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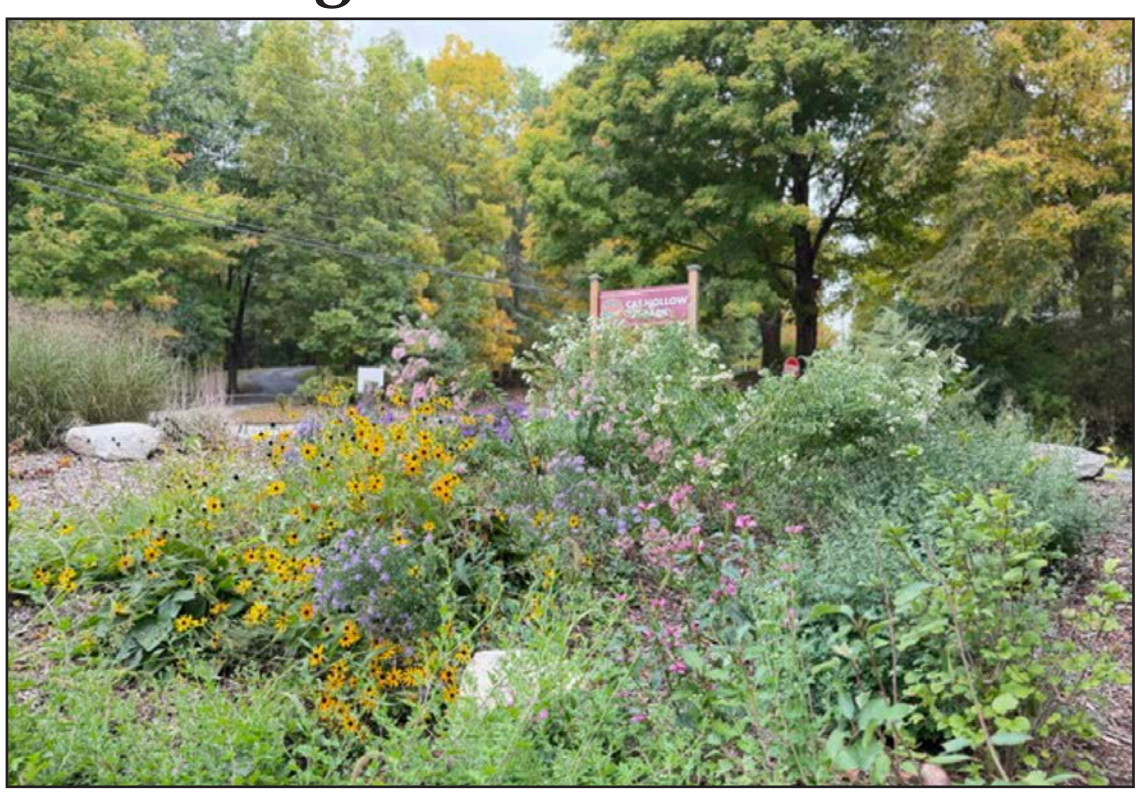
Tour the gardens at Cat Hollow Park Oct. 25



KILLINGLY — On Sunday, Oct. 25 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Dog Hill Road entrance, Cat Hollow hats and tee shirts will be sold. Led by some members from the Killingly Conservation Commission, at 1 p.m. that same day, there will be a one-mile walk on the paved pathway (former road) to see all ten gardens.

Cat Hollow Park in Killingly has been transformed during the past three years by volunteers led by Killingly resident Wendy Fusco. Fusco is a certified Connecticut Master Gardener under the instruction of John Lorusso of UCONN's Master Gardener program.

Fusco took on the role of volunteer activity coordinator at the Park in 2023 at the suggestion of Donna Bronwell, a Killingly resident who held that role for three decades. Fusco's first task was to propose to town leaders a two-year plan to beautify the Park using volunteers whom Fusco would oversee. The proposal was approved in February 2024.

Cat Hollow Park is a 25-acre wooded park owned by the Town of Killingly and overseen by Killingly Parks and Recreation (KPRD) and Killingly Public Works and Highway Division (KPWD). The Park, which had been home to three mills many years ago, was opened to the public in 2003. It contains a half-mile paved, handicapped-accessible trail along Cat Hollow Road (now permanently closed to vehicular traffic), plus a one-mile woodland loop trail. Both trails parallel the Whetstone Brook, a major tributary of the Five Mile River that runs through the Park, and the Park is open for recreational fishing.

With grants totaling almost $3,000 received from the Quiet Corner Garden Club (a member of Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut), the Connecticut Master Gardener Association, and The Last Green Valley, volunteers under Fusco's direction planted a myriad of native plants in the large front meadow garden (40 by 30 feet) at the Dog Hill Road entrance, a mid-sized pollinator garden further into the park, and eight "pocket" gardens scattered throughout the Park's paved walkway.

In 2025, Director of KPWD Mat Dube and his staff undertook the removal of thickly grown invasive plants from the Park's main entrance. They arranged boulders to outline the garden, loosened the soil, and provided loam and topsoil. Fusco and her volunteers then planted an array of native shrubs and perennials.

Turn To GARDENS *page* A10

Killingly Town Hall building turns 150

Courtesy

Frank Aleman and Bernie Mitchell of the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society presented the Town Council with special plaques celebrating the town hall's 150th anniversary.

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — The Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society celebrated the 150th anniversary of the Killingly Town Hall building during a special presentation at the Town Council's Oct. 6 meeting.

The building that today serves as the town hall was built in 1876, originally designed as a music hall. Over the decades, it has served many purposes, including retail space, a courthouse, a theater, and more.

With this year marking its 150th anniversary, the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society presented the Town Council with special plaques to honor the building's historical relevance to the growth of the town's main street corridor.

Bernie Mitchell and Frank Aleman, both members of the Society, gave a brief synopsis of the building's history and provided an artist's rending of the building as it was originally conceived in the 1870s, a portrait of how the building looked in 1906 after it became the town hall, and a third plaque with a brief history of the different businesses and entities that used to call the building home.

Aleman said that their goal is for anyone at the town hall to have a chance to celebrate the historical significance of the facility.

"Our hope is that the town will hang these worthy pictures somewhere that everybody can see. This is your history," he said.

The building originally housed a music hall on its third floor and welcomed a variety of tenants over its first 30 years. The basement hosted a variety of businesses in its time as well as a courthouse and a jail cell.

The ground floor once served as a post office and millinery store. The second floor was primarily used for businesses for much of its early life. A boxing ring, a bank, and a gymnasium were also confirmed to have been part of the building's history. It was also bordered by businesses at one time, which disappeared after it became the town hall.

The plaques were welcomed joyfully by the Town Council and will be placed strategically in the Town Hall for all to embrace the facility's storied and continued significance in the town.

Senexet Grange preparing for Winter Boot Drive

WOODSTOCK — As the leaves begin to change and colder weather approaches, the Senexet Grange #40 is once again preparing to help ensure that members of our community have warm, dry feet this winter.

Located in Woodstock and serving the broader Quiet Corner community, the Grange is proud to announce its Third Annual Winter Boot Drive and is asking our neighbors for their support.

The Winter Boot Drive began under the leadership of the Woodstock Democratic Party. In 2024, they asked Senexet Grange to take over the event so that it could become a non-partisan effort focused on helping local families. During its first year under the Grange's leadership, the drive focused primarily on Woodstock. Thanks to the tremendous support from the community, we expanded our efforts in 2025 to include surrounding towns.

Last year, we moved the collection site to the Putnam Town Hall parking lot and reached out to local schools and community organizations to help spread the word. The response was remarkable. With the generosity of our neighbors, we collected 67 pairs of winter boots, one pair of gloves, 39 packs containing 142 pairs of socks, and $307.42 in monetary donations. Every donation was given to TEEG, which distributed these items and funds to individuals and families in our area who needed them most.

This year, we hope to build on that success.

The Third Annual Winter Boot Drive will take place Saturday, Nov. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot of Putnam Town Hall. We invite community members to donate gently used winter boots or consider purchasing new winter boots or socks to donate. Donations of all sizes are welcome, including men's, women's, and children's sizes.

Every pair of boots and socks can make a difference to someone facing the challenges of a Connecticut winter. Whether you donate a pair of boots, a package of socks, or make a monetary contribution, your generosity will directly benefit members of our local community through TEEG.

Our goal this year is simple: to collect more than we did last year and help even more of our neighbors stay warm this winter. We hope the Quiet Corner community will once again come together to make this year's drive our most successful yet.

Please mark your calendar for Nov. 7 and join us at Putnam Town Hall. Together, we can make a difference—one pair of warm boots at a time.

Day Kimball launches Project ASSERT to expand substance use support services in Emergency department

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Hospital has launched Project ASSERT, a new emergency department program that connects patients experiencing substance use concerns with education, treatment options, recovery resources and community-based support services beginning the moment they seek emergency care.

Funded through the Connecticut Opioid Settlement Fund, and administered by the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the program is designed to reach patients affected by opioid use disorders during a critical window when they may be most open to seeking help.

In its first five weeks, the program completed 43 consults with 38 patients, resulting in three inpatient treatment placements, six outpatient treatment placements, four detox placements and two medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) interventions.

The initial results demonstrate both the need for these services in the community and the value of meeting patients where they are. Every connection represents an opportunity to help someone take the next step toward recovery and improved health.

"Project ASSERT allows us to meet patients where they are, at a moment when they may be most open to considering treatment," said Kyle Kramer, DKH CEO. "These early numbers tell us there is a real need in our community, and they tell us this approach works. Every one of these connections is a chance to change someone's path, and that's exactly the kind of care we want to provide. Our goal is to reduce the barriers, provide education, and help patients take the next step toward recovery and improved health."

How it works

Health promotion advocates (HPAs) work alongside emergency department staff to screen patients for substance misuse and connect them with resources tailored to their needs, including:

Treatment programs

Access to primary care, counseling and community-based recovery support

MOUD, including FDA-approved medications such as Suboxone, buprenorphine and methadone

Education on safer choices, overdose prevention and harm reduction

"Substance use disorders are treatable medical conditions, and recovery looks different for every person," said Steven Wexler, MD, FAAEM, DKH

Turn To ASSERT *page* A10

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Marketplace sticker shock: How OBBBA changed the healthcare equation for early retirees and the self-employed

FINANCIAL FOCUS
JONATHAN MATHEWS
CLIENT EXPERIENCE & RELATIONSHIPS

If you retired before 65 or you work for yourself, health insurance is probably the largest line item in your budget that you cannot negotiate. For the 2026 plan year, two separate changes landed on that line item at the same time, and they pull in opposite directions.

One made coverage substantially more expensive for a specific group of households. The other created a tax advantage that had not been available to marketplace buyers before. Understanding which one applies to you, and how they interact, is the whole exercise.

First, what actually expired

The enhanced premium tax credits created by the American Rescue Plan and extended by the Inflation Reduction Act lapsed on Dec. 31, 2025. That expiration was not part of the OBBBA. The law simply did not extend them, and Congress has not acted since.

The practical effect is that the pre-2021 subsidy structure returned. Premium tax credits now phase in between 100 percent and 400 percent of the federal poverty level, and stop completely above that. Households that had been protected by the temporary 8.5 percent of income cap lost that protection entirely.

The data show where the pain landed. According to KFF, enrollees with incomes between 400 percent and 500 percent of poverty made up only 3% of 2025 sign-ups but accounted for 27% of the total drop in sign-ups for 2026, with plan selections in that group falling 44%. Average marketplace deductibles also rose 37 percent to a record $3,786 per person.

Why the Cliff deserves its name

This is not a phase-out. At 400 percent of poverty a household still receives a credit. One dollar above that line and the credit is zero. Nothing gradual happens in between.

Consider a couple in their early sixties who retired at 62 and live on portfolio withdrawals. Their income is flexible, which is exactly the point. One published analysis illustrated a 60-year-old couple with income just above the threshold, around $85,000, facing an annual benchmark premium in the neighborhood of $22,000 rather than a capped share of income. Actual figures vary widely by age, rating area, and plan, but the shape of the problem is consistent: for older buyers, crossing the line can cost more than the income that pushed them over it.

Which means modified adjusted gross income is now a lever, not just an outcome. A Roth conversion, a realized capital gain, or an extra IRA distribution in December can move a household across the threshold. Deductible retirement contributions and HSA contributions can move it back.

One more change deserves attention if your income is unpredictable. Beginning with the 2026 plan year, the cap on repaying excess advance premium tax credits is gone. If you underestimate your income, you repay the full excess at tax time rather than a limited amount. For self-employed households with variable revenue, that raises the cost of a bad estimate considerably.

What OBBBA actually added: A much bigger HSA

Here is the part that has not received nearly enough attention. Effective Jan. 1, 2026, the OBBBA reclassified bronze and catastrophic marketplace plans as HSA-compatible, whether or not they meet the general definition of a high deductible health plan. IRS Notice 2026-05 confirmed the change and clarified that these plans do not have to be purchased through an Exchange to qualify.

Millions of people buying their own coverage can now contribute to a health savings account for the first time. The OBBBA also made the telehealth pre-deductible allowance permanent and stopped treating qualifying direct primary care arrangements as disqualifying coverage, provided monthly fees stay at or below $150 for an individual or $300 for a family. Those fees also became eligible medical expenses payable from the HSA.

For 2027, HSA contributions are capped at $4,500 for self-only coverage and $9,000 for family coverage, with an additional $1,000 catch-up for anyone 55 or older. A couple both over 55 with family coverage can therefore direct $11,000 into an account that is deductible going in, tax-free while invested, and tax-free coming out for qualified expenses.

