Two arrested in connection with NewAlliance robbery

EASTFORD — On Wednesday Nov. 10, nearly eight months later, two men suspected of robbing the NewAlliance Bank at 4 Country Road were taken into custody.

Christopher Seaver, 20, of Ware, Mass., and Elijah Robinson, 19, of Hubbardston, Mass., were taken in by detectives from the Eastern District Major Crime Squad (EDMCS), and charged with conspiracy to commit robbery in the third degree.

According to police, the two men were taken into custody at the Cheshire County House of Correction in Rome, N.H. Both men were previously charged as fugitives from justice on Connecticut warrants.

Police arrested two men last week in connection to the March 4 robbery of the Eastford branch of the NewAlliance Bank, pictured. Both were arraigned in District Superior Court Friday, Nov. 12.

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THE BEST PRICE IS AT CARGILL CHEVROLET OR IT’S FREE!

Donations needed for new diaper bank

LOCAL

WA Student Council hosts Fall Foliage Fling

Page A6

WICKED COOL DEALS

BLACK FRIDAY

PACK A3

COLLECTION SITES

SET UP IN PUTNAM, THOMPSON

By Jack Meltzer

Village Staff Writer

Interfaith Human Services in Putnam has launched the beginning of a diaper bank that will serve clients in Putnam, Pomfret, and Woodstock, and the rush is on to collect as many diapers as possible for families that need them most.

The diaper collection started last month, and distribution of the diapers will be held this week.

WENDY THOMPSON

THOMPSON — For the 34th Thanksgiving in a row, people of northeastern Connecticut will gather to take an icy, early-morning plunge in the name of charity.

This Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 25, will be the 34th annual Turkey Dip at Quaddick State Park in Thompson. More than 250 people are expected to attend the community event hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

PUBLISHERLY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

A SALUTE TO VETERANS

BY CLARE HOPKINS

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Bradley Playhouse to present Christmas classic

PETRAN — As the time of your approaches once again for the world to ponder the true meaning of Christmas. The Theatre of Northwestern Connecticut at the Bradley Playhouse is proud to present the classic tale of good and evil, and wrong and right. In "A Christmas Carol," the story of how Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by three additional ghosts, prompting him to vow to change his ways.

Scrooge has become a different man since the death of Ebenezer Scrooge's own neglected and untended grave is revealed, and directed by Jon Carpentier, who was able to bring the suspects in."

Christmas is a time of great joy and compassion, gaining a reputation as a man who embodies the spirit of Christmas. The story closes with the return of the Scrooge's transformation. DeSanto, "A Christmas Carol," was one of the single greatest influences on rejuvenating the old Christmas traditions of England, but, while it brings to the audience images of light, joy and warmth, it also brings strong and unforgettable images of darkness, despair, sadness and death. It is a tale of winter, and just as winter is followed by spring and the renewal of life, so too is Scrooge's cold, pushed heart returned to the innocent good. It will be the second annual production at the Bradley Playhouse. The show opens Friday, Dec. 3, at 8 p.m., and runs for three weekends, Dec. 4, 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 8 p.m., and Dec. 5, 12 and 13 at 2 p.m. The show is being presented by a professional cast, led by actors Mike Leferve, to change his ways, or benevolence. After being visited by three additional ghosts, who in turn accompany him through moments of his life, with the hope of achieving his transformation.

Carol Alderson, in the role of The Ghost of Christmas Past, is the first of the scrooge who takes Scrooge to the scenes of his byzthold and youth. In the final scenes, Scrooge morning with joy and hope, and his heart. Scrooge has become a different man overnight, and new wound his follow.

Tim Stokes as Scrooge.

Christopher Warden as Bob Cratchit.

Don Gilks as Fred, Scrooge's nephew.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

QUOTATION OF THE WEEK

"I think it's a sign of good old-fashioned police work ... With the cooperation of State Police, and out-of-state law enforcement, we were able to bring the suspects in."


OPEN TO CLOSE

POMPRET

Monday to Thursday ........ 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. 
Friday ..................................................8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Saturday ..................................................Closed

LIBRARIES

Arlington Social Library

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Pomfret Public Library

Monday ..............................................10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Tuesday .............................................10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Thursday ............................................2 p.m.-7 p.m.
Saturday ............................................10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Pomfret

Monday to Thursday ...............7 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday ..............................................8:30 a.m.-9 p.m.
Saturday ............................................Closed

POST OFFICES

Pomfret

Monday to Thursday ...............8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Friday ..............................................8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday ............................................Closed

WILLIAMSTOWN

Monday ..............................................10 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Tuesday ..............................................10 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Wednesday ......................................10 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Thursday ............................................10 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Friday ..............................................8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Saturday ............................................Closed

MAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Monday ..............................................10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Tuesday ..............................................10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Wednesday ......................................10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Thursday ............................................10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Friday ..............................................10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Saturday ............................................10 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

WEST WOODSTOCK LIBRARY

Monday ..............................................10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Tuesday ..............................................10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Thursday ............................................10 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Saturday ............................................10 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

BRANCH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Monday ..............................................10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Tuesday ..............................................10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

SCHOOL lunch hours vary.

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Quiet Corner Reads: A Collaboration of NE CT Libraries

"Mrs. Darcy and the Blue-Eyed Stranger"

Once in a while a collection of short stories jumps out at me. "Mrs. Darcy and the Blue-Eyed Stranger" by Lev Smith initially decayed me because I thought that it would be related to "Pride and Prejudice," by Jane Austen (which it wasn't), but it proved to be much more. This story was a little gem of its own.

The settings were Southern, southern with a touch of Northern, with a little bit of magic thrown in. The characters were the same color and variety, but with an added element of strength, courage, and stubbornness.

I felt like these stories placed me in the middle of a tight-knit community and treated my family.


AT THE AUDUBON

BIRD SIGHTINGS

Bird sightings at CT Audubon in Pomfret and Woodland Land Trust properties for the week of Nov. 6: Gold-crowned Kinglet. Whistler, Purple Finch, Wood Duck, Beech-Owl, Snow Owl, Junco, Brown Creeper and Mallards.

FRONT PAGE QUOTE

This week's front page quote is attributed to: W.J. Cameron
FSA asking producers to vote in County Committee Election

Dean Pindell, executive director of USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Windham County, reminds producers that the County Committee elections are in progress.

