

HopeFest concert benefits Hope For Tomorrow Guatemala



BROOKLYN—Hope For Tomorrow Guatemala, a Christian humanitarian organization supported by South Woodstock Baptist Church, Creation Church in Thompson, and Faith Bible Chapel in Westerly, R.I., is pleased to report the overwhelming success of their first annual HopeFest 2021 Concert that took place last Saturday evening at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds.

With more than 200 people in attendance and nearly 20 performers on hand on a beautiful Saturday eve-

ning, it was a great coming together of local churches to raise funds for a new vehicle for Pastor Noe Guyen, their ministry partner in Guatemala, who along with his wife and two children serve nearly 300 children each week in several villages through Hope For Tomorrow Guatemala.

The evening began with local artist Jenelle Provencher, who performed several beautiful Lauren Daigle songs for the crowd. She was followed by Rick Lamarre and Steve Bell, former-

ly of Raging Grace, who brought the gospel in song to all with their wonderful lyrics and incredible guitar playing. Johnny Geeze, the worship leader at the Groton Bible Chapel, was next with some inspiring renditions

of contemporary Christian artists, as did Tim Norman of Creation Church, who also included some personally written scores. They were followed

Turn To **HOPEFEST**, page **A7**

Local legislators join call for juvenile justice reform

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

HARTFORD – The Quiet Corner’s two Republican representatives are calling for action to curb the juvenile crime rates in the state.

State Representatives Anne Dauphinais of the 44th District and Rick Hayes of the 51st district who both represent communities in Northeastern Connecticut released statements on Aug. 10 joining others in their party in seeking juvenile justice reform. In recent months, cities and towns statewide have reported a rise in juvenile crimes including break-ins and car thefts but due to the young ages of the suspects courts are unable to impose harsh penalties to prevent them from becoming repeat offenders.

The crisis has become the latest party-line issue in the state with

Turn To **REFORM**, page **A2**

10th Annual Day Kimball Healthcare “Give It a Tri” Triathlon a success

PUTNAM — The tenth annual Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) “Give it a TRI” triathlon was held on Saturday, July 31 with nearly 100 participants trying their hand at the half-mile swim, 12.5 mile bike ride and 3.1 mile run. Triathletes raced side-by-side on the sands and in the waters of Moosup Pond to support ongoing and future health and wellness education for communities across Northeast Connecticut.

“I’m so excited that our 10th year was such a success despite the setbacks of having to cancel last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and starting with a new race company,” said Dr. Marc Cerrone, Director of Pediatrics at Day Kimball Healthcare and event organizer. “We had an amazing turnout and beautiful weather, and I have received nothing but terrific feedback from those who attended. I am so grateful to our volunteers, Putnam Cyclery, and the Plainfield and Killingly police, fire and ambulance crews for helping make this a

Turn To **TRIATHLON**, page **A7**



Photo Courtesy
Team Tri Angels – Sandra Collins, Terri Creedon, and Sarah Froelich – placed third in the all-female relay.

PCS Peace Jam supports Ugandan school’s science curriculum



POMFRET — PCS Peace Jam joined forces with local Pomfret residents, Denise and Pat Chicoine, to enhance the Kampala Parent’s School Science Curriculum in Uganda. Peace Jam members created solar system models and literacy support materials for Ugandan students. Why Uganda? Pat Chicoine began the non-profit organization to raise money for the people in the village of Bunnamweri in 2010. Her priorities were to increase their access to clean water through wells and the education of orphaned Ugandan girls. Years later, Pat met her Ugandan fam-

ily of Francis, Dianah, Elianah and Arianah. She became the Godmother to their oldest daughter, Elianah and in 2017, they moved to the United States. In November of 2020, they abruptly returned to Uganda.

For most of the population in Uganda, it is either children attend private school or do not attend school at all due to high demands and lacking adequate educational materials. Elianah and Arianah attend Kampala Parent’s School due to sponsorship through Pat’s non-profit organization. After a visit to the school, they noticed a lack of

materials in the science lab. Our PCS Peace Jam members worked hard to create and assemble the solar systems for each grade level at the Kampala Parent’s School. They also created written educational materials for students to self-learn about the solar system with planet fun facts and supplemental information.

At the Pomfret Town-wide Tag Sale on May 1, we fundraised over \$500 for science lab materials for the Ugandan School. This money will go towards new microscopes to enhance their science curriculum.

Turn To **PEACE JAM**, page **A3**

More local businesses come and gone



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

Note: The Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center has reopened and is now open on Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. This is a town building, so we are following the mask policies in place by the Town of Killingly.

The last time I wrote about local businesses in this column, Carlene Sabourin wrote with some information about R B. Greene Transportation. I'm sure many who grew up here remember it. "It was in business here in town for over 50 years!! My stepfather Richard Greene started out in the 50's with one truck! They were on the Troop D towing roster, which meant that if there was an accident or auto issue RB's would be in a rotation program for service. He also donated his trucks, drivers, flatbed and garage space EVERY year for the SPRINGTIME FESTIVAL parades. He loved that! The business finally closed its doors around 2010 due to health issues. The garage also repaired and inspected the town Firetrucks and School buses. It was in the phone book. Always. Thanks." (email, July 31)

Several of us at the Killingly Historical Center have been trying to help Lynn Laberge date an old map of Danielson, which is among the acqui-

sitions. It's so much fun to see photos of old businesses along the sides. I do chuckle when I see the vehicles. Perhaps you recall a few of the businesses. Paul's Electric was a new one for me, so I turned to the Killingly Business Encyclopedia by Natalie L. Coolidge. She had an entry from the 1961-1962 Danielson Telephone Directory for Paul's Electriwa at 38 ½ Cottage Street, Danielson, with Paul Trahan as the likely owner.

Bernie Mitchell noticed that T.H. Ray's included Ray's Coffee Shop on North Main Street in Danielson. Perhaps you remember it. The earliest entry for that in the Business Encyclopedia was from the 1957 Danielson/Brooklyn Directory. Ernest D. Boston was the manager of the coffee shop. However, mention was also made in the write-up for T.H. Ray's Esso/Exxon Service Station, Heating Oils. It was a local fixture for many years. "A high point in the twenty year progress of the T. H. Ray Heating Oils will be formally recognized this Friday and Saturday with an open house at the company's new and more diversified headquarters on North Main Street in front of the Tillinghast Lumber Company. The business started at Dayville in 1935 by Thomas H. Ray, has previously been located on Furnace Street in association with Esso Standard Oil. It now comprises a fleet of seven trucks, an oil burner sales and service department and a service station, the latter in charge of the owner's father, T. A. Ray. One of the innovations to which a part of the 22 square feet of space at the new location has been devoted is a lunchroom to be known as Ray's Coffee Shop..." Mrs. Thomas Ray and Mrs. Harry Caffrey were in the office. "The business now employs fourteen people, 'main-stays' of whom include Gerry Leonard in charge of burner service, Robert Baranski, in charge of fuel oil, Walter 'Sarge' Chauvin, in charge of kerosene; Leo Lafave and Ray Choquette." (Windham County Transcript Aug. 11, 1955). For two photos of the business see p. 64 of Images of America Killingly Revisited by Natalie L. Coolidge.

"Sarge's" son, Joe Chauvin, said that there was more business with the kerosene truck than with the fuel

oil back in 1950's. They had kerosene stoves in both the living room and kitchen. The kerosene was in 55-gallon drums out back in the yard. On Saturdays Joe used to help his father deliver kerosene to the tenements in East Brooklyn. (Conversation, Aug. 14).

Other businesses on the map included Colonial Nursery, 84 Morin Ave., Danielson; Joseph Ventura, General Contractors, Dyer Street, Danielson; Bernier's Oil Service, Pleasant Street, Dayville; D. Blumenthal, 128 Main St; Danielson; SunshineCardShop, 37 Main St., Danielson; Despathy's Furniture, Inc. 249 North Main St. Danielson; The Country Greenhouse, Cook Hill Road, Mashentuck; Wauregan Fabrics, Inc. Junction Routes 12 & 205, North Walnut St., Wauregan; Del Pesco's Shoes, 81 Main St., Danielson; Keenan & Navarro Builders; Alan Clothes, 105 Main St., Danielson Searles Ready Mix Concrete, Wauregan; Gauthier Insurance Agency, 101 Main St., Danielson; Danielson Federal Savings & Loan Association, 84 Main St., Danielson (I'll list more another time).

Lynn noticed that the telephone numbers were a combination of letters and numerals---PR4-0000 but we were unable to discover when the PR (Prescott) changed to 774. If you know, please contact us.

Now several clues on the map hinted that it probably predated the 1960's. I noticed that neither I-395 or Route 52 appeared on the map. That did peak our curiosity about exactly when that highway was completed and what year the name was changed. An internet search revealed the following: "The highway that is now I-395 from its southern terminus with I-95 in East Lyme to exit 35 in Plainfield opened on Jan. 2, 1958, as part of the 129-mile (208 km) Connecticut Turnpike from Greenwich at the New York state line to Killingly at the Rhode Island state line. In 1964, work began on a freeway extension beyond the turnpike in Plainfield north towards Worcester, connecting to the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90). This new freeway, as well as the existing section of the Connecticut Turnpike from East Lyme to Plainfield would be designated as Route 52. The section between Plainfield

and US 44 near Putnam opened in 1967, and the section from US 44 to the Massachusetts state line opened in 1969. Massachusetts completed its section of the freeway in 1977.

