against Plymouth State.

For more on the women's team, visit <https://gowarriorathletics.com/sports/womens-swimming-and-diving?path=wswim>.

For more on the men's team, visit <https://gowarriorathletics.com/sports/mens-swimming-and-diving?path=mswim>.

Eastern offers a broad-based, NCAA Division III athletic program aimed at safeguarding the amateur aspects of the various sports and maintaining the proper perspective of athletics within Eastern's academic mission. By placing emphasis on the values of equity, diversity, sportsmanship, health and well-being, Eastern's athletic program encourages students to contribute more effectively to our society and live richer, fuller lives.

Helen Hale named to dean's list at Bates College

LEWISTON, Maine — Helen Hale of Pomfret Center was named to the dean's list at Bates College for the fall semester ending in December 2020. This is a distinction earned by students whose grade point average is 3.88 or higher.

Hale, the daughter of Laurence N. Hale II and Jane C. Hale, is a 2020 graduate of Pomfret School.

Located in Lewiston, Maine, Bates is internationally recognized as a leading liberal arts college, attracting 2,000 students from across the U.S. and around

the world. Since 1855, Bates has been dedicated to educating the whole person through creative and rigorous scholarship in a collaborative residential community. Committed to opportunity and excellence, Bates has always admitted students without regard to gender, race, religion, or national origin. Cultivating intellectual discovery and informed civic action, Bates prepares leaders sustained by a love of learning and zeal for responsible stewardship of the wider world.

Home Town Service,
Town-to-Town **BIG TIME RESULTS**

CLASSIFIEDS

Place your ad today!

1-800-536-5836

VISA MasterCard Discover

550 MOBILE HOMES

Trailer For Sale w/enclosed porch located at Indian Ranch, Webster, Site: G13. Completely furnished, All appliances included & extras. Refrigerator, Over/under Wash/dry, AC/Heat. View at www.indianranch.com. Contact Arthur or Sage 508-892-4578

Advertise Here

www.ConnecticutsQuietCorner.com

GET PAID FOR YOUR JUNK CARS & TRUCKS

We Buy:

Catalytic Converters, Aluminium Wheels and All Types of Scrap Metal

FREE PICK-UP

Call Gene
860-576-5942 days
860-923-0248 evenings

Step Up Your Advertising Game

Talk our experienced ad consultants today about advertising in one of our papers.

Advertising Works

Mikaela Victor
(508) 909-4126
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

NOW HIRING

EXPERIENCED TOOL & DIE QUALITY CONTROL/ FRONT END PERSONNEL

Knowledge of GD & T Preferred

- Annual Bonus
- Vacation
- BC/BS Medical
- Dental Plan
- 401(K) Plan
- Climate Controlled Building

PLEASE RESPOND TO...

CENTURY TOOL COMPANY, INC.
753 THOMPSON RD., THOMPSON, CT 06277
860.923.9523
lee@centurytoolcompany.com

LEGALS

TOWN OF THOMPSON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Zoning Board of Appeals held a public hearing on Monday, March 8, 2021 beginning at 7:00 PM via Zoom and rendered the following decision.

ZBA Application #21-01 — Michael Barch, owner of 622 Fabyan Road, Map 17, Block 81, Lot 42 C, Zone RRAD, for a variance from the Amended Zoning Regulation, Article 42, Development Standards, Section 3, Footnote #2, Accessory Building Setback. Approved File may be reviewed on line, Town of Thompson website, Zoning Board of Appeals.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Beno, Chairman
March 19, 2021

BOROUGH OF DANIELSON NOTICE OF CAUCUS

The Borough of Danielson will hold a caucus on Monday, March 29, 2021 at the Danielson Fire Station, 47 Academy Street, Danielson, CT, at 6:30 pm. All Borough residents are cordially invited to attend for the nomination of candidates for Borough Officers. Dated at Killingly, Connecticut this 10th day of March 2021.

Borough of Danielson Administrator
March 19, 2021

TOWN OF THOMPSON
On March 8, 2021 the following wet-

lands agent approvals were issued: Application # WAA20033, Madison Avenue Investments, LLC, 0 Madison Ave (subdivision lot 18, Assessor's Map 103, Block 31, Lot 6R) - construct septic system in upland review area for a new home and Application # WAA20046, Frederick & Josee Rogers, 0 New Rd (Assessor's Map 154, Block 3, Lot 2C) - construct septic system in upland review area for a new home.

