



# KILLINGLY VILLAGER

Friday, February 3, 2023

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## OK2BU providing support, yoga for LGBTQ+ youth

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

PUTNAM — In late 2022, TEEG, in partnership with local yoga instructor and LGBTQ+ ally Aubrey Waz-Grant, created one of the area's first major Queer Youth Support Groups in an attempt to provide a safe space for local LGBTQ+ children and teenagers to feel safe and included. Since the program's launch everyone involved has worked tirelessly to try and build on the group and reach out to those who may benefit from having a safe place to be themselves or to serve as allies to the LGBTQ+ community.

In 2023, the program will take on a new name, OK2BU, a play on "okay to be you" that evokes a similarity to the well know acronym for the queer and gay community. The revamped program will include a monthly yoga session at Chubby Dog Coffee Company in Putnam, utilizing the businesses' game room to allow for yoga classes taught by Waz-Grant to help queer youth and supporters get in touch with their bodies and find acceptance in themselves as well as among members of their own community.

"One of the most important things, I think, to teach anybody is how to connect with their body. So often, as part of society, we are taught to treat our bodies more as a vehicle than as an integral part of ourselves, but your body has a lot to tell you and especially for folks that live in queer bodies it's very easy to treat your body as the enemy," Aubrey Waz-Grant said of the program. "Being able to build that connection through gentle movement and just paying attention to yourself has value. In all the yoga classes that I teach, I steer clear of the yoga as a form of workout and more to connect with yourself and make sure that you're building that relationship that so much of life separates you from."

Waz-Grant said their goals is to create a community around queer youth and caregivers stressing the need for a "safe space" for these children and teens to feel accepted. Jill Bourbeau, Youth Programs Manager at TEEG in Thompson which serves as the region's Youth Services Bureau, said she feels it's important to have a program available to allow queer youth to express and be themselves away from environments where they may not feel accepted or understood. Some might not be ready to come out at home or may feel bullied at school. The OK2BU group will provide a place for them to get in touch with who they are with supporters on hand to help guide them.

"As the Youth Service Bureau, we're always trying to expand the services that we offer, and I don't want to leave any youth unsupported so finding different positive programming through all our towns is always my goal. When Aubrey approached me with this, I was very excited to try and get something like this off the ground because I see a need for it," Bourbeau said. "We'll focus on mindfulness and yoga and letting people know they don't have to be queer to be part of this group. They can join to support someone they know or just to be in a safe space. It doesn't matter, we're not picky about it, but I know working with the schools that there is a need to have a place for kids to go outside of school and outside of their homes where they can go and feel supported."

OK2BU will meet the last Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. for yoga at Chubby Dog Coffee Company on Main Street in Putnam. Those seeking more information on the group can contact Jill Bourbeau at TEEG at 860-923-3458.

## Accolades add up for Bowen, Killingly's wrestling coach since 1985

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — In 1985, when Rich Bowen told family and friends that he had been hired as the varsity wrestling coach at Killingly High, his alma mater, it wasn't really an earth-shattering announcement. After all, he wrestled at the school while working toward being a graduate of the Class of 1978, and had served as an assistant wrestling coach at the school for two years upon graduation from Rhode Island College, where he also wrestled.

The fact that the 62-year-old Bowen is still Killingly's varsity wrestling coach — 38 years later — is what may come as a surprise to the aforementioned family and friends.

In those almost four decades Bowen has built a top-notch program at Killingly. He is the winningest coach in the state (667-183-2) and his teams have won five state championships and 10 Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) titles. In 2021, Bowen was inducted into the Connecticut High School Coaches Association (CHSCA) Hall of Fame.

"It's well deserved," Killingly athletic director



Jason McKay

Killingly High wrestling coach Rich Bowen, seen here encouraging a wrestler in a recent match, is Connecticut's all-time winningest coach, with 667 victories. Bowen was inducted into the state's High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2021.

Kevin Marcoux said about Bowen's CHSCA Hall of Fame membership. "Everything that he has accomplished, in the way that he has accomplished it, in the sport that

he loves, in the school that he went to, just speaks volumes for the kind of quality person he is. It's an example of what hard work can get you." State titles, conference

titles, and a seat in the state coach's hall of fame; not a bad resume for a coach who, at the start of his third year at the helm, wondered if he'd ever have a team that would win an in-season tournament.

In December of 1987, at Berlin High School, Killingly finally won that seemingly elusive tournament, and nothing about the school's wrestling program has been the same since.

"We had been working at it and we had gotten a little bit better the first couple years I coached. The third year we went to an early-season tournament, like we always did, and we actually won the tournament," said Bowen, whose son, Kyle, wrestled for him in the early 2000s. "I remember thinking to myself, 'the hard work is paying off; the kids are wrestling better.' It (the success of the program) went from there."

"The biggest thing was not only did we have a good group of kids wrestling, but the parents started getting involved. We got a booster club together; we started a youth program (Killingly Youth Wrestling) and those things have been going on

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## Local authors share experience taking on White Mountains

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DANIELSON — In the late 1990s, two longtime friends set out on a mission to conquer one of the most grueling hiking challenges in New England, exploring the 48 highest peaks along the

White Mountains. It took almost a decade and a half, but locals David Bousquet and Scott Tetreault finally accomplished their goals and have now decided to share their experiences and the lessons learned through a recently released book called "Mountain Whispers."

Dubbed "a humble story of friendship, perseverance, and inspiration found hiking in the White Mountains," the book was released in November of 2022, and on Jan. 28, both Bousquet and Tetreault paid a visit to local book outlet Pouring and Passages in Danielson to sign copies, meet supporters, and take part in a question-and-answer session about their journey. The two hiking enthusiasts were no strangers to the sport before they began their mission but admit when they set out

to begin the challenge, they were ill prepared for what was still to come.

"Scott and I have been going to the White Mountains for many years. As marriage and children and different responsibilities came on, that stopped happening, but we decided in 1999 we needed to get back to the mountains," David Bousquet said. "We decided to tackle a particular peak up there, one of the tallest ones because they always hold all the allure,

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## Woodstock Academy sophomore to perform at Carnegie Hall



Michael Susi

WOODSTOCK — Michael Susi, a sophomore at The Woodstock Academy, has been selected for the High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Michael will perform as a Tenor in February with the Honors Concert Choir, where participation is limited to the highest-rated young performers from across the world.

Susi has studied music for over ten years and is an active member of Tri-M National Music Honors Society, Hill Singers (WA's honors acappella choir), Chorale, and Drumline at The Woodstock Academy. Michael has been recognized by NEMFA (The New England Music Festival Association) and CMEA Eastern Regionals as an exceptional singer.

"He's a very enthusiastic and talented singer," said WA Choral Director Amy Ranta. "Michael works very hard and he's like a sponge learning new music—he soaks it up."

"It is just who I am; I love music," said Susi. "At WA, both Ms. Ranta and Mrs. Churchill make music something you want to be a part of; it's cool and accepted by the student body. Their love, dedication, and passion are contagious and that

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Jason Bleau

Local authors Scott Tetreault and David Bousquet shared stories from their book "Mountain Whispers" during a book signing event at Pourings and Passages in Danielson.



# House Republicans proposing law enforcement bills

**BY JASON BLEAU**  
**VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT**  
HARTFORD — State Representative for the 51st District Rick Hayes is praising a Republican-led effort in the State House of Representatives to help bolster recruitment following the approval of a new contract with the Connecticut State Police.

Rep. Hayes, a former chief of the Putnam Police Department and a member of Putnam’s Board of Selectmen, released his first statement concerning legislation in 2023 voting in favor of House Resolution No. 9, approving the collective bargaining agreement between the state

and the Connecticut State Police Union. However, ahead of that vote House Republicans released proposed bills aimed at addressing policy-driven challenges that Republicans feel impact public safety with the goal of drawing more officers to join law enforcement in Connecticut. Several high-profile Republicans in the State House, including House Republican Leader Vincent Candelora of the 86th District and Ranking Republican Member of the Public Safety Committee Rep. Greg Howard of the 43rd District, also released statements indicating

that the new contract with the State Police should help with recruitment, but they feel lawmakers need to do more.

Hayes agrees, releasing his own statement indicating he will be part of the debate in the capital to help supporting current and potential law enforcement officers across the state.

“The last several years have been particular rough on our men and women in uniform,” Hayes said. “As a legislature, we need to do all we can in our power to address the ever-changing challenges that our law enforcement officers are facing.”

Police reform has been a major talking point on the national stage stemming from the death of George Floyd in 2020. Connecticut was quick to enact police reform that same year, with Gov. Ned Lamont signing legislation in July of 2020, only two months after the George Floyd incident. Many Republicans on both the state and national stage have been critical of such legislation saying it puts undo stress on law enforcement based on the actions of a few and believe that the new regulations have impacted interest in law enforcement as a career. House Republicans in

Connecticut are hoping to bring a series of bills to the table that they believe will help encourage officers to service their communities in Connecticut.

Among the proposals are a bills to protect law enforcement and municipalities from being forced settle in qualified immunity cases because any denial under current law bars them from appealing that decision until after jury decision, to evaluate the use of force from the perspective of a reasonable officer in the same situation based on the totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the officer at the time, to provide

clarity and list circumstances under which police can be decertified for undermining public confidence, to restore the ability for police to request consent searches during motor vehicle stops when there is reasonable suspicion of a crime, require P.O.S.T. to rewrite the police pursuit policy to allow pursuit of property crime offenses, and to create a special account for families of officers killed in action. These objectives are covered under House Bills 5361, 5362, and 5363 which were referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Security on Jan. 13.

## PUTNAM MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

PUTMAN — Putnam Middle School has released its honor roll for the second quarter of the 2022-2023 school year:

Grade 5  
Principal’s List: Owen Abram, Joseph Boudreau, Raegan Healey, Dominic Kostovski, Salem Lambert, Sophia Lefebvre, Lydia Martel, Israel Ramos, Naydelin Rivera, Makaila Roy, Gabriel Scala

1st Honors: Lacey Barnett, Tanner Barrows, Ryder Burke, Veronica Columbia, Alexander Fleck, Michael Gilbert, Janessa Johnson, Adam Lafleur, Ian Lamontagne, Bethany Mayo, Molly Norman, Jacob Palazzo, Annaliese Ricard, Kayden Robinson, Ruby Roman, Aiden Suhocke

2nd Honors: Ella Bellanceau, Caleb Blanchard, Autumn Cacciapuoti, Ryan Charbonneau, Elaina Farrow, Lilith Finley, Trystian Fitts-Hogue, Delaney Fjellman, Mylee Gerrish, Jaxon Gifford, Laila Karadeniz, Henry Kopriva, Cassidy Levesque, Layliah Mayo, Logan Onesyvieng, Sandy Onesyvieng, Noah Pelletier, King Perry, Alexander Phaneuf, Asa Snow, Jordan Sullivan-McLaurin, Kenzie Summers

Grade 6  
Principal’s List: Kaiden Andersen, Emma Benoit, Dokatah Bibeau, Logan Borders, Jaxon Buzanoski, Joshua Chausse, Mikhail Eroshkin, Nathaniel Franklin, Joseph Girard, Maya Gustavesen, Rori Hough, Jose Morente Uz, Katherine Partlow, Liam Purdon, Kaylee Roberts, Jayden Robidoux, Gage Robitaille, Wesley Schulman, Marijane Thibeault, Avery Thornton, Caleb Ward

1st Honors: Benjamin Boledovic, Mirabella Bonnette, Blake Daughenbaugh, Maria Eduarda Oliveira Dos Reis, Phineas Hagan, Cruz Jimenez-Garvey, Leon Johnson, Alamgir Khan, Avery Livingston, Lily MacPherson, Leilah Morin, Jadelyn Morse, Gavin Sweatman, Jayla Tetreault

2nd Honors: Tristan Adams, Lesley Beland, Ariana Bellanceau-Hart, Blake Breckenridge, Annaliese Brytowski, Jude Butler, David Cherenfant, Emma Fischkelta, Johao Gomez-Hansell, Tristan Hamblin, Emilee Hance, Sydney Kaliszewski, Christian Lemire, Ava Matteau, Kameron Meyette, Tristan Morris, Liam Polaino, Miguel Vieira

Coderre, Sophie Godzik, Alexandria Gustafson, Aiden Herrera, Mya Smith


1st Honors: Charlotte Adams, Ella Adams, Ingrid Alves, Kaitlin Brodeur, Theodore Buzanoski, Angelina Cardoso, Abigail Daniels, Alyssa Daniels, Avalynn Fiske, Eliza Garvey, Chloe Gazzola, Gia Gillespie, Caleb Lafrance, Kelsey Parent, Jayda Rivera, Knox Ruggeri, Taylor Thomas, Gavin Welker