"In 1983, in response to the cancellation of the proposed I-84 extension from Hartford to Providence, the Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT) wished to supplement the state's loss of Interstate mileage by applying an Interstate designation to Route 52. Initially, I-290 was to be extended from its southern terminus in Auburn, Massachusetts. However, in 1983, it was decided to instead apply the I-395 designation to the freeway south of I-90

"In May 2013, ConnDOT announced that a project that would begin in early 2014 that included renumbering exits along its section of I-395, and Route 2A from the then-current sequential numbering system to a distance-based scheme to conform with federal exit numbering standards. During the transition, old exit numbers were posted atop the new exit numbers through 2017 to lessen any confusion. The renumbering began on June 24, 2015, and ended in January 2016; the project included renumbering one sign in Massachusetts announcing the first southbound Connecticut exit."(en. wikipedia). How many of you recall the Plainfield tolls?

Please share your memories about this article by emailing me or stop in at the Killingly Historical Center and reminisce.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian August 2021. Thanks to Carlene Sabourin, Lynn LaBerge, Bernie Mitchell, and Joe Chauvin for assistance with this article. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com. To contact the Center visit www.killinglyhistorical.org or call Killingly Historical Center 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10-1 beginning August 4. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

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Le Moyne College names Kobe Akana to Dean's List

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Kobe Akana, a Senior History major from Thompson has been named to the Le Moyne College Spring 2021 Dean's List. To make the list, students must achieve a GPA of 3.5 or above.

Located in a suburban setting on a picturesque 160-acre campus in Syracuse, N.Y., Le Moyne College is one of only 28 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States. Offering more than 30 majors, Le Moyne provides a values-based education that helps students explore their potential

through academics, experience and service. In 2020, for the eighth consecutive year, Le Moyne was ranked by The Princeton Review as one of the nation's best institutions for undergraduate education, an honor achieved by only 15 percent of the colleges and universities in the nation. A Le Moyne education provides students with the intellectual skills necessary to succeed in the world and the will to use their abilities to promote a more just society.

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REFORM

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Democrats responding to the situation encouraging more programs and counseling to help steer these individuals off of their paths of crime. Republicans say they are seeking a commonsense approach to help make communities safer by allowing courts more ability to prosecute juveniles that commit more heinous crimes like vehicle theft and homicide. While the issue was a major talking point during the regular session no action was taken and Republicans, including Dauphinais and Hayes, are demanding action.

"I stand with my fellow members of the Connecticut House Republicans in addressing the recent juvenile crime crisis that has been impacting Connecticut. The opportunity to address these issues presented itself to us during our regular session but unfortunately there was no action taken by the majority," Dauphinais said in a statement. "With these crimes happening in so many cities and towns across our state, now is the time for action. The plan identifies crime prevention resources that will be made available to all of Connecticut's communities and specific adjustments that can strengthen the abilities of judges and law enforcement to address this crisis."

"Over the last several months, we have seen an increase in car thefts and other offenses by juveniles with very little accountability," added Hayes, a former Police Chief in Putnam, in a statement of his own. "From a senior center being vandalized to an innocent person being killed after a car theft, you don't need to have all the years I had in law enforcement to tell you that something has to be done. This cannot wait until next year. The House Republican Caucus has laid out a plan that will assist law enforcement and our judicial system moving forward. Action and reform are needed now, public safety is too important."

House Republicans laid out a plan on August 10 that includes implementing victim impact panels and juvenile delinquency hearings, electronic monitoring for juveniles arrested while awaiting trial on previous offenses, expedited arraignment for felonies, a sex assault, offense involving use of a firearm, court-ordered Family Support Services intervention at juvenile court arraignments, expanding circumstances in which a matter is automatically transferred to regular criminal docket, and creating a new offense of "larceny of a motor vehicle" not tied to the value of the vehicle.

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Loos & Co. mandates Coronavirus vaccine for all employees

POMFRET — At Pomfret’s Loos & Company, a subsidiary of Central Wire Industries, we have taken responsibility to provide a safe work environment for all our staff. As a committed employer in our community, we are particularly aware of the ongoing threat of COVID-19 and have attempted to stay ahead of the virus and mitigate its impact on our workforce, their families, and friends.

Based on that commitment, by Oct. 29, all employees will be required to vaccinate to protect the safety of our team and our community. This decision was made through the Central Wire Industries’ Board of Directors and top leadership teams and will impact CWI locations in North America.

This decision was made after careful consideration from various sources, including healthcare professionals and industry leaders. We are proud to model other companies and organizations in

their efforts to battle the virus, such as the federal and local governments, Amtrak, Disney, Hartford Healthcare.

Our facilities and employees mirror the trends of the general population, and we are witnessing the same difficulties, including the Delta variant. However, the efficacy of the coronavirus vaccine has been proven to be crucial in this effort. It is our hope that by requiring the COVID-19 vaccination, we can do our part locally and globally to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.

For those employees who may require religious or medical exemptions, we will be reviewing on a case-by-case basis in accordance with all applicable laws.

At CWI locations, vaccination incentive efforts have been in effect for months, from vaccination clinics offered on-site to donation collections powered by employees choosing to be

vaccinated.

This policy will be effective immediately, with all employees to be fully vaccinated by October 29, 2021.

Central Wire will schedule on-site vaccination clinics, if possible, or provide paid time away from the workplace to accommodate vaccination scheduling if required.

We ask our employees, our local communities and our industry leaders to do their part in facing this pandemic.

Further inquiries can be directed to Paul From, President and CEO, Central Wire Industries via email at paul.from@centralwire.com or phone at 613-326-3001.

Loos & Co., headquartered at 16B Mashamoquet Road in Pomfret Center, is the industry leader in the wire and cable industry.

Villager Newspapers

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp Dam Aid Craft Fair set for Sept. 11

POMFRET CENTER—The Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp Dam Aid Craft Fair and Family Fun Event will take place Sept. 11 from 1-6 p.m. at 326 Taft Pond Rd., Pomfret Center. Food, music, crafts, camp activities: kayaking, canoeing, catch and release fishing (\$10/30 minutes). Free camp tours. Vendors wanted; for information, contact campdirector@4hcampct.org.

LOCAL SENIORS LEARN SELF DEFENSE



Photos Courtesy
Grandmaster Mike Bogdanski of Quest Martial Arts in Thompson recently held a senior self defense seminar at the Brooklyn Senior Center. Twenty-five seniors learned the “A-B-C’s of being street smart and basic self defense skills. Two brave seniors even used their skills to break boards.

PEACE JAM

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lum. Peace Jam wants to thank all of the PCS community members who donated items for the tag sale. We also want to thank the sixth grade team at PCS for their support in collecting items. We also want to thank Mary Collins, for her generous donation of our new Peace Jam banner! It takes a village, thank you all for helping our Peace Jam members create social change in the world.



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Laura Matthew named to Union College Dean’s List

SCHENECTADY, N.Y. — Laura Matthew, of Pomfret, was named to the 2021 Dean’s List at Union College.

Matthew is a member of the Class of 2024 majoring in English.

Comprised annually, the Union College Dean’s List honors students who have a grade point average of 3.5 for the entire academic year and meet certain other requirements.

Union College, founded in 1795 as the first college chartered by the New York State Board of Regents, offers programs in the liberal arts and engineering to 2,100 undergraduates of high academic promise and strong personal motivation. Union, with its long history of blending disciplines, is a leader in educating students to be engaged, innovative and ethical contributors to an increasingly diverse, global and technologically complex society.

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Williams comes alive late to win Truly Hard Lemonade Midsummer 75



Photo Alan Ward — Courtesy

Tolland’s Ronnie Williams celebrates his \$5,000 victory in the Truly Lemonade Hard Seltzer 75 at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park on Wednesday, Aug. 11.

THOMPSON — Tolland’s Ronnie Williams found some late magic to win the Truly Lemonade Hard Seltzer Midsummer 75 at Connecticut’s Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park on Wednesday, Sept. 15. Williams took the lead from Chelmsford, Mass.’s Jon McKennedy with 17 laps remaining and got

stronger as the race wound down to grab the \$5,000 victor’s paycheck for the Outlaw Open Modified Series. The multi-time SK Modified champion started on the outside pole after both he and Keith Rocco earned three passing points in their qualifying heat. However, Williams spent the first portion of the event

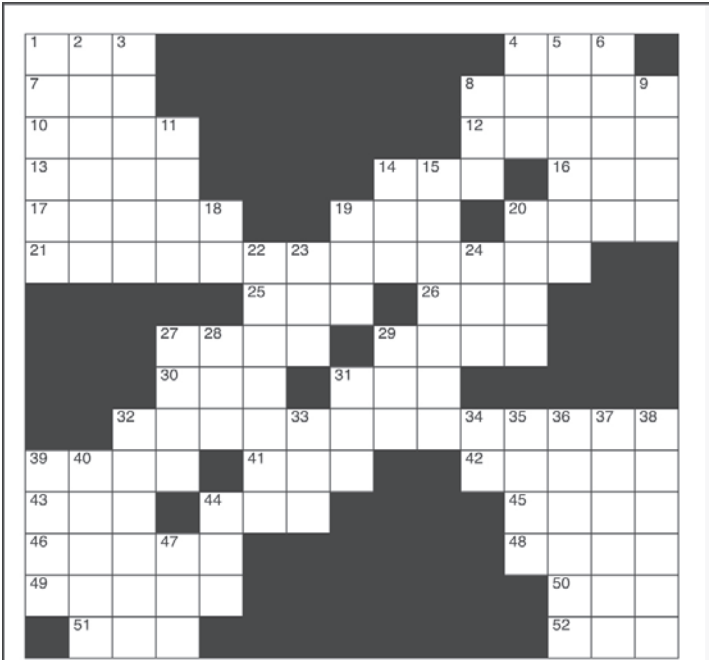
running in the second pack as Rocco, Ryan Preece, and Matt Swanson set a torrid pace. After Rocco led the first 13 laps, Preece was on the good end of a crossover three-pack to nab the point entering turn one. Preece started to pull away around the halfway mark while McKennedy went on the march. McKennedy started at the back after failing to finish his qualifying heat but was up to the third spot with less than 35 laps to go. Just as McKennedy reached Rocco’s rear bumper with 46 laps complete, Andrew Charron and Brett Meserve got wadded up in turn two to bring out the race’s only caution flag. All lead-lap cars went to the pits during the yellow for a fresh right rear tire and adjustments. McKennedy’s team was one of those that also switched the left front and left rear tires with each other. This dropped them back to fifth on the restart behind Preece, Rocco, Chris Pasteryak, and Eric Goodale. Williams was alongside McKennedy in sixth place. When the green flag came back out, both McKennedy and Williams went right to work. McKennedy rumbled to third within a lap and spent several circuits inside Rocco with Williams knocking on the door. After McKennedy finally cleared Rocco, he set his sights on Preece, dipping below him entering turn three on the 55th circuit to take over the lead.