Notice how the two changes interact. HSA contributions reduce modified adjusted gross income. For a household sitting slightly above the subsidy cliff, funding an HSA may do double duty: it lowers the tax bill and it can pull income back below the threshold that restores the credit.

The dates that matter this Fall

Open enrollment for 2027 coverage begins Nov. 1. Enroll by December 15 for coverage that starts Jan. 1. The final deadline is genuinely unsettled this year, because a federal court vacated the rule that would have closed enrollment on December 15, so confirm the current date rather than assuming. Connecticut residents should check Access Health CT, which sets its own schedule.

Insurers have filed further increases for 2027, so the plan that worked this year may not be the right plan next year. Auto-renewal is rarely the best outcome in a repricing market.

Treat it as one decision, not two

The mistake I see most often is treating health insurance as a benefits question handled in November and tax planning as a separate exercise handled in April. They are now the same question. Your coverage choice affects your tax bill, your income decisions affect your premium, and both are largely fixed once the calendar turns.

That is why this belongs in a coordinated conversation with your advisor and your CPA before year-end, while withdrawal sequencing, Roth conversion amounts, and HSA funding are all still adjustable.

If you are retiring before 65, self-employed, or helping a family member navigate either, we can model how income decisions this year affect both your premium and your tax bill next year.

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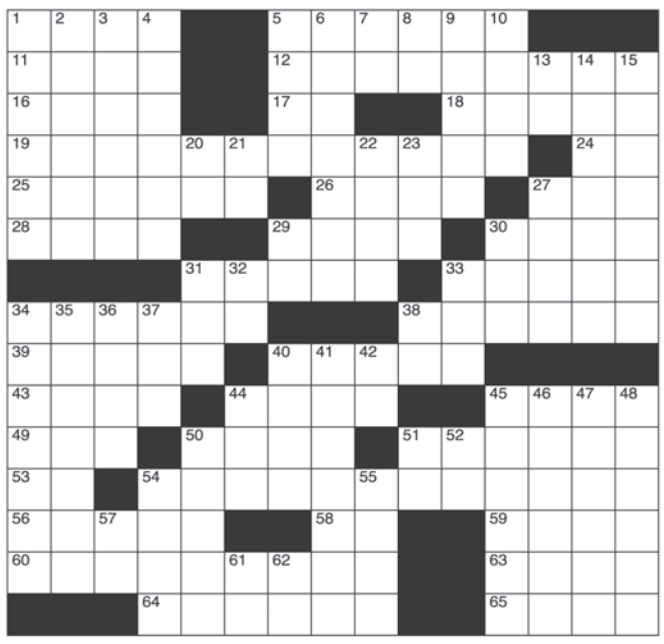

CLUES ACROSS

1. Nocturnal rodent
5. Requesting
11. Give temporarily
12. Frivolousness
16. Military arm
17. "Westworld" actor Harris
18. Persian Gulf port city
19. Air hostesses
24. Partner to "Pa"
25. Percussion instrument
26. Raincoats
27. Lower the light
28. Asian mountain range
29. Every one of two or more
30. Lack of difficulty
31. A public announcement of a proposed marriage
33. Reduces in size
34. Make an impact
38. Serviceman
39. A French river
40. Prehistoric people
43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
44. "Layla" singer Clapton
45. Ancient Greek sophist
49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
50. "Top Gun: Maverick" actor Powell
51. A way to disentangle
53. Atomic #93
54. Manifesting approval
56. Indigo bush
58. Larry and Curly's pal
59. Off-Broadway theater award
60. Fencers
63. Masses of fish eggs
64. Passerine birds
65. Arrange systematically

CLUES DOWN

1. Colorless part of blood
2. Of a main artery
3. Photog's tool
4. Blues Traveler hit "But __"
5. Grew older
6. Not the leader
7. __ Lang: country singer
8. A driver's license is one
9. Nests of pheasants
10. Antelopes
13. One quintillion bytes
14. Japanese lute
15. A type of cat
20. It cools your home
21. Dorm official
22. Pouches
23. German trigraph
27. Form of Persian
29. __ route
30. Upper body part
31. Bridge building degree
32. Indicates position
33. Political action committee
34. Edible nuts
35. Front part of a quadruped
36. Locate
37. Geological time
38. Of I
40. Northern Utah city
41. They work in the trenches
42. Hammer is one
44. Tall deciduous tree
45. Performers
46. Slang for mistake
47. More open
48. Most slick
50. Provokes
51. Home of the NCAA's Flyers
52. Sodium
54. Large fish of the mackerel family
55. Not one
57. __ and behold
61. Atomic #21
62. "The Great Lakes State"

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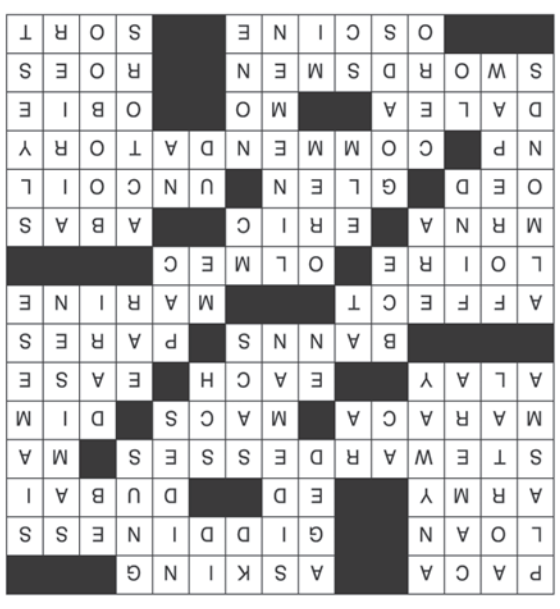

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Quiet Corner Al-Anon group meets Wednesdays

WOODSTOCK — An open Al-Anon meeting meets at the East Woodstock Congregational Church every Wednesday from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

The Quiet Corner Al-Anon Family Group is open to anyone affected by alcoholism, family or friend. Any enquiries can be directed to 860-634-3271.

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Hometown Heroes: Captain Peter Leo Demeter, M.D.

BY MICHAEL ROCCHETTI
COMMANDER
AMERICAN LEGION MAYOTTE-VIENS POST #13
PUTNAM

Captain Peter Leo Demeter had devoted his young life to healing others. By the age of 30, he had become a respected physician, husband, father and Army medical officer. His promising career was cut short on July 26, 1944, when he was killed by a German landmine near Florence, Italy.

Born in North Grosvenordale on July 12, 1914, Peter was the son of Leo P. Demeter and Kiratsa Theodorus Demeter. His parents came from Coritza (modern-day Korçë) Albania, near the Greek border. They immigrated from Greece to New York in 1907 before settling in North Grosvenordale. Peter grew up with two sisters, Mary and Paraskera.

Demeter attended the schools of North Grosvenordale and graduated from Tourtellotte Memorial High School in 1931. Possessing the intelligence and determination necessary to pursue a medical career, he attended Clark University in Worcester for two years and continued his education at Middlesex College. He received his medical degree in 1938. Demeter then went to Buffalo, New York, for his medical internship. While there, he met Natalie Marion Smolarek, a young nurse. Their shared commitment to caring for others grew into a lasting relationship. They were married on July 10, 1940. After completing his internship, Dr. Demeter settled in Webster, Massachusetts, where he opened a medical practice in 1939. Their daughter, Mary Ellen, was born before Peter went overseas.

Demeter's October 1940 draft registration provides a physical description of the young physician. He stood five feet, ten and one-half inches tall, weighed approximately 140 pounds and had black hair, brown eyes and a dark complexion. On Nov. 1, 1942, Dr. Demeter accepted a commission as a 1st Lieutenant in the US Army. He initially trained at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, the home of the Army Medical Field Service School. He was subsequently assigned to Camp Edwards, Massachusetts, serving as medical officer of the 359th Coastal Artillery Searchlight Battalion. In the spring of 1943, Lieutenant Demeter went overseas. During the following year, he served in North Africa and participated in the campaigns in Sicily, Sardinia and Corsica. These operations exposed him to the dangers, hardships and relentless demands of wartime medicine.

By May 1944, Demeter was stationed on Corsica. That month, his hometown newspaper announced that he had been promoted to captain in the Army Medical Corps. During this period, he was assigned to the 410th Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion. The 410th served with the U.S. Fifth Army during the Italian Campaign. The battalion's primary mission was defending troops, ports, bridges, roads and supply installations against German aircraft. Its 90-millimeter guns could also be employed against enemy artillery, troop concentrations and fortified ground positions. As the Allied armies advanced, the battalion frequently moved its heavy weapons forward to protect newly captured territory.

After the liberation of Rome on June 4, 1944, the Fifth Army continued its advance northward. German forces conducted a stubborn retreat toward the Arno River and the defensive positions protecting Florence and the Gothic Line. The countryside was difficult and dangerous. Narrow roads wound through hills, vineyards, olive groves and ancient stone villages. Retreating German troops destroyed bridges, obstructed roads and planted mines to slow the Allied advance. Antiaircraft battalions followed closely behind the forward troops, sometimes moving several times within a single day.

The last letters received from Captain Demeter were posted from Rome. Little did his family know that his own war was approaching its tragic conclusion. On July 26, 1944, only two weeks after his 30th birthday, Captain Peter Leo Demeter was killed by a German landmine near Florence. The War Department classified his death as killed in action.

Word reached his wife in Buffalo, where Natalie and their infant daughter had been living with her parents during Peter's military service. Natalie telephoned Peter's relatives in Connecticut and Massachusetts with the terrible news.

The Webster Times announced his death on Aug. 17, 1944. In addition to his wife and daughter, Captain Demeter left his mother in North Grosvenordale and his sisters, Mary, then Mrs. Margus Teja, and Paraskera, then Mrs. Vasil Nicola, both of Bridgeport.

For the people of Webster, his death carried particular significance. Dr. Demeter was remembered as the only Webster physician to lose his life in the Second World War. Four years after his death, the medical community of Worcester County ensured that Captain Demeter's sacrifice would not be forgotten. On April 25, 1948, the Maddox Society presented a portrait of Captain Demeter to Webster District Hospital. The society was composed of Worcester County physicians who had served during the war and was named in honor of the first local doctor to give his life in military service. Natalie Demeter and her daughter, Mary Ellen, traveled from Buffalo to attend the ceremony. Peter's mother, Kiratsa Demeter, came from North Grosvenordale. Family members joined physicians, hospital officials and community leaders for the formal presentation by Dr Hyman Heller. Dr Heller described the ceremony as a solemn occasion honoring a Webster physician who had made the supreme sacrifice "for his country and for his fellow man." Dr. Heller reminded those assembled that Demeter had been one of seven Worcester County doctors who relinquished their lives "for the cause of peace and justice." He spoke of the young physician's admirable record in medicine and as a citizen of Webster. Although Demeter's life had been brief and his work unfinished, Dr. Heller declared that his portrait should serve as an inspiration for his "courage, valor, and devotion to service."

Dr. Anthony Szwarc accepted the portrait on behalf of Webster District Hospital. Remembering Demeter as both a friend and fellow physician, he spoke of the sorrow felt throughout the community and the pride with which the hospital staff remembered a man who had given the last full measure of devotion to his country.

Captain Peter Leo Demeter's body was returned to Webster, Mass., and following a service at the Webster Greek Orthodox Church, he was buried with Military honors Feb. 17, 1949, in the West Thompson Cemetery, not far from the community in which he had been born and raised. His was a life of extraordinary promise. The son of immigrants, he worked his way through school, became a physician and established a home and medical practice. When his country needed doctors, he left his wife, infant daughter and patients behind to care for soldiers serving far from home.

From North Grosvenordale and Webster to North Africa, Sicily, Corsica and Italy, Captain Demeter remained committed to his calling. He served not only as an Army officer but as a physician, one whose duty was to preserve life amid the destruction of war.

His portrait was intended to remind future generations of hospital workers of the ideals he represented. More than eight decades after his death, the example of Captain Peter Leo Demeter continues to embody those same qualities: professional dedication, personal courage and selfless service to others.

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Editor

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

A greener Cat Hollow, thanks to the hands of a community

There is something particularly satisfying about a community improvement project that begins with a simple idea, grows through the dedication of volunteers and ultimately leaves behind something that everyone can enjoy.

In Killingly, that story is unfolding at Cat Hollow Park, where a remarkable transformation over the past three years offers a reminder that some of the most meaningful investments in a town cannot be measured in dollars alone.

Under the leadership of Killingly resident Wendy Fusco, more than 150 volunteers have contributed hundreds of hours toward restoring and beautifying the 25-acre park. What began as a proposal to improve the grounds has blossomed into 10 gardens featuring native plants, an ongoing campaign against invasive species and a partnership between residents and municipal employees that deserves recognition.

The results represent more than an attractive landscape. They demonstrate what can happen when people recognize the potential in a familiar place and decide to do something about it.

Cat Hollow Park has long been one of Killingly's recreational assets. Its wooded trails, accessible paved pathway and the waters of Whetstone Brook provide opportunities to enjoy the outdoors without traveling far from home. The property also carries a connection to the town's industrial history, having once been home to three mills.

But public spaces, no matter how beautiful their natural surroundings, require attention. Invasive plants spread. Gardens become overgrown. Maintenance needs accumulate. Without consistent care, even a treasured park can gradually lose some of what makes it special.

That is where Fusco and her fellow volunteers have made such a difference.

When Fusco assumed responsibility for coordinating volunteer activities in 2023, following the suggestion of longtime coordinator Donna Bronwell, she brought both horticultural knowledge and a willingness to organize others. Her proposal for a two-year beautification effort, approved by town leaders in February 2024, established a practical framework for improvements that continue today.

