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# PUTNAM

BUSINESS INCENTIVES • COMMUNITY EVENTS • SHOPPING & DINING • EDUCATION & HEALTHCARE



A BUSINESS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



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- Worcester Telegram & Gazette



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#### TO THE TOWN OF PUTNAM!

Welcome...nestled in the heart of NORTHEAST CT, also known as The Quiet Corner, the town of Putnam continues to make noise! Originally a quintessential New England is still making noise. The factories may be quiet but we have come alive. Revitalizing our Downtown District has been and continues to be a focus of development and vibrancy for both residents and visitors alike. Putnam boasts of centralized and innovative infrastructure including a 3-mile River Trail with a Canoe Launch Park are, Dog Park, Farmers Mar- ket Pavilion, Story Walk Kiosks and even a Bicycle Repair Station. Our Trail ends at the Regional Hale Family YMCA, the largest such facility in the State of Connecticut.

The economic climate of Putnam is strong, thriving and continues to expand. Centrally located among the Boston, Providence, Worcester and Hartford markets, the town is conveniently accessed by Interstate 395 and US Route 44. Our newly designed Technology Park will contribute to the success in attracting business technology in the national and global markets. Putnam's priority for the past term has been the long-needed safety improvements of our infrastructure including: bridges, road paving and sidewalk rehabilitation.

Restaurants, pubs and breweries abound, with alfresco dining taking center stage. The Putnam Business Association and the

Putnam Recreation Department continue to provide events and celebrations that bring visitors from all over New England. A long restored and preserved playhouse offers current shows as well as arts and cultural venues. Art galleries, antique marketplaces, specialty shops and boutiques line the streets hosting unique gifts and treasures for all ages. No one could market our community better than *Boston Magazine's* designation as "One of the Best 15 Small Towns to Visit in New England."

We are all aware of the life-altering impact the pandemic has had on our families, careers and community. Meeting these challenges has been a strength that our Town continuously builds upon proving, yet again, that we strive to be a better place to live, work and grow. Our success? Well it's really all about passionate people giving to their community and creative partnerships working collaboratively for everyone's best interest. It's about taking an active role in shaping Putnam's future and making sure that the town is both strong and vibrant by embracing and sustaining the community spirit that defines us.

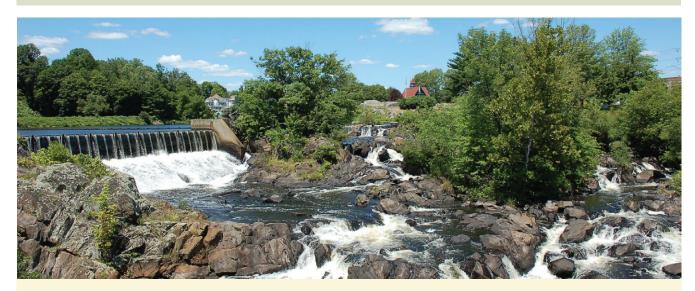
Sincerely,

Barney Seney

Barney Seney, Mayor

The new Municipal Complex includes: municipal offices, a new library, community center and the Aspinock Historical Society.

24 miles from Providence • 43 miles from Hartford • 53 from Boston • 138 from New York City



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Putnam Today



Putnam's history began as a village with a cotton factory around Cargill Falls. This picturesque cascade is the key to future development. The water of the Quinebaug River once powered textile manufacturing which brought with it jobs, new houses, stores and related businesses. Sturdy business blocks that line the downtown streets speak to the commerce of an earlier era now form the building blocks



for Putnam's redevelopment as a destination for dining, shopping, and entertainment. The renovation of the Lofts at Cargill Falls



(the former Hale Manufacturing Company) has created residential and commercial space close to downtown. Kennedy Drive, home to professional offices and manufacturing businesses, links to the Technology Park adjacent to Interstate 395. Threading through this area is the Quinebaug River with its River Walk.

