



I see trees
of green.
Red roses, too

PUTNAM VILLAGER

Friday, May 15, 2020

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Mobile food pantry meets needs of local veterans



Fred Ruhlemann

BY KAREN BUTERA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM — Every year, we celebrate Veteran's Day on Nov. 11 to honor the armed forces. It is a way to give thanks to the brave men and women who risked their lives so we may live in this great country with the freedom that we take for granted- freedom that no other country has thanks to these men and women.

Fred Ruhlemann, also a veteran, served in the Navy during the Vietnam War, ending his service as a Petty Officer 2nd Class. He has also been the President of the Danielson Veteran's Coffeehouse Mobile Food Pantry Truck since 2017.

"It is a program in conjunction with the Connecticut Food Bank," said Ruhlemann. "It is the only Food Bank program for veterans only."

On the first Thursday of the month, the truck arrives at the Riverview Marketplace Pavilion in Putnam, providing about 10,000 pounds of fresh produce and groceries, which helps to meet some of their needs.

"We serve a little over 100 Veterans and their families each month. This month, it was 130 Vets. It doesn't cost them anything," said Ruhlemann. "We work with the town of Putnam. The Mayor, Norman 'Barney' Seney, Jr. is a Vet. Willie Bousquet, Putnam's Recreation Director is overseeing things. He has kept up with new regulations from the Governor and has bent over backwards to help. We are very grateful it is still going. We are also working with the police on social distancing."

No appointment is needed and all Vets are welcome. You must bring your driv-

Please Read **FRED**, page **A4**

Quinebaug Middle College to host virtual open house

DANIELSON — EASTCONN's Quinebaug Middle College (QMC), a regional magnet high school, is hosting a Virtual Open House on Wed., May 20 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. The event will take place as an online Zoom session. Prospective high school students and their families are invited to attend.

QMC, located on the campus of Quinebaug Valley Community College (QVCC) in Danielson, is temporarily closed due to COVID-19. This online session will allow interested families to tour the facility virtually and attend a Q&A session hosted by QMC Principal Mary Kay Tshonas.

The special Zoom session can be found online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89236356081>. The password for the session is QMC. The session requires no pre-registration and is open to the public.

QMC has a limited number of seats remaining for academically motivated students who will enter grades 9-12 in fall 2020-2021. Students seeking a more independent learning environment, tailored to their academic and career goals, are welcome to apply.

QMC offers high school students a middle college experience that enables them to earn a high school diploma, while also earning college credits from QVCC – at no additional cost.

Students who successfully complete QVCC courses have an advantage when applying to college or any post-secondary program, not only because

they've earned free, transferrable college credits, but because they've demonstrated their ability to succeed in a college environment. Highly motivated students can graduate from high school with enough credits to earn an Associate's degree.

Once enrolled at QMC, students will have access to high-tech laboratories, career and vocational resources, and other college amenities. Unique to the middle college experience is the opportunity to take college courses side-by-side with QVCC college students.

Areas of study at QMC include STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), liberal arts, allied health and advanced manufacturing.

Currently, QMC enrolls 180 students, grades 9-12, from 22 towns across northeastern Connecticut.

Housed in a \$24-million, state-of-the-art facility on the campus of QVCC in Danielson, QMC offers northeastern Connecticut students many small-school advantages that include small classes; one-on-one mentor and advisory support; a rigorous, Humanities-rich and STEM-integrated curriculum; an embedded focus on public service projects; access to the Mobile STEM Lab allowing for in-the-field science experiments; and a Town Meeting governance model that gives all students a voice in how their school is run.

Students who want to enroll at QMC for 2020-2021 may visit www.eastconn.org/qmc to

Please Read **QMC**, page **A5**

QVCC launches free virtual workshops

DANIELSON — As a service to our business community during these challenging times, Quinebaug Valley Community College is proud to offer a series of free virtual workshops for the duration of our COVID-19 mitigation efforts. These free virtual workshops allow students and communi-

ty members an opportunity to gain new skills and acquire new resources from anywhere, anytime.

The online programs are being offered through QVCC's Business & Industry Services department, which develops and delivers quality learning and development training

courses for the regional incumbent workforce, designed to upgrade employee skills, advance leadership and management capabilities, and support ever-changing job initiatives.

According to Andrew Morrison, Business & Industry Services Director, the virtual

workshops are intended to benefit area professionals as they deal with the ongoing impact of the coronavirus.

"If someone is working from home, furloughed, or searching for a new job due to the coronavirus, we want to give them a free opportunity to develop valuable skills during a diffi-

cult time," Morrison explained.

Workshop topics include:
Telework & Telecommuting
Virtual Team Building
High Performance Teams (Remote Workforce)
Stress Management
Organizational Skills

Please Read **VIRTUAL**, page **A5**

Matulaitis Rehab & Skilled Care keeps families connected

PUTNAM — The no-visitor mandate for nursing homes may have slowed the traffic in the hallways, but Covid-19 has been no match for the amazing staff at Matulaitis Rehab and Skilled Care in Putnam when it comes to keeping residents and loved ones connected. They just had to get creative.

To keep families connected, Matulaitis has been coordinating window visits, Facetime, skype chats and video calls. Family members and volunteers have sent cards, letters, flowers, poems and pictures for residents to enjoy. Daily activities have been adapted to the situation: word search games, puzzles, pet visits, making and sending out cards. Group exercises have become independent or escorted

exercises and residents still continue weight lifting in their room and walking exercises to stay healthy. Of course, the Chapel holds Mass each day. Residents can attend while distancing, listen over the intercom or watch on TV.