Equally important, the project has brought together people with different talents and resources. The Killingly Public Works and Highway Division has provided essential support, preparing garden beds, removing invasive growth, supplying soil and maintaining the surrounding grounds. The Parks and Recreation Department has helped coordinate volunteer participation. Local garden clubs, conservation organizations, Master Gardeners, students and church volunteers have contributed labor, expertise and financial assistance.

Grants totaling nearly $3,000 have helped support the effort, but the true value of the

Turn To EDITORIAL *page* A6

Letter submission policy

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Anne Dauphinais has my vote

To the Editor:

I'm writing this letter in support of State Representative Anne Dauphinais, whom I have known for many years. A caring and kind person, she has always put the welfare of the people first. I would like to cite the following achievements as examples of her hard work and dedication.

In an effort to care for the children of Connecticut, Anne offered an amendment that was added to strengthen protections for children living in homes with individuals convicted of certain serious offenses. Under this amendment, the Department of Corrections must notify DCF within one week of a qualifying offender released to parole or placed on probation who is living at an address where someone under 18 resides.

Knowing the significant contribution the farming community makes in our lives, Anne co-sponsored an important bill that offers relief to farmers and keeps land values stable. It creates a Modernization Grant Program that will help Connecticut farmers invest in equipment, infrastructure and operational upgrades.

Realizing the impact the state budget has on all of our lives, Anne voted no on the budget adjustments which took effect July 1. This bill fails to address Connecticut's affordability challenges. It is a budget that relics on excessive spending increase of 9 percent, or $2 billion, accounting maneuvers, and weakened fiscal guardrails.

It is for the examples above, which are most important to me, that Anne Dauphinais has my vote.

Lorraine LaGuarde
Killingly

Who will get your vote?

To the Editor:

How to decide? For me, this is not hard to answer. We just need to look at the big picture and ask ourselves where are we now compared to where we were under Biden's Democratic administration. Let's look in a few key places.

Borders:

Biden allowed 11 million illegal immigrants into the USA via our southern border. Under a Republican administration, we have had zero illegal aliens in the last 16 months. Also, with the Laken Riley Act criminal aliens are being deported from the US. We listened to Democrats whine for years why it was impossible to stop the flow. Republicans got the job done.

Taxes:

The Republication administration has eliminated taxes on tips, overtime, and social security. Democrats never see a tax hike they don't like.

Sports:

The Republication administration has banned men in woman's sports. Many Democrats fight to keep men in women's sports.

Environment:

The Republications have ended EV mandates and many auto regulations. You get to drive what you choose not what big daddy Democrats demand you drive.

Schools:

Republicans have banned transgender ideology and Critical Race Theory from our schools. Also, English is now our official language, and DEI is abolished in both the government and private sector. Some Democratic states have sued to resist these changes. Meanwhile, increasing numbers of parents have abandoned the public schools in favor of home schooling.

Am I totally happy with Republicans? Definitely not, especially with deficit spending continuing. But I ask myself, would it be any better under the Democrats? No, it would likely be far worse.

Lastly, we now have a split in the Democratic party between the Democratic Socialists of America branch a n d more traditional Democrats. New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani is a DSA star. He proposes government run grocery stores, and wealth taxes. Pure Communism. If you think this type of government will improve your life, then I have a bridge to sell you.

In conclusion, as much as l often loathe our Republican President's big mouth, I believe he is doing his best trying to right America and the few items listed above attest strongly to that. I will vote for Republicans at all levels of government and encourage you to do the same. It's our only hope for survival as a free people and a united nation. May God bless America on our 250th anniversary.

William B. Hull
Pomfret Center

Everywhere we look

To the Editor:

Major institutions are crippled due to poor leadership, slashed funds and staff, with record-high resignations of the competent. DOJ, CDC, USAID, Military, Education, Health, National Parks, Environment, Energy...the list goes on. Oh, except ICE and WAR.

Rollbacks of government regulations designed to protect the safety and wellbeing of our citizens. Environmental protections eroded which compromise our national land reserves...and our global survival. Incompetence as a result of favoritism in government contracts. Ego construction projects with taxpayer money, and childish tantrums that threaten our public edifices...and our international relationships.

Housing out of reach for all but the wealthiest. Rampage against the public media, the people's unbiased information source. Violation of basic human rights and detention/expulsion of hardworking residents rather than working out a path to citizenship. Gross reduction of humanitarian aid to impoverished peoples leading to explosions of refugees in first world countries. Two cruel, unjust wars causing massive destruction of entire populations... and high energy prices all over the world.

Can you add to this list? VOTE between Oct. 19 and Nov. 2.

Karen Ryker
Woodstock

CT's 50th Assembly District can't afford a rookie in Hartford

To the Editor:

Rep. Pat Boyd, who has represented the 50th District since 2016, faces a challenge from Republican Tony Emilio, a longtime resident of my hometown, Pomfret. Two facts of Connecticut political life lead me to back Pat.

First, seniority matters. Tony would arrive in Hartford as a freshman in a Republican minority that has long been out of power. Whatever Tony's intentions, he would have little ability to shape legislation or defend the District's core interests.

Second, those interests need defending. Many legislators from wealthy towns west of the Connecticut River believe their constituents unfairly subsidize small Eastern Connecticut towns. They (and, frankly, Governor Lamont) need reminding of what our towns contribute to the state's culture and economy.

For ten years, Pat has been that reminder. Trusted and respected on both sides of the aisle, he serves on the Veterans & Military Affairs and Children's committees. In 2021, Speaker Matt Ritter named him House Chair of the Public Safety & Security committee, which oversees the State Police and the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

Tony says the 50th District needs a representative who will "read the fine print, ask hard questions, protect local taxpayers, and insist that Hartford listen to the communities it serves." I agree. The good news? The District already has one.

Early voting starts Oct. 19. Re-elect Pat Boyd.

Barry Reingold
Pomfret Center

We need people of Daphinais' caliber in Hartford

To the Editor:

I met Anne Dauphinais back around 2014. I got involved in her early campaigns, putting up signs and driving for her when she was knocking on doors campaigning. We had many discussions about both local and national politics. We did not always agree. What I like the most about Anne is unlike some politicians, she does not brush you off. She will answer your questions if you wonder why she voted the way she did on a particular issue. She will discuss a point of view with you and explain why she believes her opinions. Anne is an honest and dedicated individual.

If Anne does not have personal experience with a particular issue, she will seek out help from someone who does. She is a person who has a desire to resolve issues and see the right thing done. We all need people of this caliber representing us in Hartford. Join me in re-electing Anne on Tuesday, Nov. 3!

Sincerely,

Fred Ruhlemann
Danielson

Take some time this month to explore your family's story

Walktober, sponsored by the Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor is underway.

Killingly at 300

Margaret Weaver

There are events and walks for people of all ages and physical ability. Calendars of events (258 this year) are available at local town halls and libraries. The brochure encourages use of the calendar "in conjunction with our website, TheLastGreenValley.org. to ensure you have the most up to date information. You'll find additional Walktober experiences, weather updates and more on the Web site." For additional information, call 860-774-3300.

Saturday, Oct. 17. Killingly Grange #112. 801 Hartford Turnpike, Dayville. Roast Turkey Dinner. 4:30-6:30 p.m. Roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, butternut squash, rolls, & slice of pie. $17per meal. Dine in or take-out. $1.00 discount if you bring a non-perishable item for the Food Pantry. Whole apple & pumpkin pies $16. To reserve a dinner call or text Terry at 860-884-1813 or Penny at 860-230-7367. Pay at the door by cash, credit card or check.

Order your Thanksgiving Pies. Killingly Grange #112 is again selling apple and pumpkin pies for Thanksgiving. $16 per pie. To reserve a pie call Terry at 860-884-1813 or Penny at 860-230-7367. Last day to order Saturday, Nov. 21 at 5 p.m. Pick-up Wednesday, Nov. 25.

Killingly Historical Society Fall Meeting. Saturday, Nov. 14 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. The Dirty Blue Shirts will present a program on Federal fashions (the Dolley Madison era). You will be able to see and feel clothing of the New Republic, the ways in which we stayed on top of European styles, and the ways in which we made our own sartorial marks on the international scene. You may remember the wonderful program they presented last year on women's fashions of the Revolutionary era. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served. A short business meeting will take place at 1 p.m. prior to the program.

October is Family History Month. Perhaps the longer evenings will provide you with a little extra time to write down family stories, time to tell your loved ones about what was like years ago, time to do a little genealogical research and recording. The Killingly Historical Center recently received a request from an individual who had been using online Killingly Land Records but had hit a snag, a spot where they seemed to need physical records. The Killingly Town Clerk's office was most helpful and provided me with a summary sheet so I could pass on information more easily. I'm so used to using land records the "old-fashioned" way (the books themselves), I hadn't thought about this wonderful resource. It's often very helpful to see if land transactions are occurring when searching for possible relatives. You can access the land records through Search IQS or the link

Turn To KILLINGLY *page* A10

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Leadership that delivers for Connecticut

To the Editor:

This November, our choices will determine who protects affordable health care, supports our schools, safeguards reproductive freedom, defends voting rights, and manages taxpayer dollars responsibly. Connecticut is best served by leaders who invest in working families, respect individual freedoms, and understand that strong communities depend on strong public services. Several candidates on the Brooklyn ballot have earned our votes.

Gov. Ned Lamont and Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz have strengthened Connecticut's finances. Connecticut has closed eight straight fiscal years with budget surpluses, according to the State Comptroller. In 2025, Moody's and Fitch both upgraded the state's bond rating, helping lower borrowing costs for school and road projects. Maintaining fiscal discipline while cushioning the effects of the Republican administration's budget cuts takes experienced leadership. To address the funding gap, the state put $115 million from an emergency response fund to help offset the cuts to resident's health insurance coverage.

Congressman Joe Courtney's work on health care, education, Social Security, and economic policy directly affects Connecticut households. After the Trump administration's budget initially left a funding shortfall, Courtney helped secure submarine funding that positioned Electric Boat to hire 8,000 new employees.

Sen. Mae Flexer and Representative Pat Boyd (District 1) helped secure funding and legislative support for Day Kimball Hospital, serving the interests of northeastern Connecticut. Marcus Palumbo (District 2) is focused on lowering property taxes and reducing electric bills to address the economic pressures facing Connecticut families.

Secretary of the State Stephanie Thomas led election modernization. She has overseen the rollout of early voting and expanded absentee-voting access. Treasurer Erick Russell launched the nation's first statewide Baby Bonds initiative to help combat generational poverty. Comptroller Sean Scanlon created the state's prescription drug discount card, reformed municipal pensions, and expanded the MyCTSavings retirement program. Attorney General William Tong has filed or joined 45 lawsuits against the Trump administration. After Connecticut joined a multistate suit, the administration released more than $53 million in frozen school funding.

Locally, Kate Cerrone is running for Judge of Probate. Probate judges guide families through estates, guardianships, and conservatorships, and Kate Cerrone will work hard to serve people on some of their most difficult days.

So, are you ready to vote? Have you checked your voter registration? Early voting is Oct. 19 through Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with extended hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Oct. 27 and 29. Absentee ballots are available to every Connecticut voter, with no excuse required. On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Same-day registration is available during early voting and on Election Day. Unaffiliated voters may vote for any candidate on the ballot. Check with your town to confirm your Early Voting and Election Day polling locations.

Elections have consequences. Learn about the candidates, review your ballot, and vote.

Lisa Arends
Brooklyn

When justice becomes vengeance: A moral reckoning with the death penalty

To the Editor:

Capital punishment has returned to the news in troubling ways. In Tennessee, the attempted execution by lethal injection of Christa Pike, age 50, was botched. Meanwhile, Pete Hegseth, Secretary of the "Department of War," has announced plans to livestream the Dec. 3 execution by firing squad of Nidal Hasan, the soldier convicted of killing 13 people in a 2009 mass shooting at Fort Hood, Texas. Hegseth endorsed the plan emphatically: "No brainer—execution by firing squad…We'll make sure that people are able to watch it, that it's public, because people need to understand that there's serious consequences for these types of things."

Hearing those two stories reminded me of a high school assignment from more than 65 years ago—my first sustained attempt to examine the moral case for capital punishment. I remember little else about the class, but we were asked to write a research paper on any topic we chose. The paper had to include an annotated bibliography and footnotes for ideas or quotations not our own. The assignment was meant to teach us how to write a thoughtful research paper in preparation for college, but the subject I chose has stayed with me for a lifetime.

The topic I chose was capital punishment. I can no longer recall exactly why I selected it, though, in light of the vocation I later embraced in Christian ministry, the choice now seems fitting. I have spent my life wrestling with the ambiguities of human behavior and the mystery we call God, seeking guidance for ethical living in biblical stories, and working to foster communities grounded in justice and compassion.

While the research paper I ultimately wrote has been lost to the vagaries of time, I retain a relatively clear memory of what I learned. I began with a question that still seems simple and unavoidable: if it is wrong for one person to kill another — "You shall not murder" (Exodus 20:13)—why is it acceptable for society to kill a person for committing that same act? Supporters of capital punishment offer several answers. Chief among them is deterrence: the threat of execution is said to prevent future murders. Another argument is that execution permanently prevents a person convicted of murder from killing again. A third is retribution—the belief that justice requires a punishment proportionate to the crime, an "eye for an eye."

I wish I still had that long-ago high school paper to remind me of all the research, but its central lesson remains clear: people who study the issue have not established that capital punishment deters murder more effectively than life imprisonment. The state has a responsibility to protect innocent people from those who are dangerous. But if life imprisonment without parole protects society as well as execution does, what purpose does execution serve? My conclusion then remains my conclusion now: capital punishment is less an instrument of deterrence than an act of vengeance.