However, McKennedy’s time on top was short-lived. The Gary Casella team had made the right moves for Williams during the pit stop, and he couldn’t be stopped. Williams drove below McKennedy to get the lead on lap 58 with McKennedy unsuccessfully trying to cross him over in turn one. From there, Williams went into beast mode. As Preece dropped back with an ill-handling car, Williams went into overdrive, running his fastest lap of the race on lap 64. With no spins or other speed bumps to slow him down, Williams marched to the \$5,000 payday in front of an impressive crowd. McKennedy kept Swanson at bay over the final laps to finish second. Rocco ended up fourth followed by Pasteryak, Goodale, Preece, Tyler Barry, Paul LaPlante, and Charron. Swanson and Preece were the heat race winners. Warwick, RI’s Mark Jenison went pole-to-pole to capture the \$1,200 top prize in the 25-lap Thompson Late Model feature. Jenison got an early challenge

from former champion Woody Pitkat, who got inside Jenison exiting turn four as the field completed the fifth circuit. The pair ran wheel-to-wheel for a lap and a half before Pitkat got loose exiting turn two, who allowed Jenison to surge back in front. That scare seemed to energize Jenison, who pulled away down the stretch of the caution-free event. While a four-car battle developed for second, none of them could mobilize a challenge for Jenison, who scored the victory to make a big gain in the point standings. Bellingham, Mass.’s Pitkat bested the fight for second followed by Nicholas Johnson, Ryan Morgan, and Dereck Gluchacki. Rick Gentes took sixth after going to a back-up car following qualifying. Brian Tagg, Matthew Lowinski-Loh, Mike Benevides, and Tom Carey III completed the top-10. Danielson’s Ryan Waterman took a different course than his normen route to the Vandt Auto Supply Limited Sportsman feature win. The man known for late-race charges instead went to the front early, diving underneath Johnston, RI’s Jeffrey Van Pelt to take the lead four laps into the 20-lap feature. As “Leadfoot” Larry Barnett battled Van Pelt for second and Brent Gleason worked on Corey Fanning for fourth, Waterman took advantage to pull off into the sunset. Moosup’s Barnett eventually got the second position with four laps to go but did not have time to close the gap on the eventual winner. Gleason also slid past Van Pelt in the closing stages for third. Fanning took fifth followed by Scott Sundeen, Troy Waterman, Nicholas Hovey, Charles Stott III, and Aaron Plemons. Woodstock’s Paul “Buddy” Charette went back-to-back in the SK Light Modifieds. Charette started fourth for the 20-lap feature and spent the early stages watching Anthony Bello work over leader John O’Sullivan III. Bello tried to divebomb O’Sullivan on the third circuit but ended up falling back to fourth as Jonathan Puleo and Charette flew by. Puleo was able to make the turn-three move work on lap seven to take the top spot with Charette following him through. Charette then ducked inside Puleo entering the first turn two laps later only for Puleo to pull the crossover on the back chute. The next time Charette got a chance in the same spot, he took advantage, securing the lead with eight laps to go.

Newtown’s Bello jumped through the open door to take second, setting up a potential duel between the 2021 winners. Once Charette got out front, though, his car was on a rail, and he walked away down the stretch for his second straight victory. Norwich’s O’Sullivan muscled under Puelo on the final lap to complete the podium. Albert Ouellette also squeaked past Puelo at the checkered flag for fourth, leaving Puelo to settle for fifth. Plymouth, Mass.’s Paul Newcomb put on a clinic to win his second 8-Cylinder Street Stock Open event at Thompson Speedway. The veteran let Lee USA Speedway point leader Jimmy Renfrew Jr. set the early pace in the 20-lap feature before closing right back up to him. Coming into turn three on lap six, Newcomb out-braked Renfrew Jr. and swung through on the bottom for the lead. Renfrew then got into a tug of war with Corey Fanning for the second spot. The duo spent five laps racing side-by-side before Fanning finally cleared Renfrew. That allowed Newcomb to glide away and pick up another \$1,000 payday. Fanning took second with Renfrew third. Larry Barnett and Ryan Waterman completed the top-five. Sterling’s Jared Roy picked up his second win of the year in the Thompson Mini Stocks. Dave Trudeau held the early lead in the 15-lap feature as a four-car battle developed between him, Steven Michalski, Roy, and Eric Bourgeois. As the field entered turn one on the sixth circuit, Trudeau’s right-front tire blew. The leader smacked the wall hard from the outside groove with Mitch Bombard piling in to end both their nights. That handed Michalski the lead with Roy in second. Michalski chose the high line for the restart, but Roy made the low side work, leading lap six by a hair and clearing Michalski a circuit later after contact at the start-finish line. East Haddam’s Eric Bourgeois snagged the second spot a few laps later only to see Roy getting smaller and smaller in his windshield as the veteran took the victory. Plainfield’s Russell Barboza ended up third after Michalski’s car shut down with less than three laps remaining. Kevin Moore and Evan Bourgeois rounded out the top-five. The Wednesday racing series at Thompson Speedway wraps up with the Tripoint Showdown 75 presented by Twisted Tea on Wednesday, Sept. 15 at 6 p.m. The Outlaw Open Modified Series has another \$5,000-to-win showdown with some of the biggest names in Tour-type Modifieds expected. They’ll be joined by a slate of Thompson’s local racing divisions. Admission is \$30 for adults, \$10 for kids ages six to 12, and free for kids ages five and under. There will also be a live pay-per-view on Speed51. TV for those who can’t make it to the track.

For more information about the American-Canadian Tour, contact the ACT offices at (802) 244-6963, media@actour.com, or visit www.actour.com. You can also get updates on Facebook and Twitter at @ACTTour. For technical information concerning all PASS divisions, and for media or marketing questions, please contact pass-racing@roadrunner.com or visit www.proallstarseries.com. Don’t forget to “Like” the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow on Twitter @PASSML14 to keep up with breaking news as it happens. For general Thompson Speedway inquiries, call (860) 923-2280, email oval@thompsonspeedway.com, or visit www.thompson-speedway.com. You can follow Thompson Speedway on Facebook and Instagram at @ThompsonSpeedway or on Twitter at @ThompsonSpdwy.

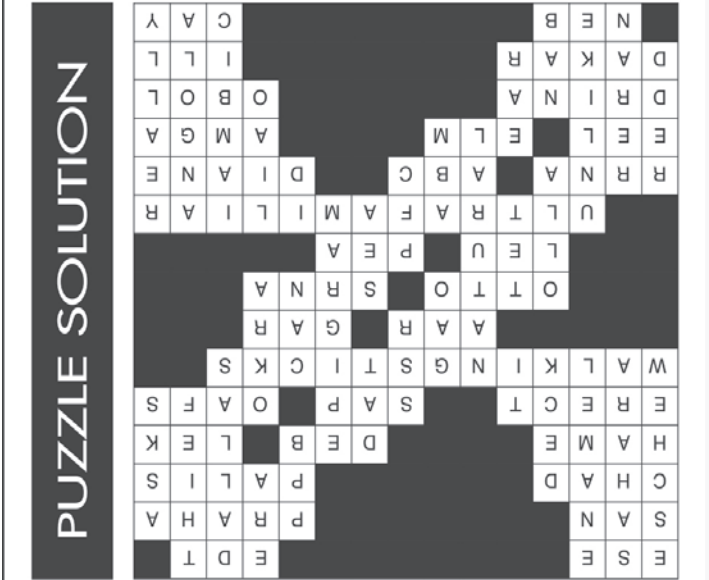


CLUES ACROSS

1. Midway between east and southeast
4. Sun up in New York
7. Japanese honorific
8. Czech name for Prague
10. Ochocinco’s first name
12. Steep cliffs (Hawaiian)
13. Scots word for “home”
14. Upper class young woman (abbr.)
16. Monetary unit of Albania
17. Raise
19. Drain of resources
20. Uncultured, clumsy persons
21. Hikers use them
25. Retrospective analysis (military)
26. Tibetan form of chanting
27. Influential European statesman
29. Soluble ribonucleic acid
30. Monetary unit of Romania
31. Round green vegetable
32. Well acquainted with
39. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
41. Basics
42. “The Godfather” actress Keaton
43. Snakelike fish
44. Tall deciduous tree
45. Russian river
46. Long Balkans river
48. Ancient Greek coin
49. Senegal’s capital
50. Unwell
51. Snout
52. Low bank or reef of coral

CLUES DOWN

1. Abstain from
2. Vast desert in North Africa
3. Cover the crown of a tooth
4. A major division of geological time
5. Urban center
6. Crook
8. Parts per billion (abbr.)
9. Questions
11. A pack of 52 playing cards
14. Recording of sound
15. Pithy saying
18. Atomic #22
19. Soviet Socialist Republic
20. Plant with ridged seedpods
22. Innate
23. Investigative body for Congress (abbr.)
24. Soda receptacle
27. Spanish stew: __ podrida
28. Viet Cong offensive
29. Large body of water
31. Beginning military rank
32. Dissimilar
33. Counteroffensive system (abbr.)
34. Shows who you are
35. Chinese dynasty
36. Type of verse
37. African nation
38. Quite
39. Former Bucks star Michael
40. Showed again
44. Body part
47. Steal



VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT Audubon

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Aug. 9: Common Yellowthroat, Cedar Waxwing, Bluebird, Catbird, Red-tailed Hawk, Great Egret, Great Blue Heron, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Barn Swallow, Goldfinch, Indigo Bunting, Bobolink, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Hummingbird. Visit ctauduon.org/Pomfret-home.