Mother's Day is traditionally the busiest day for flower and balloon-toting visitors at Matulaitis Rehab & Skilled Care. Like everything these days, this Mother's Day was different. Assistant Activity Director Nicole Zannini and the Activity Department contacted the East Putnam Fire Station for assistance. At 2 p.m. on Mother's Day, the sun came out to warm residents as a rescue truck led the way to a thunderous 56-car (and three motorcycles) procession



Photo Courtesy

Balloons and Mother's Day messages of love poured out of every car in the Mother's Day parade at Matulaitis Rehab & Skilled Care.

through the portico at the Matulaitis entrance. Cars were decorated with flowers, balloons and posters with messages to Moms, grandmothers and great grandmothers. Residents felt the love over the car horns!

Special thanks to Karl Kuhn and Quiet Corner Cares who brought flowers in recognition of the nurses and personnel at Matulaitis. The flowers were donated to be used in the flower beds for residents to enjoy.



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MARGARET
WEAVER

I'm a huge baseball fan so have been watching a number of the reruns that have been on various channels. While watching a Mets-Orioles game from 1969, my son Michael (KHS '87) and I started talking about how much television has changed over the years. Back when he was little, we had only a black and white television set, and we used rabbit ears to find the channels in our range. That conversation sparked the idea for this column on some of the history of television and hopefully will evoke memories of some of your favorite programs. I learned quite a lot during my research and was surprised that the invention dated back to the 1920's.

Thank goodness I could access the internet. The site (www.nyu.edu/classes/stephens/History%20of%20Television%20page.htm) provided a lengthy article by Mitchell Stephens. Much of what follows is taken from that site. Stephens stated, "Electronic television was first successfully demonstrated in San Francisco on Sept. 7, 1927. The system was designed by Philo Taylor Farnsworth, a 21-year-old inventor who had lived in a house without electricity until he was 14. While still in high school, Farnsworth had begun to conceive of a system that could capture

moving images in a form that could be coded onto radio waves and then transformed back into a picture on a screen. (Boris Rosing of Russia, John Logie Baird in England and Charles Francis Jenkins in the U. S. had conducted experiments with varying technologies). However, Farnsworth's invention, ..., is the direct ancestor of modern television. The first image he transmitted on it was a simple line."

Other sites provided a number of interesting tidbits about television and its history. "The first American TV station began broadcasting on July 2, 1928. W3XK was the first commercially licensed television station in the US, owned by inventor Charles Francis Jenkins" (www.edn.com).

"America's first commercially produced television sets were based on the mechanical television system - made by John Baird's television designs. These sets were shown off to the public in September, 1928" (www.Bebuisnessed.com). "A successful color television system based on a system designed by RCA began commercial broadcasting on December 17, 1953" (www.thoughtco.com).

In the 1920's, RCA, the company that dominated the radio business in the United States with its two NBC networks, invested \$50 million in the development of electronic television... In 1939, RCA televised the opening of the New York World's Fair, including a speech by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who was the first president to appear on television... RCA began selling television sets with 5 by 12 in (12.7 by 25.4 cm) picture tubes. The company also began broadcasting regular programs, including scenes captured by a mobile unit, and on May 17, 1939, the first baseball game (was broadcast) between Princeton and Columbia Universities. By 1941 the Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS), RCA's main competition in radio, was broadcasting two 15-minute newscasts a day to a tiny audience on its New York television station.

"Early television was quite primitive. All the action at that first televised baseball game had to be captured by a single camera, and the limitations of early cameras forced actors in dramas to work under impossibly hot lights, wearing black lipstick and green makeup (the cameras had trouble with the color white). The early newscasts on CBS were 'chalk talks,' with a newsman moving a pointer across a map of Europe, then consumed by war. The poor quality of the picture made it difficult to make out the newsman, let alone the map. World War II slowed the development of television, as companies like RCA turned their attention to military production. Full-scale commercial television broadcasting did not begin in the United States until 1947" (www.nyu.edu...).

How many of you recall some of the popular early programming and actors? The Texaco Star Theater with Milton Burle was a great hit. My siblings and I watched Howdy Doody (1947-1960). Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts, Gunsmoke, and I Love Lucy were

among the top favorites during the 1950's (www.retrowaste.com).

Today we can access news on television 24-7. If you wanted news in 1949 you could choose between two fifteen-minute newscasts--CBS with Douglas Edwards and NBC's Camel News Caravan with "John Cameron Swayze (who was required by the tobacco company sponsor to have a burning cigarette always visible when he was on camera). Many early programs such as Amos 'n' Andy (1951) or The Jack Benny Show (1950-65) were borrowed from early television's older, more established Big Brother: network radio. Most of the formats of the new programs newscasts, situation comedies, variety shows, and dramas were borrowed from radio"

I can remember my mother enjoying the Lawrence Welk show. Neighbors would come to watch Friday night fights with my father after we children were in bed. By the 1950's ABC had arrived on the scene and profited from children's programming including Mickey Mouse Club (1955-59). I always liked Mouseketeer Annette Funicello. How many of you remember watching westerns? The Lone Ranger, The Roy Rogers Show, Zorro? Gunsmoke, which ran for twenty years, was the longest-running scripted U.S. primetime TV series but will soon be surpassed by 'The Simpsons.' (Feb 24, 2020 reference; www.insider.com). Among the programs that my daughter Patience (KHS '88) remembers are "Family Affair," "I Dream of Jeannie," "Gilligan's Island," "Bewitched," and "The Flying Nun." What were your favorites?

The Public Broadcasting System (PBS), "built around the educational nonprofit stations already in operation throughout the United States," was created by Congress in 1969 and produced many well-known programs including "Sesame Street" (1969).

Cable television originated in the United States almost simultaneously in Arkansas, Oregon and Pennsylvania in 1948 to enhance poor reception of over-the-air television signals in mountainous or geographically remote areas. "Community antennas" were erected on mountain tops or other high points, and homes were connected to the antenna towers to receive the broadcast signals" (www.cable.org/learn/history-of-cable).