2nd Honors: Cameron Blanchard, Thomas Espinosa, Camden Kell, Devin LeBeau, Katrina Leighton, Owen LePage, Catherine Levesque, Nyla Magalhaes, Erik Robert, Dorian Suhocke

Grade 8  
Principal’s List: Danny Boriboun, Ayla Daniels, Avah Grimshaw, Sidra Jahangir, Alina Kamara, Nikoli Kostovski, Jillian Spalding

1st Honors: Lexi Abram, Delanie Bernier, Sean Brierley, Jordan Chranowski, Mia Cosentino, Avery Cruz, Trinity Eldridge, Jeffrey Flagg, Gabriel Girard, Joseph Gordon, Aidan Herrick, Kaleb Herrick, Elieana Ionkin, Trevor Lamothe, Jacob Lawrence, Addison Lucier, Logan Marciano, Emma Martineau, Benjamin Mayo, Aubrey Paquette, Jay Patel, Nathaniel Ramos, Bridgett Reidy, Samanta Romao, Drew Seiffert, Rockford Snow, Harlow Tucker, Dylan Warren, Jessie Williams, Savannah Zegarra

2nd Honors: Sydney Barber, Lucas Belske, Leonela Burgos, Donovan DeAgazio, Kyra Dionne, Justin Falke, Sadie Lee Furtado, Justin Gallant, Jonathan Goding, Carissa Gutska, Aiden Kilmer, Liliann Morin, Rae Neal, Daniel Pynn, Rebekah Robbins Ferreira, Keivon Robinson, Jaida Rogers, Danika Safford, Dakota Trudeau



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## Spencer Fulone recognized by Lasell University for outstanding collaboration

NEWTON, Mass. — Spencer Fulone, a Lasell University student from Thompson, was recognized by the institution for outstanding collaboration in the fall 2022 semester in their Business Policy course, taught by Professor Jeffrey Corcoran.

Fulone was selected as the best person to work with in this course. Recipients of the Collaboration Recognition Award are selected by their peers for exemplifying superior skills in collaboration by sharing ideas and useful information, communicating in a professional manner, and cooperating in a way to ensure success.

The Collaboration Recognition Program at Lasell University was launched last year as an opportunity to acknowledge students not just for their academic performance in a particular course, but for collaborative behaviors that are the key to success in professional environments.

Professor of Art and Graphic Design Stephen Fischer and Lasell Village resident Parker Small conceptualized the program based on a model that Small previously implemented at the University of Florida (UF) College of Medicine, where he taught for 34 years. Employers of those UF students found the model to be a valuable assessment of the graduates’ competencies beyond technical know-how. At Lasell, Small and Fischer piloted the Collaboration Recognition Program in each of the University’s five schools of study with immense success. In 2021, five courses utilized the model; as of this semester, nearly 30 were part of the program.

For more information contact: Samantha Mocle, assistant director of communications, at (617) 243-2386, or [smocle@lasell.edu](mailto:smocle@lasell.edu).

## VILLAGER ALMANAC

### At CT Audubon

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Jan. 23: Northern Harrier, Bluebird, Brown Creeper, Robin, Flicker, Junco, American Kestrel, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, American Tree Sparrow, Purple Finch, House Finch Goldfinch. Visit [ctaclubon.org/Pomfret-home](http://ctaclubon.org/Pomfret-home).

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# Westview Child Care Center appoints Katy Holzer as Director

DAYVILLE — Westview Child Care Center, LLC is pleased to announce the appointment of Katy Holzer as Director of their program. The newly constructed Westview Child Care Center is slated to open in June 2023; offering multiple levels of child care to the community.

Holzer officially joined the Westview team in June 2019, and has been instrumental in the development, design, and construction phase of Westview Child Care Center since the initial concepts.

“I am honored to be selected as Director of Westview Child Care Center,” said Holzer. “It is my pleasure to work with such an extraordinary team of people to make this project a reality. I am so excited to work with families in our community to offer exceptional child care in a safe, secure, nurturing environment. We look forward to utilizing this space for children to learn and grow!”

Holzer comes to the Director position with a Master of Business Administration degree from the Nichols College Graduate and Professional Studies program; completing her studies at the top of the class. She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the University of Connecticut, and graduated magna cum laude and was proudly inducted as a member of the Phi Beta Kappa national academic honor society while there. During her undergraduate years, she focused on Industrial/Organizational Psychology and co-authored a research article that was published in the peer-reviewed “Employee Responsibilities and Rights Journal.”

Holzer expresses joy in returning to work in Northeastern Connecticut, having strong ties to our community as a lifelong resident of Pomfret. She is the daughter of Dr. Marjorie Holzer and Dr. Neri Holzer—who had more than 50 years of combined service on Day Kimball Hospital’s medical staff as a pediatrician and an ear, nose, and throat specialist, respectively. Holzer’s mother and father continue to be actively involved in philanthropy throughout our region.

David T. Panteleakos, Executive Vice President and Owner of Westview Child Care Center, LLC, stated: “We are so thrilled to have Katy accept the role

of Director for our newest corporate endeavor. I know she will brilliantly lead this project through its next phases, and that we will benefit from her dedication and commitment to delivering the highest quality child care possible here at Westview.”

The new Westview Child Care Center is located at 39 Thompson Turnpike, Dayville, directly across the street from Westview Health Care Center and Country Living at Westview Commons—the 103-bed skilled nursing facility and 75-unit independent and assisted living facility nestled into a quiet corner of the Quiet Corner. The Westview family of companies now offer employment opportunities for more than 300 full-time, part-time, and per diem positions. At the intersection of Ware Road and Thompson Turnpike, this “campus” arrangement featuring the new Westview Child Care Center will vertically integrate solutions for family needs, and provide a unique, catered convenience for Westview employees.

Westview Child Care Center Director Katy Holzer benefits from personal insight guiding her professional pursuit: “As a working mother of a preschool-age child, I have learned important lessons by being an astute observer of child care delivery and the factors of parenthood that affect my work day. The ability to have an on-site child care center is revolutionary, I am so grateful for the opportunity to work with the wonderful people of Westview. Our mission and values are perfectly aligned.”

Westview has taken a strategic step with the development of this on-site child care center to address a substantial goal: to support community families and valued Westview employees. To Westview’s leadership team, the need to provide effective solutions for families has never been clearer.

Administrator David T. Panteleakos detailed this point, saying, “We are truly committed to being an employer of choice, and we work to continually enhance our wage and benefit program for our outstanding employees. This significant \$2 million investment is made with full confidence that our team



Katy Holzer with Zachary

at Westview can do amazing things when we support each other. In doing so, we aim to recruit and retain our amazing employees by helping with the balance between family life and work.”

In this move to alleviate the financial and emotional burden of working parents, Westview’s forward-thinking, family-focused, and supportive culture aspires to unlock new growth and opportunities.

“We look forward to engaging the community and communicating more about this topic more in the coming months,” stated Mr. Panteleakos.

## Chili cook off returns to Pomfret

POMFRET — The youth of Christ Church Pomfret are excited to bring back their popular Chili Cook Off fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 11, 6-8 p.m. Featuring the culinary talents of approximately 20 parishioners offering chili in three styles, guests may taste and vote for their favorites in each category: meat, vegetarian, and “creative.”

In addition to the votes by everyone who attends, this year’s entries will be judged by Bishop Suffragan The Right Rev. Laura J. Aherns and local culinary gurus Andre Bessette and Jen Hague.

Tickets will be sold at the door only, \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. All proceeds benefit youth ministry at the church.

For more information, contact the church office at 860-315-7780. Christ Church is located at 527 Pomfret St., Route 169, in Pomfret.



## Woodstock’s Eli Werstler named to College of the Holy Cross Dean’s List

WORCESTER, Mass. — Eli Werstler of Woodstock was named to the College of the Holy Cross Fall 2022 Dean’s List.

A member of the Class of 2025, Werstler was named to the Dean’s List for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2022-23 academic year.

To qualify, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

About Holy Cross  
The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation’s leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,100 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.



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# Worcester Polytechnic Institute announces Fall 2022 Dean’s List

WORCESTER, Mass. — A total of 2,069 undergraduate students achieved the criteria required for Worcester Polytechnic Institute’s (WPI) fall 2022 Dean’s List. The criteria for the WPI Dean’s List differs from that of most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean’s List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

“WPI’s academic programs are rigorous and require a level of independence beyond what is required in traditional courses. WPI students work on open-ended problems for communities around the world. The problems are important and the impact is real” said dean of undergraduate studies Arthur C. Heinricher. “Some of this nation’s best and brightest students come to WPI to study engineering and science and business and the humanities. Those named to the Dean’s List have excelled in all of their work, and we are exceptionally proud of these outstanding students.”

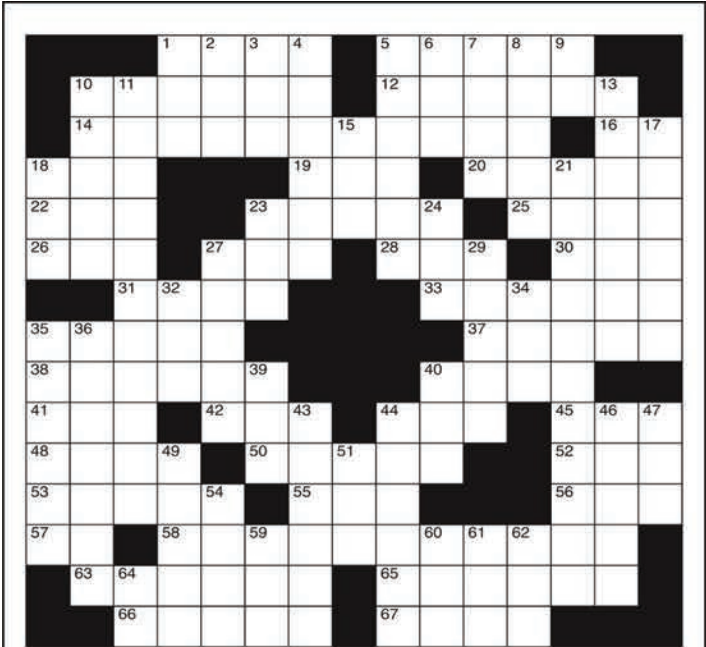
The following students were named to the Dean’s List for fall 2022:

Connor Quinn of Woodstock, majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering (BS), class of 2025

Zachary Roethlein of Pomfret Center, majoring in Aerospace Engineering (BS), class of 2026

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI’s pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 70 bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degree programs across 18 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. [www.wpi.edu](http://www.wpi.edu)



- CLUES ACROSS
1. Shed tears

5. Luxury jewelry designer

10. Goddess of wisdom

12. Convert into a particular form

14. Working-class people

16. It borders Canada (abbr.)

18. A princess can detect its presence

19. Red-brown sea bream

20. Defunct retail empire

22. Vase

23. Demeter’s equivalent

25. Monetary unit of the Maldives

26. French and Belgian river

27. Small amount

28. High schoolers’ test

30. Animal’s foot

31. Some is red

33. Per \_\_\_\_: each

35. Swedish jazz pop duo

37. Plate for Eucharist

38. Train line

40. Russian pop duo

41. Stake

42. Plant by scattering

44. Female sibling

45. City of Angels hoopsters (abbr.)

48. Popular cookie brand

50. Group of Niger-Congo languages

52. A team’s best pitcher

53. Vomits

55. 19th letter of Greek alphabet

56. Men’s fashion accessory

57. Its capital is Pierre (abbr.)

58. Expensive cut of steak

63. Popular James Cameron film

65. A \_\_\_\_: relating to knowledge gleaned from deduction

66. Kids’ snow toys

67. Flip side to yin

- CLUES DOWN
1. Global public health agency

2. Snake-like fish

3. Midway between northeast and east

4. Dabbed

5. TV show

6. Folk singer DiFranco

7. Canadian flyers

8. Of the dowry

9. Commercial

10. The act of imitating

11. Equipment used to broadcast radio or TV signals

13. Lands of an emir

15. Swiss river

17. Island

18. Monetary unit of Afghanistan

21. One who surrenders under agreed conditions

23. Garfield is one

24. A baglike structure in a plant or animal

27. Small boats used in the Black Sea

29. Small savory Spanish dishes

32. Body part

34. Touch lightly

35. Popular grilled foods on a stick

36. \_\_\_\_ Hess: oil company

39. Antelope with a reddish coat

40. Pharaoh of Lower Egypt

43. Pink Floyd’s Roger

44. Short and thick

46. Small, sac-like cavities

47. Performer \_\_\_\_-Lo

49. Entrails of animal used as food

51. \_\_\_\_ King Cole, musician

54. Where construction is done

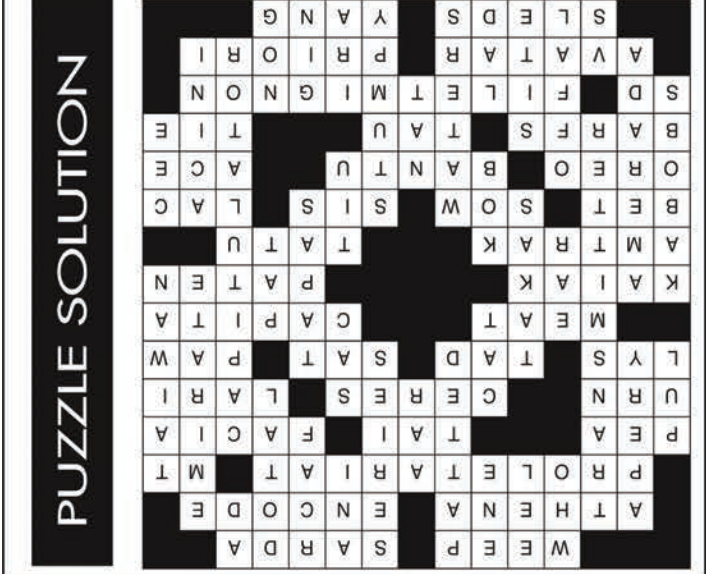
59. Chap

60. Investment vehicle

61. Often mixed with tonic

62. Holiday beverage egg \_\_\_\_

64. Against



# Eastern voice and piano faculty present recital of American song

WILLIMANTIC — The Music Program at Eastern Connecticut State University is proud to present the first concert of their Spring 2023 Concert Season on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 2:30 p.m.