# MAHER AND COTNOIR ERNEST J. COTNOIR, ESQ.

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Located in the KeyBank Building 163 Providence Street, Putnam 860 928-9694 • info@maherandcotnoir.com Once fully linked to the Airline Trail, Connecticut's horizontal state park through the old railroad right of way, Putnam's open space will become part of a hiking trail system leading to the Massachusetts state line and beyond. Hikers will join everyone who has already discovered that Putnam is an exciting destination.

# Putnam Economic and Community Development

The advancement of Putnam as a place to live and do business are the shared missions of the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Redevelopment Agency. The team works closely with local business associations, current and aspiring businesses, community members and like-minded neighbors so that dreams can become reality...and sustainable. "Together, we provide the leadership to enrich the experiences offered to the community and our visitors," observes Delpha Very, Director of Economic and Community Development/Redevelopment.

#### The Mission:

The Putnam Economic and Community Development Commission supports and encourages the commercial, industrial, agricultural, community and civic well-being of Putnam by supporting existing enterprises, attracting desirable and appropriate development while fostering a strong local economy and better quality of life for our neighborhoods.

#### Welcoming Growth & Change

Putnam's administrative team recognizes that the legacy of the past is a tremendous opportunity. Emblematic of its optimism is the new municipal complex at 200 School Street (the intersection of U.S. 44 and Providence Street--CT Route 171), completed in September 2021. Formerly scattered services have been brought together under one roof: all town offices, including the Office of Economic and Community Development, the public library, Aspinock Historical Society, and a community center with spacious meeting rooms. Fully ADA compliant, the main hallway is also a gallery where community artists show their work in a rotating series of exhibitions.

Recreational green space, displaced by the Municipal Complex has been transferred to other town-owned property closer to existing sports fields.

Union Square, with its revitalized Railroad Station, is home to lively venues where local brews and unique dining are on tap. Alfresco dining is a seasonal feature.

Manufacturing and technology businesses can find a home in Putnam with dedicated development sites in the Industrial Park and Regional Technology Park.

At every turn, Putnam invites a second look. It is building for the future in a community steeped in history and rich with opportunity.









We are a private high school for boarding and day students located in Northeastern Connecticut. In 2022, Pomfret was ranked one of the top independent schools in the country.

Learn more at *Pomfret.org*.

To arrange for a tour and interview, call our Admissions Office at 860.963.6120 or email admissions@pomfret.org.



#### Tax Incentive Program

- Open to businesses located within the Enterprise Corridor Zone. Call the Economic Development office to see if your business location is listed.
- The Town offers a deferral of increases in property tax within the designated Rehabilitation Area based on improvements that increase the value of the property.

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

- Expand and diversify the commercial and industrial tax base
- Recruit new business
- Nurture and retain existing businesses
- Promote Locally Grown business enterprises
- Promote entrepreneurialism, social and economic equity

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

 Manage growth and change within a strategic plan to achieve the best possible sustainable outcomes for development

- Develop integrated growth that expands the vibrant Downtown to include the Providence Street area
- Enhance residential and commercial areas



#### **REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY GOALS**

- The greater Downtown area will remain the community center offering a place for social contact, governmental, arts/ cultural, and economic activities
- Continue to expand Putnam's business footprint
- Encourage infill development in prime redevelopment areas (Providence Street Phase 2)
- Market and promote historic mill preservation and redevelopment
- Incorporate expansion of walking trails and outdoor experiences in messaging

#### **Putnam's Recent Accomplishments**











- New sidewalks and paved city parking lots developing infrastructure
- Celebrated the opening of the Lofts at Cargill Falls
- Wayfinding Signage for Putnam and Beautification Accents
- Farmer's Market Pavilion and Saturday Farmer's Markets
- Senior Market Voucher program funded by CT Dept. of Agriculture
- StoryWalk stations along the River Trail offer a changing library of stories and the gift of literacy in the outdoors to children and adults
- Sculptures and outdoor mural enhance existing public art
- Robert R. Johnson Community Garden