That is why I agree with Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, who said on October 8: "It is with shock and great sorrow that I have learned of the Department of War's decision to publicly livestream the execution of Nidal Hasan. Our God is the God of life. In no way can Hassan's actions be condoned but this decision is a barbaric promotion of a culture of death and must be reconsidered. The word of God exhorts us: 'do not repay anyone evil for evil' (Romans 12:17). The public execution even of one who has done grave harm will only further undermine the moral fabric of our nation and be a blight on the conscience of its people. I pray… that we as a nation may always choose life even in the most trying times and circumstances."

In my church tradition, I am more prone to making suggestions than exhortations. Still, I share Archbishop Coakley's moral clarity: turning an execution into a public spectacle would bring shame rather than justice. It would not heal the harm already done, strengthen the moral fabric of our nation, or demonstrate the value of human life. Nor is spectacle likely to deter future violence; it may instead invite further retribution. If we want to reject a culture of death, we must do so not only when life is innocent and sympathetic, but also when mercy is most difficult.

The Rev. Jamie Harrison
Pastor Emeritus
First Congregational Church UCC
Woodstock

Letters To The Editor,
See Page A-6

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When the cost of living goes up, we adapt

To the Editor:

It's been reported that in recent years California's top 1 percent pay nearly half of the state's income taxes. So much for the rich not paying their fair share, huh? People cry about Elon Musk's wealth, but then they basically give Soros a free pass. But I guess it's up to whom they support and donate to that really matters. Also, it's been said that the Democrats have more billionaire donors than the Republicans do.

We all moan about the high cost of living. We throw out talking points and make these then and now comparisons. For one thing, I›m certainly not happy with the current cost of home heating oil, but unfortunately, it's something I need. (I remember when it was 30 cents per gallon.) Thankfully, I have a split unit and a propane heater to help me. When one of the big groans was the cost of a dozen eggs, I bought them from a friend who raised chickens. I guess we have to adapt to deal with current situations.

According to a report by Yahoo Finance, property taxes increased by nearly 25 percent in recent years. In their list of the states with the highest property taxes, Connecticut (at 104 percent more than the 2024 national average) is third, followed by New York and Massachusetts. The top ten also includes Vermont and Rhode Island. Remember when the casinos were built and the question was why here because this was (supposedly at the time) such a depressed area? But evidently, there is always some extra money to spend on the many forms of gambling.

Lamont is now feeding us that when he›s re-elected, he›s really going to make everything better for the people of Connecticut. Typical election year rhetoric. Tong›s campaign ads are focused on his (taxpayer funded) lawsuits. As a deflection, they, and all these other democrats, want the voters to believe that all of our current woes are totally President Trump's fault. Even if Trump is a "now" contributor, if you really think that Lamont, who's been in office for close to eight years now, has absolutely nothing to do with any of this state's problems, or that he has nothing to do with continually making the cost of living here more expensive, you have absolutely no right to question my way of thinking. In an April 2026 report by Compass (an independent brokerage), Connecticut was listed as the 13th most expensive state to live in, but then I suppose Trump is to blame for that as well?

Ed DeLuca
North Grosvenordale

Killingly Residents
Help us defeat Amazon
Don't sell your Town's soul for a little bit of Tax Revenue.
There are better ways to develop.
Ryan Corporation is trying to build a 1.28 Million Square foot Amazon building in the middle of the woods, off of Westcott Road. The total footprint of 340 acres/14.8 million Square feet. It is called the Husky Project.
The proposed husky project footprint is 5x the size of Killingly Commons
Many of the neighbors in the area are fighting to stop the project. The citizens have formed a group called "Keep Killingly Rural" to help with the fight against this and other projects that will unnecessarily overdevelop Killingly.
WE NEED YOUR HELP
There is a pathway to defeat this project
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WASTE INNOVATIONS

EDITORIAL

continued from page A4

improvements extends well beyond that figure.

Consider the volunteers who spend their free time pulling invasive plants, preparing soil and maintaining gardens. Their work may not attract the attention given to a major construction project or a municipal budget debate, but its impact is visible to every visitor who walks through the park.

There is also an important environmental lesson in this undertaking. By emphasizing native plants, the volunteers are helping create conditions that support pollinators, birds and other wildlife. Their efforts demonstrate that landscaping need not be purely decorative. Thoughtful planting can contribute to a healthier local ecosystem while making public spaces more inviting.

The participation of Killingly High School's vocational agriculture students is especially encouraging. Their involvement provides an opportunity to apply classroom knowledge while developing an appreciation for environmental stewardship and community service.

Such experiences can have lasting value. A student who helps remove invasive plants or establish a garden may come away with a greater understanding of the responsibilities that accompany public ownership of natural spaces.

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of the Cat Hollow project is the cooperation it represents. Too often, discussions about local government focus on disagreements over spending, regulations and competing priorities. Here is an example of municipal departments and private citizens working toward a common goal, each contributing what they can.

On Sunday, Oct. 25, residents will have an opportunity to see the results firsthand during a guided walk beginning at 1 p.m. at the Dog Hill Road entrance. The one-mile walk will showcase all 10 gardens, with Cat Hollow merchandise available for purchase from 1 to 4 p.m.

It is an opportunity worth taking, both to appreciate the improvements and to recognize the people responsible for them.

Fusco's leadership, the dedication of her volunteers and the support of town employees have given Killingly something valuable. Their work also offers a model that other communities might consider when looking to improve their own parks and public spaces.

The challenge now is to sustain that momentum. Gardens require continuing maintenance, invasive plants rarely disappear permanently, and volunteer initiatives depend upon new people being willing to participate. The best way to honor what has been accomplished is to ensure that the work continues.

Cat Hollow Park's transformation is a reminder that community pride is not simply something residents express. It is something they practice, often with gardening gloves, muddy shoes and a willingness to give up a Saturday afternoon. And sometimes, the most enduring improvements begin with someone deciding to plant a flower.

Killingly High School Weekly Sports Wrap-Up

Girls Soccer

Last Tuesday, the Killingly girls' soccer team traveled to Griswold and earned a thrilling late-game victory. Olivia Cabral opened the scoring in the first half to give the Trailblazers the early advantage. Griswold battled back and found the equalizer with just nine minutes remaining in regulation.

With less than six minutes left to play, freshman Gabby DiZazzo delivered the game-winner, netting her first varsity goal off a well-placed assist from Adalyn Malarkey. The team is now 6-2-1 for the season.

On Saturday morning, the Killingly Girls Soccer team hosted Plainfield and earned a commanding 5-0 victory.

The Trailblazers opened the scoring just three minutes into the match when Kezlee Morrarty finished a perfectly placed cross from Adalyn Malarkey. With less than five minutes remaining in the first half, Adalyn Malarkey found the back of the net off an assist from Olivia Cabral. Adalyn struck again just a few minutes later, this time finishing a setup from Maya Panteleakos. With only 17 seconds left before halftime, Ashley Boudreau capped off the first-half scoring by converting a cross from Kezlee Morrarty, giving Killingly a 4-0 lead at the break.

In the second half, Kezlee Morrarty added her second goal of the game to seal the 5-0 win for the Trailblazers.

With the victory, Killingly improves to 7-2-1 on the season.

Boys Soccer

Killingly put on a dominant display against Montville to open the week, controlling the narrative from kickoff to the final whistle. Despite commanding the tempo and firing off over 20 shot attempts throughout the contest, Killingly was unable to break through Montville's defensive unit to secure a goal.

Killingly maintained relentless pressure on the attack, consistently generating quality scoring chances and pushing the pace. On the defensive end, goalkeeper Gab Covington delivered a solid, reliable performance, turning away all 4 shots on target to secure a clean sheet for the team.

The boys then put up a strong fight against a tough Windham squad, ultimately falling just short in a tight 2-1 decision. Despite the tough loss, Killingly showed great effort throughout the match, highlighted by a clean combination play where Glen Leveille provided the assist to set up Christian Tremblay for Killingly's goal. Though it wasn't the result the team was looking for, the hard-fought performance against a formidable opponent gives the squad plenty of positive momentum to build on in their next outing.

Field Hockey

Killingly kicked off the week by earning a 2-1 victory over Northwestern Regional High School, with a strong team performance. Attilea Jarvis and Maddie Plumadore each scored a goal to help secure the win. Jaynie Macquarrie recorded two saves in goal, helping protect Killingly's lead. The team worked well together on both ends of the field, showing continued improvement and determination throughout the game.

The girls next delivered an impressive team performance against Waterford, battling to a 1-1 tie. Maddie Plumadore scored Killingly's lone goal off an assist from Addyson Larkin. Jaynie Macquarrie recorded three saves in goal, helping keep the game even. Killingly showed strong teamwork and determination throughout the matchup, putting together one of its best performances of the season

Courtesy

Danielson Martial Arts Academy & Northeast Martial Arts Academy announce promotions of Master Belts — Master Daryl Laperle from 7th Dan to 8th Dan black belt, Master Gary Guay from 7th Dan to 8th Dan black belt, Master Steven Randolph from 6th Dan to 7th Dan black belt, & Matthew Guay from 3rd Dan to 4th Dan black belt. For more information regarding classes, please call 860-779-0699, or visit the Web site at DanielsonMartialArts.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's time to rise to Ben Franklin's challenge

To the Editor:

In 250 years, the United States has come far. Yet today, it seems that we are facing the fact that we are on the threshold of the loss of our democracy. Sure, our past is littered with wars and periods of uncertainty, but amidst all the doom and gloom once in a while, we find a glimmer of hope. No one is able to predict the future as we live with these ups and downs because we have the freedom to make choices.

As you likely remember from your own study of US History, there were heated discussions and disagreements as our founders sorted out the documents at the 1787 Constitutional Convention. These were turbulent years for our nation, but we survived and are still trying to fulfill the goals of our founders.

At the end of the Convention. Benjamin Franklin was asked by a reporter, "Well, Doctor. What have we got—a Republic or a Monarchy?" Franklin replied, "A Republic…if you can keep it."

You've heard the expression, "The truth makes men free." Don't believe it. It does nothing of the kind. It's the knowledge of the truth that creates freedom. Truth is enlightenment and freedom means choice!

It is time to go on the offensive and rise to Franklin's challenge by going to the polls and voting to preserve our democracy and republic before it is too late. Let's express the practical wisdom we've learned over our lifetime that the truth always prevails.

We must restore trust in our democracy. Vote to make this happen. Let your voices be heard before it is too late.

G. TOD STEVENSON
WOODSTOCK

Very little changes after the election

To the Editor:

Let's assume for the sake of argument that Democrats win control of the US House of Representatives and win a narrow majority in the Senate, as is widely expected. Those appalled by the depravity, lawlessness and corruption of the current Administration hold out hope that a new Congress can effectively rein in a clearly mentally defective President and even begin repairing our institutions and restoring our international reputation which is at the lowest level in our lifetimes.

Unfortunately, our vaunted Constitution and the overly deferential Supreme Court ensure that little will change. Add that to Trump's disdain for the law and his use of his power to investigate and prosecute his enemies without cause, and he can do a lot more damage. Moreover, Trump has openly threatened to declare an insurrection if he doesn't like the election results which could enable him to invalidate them.

Laws passed by the new Congress will be vetoed by Trump and Democrats will not have enough votes to override his vetoes. The current Congress has passed very little legislation. But Trump assumed authoritarian power, spent money, and pursued war without regard to Congress and the law. There is no reason to expect that that will change merely because a different party controls Congress.

Congress's power of the purse to cut off funding for Trump's illegal war and storm troopers can force government shutdowns but we've seen how ineffective those have been in changing the direction of the executive branch. The war against Iran and the tariffs that have fueled inflation and raised the prices of gasoline, diesel, heating oil, and countless other essentials will continue. He and Secretary Rubio would dearly like to invade Cuba. Trump will continue to act like he is a Russian asset by doing Putin's bidding and backstabbing Ukraine.

A Democratic Congress will conduct investigations into Trump's illegal refusal to release the Epstein files, the stunningly pervasive corruption, and the gross incompetence of the Attorney General and Secretaries of Defense, Transportation, and HHS, among others. It will be stonewalled by Trump's illegal refusal to comply with its subpoenas. Some discarded former administration officials may agree to testify but most will be silent in return for other government or private sector jobs or lucrative contracts. Impeachment, never more appropriate or needed in US history, isn't likely since Senate Republicans hold enough seats to ensure acquittal.

Nevertheless, Democrats must be elected in droves to push the public's agenda of ending the Republican war on the Middle Class, ending Trump's inane Operation Epic Failure, getting accountability for the Epstein victims, blocking Trump's extreme court nominations and restoring dignity to government.

Now, more than ever, it is important to vote for the party over the individual candidate. The reason ought to be obvious if you've been paying attention: nearly every one of the Republicans who were elected to this Congress aided and abetted Trump's inflation, gasoline prices, tariffs, war, insurrection, cuts to health care, tax cuts for billionaires, incompetent cabinet appointments and corruption with hardly a word of criticism. The handful that didn't resigned, retired or lost their partisan primaries. Many, or maybe most, of those congressmen and women were very nice people, many are veterans, and all presumably loved their country. But they loved their jobs and access to power more than they cared about their oaths and much more than they cared about you.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
KILLINGLY

Thank you, Anne

To the Editor:

I would like to thank State Rep. Anne Dauphinais for her responsiveness and assistance with Old Killingly Pond.

Through my involvement in efforts to repair the dam and restore the pond, I have appreciated her willingness to listen to residents, reach out to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and help bring our community's concerns to the attention of state officials.

Old Killingly Pond is a valued resource for our community and neighboring towns. Its clean water, wildlife habitat, and opportunities for recreation and enjoyment of nature deserve protection for current residents and future generations.