County committee members are elected by their peers to serve as the representative voice of agriculture producers in the county. They are responsible for representing with USDA to ensure that national programs are adapted to fit local needs. The committee makes decisions on issues including commodity loans and payments, conservation programs, disaster assistance programs and emergency programs.

Candidates for this election are Erinigul Groth, Jonathan Sandnes and Charles "Tim" Tyler. The person voted in will represent the towns of Ashford, Canterbury, Chaplin, Eastford, East Hampton, Scotland and Windham. The new member will assume their role and related responsibilities on Jan. 1, 2011.

Pindell encourages minority and female producers to serve as county committee members in the future. It is important that the county committee is comprised of members that reflect the demographics of the local agriculture community.

Forms and instructions that producers in FSA programs are eligible to vote if eligible. If a ballot was not received by mail, contact the office at 860-774-4977, ext. 1. All ballots must be received or postmarked by Dec. 8.

For more information on committee elections, view the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections or visit a local USDA Service Center.

Historical Society to publish 325th Anniversary book

WOODSTOCK — In recognition of Woodstock’s 325th anniversary, the Woodstock Historical Society in early 2011 will publish a pictorial history of the town — its people, landscape, and formative events.

"From the Bushy Falls to the Eastward Vale: A Journey Through Woodstock, 1686-2011," will be a 300-page, hardcover volume that chronicles the changing face of the town from the perspective of its village centers North Woodstock, South Woodstock, East Woodstock, Woodstock Hill, Woodstock Village and the Sugar Hill Neighborhood. The book will show the town’s development through over 400 illustrations, derived from landscape paintings, portraits, drawings, early photographs, maps, documents and ephemera from the Society’s archives and other private and institutional collections. This never-before-seen visual and written transcription of the town’s history draws on previously unpublished and newly transcribed journals, letters, account books, town records,不经意...
Heroes honored at Veterans Day ceremony

WOODSTOCK — Residents, officials and veterans gathered together on Veterans Day Thursday, Nov 11, on Woodstock Hill to honor our local veterans.

The American Flag proudly blows in the wind on the flagpole on Woodstock Hill.

Singer Linda Colangelo performs “God Bless America” in front of a packed crowd at Woodstock Hill.

Woodstock citizens and veterans take a moment to reflect on veterans lost, and soldiers still serving.


The Korean War Memorial on Woodstock Hill, with the names of the veterans from Woodstock who served in the war from 1950 to 1953.

From left, University of Connecticut ROTC cadets Mateusz Jedrych, Robert Martin, Dan Rogers and Chris Eidam.

The best things in life are FREE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The best things in life are FREE.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ever notice how the best things in life really are free?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A walk in the woods. Time spent with a best friend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And Free Checking from Jewett City Savings Bank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It’s everything you need from a checking account — pure and simple. And we make switching accounts simple too!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get back to basics: Open your Free Checking account today.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Free iTunes Gift Card!

Open a new checking account and receive a $10 iTunes gift card.*

Just like our Free Checking!

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Pawcatuck • 860.568.9984

JCSBank.com
Making the most of Black Friday

TYPICALLY the craze of the Black Friday sale is to get up at 4 a.m. to shop, but this year it's quite a bit different. Like most people, my holiday budget is pretty tight and I need to stretch it as far as possible. So this year I am planning on staying in bed versus getting up at 4 a.m. to shop. Black Friday shoppers may have a harder time making the most of Black Friday if staying in bed.

This year I have three favorite places to go for my Black Friday shopping and they will be available online! I have three favorite places for my Black Friday shopping, so make it easy on yourself by bringing the sales ads with you. There are also possible the stores will be sold out.

One thing you are looking for is the time you get there. So prioritize and hit those stores with the most items on your list early. By the time you get there, the salesperson will probably win a dress and lose a sale.

For Black Friday there are many things to keep track of, so make sure you bring the ads with you. It will make it easier to compare prices, help ensure you are getting the right deals and in some cases you may even be able to get a price match.

Get a buddy. A buddy who can shop with you is a great way to end the shopping morass .

Keep the kids at home. I could also not keep your spouse significant other at home but that could get into trouble with Black Friday shopping is pressure shopping, and get to the best deals. You need to avoid distractions. If you are trying to bring the kids shouldn’t be an issue, but if you have serious shopping to do it is best to go at it on your own.

Bring snacks and drinks. You don’t need to drink to save money on Black Friday. Typically make the most of Black Friday, so make it easy on yourself and bring some food and drinks.

Carry a list. There are many things to keep track of, so make sure you bring the sales ads with you. There are also possible the stores will be sold out.

**Weekend Deals**

**Michelle Hovestadt**

---

**Charitable giving: A win–win activity**

Thanksgiving is a good time to give back to those charitable, religious and educational organizations that provide your community with services.

And now may be a good time to consider supporting these groups. You may be able to contribute before the year is over, yet you can take advantage of a “good” through valuable tax deductions. As you contemplate your charitable giving, you may be considering leaving a portion of your estate to a charitable organization, a trust, or a fund.

You may be considering a charitable gift to a qualified charitable group. For your charitable gift to be eligible for a charitable tax exemption, the organization must be considered a public charity under the law and be organized and operated exclusively for religious, educational or charitable purposes. If you contribute to a qualified charitable group, you may be able to itemize your charitable giving before the year is over as well as take a charitable deduction equal to the value of your gift.

If you are thinking of heading out to Black Friday, you may be one of the many people who want to save a little money on Black Friday. Some people worry about being ripped off online.

Don’t be taken in by the shocking holiday ads! The reality is there are going to be live shows, product launches or other events. But if you are going to stay in, it won’t be running out on the last minute. If you are going to stay in, it’s going to be an easy and fun holiday season meant to be enjoyed and treasured.

This article has been submitted by Jeff Burdick, Financial Advisor , Edward Jones, its employees and associates. Mrs. Hovestadt lives in Woodstock and enjoys a beautiful holiday season meant to be enjoyed and treasured.

**CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

**Deadline:** Nov. 24, 2010

**What is it?**

**My guess is:**

Last week’s answer: The dragon on the entrance gate to Marianne’s Pet Supplies.

Who wants $25 cash in their pocket? Anyone? The Villager has to give it.

Enter: **What is it? for now! for your chance to win!**
Woodstock Academy hosts QVCC president

Dr. Tomlin was introduced to Woodstock Academy’s Hill Commons where guests enjoyed a beautiful panoramic view like none other in the quiet corner, as the fall foliage was at its peak throughout Woodstock. Under the direction of Student Council Advisor Nancy Beauregard, Woodstock residents, family, and friends enjoyed the evening.