I could go on and on because there's so much information available. I won't. If you are interested in more details, don't be afraid to do your own "search." I do hope that you will share your memories of what you and your families were watching. Where did you purchase your tv sets? (Before the era of Big Box Stores?). Television is one of those inventions that forever changed our way of life--and continues to do so--so we should not neglect its place in our history. I'll look forward to hearing from you. Please email me or send a letter to the Killingly Historical Center.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, May 2020. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 (when it reopens) or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250 (when the Historical Center reopens). Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, Connecticut 06329.



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Local News

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VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT Audubon

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of May 4: Hooded Warbler, Parula Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blue-headed Vireo, Yellow-throat Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Veery, Wood Thrush, Hummingbird, Baltimore Oriole, Orchard Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Common Nighthawk, Long-eared Owl, Northern Harrier, Bobolink, American Kestrel. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.



VILLAGER STAFF DIRECTORY

NEWS

EDITOR,
BRENDAN BERUBE
860-928-1818 x 323
brendan@villagernewspapers.com

ADVERTISING

MIKAELA VICTOR
ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE
860-928-1818, EXT. 313
mikaela@villagernewspapers.com

FOR ALL OTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT
KERRI PETERSON
860-928-1818 EXT. 303
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS ARE PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
860-928-1818 EXT. 103
frank@villagernewspapers.com

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DINICOLA
508-764-6102
jdinicola@stonebridgepress.com

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
860-928-1818 x 323
brendan@villagernewspapers.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
860-928-1818, EXT. 305
julie@villagernewspapers.com

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Bronagh Power-Cassidy signs with College of the Holy Cross



THOMPSON — Post-graduate Bronagh Power-Cassidy, of Dublin,

Ireland, signed her National Letter of Intent on May 1 to play basketball for the College of the Holy Cross.

Power-Cassidy previously attended Holy Faith Secondary School Clontarf in Dublin, Ireland. During her season with Marianapolis, she averaged 17 points, eight rebounds, six assists, three blocks, and three steals per game. She had a 73 percentage from the free throw line, and 40 percentage from the three-point line. Power-Cassidy was named a co-captain of the Marianapolis girls' varsity team, helping the team become semi-finalists in the NEPSAC Class A championship.

"I grew up playing basketball. I've played since I was six years old, playing out in the back garden with my older sister and my dad and for our local club team," she said. "Normally, I play a shooting guard or small forward, but I've tried to develop my game to be versatile enough to play wherever my coach or team needs me to."

Power-Cassidy said she decided to sign with Holy Cross because of the college's tight-knit community, saying "Anytime I visited the campus, I could just feel how special a place and how warm an environment it was. Paired with the chance to receive an amazing education and the opportunity to play with a great team, Holy Cross really felt like the right fit for me."

Marianapolis girls' varsity basketball head coach Kirsty Leedham said, "I am so excited for Bronagh to take this huge step in her career and officially sign as a Holy Cross Crusader. Since Bronagh stepped foot onto Marianapolis' campus, she became a leader both on and off

the court. It was a pleasure to not only watch Bronagh grow as a player, but to watch her motivate her teammates to grow alongside her. She is a very special player in that she gives 100% to every play, every practice, every game, and every person. I have full confidence that Bronagh is going to have a phenomenal career at Holy Cross, and I think I speak for all of the Marianapolis community when I say I am excited that she will be located right down the road."

The College of the Holy Cross, located in Worcester, Massachusetts, is an NCAA Division I school playing in the Patriot League.

Local Eastern students inducted into Biology Honor Society

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University's Biology Department inducted 31 students into the Beta Beta Beta (Tri-Beta) National Honor Society this spring 2020 semester.

Among the inductees were:

Margalit Kaufman, a senior from Woodstock Valley who majors in Biology.

Mikko Koivisto, a senior from Brooklyn

who majors in Biology.

Paige Norgren, a junior from East Killingly who majors in Biology.

Marissa Poulin, a senior from Brooklyn who majors in Biology.

Founded in 1922, Tri-Beta has more than 626 chapters throughout the United States and Puerto Rico with more than 200,000 lifetime members. The honor society inducts students who are dedicated to improving the understanding of biolog-

ical study and extending the boundaries of human knowledge through scientific research.

Students in Eastern's Biology Department become biologists through extensive practices and by spending more time in the laboratory and field than in lectures. They learn about life processes while developing analytical skills and technical expertise.

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The Plymouth Plantation Bus Trip that was scheduled for June 19, 2020, has been canceled.

Due to health concerns, the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society, has made this difficult decision.

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Villager Newspapers

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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.

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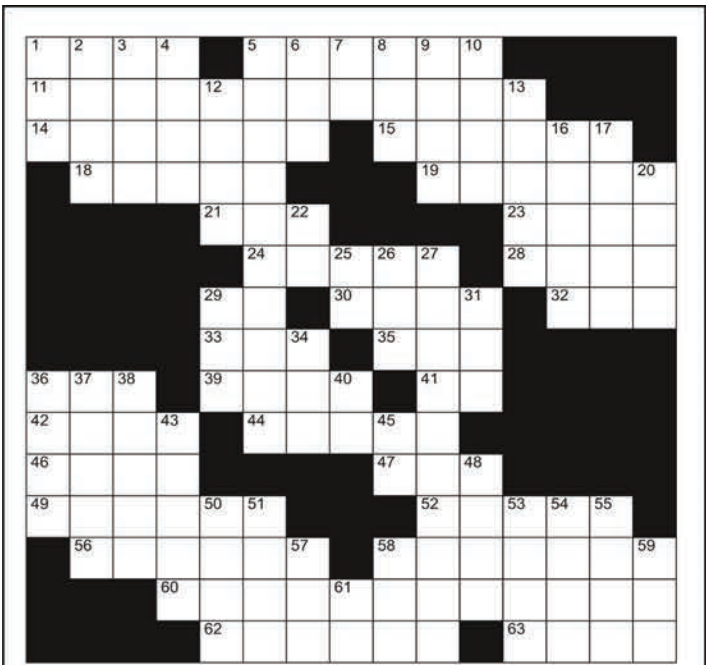
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Expression of sorrow or pity
5. Not bad
11. NYC Mayor
14. Essays
15. Walk lightly
18. Those who utilize
19. Actress Judd
21. One-time community of nations
23. Norwegian river
24. Unconscious states
28. Make muddy
29. Unit of volume
30. Consciousnesses
32. Envision
33. When you aim to get there
35. Electronic data processing
36. Passports are some
39. Snakelike fish
41. Military flyers (abbr.)
42. Popular computers
44. Ecological stage
46. Wings
47. Used in combination
49. Laid back
52. Princess's headgear
56. Musical composition
58. Famed Falls
60. Reiterations
62. Eras
63. Track event