- Connecticut Main Street "Founders" Award recognition of commitment to Downtown Putnam
- Applied Preservation of Place grant design guidelines
- Façade improvement projects at 88
   Main Street and using Downtown
   CDBG funds
- Successful application for Making Places grant for historic Belding Mill
- Creation of the Putnam Arts Council: "the voice of the creative workforce"
- Funded hazardous materials cleanup and demolition of the former Putnam Foundry property to prepare for redevelopment

#### On The Agenda

- Continue to seek grants for linking the Airline Trail System from Pomfret to Putnam with future plans to connect to Thompson trails
- Seek grant funding for revitalization of Providence Street
- Create plans and partnerships for landscaping and gardens throughout Downtown
- Update plans for development as mandated by State of Connecticut
- Commission studies to generate date to prioritize what will make the greatest impact in our community



WHERE COMMUNITY MEETS INGENUITY

## The Quinebaug Regional Technology Park

It is not a coincidence that the Quinebaug Regional Technology Park is also the home of the Hale YMCA. The community response to the Y has shown that the community commitment to work-life balance is strong.



The Quinebaug Regional Technology Park (The Q) has many things going for it. Located at Exit 45 on 1-395 that intersects with Kennedy Drive and Park Road, it is linked to the rest of New England and beyond, and also to Putnam's Main Street and more. The Q is the southern anchor of Putnam's business core.

The site has direct highway access via I-395 to Worcester (20 miles), Providence (30 miles) and Hartford (50 miles). Boston is 74 miles north and New York 174 miles to the south. Approximately 267 acres, the technology park represents a regional investment and revenue-sharing association of the Towns of Putnam, Pomfret, Brooklyn and Scotland. Its infrastructure, a dedicated bridge and Technology Park Drive (28' wide) connect the lots with Kennedy Drive. At presents, lots remain and for the future, additional acreage is approved for subdivision.

## The Hale YMCA Youth and Family Center

Just across the bridge is a stunning contemporary building in a park-like setting with indoor facilities that include pools and gyms, along with a robust schedule of exercise and wellness programs. The activities are designed for youth and adults, and include individual and group fitness, swimming, and other popular team sports. Outdoor activity programs experiences include the summer day camp - Camp Cutler at the Y - and nearby Woodstock, which offers traditional camp activities in a pristine lakeside setting. With strong community support, Hale YMCA has rapidly grown into one of the largest and most successful



branches of the YMCA in Connecticut. Visit **www.ghymca.org** for complete listings of Y programs and services.

#### **Cargill Falls Mill Project**

In the heart of Putnam, the Lofts at Cargill Falls Mill are now renting. The revitalized site, where Connecticut's textile industry was born, blends classic mill architecture and landscaping with the benefits of modern living. The 82 spacious one- and twobedroom rental apartments with amenities revitalize the classic with a modern touch. Stunning hardwood floors and natural wood beams bring history to life in every apartment; over-sized windows bring in plenty of natural light and scenic river views. Spaces are available for a mix of commercial uses, retail and office space. It is the first sustainable, mixed-use development in Connecticut with its own hydroelectric power plant. www.cargillfallsmill.com

#### **Riverfront Renaissance**

Rotary Park, Murphy Park, the St. Marie-Greenhalgh Sports Complex, adjacent to the new Owen Tarr Field, and Rawson Field are all locales for outdoor recreation in Putnam. Simonzi Park includes a trailhead for paddlers on the Quinebaug and Little

Rivers. Walkers and runners enjoy the scenic River Trail. Community team sports include NECONN Soccer, softball leagues, and WPTP Junior Football. For schedules and contact information for seasonal youth and adult leagues, contact www.putnamct. us/departments/parks-and-recreation.

The bandstand at Rotary Park is the venue for outdoor concerts, often in conjunction with either the River Fire or the Fourth of July fireworks.