Student Council member Sam Dougherty with guests. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Stavos and their granddaughter, Abigail of Brooklyn, are shown with Sam.

Woodstock Academy ‘creating for a cause’

Woodstock Academy’s Student Council hosted its traditional Fall Foliage Fling for more than 140 senior citizens Monday, Oct. 11. This event was free and open to local community members. It offered an afternoon of food, live entertainment, and an opportunity to socialize with friends.

The event took place in Woodstock Academy’s commons where guests enjoyed a beautiful panoramic view like none other in the quiet corner, as the fall foliage was at its peak throughout Woodstock.

Under the direction of Student Council Advisor Nancy Beauregard, Woodstock residents, family, and friends enjoyed the evening.

Senior Katie Murphy from Woodstock Academy’s Hill Slingers, opened the day’s entertainment as she performed several classic songs from the 1930s, which included Moon Dance and Señorita. The event was located in Coventry, provided additional entertainment throughout the afternoon.

ed by Tommy Tune and made its Broadway debut in 1982. Below is more information regarding the show:

Show Times: Thursday, Dec. 9 p.m. and 9 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 10, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 11, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 12, 2 p.m.

Where: Greene Theatre, Tufts Performance and Production Center at Emerson College, 10 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116

Cost: $10 for general public. A four ticket Flex Pass is also available for $20 and may be redeemed for any Emerson Stage production.

Italian filmmaker Guido Contini has just turned forty years old, his marriage is failing, and he cannot come up with an idea for a new film to reinvigorate his declining career. By exploring his life through the lens of the women that comprise it: his wife, mistress, leading lady, producer, mother, and others, Contini is finally able to step into his future.

Business Feature of the Week

Heart & Home

Gifts, Collectibles, & Home Decor

Located in an 1878 Italianate style building in historic downtown Danielson. Heart & Home just celebrated 20 years in business. There are 6,000 square feet on 2 floors of gifts and furniture. Also featured is furniture by Nutmeg Woodworks, stock & custom.

Free gift wrapping with a downtown customer friendly atmosphere.

Complimentary lunch will be served on 11/26.

Heart & Home Restaurant

Lunch: Daily Tuesday – Saturday

Trolley Stop and Gift Shop

Tuesday – Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Wednesday – Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

65 Main Street | Danielson, CT 06239 | 860-774-2623

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Power yoga classes to be held in Cutler Bay

Power Yoga classes take place on Saturday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for eight weeks beginning Dec. 4, at the Thompson Library Community Center.

Two classes are being offered. Prices for registration received by Nov 28 are $26 for Thompson residents and $30 for non-residents. The price increases to $36 for residents and $41 for non-residents.

You can download registration materials from our website: www.thompson.org. stop by the Thompson Town Hall, call 860-568-2130, or come into the Thompson Library and register for a registration form mailed to you.

Power Yoga classes are sponsored by the Thompson Recreation

Round Robin Relays
Jan Anderson

Way to de-stress during the holidays!

If you’re far more of a realist about the holidays, you’ll be relieved to know that you aren’t the only one struggling with the stress. Yoga postures that will help to bring balance to your mind and body are featured looking for a good workout to the stressed individual. And don’t worry, they’re not just for the young. These classes will help you build your awareness, strength and flexibility through a series of yoga postures that will help to bring balance to your mind and body. This class is recommended for all levels, from the experienced yogi to the dedicated walker. This class will be offered by the instructor in need of some time to relax. This class is a great way to end your week.

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Turkey Trot a success (again)

The new American Dream

Let’s give our pens and pencils

All the great ones are taken

Not only are we giving

The sound of music

Submissions

Let us know what you think

WINTER IN THE WAITING ROOM

THEREFEOE,

WE ARE

YOU

REMEMBER

YOU

DON’T

WHEN"
Editor’s Note: As Thanksgiving approaches, it’s a season of gratitude, a time of caring and sharing with others. It’s a time of helping those in need, and reflection on how we can make ourselves better people. We take stock of the blessings in our lives and take a second to be thankful. Last week, our reporters traveled the Quiet Corner to hear from you, to find out what you all are thankful for this season. Send us a note at adam@villagernewspapers.com, and tell us what you are thankful for — we may just publish your responses in a future edition of the Villager!

We are thankful for your readership!

From all of us here at your hometown paper, Happy Thanksgiving!

What are you thankful for?

“I’m thankful for my family and friends and good health.”
Myrtie Blackmer, Thompson

“It’s about family — cooking dinner together and spending time together.”
Cindy Labonte, Putnam

“I’m thankful for being up here with my family and being near family again.”
Gail, Putnam

“I’m thankful for my grandchildren and my children who love me so much. I’m thankful for a lot of things.”
Dorothy Biere, Putnam

“I’m thankful for books.”
-Dan, Putnam

“I’m thankful for my job, because I am a nanny and these kids are the best.”
Robin Smith, Woodstock

“I’m thankful for my job.”
-Evan Renaud, Pomfret

“I’m thankful for my family and my beautiful wife, Cecilia.”
Jim Lafontaine, Thompson

“I’m thankful for health, family and my wonderful son, Cerelia.”
-Jon Lafontaine, Thompson

“I’m thankful for health, family and my wonderful kids.”
Ernie White, Thompson

“I’m thankful for my children.”
-Mark Soto, Moosup

“I’m thankful for my job.”
-Evan Renaud, Pomfret

“I’m thankful for my best friend.”
-Corrine Petrowsky, Moosup

“I’m thankful for my family.”
-Jenna Deloge, Moosup

“I’m thankful for books.”
-Dan, Putnam

“I’m thankful for my family.”
-Mark Soto, Moosup

“I’m thankful for what I’m able to have. Times are tough right now.”
Donna, Putnam

“I’m thankful for my relationship with Jesus Christ.”
-Mark Soto, Moosup

“I’m thankful for my job and my wonderful girlfriend.”
-George Skehin, Danielson

“I’m thankful for my children.”
-Michelle Griffin, Danielson

“I’m thankful for my friends and family.”
-Hannah Bitgood, Danielson

“I’m thankful for being up here with my family and being near family again.”
-Gail, Putnam