CLUES DOWN

1. Defensive nuclear weapon (abbr.)
2. Instead
3. Gifts for the poor
4. A type of gin
5. Torments
6. One point south of due east
7. Actor Pacino
8. Feline
9. Chinese dynasty
10. Short cries for help
12. Straits can sometimes be this
13. Further
16. Variety shows
17. Supernatural
20. A university in Connecticut
22. Atomic #27
25. Of I
26. We all have one
27. Religious guilds
29. This can sting
31. Sunscreen rating
34. Brew
36. Religious leader
37. Indigo bush
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Jr.'s father
43. Ray-finned fish genus
45. Morning
48. Straight line passing from side to side (abbr.)
50. S-shaped line
51. Small bunch of hay
53. Ripened
54. Crater on Mars
55. Humanities
57. Of the ears
58. To the ___ degree
59. Wood
61. Cools your home



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Matthew Mlyniec of Brooklyn inducted into Earth Sciences Honor Society

WILLIMANTIC — The Environmental Earth Sciences Department at Eastern Connecticut State University inducted 12 students into the Theta Upsilon chapter of the Sigma Gamma Epsilon National (SGE) Honor Society for Earth Sciences this spring 2020 semester.

Among the inductees is Matthew Mlyniec of Brooklyn, a junior who majors in Environmental Earth Science. SGE is dedicated to exploring and understanding the Earth. New initiates must meet a 3.0 GPA threshold for induction.

The honor society runs field trips, does outreach events at local schools, hosts an annual visiting speaker program, helps with student resumes and plans “edutainment” events like a game show night this past year.

Eastern student James Hemeon inducted into Computer Science Honor Society

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. — Eastern Connecticut State University's Computer Science Department inducted 21 students into the Upsilon Pi Epsilon National Honor Society this spring 2020 semester.

Among the inductees was junior James Hemeon of Pomfret Center, who majors in Computer Science. The students were honored on April 29 in a virtual ceremony that featured faculty and administrators speaking to their academic achievements. Established in 1967, Upsilon Pi Epsilon is the official computer science honor society, with chapters located in North America and overseas. To be eligible, students must be in the upper 35 percent of their graduating class and complete at least 15 semester hours in basic computer science courses. Students with this recognition are expected to represent their university

on computer science issues and present undergraduate papers at computer science conferences. A computer science degree from Eastern provides students with the foundations and skills needed for future work and careers in computing. Additionally, the curriculum prepares students to continue acquiring new knowledge and skills to further their study and advancement in a fast-changing world.

Robert Johnson of Eastford Inducted into Mathematics Honor Society

WILLIMANTIC — Fifteen Eastern Connecticut State University students were inducted into Kappa Mu Epsilon (KME), the national honor society for mathematics, this spring 2020 semester.

Among the inductees was Robert Johnson of Eastford, a senior majoring in Mathematics and Political Science. Inductees must have junior or senior standing, obtain at least a B in Abstract Algebra and Real Analysis, hold an overall GPA of at least 3.0, and at least a 3.3 GPA in higher level mathematics courses. Students were celebrated for this achievement via an online ceremony that included video messages from President Elsa Nunez and Carmen Cid, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

Established in 1931, KME has more than 150 chapters nationwide, with more than 80,000 members. Eastern's chapter was chartered in 1981. The goal of KME is to increase interest in mathematics at the undergraduate level. Students are informed of the importance of mathematics in the development of Western civilization and the continuing advancements within the community.

FRED

continued from page A1

er's license with a Veteran Flag, a VA ID card or a discharge DD214. If a Veteran is too ill to come, the spouse may come with the ID and proof of marriage.” Some of the food that has been distributed in the past has been bread, fruits, salad fixings, potatoes and one time even corn on the cob. They have even had smoothies for kids. Steve Randolph who was a Sergeant in the Army served in both Desert Storm and Operation Enduring Freedom. He is one of the Veterans that receives food through the program.

He said, “It is a resource to help a lot of Veterans that need food assistance. It is a great thing the coffeehouse does. They make it happen through the Food Bank.” This is the only program for Veterans that is running right now. Before the Corona Virus hit they would meet on Tuesday mornings and on the first Wednesday evening of the month for the coffeehouse where they would gather to socialize with other Vets and listen to guest speakers. “The Veteran Coffeehouse is made up of men and women who stepped up when the country needed them and did their job for the country,” said Ruhlemann. The coffeehouse was originally run under TVCCA. It was started in 2015 by Greg Kline, a TVCCA employee. In 2017, it became a tax exempt corporation run by a Board of Directors with Ruhlemann as President. According to Ruhlemann, many of the local vets are still stepping up by volunteering in local towns on different boards such as Inland Wetlands Commission, Advisory Board at QVCC, Enforcement Advisor for New England Fisheries Management Council along with helping out in other places where there is a need. More information can be found on their Web site at www.DVCoffeehouse.com.

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EASTCONN’s Kristin Hempel elected to national COABE Council



Kristin Hempel

WILLIMANTIC — EASTCONN is pleased to announce that Kristin Hempel, the agency’s associate director of Adult and Community Programs, has been elected to represent nine Northeastern states on the national Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) council.