#### Road Races

First 'o the year is the **O'Putnam** a **5K** race that starts and finishes in downtown Putnam with a run along the Putnam River Trail along the Quinebaug River passing Cargill Falls. This is an event of the Hartford Marathon Foundation and takes place on the Sunday before St. Patrick's Day, hence the Irish theme.

Tackle the Trail is a marathon for individuals and relay teams that starts in Windham or Pomfret (half-marathon) and ends at Putnam's Hale YMCA. Proceeds from this race support student aid at Quinebaug Valley Community College in nearby Danielson. ("The Trail" is the former Airline railbed, now the Airline Trail State Park.)

The Day Kimball Healthcare Walk and Race held in August benefits the Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund. This event includes a five-mile walk/run and a half-mile fun run for kids. This is a longstanding community event that supports Day Kimball Healthcare.



# Main Street & Putnam's

# Donntown Crossroads

The downtown footprint might be small, but its historic buildings offer a lively mix of things to do and places to eat. Dining, arts, retail shops, and personal services draw visitors to Putnam, northeast Connecticut's commercial hub. Parking is convenient and free; downtown signage is clear; its scale is comfortably walkable. The vibrant Main Street scene welcomes visitors and residents.



#### **Historic Downtown**

From bustling Union Square to the Post Office, Putnam's Main Street is a vibrant mix of restaurants and stores. Antiques Marketplace with its three floors to explore is a longtime highlight of the area, along with other antiques shops. With its unique retail offerings

and a wide range of dining and entertainment venues, Main Street is the beating heart of Putnam.



Outdoor patio dining, long a feature of Putnam's restaurant scene, has been expanded into a second downtown block, extending the lively atmosphere from lunch into the evening. A stroll down the hill leads to the Quinebaug River, an appealing place to walk—or run—with views of Cargill Falls, the water,

and historic mill buildings. It's a place to have lunch and, when scheduled, enjoy entertainment and events at Rotary Park and the Bandstand. The Putnam River Trail and the River Mill Heritage Trail offer a little

exercise, a little education with its engaging Story Walk for children, and restful scenery. Riverfront Commons is accessed either from Main Street past the Post Office or the riverside trails. There, more shopping, dining, banks, and the Price Chopper grocery store are found.

#### **Shopping**

#### Antiques

Putnam's revival began with antiques



shops. Antiques
Marketplace, a
longtime highlight of the area,
has three floors of
shops to browse.
Jeremiah's Antiques
and Collectable
Shoppes buys and
sells "something
for everyone."

Adriaenz Auction runs several timed online auctions every month www.facebook. com/Adriaenzauction. Expect to find an eclectic range of items from furniture to many categories of collectibles and estate items, plus tools and appliances.





Dr. Debra A. Burns
CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN

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21 South Main Street Putnam, CT 06260 quietcornerchiro.com



#### Arts

Putnam is a destination for the arts. Arts & Framing offers custom picture framing and a little art gallery of local artists, sharing the space with Twigs and Pearls (handmade Jewelry, soaps, scents, and unusual gifts. Block 134 is a community arts and wellness co-op. It is home to the Silver Circle Art Center that offers classes, a gallery, and a shop all featuring local artists. The space includes art studios for rent, large spaces for workshops, yoga classes, private parties, gatherings and events. The Complex Performing and Creative Arts Centre is a community arts education hub, offering classes and performance opportunities in dance, theater, art, and music. The conservatory program enables students to work in multiple art forms or study a single genre intensively. Sawmill Pottery, open daily, is a working studio that offers classes and workshops for all ages and abilities. The onsite gallery showcases the work of ceramic artists living in northeast Connecticut.

#### Performance

A community theater in a historic vaudeville building, The Bradley Playhouse offers a full season of locally-produced performances - musicals, dramas, and comedies. The season has something for every member of the family. Scott Higgins brings in his New England Comedy All Stars show several times a year.