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Thompson Public Schools announces participation in national lunch and breakfast program

THOMPSON — The Thompson Public Schools announce its participation in the federally funded Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. Under the SSO, nutritious meals are provided free of charge to all students 18 years and younger at each of the schools within the district.

Persons interested in receiving more information should contact Lisa Durand at Thompson Public Schools, 785 Riverside Dr., N. Grosvenordale, CT 06255, (860) 923-9581, ext. 41181, ldurand@thompsonpublicschools.org.

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(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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Thompson launches crowdfunding campaign to bring public art to Riverside Park!

THOMPSON — Thompson’s Office of Planning & Development, with support from the Economic Development Commission, Recreation Commission and grassroots non-profit Thompson Together, have launched a crowdfund campaign to bring an exciting new public art installation to Riverside Park! The campaign is being run under the Sustainable CT matching program, a partnership with crowdfunding platform Patronicity

Conceived as a wrap-up to last year’s successful “Nips for Holiday Cheer” program, the planned art installation will incorporate the 48,000+ nip bottles diverted off Thompson’s roadsides during that temporary collection program. Because the bottles are not easily recyclable, using them to create the planned sculptures will keep them out of the waste stream, while serving as a permanent reminder of the problem of plastic waste for the region’s roads, rivers and streams.

Thompson’s Mary Fisher Elementary School art teacher Sara Furbush, who has previous experience creating art for public parks, will construct a series of sculptures of fish species native to the French River, with the nips used to represent the scales on the fish. The crowdfunding campaign will help pay for materials, artist fees, installation and interpretive signs with information about our native species and the hazard plastics pose to our waterways. The first of the sculptures is planned for completion and unveiling as a feature of the third annual UPcycled Art Show at Thompson Community Day on Saturday, Oct. 2.

This project will only be possible with help from our residents and friends. Thompson’s Economic Development Commission has committed seed funds to this project, but in order to proceed, community support is needed! There are two thresholds to cross, in order to unlock matching funds through the Sustainable CT/Patronicity match program:

- 50 individual donors to contribute, in any amount.
- Community contributions must total \$4,500 by Aug. 31.

If we come together this summer, we know we can do this with your help!

Colin LeSage named to Union College Dean’s List

SCHENECTADY, N.Y. — Colin LeSage, of Brooklyn was named to the 2021 Dean’s List at Union College.

LeSage is a member of the Class of 2022 majoring in Leadership in Medicine. Comprised annually, the Union College Dean’s List honors students who have a grade point average of 3.5 for the entire academic year and meet certain other requirements.

Union College, founded in 1795 as the first college chartered by the New York State Board of Regents, offers programs in the liberal arts and engineering to 2,100 undergraduates of high academic promise and strong personal motivation. Union, with its long history of blending disciplines, is a leader in educating students to be engaged, innovative and ethical contributors to an increasingly diverse, global and technologically complex society.

Local residents earn award from WGU

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The following local residents have earned an Award of Excellence at Western Governors University. The award is given to students who perform at a superior level in their coursework.

* Merlyn Xavier of Dayville has earned an Award of Excellence at Western Governors University College of Business.

* Carly Edgerton of Thompson has earned an Award of Excellence at Western Governors University Teachers College.

A b o u t

W G U Established in 1997 by 19 U.S. governors with a mission to expand access to high-quality, affordable higher education, online, nonprofit WGU now serves more than 133,000 students nationwide and has more than 210,000 graduates in all 50 states. Driving innovation as the nation’s leading competency-based university, WGU has been recognized by the White House, state leaders, employers, and students as a model that works in postsecondary education. In just 24 years, the university has become a lead-

ing influence in changing the lives of individuals and families, and preparing the workforce needed in today’s rapidly evolving economy. WGU is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, has been

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DKH pediatricians from left to right: Nicholas Cundiff, DO; Mafalda Tudela Martins, MD; Amr Elmeki, MD

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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

“Is this
Heaven?”
“No. It’s Iowa.”

An incredible moment happened last Thursday, and baseball fans all across the country watched. The Chicago White Sox and the New York Yankees met for an old fashioned game of ball in Dyersville, Iowa, where dreams really do come true.

The two teams, and thousands of fans came together, in a cornfield, at the Field of Dreams. The diamond was constructed right next to the original set of the 1989 film that gave the location its name. The movie highlighted the magic and the history behind baseball. Inspired by the true story of disgraced White Sox player Shoeless Joe Jackson, who was infamously bribed, along with seven other teammates, to ‘throw’ the 1919 World Series, “Field of Dreams” offers his ghost the chance at redemption that he never had in life. We remember fondly the first time we watched the movie, reaching for a box of tissues when Kevin Costner’s character, Ray, asks his father’s ghost to “have a catch” that helps them both heal their troubled relationship as well.

During the broadcast of last week’s game, Costner, in the same blue jeans and white shirt he wore in the movie, appeared slowly, as he walked into sight from the cornfield, re-creating a scene from the movie. According to fans, it was magic, surreal. Anyone who has watched the film, would have driven to Iowa to watch the ‘baseball men’ play, if it was real. Thursday’s game was the closest they’ll ever get. There is no doubt that as fans watched the modern day ball players at work, thoughts of Archibald ‘Moonlight’ Graham, Shoeless Joe, Babe Ruth and others came to mind.

Costner addressed the fans as he made his way to towards the pitcher’s mound, stating “We’ve come to see the first place White Sox play the mighty Yankees in a field that was once corn. It’s perfect. We’ve kept our promise. Major League Baseball has kept its promise. The dream is still alive. There’s probably just one question to answer: ‘Is this heaven?’”

The players emerged, like the film’s ghosts, from the cornfield, leaving the fans in awe.

The game brought the sport back to the basics for just one night. What is simpler than a soda, a hot dog and some popcorn? How surreal to be able to sit close enough where the players can actually make out what the fans are yelling, or what they’re saying to raz the umpires.

The White Sox bested New York in a close match when Tim Anderson hit a walk off home run far off into Iowa’s country sky. The game was described as a time capsule from a different era. In a post game interview, Yankees Manager Aaron Boone said, “That’s probably the greatest setting for a baseball game that I’ve ever been a part of. Kevin Costner standing out there in short center field, that’s probably a moment I’ll remember the rest of my life.”

Many fans agreed that being at the game was a dream come true, it didn’t matter who won.

There are talks that the game may come back to Iowa next year. But more importantly, America’s greatest past time, reminds us that in times of uncertainty, there will always be baseball. The famous quote below is from the film. It’s a powerful message of unity that is refreshing to read.

“People will come, Ray. They’ll come to Iowa for reasons they can’t even fathom. They’ll turn up your driveway not knowing for sure why they’re doing it. They’ll arrive at your door as innocent as children, longing for the past.

““Of course, we won’t mind if you look around,’ you’ll say, ‘It’s only \$20 per person.’

“They’ll pass over the money without even thinking about it: for it is money they have and peace they lack. And they’ll walk out to the bleachers; sit in shirtsleeves on a perfect afternoon. They’ll find they have reserved seats somewhere along one of the baselines, where they sat when they were children and cheered their heroes. And they’ll watch the game and it’ll be as if they dipped themselves in magic waters. The memories will be so thick they’ll have to brush them away from their faces.

“People will come, Ray. The one constant through all the years, Ray, has been baseball. America has rolled by like an army of steamrollers. It has been erased like a blackboard, rebuilt and erased again. But baseball has marked the time. This field, this game: it’s a part of our past, Ray. It reminds us of all that once was good and that could be again. Oh...people will come Ray. People will most definitely come.”

And they did.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When did ‘mask’ become a four-letter word?

To the Editor:

Mask. A mundane four-letter word. But in light of the COVID-19 epidemic, to some, it is a true “four letter word.” It has led to protests, threats, physical confrontation, and outright murder. Signs are sprouting up to “unmask our children.” This is baffling.

As the pandemic still rages on, we have two effective measures to fight back, masks and vaccines.

One can understand some of the reticence regarding the latter. Yes, there are frequent side effects, but nearly all of these are transient. True there have been a handful of fatalities but that number is exponentially smaller when compared to deaths from the virus itself. It is not yet fully FDA approved but the technology has been around for many years. And yes, the vaccine is not completely effective; no vaccine is. But the vaccine does not cause infertility, it does not cause viral shedding, and certainly does not cause one to become magnetic. There are no tracking chips placed by Bill Gates.

But a mask? These have been around for years. Doctors and nurses will wear them hours at a time. They do not compromise breathing. They protect against germs. Asian countries have been wearing them for years both for health reasons (if one feels ill in Japan, it’s a sign of respect to protect others) and for more mundane reasons such as avoiding sunburn or screening out air pollutants.