“Hold Fast to Dreams: A Recital for Voice and Piano,” presented by faculty members Emily Riggs, soprano and David Ballena, piano, celebrates the rich tradition of poetry and song in the United States. The performance will feature settings of texts by some of America’s most celebrated poets including Langston Hughes and Edna St. Vincent Millay alongside arrangements of several folksongs and spirituals.

The comical to the contemplative, this program spans over 150 years and offers a snapshot of the diverse legacy of American song.

This recital will be held in the Fine Arts Instructional Center Foyer on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free, and no tickets are required. Donations will be accepted at the door and all proceeds support Music Program students and programming.

Visitor parking is available in our Parking Garage or the Fine Arts Instructional Center Parking Lot. The Fine Arts Instructional Center Lot

is located directly behind the Fine Arts Instructional Center (enter University Dr. and take first left onto Occum Road). The passenger drop-off lane and accessible parking spots can be accessed directly from High Street. Additional campus parking information can be found <https://www.easternct.edu/police/campus-parking.html>.

View Online: <http://easternct.meritpages.com/news/eastern-voice-and-piano-faculty-present-a-recital-of-american-song/32719>.

# Local residents named to Dean’s List at Saint Michael’s College

COLCHESTER, Vt. —The following local students have been named to the Dean’s List at Saint Michael’s College for the Fall 2022 semester:

\* Summer R. Chaponis, a senior mathematics / economics major from Woodstock and a graduate of Woodstock Academy.

\*Sofia I. Jendrewski, a senior psychology major from Woodstock and a graduate of Woodstock Academy.

About Saint Michael’s College

Saint Michael’s College, founded in the great Catholic intellectual tradition, which also recognizes the principles of social justice and compassion, is a selective, fully residential Catholic college in Vermont’s beautiful Green Mountains. Our closely connected community delivers internationally respected liberal arts and graduate education near Burlington, one of the country’s best college towns. To prepare for fulfilling careers and meaningful lives, young adults here grow intellectually, socially, and morally, learning to be responsible for themselves, each other and their world.

# TOURTELLOTTE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

NORTH GROSVENORDALE — Tourtellotte Memorial High School has released its honor roll for the second quarter of the 2022-2023 school year.

Grade 9  
High Honors: Dylan Bryniarski, Julia Lewis, Briana Martin, Caitlin Mercer, Gaige Smith, Isabella Stewart  
Honors: Bailey Benton, Deanna Burress, Cole Hopkins, Nicholas Cunningham-Ingram, Ember Merrill, Sahara Moore, Nathan Plaza, Tyler Shead  
Recognition: Darcy Billings, Isabella Bonin, Alex Davis, Cristian DeJesus, Vivianna Hill, Noelia Reed, Cooper Sweeney, Joshua Tackson, Kevin Vescera

Grade 10  
High Honors: Christopher

Aubin, June Ferraro, Megan Nachtigall, Nicholas Ruggieri, Pavanny Phav, Jackson Santos, Luke Senosk, Sofia Thurber  
Honors: Grace Akana, Ashley Birch, Joshua Carlson, Keira Cotter, Jesse Cimochofski, Christopher Holton, Lucas Gillon, Serena Smith  
Recognition: Lindsey Sturtevant

Grade 11  
High Honors: Kaylee Beck, Avery Butler, Jordyn Butler, James Julian, Madyson Koziak, Eric Levesque, Melanie Noonan, Patricia Peterson  
Honors: Audrey DeFilippo, Maxine Hazard, Nicolas Kostacopoulos, Joel Majorowski, Zackary Minarik, Connor Pederson, Jacob Perry  
Recognition: Elizabeth Davis,

Aidan Defilippo, Benjamin Frenier, Tara Heffernan, Alianys Lopez-Guadalupe, Gabriella Lubomirski, Cassandra Mckeen-Deorsey, Peyton Richard, Joesiah Roman

Grade 12  
High Honors: Taylor Annis, Kayla Botelho, Javier DeJesus, Deidrea Hanshaw, Dylan Johnson, Hanna LeClaire, Alexander Nachtigall, Tahlia Smith, Allison Thebeau, Paige Veilleux-Catlin  
Honors: Daniel Boutin, Madelynn Copley, Shawn Gauthier  
Recognition: Evan Antonson, Corey Kostacopoulos, Melina Martello-Munoz, Taylor Morales, Jonathan Poplawski, Alicia Tiffany

# THOMPSON MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

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

Grade 5  
High Honors: Kiley Audette, Jacen Beaudreault, Brooke Caya, Gracie Greene, Amelia Hachigian, Maggie Keegan, Laura Logsdon, Nathan Lyon, Thomas McCooey, Rylee Parkin, Colin Peckham, Sienna Ring, Allison Rivers, Avery Szarkowicz  
Honors: April Boudreau, Russell Chrabaszcz, Yvonne Clavette, Madyson Grazulis, Maya Khaomongkhoun, Lily Kimball, Jack Lyon, Liam Maliff, Ellyana Mayo, Cadence Menard, Lucy Miller, Otto Monahan, Kamila Rivera, Rilynne-Mae Sargent, Amelia Senkhamtar, Carley Smith, Ryan Washburn  
Recognition: Adrien Chevalier, Alexis Fiske, Landon Horniak, Samiah Lafleche, Elizabeth Lemay, Simon Lepino, Colton MacPhee, Emma Mandeville, Ashley Martin, Bryce McKiernan,

Luke Palmer, Alison Phav, Heather Stebbins, Dante Warren, Logan Wedda

Grade 6  
High Honors: Shyla Beckett, Hazel Clavette, Emma Fournier, Amilia Fraser, Sophia Kus, Colin Mead, Shawn Sinni, Cameron Snow, Jayden Watkins  
Honors: Laylanie Benitez, Payton Bolte, Deegan Bryniarski, Timothy Charbonneau, Logan Delicata, Jeylia Denham, Sydney Jacobsen, Andrew Marquette, Jacob McHugh, Jaob Saad, Parker Smith  
Recognition: Aubriana Cogoli, Bryce Davidson, Paris Lowe, Manuela Martinez-Calderon, Trinidadaya Muhammed, Juliet Phaneuf, Mason Wolf

Grade 7  
High Honors: Danika Beliveau, Scarlett Beliveau, Adam Boss, Ashley Boudreau, Emma Dodd, Evelyn Dos Santos, Jeremi Helwig, Parker Leveille, Chloe McDonald, Rafaella Mondarte, Jon Palmer, Brooklynn Pearson, Madison Perry, Parker Ring, Gabriella Santos, Noelle Smith, Stanley Ten Eyck, Aleck Thurber  
Honors: Graciella Baublitz, Kammy Boothby, Madison Fitzgerald, Camdyn Foster, Madison Marchitelli, Landon Perry, Aiden Rafferty, Kora Mae Reynolds, Joey Sweeney, Brody Vincent  
Recognition: Jacob Brosnihan, Payton Butler, Mason Gelineau, Jaydin Sevigne

Grade 8  
High Honors: Julyanna Barrows, Aburi Bonin, Maddison Carlson, Rhea DeSota, Andrew DiCicco, Estela Freitas, Samuel Hachigian, Brighton Keegan, Calleigh Levesque, Billie Lewis, Kennedy McCooey, Madison McHugh, Cole Passo, Mabel Perreault, Samantha Podgorni, Jordyn Poplawski, Kaydyn Racca, Matthew Rybacki, Ella Sousa, Tristhion Speight, Sophia St. Germain  
Honors: Christopher Boss, Gabriel Bourget, Jordan Burns, Nicko Casto, Riley Nolin  
Recognition: Ty Chausse, Nicholas Lavallee, Luke Olszta, Nina Poplawski, Amaya Sagastivelza-Muniz, Christian Tremblay

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





Courtesy

The nucleus of the postseason-bound Killingly High girls' basketball team includes, from left, Ariaahna Headen, Laura Farquhar, Molly Crabtree, Sydney Crabtree, Aila Gutierrez and Grace Sumner.

### Crabtree twins help lead Killingly girls' basketball into Class MM Tournament

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Twin sisters Sydney and Molly Crabtree combined to score 25 points, and in doing so, led the Killingly High girls' basketball team to a 47-33 victory over visiting East Lyme on Tuesday, Jan. 24.

The win was Killingly's eighth of the season, which qualified the team for the Connecticut Class MM Girls' Basketball Tournament.

Sydney Crabtree scored 14 points against the Vikings, who dropped to 5-10 on the season, while Molly Crabtree added 11. Sophomore Ariaahna Headen finished the game with a double-double. The 6-foot-2 forward turned in an 11-point, 14-rebound effort.

Killingly (9-3) finished the week with a win, too, defeating visiting Waterford, 46-25, Friday, Jan. 27. Molly Crabtree paced Killingly's offensive attack against the Lancers, scoring a game-high 17 points. Junior Laura Farquhar added 15 points and Headen again posted a double-double scoring 12 points and grabbing 16 rebounds.

Through 12 games Molly Crabtree is averaging 14 points, three assists and three steals per game. Headen is averaging 11 points and 10 rebounds per game. Sydney Crabtree is averaging 10 points, four rebounds, three assists and three steals per game. Farquhar is averaging four assists and three steals per game while junior Grace Sumner is averaging six rebounds per game. As a team Killingly is averaging 15 assists and 10 steals per game.

Elsewhere:

Ellis Tech split a pair of games last week, defeating Grasso Tech, 30-26, on the road on Tuesday, Jan. 24, before losing to visiting Windham Tech, 41-29, on Friday, Jan. 27.

Junior Kylie Damble led the way in the win over Windham Tech, recording a double-double, with 13 points and 15 rebounds. Sophomore Sadie Murray added eight points and junior Brooke Montecalvo chipped in five points. The Golden Eagles led at all the stops — 4-2 after the first quarter, 9-8 at halftime and 19-13 after three periods.

Damble was the leading scorer in the loss to Windham Tech, too, with 11 points. Included in her point total was a 5-for-5 effort from the free throw line. Sophomore Kiara Cartier added 10 points and connected on a 3-pointer. Ellis Tech trailed throughout, 11-9 after the first quarter, 22-14 at halftime and 30-25 after three periods.

Woodstock Academy improved to 10-5 on the season, winning the only game it played last week, 41-28, over Amistad Academy in New Haven on Saturday, Jan. 28. Sophomore forward Eva Monahan led the Centaurs to the victory scoring 12 points — six in each half — while classmate Sophia Sarkis added 11 points including a pair of 3-pointers in the second half for the Centaurs.

#### Boys' Basketball

Killingly senior Yianni Baribeau posted a double-double of 20 points and 15 rebounds (along with five assists) to lead visiting Killingly High past neighboring rival Putnam High, 56-54, on Saturday, Jan. 28. With the win Killingly improved to 8-4.

Baribeau's classmate, Thomas Dreiholz, poured in a team-high 21 points while sophomore Johnny Kazantzis sank four crunch-time free throws to preserve the win.