More than a bar with food, The Stomping Ground features live music six nights a week. For the performers:

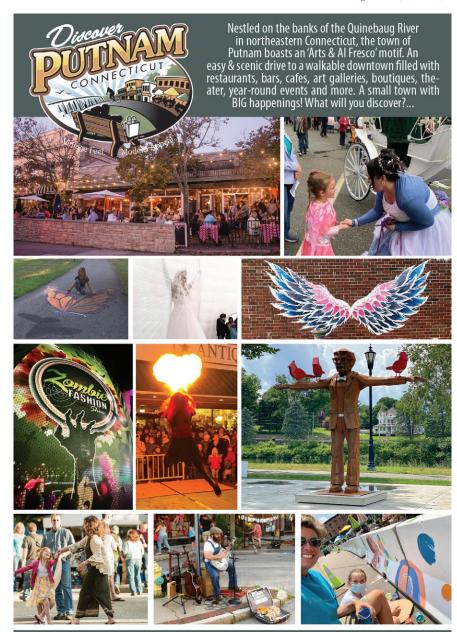
#### www.the-stomping-ground.com

From morning coffee to a late night cocktail Saw Dust Coffee House and Dessert Bar, now in Putnam hosts acoustic music on Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday daytime. www.sawdustcoffeehouse.com

#### Dining

The retail creativity extends to the dining establishments, whether you choose to eat in, alfresco, or even take out to eat

in the park - or at Bare Hands Brewing Company! www.bearhandsbrewing. com. Restaurants in the center of town. 85 Main offers fine dining - sushi, raw bar,



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#### Fun Stuff

Skeeter's Toy Box, not your Big Box toystore, offers a curated collection of toys and games to inspire children to play, learn and explore. And LEGO kits and sets, too! August and March Home intrigues with one-of-a-kind décor and accessories - traditional, vintage and modern. The freezers at Main Street Gelato are filled with colorful and tasty artisanal gelato, small batch gourmet ice cream, sorbetto and Italian Ice. Dairy-free and vegan frozen treats as well.



# Community Events Fire and Ice Festival

The February Valentine Festival! Area businesses commission more than sixty precarved ice sculptures to display along the sidewalks. The centerpiece is the largest single ice-block competition in the United States with live professional ice-carving demonstrations, a 30-ft inflatable igloo, cake competition, fire performances, and glowing fire torches.

www.discoverputnam.com

#### First Fridays

(May through October) Each month on the first Friday of each month from 6:00 to 9:00 pm expect to find themed outdoor

> activities throughout downtown Putnam. Wander through the closed streets on the lookout for dynamic performance art and installations and participate in family-friendly community art projects; there will be something for everyone to enjoy! While you are in town, choose from our variety of wonderful restaurants, visit our many shops and boutiques,

and listen to our local musicians play lively music. Check the website for updates and information about participating as a vendor **www.discoverputnam.com.** 

#### July 4 Fireworks

Putnam's fireworks Park display rivals those of many larger towns and draw crowds of up to 5,000. Preceded by musical performances in the Bandstand this 30-minute show can be seen from most streets in town, but the best views are along the banks of the Quinebaug River and in

Rotary Park, where you can also picnic. Call the Town Hall or check the website for display and rain dates.

www.putnamct.us

#### Main Street Car Cruise

This annual event on the second Sunday afternoon in August brings more than 2,000 classic and antique cars to Putnam. Thousands of visitors gather to explore the streets and shops of Downtown Putnam and view the shiny autos, talk to owners, meet race celebrities and watch demonstrations like burnout pits. The event offers food, music, raffles and more.

www.discoverputnam.com

#### Great Pumpkin Festival

(Fall Festival)

The third Saturday in October includes a full day of events, such as a scenic Train Excursion, Flea Market, Craft Fair, Pumpkin Carving Contest, Clowns, Face Painting, Food Court, Artists Exhibition, and live music. Enjoy pumpkin-themed specials offered by local restaurants.

www.discoverputnam.com

#### Holiday Dazzle Light Parade

Join the local community to build - or watch - the parade of about 100 brightly lit floats plus marching bands and walkers traveling a 1.5 mile route through downtown Putnam. The Holiday Dazzle Light Parade kicks off the holiday season the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

#### The Voice of the Community

Locally owned WINY 1350 AM and 97.1 FM and WINYRADIO.COM is Eastern Connecticut's radio station for talk, news, weather and sports.