“I’m thankful for family.”
-David Rodriguez, Willimantic

“I’m thankful for my family.”
-Jenna Deloge, Moosup

“I’m thankful for my children.”
-Michelle Griffin, Danielson

“I’m thankful for books.”
-Dan, Putnam

“I’m thankful that I’m still alive. I’m thankful that I’m able to go to school.”
-Michael Johnson, Putnam

“I’m thankful for my job and my wonderful girlfriend.”
-George Skehin, Danielson

“I’m thankful for my love and my kids, and that I’m still here.”
-Gloria Wheeler, Canterbury

“I am thankful that I’m still alive. I’m thankful that I’m able to go to school.”
-Michael Johnson, Putnam

“I’m thankful for family.”
-Jonathan Marquis, Thompson

“I’m thankful for family.”
-Jonathan Marquis, Thompson

“From all of us here at your hometown paper, Happy Thanksgiving!”
Veterans Day celebration raises big money

**SOMEPLACE SPECIAL hosts CELEBRITY BARTENDERS NIGHT, raises $3K for AMERICAN LEGION**

**BY JACOB MELTZER**

PUTNAM — American Legion Post 13 celebrated Veterans Day in style Thursday, Nov. 11, by present- ing a Celebrity Bartenders Night hosted by Someplace Special Restaurant.

Celebrities on hand included Miss Connecticut 2008 Heidi Voight, Former Red Sox catcher Roger LaFrancois, WTNH Channel 8 reporter Sara Welch and WFSB Channel 3 news reporter Kevin Hogan. Proceeds from the event went into setting local youth pro- grams for the American Legion.

According to Sarah Hamil of American Legion Post 13, the event raised $5,000 in support of the Tri- Town American Legion Baseball League, Boys and Girls State, and the Town American Legion Baseball.

Nearly $1,000 came from the sale of raffle tickets and more than $2,000 was donated through tips from those who attended, to our celebri- ty bartenders, to the staff and man- agement of Someplace Special in Putnam and to the veterans of all our Armed Forces.

The raffle included various dif- ferent bags, golf bags, a Heineken elec- tric guitar, and various American Legion apparel, including hats and shirts. Also included in the raffle were gift baskets and bottles of wine.

“We are here today to honor our vets,” said former Marine Corps veteran and Someplace Special Manager Mike Vassar. “We have vets going all the way back from World War II, Korean War, and the present war going on now. Someplace Special is honored to host this event for the veterans.”

Veterans on hand included these generations of the Barylski family — Andrew Barylski, a Pearl Harbor survivor, his son Andrew, a Vietnam veteran, and Dennis Barylski, a veteran of the Middle East conflict. Edward Briones, a combat veteran of the Vietnam War was also in attendance. Other World War II veterans that were on hand included Vic Lapillo, Joe Bouquet and Peter Trani.

“This is a fantastic turnout and a huge success,” said WIVT Radio owner and emcee personality Gary Olney. “The real stars of the night are the veterans. We are saluting them. It’s important to have these things — it’s good for the community. The veterans were happy. The kids were happy. They all wanted to be a part of it.”

Through the collaborative efforts of American Legion Post 13 com- mander Norman Senay and Someplace Special manager Mike Vassar, we were able to raise $3,000 for the American Legion.

Legionnaires Ron Coderre, Don Reid, and Donald Steinbrick, and Rick Carnahan, came up with the idea of thinking of any veter- an from Northeastern Connecticut who has ever served their country.

“We were exploring ways to raise funds for the youth activities associated with the National American Legion and came up with this idea,” Senay said. “We contacted a number of vet- erans and we set up a few state and local celebrations and came up with this idea.”

“I feel good about what I could do for the Veterans,” said Emily Lajoie, 17, of Woodstock, who sang the “Star-Spangled Banner” to a packed crowd that was near- ly brought to tears.

Jack Meltzer may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 218, or by e-mail at jaca@wilmnews.com.
BY CLAIRE HOPKINS
VILLAGER STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON — Thompson stu-
dents were streaked pink last
Wednesday, Nov. 10, to help raise
money and awareness in honor of
Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The event at the elementary and
middle schools was put on by Lisa
Bodreau, owner of Finally Lisa's
Hair Salon in Southbridge, Mass.

“It’s something where you can
raise money, awareness, but also let
people know you care,” said
Bodreau.

Bodreau worked with Paula Reil
and Lauren Pettinelli to spray
streaks of pink and put in pink
extensions. Girls, boys, parents and
even teachers came by to have their
hair streaked.

“In my industry it’s very easy to
wear pink, but for someone in
another type of job it takes a lot of
courage to wear pink,” said
Bodreau. “And it’s hard to walk
around and wear pink hair, but it’s
a lot harder for women with breast
cancer to wear a wig or just get out
of bed every morning.”

Bodreau said that besides raising
money, they hope that the pink
streaks will help raise awareness
for the cause and show support for
those who need it.

“The message is a positive one,
and to show that we care,” she said.

“Sometimes you just need to know
someone cares.”

Bodreau and the other hair-
dressers from her salon have gone
to schools, nursing homes, hospi-
tals, and other venues to streak
people’s hair pink for the cause.

Bodreau said each place they go to
chooses which organization to give
the money to and she and her team
act as facilitators.

“We’re honored to do it,” she
said.

The money raised at Thompson
last Wednesday will go to the
American Cancer Society through
their Relay for Life team,
“Michael’s Marchers,” named after
a student from the school who
passed away from cancer.

Teacher Louise Morrisson said this is why
she got involved with the Relay, and
helped coordinate Bodreau’s event
at the school.

“When Lisa told me about the
pink hair we decided that was a
good way to raise money for the
cause,” said Morrisson.

This is the third year the salon
has done such events throughout
October, and this year they raised
more than $6,500 for the cause.

Bodreau and employees of her
salon donate their own time to go
out to different venues and streak
people’s hair pink.

“Atwood helps behind me I couldn’t do it,” said
Bodreau.

But her team is more than will-
ing to give their time to help a
cause that has touched the lives of
so many.

“Cancer has affected all of us in a
different way,” said Paula Reil, who
works at Finally Lisa’s and has
donated much of her time to go out
and help raise money.

Claire Hopkins may be reached at
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By Claire Hopkins

THOMPSON SCHOOLS RAISE AWARENESS FOR BREAST CANCER

BY CLAIRE HOPKINS
VILLAGER STAFF WRITER

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Employees at Finally Lisa’s Hair Salon Lauren Pettinelli and Paula Reil with Thompson teacher Michelle Roy and Lisa Bodreau.