Putnam (5-9) was led by junior Noah Rudman, who scored a game-high 24 points.

#### Gymnastics

Woodstock Academy and Killingly High both defeated Stonington High in a meet held at Deary's Gymnastics in Danielson on Saturday, Jan. 28. The Centaurs defeated the Bears, 133.65-125.45, while Killingly bested Stonington, 126.1-125.45.

With the wins Woodstock and Killingly are tied atop the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) standings with identical 3-1 records. Stonington is 8-5 overall and 2-3 in the ECC.

The Centaurs were led sophomore Olivia Aleman, who finished first in the all-around competition with a score of 37.5. The sophomore — who trains at Deary's — was first on bars (9.4) and beam (9.1), second in the floor exercise (9.4), and a third in vault (9.25). Woodstock freshman Julia Kerr was third on bars (8.8), and beam (8.75).

## HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Plainfield junior Brenna Johnson, who also trains at Deary's, was second in the all-around competition (35.95), while Killingly's Ella Pereira was third (35.0).

Woodstock Academy also defeated Stonington, 133.3-131.9, on the road, on

Thursday, Jan. 26. At that same meet Stonington defeated Killingly, 131.9-130.2.

Aleman finished first in the all-around competition in the Jan. 26 meeting between the Centaurs and Bears, finishing with a score of 37.05. She was

first in vault (9.2), tied for first in beam (9.3), second on bars (9.2), and third in the floor exercise (9.35).

Johnson also finished second in the all-around in the Jan. 26 meet (36.4). Pereira led Killingly with a first-place finish on bars (9.3).



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# OBITUARIES

## Grace Ann Harmon, 88



Woodstock - Grace Ann (Kelsey) Harmon, 88, of Prospect St., passed away at her home on Sunday, January 22, 2023, with her family by her side. She was the loving wife of the late James B. Harmon for 61 years. Born in Middletown, she was the daughter of the late Erwin and Grace (White) Kelsey.

In her youth, she loved riding her horses with her sisters, Isabel and Marion. She graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1952 and married Jim in 1957. She lived in Middletown where she and Jim ran the Kelsey Spring Water Company from 1966 until 1977, when they purchased Westview Farm in Woodstock. While living in Woodstock, Grace was a member of the East Woodstock Congregational Church. As part of the church, she was active in the Altar Guild, the Holly Fair, many church dinners, and the 4th of July Jamboree. She chaired the Strawberry Shortcake booth at the Jamboree for 17 years, during which time she baked nearly 7,000 shortcakes and prepared more than 3,000 pounds of strawberries with the help of her family and church volunteers. Few things gave Grace greater satisfaction than seeing the number of people who returned to the Jamboree each year to enjoy the strawberry shortcake. Grace

was also a 4-H club leader for many years and a life-long member of the B.U.O.D. club. Grace's greatest joy was working alongside her husband and family on the farm. Grace and Jim managed a milking herd of Holstein cattle from 1977 until 1996. She was involved in every aspect of the farm, from milking the cows to harvesting the crops.

Grace leaves her son Joel and his wife Sharon of Amboy, IN; two daughters, Judith Perkins and her husband Michael and Alyson Hebert and her husband Joe, both of Woodstock; seven grandchildren, Sarah, Patricia and her husband Dan, Jason and his wife Krystal, Amelia, Rachel, Megan, and Stuart; six great-grandchildren, Landon, Hudson, Lincoln, Linnea, Evelyn, and Reagan. Grace is survived by her sister, Marion Seifert of Middlebury, VT. She was predeceased by her sister Isabel Wimler of Durham. Grace will be remembered for her love and dedication to her immediate and extended family, her farm, her many pets, her kindness, and her generosity.

A private family memorial will be held in the spring. Memorial donations may be made to the Ladies Benevolent Society, East Woodstock Congregational Church, P.O. Box 156, East Woodstock, CT 06244. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory. For memorial guestbook please visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

## Arturo Diaz, MD, 90



Dr. Arturo Diaz, 90, formerly of Woodstock, died on January 18, 2023 in Naples, FL. Born in Mexico City on September 23, 1932, he enjoyed fishing, mountain climbing, and playing baseball as a youth, and always knew he wanted to become a physician. An outstanding student, he graduated from medical school at the age of 24.

Arturo met his wife, Frances Stasi, in 1952 when he was a first-year medical student. Frances, a junior at Queens

College in NYC, was participating in a summer program at the University of Mexico. They continued their relationship after Frances returned to NY, corresponding for four years.

Arturo emigrated to the US in 1956, serving his internship and anesthesia residency at Flushing Hospital in Queens, NY. He later worked at Windham Hospital in Willimantic, then served as Chief of Anesthesia at Nassau Hospital in Mineola, NY and Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam.

Frances and Arturo married in 1957 and raised four children. For many years they lived in a 200-year old farmhouse on 47 acres of land in Woodstock. Together they restored the home and enjoyed furnishing it with antiques.

After Arturo and Frances retired, they moved to Marco Island, FL and then to Naples, where Arturo loved playing tennis, golf, chess, pool, and bridge. He also volunteered at a local health clinic and Habitat for Humanity. He and Frances enjoyed active vacations, hiking the pilgrimage trail in northern Spain and biking in the US, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland and Canada. They went on three African safaris, swam with whale sharks in the Yucatan, and zip-lined in Costa Rica. They went to Italy numerous times and also visited Spain, Portugal, Egypt, Hungary, the UK, Scotland, France, Thailand and Vietnam.

Arturo is survived by his wife of 65 years, his four children, Arthur (Eileen) of Westerly, RI, Bruce (Karen) of Ft. Worth, TX, Susan (Chris) Killenberg of Little Compton, RI, and David of Charlotte, VT, and eight grandchildren: Amy, Aidan, Alex (Lydia), Maddie, Sam, Dana, Eva, and Mia.

His legacy was beautifully summarized by a dear friend, who wrote: "Arturo was a broadly caring individual, a man with an expansive appetite and appreciation of his surroundings, an intellect who still found the boy in himself, a man with deep love for others, a deeply respected physician, and someone who brought and melded another culture into ours. He was an exceptional man."

## Dorothy A. Kenyon, 83



Putnam - Dorothy A. (Smick) Kenyon Matriarch of the family at 83, of Providence St., died Monday evening, January 23, 2023, at home surrounded by her loving family. Beloved wife of the late John Kenyon. Born in Dudley, MA, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Mable (Wood) Smick.

Mrs. Kenyon worked for Woodstock Line for over 30 years retiring at age 81 due to her illness.

She enjoyed playing BINGO at St. Joseph Church in N. Grosvenordale and Garden Baptist Church in Ballouville.

Dorothy is survived by her daughter, Diana Lefebvre and her husband Mark; her grandchildren, Catrina

Vanasse and her husband Dennis, Oscar McDuffee, Jr. and his wife Gloria, Jessica Lefebvre, and her fiancé Willis, Mark Lefebvre, Jr., Joseph Tetreault, Tara Aiken, and Patrick Audet; her brother in laws, Tom Kenyon and his wife Sue and Paul Kenyon; her stepchildren, Shawn Kenyon and his wife Barbara, Debbie Phillips and her husband Tom, Jean Mayo, and Kelly Kenyon; 15 Great Grandchildren, 6 Great Great Grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her daughter, Donna Tetreault and her 5 brothers and 4 sisters

A Celebration of Dorothy's life will be held at a later date. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT. For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

## Diane Adams, 70



Putnam - Diane (Corey) Adams, 70, of Mill St, passed away Monday, January 16, 2023. She was the loving wife of James Adams. Born in Putnam, CT, she was the daughter of the late Arthur and Helen (Beers) Corey.

Diane worked as an accountant at Mohegan Sun for many years. Diane loved to research, explore, and share everything she found about her Native American Heritage. She enjoyed playing bingo at St. Joseph Church in North Grosvenordale in her spare time. Diane also enjoyed her garden, plants, and flowers. While Diane was a cat lover and loved the company of her two cats, Diane's lifelong passions were her chil-

dren and grandchildren. She had a lot of love in her heart for the people she cared for. Anyone that knew Diane would not argue with that.

Diane is survived by two sons, David Suhocke of Putnam, CT, Paul Suhocke of Brooklyn, CT; two daughters, Kelly Suhocke of Brooklyn, CT, Heather Adams of Putnam, CT; two brothers, Buster and Alan; two sisters, Nancy and Pat; two grandsons, Dorian and Aiden. She was predeceased by sisters, Linda, Ginny, Janice, and Joanne; and brother Frank.

Funeral arrangements for Diane have been entrusted to Gilman & Valade Funeral Homes and Crematory. The family will hold a memorial gathering in honor of Diane at a later date. For memorial guestbook please visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com)

## Delores "De" Edna Tarr Morissette, 83



Pomfret - Delores Edna Tarr Morissette, known and loved by many as De, passed away in her home surrounded by her loved ones on January 25, 2023, at the age of 83. De was born in Etna, Maine to Rodney Sr and Pearl Merrithew Tarr.

De was adored by her late husband and cherished by her children. Grandma De took every opportunity to spoil her grandchildren. She deeply loved gummy bears, lemon desserts, and cheese pizza with extra sauce on the side. De was an avid bowler for numerous decades. She served her community as a registered nurse, a volunteer at local libraries, a boy scout den mother, and an EMT. She was where family and friends stopped by to see if they really needed to go to the hospital.

After selling the family farm she ran with her husband Denny and retiring from nursing at Pomfret School, De spent her days reading, doing crosswords, collecting 4-leaf clovers, and gazing at the birds and view from her beautiful home on the hill. The sound of windchimes always brought her joy. She had a deep love for angels and

required all her loved ones to carry angels to guard them on their journeys.

She was predeceased by her loving husband of 62 years Denny Morissette, her son, René Morissette, and family members, Anita Tellier, Doug Tarr, Gertrude Tarr, and Rodney Tarr Jr. De is survived by her children, Marcel (Lisa) Morissette and Michelle (Lance) Bouchard; six grandchildren, Matthew (Marette), Jenny, D, Brittany, Dylan, and André; siblings, Beryl Tarr; and in-laws Muriel (Joseph) Mrakovich and Leo (Susan) Morissette.

De is deeply loved and will be forever missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations in De's honor may be made to the Pomfret Fire District, 67 Hampton Rd., Pomfret, CT 06258, to help continue the work De so genuinely believed in.

Relatives and friends are invited to a Memorial Mass Friday, February 3, 2023, at 11:00 AM in Most Holy Trinity Church, 568 Pomfret St, Pomfret, CT. Masks are strongly and respectfully asked to be worn to protect the lives of others. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam. For memorial guestbook please visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com)

# LEGALS

## Town of Thompson Board of Assessment Appeals LEGAL NOTICE

Citizens of Thompson are hereby informed that the Board of Assessment Appeals for the Town of Thompson will hold its sessions for appeals for the 2022 grand list on real estate, personal property and motor vehicles on the following dates:

March 2nd, 2023, 6:00 PM 2nd Floor Town Hall

March 9th, 2023, 6:00 PM 2nd Floor Town Hall

The appeal forms are available on the Town of Thompson's website under the Assessor's office. The deadline for appeals is a postmarked date of February 20th, 2023.

Notice of given sessions to conform to Section 12-110 of the General Statutes of the State of CT.

Board of Assessment Appeals

Erica Groh, Chair

Dan Santerre

Bob Pederson

February 3, 2023

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Jane N Budd (22-00505) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated December 12, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Jonathan Norton Budd

c/o ROBERT H HOVEY,

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February 3, 2023

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Barbara J Cotnoir (23-00002) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 25, 2023, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:

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**BOWEN**  
*continued from page A1*

ever since,” Bowen continued. “When you have the parents involved, too, with the kids, it makes it a lot easier on the coach to get things done.”

Bowen said his ability to build a program was helped greatly by the youth program, which was started by a former high school teammate, Ray Beausoleil, whose son, Brad Beausoleil, is one of Bowen’s assistants.

“I believe that’s how we

have sustained our level of competitiveness,” Bowen said. “You’re always going to have up and down seasons, but I think having the youth kids there; they practice in the same facility that we do, so the parents get to know the coaches at both levels. It becomes a nice little family-type atmosphere.”

Among the wrestlers Bowen mentioned when asked who were among the most memorable he’s coached were Doug Meagher, Brandon Greczkowski, Gary Reynolds, Brad

Beausoleil, the Loomis brothers — Larry, David and Eddie — and current wrestlers Jack Richardson and Kaden Ware.