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# Educational Opportunities

Putnam is fortunate to be well served with learning opportunities nearby for students of all age levels. The individual websites should be consulted for the most current information.

#### **PUTNAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

The Putnam Public School System enrolls almost 1,300 students in an elementary, middle and high school. The mission of the Putnam Public Schools, in partnership with the community, is to empower all individuals and inspire them to become lifelong learners and engaged citizens by providing a diverse and meaningful educational experience. For the second year in a row, Putnam High School, which just completed a renovation for the 21st Century.

www.putnamschoolsct.org

#### PRIVATE AND PAROCHIAL OPTIONS:

#### **Marianapolis Preparatory School**

An independent, Catholic, boarding and day school located in Thompson, CT. Here, students in grades 9-12 and postgraduates live and learn alongside faculty members, embrace growth through a liberal arts curriculum rooted in experiential learning, make a social impact through community service, and graduate as confident, engaged citizens, ready to lead in an ever-changing world. A 100% college acceptance rate. Explore all that Marianapolis has to offer online at www.marianapolis.org

#### Pomfret School

Founded in 1894, Pomfret is a small independent boarding and day school serving grades 9–12 plus postgrads. Set on a stunning 500-acre hilltop in Northeastern Connecticut, our students come from around the country and the world to find purpose and meaning in their lives through a transformational educational experience. In 2022, Pomfret was ranked one of the best private high schools in America. To see how we're inspiring the next generation of change-makers and problem solvers. www.pomfretschool.org



#### **Putnam Science Academy**

PSA is a private co-educational boarding and day school serving students from grades 8-12 and post graduates. PSA offers a comprehensive college preparatory program focusing on arts, science, mathematics, and technology This small structured school delivers a solid educational program and enrolls students from more than 30 countries from around the world. With a 100% college placement rate, most of our student athletes move onto Division I or II schools with scholarships.

www.putnamscience.academy

#### The Rectory School

An independent, co-ed junior boarding (Grades 5-9) and day (Early Childhood-Grade 9) school. With support, guidance, attention, and belief from the adults who surround them, Rectory students do the hard to work to not only understand themselves but also to be a part of an active and diverse community. At Rectory, we build a foundation of core academic skills, create powerful learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom, and foster strong ethical and social values. The result is students who understand themselves and the world around them. Rectory students aren't just ready for their next school; they are ready for life.

### www.rectoryschool.org The Woodstock Academy

Founded in 1801, The Woodstock Academy is a day and boarding independent town academy serving students in grades 9-12 and post graduates from the local area, across the United States, and around the world. The Woodstock Academy prepares all students by providing diverse opportunities through a rigorous curriculum and a variety of programs in order to cultivate the necessary skills to become lifelong learners and global citizens.

www.woodstockacademy.org

#### **Quinebaug Middle College**

Located on the campus of Quinebaug Valley Community College, QMC is a magnet high school offering a middle college experience for students in grades 9 – 12 who are ready to take greater ownership and responsibility for their own learning. With its dedicated faculty and staff, students interested in science & technology, engineering, math, liberal arts, allied health and advanced manufacturing careers are prepared for success in college or career.