EASTCONN was recently notified that Hempel will begin serving a three-year term in July as COABE’s Region 1 Representative for Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire.

“I am proud to congratulate Kristin Hempel on her election,” said EASTCONN Director of Adult and Community Programs Richard Tariff. “We are confident she will do an excellent job of representing and advocating for adult education programs across the state, the region, and nationally. Her energy, drive, passion and dedi-

cation are attributes that have helped EASTCONN’s adult education program become the success that it is today.”

COABE, a non-profit, provides leadership, communication, professional development and advocacy for adult education and literacy practitioners to advance quality services for all adult learners, nationally and internationally. COABE serves 65,000 adult educators.

“I’m honored to represent my Region 1 colleagues’ adult education programs on this important, national advocacy council,” said Hempel. “I look forward to continuing to advocate for the funding and support that will help our educators remove barriers and improve access to learning opportunities for all adults.”

Hempel continued, “Well-executed adult education programs ensure successful outcomes for adult learners, by improving literacy skills and increas-

ing their ability to obtain better jobs. That helps create stability for their communities and brighter futures for their children.”

As Region 1 Representative to COABE, Hempel said she will support efforts to make adult education more accessible by developing mobile learning, technology integration and distance learning; forging new partnerships with workforce leaders to create new job pathways for adult learners; and creating two-generational programming that will engage adult learners across generations.

Learn more about COABE at www.coabe.org.

EASTCONN is a public, non-profit Regional Educational Service Center that has been serving the education needs of schools and communities since 1980. To learn more about EASTCONN and its Adult and Community Education Programs, visit www.eastconn.org.

Revaluation continues in Brooklyn

BROOKLYN — The state mandated revaluation continues. Inspections have finished. Data mailers will be sent to every residential property the first week of June. Property owners should review the data mailers for accuracy, i.e. flooring, heat/AC, exterior wall, room counts, etc. Data mailers

are to be signed, dated and returned within 10 days.

We respectfully request the property owner’s cooperation in order to determine fair and equitable assessments. As always, any questions or concerns please contact the Assessor’s Office.

Pomfret and climate change

POMFRET — The Pomfret Green Team is proposing the Town of Pomfret adopt an ordinance addressing cli-

mate change. There will a presentation and Q&A on Monday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Information on joining

the meeting is posted on the Town of Pomfret website.

QMC

continued from page A1

download an application.

To learn more, call QMC Principal Mary Kay Tshonas at 860-932-4137, or reach her at mtshonas@eastconn.org.

QMC is operated by EASTCONN as part of a partnership that includes EASTCONN, QVCC, Brooklyn, Franklin, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Thompson, Voluntown, Windham and

Woodstock. Enrollment is not limited to students who live in partner towns; students from across the region are welcome to apply.

EASTCONN is a public, non-profit, Regional Educational Service Center that has been serving the education needs of schools and communities in northeastern Connecticut since 1980. Learn more at www.eastconn.org and follow EASTCONN at www.facebook.com/wherelearningcomestolife.

VIRTUAL

continued from page A1

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Registration for a free virtual workshop(s) is required at www.qvcc.edu/training. Questions? Contact Andrew Morrison, Business & Industry Services Director at amorrison@qvcc.edu.

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5	8	9	6	7	9	2	1	3	4	1	3
4	7	9	6	1	3	1	3	5	2	8	5
3	2	1	5	4	8	6	7	9	6	7	9
1	5	8	2	7	4	7	9	6	3	6	9
9	4	7	1	3	9	6	8	2	5	2	8
6	3	2	8	9	6	9	5	7	4	1	7
7	1	3	9	5	6	4	9	5	2	8	2
8	9	5	4	5	6	8	7	2	3	1	9
2	6	8	3	4	9	2	5	1	6	5	7

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BREAKFAST

MAY 2020
THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GRAB & GO MEALS
"FREE" to all children
Ages 0-18

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 Chocolate Chip Muffin Fresh Fruit Milk
4 Cinnamon Bun Raisins ~ Juice Milk	5 Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Fresh Fruit Milk	6 Egg & Cheese Sandwich Fresh Fruit Milk	7 Mini Maple Pancakes Fresh Fruit Milk	8 Chocolate Chip Muffin Fresh Fruit Milk
11 Cinnamon Bun Raisins ~ Juice Milk	12 Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Fresh Fruit Milk	13 Breakfast Pizza Fresh Fruit Milk	14 Mini Maple Pancakes Fresh Fruit Milk	15 Chocolate Chip Muffin Fresh Fruit Milk
18 Cinnamon Bun Raisins ~ Juice Milk	19 Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Fresh Fruit Milk	20 Egg & Cheese Sandwich Fresh Fruit Milk	21 Mini Maple Pancakes Fresh Fruit Milk	22 Chocolate Chip Muffin Fresh Fruit Milk
25 HOLIDAY	26 Bagel w/ Cream Cheese Fresh Fruit Milk	27 Breakfast Pizza Fresh Fruit Milk	28 Mini Maple Pancakes Fresh Fruit Milk	29 Chocolate Chip Muffin Fresh Fruit Milk

LOCATIONS: TEEG 11:30- 12:30 THOMPSON LIBRARY: 11:00- 11:45 QUINEBAUG FIRE STATION: 12:00- 1:00 EAST THOMPSON FIRE DEPT 11:30- 12:30
WEEKEND MEALS: Available for pick up EVERY FRIDAY at ALL sites - Entrée to include: Fresh Fruit, Vegetable & Milk
Menu Subject to Change

LUNCH

MAY 2020
THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GRAB & GO MEALS
"FREE" to all children
Ages 0-18