Meagher wrestled from 1991-94, winning three State Open titles and finishing his career with a 129-17 record. Greczkowski, who also wrestled in the early 1990s, won a State Open championship. He also competed in the sport of judo, finishing seventh for the U.S., in the 2000 Summer Olympics. Reynolds, who wrestled for Killingly when

Bowen was an assistant coach, was a three-time State Open champ. Brad Beausoleil won a New England Regional Championship.

Larry Loomis was a State Open champion. David Loomis won a pair of Class S titles, and Eddie Loomis was a state tournament place-finisher. David Loomis currently runs Killingly Youth Wrestling while Eddie Loomis is another of Bowen’s assistants.

Richardson won the state Class S and the New England Regional Championship last year

in the 145-pound weight class while Ware won the Class S championship, was runner-up in the State Open and fourth at New Englands.

Bowen didn’t hesitate when asked what his favorite part of coaching wrestling was.

“I actually like the day-to-day work with the kids in the room still. That’s where I like to be each day. The other coaches come in and we can have a little fun and talk. Kids are always kids so that doesn’t change too much,” Bowen said. “I think having fun in (the

wrestling room), working hard and trying to be successful in there translate out into the matches.

“When I started (coaching) as an assistant, it was a lot of fun,” Bowen added. “I never thought I’d be around this long still coaching, but I’m having a good time doing it so I’m still here. When it’s not fun (in the wrestling room), when things aren’t great, when it’s getting to be a little too much, that will be time to hang it up. But I’m not there yet.”

**AUTHORS**  
*continued from page A1*

but we also discovered pretty quickly that we were pretty seriously underprepared.”

“There are 48 peaks in the White Mountains that are over 4,000 feet, and we decided to do all 48 of them,” Scott Tetreault added. “It took about 13 years and a lot of trials and tribulations. We saw a lot of things and the experience was great.”

During their journey the duo adapt-

ed and learned, eventually becoming well-prepared and capable hikers who completed the challenge and worked to inspire others to explore their own interest in hiking. While they admit that the journey was a difficult one that “isn’t for everyone,” they hope their book, at the very least, serves as a guide to being prepared when taking on similar challenges in the wilderness.

“There are a lot of lessons that we learned in the book. Appreciation for Mother Nature, proper preparation and keeping yourself in shape among other things and a lot of the things we learned

were from just listening. It’s quiet and peaceful,” Scott Tetreault said.

“Over the years, this was primarily an effort of just the two of us, but we actually hiked with upwards of 18 different people are different times and at different peaks and we were able to inspire other people to complete their own 48th,” David Bousquet added. “It was just a wonderful learning experience in terms of having the proper gear, preparation, navigation, and the ‘four Ds’ of hiking: direction, duration, description, and distance.”

The two say the response to the book

has been great as many have approached them to learn more about their experiences. “Mountain Whispers” is currently available at Amazon, as well as Pourings as Passages in Danielson, and has also been made available at several shops along the White Mountains for readers to learn from Bousquet and Tetreault’s journey as they tackle their own challenge on the famed New England mountain range.

**SUSI**  
*continued from page A1*

makes so many of us find who we are supposed to be in life.”

Susi will join performers and renowned conductors from around the world at the famous Carnegie Hall, a venue that symbolizes the pinnacle of musical achievement.

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The Honors Performance will take place on Feb. 4, and is open to the public.

# Even in the darkest of times, one person can make a difference

On a sprawling plantation in Maryland, Harriet Tubman took her first breath into a life of servitude, surrounded by fields of cotton, tobacco, and sorrow.

At age five, Harriet was bought by a cruel trapper who forced her to work in the icy rivers, setting muskrat traps. Soon she was too sick to work and was brought back and made to be a caretaker for the plantation owner’s baby; any cries from the baby would result in a brutal whipping for Harriet.

One day, while the plantation owner and his wife were in a heated argument, Harriet spotted a bowl of sugar, something she had never tasted before. Sneaking a pinch of the sweet treat, she was seen by the Master’s wife. Harriet bolted out of the house and hid in a pig pen for five hungry days rather than face another whipping. With no food or refuge, she returned and was beaten brutally.

Harriet’s faith was a defining force in her life that guided her every step of the way. Rumors of escaped enslaved people reaching freedom in the North captivated Harriet. She prayed for a life beyond the constraints of slavery.

Despite her hardships, she found love for a free man named John Tubman. She often confided in John about her dream of escaping, but he threatened to report her if she ever tried.

Harriet said, “I had reasoned it out

in my mind; there were two things I had a right to, Liberty or Death, and if I couldn’t have one, I would have the other.”

One day, a Quaker woman approached her as she worked in the fields. The Quakers were a religious society known for their commitment to anti-slavery beliefs. The lady told Harriet that she could come to her house if she ever wanted to escape.

It was the first time Harriet had met someone part of the whispered-about Underground Railroad, a network of safe houses and secret routes used by escaped slaves to reach freedom.

Escaping at night when her husband was asleep, Harriet arrived at the Quaker woman’s house, where she was given food and taught to navigate using the north star; as she would always travel by night.

As she made her way towards her freedom, Harriet was taken from one safe house to another; each one offering her food and shelter along the way.

Delighted to be a free woman in Philadelphia, her mind eventually turned to family. One day news reached Harriet that her sister Mary, her children, and other relatives were to be sold at the auction house, and she was determined to rescue them.

Harriet again traveled by night, returning to the county where she once lived in slavery. With determination in her heart, she devised a plan with Mary’s husband, a free man, to help her free Mary and her children. He showed

up at the auction house with a forged letter, claiming the plantation had a buyer for Harriet’s family, and they were to return home immediately.

The guard hesitated, his hands hovering over his rifle as he read the letter. Mary’s husband held his breath for an eternity, wondering if the ploy would work. It did, and Harriet wasted no time, whisking them away to freedom. She was now a conductor on The Underground Railroad.

Harriet faced new dangers with the passage of laws allowing captured escaped slaves to be returned to their owners, even when found in the North.

Determined, she saved for a house in Canada, where she planned to bring escaped slaves. Harriet embarked on multiple rescue missions from Canada.

It wasn’t long before Harriet was a legend amongst enslaved people; they sang gospel songs in the fields about her. They called her Moses, sent to set her people free.

A reward was placed on her head, and she was sometimes forced to disguise herself as a man as she traveled from plantation to plantation to rescue any who desired freedom. She made 19 trips and rescued over seventy enslaved people.

Her legacy serves as a reminder that even in the darkest times, one person can make a difference, and that we all have the power to overcome fear and stand up to tyranny in all of its forms.

# University of Rhode Island students named to Fall Dean’s List

KINGSTON, R.I. — The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Fall 2022 Dean’s List. Students named to the Dean’s List represent nearly all of Rhode Island’s cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries.

They include:

Linsey Arends of Brooklyn  
Riley Hardacker of Brooklyn  
Zoe Hetrick of Putnam  
Lauryn Durand of Thompson  
Katie Papp of Eastford  
Cristian Fahey of Pomfret Center  
Reagan Couture of Woodstock  
Allison Faist of Woodstock  
David Fleck of Woodstock

To be included on the Dean’s List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students quali-

fy with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

About the University of Rhode Island

Founded in 1892, the University of Rhode Island is the principal public flagship research and graduate institution in Rhode Island. Competitive and highly regarded, its more than 14,500 undergraduate students and 2,200 graduate students represent 48 states and 76 countries across the globe. With 203 academic programs, URI offers its undergraduate, graduate, and professional students distinctive educational opportunities designed to meet the global challenges of today’s world and the rapidly evolving needs of tomorrow. At URI, you will find some of today’s leading innovators, discoverers, and creative problem solvers. To learn more, visit: uri.edu.

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**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

# Take time away from your phone

Most weeks, our Editorial column spins off of a subject we curious about. While the subject of cell phone and screen addiction comes up often, this week, our perspective on the issue noticeably shifted after receiving a wise tip. A national news story broke, relaying that many younger people are switching to flip phones as a way to curb mental illness and burnout. There are several tips as far as screen time and how to manage it. The first one is to ignore your phone, don't even look at it, until 30 minutes after you wake up. In that time, sit down, have your morning coffee, and read a book. When you start to scroll on your phone just after waking up, you put yourself into what's called a passive scrolling phase, which can derail your entire day and ward off productivity. A few days of following this new advice, and there is a noticeable sense of comfort and relaxation that can carry you throughout your day. It's like taking 30 minutes every morning to get back to the basics and recall simpler times. Most people feel like they are in control of their phone use, but are you? How can you determine if you have a phone addiction, or are just part of the modern era grind? We've said it before, and we'll say it again – nothing beats the days of watching “Jeopardy!” uninterrupted, without the pressure of responding to a ding from your phone. In 2011, only 35 percent of the population owned Smartphones; today, 81 percent do. It is our main form of communication, so much so that now there is a term called nomophobia, or the fear of going without your phone. Excessive cell phone use is a huge problem for many. As far as addiction goes, some experts say the dopamine connection the phone offers can be linked to something akin to a drug addiction. The triggering of that chemical in your brain, reinforces compulsive behavior. When we can't predict when we will receive a text or a “like” on social media, we check our phones more often. Adolescents are more vulnerable to this problem than any other age group. Excessive use in that age group is such an issue that most teenagers never turn off their phones. Experts say that the younger a child has access to a phone, the sooner the problems begin. Problematic cell phone use is linked to low self-esteem, low impulse control, depression and anxiety. Signs you may have a phone addiction could be that you reach for your phone if you're bored, you feel anxious or upset if you can't get to your phone, you wake throughout the night to check it, or your phone has caused you to get into an accident. Other signs could be that you spend most of your waking hours on your phone, and that it interferes with personal relationships or work. When trying to focus on work, or any task, you are significantly disrupted, and your concentration is thrown off. Ways to break the addiction in order to fix your relationships, your health and other responsibilities include figuring out if there is a larger issue as to why you're using your phone so much. Are you avoiding something else bigger? Resolving the larger issue at hand, could cause a decrease in phone use. Change your settings to remove notifications and other alerts, set your screen to dark mode at night, keep your phone out of sight and never charge it in your bedroom. After a certain time, set your phone up so that only emergency contacts can get through to you, everyone else can wait. Try replacing games on your phone with real in person games or develop a hobby you've been wanting to try. Too much cell phone use can develop into a loss of control. There have been some experiments where people have gone two days without their phones. Some people choose to give up their phones all together, while others make significant changes to reduce use. The potential risk of depression, insomnia and lack of productivity just isn't worth it. Think back to pre-cell phone times. While there are safety benefits to having a phone, we don't need to be connected 24/7, and we don't need to respond or answer our phones just because they ding. Your responsibility is to yourself, and it is revelatory how much you can get done if you just unplug. Take a breather, shut your phone completely off for 15 minutes and see how you feel. If you do try this trick, send us an email, and let us know what you find. If you are willing to take it one step further, and switch to a flip phone temporarily, let us know how that goes. Flip phones are very affordable and often come without a plan, and can be purchased at most stores.

# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Woodstock spending

To the Editor:  
In the Jan. 27 edition of the Villager, Messrs. Lessig and Fortin responded to my “Heads-up” letters of the previous two weeks accusing me of being less than truthful about Woodstock spending, on education in particular.  
They started with claiming the “Lessig” report is readily available to the public – and then provided a map, compass and spelunking gear to help you find it – good luck. And then went on to say yes, it does show a slightly higher cost for the WPS system, but it doesn't count because we did such a lousy job, over several months, that we may have missed something; further, if you shouldn't count all the state and federal funding and grants, so then funding at WPS is lower – by more than 38 percent. Yes, the vast majority of these funds go to WPS – like more than 90 percent. This might give the reader some insight into the real problem here. The “state and federal funding” is spent, alright. It pays for salaries, programs, supplies, etc., but they would say we don't want to count it – the “it” here is millions of dollars, and nothing is more fungible than money, so if it is spent for those salaries, programs, etc. then more money if available for other things.  
You wouldn't know any of this unless you went to the town audit reports and compare the Education Expense for the town to the budget reported – yes, they don't match by more than a million dollars. Why? That's what I asked the auditors; turns out certain state and federal grants fall outside the reportable funding approved by the towns voters and listed in the budget. This is on top of things like ECS funding that is reported

but Messrs. Lessig and Fortin don't want to count toward actual spending.  
Now, these two gentlemen collectively have more than 15 years' experience on the Woodstock Board of Finance. Mr. Fortin is still a member; in fact, the elected “Clerk of the Board,” which by statute is responsible for assuring, among other things, that the minutes of the board reflect the actions of the board and are accurately reported to the public. Maybe this gives just a little insight into the real problem – especially for Mr. Lessig – as for them, there is never enough spending.  
In all the years I sat on the board and many more following the boards closely, Mr. Lessig had one position on spending, “spend to the max.” Mr. Dougherty acknowledged this during the Jan. 17 public forum, when he stated that the budgets for the last ten years were at the max. except when the voters voted down the budget and they, the BOF, had to go back and make cuts. Finally, they close by saying the town doesn't have enough revenue to fund town services, but if you check auditor's reports and the BOF's own minutes, you might ask, “what about the \$300,000, \$400,000, \$500,000 surpluses year after year?” How about a little actual “financial management,” or too much to ask?  
Bottom line to all this is, the voters will decide. Do we keep Prop 46, amend it (another form of kill it), or repeal it? We will see in the coming months. In any case if you liked the 10, 12, 14 percent tax hikes buckle up because they are just getting started. The joys of spring.