Restoring the pond requires continued attention and cooperation among residents, local officials, and state agencies. Anne's willingness to remain involved and help with those communications has been appreciated.

These efforts matter to people who care deeply about the pond and its future. Thank you, Anne, for listening, and for the time and attention you have given to this community concern. I encourage you all to vote for Anne Dauphinais this Election Day!

Sincerely,

ALFRED R. DUFRESNE
KILLINGLY

Woodstock Commission on Aging launches Senior Resource Guide

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Commission on Aging has officially launched the new Woodstock Senior Resource Guide, a comprehensive tool designed to help older adults and their families easily navigate local care, programs, and support services.

The guide brings together key local resources on aging in place, healthcare options, financial and legal planning, food assistance, transportation, and social or recreational opportunities.

How to Access the Guide:

Online: Download the document directly via the Town of Woodstock Web site.

Mobile Access: Scan the printed QR code using a smartphone camera to view the guide instantly on mobile devices.

Physical copies: View a print copy at Woodstock Town Hall, local libraries, fire stations, or community worship centers.

About the Woodstock Commission on Aging

The Woodstock Commission on Aging works to evaluate, develop, and support services

and initiatives that enhance the quality of life for senior residents in Woodstock. For inquiries, feedback, or to suggest resources for future guide updates, please contact 860-928-6595 or email AgeFriendlyWoodstock@gmail.com.

Courtesy

ROTARY CLUB WELCOMES THREE NEW MEMBERS

The Putnam Rotary Club Oct. 6 welcomed three new members, all from Jewett City Savings Bank. From left: Martha Paquette, club president; Elizabeth Cooke, Bill Couture and Mark Light.

Emerling & Hodgdon celebrate NASCAR Modified dream

McKennedy out-duels Silk for Big Monaco Modified check on World Series Saturday

James Barrett — Courtesy

Jon McKennedy celebrates his $10,000 Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series victory at Thompson Speedway on Saturday's portion of the 64th Sunoco World Series.

An extatic Teddy Hodgdon climbs from his #05 victorious for the second time in his rookie NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season at Thompson Speedway.

THOMPSON — It was an absolutely jam-packed Super Saturday to cap off the 64th Sunoco World Series at Thompson Speedway. In the end, Patrick Emerling took down his first career NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour championship, Teddy Hodgdon took down win number two in his freshman year and Jon McKennedy took the win and held onto the season-long lead in the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series.

Paulie Hartwig III earned his first career American Racer Pole Award during his rookie NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season with a fast-time of 19.319-seconds. Head-to-head with Matt Hirschman at the front of the field, Hartwig took the early lead in the Sunoco World Series 150 just as Stephen Kopcik shut down in turn two, nearly collecting 2026 champion Patrick Emerling, Chase Dowling and more to call out the first and only caution. Hartwig kept pace out front as Emerling followed Eric Goodale on the low groove, building it underneath the preferred high groove as the field ran like a freight train around the Thompson highbanks.

By lap 50, Emerling was knocking on Hartwig's back door, the champion looking for a way around one of the freshman on the NASCAR tour. With Hartwig on the defense, Emerling, Goodale and fellow rookie Teddy Hodgdon pulled close for a bumper-to-bumper top-four line until Emerling made the move to lead lap 82. Hodgdon followed Emerling around Hartwig, following the champ until looking low and stealing the lead away on lap 117. At that point Hodgdon began to drive away into the night through lap traffic to take down his second NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour victory in his rookie season with Patrick Emerling celebrating his first career NASCAR championship alongside.

The Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series held the first of the two Tour-type Modified doubleheader divisions on Saturday. Top point drivers Jon McKennedy and Ron Silk lined up together to bring the field to green with Silk getting the advantage on the outside groove. Silk ran away in the early circuits ahead of Austin Beers, McKennedy, Tyler Chapman and Teddy Hodgdon among the top-five. The caution for debris on lap 36 sent all but two cars into the pit area for their allowable one-tire change with Ronnie Williams and Kyle Bonsignore joining Silk, McKennedy and Hodgdon at the front on the restart.

Bonsignore's strong run went sour after meeting the turn-two wall on lap 49 to re-rack the field with 26 laps remaining. McKennedy stayed glued to Silk's rear bumper until lap 61, jumping to the inside groove under Silk to take the lead off turn two. Mechanical failure sent Ronnie Williams hard into the turn one wall to call out the final caution with seven laps remaining. McKennedy chose the outside groove on the restart and drove away to the tune of $10,000 and an even greater lead in the standings ahead of Ron Silk going into The Haunted Hundred at Seekonk on October 24.

The Thompson Sunoco Modifieds returned Saturday afternoon for their second 30-lap feature of Sunoco World Series weekend with Keith Rocco and Todd Owen the main combatants in the fight for the 2026 track championship. Rocco and Owen followed leader Danny Cates on the outside groove at the start before Rocco pulled out of line to steal the lead away. From then on, the field chased Rocco to the checkered flag with Owen and Cates rounding out the podium prior to Rocco's track championship celebrations in victory lane.

The New England Supermodified Series (NESS) kicked-off feature racing on Sunoco World Series Super Saturday. Derek Griffith held a slim lead in the early goings with Dan Bowes and point-leader Jeffrey Battle hot on his heels. The tight three-way battle finally came to a head in turn four with Bowes going in the spin-cycle to call out the lap 9 caution. The wreck ended the day for Bowes while Battle took control at the front and ran away. The real race was for second between Griffith and Matt Swanson around the high-banks with Swanson taking the silver by half-a-car-length at the line over Griffith.

The Nunes brothers brought the SK Light Modifieds to green to end their 2026 track championship season on Sunoco World Series weekend. A pair of early cautions slowed and re-racked the field, leaving Leo Nunes and RJ Marcott to duke it out ahead of championship hopeful Kevin Davis. A final mid-race caution saw Davis and other top-point driver Austin Goff caught up in a turn two pile-up leaving the championship chase hanging midair. Back at the front, Leo Nunes earned his first career Thompson Speedway win ahead of RJ Marcotte and Jordan Hadley across the line.

Originally officials had Kevin Davis in 19th-position, tied at 316 points with Marcotte in the championship. Due to Davis' three wins to Marcotte's one, Davis was initially named the champion. Post-race audit of the timing and scoring results concluded that Davis finished 20th on the track after discovering a faulty transponder in Kali Tripp's #14 machine, breaking the original tie and giving Marcotte the two-point advantage in the overall. RJ Marcotte was later returned to the frontstretch with his team, family and supporters to celebrate his 2026 championship effort.

The Pro-4 Modifieds returned to Thompson for their annual Harry Kourafas Memorial 22-lap main event. Brett Meservey launched from the front row starting spot to lead the show from the drop of the green flag all the way to the twin checkers. After sealing up the Modified Racing Series championship on Friday, Brett Meservey earned the Harry Kourafas Memorial win over Rob Richardi, Jr. and Max Zachem in the caution-free event.

Adrien Paradis and Jason Paquette led the Pro Truck Challenge to green for their 35-lap Sunoco World Series feature. After a pair of early cautions, Paradis continued to lead the Trucks through the home stretch before a two more late-race cautions re-racked the field again. Paradis and Ryan Lineham drag-raced down the back-stretch side-by-side with Lineham just edging back at the line for the lead before growing his advantage the next lap and taking the win ahead of DJ Thibeault and Paradis at the line.

Jarrod Soucy led Ryan Lineham around the Thompson 5/8-mile at the start of the final Street Stock event of the season on Saturday. Soucy held his own as Lineham laid it on thick just off his rear bumper until jumping to the inside and leading lap seven off turn four. As has been the case all season long, Ryan Lineham saw nothing but daylight out the windshield and never looked back to take his third win of Sunoco World Series weekend along with the 2026 Street Stock championship.

The NEMA Lites made their annual Sunoco World Series trek to Thompson with Tiana Kibbe sneaking away with the early lead. Joey Bailey sliced and diced his way through the top-six to scoot under Kibbe in turn two and lead lap three, stretching his lead against Zach Martinez. No one could slow him in the caution-free feature with Joey Bailey taking the strong win in the NEMA Lites ahead of Zach Martinez and Randy Cabral.

The Crown Vics joined the show for their second appearance of Sunoco World Series weekend with Chase Curtis quickly showing the way out front. A flat right-front tire ended Ethan Williams' run for a World Series win on lap one while Curtis and Friday's winner Dylan Cabral spread their lead at the front.

That officially wraps up the 2026 season of stock car racing at the famed Thompson Speedway! Promoters Tom Mayberry with the Pro All Stars Series and Cris Michaud with the American-Canadian Tour have signed on to present oval racing at Thompson Speedway again in 2027 with a full schedule and planned divisions to be released by the beginning of December.

For more information about the American-Canadian Tour, contact the ACT offices at (802) 244-6963, media@acttour.com, or visit www.acttour.com. You can also get updates on Facebook and Twitter at @ACTTour.

For technical information concerning all PASS divisions, and for media or marketing questions, please contact passracing@roadrunner.com or visit www.proallstarsseries.com. Don't forget to "Like" the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow on Twitter @PASSSLM14 to keep up with breaking news as it happens. To take advantage of marketing opportunities please call 207-577-1836 or inquire at OPSmarketing50@gmail.com.

For general Thompson Speedway inquiries, call (860) 923-2280, email oval@thompsonspeedway.com, or visit www.thompsonspeedway.com. You can follow Thompson Speedway on Facebook and Instagram at @ThompsonSpeedway or on Twitter at @ThompsonSpdwy.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS
Saturday, October 10, 2026
Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park
64th Sunoco World Series Super Saturday!

NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour – Sunoco World Series 150 pres. by FloSports (150 Laps)
2026 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Champion: Patrick Emerling
(Finish Pos., Car #, Driver, Sponsor, Laps Complete, Diff.)
1. 05 Teddy Hodgdon IV* Business Time Motorsports/Omaha Beef 150
2. 60 Matt Hirschman Bar Harbor Bank & Trust 150 5.442
3. 1 Patrick Emerling USNE Power 150 6.896
4. 31 Michael Christopher Jr Elite Towing/Elite Heavy Transport 150 7.167
5. 89 Matt Swanson Ceravolos Auto/Swanson GMC 150 11.417
6. 58 Eric Goodale GAF Roofing/Riverhead Building Supply 150 14.448
7. 64 Austin Beers Dell Elec/Lumiere Elec/G&G Elec 150 18.676
8. 44 Chase Dowling SS Paving/Harshaw Paving 150 20.048
9. 21 Stephen Kopcik Wanick Construction/Newtown Pools 149 1 Lap
10. 82 Andrew Molleur* Village Springs Water 149 1 Lap
11. 73 Paulie Hartwig III* Professional Therapy LLC/Velocita USA 149 1 Lap
12. 79 Jonathan McKennedy Stuarts Automotive/Christopher's Towing 149 1 Lap
13. 3 Tyler Rypkema A-Lete Vision/Northeast Drilling/SYP 149 1 Lap
14. 28 Doug Coby Nucar 149 1 Lap
15. 36 David Sapienza Sapienza Enterprises 148 2 Laps
16. 17 Anthony Nocella Keene Towing & Recovery/ Bells Septic 148 2 Laps
17. 2 Jacob Perry KLAS Motorsports/Simpson Race Prod 147 3 Laps
18. 18 Ken Heagy Merkel Racing Engines 146 4 Laps
19. 4 Joey Braun* Highmark Building Efficiency 145 5

Turn To DREAM page A10

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Courtesy

On Wednesday, Oct. 7, Putnam Cub Scout Pack 21 painted little pumpkins to take home for Halloween. Pack 21 is safe and welcoming and is guided by trained and experienced adults. Fun is a top priority for all of our boys and girls and their families. Pack 21 is actively looking for boys and girls ages five through ten to have fun with us, so please join us by calling Pack 21's John Ryan today, at (860) 928-5873 and leave a message. Pack 21 is chartered to the Albert J. Breault VFW Post 1523, 207 Providence Street in Putnam.

bankHometown to host three free shred days

REGION — bankHometown invites customers and members of the community to three free Shred Days. The second will be held on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 9 to 11 a.m. at the bank's 9 Sack Blvd. location in Leominster.

The third event will be on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the bank's 148 Route 171 location in Woodstock, Conn.

Local residents can reduce their risk of identity theft by bringing old mail, receipts, statements or bills, cancelled checks, pay stubs, medical records, or any other unwanted paper documents containing personal or confidential information and shredding them safely and securely for free. Bay State Shredding, a professional document destruction company, will be on site in the bank's parking lot and can accept up to two boxes of documents per car. No appointment is necessary.

About bankHometown

Headquartered in Easthampton, Massachusetts, TruNorth Bank and its bankHometown and TruNorth Mortgage divisions have more than $6.9 billion in assets and offer consumer and business banking in 54 locations throughout Massachusetts, northeastern Connecticut, and southern New Hampshire. We're proud to fulfill our community banking mission—providing individualized financial support, a suite of comprehensive products and services, and banking tools and technology—all to ensure our customers can unlock their potential and build a successful future.

Through our sponsorship and charitable giving program, The Giving Tree, TruNorth Bank supports non-profit organizations and causes throughout the communities we serve. In 2025 alone, we donated more than $2.2 million and over the last decade, more than $13 million. We were named a Corporate Citizenship Award winner by Boston Business Journal, reaffirming our status as one of Massachusetts' most charitable companies.

As an employer of choice, we've been recognized nationally as a four-time USA TODAY Top Workplaces award winner, an America's Best-in-State Bank by Forbes, and a top place to work by The Boston Globe. For more information, visit TruNorthBank.com.

Incumbents face challenges as Quiet Corner prepares for midterms

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

REGION — The Nov. 3 midterm elections are quickly approaching, bringing attention to races for state and federal offices in the Quiet Corner. All major available offices are contested with every incumbent returning to face new and familiar challengers.