Marla Butts, Wetlands Agent
March 19, 2021

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF THOMPSON ORDINANCES

At the Annual Town Meeting held February 24, 2021 the following five (5)

ordinances were adopted or amended:

- 1) 10-019 Firemen Tax Abatement Amendment
- 2) 10-054 Referenda Notices New Ordinance
- 3) 10-005 Budget Amendment

Copies of the ordinances are available for public inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk during normal business hours and at www.thompsonct.org.

This notice is prepared for the benefit of the public, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation. This notice does not represent the intent of the legislative body of the Town of Thompson for any purpose.

Renee Waldron
Town Clerk, March 12, 2021
March 19, 2021

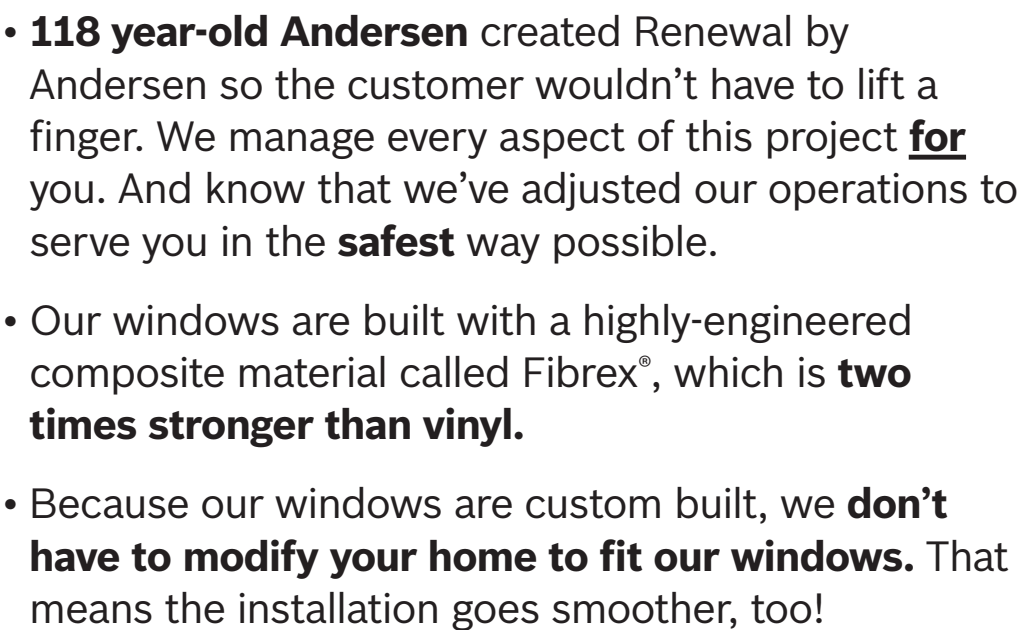
SAVE \$300
on every window¹

SAVE \$825
on every entry and patio door¹

★ **EXTRA 3% Discount** ★
when you pay for your whole project with cash or check¹

OR

NO NO NO
Money Down Payments Interest
for 1 year¹



**LESS THAN a month left to book your
FREE Window and Door Diagnosis**

959-456-0067



Nine Designer Window Colors



Offer not available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative at the time of contract execution and **applies to purchase of 3 or more windows and/or entry or patio doors**. 3% cash discount for payment in full by cash or check applied at time of sale. Cannot be combined with other offers. Initial contact for a free Window and Door Diagnosis must be made and documented on or before 3/31/21, with the appointment then occurring no more than 10 days after the initial contact. No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. Not all customers may qualify. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Renewal by Andersen retailers are independently owned and operated retailers; and are neither brokers nor lenders. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only, and all financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Renewal by Andersen retailers, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender. All residents of islands including but not limited to Martha's Vineyard will be subject to an island surcharge. 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. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are marks of Andersen Corporation. ©2021 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2021 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *Using U.S. and imported parts. **All sales, marketing and installation of windows is conducted by Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England, an independently owned and operated affiliate operating in RI, CT and Cape Cod, MA.**