Clare Hopkins photos

BY CLAIRE HOPKINS
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Spinelli. “The girls are pretty confident after goalie. Villager’s Tigers, as they took on Morgan (Wednesday, to together. now we’re finally putting a whole game Debbie Spinelli. “We’d play a good first half just haven’t played the full 80 minutes,” said Tourtellotte Head Coach Tourtellotte. “The Pride are a team that’s knocked out the lady Centurions the past two years.”

Bernard a team that’s knocked out the lady Centurions the past two years. “Most teams had four to five really good girls, I was fortunate that I had just about all 11 she was a game that Lord felt his team should have won, 4-0. “I thought the sport meant well and played hard and played full out.”

They’ve had the capability all season — we’ve played every single minute of every game.”

As a team, Lord felt the team played well in the second half of the game. “As we played better combinations, Miller stepped in and provided help,” said Panteleakos. “She was not only the vocal leader, but I think she started to get things going at prac- tice everyday,” he said. “When things get tough on the defensive side of the field, she was always the one to pick up that off target pass.”

In the second round, Rachel out played and out averaged just about one goal a game in the first two games, scoring six goals which helped them this season. “I was going through practice, I could tell that those girls were good, but it was a surprise after the first two games they won 5-0 then 7-0. I just realized how much talent we really had on this year’s team,” said Panteleakos.

The Pride took the lead on their first offen- sive series of the game, as Shane Glime’s 62- yard dash down the left side of the field set up Mike Siefert’s 5-yard touchdown run two plays later. The posterior kick snared goal, leap- ing the Pride’s lead to 6-0. The Havens opened the second half attempt- ing an opening kick, which they recovered. The next play they went for goal as Hamilton with no hesitation leaped over Equan Brooks and connected for a 1-yard touchdown strike. The two-point conversion was good.

As a team, they knew they needed to be in the right place at the right time, all the time,” said Panteleakos. “She just seemed to be in the right place at the right time.”

The Pride and the Tigers, heading into the game, were tied for second place in the CIS with 5-1 records, both, having lost to Manchester’s Chester Tech. The Havens had Nicholas Stadig as quarterback, the only senior on the team, who had 55 completions and 6 touchdowns — but the Pride was able to shut down much of the game. “The Tigers could only put six points on the board, and twice were stopped late in the game deep into Pride territory,” the Lady Tigers would win their sixth win of the year, and sec- ond place in the CIS.

The Pride started out so strong,” said Lord. “I thought we were better than what our record indicated,” said Lord. “Towards the end of the season we didn’t put the goals in the back of the net.”

The Havens opened the second half attempt- ing an opening kick, which they recovered. The next play they went for goal as Hamilton with no hesitation leaped over Equan Brooks and connected for a 1-yard touchdown strike. The two-point conversion was good.

It was a game that Lord felt his team should have won, 4-0. “I was very happy with how well he played and I’d have to say he earned me good with how he played,” said Lord. “I had a couple of his teammates that brought the ball down together as a unit all year long. The Clippers were raised around in the backfield put Bullard Havens on the 25-yard line. But two plays later, the Tigers fum- cisseive series of the game, as Shane Glime’s 62- yard dash down the left side of the field set up Mike Siefert’s 5-yard touchdown run two plays later. The posterior kick snared goal, leap- ing the Pride’s lead to 6-0.

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ARRESTS

continued from page 1

officer of the Connecticut State Police Public Information Office. He is still waiting to be tried in Eastford Superior Court.

Jack Meltzer may be reached at (860) 245-2013, ext. 115, or by e-mail at Jack@villagernewspapers.com.

DIAPERS

continued from page 1

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IN THE NEWS

NewAlliance bank robbery in Putnam

Boisvert and Robinson were processed at Troop D, and held on $300,000 cash or surety bonds. Both men were arraigned in Danielson Superior Court on Friday, Nov. 12, and then transferred to the Windham Judicial District for further

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**Woodstock receives grant to host ‘Community Conversation’**

**POLICE LOG**

**DIP**

continued from page 1

The Dip started as a local tradition of jumping into the water for fun before the annual Turkey Dip MDA event.

**‘Dippers’ unite for 34th annual MDA event**

**Woodstock—**Woodstock is a recipient of a $2,000 grant to fund a broad-based, town-wide discussion about priorities in education for our town.

The initiative is sponsored by the Woodstock Board of Education, the Woodstock Association of Teachers, the Woodstock PTO and the Woodstock Education Foundation. The grant is an application grant from the William Caswell Memorial Foundation. The two organizations have sponsored Community Conversations in Woodstock over forms since 1995, with the goal of encouraging communities to come together for dialogue about significant local educational issues, and to build local action plans. The WCEF Memorial Fund covers costs of hosting approximately 100 participants for a meal, and provides technical training and materials to plan for and facilitate the conversation.

In Woodstock, the sponsoring partners hope to engage a broad and diverse cross-section of our town to participate in the conversation. The Woodstock Education Foundation planning team of approximately 30 to represent a wide span of interests and demographics of the community. The team will identify moderators and recorders to participate in the Community Conversation, which we expect will occur in the early spring of 2011. "Community Conversations" encourage all participants to speak openly about critical education issues, to respect each other’s perspectives, to find common ground and identify concerns and questions. The process leads to shared insights that can generate new approaches to tough local issues, and to develop options to move forward.

Education is a value shared by all community members, and can also be a polarization topic," said Debra O’Hara, vice president of the Woodstock Education Foundation. "An inclusive, open and respectful deliberation which respects all perspectives is the first step towards broader ownership of the local education decisions we can make."

Lindsay Paul, board member of the WBOE, added, "It is really exciting to have won this grant, and to have these four organizations working together to plan Woodstock’s Community Conversation. This process has helped other towns develop action plans to move forward on shared priorities, and we can do this work too.

If you are interested in participating in ‘Community Conversations’ contact Lindsay Paul at paul@woodstockchess.net.

**POLICE**

**Editor’s Note:** The information contained in these police logs was obtained through either police releases or other public documents kept by each police department, and is considered to be the account of police. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

**BROOKLYN**

Saturday Nov 13

Christopher Menges, 19, of 260 Woodland Road, Brooklyn, was charged with 2nd degree criminal mischief.

**DANIELSON**

Tuesday Nov 9

Matthew Wood, 25, of 10 Hamilton Ave, Brooklyn, was charged with 3rd degree murder, with a 911 call.