www.eastconn.org/qmc

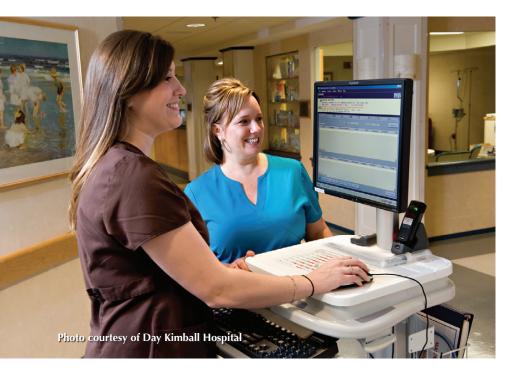
#### **POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION:**

# Quinebaug Valley Community College

QVCC provides high-quality education, workforce training, excellent services and innovative partnerships that enhance the vitality of the community and improve the quality of life for residents of northeast Connecticut. The word "community" in the college's name reflects a strong commitment to understand and to meet the educational needs of area citizens, businesses, and industries. At QVCC you can earn as associate's degree, transfer to a four-year college or university, begin or advance your career, or enrich your life through lifelong learning.

# Healthcare & Wellness

Day Kimball Healthcare is the community hospital in Putnam, a nonprofit provider of integrated healthcare services in northeast Connecticut and nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Since its founding in 1894, Day Kimball has provided high quality, compassionate care close to home. Health care is provided by Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball HomeCare, Day Kimball HomeMakers, Hospice and Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Day Kimball recently celebrated 125 years as the community's leading medical provider. www.daykimball.org



#### **OTHER HEALTHCARE SERVICES:**

#### The Center For Bone & Joint Care

The Center For Bone & Joint Care specializes in the care of the muscular and skeletal systems and offers services in sports medicine, hip and knee, foot and ankle, hand and elbow, spine and shoulder and joint care as well as osteoporosis programs. The Center's Board Certified orthopedic surgeons are exceptional doctors that work with an outstanding hospital and staff at Day Kimball Hospital.

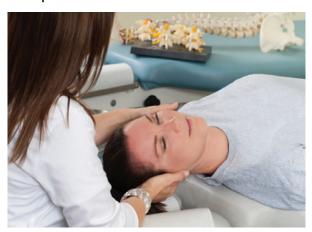
www.bonejointcare.com

#### **Advanced Back & Wellness Center**

The mission of Advanced Back & Wellness Center is to educate as many people as possible about the benefits of chiropractic care as it relates to the health of the spine and nervous system. Dr. Debra Burns has

many unique treatment therapies including nutritional counseling, pregnancy and pediatric chiropractic, stress reduction and many more. Applying the secrets of wellness and prevention will make an impact on your entire health picture.

www.quietcornerchiro.com



#### **Generations Family Health Center**

Generations Family Health Center, Inc. is a private, not-for-profit, regional Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that has been serving eastern Connecticut since 1984. Generations provides a full continuum of primary health care, oral health care, behavioral health care and case management and educational services to a primarily medically underserved population through sites in Willimantic, Norwich, Danielson and Putnam.

www.genhealth.org

#### **Natchaug Hospital**

Natchaug Hospital, a division of Hartford Health Care, provides behavioral health services including mental illness, substance abuse, and learning disorders for children, adolescents and adults across eastern Connecticut. The hospital operates a 57-bed facility in Mansfield Center, Connecticut, that annually provides inpatient care for more than 650 seriously emotionally disturbed children and adolescents as well as 1,300 adults in crisis. Natchaug Hospital's Journey House program is a 13-bed specialized residential treatment facility on the Mansfield campus for ado-

lescent girls ages 12 to 18 who are involved in the court-system. Natchaug's Day Hospital, after school and special education school programs serve more than 2,750 children, adolescents and adults in their own communities each year.

www.natchaug.org



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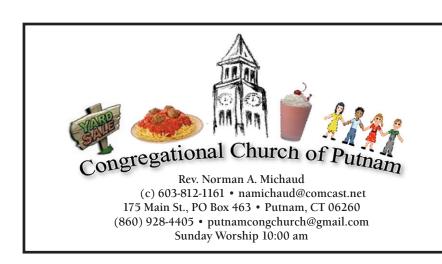
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