Masks have been proven to protect the wearer from those around them and vice versa. True, they are not 100 percent, and some masks are better than others, but they do significantly reduce transmission of the virus.

Neither is the Coronavirus a simple flu or cold. It is far more deadly. It affects many more of the body’s vital organ systems, including the brain and heart. It can lead to permanent damage and disability. There are studies suggesting that contracting the COVID-19 virus and surviving it can cut ten or more years off one’s life expectancy.

So, if there is only upside and no downside, why all the hubbub? Much of this dates back

to our former president’s machismo attitude that he didn’t need to wear one. Taking health advice from a pudgy fast food sedentary individual seems unadvisable. But even though he got the virus (and later took the vaccine) he apparently felt the need to question public health measures and the officials that develop them in order to maintain his base.

This has now led to a second generation of crazies such as Marjorie Taylor Greene. More calculating politicians have made this a measure of personal choice. Governors DeSantis and Abbott say they believe that the government should not be allowed to force one to comply. They are taking a page from the Trump playbook. Again, this makes no sense. We have tons of laws to protect the common good including seat belts, speed limits, and stop signs. One cannot smoke in crowded public spaces or dump poisons into our air or water. You cannot take what does not belong to you or accost someone on a whim.

In other words, the government’s role is to protect the greater good. There are newer and deadlier virus strains sweeping through the country, clogging our hospitals, and now killing the young and fit. Children’s hospitals are turning patients away.

If this were a lethal flu or meningitis outbreak schoolchildren and teachers certainly would be masking. COVID is no different. I rest easier knowing that my two girls’ colleges have a mask in class (as well as vaccine) policy. Anything short would be unacceptable. I know this makes them safer. This is being a good parent.

That is why sending children into schools unmasked would be a dangerous and irresponsible tact. There is absolutely no harm in mask wearing. Lives will be saved and it will prevent schools from shutting down again. Deliberately creating a setting that places anyone at risk is unconscionable. Signs suggesting otherwise should be taken down. Immediately.

LEE WESLER
WOODSTOCK

Don’t listen to the naysayers

Most people who want to achieve big dreams will encounter naysayers. They’ll say, “It’s already been done; the competition is too fierce. They’ll tell you,

“you can’t have a career in that business; you have to know somebody; you have to be an insider,” others might be more mean-spirited, “You’re not talented enough, you’re not smart enough, you’re not good looking enough.”

It takes great courage and faith to follow your dreams. If you listen to the negative voices, you’ll never find that courage and faith.

I’ve always dreamed big dreams and gone after goals that seemed impossible. It’s who I am; my father encouraged me to think big.

In that sense, it was easy for me to go after my dreams because I never had anyone in my own family tell me I shouldn’t or that I couldn’t. The naysayers in my life came from outside the family.

As a high school athlete, I grew passionate about competitive swimming. I became enamored with the idea that I could be an Olympic swimmer! Some said I couldn’t do it. I paid them no attention.

I swam four hours a day and did a lot of cross-training. I got much faster. After graduating high school, four of my closest friends and I swam from Macinac Island to Chicago in Lake Michigan, a 375-mile journey. We did it as a relay, and we made it in fifteen days.

Out of that experience, I met the fastest swimmer in the world at the time. His name was Tom Jager. Tom was amazing. He coached me through a few workouts, and I even raced him a couple of times. He was way faster than me. There was no comparison. I knew I just had to work harder if I wanted to be as fast as him.

I was determined. I barely made it onto a division one swim team. By my junior year, I was much faster than in high school, but I

POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
.....
TOBY
MOORE

was also one of the slowest swimmers on the team, nowhere near the Olympic level. I was crushed as I realized I didn’t have what it took to make it to the Olympics.

That experience created an even stronger desire inside of me to accomplish my dreams. If I’d have listened to the naysayers, I wouldn’t have learned the lessons that I needed to take with me to the next phase of my life.

I turned my attention towards a different dream, one that I had since childhood. It wasn’t long till I had a few big successes in my belt. It’s an up and down industry, and I’ve had many tell me through the years that I should give it up, forget about my past successes and hang up the towel.

What I’ve discovered is that if you keep going and don’t give up, doors will open that can lead you on a path of accomplishing your dreams in unusual ways.

Your destiny isn’t up to the naysayers; it’s up to you. It doesn’t matter what they think about you; it does matter what you think about yourself.

Abraham Lincoln had many successes in his life; he also had many failures. He failed in business, was defeated for the state legislature, lost for Illinois speaker twice, didn’t get the nomination for Congress, finally won a congressional seat but lost renomination, was rejected for land officer, defeated for the U.S. Senate, defeated for the nomination for Vice President, and then again was defeated for U.S. Senate.

I’m sure many negative voices were telling him to give up and quit through the years.

Instead, he was finally elected president of the United States. He became one of the most important presidents in United States history. He held the country together and helped win a war that resulted in the end of slavery.

What would’ve happened if Abe Lincoln listened to the naysayers?

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Entering a new phase

Sometimes, the fates converge and we enter a new phase. When our ancient Maine Coon cat breathed his last ragged breaths in my arms, I was very sad. He was a remarkable creature, and at the ripe old age of 13.6, he had enjoyed a happy life. I still hear his dramatic meows in my head. He is irreplaceable. But, our household wasn’t empty for long.

When I learned that I could pick up a Corgi pup, located through a friend, I jumped in the car and set off to welcome a new member of our family. We can’t replace what we have lost, but that doesn’t mean we shouldn’t open our hearts again to love and, especially with a pup, a level of mayhem.

During the pandemic, I began to long for a dog. I looked at Web sites and talked directly to breeders. Several promised they would let me know when they had puppies, but they never did. I think the demand for certain breeds is always high and the dogs I was seeking were not plentiful.

An NPR story on June 6 noted that despite some reports, people are not returning their pandemic adopted pets. They reported that one in five pet owning households added a new pet. There is great pressure on shelters, which often rely on volunteer staffing and private philanthropy, and the groups are operating at pre-pandemic levels. After our cat died, I brought all his food and litter to a local cat shelter and left it on the front step. I will send a check as a tribute to our special feline.

It was love at first sight when I saw little Darby, the name we eventually chose. He is a Cardigan Welsh Corgi, the kind with no tail, and similar in a general way to the merry little band of fox faced pets often shown with Queen Elizabeth. I am half Welsh, and he is the third corgi we have owned. I was aiming for a more ethnic name, but Darby will do. He reminds me of the other two, Toby and Tenby, in his energy and intelligent eyes, but he will carve his own space and be authentically himself.

Our house is full of squeaky dog toys, hard rubber dog “bones”, new dog bowls, a crate, a bed that has been “christened” by him and a package of pee pads, that I am reluctant to use. While I praise him when he sweetly looks up at me as he relieves himself in the grass, I am flummoxed when he comes back inside, slinks behind the couch and leaves a stinky mess. My husband stepped in such a pile, wearing shoes with textured soles, and had to face the daunting task of cleaning them. Dogs bring us right down to the basics fast.

There are lots of good reasons not to get a dog. They need love, health care, play time and training. Our grandchildren want to see Darby, but run screaming when he chases them or chews on their fingers. I want them to be dog lovers, so I intercede and change the mood. Dogs make us feel guilty when we leave them and worried when they eat strange things in the lawn. They complicate our lives.

There’s really only a few good reasons to get a dog. Dogs have been our companions for more than 18,000 years. Darby is my tenth dog. Together, we will fashion our version of the ancient bonds. As we do, I know my life will be richer. Love. Happiness. Laughter. Exuberant greetings. Reasons enough...and puppy breath.



NANCY WEISS

Retired or approaching retirement? Watch for these 2021 tax and policy changes



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JIM ZAHANSKY
INVESTMENT
ADVISOR

Between the effects of the pandemic and proposed legislation changes, there are a lot of shifts happening now and anticipated to happen in the near future with regard to taxes for the wealthy and retirement plan policies. If you're nearing or already in retirement, it's essential to stay up to date with what's happening now and what could be happening next in order to preserve the wealth you've likely worked a lifetime to build. Here are some of the major tax and policy changes to look out for in the coming months.

You may want to take advantage of these retirement plan policies before they disappear at the end of this year.

In 2020, the CARES Act allowed you to skip taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) from your retirement accounts, but that temporary suspension is gone for 2021. So be sure you take your RMDs by year's end or you could be facing a 50 percent penalty tax for every dollar that you were supposed to withdraw but didn't. Also be sure to factor in the impact of that RMD on your 2021 taxes now, while you still have several months to make adjustments to your financial strategy that could help to offset the increased tax liability that the RMD income may bring. And on that same note...

The ability to make an unlimited qualified charitable distribution from a retirement account ends this year. Normally, IRA owners and beneficiaries who are 70 and a half or older can make charitable contributions from their IRA accounts, up to a limit of \$100,000 per person, per year. In 2020 the CARES Act temporarily suspended that rule, opening up a unique opportunity for those who want to make large charitable gifts to also offset tax liability.

Through the end of 2021, people age 59 and a half and older can make an unlimited charitable distribution from any type of retirement account, with a 100% tax deduction for those itemizing deductions. Since a large donation could help you to exceed the amount of the standard deduction, this opens up the ability to itemize deductions, not only for the charitable contribution

but also for other things like state and local taxes, thereby increasing the overall tax benefit even further. However, this approach will also increase your Adjusted Gross Income and affect AGI-related deductions, credits and benefits, so you should discuss the overall benefits and drawbacks with your tax advisor.

High earners and high-net-worth households should prepare for these possible tax changes in 2022.