Eric Hughes, 26, of 206 North Shore Road, Danielson, was charged with 2nd degree threatening.

Karilyn McNeely, 18, of 5372 New Dinwiddie Road in Putnam at 6 p.m.

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Webster Five Foundation donates $4K to TEEG

WEBSTER, Mass. — The Webster Five Foundation, a charitable organization founded by Webster Five Cents Savings Bank, announced this week that it will donate $4,000 to the Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group (TEEG).

The funds will help support the Parent Education and Support Program, which was established to increase effective parenting skills and to improve the parent-child relationship. TEEG, a network of organizations founded in 1988, is a mission to empower individuals to live independently, strengthen families to live respectfully, engage the community to work collaboratively, and connect resources to promote a better future for all. The Parent Education and Support Program is bringing this mission to life. Families are equipped with skills in many different areas such as the preschool years, homework, drug use, obesity, Internet usage, and more. Effective parenting will lead not only to a more respectful home life, but also to increased school attendance, decreased risky behavior, and increased safety in the online environment.

“We are pleased to have the support of The Webster Five Foundation,” said Donna Grant, executive director of TEEG. “In addition to helping the Parent Education and Support Program, this funding will enable the many families in the area to have more stable parent-child relationships — and for that we are grateful.”

Richard T. Leahy, president and chief executive officer of Webster Five Cents Savings Bank said, “We are thrilled to donate to TEEG for such an important cause.”
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Soup & Salad Station  •  Turkey Bouligo & Mixed Greens • Crowd Pleasing Carved Turkey Breasts • Fresh Baked Creme Brulee • Pumpkin Cheesecake • Caramel Macchiato  •  Mashed Potatoes & All the Fixings • Baked Ham • Roast Turkey  •  Soup & Salad Station • Cinnamon Vanilla Rolls • Thanksgiving Cornbread

**Dessert Station:**
• Green Bean Casserole • Honey Glazed Carrots • Fruit Salad • Apple Cranberry Crisp • Chocolate Mousse • Pecan Pie

**The Colonial:**
Restaurant & Pub
A meeting place for family & friends for generations

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ALL Stevens Linens FINISHED Products
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- 所有的终成品都可以享受1美元或更少的优惠。
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DISCOUNT LIQUOR  •  508-764-0644

453 Main Street, Southborough, MA  •  Wine Tasting Every Saturday

**Weekdays:** Mon-Thurs 9am-10pm • Friday 9am-11pm • Saturday 9am-11pm • Sunday 1pm-6pm

**Prices Effective thru Wednesday 11/24 • Open Wed 11/24 till 11pm - Closed Thanksgiving Day**

**WINE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wine</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blue Box 12 pk, All varieties</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miller High Life 16 pk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corona Light 30 pk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corona Light 6 pack</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rolling Rock 11 pk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beach &amp; Beach Light</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shock Top 12 pk variety</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surseco Winter 12 pk variety</td>
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**BEER**

**SPIRITS**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gordon Vodka 1.75</td>
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<td>Three Elks Vodka 41 Noses 1.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Captain Vodka 750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maine Vodka 1.75</td>
<td>$24.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian Standard Vodka 1.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beaugrenier Gin 1.75</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malibu Rum 1.75</td>
<td>$24.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Old El Roy Rum 1.75</td>
<td>$19.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaritaville Gold or Silver Tequila 1.75</td>
<td>$27.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patron Reposado 750</td>
<td>$49.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canadian Mist 1.75</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Comfort 1.75</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Daniels 105th Birthday, Commorative Bottle 750</td>
<td>$29.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thanksgiving Sale**

- **WINE**
  - All Wine Prices $1 or More on other specified

- **Colonial’s Favorites For Thanksgiving**
  - $14.95
  - $15.95
  - $5.95
  - $12.00
  - $10.95
  - $5.50
  - $9.99


- **Wine Tastings Tues. & Wed.**

- **BEER**
  - $10.00
  - $15.99
  - $22.99
  - $15.00
  - $13.00

- **SPIRITS**
  - $19.00
  - $21.00
  - $24.95
  - $19.50
  - $27.95
  - $49.00
  - $15.00
  - $26.00
  - $29.00

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Have you had your first mammogram? Should you schedule your yearly check-up?

Early detection is your best defense against breast cancer. And Windham Hospital can provide you with the most advanced imaging technology and the most experienced diagnostic experts in the state.

We offer you access to the Holyoke Systems Digital Mammography System, breast MRI, breast ultrasound and other leading diagnostic technologies.

And, our two comfortable and inviting locations—the new Center in Mansfield and our recently renovated suite at the Hospital—make it easy to get the finest breast care available. All you have to do is call.

Center for Women’s Health of Mansfield  
860-456-7237

**Breast Imaging Center at Windham Hospital**  
860-456-6970

**windhamhospital.org**
ITALIAN MEATBALL SOUP

Serves 12

2 lbs Cusa Di Bertacchi Italian Style 15 oz meatballs
2 bunches fresh mushrooms
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 cup chopped yellow onions, diced into one-inch pieces
1 cup carrots, peeled and sliced
1 cup celery, peeled and sliced
24 cups low-sodium chicken stock (six 32-oz containers)
3 cups uncooked twist pasta
1 bunch of curly endive (about 1–1½ lbs), cleaned and cut into bite-sized pieces
1 bunch of fresh parsley

Prep Time: 10 minutes, Cooking Time: 90 minutes

1. In a large soup pot place the mushrooms, celery, carrots, onions and celery. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally for 10 minutes, or until vegetables are softened.

2. Add chicken stock and bring to a rolling boil. Reduce heat and let simmer for 80 minutes, or until pasta is tender and juices have thickened.

3. Add pasta and simmer for an additional 10 minutes, until pasta is al dente.

4. Ladle into soup bowls and garnish with fresh parsley.
Beverly M. Chauvin, 75

QUINNEBAGG — Beverly M. (Martin) Chauvin, 75, of 85, formerly of Hartford Pike, Dayville, died on May 9, 2000, in Webster, Mass. She was the daughter of the late Arthur and Mildred (Kane) Chauvin, and was born on Nov. 13, at home.

She is survived by her long time companion, Wanita Cote and Jean Williamson and four brothers, Qxendine, Debbie Hobba, Andrew and Matt; two sisters, Harriet Quisnel of Fitzwilliam, N.H., and Beverly A. Cutliff, with whom she lived, and a niece, Darlene Farley Loehr.