At the center of the state elections is the race for Governor with Democratic incumbent Ned Lamont and Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz challenged by Republican Ryan Fazio and running mate Matt Corey. Lamont is seeking his third term in the state's leading office while Fazio, who is vacating his seat as State Representative for the 36th District, could make history as the first elected Governor in the nation born in the 1990s.

As part of the much-watched congressional midterms, Congressman Joe Courtney is running for an 11th term representing Connecticut's 2nd District in Washington, D.C., challenged by Republican George Patrick Austin, a small business owner and contractor also endorsed by the Independent Party.

On the local level, representatives in the State Senate and House of Representatives are also up for re-election:

The State Senate race for the 29th District is a rematch between incumbent Democrat Mae Flexer, seeking her seventh term in the seat, and returning Republican nominee Chris Reddy. The pair were embroiled in a close and contentious race two years ago when Reddy refused to concede the race after Flexer won by 589 votes, less than a percentage difference.

Republican State Senator Republican Jeff Gordon of the 35th District, whose region includes Eastford, Woodstock, and part of Thompson, is seeking a third term in office challenged by Democrat Ethan Westler who previously contested Kurt Vail for the 52nd District State Representative seat which also covers Woodstock.

Speaking of the race for 52nd District State Representative seat, Vail is seeking his seventh term with a new challenger in Democratic nominee Vincent Tocci, a Woodstock Academy product, making his first attempt at state office.

One of the most talked about State Representative races of the year has been the 50th District seat which was the subject of much media attention after the original Republican nominee, Jadon MacCormack, lost the party's endorsement following his use of anti-LGBTQ rhetoric. A primary determined the party's representative with former Pomfret Selectman Anthony "Tony" Emilio being selected by voters to contend against longtime Democratic incumbent Pat Boyd who is seeking a sixth term.

The contest for the 51st District sees incumbent Republican State Rep. Chris Stewart challenged by Democrat Lina Wagner. Stewart is seeking his second term while Wagner is looking to reclaim the seat for Democrats who had previously held the district from 1995 until 2019. The seat serves part of Killingly as well as Putnam and Thompson.

The 44th District State Representative Seat sees a rematch between longstanding Republican incumbent Anne Dubay Dauphinais, pursuing a sixth term, and her 2024 challenger Democrat Samantha Derenthal, returning for another push to win the seat.

Rounding out the ballot is the contest for the 47th District State Representative seat, which serves Brooklyn, currently held by incumbent Republican Doug Dubitsky who is challenge by Democrat Marcus Palumbo.

The midterms also include votes for several other state and local positions, but no statewide questions are expected to be on the ballot.

Voters should turn to their respective Town Clerk offices for voting locations and official copies of their local ballot.

Information contained in this story regarding the midterm elections was gathered from Connecticut Office of the Secretary of the State.

Stephanie Michaud named to Goodwin University's President's List

EAST HARTFORD — Stephanie Michaud has earned a spot on Goodwin University List for the summer 2026 session.

Stephanie, a student from Killingly is one of 294 students to make the President's List, reserved for those who demonstrate exemplary academic performance. Inclusion on the President's List requires a student to earn a 4.0 GPA during a given academic session.

Goodwin University congratulates Stephanie on making the President's List and demonstrating such a high standard of excellence in the classroom and beyond!

Goodwin University in East Hartford is an innovative learning community that empowers hard-working students to become sought-after employees. We tailor our programs to address the needs of employers, and we shape them to fit the lives of students. Classes are conveniently offered year-round - days, evenings, weekends, and online. Degrees may be flexibly layered across certificate, associate, bachelor's, and master's programs in a variety of in-demand fields. Better still, we surround our students with the personal support and the professional guidance they need - not just to earn degrees, but to change lives for themselves, their families, and their communities. For more information, please visit www.goodwin.edu.

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Willow Charles named to Goodwin University's Summer Dean's List

EAST HARTFORD — Willow Charles has earned a spot on Goodwin University's Dean's List for the summer 2026 semester.

Willow, a student from Dayville, is one of 414 students to make the Dean's List, reserved for those who demonstrate exemplary academic performance. Dean's List inclusion requires a student to earn a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session. The student must also be enrolled in a minimum of six academic credits to qualify.

Goodwin University congratulates Willow on making the Dean's List and demonstrating such a high standard of excellence in the classroom and beyond!

Goodwin University in East Hartford is an innovative learning community that empowers hard-working students to become sought-after employees. We tailor our programs to address the needs of employers, and we shape them to fit the lives of students. Classes are conveniently offered year-round - days, evenings, weekends, and online. Degrees may be flexibly layered across certificate, associate, bachelor's, and master's programs in a variety of in-demand fields. Better still, we surround our students with the personal support and the professional guidance they need - not just to earn degrees, but to change lives for themselves, their families, and their communities. For more information, please visit www.goodwin.edu.

Poets at Large presents Arsego and Aeroelastic Flutter Oct. 24

POMFRET, Conn. — Poets at Large will continue its seventh season on Saturday night, October 24th with a wide variety of spoken word. The show begins at 7 p.m. at The Vanilla Bean Café, 450 Deerfield Rd. in Pomfret, Conn. and featured that night will be Sharon Arsego and performance artist duo Aeroelastic Flutter. Suggested donation is $10.00.

Sharon Arsego is from Bristol where she works as a senior administrative assistant for the city. She has three published collections including Scenes and Sonnets which is an ekphrastic collaboration with Massachusetts photographer Wendy Tobin. Arsego is an active participant in various arts and culture communities, has been a featured spoken word performer for two seasons of The Soul Session in Bristol, and also writes for The Bristol Magazine. Learn more at sharonarsego.com.

Aeroelastic Flutter is a spoken word and sound collaboration, combining the often-absurdist poetry of Jim Whitten with the guitar work and sound exploration of Nicholas Pecsok. Their project experiments with lo-fi audio and borderline performance art, challenging audiences to reevaluate how poetry can be performed and defined.

Linda Blakesley will do an extended read in the open mic segment. Blakesley is a poet from Coventry, CT who hosts a monthly open mic in connection with the Coventry Arts Guild, providing a platform for new and veteran poets. Linda works in adult education.

Poets at Large has brought more than 150 published and awarded poets to the area since 2020 and dozens of people have participated in the open mic portions during that time. Poets at Large is a project of Windham Arts. All events are ADA compliant and are recommended for ages 16 and up. Readings for the rest of the season are sponsored in part by donations from bankHometown, Charter Oak FCU, WHZ Financial and The Putnam Area Foundation. Contact karen.warinsky@gmail.com to sign up for the open mic; 5-minute max as time allows.

CT State to hold open house event

DANIELSON Connecticut State Community College (CT State) will hold Fall 2026 Open House events at 12 locations throughout Connecticut in November for those interested in learning about becoming a CT State student.

An open house will be held at the Quinebaug Valley campus in Danielson on Nov. 19 from 5-7 p.m.

Prospective students and their families are welcome to tour CT State campuses and learn about degree and certificate programs, financial aid, the free tuition program and admissions. Open houses are listed by town below. For more details, including open house hours, parking, and event updates, visit ctstate.edu/openhouse. Pre-registration is encouraged but not required.

Many CT State degree options offer seamless transfer to the four Connecticut state universities and Charter Oak State College, making it the most affordable path to attain a bachelor's degree in Connecticut. These credits can also be transferred to other public and private colleges in Connecticut and throughout the United States.

Registration opens Oct. 26 for winter session and spring 2027 credit semester. Accelerated, seven-week fall semester classes begin Oct. 22. Short-term workforce career programs are also available on a rolling basis.

About CT State

Following the merger of the 12 Connecticut community colleges in 2023, CT State Community College is the largest community college in the Northeast and fourth largest open admission public two-year college in the country, serving close to 60,000 students annually. CT State offers accessible, high-quality education across its locations in Bridgeport, Bristol, Danbury, Danielson, Enfield, Farmington, Hartford, Manchester, Meriden, Middletown, New Haven, North Haven, Norwalk, Norwich, Waterbury, Willimantic, and Winsted. The college office is located in New Britain. Visit ctstate.edu for more information.

Pomfret resident presents at Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board

POMFRET — Pomfret resident, Marie Lisette Rimer, spoke on the suicide of her son, Patrick Wood, at a recent Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board (CTSAB) meeting. Patrick was a Peck Scholar at Pomfret School and graduated as valedictorian with perfect SAT scores. He passed away in 2006 at age 23 in Berlin, where he was a programmer for Siemens. The CTSAB promotes suicide prevention through state agencies providing mental health, addiction, and family services.

Rimer focused on Patrick's description of depression as "unpredictable."

She said Patrick struggled with being shy, explaining that "Each day held pitfalls for him that most people never consider. He felt that his mind was out of control and that his shyness was a struggle against the unpredictability of his character. Some days he was okay. Other days he was terrified, and he would walk out of his way to avoid people on the way to class."

Rimer said Patrick was so extraordinary that she thought his depression was manageable. She learned that depression can affect the most successful people.

"Patrick taught me that no matter how well students appear on the outside, they might be crumbling on the inside," she added.

Rimer will present Patrick's story through her memoir, "Back from Suicide," at the Pomfret Library Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 6 p.m. The presentation will include the stages of suicide through Patrick's depression.

She said, "The library is like a coming home for Patrick. He spent many hours there for children's programs along with his twin sister, Libby, and older brother, Colin. It was a fabulous resource for young families."

Rimer has given numerous presentations on suicide through Patrick's story. She details his suicidal mind and emphasizes that depression is a legitimate disease. "Back from Suicide" won the Storytrade Nonfiction Prodigy Award, the Book of the Year First Nonfiction and Nonfiction LGBTQ+ awards, second place overall Book of the Year award, the PenCraft Nonfiction Memoir award, and the Firebird Book Awards for LGBTQ Nonfiction and Death and Dying. More information is available at www.backfromsuicide.com.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

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Putnam KOC hosting steak dinner fundraiser

PUTNAM — The Knights of Columbus, 68 Providence St., Putnam is hosting a Steak Dinner Fundraiser to benefit Paws Cat Shelter on Friday, Oct. 23. Food will be served from 6-7 p.m. Eat in or take out.

$30 per ticket includes sirloin steak, baked potato, green beans and a roll. Tickets are limited and can be purchased at Knights of Columbus, Paws Cat Shelter, 74 School St., Putnam and Joseph Jewelers, 153 School St., Putnam.

Paws is a non-profit, all volunteer organization caring for the cats of our communities. For more information, or how you can donate, contact Paws at 860-315-1228.

Woodstock Commission on Aging launches Senior Resource Guide

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Commission on Aging has officially launched the

new Woodstock Senior Resource Guide, a comprehensive tool designed to help older adults and their families easily navigate local care, programs, and support services.

The guide brings together key local resources on aging in place, healthcare options,

financial and legal planning, food assistance, transportation, and social or recreational

opportunities.

How to Access the Guide:

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About the Woodstock Commission on Aging

The Woodstock Commission on Aging works to evaluate, develop, and support services

and initiatives that enhance the quality of life for senior residents in Woodstock. For

inquiries, feedback, or to suggest resources for future guide updates, please contact

860-928-6595 or email AgeFriendlyWoodstock@gmail.com.

Local community leader becomes Justice of the Peace

Mike Bogdanski

PUTNAM — Mike Bogdanski, a longtime community leader, is proud to announce that he has officially been certified as a Justice of the Peace for the State of Connecticut.

For Bogdanski, this new role is more than an appointment. It is another opportunity to serve people during some of the most important moments of their lives.

"Throughout my career, I've had the privilege of helping people build confidence, overcome challenges, and celebrate personal achievements," said Bogdanski. "Becoming a Justice of the Peace allows me to be part of one of the happiest and most meaningful days a couple will ever experience. It's an honor that I take to heart."

As a Justice of the Peace, Bogdanski is available to officiate weddings throughout Connecticut, helping couples create ceremonies that reflect their unique love story, values, and personalities. Whether couples are looking for a simple civil ceremony or a customized celebration with family and friends, his goal is to make the experience personal, memorable, and stress-free.

Known throughout the region for his dedication to empowering others, Bogdanski has spent decades working with children, families, schools, and community organizations. Through his service to our community he has encouraged thousands of people to lead with character, kindness, and respect.

"Some of life's most important moments are about connection," Bogdanski said. "A wedding is the beginning of a new chapter, and I look forward to helping couples celebrate that milestone in a way that feels authentic and special to them."

Bogdanski welcomes inquiries from couples across Connecticut who are seeking a helpful, professional, and caring officiant for their wedding ceremony.

Pet Pals Northeast to hold low-cost rabies clinic

DANIELSON — Pet Pals Northeast, a local animal welfare organization, is holding a low cost rabies clinic at the Quinebaug Valley Veterinary Hospital, Rt 12, Danielson/Plainfield town line on Oct. 17 from 2 to 3 p.m. Cost is $15 cash per animal. Pre-registration and appointment is required. No walk-ins, please.

For information, registration and appointment contact PET PALS at 860-317-1720. This is the last clinic this year.

Got Space?
we do.

Contact Mikaela Today,
860-928-1818

GARDENS
continued from page A1

KPWD had done the same in 2024 with a 20-by-10-foot garden, and this year Fusco and volunteers added native perennial plants to all ten gardens in the Park and maintained them. Volunteers also removed invasive plants from various areas of the park along Cat Hollow Road. KPWD continues to perform maintenance: mowing the pavement margins, removing trash, cutting dead or diseased trees, and delivering topsoil and wood chips as needed.