There are a number of proposed tax law changes that, if passed, could significantly affect high income earners and individuals with high net worth. Though none of these changes are certain yet, it may be wise to take some pre-emptive steps to minimize the impact of these changes prior to the end of the year.

The top income tax rate for individuals (and likely trusts as well) could revert back to 2018 levels, up to 39.6 percent rather than the current 37 percent. In 2022, this higher rate would apply to taxable income over \$509,300 for joint filers and \$452,700 for single filers, with the brackets resetting based on inflation in later years.

Long-term capital gains and qualified dividends could be taxed at ordinary income rates for taxpayers with adjusted gross income over \$1 million, resulting in a federal tax rate as high as 43.4 percent for the portion of AGI that exceeds \$1 million.

To offset the effects of both of the above possibilities, those who will be affected may want to consider pulling some income into 2021 (by increasing the distribution amount from a non-Roth retirement plan, for example) and/or deferring certain deductions (such as charitable contributions) until 2022 in order to reduce taxable income.

The lifetime estate tax exemption ("death tax") could be significantly reduced. The exemption threshold currently sits at \$11.7 million per individual, with a top tax rate of 40 percent. After 2025 that's set to revert back to the pre-2018 exemption, an indexed amount equal to about \$5.8 million in current dollars. But President Biden has proposed accelerating the reduction of the exemption to just \$3.5 million with a top tax rate of 45 percent as soon as 2022. With these changes looming, those with high net worth may want to consider utilizing their lifetime exemptions in 2021. This can be done by making gifts to children, grandchildren or trusts. But another way that married couples can do this is through a SLAT (Spousal Lifetime Access Trust), an irrevocable

estate planning trust arrangement set up by one spouse for the current benefit of the other, usually with the remainder interest passing to the granting spouse's children upon the death of the beneficiary spouse. Because the SLAT can make distributions to the beneficiary spouse as needed for health, education, maintenance or support, the SLAT can be used to pay half of the household expenses.

Possible beneficial changes to retirement savings policies to watch for in SECURE 2.0

In 2019 the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act was passed, which included a number of changes to rules regarding retirement plans and distributions. Now the Securing a Strong Retirement Act, often referred to as "SECURE 2.0," has been proposed and is widely expected to be passed with bipartisan support this year or next year. If passed, it too would enact some significant changes that you should be aware of, including:

Further increases to the age for required minimum distributions (RMDs) and a significantly reduced penalty tax for failing to take them. In 2019, the SECURE Act raised the age for taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) from traditional IRAs and 401(k)s to 72. If passed, SECURE 2.0 could raise that age multiple more times over the next decade, increasing it to age 73 on Jan. 1, 2022, age 74 on Jan. 1, 2029 and 75 on Jan. 1, 2032. If you're still working or don't yet need to tap your retirement savings, this could allow you to leave more of your savings invested for a longer period of time, allowing for further growth.

In addition, the penalty for not making the required minimum distribution would also be significantly reduced. Currently, the penalty is a whopping 50 percent; SECURE 2.0, if passed, would reduce that to 25 percent, and if the missed RMD is taken within a certain period of time that penalty tax could be reduced even further, to 10%.

There could be a two-year window when catch-up contributions are expanded, and catch-up limits for everyone age 50 or older could be indexed to inflation. If you're 50 or older, you can make "catch-up" contributions to your retirement account. (For 2021, those catch-up contributions amount to an extra \$6,500 over the \$19,500 limit for 401(k)s and 403(b)s and an extra \$3,000 to a SIMPLE IRA.)

Under SECURE 2.0, those ages 62 through 64 would be allowed to con-

tribute even more – an extra \$10,000 to 401(k)s and 403(b)s, and an extra \$5,000 to a SIMPLE IRA. This could allow you to save even more money in the years leading up to retirement. In addition, beginning in 2023 the catch-up limits for everyone age 50 and older would be indexed to inflation, as opposed to the current annual increase limit of \$1,000 which has been in place since 2006.

You could have greater ability to make Roth contributions. The proposed legislation would allow employees to make Roth contributions to SIMPLE and SEP IRAs (currently only 401(k)s, 403(b)s and 457(b)s can accept Roth contributions). You could also opt for your employer matching contributions to be made on a Roth basis for all of these plan types as well.

These are just some of the major changes that are thought to be likely in the next year or so, but nothing is certain until legislation is actually passed. So it's a good idea to communicate frequently with your accountant and financial advisor to be sure you make any necessary adjustments to your financial strategy as previous policies and tax codes expire and new ones are solidified.

That's why ongoing monitoring of the markets and legislation, agile adjustments and consistent communication with our clients are foundational parts of our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well™ process. There's a lot to consider when it comes to your finances, and the impact of those decisions on your life and that of the ones you love can be immeasurable. See how we can partner with you to provide the personalized, experienced guidance you need to Live Well fearlessly – visit our Web site at whzwealth.com or give us a call at (860) 928-2341.

Authored by Principal/Managing Partner, James Zahansky, AWMA®. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. These materials are general in nature and do not address your specific situation. For your specific investment needs, please discuss your individual circumstances with your representative. Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors does not provide tax or legal advice, and nothing in the accompanying pages should be construed as specific tax or legal advice. 697 Pomfret St., Pomfret Center, CT 06259, 860-928-2341. <http://www.whzwealth.com>

Tips for drying flowers

Enjoy and share the beauty of your flower garden all year long. Pick and dry a few flowers to use in flower arrangements, craft projects or as gifts for friends and family.

Pick the flowers when they are at peak bloom and blossoms are dry. Cut flowers for drying mid-day when they contain less moisture to reduce the dry time.

Use a bypass pruner or garden scissors to cut the stems above a set of healthy leaves. Remove the foliage and gather them into small bundles. Secure the stems with rubber bands that contract as the stems shrink and continue holding them tight. Use a spring-loaded clothespin to hang the bundles from a hanger, clothes line or nail. Allow the flowers to dry in a warm, dark, dust-free location.

Flat-faced flowers like daisies tend to close a bit when dried upside down. Try laying them face down on a flat surface. Simply cut off the stem and place the flowers face down on newspaper in



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

a warm, dry location. Once dried, you can glue them in place or use florist wire to create stems for arranging.

And don't forget to pick a few seedpods from perennials and ornamental grasses. These have dried, for the most part, on the plants and make great additions to your dried flower arrangements and projects.

Consider taking a trip to your local florist or craft store for more ideas and materials for drying delicate flowers. Silica sand works well for delicate blossoms like iris as well as roses, mums and more. Simply fill the bottom inch of a container with silica sand. Remove all but an inch of the flower stem. Place the flower, stem side up or on its side, on the surface of the silica sand. Gently pour silica sand over the flowers until completely covered. Follow label directions. Most flowers dried this way maintain their beauty when dried in silica sand. Just use a small paint brush to gently remove any remaining sand.

Photo Melinda Myers

Lavender dries relatively quickly and retains the best color when dried in a low humidity, dark location.

Test flowers for dryness before putting them in an arrangement or storing for future use. Carefully rub a piece of the flower between your fingers. If it feels dry, it is ready to use. If it still feels moist, continue letting them dry.

Store extra dried flowers in a location with low humidity and away from direct sunlight. Consider loosely wrapping with newspaper or kraft paper to prevent crushing and place in a box until needed.

Whichever drying method you choose, the result is the same – year-round enjoyment of your garden's beauty.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist



and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

HOPEFEST

continued from page A1

by the Crossway Church Worship Team, a group of talented young musicians, who through the evidence of their worship songs truly have a heart for God. And, lastly, was Ben Laine of Rochester, NH, the featured artist of the evening, who brought the house down (or up, depending how you see it) to conclude the evening. It was truly a glorious night.

The mission of Hope For Tomorrow Guatemala is to help meet the spiritual, nutritional and physical needs of the communities that they serve. Pastor Noe and his family travel by pickup truck from their home in Teculután in the State of Zacapa up a nearby mountain to the remote villages of El Chico and El Mirador each week. El Chico is one

half mile up the mountain and El Mirador is another half mile up the mountain. They bring with them food and other material support for the children and the families living on the mountain.

Because the terrain is so difficult to navigate each week, Pastor Noe's 2007 vehicle is in very poor condition. The Board of Hope For Tomorrow Guatemala here in America felt it was necessary to secure a good vehicle for Pastor Noe and his family to bring the food to the children. Thus, last year a fund-raising campaign began for a new vehicle. The goal was to raise \$28,000 for Pastor Noe to secure a 2017 all-terrain vehicle. As a result of many generous donations, a Fiesta Dinner several weeks ago, and the HopeFest concert, Hope For Tomorrow Guatemala is pleased to announce

that it has reached its goal of \$28,000!

And, the ministry still has one more planned fundraiser to go: a Nine-Hole Golf Tournament at the Woodstock Golf Course at Roseland Park on Saturday, Sept. 18 from 2 to 4 p.m., with awards, prizes and a cookout to follow. Play will be a Scramble Format with a Shotgun Start at 2 p.m. The cost is just \$75 per golfer and is limited to the first 36 registrations. All proceeds will go to Hope For Tomorrow Guatemala for any necessary, additional work that needs to be completed on Pastor Noe's new truck for rugged mountain climbing. You may register at https://www.aplos.com/events/hft_golf_tourney or by sending an email to bernie@hopefortomorrow.org.

TRIATHLON

continued from page A1

safe and enjoyable event for everyone!"

Twenty-two-year-old Andrew Yatsuhashi, captured the top spot in the individual male competition, finishing in 1:00:18. Rounding out the top three men were Andrew Luneau (1:02:58) and Michael Podzalne (1:03:32). Elizabeth Bove was the top individual female finisher in (1:11:47), closely followed by second and third place finishers Tracy Herzer (1:13:09) and Linda Spooner (1:13:22).