She was a graduate of Tourtellotte Memorial High School, and was a member of Saint Stephen’s Church in Quinebaug. She was last employed at Pecher Companies, Inc.

Beverly’s funeral was held Saturday, Nov. 19, at 1 p.m., at St. George’s Cemetery, 130 School St., Webster, with a Mass in Saint Joseph Cemetery, 103 School St., Webster.

There will be a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 22, at St. Joseph Church, 350 Hartford Pike, Dayville. Burial will be in the cemetery with Military Honors.

Visiting hours were held at the funeral home prior to the Mass.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to the Alzheimer’s Society” P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718.

Frank Cooley, 92

WEBSTER, Mass. — Josephine L. (Chase) Cooley, 92, of 48 School St., died Saturday, Nov. 19, 2010, at 3:30 p.m. at the Kimball Hospital, 115 Franklin St., Webster.

She was the beloved wife of the late Frank Cooley, who died on May 26, 1986. She was born on May 26, 1918, in Worcester, Mass., and was the daughter of Clarence and Bridgette Cooley.

Josephine was a member of the American Legion Post 21, Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph’s Church, and was a member of the Auxiliary and a life member of the Bay Path Archers.

She graduated from Holy Angel’s Academy and was a graduate of Adams State College and she received her Bachelor’s Degree from Nichols College in Dudley.

She was a loving and wonderful father. He was the beloved husband of Georgette (Ferguson) Lamontagne, who died in 2009. He leaves his former wife, Laura Lamontagne, of Barre, and his mother, Doris Lamontagne, who died in 2010.

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Doubting Thomas and the impossible

E

everyone knows the story of Thomas, who is said to have refused to accept the story of Jesus’ resurrection until he touched the wounds with his eyes and touched the wounds with his hands. Even

agnostics will call some-

one a doubting Thomas.

We know from the book of

Acts that Thomas eventually received the proofs he required. Thomas saw the risen Christ and was hallowed in hands and hips. But what happened after that?

He came to India as a missionary and evangelized great portions of the subcontinent. It has been the
dustry, the story of Thomas includes some accounts. He went to India, where the insinuates, consider the following tale from “A History of the Christian Church” by Samuel Mitchell. A group of Embiidurum Brahmas were performing a wedding of single birds. The groom was not there. With tears in their eyes, they chanted their prayers. “Why do you do this?” he asked. “It is in the name of God,” they said. “But what can a man do in the space?”

I can,” said Thomas. “I will ask him if he has any proof. And he answered me, ‘I have no proof, but I

asked them to prove it, he said but would only if you would promise to be baptized if he suc-
cceeded. They agreed, and the saint threw the water into the air. The bridegroom was

apparent in the sky. Dancing with the dainties’
to evidence or prove or disprove the tale. It’s just a story, of course — legends are notorious for being doubted. We should not be too quick to dis-
count the story of ‘Thomas’ miracle simply because we cannot see anyone cause water to stay in the air”.

Putnam — Edith Ross of Putnam, devoted

Memorial donations may be made to St. Martha’s Episcopal Church, 768 Quinebaug Road, Putnam,

Edith Ross, 92

Rogier L. Menard, 48

PUTNAM — Rogier L. Menard, 48, of Putnam, died after a six-month battle with cancer on Nov. 12, at his home, fol-
bowed. He was the son of Mary Menard and the late Thomas Menard.

Rogier Menard, who had been a

service, with Sister Virginia Allen, cement, glazed, and a

brickyard. He worked as a plasterer for 28 years until his retirement at Anchor Glass Container in Dayville, until

employed at Pratt & Whitney and then

with full Military Honors.

Burial was in South Cemetery, Brooklyn,

Haapala, his wife June and their

55 years, Helvi (Haapala) of Westfield, Mass., 76 years, and his brother, Bernt Haapala of Springfield.

Thomas married Betty Kolden on Dec. 26, 1948, in St. Joseph’s Church, North Grosvenordale. They

He was a member of the Highland G beholding the wonders. Priscilla was survived by three sons, Wayne Stedman, 39, of Thompson; Flip Stedman, 38, of South Killingly, and Thomas Stedman, 35, of South Killingly. Flip Stedman, 38, of South Killingly, and Thomas Stedman, 35, of South Killingly.

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**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**GROSVENORDALE**

**Turkey Supper** — Friends of the United Methodist Church (Route 14A), North Grosvenordale. Luncheon served 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission: $5 per person. Bake sale, gift baskets, Christmas crafts, cards, Christmas postal stamps, new and gently used goods, fudge, Christmas decorations, baked goods, themed baskets, etc. Call 860-564-2131.

**Greek Pastry Bake Sale** — To benefit the Middle School class trips to Greece and the First Congregational Church Youth Group. The sale will be held from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 328 South Street, North Grosvenordale. Call 860-574-2575.

**Brookfield**

**Dessert and Book Sale** — At Brookfield Congregational Church, 141 South Main St., Brookfield. On Saturday, Nov. 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. All types of used books and print, non-fiction and fiction, hard and soft covers will be available in all subjects. A large collection of cookbooks is available. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Brookfield Congregational Church. Call 860-273-2324.

**Three Ways to Shop for Community Coffee**

- **In-Store** — Stop by the store on Route 202 in Southbury (next to United Dairy Farm) between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays or 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Wednesdays.
- **In-Home** — Call 928-7405.
- **On-Line** — Visit the website at www.communitycoffee.com. Select your state,选择Community Coffee, and add the product you want to your cart. Payment is made on the website.

**PUTNAM**

**Made-To-Order Breakfast** — At the Stairs House, Park Plaza, Rockville. Breakfast served from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Features include eggs, steak, pancakes, hash, ham, beans, home fries, and more. The menu consists of eggs, steak, pancakes, hash, ham, beans, home fries, and more. The cost is $15 per person. For more information, call 974-0472 or e-mail townofputnam@att.net.

**Thurs & Fri**

**Community Coffee** — A new way for you to make a difference while you shop! Putnam residents can now shop for Community Coffee from the comfort of their own homes. To learn more about Community Coffee, visit our website at www.communitycoffee.com/pa. For more information, call 928-7405.

**Men’s Dinner** — At the Stairs House, Park Plaza, Rockville. Dinner served at 6 p.m. Cost: $12 per person. Call 974-0472 to reserve your seat.