Fusco said she and her volunteers have reached their goals for the park including:

Create a welcoming, attractive entrance to draw more visitors to the park, be a visual delight for the many people who frequent it or those who just pass by;

Use native plants to improve the ecological health of the Park and increase native wildlife including pollinators, such as bees, other beneficial insects, birds, and bats;

Increase visitors' awareness of the contributions native plants offer to a healthy ecosystem and, hopefully, become more open to native-plant gardening in their own yards;

Continue to partner with the Town in a mutually beneficial and community spirit.

Fusco has supervised over 150 volunteers who have devoted hundreds of hours to improving the Park, assisted by Killingly town employees. She manages volunteer "weed warrior" sessions to remove non-native invasive flora, including multiflora rose, barberry, garlic mustard, oriental bittersweet, burning bush, Asian bush honeysuckle, Japanese knotweed, porcelain berry, Norway maple, a small amount of bamboo, and Japanese wisteria in order to permit the Park's native plants to flourish.

Fusco recruited volunteers from interested Killingly residents and members of the Quiet Corner Garden Club. The Park has also been an approved volunteer site for Connecticut Master Gardener interns and Master Gardeners, who have devoted many hours to the Park since 2024. People can email Windham County Program Coordinator John Lorusso at john.lorusso@uconn.edu if they would like to learn more about UCONN's Master Gardener program.

Fusco also arranged for students from Killingly High School's Vocational Agriculture program, under the supervision of their teachers, to assist with identifying and removing invasive plants in the 2025 and 2026 springs. Fusco is greatly appreciative of her core volunteers: Jean Vose, with her garden design skills; Lisa Danburg, with her landscaping skills; Susan Viera; Donna Bronwell; Noreene Stehlik; and Dick Woodward--faithful volunteers for all three years! Danburg organized two very successful annual Earth Day events and plans to continue. Stehlik envisioned the welcoming entrance garden on Dog Hill Road and was the idea person behind the weed warriors' efforts. Other thanks go to the 30 volunteers from FaithWay Community Church for helping us plant 47 plants and weed many areas. Fusco appreciates the people who, besides donating their time, have donated tools, their personal plants, a water container, pump, and expertise; some of these people are Jim Rowley, Matt Danburg, Lisa Danburg, Dick Woodward, Hayden Sauvageau, and Jean Pillo.

Fusco was awarded the Killingly Environmental award in 2024 by the Killingly Conservation Commission for her volunteer efforts at Cat Hollow Park. The Commission also honored Fusco with the purchase of a tree, recently planted in the Park by KPWD.

In addition to Dube and staff of KPWD, Director of Killingly Parks and Recreation Bucky Lohbusch and his staff continue to support Fusco and her volunteers' efforts, especially in regard to the process of people becoming volunteers and the selling of Cat-Hollow-Park-designed tee shirts and hats. If interested in volunteering at the Park, donating to the Cat Hollow Park beautification project through the town, or purchasing a $25 Cat-Hollow-designed tee shirt or hat, email the Killingly Parks and Recreation Department at blohbusch@killinglyct.gov or call Lisa at 508-631-9775.

ASSERT
continued from page A1

HPA Site Champion and medical director of the Day Kimball Hospital Emergency Department. "By connecting patients with resources during an emergency department visit, we can help bridge the gap between immediate care and long-term recovery."

The team

In addition to Dr. Wexler, the DKH Project ASSERT team includes:

Vanessa Brown, MD, JD, FACEP, FAAEM, Chief Medical Officer and Vice President, Medical Affairs and Quality

Christine Collins, LPC, ED Grant Supervisor

Crystal Lanning, MSOL, RN, HPA Supervisor

Emily Laprade, Health Promotion Advocate

Courtney Peltier, Health Promotion Advocate

Getting help

Patients can speak with a member of the DKH Project ASSERT team during an emergency department visit to learn more about treatment options and recovery resources.

Anyone who uses drugs alone and is seeking immediate overdose prevention support can call SafeSpot's free, confidential, 24/7 Overdose Spotting Hotline at 1-800-972-0590.

About Day Kimball Health

Day Kimball Health is a nonprofit community healthcare system composed of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Health 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 Health's comprehensive network employs more than 1,000 staff, including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons, and specialists. Its website is daykimball.org.

For Advertising Information
Call 860-928-1818 Ext. 326
email: mikaela@
villagernewspapers.com

KILLINGLY
continued from page A4

https://www.searchiqs.com/CTKIL/SearchAdvancedMP.aspx. For Killingly Land Records Vol. 1 (March 7, 1709) through Vol. 35 (April 3, 1849) are available online as the index only. At the top of the page go to Indexbooks at the far right to find the listings of deeds. Note where it says Select Volume and choose accordingly. For Killingly Land Records Vol. 36 (April 3, 1849) through the present both the index data and the images of the deeds ae available. Some maps are also available online from 1905 to the present. If you access the site, you will want to click the button that says, "Search Records As Guest. Land records have often provided the missing links. Good luck! Email director@killinglyhistorical.org if you have additional questions. All of Putnam's land records are available online.

There are a number of sources that offer free or subscription genealogical resources. Free genealogical records are available at famiysearch.com. If you do not have a subscription to Ancestry, you might want to use the subscriptions at either Killingly Public Library or Putnam Library and check the census records which are often most helpful in genealogical research. Findagrave also provides much information. By using that site the other day, I was able to go back several generations in the family of my brother-in-law who passed away the end of September. Killingly Library also has subscriptions to the American Ancestors magazine and Family Tree magazine. The Killingly Historical Center also has a subscription to Ancestry with newspapers.com so members can help you see if there are obituaries available. You might also want to check the numerous family files at the Center. Have fun! Passing on stories (and even recipes) are wonderful ways to connect with your younger relatives and friends.

I have room for a few tidbits so I decided to look at October, 1956. The Oct. 18, 1956 Windham County Transcript carried some interesting stories that we would probably never see in today's papers. Do you recall who our president was at that time? It was Eisenhower and some of the area residents celebrated his birthday. "'Ike Day' Well Attended in Danielson. Armand Colombe, Killingly Republican Town committee chairman, reports that Saturday's Ike Day celebrations, held at the Ike trailer on Main Street, in honor of President Eisenhower's birthday, was very well attended. A birthday cake with 'Ike' inscribed on it was placed in the center of the table, and coffee and cake was (sic) served by Mrs. Van Brix, Mrs. Winifred Lehrer and Mrs. Armand Colombe. Lollipops were distributed to the children by the Misses Janice Lacombe and Susan Beauvais, who stood outside the trailer, displaying Ike parasols. A scroll, wishing the president a happy birthday, was signed by the general public and sent to the White House. In attendance for the Killingly celebration were Mrs. Horace Seely-Brown, Jr., Henry J. Dunleavy, candidate for state senator and George Kesaris and Robert Sorel, candidates for state representative." Perhaps you recall this event. If so, please share your memories. (p.1)

"Elks to climax Annual Anniversary Celebration Saturday Evening. One of the outstanding features of the Danielson Lodge of Elks No. 1706 tenth anniversary celebration is the souvenir book, which has been under preparation for some time, by a committee led by Milton Hershenov and Robert Craig, and which will be distributed to the guests at the dinner and dance to be held Saturday evening October 20, at Wildwood Park. The book is a history, complete with pictures, of the local lodge, from its establishment in 1946 to date. Area residents will remember the huge parade which began the festivities for the foundation of the Danielson lodge, ten years ago. Charter members of No. 1706 were those who had been members of the mother lodge in Putnam and the largest class of initiated in the history of the Connecticut Elks. Exulted Ruler Dr. Jerome Mopsik is general chairman for Saturday's event…"(p.1). Do you remember the days when Wildwood Park was a sought-after venue for events?

An ad for Dowe's Records provided a listing of top tunes of the time. How many do you remember? Love Me Tender, True Love, Honky Tonk, Soft Summer Breeze, Green Doors; Cindy, Oh Cindy; Blueberry Hill, Canadian Sunset, Hound Dog, You Don't Know Me, Just Walking In the Rain, Miracle of Love, Every Day of My Life, I Walk the Line, Tonight You Belong to Me, and My Prayer (p.12).

That last page of that Transcript also contained a photo of Zip's Dinner being moved from its former location at the lower end of Danielson since reconstruction of the highway was planned for that area.

I'm still seeking memories from the September 1938 Hurricane. Please email me with stories that older relatives have passed on. We have photos at the Killingly Historical Center so I'd like very much to put together a PowerPoint for the future.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, October 2026. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical Center at 196 Main Street Danielson Wednesday or Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or call 860-779-7250. Like us at Facebook www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. For Windham County Transcripts visit killingly.historyarchives.online courtesy of the Killingly Public Library. For Putnam Patriots and Windham County Observers visit the home page of the Putnam Public Library and look on the right hand column for links. For Onlline Land Records, go to Search IQS.

DREAM
continued from page A7

Laps
20. 88 Roger Turbush Rheem 139 11 Laps
21. 8 John-Michael Shenette USNE Power/Eighty-Two Services 0 Laps

Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series – (75 Laps)
1. 79 Jon McKennedy Chelmsford, MA
2. 16 Ron Silk Norwalk, CT
3. 179 Austin Beers Northampton, PA
4. 19x Woody Pitkat Bellingham, MA
5. 06 Tyler Chapman Ellington, CT
6. 03 Derek Gluchacki N. Dartmouth, MA
7. 5CT Chris Pasteryak Lisbon, CT
8. 81 Jack Ely Allentown, PA
9. 31 Noah Korner Avon, CT
10. 76 Brett Meservey Brewster, MA
11. 58 Eric Goodale Riverhead, NY
12. 25 Steven Chapman Ellington, CT
13. 77 Matt Gallo Berlin, CT
14. 04NH Stu McCormack Plaistow, NH
15. 40 Mike Mitchell Cumberland, RI
16. 39 George Bessette, Jr. Danbury, CT
17. 50 Ronnie Williams Ellington, CT
18. 07 Teddy Hodgdon Danbury, CT
19. 36 David Sapienza Riverhead, NY
20. 22NY Tom Sekulski Nesonset, NY
21. 8B Kyle Bonsignore Mooresville, NC
22. 15CT Joey Cipriano Plymouth, CT
23. 27S Matt Swanson Harvard, MA
24. 55x Paul Kusheba Colchester, CT

New England Supermodified Series – (40 Laps)
1. 14 Jeffrey Battle Barnstable, MA
2. 97 Matt Swanson Harvard, MA
3. 47 Derek Griffith Hudson, NH
4. 41 PJ Stergios Candia, NH
5. 29 Russ Wood Pelham, NH
6. 53 Dave Duggan Milford, NH
7. 11 Rob Summers Manchester, CT
8. 55 Richard Reid New London, Ohio
9. 45 Mike Mayberry Naples, ME
10. 77 Mike Keddy Raymond, NH
11. 22 Mark MacIver Stafford, NH
12. 25 Dan Bowes Epping, NH

Thompson Sunoco Modifieds – (30 Laps)
2026 Thompson Speedway Sunoco Modified Champion: Keith Rocco
1. 09 Keith Rocco Berlin, CT
2. 81 Todd Owen Somers, CT
3. 7 Jon Puleo Branford, CT
4. 35 Derek Ramstrom Worcester, MA
5. 33 #Ty Leclerc Taunton, MA
6. 2 Danny Cates Chaplin, CT
7. 1 #Andrew Brousseau Charlestown, NH
8. 47 Zack Sangermano Plainfield, CT
9. 18 Tyler Barry Griswold, CT
10. 9 Paul Bulel Trumbull, CT
11. 12 Rob Schultz Neptune, NJ
12. 86 Robert Georgiades E. Hampton, CT
13. 1NH Carlos Grenier Claremont, NH
14. 96 Nancy Muni-Ruot Harwinton, CT

Pro Truck Challenge – (35 Laps)
1. 19 Ryan Lineham
2. 78 DJ Thibeault
3. 77 Adrien Paradis
4. 94 Jason Paquette
5. 31 Mason Silva
6. 81 Tyler Chapman
7. 05 Randy Churchill, Jr.
8. 29 Jaysin Beal
9. 42 Chris Palamar
10. 52 Mercedes Caron
11. 97 Dave Koenig
12. 2 Duane Knoll
13. 55 Nate Smith
14. 28 John Pereira
15. 5 Chris Taylor
16. 151 Burt Ouellette
17. 32 Randy Burr
18. 47 Todd Taylor
19. 1 Dennis Charette
20. 53 Sean Caron

SK Light Modifieds – (20 Laps)
2026 Thompson Speedway SK Light Modified Champion: RJ Marcotte
1. 95 Leo Nunes Somers, CT
2. 26 RJ Marcott Millville, MA
3. 37 Jordan Hadley Waterford, CT
4. 67 Mark Bakaj Lebanon, CT
5. 51x Matt Brewer Norwich, CT
6. 21 Sami Anderson Wolcott, CT
7. 18 Tyler Barry Griswold, CT
8. 15NY Gerard Giordano Freeport, NY
9. 31 Ryan Charland Stafford Springs, CT
10. 15 John O'Sullivan Norwich, CT
11. 35 Josh Morrison Ashford, CT
12. 91 Riley Paul Ledyard, CT
13. 6 Todd Douillard Palmer, MA
14. 09 Cassandra Cole Westbrook, CT
15. 1 TJ Tomasi Blackstone, MA
16. 99 #Milania Shilosky Colchester, CT
17. 14 Kali Tripp E. Hampton, CT
18. 52 Anthony Forino Waterbury, CT
19. 36 Victor Cole Griswold, CT
20. 10 Kevin Davis Somers, CT
21. 07 Austin Goff Stafford Springs, CT
22. 05 Ian Nunes Somers, CT
23. 27 Corey Caddick Richmond, RI
24. 51 Ryan West Brooklyn, CT
25. 9 Peyton Henry Willington, CT
26. 19 John Brunelle Stonington, CT
27. 55 Dennis Smeade Oxford, MA
28. 78 Evan Bourgeois Oakdale, CT
29 80 #Thomas Herrington Grafton, MA
30 45 Zachary Butler Ledyard, CT
31 8 Aiden D'Agata Willington, CT