First place in the co-ed relay competition went to Team Ahearn. Sarah Ahearn completed the swim portion of the event, Timothy Ahearn took on the bike ride and Aimee Ahearn handled the running. Together,

the three clocked in at one hour, two minutes, 19 seconds. That was just under 13 minutes better than Team Danis – Nichole, Leah, and Matthew Danis (1:15:34). Team Davis Square – Davis Simpson and Sue Davis – placed third (1:24:20).

Taking first place in the all-female relay competition was Team QV-BWS – Sharon Geyer, Wendy Caron, and Betsy Cracco (1:14:00). Second place went to Team SPK – Sherri Boulet and Corinne Gustafson. The duo clocked in at 1 hour and 21 minutes. Team Tri Angels – Sandra Collins, Terri Creedon, and Sarah Froelich, finished third (1:25:24).

For the full list of participants and finish times for competitors, visit www.daykimball.org.

org/triathlon.

About Day Kimball Healthcare

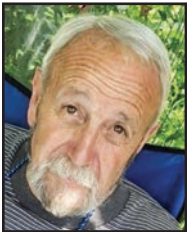
Day Kimball Healthcare is a nonprofit community healthcare system composed of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare at Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts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

OBITUARIES

Nelson F. “Nelly” Deaume, 73

Danielson, CT – Nelson F. “Nelly” Deaume, 73, passed away in the comfort of his home surrounded by his loving family on Wednesday August 11, 2021.

Nelly was born in Putnam, CT on February 14, 1948, son of the late Romeo J. and Georgette (Barrette) Deaume; he lived in Brooklyn and Danielson his entire life. Nelly worked as an autobody and collision repair technician since his youth



with a career spanning sixty-five years; he married his wife Dorothy on May 9, 1987, who predeceased him. Nelly is survived by his two stepsons Des and Jeff Prindle; he also leaves his sister Rosanna Deaume, and six grandchildren.

Private funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home.

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Nelly.

Linda E. Bates, 74

Linda E. Bates, 74, of Danielson, CT, was called home to the Lord on June 14, 2021 surrounded by loved ones at Hartford Hospital in Hartford, CT after a brief illness. Linda was born April 2, 1947 in Burlington, Vermont, daughter to Rachel Jermyn. Linda was the oldest of nine children and was the beloved wife of 56 years to Rene Bates Sr. Linda was the matriarch of a large and extended family. She had six children, Richard Bates of Plainfield, CT, Mary Bates of Danielson, CT, Michael Bates with his wife Lisa Bates of Tennessee, Rene Bates with his wife Liz Bates of Putnam, CT, Randy Bates of Danielson, CT and Robert Bates of Chaplin, CT. 17 grandchildren and 19 great grand children,



an achievement she was most proud of. Linda gave her entire life to enriching and nurturing each of her family members and left a lasting impression on all of that were lucky enough to encounter her love. She was especially fond of the holidays when she would pack her growing family into her home each year until eventually renting a hall seemed more efficient. Linda was a devoted Communicant of Saint James Church for nearly 40 years. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, June 19, 2021 at 10:30 AM in Saint James Church, 12 Franklin Street, Danielson, CT. Burial followed in Westfield Cemetery Danielson, CT. A Calling Hour was held Saturday, June 19, 2021 from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM at Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam, CT. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

Ducks invade Putnam as Rubber Duck Race approaches

PUTNAM — The Putnam Business Association’s Annual Rubber Duck Race approaches this Sunday, guests and locals are encouraged to enjoy a unique treasure hunt across four towns along the “Duck Trail.”

Throughout Brooklyn, Killingly, Pomfret and Putnam duck-themed art exhibits have been placed in business windows and in outdoor displays welcoming visitors to their nests. The photos here are only about half of the

13 displays scattered throughout local communities. A map of locations can be found at www.discoverputnam.com by clicking the events page and the Rubber Duck Race. Trail walkers are encouraged to share photos of the exhibits on social media with the hashtag #PBADuckTrail for a chance to win prizes. The Rubber Duck Race itself will be held on Sunday, Aug. 22 at noon.

Photos Jason Bleau



Appropriately named “Pizza Duck,” this mosaic outside of The Broken Crust is courtesy of artist Debora Aldo.



Artist Jaimie Lohman, a local sculptor, created this “Ceramic Duck” piece for Gerardi Insurance Services.



“Spunky is Ready for Flight” by Elaine Turner, an artist who also helped with the Community Art Installations around Putnam, can be found outside IC Optics.



Plucky Putnam the Duck by artist Christine Davidson, a gifted watercolor specialist, graces the window of Archambault Insurance in Putnam.



One of several pieces by Elaine Turner, “Skipper Calls, All Aboard!” is Kazantzis Real Estates contribution to the Duck Trail.



Nestled inside Price Chopper at the desk of Centerville Bank is “Waddle Wonka & the Chocolate Factory” by Rita Rivera, a graphic designer who has created logos for numerous festivals.



“The Honorable R.D. Quackers” by Jennerate, LLC graces the office of Stephen J. Adams Attorney at Law on Main Street in Putnam.



The family of Mary Larson Seney invite friends from the community to join them at a memorial service to celebrate her life at 1:00, August 28th, at the Valley Springs Sportsman’s Club located at 65 Valley Road, North Grosvenordale, CT.

Connecticut’s current Covid Guidelines will be followed. Memorial donations in Mary’s honor may be made to the First Congregational Church of Woodstock or the Quiet Corner Garden Club.

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A chicken dish fit for a crowd

Now that lively celebrations have found their way back onto millions of people’s social schedules, party hosts and hostesses who like to cook and entertain can brighten up their recipe repertoires with dishes that are easily expanded for a crowd. Feeding a houseful of people isn’t difficult when simple and tasty recipes are chosen for large gatherings. This recipe for “Sweet and Salty Chicken” courtesy of “Throw a Great Party: Inspired by Evenings in Paris With Jim Haynes” (iUniverse) by Mary Bartlett, Antonia Hoogewerf and Catherine Monnet, is ideal for hosts. Select white or dark meat chicken depending on your preference, and enjoy the Mediterranean flavor that the capers, olives and oregano offer. Apricots or prunes provide a sweet bite that’s balanced by the wine and vinegar in the recipe. This dish will fill guests up, especially when

paired with rice or potatoes.

Sweet and Salty Chicken
Serves 25

2	tablespoons	garlic,
	chopped finely	
6	tablespoons	dried
	oregano	
8	ounces	red wine vine-
	gar	
9		bay leaves
2		cups olive oil
8		pounds boneless chick-
	en, cubed	
4		ounces capers and
	their juice	
8		ounces apricots or pit-
	ted prunes	
4		ounces green olives,
	pitted	
1		cup brown sugar
2		cups white wine

In a large 3-gallon bowl, combine the garlic, oregano, vinegar, bay leaves, caper juice, olive oil, and vinegar. Add the chicken, apricots or

prunes, olives, capers, and stir. Cover with plastic wrap and let marinate for 24 hours in the refrigerator.

About 2 hours before serving, divide the chicken and the marinade between 2 9x13-inch baking pans or a large roasting pan. Sprinkle 1/2 cup brown sugar over each pan, followed by 1 cup of the white wine over each pan.

Bake in a moderately hot oven (350 F) for 1 hour. Serve with rice or parsley potatoes.

Wine pairing suggestion: Choose a dry white wine, either Pino Blanc or Pinot Grigio. Ask a wine specialist to recommend dry white Spanish and Italian wines.






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Saturday: 8am-12pm
Sunday: Closed

LEGALS

TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 23, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT on the following applications.

PZC Application #21-22 Town of Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission, 815 Riverside Drive, requesting a zone change from the Town of Thompson Amended Zoning Regulations, effective September 15, 2020, Zoning District from Rural Residential Agricultural to Downtown Mill Rehabilitation District. Purpose of change to create development potential consistency with intent of Downtown Mill Rehabilitation District.

PZC Application #21-23 Town of Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission, 815 Riverside Drive, Amendments to the Town of Thompson Amended (effective date June 21, 2021) Zoning Regulations.

PZC Application #21-24 Strategic Commercial Realty, Inc. DBA Rawson Materials, 0 West Thompson Road, Map 65, Block 101, Lots 9 and 9A requesting a zone change from from RRAD to BDD.

File may be reviewed on line, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman
August 13, 2021
August 20, 2021

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

The Planning & Zoning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for Thursday, August 26, 2021, at 7:45 p.m. to be held at the Woodstock Town Office, 415 Route 169, Lower level, Meeting Room 1, to amend the Woodstock Zoning Regulations to: 1) establish a temporary moratorium on cannabis establishments; 2) amend Section IV.B.2.iii and C.3.i. in accordance with PA-21-29 concerning accessory apartments.

August 13, 2021
August 20, 2021

TOWN OF BROOKLYN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING LEGAL NOTICE

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. via Webex and in-person (masks required) at the Brooklyn Middle School Auditorium, 119 Gorman Road, Brook-

lyn, CT on the following:

SP 21-002: Special Permit Application for Multi-Family Development (51 Condominium units) on south side of Louise Berry Drive (formerly School Street), Assessor's Map 33, Lot 19, 13.5 acres, R-30 Zone, Applicant: Shane Pollock. Copies of applications will be available for review on the Town of Brooklyn website.

All interested parties may attend the meeting, be heard and written correspondence received.