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 Cheese Pizza Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk
4 Ham & Cheese Sandwich w/ Mayonnaise Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	5 Chicken Salad Sandwich Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	6 Chicken Patty w/ WG Roll Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	7 Hamburger w/ WG Roll Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	8 Mozzarella Sticks w/ Dipping Sauce Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk
11 Ham & Cheese Sandwich w/ Mayonnaise Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	12 "Walking" Taco (cheese, chips, meat) Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	13 Chicken Nuggets WG Cookie Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	14 Hot Dog w/ WG Roll Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	15 Cheese Pizza Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk
18 Ham & Cheese Sandwich w/ Mayonnaise Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	19 Yogurt Parfait ~ Strawberries w/ Graham Crackers Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	20 Chicken Patty w/ WG Roll Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	21 Hamburger w/ WG Roll Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	22 Mozzarella Sticks w/ Dipping Sauce Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk
25 HOLIDAY	26 Hot Dog w/ WG Roll Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	27 Chicken Nuggets WG Cookie Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	28 Chicken Fajita Wrap (peppers, onions) Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk	29 Cheese Pizza Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Milk

LOCATIONS: TEEG 11:30- 12:30 THOMPSON LIBRARY: 11:00- 11:45 QUINEBAUG FIRE STATION: 12:00- 1:00 EAST THOMPSON FIRE DEPT 11:30- 12:30
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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

The making of Mother’s Day

Another Mother’s Day has come and gone, and this year’s was certainly different as far as celebrations go. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, traditional Mother’s Day luncheons or brunches did not take place. Mothers living in long term care facilities replaced in person visits with zoom or telephone calls. From what we can see, most everyone has made the best of the situation.

We would like to recognize the fact that today, “mother” is increasingly becoming a word that could also apply to a father, aunts, uncles, grandparents and other family members who, for one reason or another, step in to that role as single parents or careivers. To those people, we wish you a happy Mother’s Day as well. With that being said, motherhood should be celebrated. Our children bring out the best in us and sometimes the worst, however at the end of the day the bond between most mothers and children is one that is stronger than anything we can describe.

Interesting is the fact that the creator of the holiday, Anna Jarvis, in 1908 fought to remove the day from the calendar after it became overly commercialized. Mother’s Day was officially placed on the calendar in 1914 by President Woodrow Wilson. Mothers were to wear white carnations given to them by their children and presented with other gifts.

The ancient Greeks, along with the Romans, held festivals to honor mother goddesses Cybele and Rhea. In more recent history the Christians called it ‘Mothering Sunday.’ Across the Atlantic Ocean, the holiday fell on the fourth Sunday during Lent and every mother was expected to return home to their ‘mother church’ to attend a Mother’s Day service.

Ann Jarvis (the mother of Anna Jarvis), along with Julia Ward Howe, held special classes in West Virginia during the early 19th century to teach women how to care for their youngsters. In the year 1868, Jarvis put together a ‘Mothers Friendship Day’ where mothers would socialize with former Union and Confederate soldiers in helps to create reunification.

Howe penned a ‘Mother’s Day’ Proclamation in 1870 in which she asked mothers across the country to help promote world peace. Three years later, Howe was pushing to have a ‘Mother’s Peace Day celebrated on June 2 annually. In Michigan, Mary Towles Sasseen and Frank Hering worked together to organize the holiday into the 20th century.

In 1905, Anna Jarvis lost her mother Ann. The grieving daughter looked to honor the sacrifices her mother made for her by celebrating Mother’s Day and hoped other children would do the same.

The first big celebration took place in 1908 in West Virginia, where a business owner named John Wanamaker held an event at a church to honor motherhood. That same day in Philadelphia thousands attended a sister store of Wanamakers to celebrate as well.

In 1970, Coretta Scott King, wife of Martin Luther King, Jr., used the holiday to bring awareness to underprivileged women and children. In Thailand, Mother’s Day is celebrated in August on the birthday of the current queen. In Ethiopia each fall, a big feast along with music is held over the course of a few days to celebrate motherhood. A fun fact, is that more phone calls are made on Mother’s Day than any other day of the year.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to brendan@villagernewspapers.com
Please include your place of residence and phone number for verification, not publication. Letters must be received by noon on Tuesdays.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Woodstock Fair canceled

To the Editor:
It is with heavy hearts that the Board of Directors of the Woodstock Agricultural Society announces the cancellation of the 2020 Woodstock Fair due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Our first priority is the health and safety of the community. This is a very difficult decision based upon the information that is

available to us at the present time.
Our thoughts are with all as we experience the uncertainties can impact of the COVID-19 virus.
Sincerely,
MARC ALLARD
ENTERTAINMENT DIRECTOR
WOODSTOCK FAIR

The gaslighting of America

To the Editor:
This is indeed a strange time and a hard time. For me, it is not simply the horror of realizing that as of the 10th of May, over 282,000 people worldwide have died of Covid-19, or because the United States leads the world in deaths by more than a factor of two compared to any other country, or because the United States has one-third of the world’s cases but only 5 percent of the world’s population, or even because the death rate from Covid is 232 per million people in America, but only 32 per million globally.
It is not because I have been directly affected by Covid-19 I (I have not, so far), or because I miss seeing my friends and children in person (I do), or because I can’t have my favorite Wormtown IPA and Cajun chicken garden salad at the Courthouse or because I can’t ride my bike in a group or wander into a bookstore or do any of the myriad things that used to routinely go into making a day full and interesting.
It does have something to do with understanding that lives are being upended and destroyed, both physically and financially. It does have something to do with the sense of powerlessness I feel from being on numerous hospital volunteer lists but being told that I am “too high risk” (i.e., too old) to go back into the ICU where I spent a good part of the 35 years that I practiced medicine.
But mostly, for me, it has to do with the daily gaslighting I experience as I watch the incompetent and corrupt Administration in Washington have its behavior supported and normalized by upwards of 43 percent of the population of the country I love.