Street Stocks – (20 Laps)
2026 Thompson Speedway Street Stock Champion: Ryan Lineham
1. 19 Ryan Lineham Warwick, RI
2. 42 Jarrod Soucy Wales, MA
3. 77 Andrew Gillis Ashland, MA
4. 25 Al Stone III Durham, CT
5. 68VT Jason Woodard Waterbury Ctr., VT
6. 55 Nick Anderson Oxford, MA
7. 36NH Nathan Hamblett Derby, VT
8. 85 Michael Viens Seekonk, MA
9. 52 Tim Dorr Gales Ferry, CT
10. 19R #Ryan Pomposelli Smithfield, RI
11. 66 Tyler Cinamella Willimantic, CT

Pro-4 Modifieds – Harry Kourafas Memorial Top-3 (22 Laps)
1. Brett Meservey
2. Rob Richardi, Jr.
3. Max Zachem

NEMA Lites – (20 Laps)
1. 35 Joey Bailey Garnerville, NJ
2. 7 Zachary Martinez N. Kingston, RI
3. 47 Randy Cabral Kingston, MA
4. 53 Dylan Coutu Griswold, CT
5. 17 Kyle Valeri Monument Beach, MA
6. 94 Tiana Kibbe Macungle, PA
7. 28 Mike Pernesiglio Lake Grove, NY
8. 36 Jack Dumas Brockton, MA
9. 59 Brayden Egan Ashford, CT
10. 58 Dustin Gagne Westport, MA
11. 99 Greg Klar Hackettstown, NJ
12. 26 Micah Kilton Saco, ME

Thunderstock Crown Vics – (20 Laps)
1. 88 Chase Curtis Rutland, MA
2. 19 Dylan Cabral Richmond, RI
3. 52 Jack Emerson Caterbury, CT
4. 9 Ty Mello Millville, MA
5. 35 Tucker Haskill Saco, ME
6. 14 Josh Vallieri Rochester, NH
7. 89 Connor Sweeney Groton, MA
8. 18 Dale White Salem, NH
9. 2 John Dulac Swansea, MA
10. 4 Ethan Williams Pomfret Ctr., RI

Killingly history comes to life at Town Hall

KILLINGLY — As America celebrates its 250th anniversary, the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society is taking the opportunity to look closer to home. History is not only found in textbooks or famous landmarks—it is also found in the people, places, documents, and everyday objects that tell the story of our own community.

The Society has recently refreshed the display cases in the lobby of Killingly Town Hall with an America 250 exhibit featuring "Tidbits About Killingly." The two displays offer visitors a glimpse into both Killingly's connection to the American Revolution and the everyday lives of generations who came before us.

One display case honors the men from Killingly who answered the Lexington Alarm in April 1775, joining the response to the opening events of the American Revolution. Their names are listed along with short biographies of several participants, photographs of the men, and photographs of their homes and gravestones. These were Killingly residents whose lives became part of a much larger chapter in American history.

The second case takes a different look at the past, featuring everyday objects from various eras. Among the items are a tabletop butter churn, a plug-in portable vacuum, a percolator, and a metal lunch box. Each item includes information about when it was used and how it worked, offering a reminder of how much daily life has changed.

The Society has been creating displays at Town Hall for a number of years. Past exhibits have featured Boy Scouts, schools, fire departments, promotional items from local businesses, and the history of the Town of Killingly itself. One exhibit included old dog license fees, assessments, tax bills, and changes in local street names—including Potter Street, once known as Fitch Street, and Broad Street, once called Summer Street.

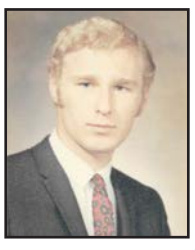
These exhibits demonstrate that history can be found everywhere—even in objects sitting on a shelf or in an old street name we pass every day.

The next time you visit Killingly Town Hall, take a moment to stop and explore the America 250 displays. They offer a small but meaningful look at how the history of Killingly connects to the larger story of America.

The Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society invites residents to discover, share, and help preserve the history of our community.

OBITUARY

Jaak Strandson, 73



Jaak Strandson, 73, of Danielson, CT, passed away on September 18, 2026, after a four-year battle with cancer.

Born in Yonkers, NY to Estonian family of Nikolai and Siina Strandson. Jaak graduated Killingly High School in 1971 and served four years in the United States Coast Guard. He also earned two degrees from Quinebaug Valley Community College, during which time he worked with the college assisting fellow veterans in obtaining benefits and accessing higher education.

Throughout his life, he worked in manufacturing and enjoyed reading, running, classic movies, and jazz.

He is survived by his brother Johan Strandson and his wife Catherine; his sister Ann Marois and her partner Rick Ducharme; his brother Dennis Strandson and his wife Colleen; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

A private graveside burial will take place at Westfield Cemetery. tillinghastfh.com

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How to Submit an Obituary
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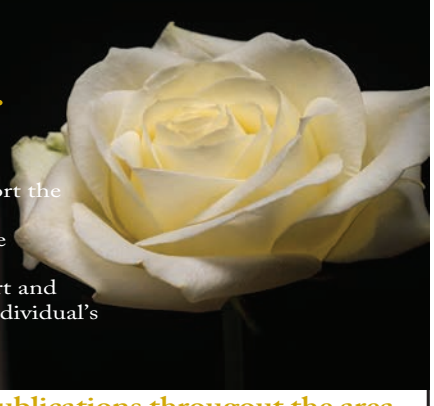

Posting an obituary is a meaningful way to honor the life of someone who has passed, share the loss with the community, and support the grieving process. It celebrates their life, family, memories, and accomplishments while bringing people together in remembrance. An obituary also helps loved ones find comfort and closure during a difficult time preserves the individual's story as an important part of the family's history and legacy.

We offer easy placement and publications througout the area
Just drop us an email, be sure to include a photo if you would like.
Inlcude your publication choice and provide a contact number for prepayment.

Deadline is Monday at noon for this week's edition.
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LEGALS

Town of Putnam
Planning & Zoning Commission
Legal Notice

The Town of Putnam Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Hybrid Meeting on October 21, 2026, at 7:00 P. M. in Room 201 at the Putnam Municipal Complex, located at 200 School Street, Putnam, CT. A public hearing will take place held on each of the following:

Docket # 2026-12 Strategic Commercial Realty. Inc. request for a Special Permit modification for the excavation and removal of approximately 1.9 million cubic yards of rock to prepare three lots in the Quinebaug Regional Technology Park for future development by creating flat pad suitable for construction of buildings, parking, and related facilities. Town of Putnam Zoning Regulations Section 607. Property is located at 28, 44 & 48 Technology Park Drive. Town Assessors Map 037, Lots 87,94 and 95 , Zoned TP Overlay.

Docket # 2026-13 285 River Road LLC & River Road LLC request for a Special Permit for the renewal of the previously approved permit # 2023-06 to remove 363,000 cubic yards of earth material. As of July 31, 2026, approximately 118,660 cubic yards have been removed from the properties. Property is located at 285 & 357 River Road, Town Assessors Map 43, Lots 5 and 10, Zoned AG-2.

Docket # 2026-14 Robert Darigan request for a 2-lot subdivision consisting of 4.82 acres for property located at 508 Pomfret Street, Town Assessors Map 18, Lot 21, Zoned M/OD.

Docket # 2026-15 John Gee request for a Special Permit for the temporary use of his property to store material from the Route 44 retaining wall project to expedite repair and rehabilitation of the retaining wall. He would segregate and recycle stone and gravel using a medium sized impact crusher and if necessary, a screener. The use will be temporary and solely intended to complete the work as quickly as possible in conjunction with the reopening of Route 44. Property located at 124 Pomfret Street, Town Assessors Map 15, Lot 158, Zoned Industrial.

Patricia Hedenberg, Chairperson
October 9, 2026
October 16, 2026

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Helen DeVivo (26-00367)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate,District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated October 6, 2026, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Chief Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Karen Therrien,
167 Coomer Hill Road,
Dayville, CT 06241
October 16, 2026

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Nancy Prefontaine (26-00390)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate,District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated September 30, 2026, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Raymond Morin,
PO Box 189,
Quinebaug, CT 06262
October 16, 2026

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Lloyd C Mitchell, Jr. (26-00186)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate,District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated May 8, 2026 ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Bevedy Mitchell,
770 Dart Hill Road,
Vernon,CT 06066
October 16, 2026

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Steven W Farner (26-00365)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate,District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated October 7, 2026, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Chief Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Timothy G. Farner
c/o EDWIN C HIGGINS, EDWIN C. HIGGINS III, 168 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 528, PUTNAM, CT 06260
Kathy S Farner
c/o EDWIN C HIGGINS, EDWIN C. HIGGINS III, 168 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 528, PUTNAM, CT 06260
October 16, 2026

NOTICE OF UNCLAIMED GOODS Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 50-2Notice is hereby given that the following non-perishable goods have been left at [full address of the barn or location, including town and Connecticut county], and the owner is unknown or has neglected to take them away for more than six months: Various tools, parts, engines, pieces of motorcycles, parts vehicles (ford) and other miscellaneous itemsThese goods will be held one month from the publication (30) @ 134 South Street, Brooklyn, Connecticut 06234. If the owner does not claim them 30 days after the date of the first publication all items with be removed disposed of. Any person claiming ownership should contact William Wolak 860-377-1430 or bill.wolak@att.net and be prepared to show ownership pay unpaid storage fees and other related expenses 10/9/2026
October 16, 2026

October 23, 2026
October 30, 2026
November 6, 2026

LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION
WOODSTOCK INLAND WETLANDS
& WATERCOURSES AGENCY

On October 5, 2026, the Town of Woodstock IWWA met and made the following decision: 1) Approved, 09-26-01-110 Stone Bridge Road-(MBL#5779/55/39)-Putnam Fish and Game Club-Change to existing pond

Details of this approval may be obtained by contacting the Woodstock Land Use Department at landuse@woodstockct.gov

William Rewinski
Chairman
October 16, 2026

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Daniel D Blanchette (26-00399)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate,District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated October 5, 2026, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Chief Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Lisa A Blanchette
c/o MARK R BROUILLARD,
ST ONGE & BROUILLARD,
50 ROUTE 171,
WOODSTOCK, CT 06281
October 16, 2026

RENEWAL by ANDERSEN
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

MASSIVE MARKDOWN SALE!

WINDOWS & DOORS

ANDERSEN WINDOWS & DOORS

$350 OFF every window[1]

Ends Oct. 31

$850 OFF every door[1]

NO INTEREST FOR 4 YEARS![2]

If paid in full

Interest is billed during promo period but will be waived if the amount financed is paid in full before 48-month promo period expires.

Keep the seasonal temps outside!
The combination of our custom-built windows made with our exclusive Fibrex® composite material and precise installation helps **eliminate drafts and lock in year-round comfort.**

We have the 'never-paint-it-again' window.
Why choose between a color you love and a window that's built to last when you can have both? **Our Fibrex material is available in nine exterior colors, and the finish is 12x thicker than painted vinyl finish.** So, it's guaranteed not to flake, peel or chip.*

Everything included. Except the stress.
Our exact price quote includes everything – inspection and design consultation, custom-built windows and doors, expert installation, and the Nation's Best Warranty coverage†.

Call to meet with your local Design Consultant!

RENEWAL by ANDERSEN | UCONN

Proud Partner of UConn Athletics

Appointments available 7 days a week.

959-456-0067

[1]Subject to availability, on a total purchase of 6 or more windows and/or 2 or more entry or patio doors. $350 off windows and $850 off doors discount valid during first appointment only. Cannot be combined with other offers. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for an appointment with purchase must be made and documented on or before 10/31/26. Products are marketed, sold and installed (but not manufactured) by Renewal by Andersen retailers, which are independently owned and operated under Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. CT HIC.0634555. MA 173245. RI 36079. All residents of islands will be subject to an island surcharge. See complete information and entity identification at www.rbaguidelines.com. ©2026 Andersen Corporation. ©2026 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.
[2]Plan 6148. Subject to credit approval. Loan term is 48 months at fixed rate of 0.00% APR. For example, assuming the full credit limit is used on loan approval date, for every $1,000 financed at 0% APR, 48 monthly payments of $20.84. This example is an estimate only. Actual payment amounts based on amount and timing of purchases. Call 866-936-0602 for financing costs and terms. Loans for the GreenSky® consumer loan program are provided by Synovus Bank, Member FDIC, NMLS #408043, without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, or familial status. GreenSky Servicing, LLC services the loans on behalf of your lender, NMLS #1416362. www.nmlsconsumeraccess. org. GreenSky® is a registered trademark of GreenSky, LLC and is licensed to banks and other financial institutions for their use in connection with that consumer loan program. GreenSky Servicing, LLC is a financial technology company that manages the GreenSky® consumer loan program by providing origination and servicing support to banks and other financial institutions that make or hold program loans. GreenSky, LLC and GreenSky Servicing, LLC are not lenders. All credit decisions and loan terms are determined by program lenders.
*See Renewal by Andersen® Products and Installation Transferable Limited Warranty for details. †It is the only warranty among top selling window companies that meets all of the following requirements: easy to understand terms, unrestricted transferability, installation coverage, labor coverage, geographically unrestricted, coverage for exterior color, insect screens and hardware, and no maintenance requirement. Visit renewalbyandersen.com/nationsbest for details.