**Wed, Nov. 24**

**Wadleigh**

**Thanksgiving Dinner** — At the Wadleigh Scout Lodge, 735 South Street Road, Wadsworth. Cost: $10 per person. Call 564-2352 to reserve your seat.

**Norwich**

**Once Upon a Time in Atlantic City** — At the Putnam Free Public Library, 217 North Main St., Putnam. Presented by the New London Players. The play will begin at 7 p.m. Admission: $12 per person. For more information, call 974-9767.

**Woodstock**

**Good Ole Fashioned Thanksgiving Turkey Supper** — At the Putnam Free Public Library, 217 North Main St., Putnam. Thanksgiving Day from 4 to 6 p.m. Admission: $12 per person. For more information, call 974-9767.

**Putnam**

**Fall Festival** — At the Putnam Community Center, 596 North Main St., Putnam. Saturday, Nov. 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Features include crafts for kids, a hay ride, face painting, Fall Festival contests, and much more! Admission: $5 per person. For more information, call 928-7405.

**North Grosvenordale**

**Turkey Supper** — At the United Methodist Church (Route 14A), North Grosvenordale. Luncheon served 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission: $5 per person. Bake sale, gift baskets, Christmas crafts, cards, Christmas postal stamps, new and gently used goods, fudge, Christmas decorations, baked goods, themed baskets, etc. Call 860-564-2131.

**Barkley**

**Turkey Dinner** — At the Barkley School, Barkley Road, Barkley. Cost: $8 per person. Call 928-7405.

**Thurs, Fri**

**Putnam Community Center** — At the Putnam Community Center, 596 North Main St., Putnam. Monday, Nov. 22, from 8 to 10 a.m. Healthy snacks and beverages will be available. Features include craft making, face painting, Fall Festival contests, and much more! Admission: $5 per person. For more information, call 928-7405.

**Putnam**

**Annual Holiday Craft and Bake Sale** — At the Putnam Free Public Library, 217 North Main St., Putnam. Saturday, Nov. 20, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Features include crafts, baked goods, and more. Admission: $5 per person. For more information, call 974-9767.

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Putnam Villager • Thompson Villager • Woodstock Villager • Killingly Villager

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| Phone: | ____________________________ | Fax: | __________ |
| Email: | ____________________________ | Date: | __________ |
Dining Room
Solid Oak, 8 chairs, 4 Large Drawers & 3 Smaller Drawers, Lamp, Books, Lamp & Headphones, $250.

Hunting Camo Coleman Equipment
Hyundai Sonata Hybrid is finally a hybrid built for the way most Americans drive

BY KEITH GRIFIN

In my online life, I write about Hyundais for Examiner.com. That’s not included to drive page views (but please feel free to visit). Rather, I mention that to show I write a lot about Hyundais. Heck, I even scheduled a recent golf trip around a visit to the Hyundai plant in Montgomery, Ala.

In other words, I know a lot about Hyundai and really like the brand. It has done some amazing things in the past five years but nothing compares with its latest development. No, it’s not the Hyundai Equus, which is a value-priced luxury car. It’s the new Hyundai Sonata Hybrid.

Hyundai has managed to do something no other car manufacturer can claim: build a hybrid that actually matches how most Americans drive their cars. Typically, most hybrids (which feature electric motors that propel a car at low speeds to save gas) get about 60 mpg through some other techniques. My combined driving mileage is highway for the average American. You don’t get bang for the buck from hybrids on the highway.

That is until now. The 2011 Hyundai Sonata Hybrid gets 40 mpg on the highway, which is 10 percent better than its closest competitor, the Ford Focus Hybrid. Until I spent time with the Sonata Hybrid at its launch in San Diego, the Focus Hybrid was my favorite hybrid sedan on the road for its great fuel economy, comfort and roominess.

The Focus Hybrid, though, does get better mileage in the city beating the Sonata 41 mpg to 36 mpg. That is a factor to consider when you look at your driving habits.

The Sonata Hybrid uses a parallel hybrid system. It actually engages the EV mode while cruising at highway speeds up to 62 mph in blue mode. One journalist at the launch I was at managed to get about 60 mpg through some extremely judicious driving thanks to use of the blue mode and other techniques. My combined was about 41 mpg with some highway, local and hilly driving thrown in and three people onboard. My numbers might have been a little better but I needed to test out the acceleration in the time I drove the car. The Sonata Hybrid actually has a little more oomph under the hood at 206 horsepower than the standard Sonata at 200 horsepower. Hyundai says its acceleration time is 9.2 seconds from 0-60 – a full second faster than the Focus Hybrid, according to Hyundai.

One neat fuel-saving trick Hyundai employed with the Sonata Hybrid is the active air flap system built into the distinctive front fascia. At high vehicle speeds the air flap closes, which means 10 percent less drag on the car. That creates a low-drag co-efficient of .25 that Hyundai points out is comparable to a Porsche 911 GT2 RS (0.34) and the 2011 Nissan GT-R (0.27). It uses a lithium polymer battery, which is the first application of this kind of battery in the North American market. Hyundai picked it for its light metal and high power density – or more power from a lighter, smaller battery. Hyundai also says it has an improved storage life. Other hybrids are currently using nickel metal hydride batteries.

I’ll let Hyundai explain why high power density is important: “It means that more of the recovered kinetic energy and charging energy from the engine will be available to propel the car when needed. That allows the Sonata to provide electric driving boost more often and for longer periods of time.”

One thing Hyundai wasn’t saying as this review was being written was the warranty for the battery. The industry standard has been 10-years, 150,000 miles. Expect Hyundai to at least match that because of the new battery technology.

Hyundai also hasn’t disclosed price yet. A top-of-the-line Sonata currently costs about $28,000 with delivery included. It’s only a guess, but it would be surprising to see Hyundai crack the $30,000 barrier with the Sonata Hybrid.

“Lest I forget, the Sonata Hybrid drives extremely well. It has a quiet, comfortable ride and if it wasn’t for the nice dashboard gauges, it would be all but impossible to know when you are in electric mode. It’s that quiet of a car.

The Hyundai Sonata Hybrid is finally a hybrid built for the way most Americans drive. Put it on your shopping list if you’re in the market. You won’t be disappointed. This is another homerun for Hyundai.

The 2011 Hyundai Sonata Hybrid features a distinctive front fascia that contributes to its strong highway fuel efficiency.
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