Certain indelible images and facts come to mind: There was the Feb. 10 unveiling of the Trump White House budget including an \$85 million cut to the CDC’s Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases program, and a \$25 million cut to its Public Health Preparedness and Response division. There was the Feb. 24 Trump Tweet that “The Coronavirus is very much under control in the USA.” There was the March 6 visit to the CDC: Trump said, “As of right now anybody who needs a test (can get one) and the tests are all perfect,” and prohibited the unloading of a cruise ship with sick passengers on board because “I like the numbers being where they are.”
There was the March 13 Rose Garden ceremony where Trump promised that Google would launch a nationwide website to direct Americans to drive-through testing (where is it?) and declared with regard to the lack of testing that “I don’t take responsibility at all.”
There was the March 25 Trump Tweet, “The LameStream Media is the dominant force in trying to get me to keep our Country closed as long as possible in the hope that it will be detrimental to my election success.” There was the delay of stimulus checks so that Trump’s signature could be printed on them.
There was the April 14 freezing of US funding to the WHO, in the middle of a global pandemic. There was the April 17 siding with gun-toting anti-lockdown protesters, “LIBERATE MICHIGAN!” There was, on April 23, the musing that disinfectant injection might be a way to treat Covid-19. There was, on May 6, Trump saying that “by doing all of this testing, we make ourselves look bad.” The next day, after some 20,000 nursing home deaths, the first federal shipment of PPE to a nursing home arrived.
There was Jared Kushner giving out his cell phone number (“Thinking outside of the box,” “Call me if you need PPE and I’ll make some calls.”). Imagine, if you will, Jared making calls for Dwight Eisenhower before D-Day: “Hey, you guys have any spare LST (Landing Ship Troop)’s? Any LCI (Landing Ship Infantry)’s?”
There was Mike Pence at the Mayo Clinic

A failure of leadership

To the Editor:
In the current crisis, we should use the expertise we have. The sciences develop guidelines through careful study and investigation. Trust the sciences, not the musings of uninformed leaders with their own motives.
With our current need for scarce but vital resources, our federal policy pits state against state, in competition with each other and with the federal government.
We desperately need open dialogue and sensible conclusions based on science vs. “controlling the narrative” based on motive.

not wearing a mask; there was Pence’s Press Secretary Katie Miller not wearing a mask while herding reporters around, and then testing positive for the virus the next day. There was Donald Trump never wearing a mask, declaring, “So it’s voluntary. You don’t have to do it. They suggested it for a period of time. This is voluntary. I don’t think I am going to be doing it.”

These are only a few of the literally hundreds of such images and facts that spring to mind. What they reveal is a chaotic, feckless, and incompetent response. We still have no coherent plan to stop the coronavirus and no coherent plan to reopen the economy. I think NYU professor Jay Rosen may be on to something: “The plan is to have no plan, to let daily deaths between one and three thousand become a normal thing, and then to create massive confusion about who is responsible.”
The country which organized the D-Day invasion and flew men to the moon and back seems unable to organize a national testing strategy or an organized plan to reopen the economy safely. The country that showed the world how to defeat polio is now reduced to promoting unproven drugs and quack therapies from a White House podium. Said a writer in the Irish Times recently: “The country that Trump promised to make great again has never in its history seemed so pitiful. Will American prestige ever recover from this shameful episode?” If New Zealand, Australia, South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan can shut the virus down, why can’t the country which spends the most per capita on health care in the world?
This is where the gaslighting comes in. Under any normal circumstances, the above response to the pandemic would elicit a nearly unanimous outcry against our government being run so poorly and with such an utter lack of national leadership or concern for a suffering population in a national crisis. News that the White House stated that “CDC guidelines for reopening the economy will never see the light of day” would result in howls of outrage. And yet, these are apparently not normal circumstances; poll numbers remain just about where they have been for the past three and a half years: Somewhere between 75 and 90 percent of Republican voters think the president is doing a good job and 43 percent of the total American population think he is doing a good job.

As I write this, the President’s lawyers are heading the Supreme Court to argue that he is immune from any investigation of his behavior, and that he is, in effect, above the law. In the run-up to the Supreme Court Case, the President’s lawyer, William Consovoy, argued before a federal appeals court last October that if the president shot someone in the middle of Fifth Avenue he could not be investigated or punished while in office.
So this is where I need help with my gaslighting problem. Can someone please help me understand why so many Americans still support this man and his Administration unconditionally? Why is he not being called to task by more of our people? What national goals are so important that Republican Senators, Congressmen and voters continue to stay silent in the face of massive incompetence, corruption, and chaos during an existential threat to our country. I get that Americans come together during a crisis but that doesn’t mean that we have to sit passively, relegated to watching a slow-motion train wreck. Are a few judges, loosened environmental rules, and lower taxes for corporations really worth the destruction of our democracy? Am I missing something? Or am I the crazy one?

JOHN A. DAY, JR.
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

Fact-based response vs. obfuscation.
Efficient response vs. massive loss of life and a crippled economy.
Effective leadership vs. disaster.
Oh - and why the Mike Flynn case dropped at this time? A Lesson: Those who are loyal are rewarded. Those who speak truth are silenced....and fired.
How long will we endure this failed experiment in leadership?

KAREN RYKER
WOODSTOCK

The ritual of the haircut

As I snipped away at tufts of hair, I thought about all the hair salons and barber-shops that have welcomed people since the invention of tools. While the hair fell on to the carpet, I also considered the talents of the people who groom animals and the important role they play. I read that when people touch our heads, we want to tell them everything. Perhaps that explains why hair dressers know so much about their client’s private lives. At barber-shops, where admittedly I haven’t been since I was a little girl, waiting for my father, the talk seemed to be a male code that while I didn’t understand, I knew was special.

With salons and shops closed, I think of my mother-in-law, who was born a beauty and kept it up until nearly age 100. She was aided and abetted by Gail, who did her hair for forty years or more. When my mother-in-law moved into a nursing home, which provided a beauty parlor, I thought she would be pleased. Instead, in a matter of days, she was off to see Gail. With Gail, she was a different person. They teased each other. They gossiped. They admired my mother-in-law’s hair-do and swore she didn’t look her age. Their relationship was unique. Eventually, Gail went to the nursing home and continued to work her magic.