DAVE RICHARDSON  
WOODSTOCK

### Show your support for Killingly

To the Editor:  
I have lived in Killingly more than twenty years, and my child has long since grown up. Throughout that time, I have seen our town working hard to thrive, expanding our tax base in thoughtful ways, attracting new businesses, and renovating our downtown. But we are not addressing a critical issue! I believe the health and resilience of any community depends in large part on the health and resilience of its young people. And months ago, our youth asked us for help.  
Our local board is dominated by adherents of the “parental rights” movement, and I respect their opinions. However, I believe that Killingly's youth also have rights, and deserve the resources to help them flourish. Our current Board of Education (BOE) has not provided these resources. Opinions may differ on what type of resources can best fulfill our children's needs, but our board has provided little to no support, and only grudgingly and after delays. This does not serve the interests of our families or our town. Many

current board members seem to view this difference of opinions as a political test of wills, rather than demonstrating a shred of willingness to compromise or work creatively to find solutions. They have made that crystal-clear by forcing democratic BOE member Susan Lannon off the committee looking into school-based mental health options.  
I have followed actively the proceedings of the State Board of Education and this inquiry. Many of our residents have stepped forward to describe their personal concerns, and even anguish. Please take a few minutes to insure their bravery is not in vain, and that we can be proud of the Killingly Public School system. You can contact the Connecticut State Board of Education at: SDE.StateBoard@ct.gov. Please put the phrase “Public Participation, Town of Killingly Inquiry” in the subject line of your email.  
Sincerely,  
ROBIN LOFQUIST  
DANIELSON

### It's different this year Woodstock!

To the Editor:  
People of Woodstock, you have a say in your town every year - at Town Meeting. And you decide on your town's budget every year - at the Referendum.  
What is different about this year? Decisions about things we might take for granted like our libraries, ambulance service, schools and roads are happening now.

Please come to the next Woodstock Open Forum Meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. at the Loos Center for the Arts on the south campus of The Woodstock Academy. Get informed, speak your mind, don't wait for someone else to tell you what was said. Be there!  
SU CONNOR  
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

### Trump doesn't deserve the benefit of the doubt

To the Editor:  
Classified documents — the saga continues. Mike Pence is the latest politician to get caught with his hand in the cookie jar. He and Joe Biden have both been hypocritical about the mishandling of documents, and who knows if they're being totally honest, but they appear to be cooperating. Politics aside, they should get the benefit of the doubt until all the facts are known.  
Then there's Donald Trump — a patho-

logical liar with a lifelong legacy of sleazy business dealings and associations with equally questionable characters. Trump did everything except cooperate, and doesn't deserve the benefit of the doubt.  
You can't help but wonder how many other government officials have classified documents in their possession. The security of our nation could be on shaky ground.  
TODD PATRIE  
POMFRET CENTER

### Thompson track should be repaired and kept where it is

To the Editor:  
Reading the opinion page in the villager dated Jan. 27, the response of three residents of the town Thompson is true. Let's get down to the point of it all; when we look at schools in the surrounding areas all having the same surface as the Thompson track, none have sustained the failure as the Thompson track.  
The track was installed with specific specifications for the subsurface in the final service warranty was also in place for any discrepancies that occurs through time. A track that would give athletes many more years of use. The problem occurred one winter when

it was plowed off for walking purposes.  
With the surface being flat and exposed to the elements, this caused heaving and buckling of the surface. Now we have a track with limited to no use. Athletics would have to be transported to other facilities for competition meets. Thompson's track needs to be repaired, kept at its present location, and then the Athletics can call it their home.

PAUL A. LENKY  
QUINEBAUG

# What next?

As a Baby Boomer, I enjoy benefits that people who went before me would have given their eye teeth to experience. There has never been a generation that had so many opportunities, witnessed so many changes or, I believe, had so much fun.  
We thought we would change the world, and to some extent, we did, not all for the better, but not a total loss. The question now: What to do next?  
I have a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. I'm grateful for their company, and I am always eager to reconnect with them. I had breakfast recently with a woman I haven't seen since high school. We covered all the usual topics of careers, marriages, children, grandchildren and what happened to our parents. But what about now, I wondered as I looked into her once familiar face? What is she doing with the time she has left? What am I?  
Carl Jung, a pioneer in psychoanalysis, and Richard Rohr, an American Franciscan priest and writer, thought a great deal about the “what's next” part of life. Rohr wrote about two halves of life. In the first half, we build our foundations of career, friends, family. In the second half we give up the constant need to feed our egos, acquire more things or prove that our group and our opinions are correct and superior.  
Jung coined the phrase: “the two halves of life.” With the possibility that we may live to very, very old age, perhaps someone should write about the third half of life. He thought that in the last part of it all we need a deeper purpose. He said: “The purpose of a lifetime is to become who you truly are.” That's a bit lofty.



NANCY WEISS

From my friends, I'm hearing a simple idea and feeling myself. We want to pay back and return to the world a little bit of what we have received. We are the first generation in human history to have an unknown number of years of good health, enough resources and finally enough time to do something meaningful.  
I called Anne Miller, Executive Director of TEEG, to ask her what she could share about older people volunteering for the diverse, local agency she so expertly leads. She was brimming with suggestions and observations. She noted that retired people often volunteer for specific times, say 2-4 p.m. on Wednesdays rather than selecting one area. She sees volunteers creating relationships with TEEG staff, TEEG clients and each other as they work together. Some have talents to share such as carpentry or gardening skills. Others find joy mentoring young people or helping fill the shelves at the TEEG Market. She recalled the words of the late Bob Sloat, a leader in the arts, whose advice was simply: Just show up!  
A group from my church is visiting Guatemala to build stoves, provide medical services, and vision testing. My friend is helping seniors file their taxes, using her skills in math. Another friend has “adopted” a family from Ecuador. She helped them find housing, furniture and jobs. I know a man who occasionally drives his neighbors to doctors' appointments. The effort doesn't need to be grand.  
Who knows how long one's last half may be. It is time to embrace the ambiguities, mysteries and contradictions of life. It is time to be more open, more caring and ready to give back however one can. Poet Mary Oliver reminds us of the “cottage of darkness” that awaits. Before we go there, we can do something that matters. We just need to find what's next.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Killingly’s Board of Education has failed its students

To the Editor:

I am a former student of Killingly High School, and a freshman at Quinebaug Valley Community College. Not many students my age write in letters to the Editor, but if they feel how I do, I am sure they would write one too.

After watching the last couple of Killingly Board of Education meetings, I can confidently say that I am disgusted. Disgusted by how some members of the Board of Education are treating not only our community, but other members of the same board. I have experienced bullying first-hand, as a former student from Killingly High School, and I am recognizing the same thing happens from the group of individuals who are supposed to be governing the school district.

The Killingly Board of Education has known for a year that as of January of 2022, 28 percent of our children have contemplated suicide, and more disturbingly, 14.7 percent had a plan for how they would do it. Despite these sobering statistics, there are still no resources in place. Not only am I disappointed by the Board of Education’s inability to support our children’s men-

tal health needs, but I am disheartened by the fact that our children are watching them in the process and suffering, knowing that their needs are not being met.

To the Killingly Board of Education, please know that some of you have failed me. You have failed our children. You have failed to meet the needs of the students. I beg you to stop tyrannizing each other, and start doing what is right for the children, not yourselves. I know that you know students need this, so why keep fighting this mental health resource when myself, and other community members, have poured our hearts out to you just to be shut down each time. As a student, I am learning how to be a better person because of your inconsiderate and childish actions. Although your actions may be upsetting to most, we can at least thank you for making it easier to decide who is really working for the best interests of our students, and who is not. Thank you, Sue Lannon and Chris Viens, for being continued champions for our students’ mental health. Children are looking up to you. Thank you.

JULIA REVELLESE  
KILLINGLY

Pointing fingers in the wrong direction

To the Editor:

I watched the last two Killingly Board of Education meetings, and am truly disappointed by the behavior of the majority of its members. These BOE members have spent a lot of time pointing fingers at others instead of assuming accountability for their own actions and avoiding action.

During the Jan. 11 BOE meeting, these BOE members turned into bullies when they attempted to blame another BOE member, Ms. Sue Lannon, for their own failures. They went on to also place blame on the Connecticut State Board of Education, our local families, staff & students and the overwhelming majority of concerned citizens who have advocated for mental health supports. Some of these BOE members referred to our local parents, students, staff and community members as having mental health issues themselves because of their advocacy!

As someone who has followed this issue closely, I would like thank Susan Lannon for her unwavering support for our students’ mental health and safety. I attended the two AD-HOC meetings. The first one Susan Lannon asked very appropriate questions. She was then removed from the committee after asking other BOE members tough questions. The second meeting the remaining committee discussed question to ask which I was surprised had not already been asked. They also discussed changes to the contract CHCI had sent them. These meetings were to discuss CHCI to operate as SBHC in Killingly. On Jan. 10, CHCI decided that they would not engage in a SBHC

proposal with Killingly. This may have been due to the Killingly BOE’s Ad-Hoc Committee demanding too many contractual changes to CHCI’s proposal. The blame was put on Susan who had not had any contact for a month. Yet Norm said CHCI pulled out last minute unexpectedly. So looking at the time frame it was right after they sent the contract not when Susan was asking questions.

Susan has unjustly faced ongoing harassment and public defamation by these KBOE members. Why? Because she has asked valid questions that are in the best interest of our students and that support what our staff and families are asking for. I want to thank her for not giving in to the bullying and intimidation. What does it say about a school district when their own BOE members harass and intimidate another because she stands up for what she believes is in the best interest of the students? These were not the first meetings I have seen such behavior. I was at a meeting when discussing the SBHC a few spoke to Susan with such a tone I was appalled and embarrassed for our town yet Susan responded very calmly and appropriately.

Thank you, Susan Lannon and Chris Viens, for standing up for our students. I would also like to thank the students, staff, parents and community members who have fought tirelessly in the face of “No” for what should have been an easy “Yes.”

MISTY MURDOCK  
KILLINGLY

Does DeLuca’s partisanship know any bounds?

To the Editor:

I’m finally convinced that Ed DeLuca is merely a troll. The evidence is contained in his letter to you, published in your Jan. 27 edition.

Although any fair-minded person of average intelligence can clearly discern the obvious differences between Donald Trump’s repeated refusals to return documents that belong to the country, and the immediate, voluntary reporting and return of such documents by President Biden, former Vice President Pence and many other former officials, Mr. DeLuca feebly tries to convince readers that they’re equivalent. While they all deserve criticism and scrutiny, only Trump defiantly insisted the country’s documents were his, and resisted repeated attempts by the National Archives and the Justice Department to retrieve them.

Mr. DeLuca’s purpose in making such a ridiculous argument must be either to “own the libs” or convince the unaware that Trump and Biden

are equally culpable. Rather than continually insulting the intelligence of your readers, why not focus on the haphazard system that can’t keep track of millions of documents and encourages the needless classification of tens of millions of documents each year?

Finally, not content to press the false equivalence, Mr. DeLuca proceeds to belittle the Roman Catholic Church and California Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi for their religious beliefs and practices. Does his hyper partisanship have no bounds? Hint: no.

Over and over, Mr. DeLuca’s letters reveal the extent that the Trump cult will go to rationalize their fidelity. Perhaps the mounting evidence of Trump’s crimes and his corruption of the top ranks of his Justice Department will deprogram some of them? Probably not.

BILLY G. TAYLOR  
KILLINGLY

Killingly BOE — Fiscal failures & more

To the Editor:

I’m writing this letter on Jan. 26, 2023, one year from when the first meeting was held regarding the SBHC proposal to provide much needed mental health resources for our students. One year later — nothing. We actually have fewer mental health resources than we did a year ago, as many valuable staff members left for districts that were more supportive of [their] students and staff.

Recent BOE events continue the downward spiral. The last two Killingly Board of Education meetings were absolutely horrible to watch. The majority of BOE members took turns bullying Mrs. Lannon with a censure because she was brave enough to ask questions that should have been asked by those BOE members, had they been sincere in their efforts. This censure is purely an act meant to shift blame to someone else because these BOE members don’t want to be held accountable.