Dated this 10th day of August, 2021
Michelle Sigfridson
Chairman
August 20, 2021
August 27, 2021

TOWN OF THOMPSON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Zoning Board of Appeals held a Public Hearing on Monday, August 9, 2021 beginning at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255 and took the following actions:

ZBA 21-02 Bates Auto Parts, Inc., Owner of Record Linehouse Road LLC, c/o Maher and Cotnoir, PO Box 187, Putnam, CT, property located at 64 Linehouse Rd, Map 38, Block 71 and 71B, Lot 13 and 5, Zone RRAD. This is an application pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 14-67 for approval to use the premises for the opera on or maintenance of a motor vehicle recycler's yard or motor vehicle recycler's business. Approved with Conditions

ZBA 21-03 Karol and Grazyna Wojtowicz Owner of Record, 2 Marcy Lane, Map 83, Block 7, Lot 13 D, Zone RRAD requesting 16-foot side yard setback to build a 36' x 21' detached garage.

Application Amended - ZBA meeting on June 7, 2021, to request a variance from Town of Thompson Amended Zoning regulations, Article 4A Rural Residential Agricultural District, Section 3, General Development Standards, Accessory Structure to the Primary Building, Front setback for an accessory structure shall equal or exceed that of the primary structure. Approved

File may be reviewed on line, Town of Thompson website, Zoning Board of Appeals. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Beno, Chairman
August 20, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Sharon Brunelle (21-00250) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 5, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fidu-

ciary 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, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
MICHELE ANN PALULIS,
ATTORNEY MICHELE ANN PALULIS, LLC, 158 MAIN STREET, SUITE 2, P. O. BOX 616, PUTNAM, CT 06260
August 20, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Ronald G Desaulnier (21-00244) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 9, 2021, 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, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Michael P. Desaulnier,
40 Upper Hibernia Road, Rockaway, NJ 07866 Attorney: GAIL JESSEL ROOKE-NORMAN, ROOKE-NORMAN & ASSOC, 31 ACADEMY STREET, PO BOX 347
DANIELSON, CT 06239
August 20, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF James William Goglia (21-00248) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 10, 2021, 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, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Kenneth Ware, 146 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT 06260
Maria Ware, 146 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT 06260
Attorney: NANCY ELIZABETH FRASER, ST. ONGE & BROUILLARD, 50 ROUTE 171, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281
August 20, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Richard Gilbert Martin, SR (21-00272) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 3, 2021, 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, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Justin Hynes, 137 Quincy Avenue, Dedham, MA 02026, United States Attorney: CHRISTIAN GEORGE SARANTOPOULOS
SARANTOPOULOS & SARANTOPOULOS, LLC 143 SCHOOL STREET, DANIELSON, CT 06239
August 20, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Cynthia Zurowski (21-00261) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated July 29, 2021, 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, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Justin Hynes, 137 Quincy Avenue, Dedham, MA 02026, United States Attorney: CHRISTIAN GEORGE SARANTOPOULOS
SARANTOPOULOS & SARANTOPOULOS, LLC 143 SCHOOL STREET, DANIELSON, CT 06239
August 20, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Sharon Brunelle (21-00250) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 5, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fidu-

son, CT 06277, United States
August 20, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF David Lynn White (21-00254) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 10, 2021, 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, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Kenneth Ware,
146 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT 06260
Maria Ware, 146 Liberty Highway, Putnam, CT 06260, United States Attorney: NANCY ELIZABETH FRASER, ST. ONGE & BROUILLARD 50 ROUTE 171, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281
August 20, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Earl R Willis (21-00228) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 3, 2021, 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.

Mary Ann Champney, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Charlotte R. Willis, 4154 Paisley Dr., Sterling Heights, MI 48314 c/o ROBERT THOMAS GRADOVILLE (attorney for Charlotte R. Willis), NEUBERT, PEPE & MONTEITH, P.C., 195 CHURCH ST, 13TH FL, NEW HAVEN, CT 06510,
(203)821-2000
August 20, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Sharon Brunelle (21-00250) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 5, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fidu-

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A 25-YEAR TRADITION — INTERACT HELPS RELAY FOR LIFE



Photo Courtesy

It was a hot day Aug. 7 for Relay For Life of Northeastern CT at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds, but members of the Putnam Rotary Club's Interact Club were busy — filling luminaria bags with sand and a candle and distributing them all around the track for the luminaria ceremony later in the evening. This year, the Interact members raised \$3,500 for the American Cancer Society. The Interact

club was given an award at the opening ceremony for their team support for the last 25 years. The Relay For Life thanked the Interact Club and members Sierra Girard, Talia, Kaelyn and Jonathan Tremblay, Marcy Dawley, Shannon Fagan from the Putnam Rotary Club's Rotaract Club, and advisor Roberta Rocchetti for all their help for 25 years. Pictured: Sierra Girard and Talia and Kaelyn Tremblay at the Relay For Life.

University of Rhode Island graduates more than 4,000 students during 135th Commencement

KINGSTON, R.I. — The University of Rhode Island celebrated more than 4,000 of its newest alumni during the University's 135th Commencement. More than 3,700 undergraduate degrees and 680 graduate degrees were conveyed to students during nine individual ceremonies held over three days, May 21-23.

Melissa M Dragon of North Grosvenordale received a Master of Business Administration.

Brandy J La Porte of Thompson received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, RN to BS.

Ryan Thomas Humphreys of Brooklyn received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

Ivan W. Asikainen of Eastford received a

Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology, Magna Cum Laude.

Melissa M. Dragon of North Grosvenordale received a Master of Business Administration.

Rose Baade Wood of Pomfret Center received a Bachelor of Science in Textiles Fashion Merchandising & Design and a Bachelor of Arts in French, Summa Cum Laude.

Students who received the honor summa cum laude graduated with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.7; students who received the honor of magna cum laude graduated with a GPA of at least 3.50; and students who received the honor of cum laude graduated with a GPA of at least 3.3.

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 14,500 undergraduate students and more than 2,250 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.

News from Woodstock's Planning & Zoning Commission

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock's Planing & Zoning Commission is holding two public hearings on Aug. 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the lower level of Town Hall.

The first public hearing is to establish a temporary moratorium on cannabis/marijuana establishments.

"This temporary moratorium will give time for Woodstock's Planning & Zoning Commission to create reasonable and common sense regulations

about cannabis/marijuana establishments," says Dr. Jeffrey Gordon, the Commission Chair.

"This opportunity will allow all stake holders, including the people of Woodstock and the business community, to work together on this issue, now that the state of Connecticut has legalized recreational cannabis/marijuana," according to Dr. Gordon.

The second public hearing is to update the Zoning Regulations to increase the size allowed for accessory apartments.

"Woodstock has been a municipal leader for many years in allowing accessory apartments via straightforward zoning permits, where as some towns require a more involved special permits," says Dr. Gordon.

State law was changed this year to set a new minimum for the square feet allowed for accessory apartments.

According to Dr. Gordon, "a lot of people in Woodstock have accessory apartments or are looking into building them, so the Commission is updating the regulations to better allow people to avail themselves of this option."

Updating accessory apartments regulations, last done in 2015, is part of Woodstock's Planning & Zoning Commission's ongoing affordable housing initiative.



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FORMER RED SOX STAR VISITS HENRY'S RESTAURANT



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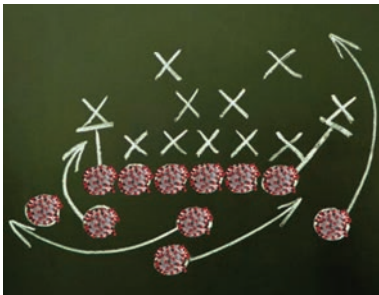
Former Boston Red Sox catcher Roger LaFrancois (center) visited Dave Vitale (left), owner of Henry's Restaurant, on the occasion of Vitale's birthday, Aug. 4. Joining the festivities was Ron Coderre, who made the surprise arrangements.

Let's win this.



Stay in the game. Get Vaccinated.

COVID-19 has been a game-changer.



To beat it, we must be on the same team. Let's not get out-played again this season. If eligible, get vaccinated as soon as you can by your doctor, pharmacist, or at any of these NDDH community clinics.

Northeast District Department of Health


COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Schedule

Tuesdays 10:00-2:00 & Wednesdays 2:00-6:00
NDDH Office, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn
and at these convenient dates, times, and places:

Fri 8/20	2:30-4:30 pm	Thompson Public Library, 934 Riverside Drive, N. Grosvenordale
Sat 8/21	9 am-12 pm	Old Home Day in Union, 18 Kinney Hollow Road, Union
Sun 8/22	2-4 pm	Taylor Brooke Brewery, 818 CT-171, Woodstock
Tue 8/24	3-5 pm	Oneco United Methodist Church, 1128 Plainfield Pike, Oneco
Wed 8/25	4-5:30 pm	Woodstock Hill Fire Station, 399 Route 169, South Woodstock
Thur 8/26	4-7 pm	Brooklyn Fair, 15 Fairgrounds Road, Brooklyn
Fri 8/27	3-7 pm	Brooklyn Fair, 15 Fairgrounds Road, Brooklyn
Sat 8/28	3-7 pm	Brooklyn Fair, 15 Fairgrounds Road, Brooklyn
Sun 8/29	3-6 pm	Brooklyn Fair, 15 Fairgrounds Road, Brooklyn
Tues 8/31	9:30-12:30 pm	Pomfret School Fieldhouse, 19 Mallory Street, Pomfret

Vaccines offered at all locations:
PFIZER (Ages 12+) and MODERNA (Ages 18+) two-dose series
(Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian)
JOHNSON & JOHNSON (Ages 18+) one-dose (one & done!)

Walk ins welcome • FREE to ALL
No appointment, no insurance needed



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