I would like to address Kelly Martin’s comment from the Jan. 11 meeting, where she stated, “A select few seem to have a problem with the \$25,000 initial startup fee, and I just want to show you...this is our attorney’s fees for the complaint with the state of Connecticut. These are for one year...maybe one of these bills cost that fee, and it’s going to

get worse and worse and worse.” What Ms. Martin fails to mention is that at any point since last January, they could have implemented viable mental health resources but did not. In fact, they stopped talking about it until the State Board of Education unanimously voted to accept the State Dept. of Education’s recommendation for an inquiry into the matter. Certain members of the Killingly BOE have referred to this state complaint as “bogus.” The Killingly BOE’s own attorney referred to the state complaint as “mythical.” How insulting. The BOE’s inaction led parents and concerned community members to file the state complaint. The Killingly BOE is costing Killingly taxpayers a lot of money to fight a mental health resource that would cost taxpayers nothing. After the complaint was validated by the State Board of Education, the BOE could have immediately changed course. Instead, we still don’t have the needed resources in place for our students. Any costs incurred from the BOE attorneys is due to the BOE’s own failure to act. Those paying the ultimate price, however, are the students.

Shame on the Killingly BOE.  
JENNIFER SENECA  
DAYVILLE

Killingly BOE, it’s time to move forward

To the Editor:

To the Killingly Board of Education, I am writing to you today in regard to comments made by Chairman Ferron in regards to another member, Susan Lannon in the Jan. 25 Board of Education meeting.

He made mention of Bylaw 9020 being violated. Your bylaw 9020 is in regard to press releases. An open letter in an opinion column is not a press release. A press release is defined by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary as an official statement that gives information to newspapers, magazines, television news programs, and radio stations. No information was provided, but an opinion on an act perpetrated by the Killingly BOE to another board member.

It was made mention that the Killingly BOE’s reputation was damaged by Ms. Lannon. It’s arguable that the reputation of the board was ruined far before Ms. Lannon’s time on the board. That goes all the way back to 2019 with how the KBOE handled the mascot and logo discussions. Those discussions put Killingly into the national eye as a laughing stock. It has only continued from there.

Regarding the Code of Ethics 9271, in the listing by Mr. Ferron, he notes Ms. Lannon as violating 9, 10, and 15. Ms. Lannon was originally part of the AdHoc committee when the Generations proposal was not selected. She participated in meetings and presentations. That is abiding by the principle of majority rules; which is #9. Regarding #10, unless Mr. Ferron

Share your voice in shaping Woodstock’s future

To the Editor:

The Woodstock Tri-Board Meeting of Jan. 14 was notable for the numbers of citizens attending and engaging, and for the information shared by the WBOE, the BOS and the BOF. It was also alarming as our town leaders and officials foreshadowed the extraordinary budget vise facing Woodstock in the 2023-24 year.

To further our understanding, address our questions, and seek our input, the Tri-Boards are hosting a follow-up meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 7 at 6 p.m., to be held at the Loos Center at Woodstock Academy. (Zoom will be available through the WBOE’s link, with unlimited access.)

The Board of Finance has indicated that Woodstock’s Grand List is expected to remain flat or show a modest increase. Yet, the estimates given by the Woodstock’s Tri-Boards suggest the town is facing net contractual increases alone of more than \$1.2 million for next year. We look to the leadership

of our elected boards to address this funding gap. But these officials must hear what the citizens of Woodstock are willing to support, to lose, and to trade-off. In our town, as in our nation, democracy works most effectively with broad participation of a well-informed citizenry. All interests and constituencies should be represented: our seniors, open space supporters, economic development advocates, our agricultural community, library advocates, parents of WPS students, parents of WA students, and users of town services (including fire and EMS and town hall).

We care about our town, and are invested in its overall health and effective functioning. I urge all Woodstock citizens to attend the Feb. 7 meeting, in person or via zoom, to ask your questions and to express your values and priorities for our town’s future.

LINDSAY B. PAUL  
WOODSTOCK

Killingly BOE plays blame game for their failure

To the Editor:

Killingly Board of Education (KBOE) Chair Norm Ferron seems to be upset that the scheme he hatched with State Rep. Anne Dauphinais and Republican House Minority Leader Vincent Candelora to make the State’s 10-4b inquiry go away, fell through. He reached a new low when he blamed CHCI’s bail out on KBOE member, Sue Lannon.

The hearing is likely to cost Killingly at least \$100,000 in legal fees...to fight much needed mental health supports that would have cost Killingly nothing. Norm Ferron and his colleagues will be subject to rigorous examination of their motives. Seems like they want to avoid that.

To come up with something, they went to State Rep. Anne Dauphinais, who voted against mental health supports (SB1 &SB2). Dauphinais enlisted the help of Candelora. The legislators

brought in CHCI, another provider of school-based health centers, to make a proposal. This proposal would cost more than \$25,000 for recruitment and training of a part-time mental health counselor; assuming CHCI would be able to find one. The CHCI proposal would provide far less services than the Generations proposal.

Susan Lannon volunteered to serve on the AdHoc Committee to look into an alternative. She learned that the deal was cooked up in a private, partisan meeting involving several Republican members of the board, Dauphinais & Candelora. Sue Lannon wrote to CHCI on Dec. 1 asking about that meeting. Sue Lannon was subsequently removed from the Ad-Hoc Committee by Norm Ferron. There was no agenda, meeting minutes or recording from that meeting. Negotiations continued between the KBOE Ad-Hoc Committee & CHCI for several weeks after Sue Lannon was removed. It makes no sense to suggest

that CHCI’s decision to withdraw on January 10th was a direct result of a single email sent 40 days earlier.

What Norm Ferron’s tantrum at the BOE meeting seems to demonstrate is that the KBOE’s attempt to bring in CHCI was little more than a tactic to undercut the State inquiry. For all we know, it may well be that CHCI pulled out because they learned they were being used by the KBOE for tactical legal reasons and not to provide meaningful mental health resources to the students of Killingly?

The mental health crisis among Killingly students is continuing and growing. The school staff is riddled with vacancies of psychologists, social workers and guidance counselors. Community resources are minimal. The students of Killingly need help now.

ANDREW LUNEAU  
DANIELSON

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.



# Tax changes you need to know about for 2022

As you gather your paperwork and prepare to file your 2022 tax return, be aware that there are some important changes to the tax code this year that you should consider. The good news is that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has increased the limits for some credits and deductions to help Americans weather the impact of a year dominated by inflation, interest rate hikes, and market turbulence. But other deductions and credits are reverting down to pre-pandemic levels.

Here's an overview of those changes to help you prepare for what to expect as you file your taxes ahead of the April 18 deadline.

The standard deduction increased

Here's the first piece of good news: the IRS raised the standard deduction this year in response to growing inflation. To determine whether this increase will affect your taxes, you first need to determine whether it would be beneficial for you to take the standard deduction or itemize deductions on your tax

returns. If your itemized deduction total would be lower than the standard deduction (which you can take without itemizing), your best and easiest bet would be to take the standard deduction.

For married couples filing jointly, the standard deduction was bumped up \$800 to \$25,900. For single filers and married individuals filing separately, it is now \$12,950 (up \$400 from last year). Additionally, there is currently no limitation on itemized deductions, as limitations were eliminated by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. However, it's important to keep in mind that this unlimited itemized deduction rule will expire in 2025 unless a new law is passed.

There are no longer above-the-line charitable deductions

In 2021, you could take a charitable donation deduction of up to \$300 for single donors or up to \$600 for married couples beyond the standard

deduction. In 2022, if you take the standard deduction, that is no longer an option. If you itemize deductions, however (meaning your itemized deductions would be greater than the standard deduction), you can include charitable donations.

The Child Tax Credit reverted to 2019 levels

It is important to note that temporary changes made to the Child Tax Credit in 2021 as part of the American Rescue Plan were not extended through 2022. This means the credit is \$2,000 per child (a \$1,000–\$1,600 drop from last year), and the maximum age children can qualify for it is 16 (17-year-olds qualified last year). The credit is refundable up to \$1,400 but is no longer fully refundable as it used to be. The Earned Income Tax Credit and the Dependent Care Credit also reverted to 2019 amounts.

Eligibility for the Premium Tax Credit

remains expanded

One tax credit expansion from 2021 that remains in effect for 2022 is eligibility for the premium tax credit (PTC), which covers premiums for health insurance purchased through the Health Insurance Marketplace. The temporary change included in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 eliminated the rule that said if your household income is more than 400 percent above the poverty line, you could not qualify for a PTC. Without this restriction, many more people can potentially qualify.

There will be no additional stimulus payments

Although many Americans were thrilled to see additions to their tax refunds in 2020 and 2021, there will be no stimulus payments for 2022. So, be sure that you don't count on that extra income when you create your budget for 2023. Furthermore, 2021 was also the last year to claim the Recovery Rebate Credit for a missed or lesser stimulus payment.

The threshold that triggers a Form 1099-K

decreased

The IRS has always required reporting of all taxable income, but up until this year, Form 1099-K was required only if you had more than 200 goods and services transactions via a third-party payment network in a year and exceeded \$20,000 in transactions. This year, the threshold is much lower at only \$600, with no minimum number of transactions. This means more small businesses will receive this form from third-party payment networks than in the past. If it is required, you should receive it by January 31, 2023.

This is just a brief overview of some of the IRS changes for the 2022 tax year. You should talk with your tax professional about how these changes and other factors may affect your return this year. Beyond that, it's a good idea to work with a financial advisor to create a long-term tax-saving and wealth-building strategy so you can maximize your income, investments and savings over the long haul.

That's just part of

what we do for our clients here at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, through our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well strategic process. Please feel free to reach out for a free consultation and learn more at our website, [whzwealth.com](http://whzwealth.com), or call us at (860) 928-2341.

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



**KILLINGLY AT 300**  
• • • • •  
**MARGARET WEAVER**

February. Yeah! We're one month closer to spring. Since I must write this column in advance, I don't know what Punxsutawney Phil's prediction was. I do know that my son Michael found two clumps of white snowdrops on Jan. 26, which was quite early for them. My sister Susie in northern New Jersey had a beautiful yellow winter aconite in bloom even earlier, and smelled a skunk on her morning walk. Our late mother Maud Lyter Markunas used to say skunks were a sign of spring. Time will tell!

Do you know the origins of Groundhog Day? I didn't, so I decided to do an Internet search. The website [countryliving.com](http://countryliving.com) had the following, which took it back earlier than many other write-ups: "Although early February still feels far from spring, it actually marks the halfway point between the winter solstice and spring equinox. Reader's Digest reports

that Pagans used to celebrate this time with a festival of light. If goddess Cailleach wanted a long winter, the day would be bright; if not, it would be dreary." According to History, the holiday's next adaptation was Candlemas, a Christian tradition where the clergy would take their candles to the church to be blessed

"During the Middle Ages there arose the belief that animals such as the badger and the bear interrupted their hibernation to appear on this day. If the day was sunny and the animal saw its shadow, six more weeks of winter weather remained. If, however, the day was cloudy, it was a sign that the weather during the following weeks would be mild, leading to an early spring. German immigrants to the United States carried the legend with them, and in Pennsylvania the groundhog came to be substituted for the badger." ([www.britannica.com/topic/Groundhog-Day](http://www.britannica.com/topic/Groundhog-Day)). According to history.com, "The first official Groundhog Day celebration took place on February 2, 1887, in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania." Several websites also gave the year 1886.

No matter whether spring was to be early or not, farm-

ers and their wives in colonial Northeastern Connecticut had a number of tasks that were best done in winter. One, of course, was bringing in wood from the woodlots. A pair of oxen with a sled worked much better over the very poor roads than a team and a wagon. And they needed A LOT of wood to "heat" their houses, which were not insulated! The website [historicalhallowell.mainememories.net](http://historicalhallowell.mainememories.net) said that 30-40 cords of wood would be needed each year for heating and cooking. If you think that is a lot, keep in mind that the central chimneys were not at all heat efficient since much went up the chimney. My husband and I quickly discovered that when we lit a fireplace soon after we purchased our home. They haven't been used since the early 1970's as a result.

My Jan. 19 newsletter from Old Sturbridge Village noted that this time of year women in their 1837 timeframe would have been busy dipping candles from the beef tallow, which they had saved from the fall beef butchering. The cold winter weather helped the candles to harden well. Perhaps if you visit the Village in the near future, you'll see a demonstration.

I own the Diary of Joshua Hempsted of New London (1711-1758), so was curious to see what February activities he was engaged in. The Diary begins in 1711, but I opened to 1715. Keep in mind New London was a busy port so Joshua was

engaged in quite a variety of activities including helping neighbors with chores on the ships and going to the Court.\* Friday, Feb. 4, he was at Court and Mr. Russell "Come to work at our house to make me a Coat & a Jacket." (Think of my recent article on tailors & seamstresses). It was a month of sickness and death in the community. The 12th he made a coffin for Jonathan Hill's son William, who was about 9. On the 14th he made another coffin for William's brother Jonathan and went to their funeral. Sickness continued to plague the family and on the 15th their sister Ruth died of the measles after having been sick about a week. (p. 42,3). Before the end of the month he noted making several other coffins. (I have always wondered whether Northeastern Connecticut was experiencing a similar epidemic and deaths but unfortunately have no local diaries or letters. I would have to sift through numerous early probate records, and they would not note children's deaths. (Killingly was part of New London probate district until 1726).

Now last Friday's Villager editorial mentioned the Great Blizzard of 1717 so I decided to see if Joshua Hempsted noted it. (Spellings taken from the Diary). "Thursd. 21. A great Storm of Snow, itt is said to be 4 foot deep in ye woods on a Level. Itt snowed all last Night. Knee deep in ye Morning. Itt Continued Snowing al day that the

drifts were so high that there was no passing to and fro for man an beast. Ye wind blew very hard the drifts in Some places higher than a mans head. I was att. home all day... (Two men broke through and spent the night). Fyd 22. fair very windy. Ye Snow is drove in Some places 10 or 12 foot deep... many horses and Cattell are dead with ye Storm." As an interesting extra, Hempsted "made Abigal 1 p. Shoes" on the 27th, (p.64).

February is Black History Month, so I turned to Marcella Pasay's "Full Circle: A Directory of Native and African Americans in Windham County CT and Vicinity, 1650-1900" for some names of long-forgotten individuals who helped contribute to the growth of this area. Since there are two volumes, I can only extract a few names as examples. Let them be a reminder of the many others who also lived here and sacrificed to help our towns grow. Several even served in our wars. Individuals in Volume II had no surnames but were alphabetically listed: Archaeus, boy slave in the inventory of Nell Alexander of Killingly, 1774; Caesar was a very common name. These are just a few of the individuals who were called that: Caesar, slave of James Danielson, 1734 probate; Caesar, slave of Samuel Sumner of Killingly, 1743; Caesar, adult manservant of Daniel Tyler of Brooklyn (in church records 1745, 1746); Caesar, French & Indian War; "in 1756 he served with

the 4th Co. under Capt. Israel Putnam; killed ca. 1756 at Crown Point, N.Y. Formerly a slave in the household of Dea. Joshua Whitney; manumission, Plainfield Land Records." Caesar, slave in household of Moses Child of Woodstock, 1765; Caesar, slave in the household of Benjamin Sabin, 1773. Dominicus, slave of Samuel Sumner of Killingly, 1743; Hannah, slave of James Danielson, 1734 probate; Ivan, slave of John Lorton of Killingly, 1740; Jethro, slave of James Danielson, 1734 probate; Job, slave of Samuel Sumner of Killingly, 1751; London, slave of Eleazer Bateman, Jr. of Killingly, 1751; Nance, slave in Danielson family (unknown date); Nancy, slave in inventory of Nell Alexander of Killingly. Of course there are many more. I like to ponder why some men owned slaves and other wealthy individuals did not.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, January 2023. For additional information email me at [margaretmweaver@gmail.com](mailto:margaretmweaver@gmail.com) or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or [www.killinglyhistorical.org](http://www.killinglyhistorical.org) or call 860-779-7250. Like us at Facebook at [www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety). Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, CT 06329.

## Grow tasty and nutritious leafy greens indoors

Boost the flavor and nutritional value of winter meals by growing a container of greens indoors. Plant, tend and harvest greens for garden-fresh flavor now and throughout the year.



**GARDEN MOMENTS**  
• • • • •  
**MELINDA MYERS**

moisture. Plant seeds as recommended on the seed packet. You can grow each type of green in its own container or mix them up for an attractive display in larger planters like the Tartu Elevated Rectangular Planter ([gardeners.com](http://gardeners.com)).

Water thoroughly and often enough to keep the soil moist while waiting for the seeds to sprout. Reduce the need for frequent watering by covering newly planted containers with a plastic sheet or dome. Once sprouts appear, remove the plastic and begin watering thoroughly when the top inch of soil begins to dry.

Boost productivity and increase planting space with the help of artificial lights. You will find a variety of setups for any space in your home. Counter and tabletop light stands like the Micro Grow Light Garden can be conveniently located in the kitchen or dining room. Stand-alone light shelves provide more growing space within a small footprint. Furniture-grade light stands make them easy to use in any room in the house.

Grow greens you and your family like to use in your favorite recipes and sal-



Courtesy – Gardener's Supply Company

**Tabletop light stands work well on kitchen counters and provide plenty of light for greens to grow.**

ads. Green or red leaf lettuce is easy to grow indoors, and its mild flavor is most appealing to children and picky eaters.

Spinach is another popular and easy-to-grow leafy green vegetable used fresh in salads and smoothies or added to soups and sauces. It contains many vitamins and nutrients, including iron, folic acid, and calcium.

Kale is considered a superfood. This nutrient-dense vegetable is packed with vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants. If the flavor is a bit too intense for you, try the baby leaf types that are milder in

flavor, or try braising kale for a milder flavor and more tender texture.

Add a bit of peppery flavor to salads, soups, pastas, and other dishes with arugula. Add a spicier flavor with mustard greens. Sauté mustard greens or add them to your favorite Southern, Asian, Indian or savory dish.

Include color and flavor in your winter meals with beet greens. The leafy part of this vegetable is often overlooked but is the most nutritious part of the plant. Use these the same way you would spinach or kale. You can purchase beet varieties selected for growing the best greens to harvest from baby to full size.

Make it more fun by getting others involved. Hand family members and guests a plate and kitchen shears so they can harvest and help prepare the meal.

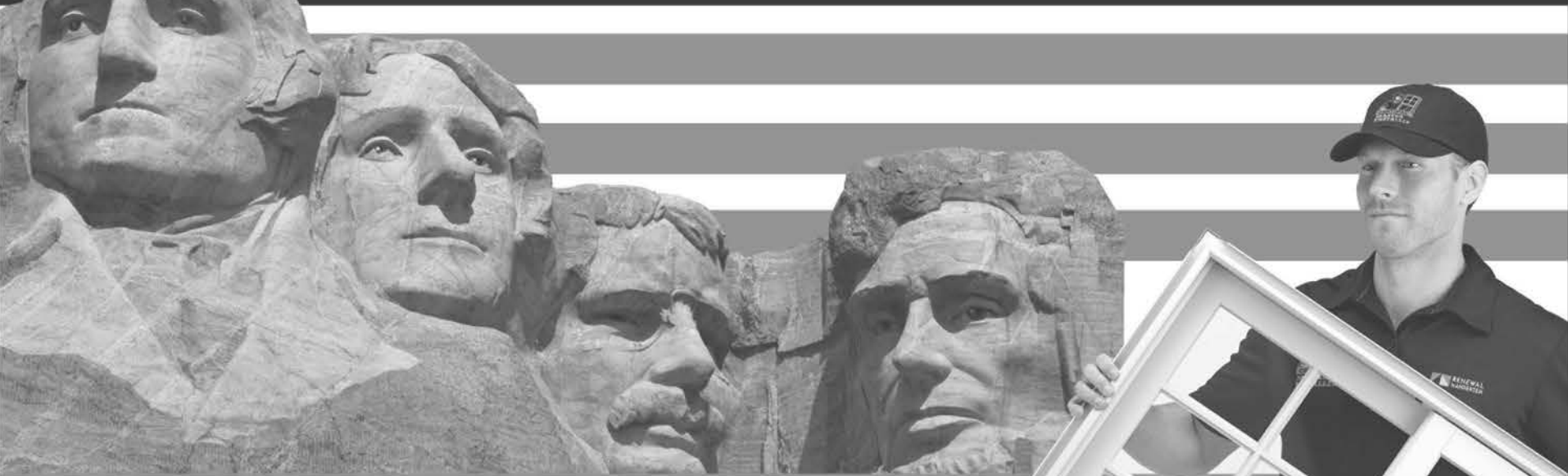
Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening* and *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series* and *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Gardener's Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).





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# The Dynamic Duo

RICHARDSON, WARE HAVE KILLINGLY HUNTING FOR ANOTHER STATE WRESTLING TITLE



Courtesy photo  
Killingly High's Kaden Ware, left, and Jack Richardson are both defending Connecticut Class S champions.

**BY KEN POWERS**  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — Thanks to a strong core that is led by senior co-captains Jack Richardson and Kaden Ware, the Killingly High School wrestling team appears poised to make another run at the Connecticut Class S Championship. Richardson, who wrestles in the 152-pound weight class and Ware, who wrestles at 132, are defending Class S individual champions. Richardson won his title last year at 145 while Ware was victorious at 126.

Both wrestlers went on to finish as the runner-up in their respective weight classes at the State Open last year and Richardson won the New England Regional championship, the first Killingly wrestler to do so since 1996. Ware finished fourth at New Englands.

Richardson and Ware are members of Killingly's Century Club, wrestlers who have at least 100 career wins. Ware wrestled his way into the club during last year's New England Regional while Richardson gained admission earlier this season.

Richardson is currently ranked No. 1 in New England in his weight class while Ware is ranked No. 3 in his.

"Jack and Kaden are both outstanding wrestlers. Those guys make it easy to come to practice," said Killingly coach Rich Bowen about the pair, who are both currently 33-0. "They're super athletes, super technicians, and hard workers. They inspire the rest of the team."

Bowen knows what he's talking about. The 62-year-old is the winningest wrestling coach in the state (667-183-2) and his teams have won five state championships and 10 Eastern Connecticut



Jason McKay photo  
Brady Zadora of Killingly, last year's ECC champion at 106 pounds, is another solid wrestler for the team.

Conference (ECC) titles. In 2021 Bowen was inducted into the Connecticut High School Coaches Association (CHSCA) Hall of Fame.

"With Jack and Kaden, I can just tell them to show a move or show a certain technique and they know exactly what I'm talking about," Bowen said. "They're like coaches in the room. They're outstanding as far as their work ethic and drilling and practicing every day. It shows when they wrestle in matches; they're just outstanding out there on the mat."

Killingly's success this season is not just a two-man operation, however. The lineup is filled with talented wrestlers who, like the team itself, are having very successful seasons. Included in that list are junior Ian Cathell (in the 113-pound weight class), sophomore Brady Zadora (126) and junior Soren Rief (195).

Zadora won the ECC championship last year at 106 pounds and finished as runner-up at 106 in the Class S championships. Rief, an All-ECC, All-State



Jason McKay photo  
Killingly's Ian Cathell is improving this season and provides even more depth for the impressive wrestling team.

selection in football the last two years, won the ECC championship last year at 182. At the Class S Tournament he moved up to 195 and finished second. Rief finished fourth at the State Open in 2022.

"Brady is undefeated; he's having a real good year. He's won a couple tournaments that we've been in (the Casey Yates Memorial Tournament and the Greater Hartford Open). He's doing very well," Bowen said. "Soren is having a great year, too; he's only lost once or twice. Ian has been solid as well. He had one rough stretch, but he worked his way through it. All three are having very good years."

Bowen said sophomore Mason Connetti (at 106) and junior Giovanni Sanchez (at 152) are two wrestlers who are having breakout seasons.

"Giovanni has really improved from last year. He's probably the wrestler that sticks out the most for stepping up, along with my 106-pounder (Connetti)," Bowen said. "They both have a few losses, but they have been very consistent in tournaments and dual meets all year."

Killingly (21-0) is ranked No. 7 in the latest Connecticut Wrestling Online Top 10 poll. It is the only Class S school in the poll.

Injuries and illness have Bowen worried about having to try to capture the Class S championship without his best lineup.

"Wrestling is a tough sport. We had a tough tournament (Saturday, Jan. 21) down in Branford and we're a little beat up," Bowen said. "I think every team goes through it. We'll do what we can as we go forward. Hopefully we can heal up a little bit more and get healthy for the end of the year. That's the real goal."

Bowen's worry about the overall health of his team is tempered by the fact his team has depth to draw on when needed.

"We had a good turnout this year; we had close to 50 kids sign up and I have about 30 on the team now," Bowen said. "We've been able to fill in here and there as necessary. We haven't had to give up weight classes too often. We've been able to move some kids around. That has helped a little bit for sure, but we do need to get a few guys healthy for the end of the year."

Killingly will again host the Class S Championships, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 17 and 18.

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