My mother went to a salon that was as quiet as a library. Stacks of women’s magazine were carefully arrayed on a low table and clients poured over them as they sat under silver hair dryers that looked like discarded parts of rocket ships. Everyone smoked and the smell of her Pall Malls mixed with the acrid odor of hair dye and permanent wave chemicals. Everyone seemed to emerge with exactly the same hair style.

My father went to the same barber for decades. He didn’t make an appointment, he just walked in. The men and boys talked about sports, a few glancing references to politics and were in and out in minutes. When he emerged he smelled of a brand of hair oil that always seemed to suggest that he was going to celebrate on Saturday night.

One bright fall afternoon, I had my first “celebrity” haircut at Vidal Sassoon salon on Carnaby Street in London. I was thrilled. I paid what seemed a fortune and my hair was so short it didn’t need to be combed. The experience set me up later for decades of going to Newbury Street in Boston to various salons. I dealt with hair dressers so aloof that they barely spoke as well as women and men so chatty they regaled me with stories about their fancy customers. One became a friend, opened her own salon and gave me a break on the price when I brought her bouquets of forsythia and pussy willows. I loved the freedom of walking down the street feeling good about myself. It seemed worth it.

My daughter bought some good scissors and a hair trimmer and she has become the salon operator for her family. She is doing a fine job and they seem to love the closeness of grooming together. My grandchildren will remember the kitchen haircuts as part of their quarantine.
Salons and barbershops will reopen, and we will happily slide into the chairs, look closely at ourselves in the big mirrors and wonder what the past months have done to us. After a few seconds of discomfort, we will lapse into familiar patterns and chitchat. We are bound to one another by rituals, especially those that help us feel good.



NANCY WEISS

If there was ever a time for radical optimism, it is now

Be optimistic. Get excited. Great things are on the brink of occurring. Positive shifts in paradigms are happening. Be open and embrace the future. From the ashes of a pandemic, incredible and positive change can occur. Be open!



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

Our nation has always responded positively and with overwhelming optimism to any challenge. When looking back at the history of World War II, you see how lives changed overnight and factories building cars one day were turning out tanks and airplanes the next. From the tragedy of Pearl Harbor emerged the greatest and most powerful nation in history. Democracy spread like wildfire and the world has never been the same. I believe that something positive and similar will happen because of this pandemic.

Look at General Motors. One day, they were turning out cars, and 40 days later they are turning out respirators. Look at the multitudes of company's and everyday people sewing masks. Americans are always up to the challenge. Americans have a history of radical optimism that inspires nations and people around the globe.

I keep hearing people ask, "Will things ever get back to normal?" And my response is "maybe there's a new and improved normal coming. Many have commented that they like having their groceries delivered. I embrace the idea that other than emergencies, I can visit my Doctor on my phone or laptop and not have to go into the office. I think we have all become more deliberate at keeping in touch with relatives and loved ones that live in distant places via Facetime, Zoom and other group meeting programs. Yes, some are commenting that we are becoming germophobic, but shouldn't we all wash our hands more and practice social distancing when we have a cold or flu? Being aware of the various ways to protect ourselves and others is a healthy thing.

My friend Judith Salitore wrote to me and said, "Radical optimism is having a dedication ... a commitment to always trying to find the good in every situation and not remaining on the side of defeat, hate or negativism in your life or experience." She also sent this quote from the Athenian historian, Thucydides. "The bravest are surely

those who have the clearest vision of what is before them. Glory and danger alike, and notwithstanding. Go out to meet it."

My point is simple. If there was ever a time for bravery, vision, and radical optimism, it is now. Many people look only at the negatives that come from change. Sure, I can sit and point at a few obvious negatives but what good comes of complaining? Let us instead focus on the positive and embrace the good that comes from hard or difficult times.

I believe this pandemic has uncovered many weaknesses and cracks in our nation's foundation. Now exposed, we can positively fix them.

I believe turning over the manufacturing of our pharmaceuticals to China was a national security risk that has been exposed. We should expect and demand it return within our nation and control, and I believe it will. We cannot allow our basic health and wellbeing be held hostage by a foreign government.

We've learned that some of our high-tech firms are sharing information in China that puts us all at risk. This is something we the people must demand comes to an end. In the name of business, we cannot allow our companies to sell the safety of our people off for

financial gain.

I believe the World Health Organization has been exposed to be either inept or corrupt.

Make no mistake. We need a global health organization of some kind but not one that is politicized and run with extreme bias and mismanagement.

Acknowledging these weaknesses, and others, is a positive, if we recognize them and act to make the positive and necessary changes. We are up to the challenge.

I'm confident in the human spirit and our ability to overcome the greatest obstacles. We will survive this pandemic, then thrive.

Be optimistic about our future. Why expect gloom and doom? Sure, we have a rough road ahead, but that road leads us to a bright future and greater times.

I'm a radical optimist. Will you join me? ■

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMoore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.

Effective prayers



BEYOND
THE PEWS
.....
JOHN
HANSON

Certainly, all who believe in God and pray would like his or her prayers to effective. But sometimes it is hard to know what to pray. James, the brother of Jesus wrote: "If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking." (James 1:5 NLT) If we apply that to prayer, one would be wise to find out what God wants them to pray.

Effective prayer might be defined like this: Prayer is finding God's heartbeat, so a believer can pray the prayers God most wants them to pray.

One mistake that is easy to make is to see everything from a limited, human point of view. Consider the following illustration as to how many of us see life from a limited point of view on a daily basis:

Our speech betrays us. When first observing the sun in the morning as it paints a kaleidoscope on the horizon, we drink it it's beauty and say things like "isn't that a beautiful sunrise?" Then, when the sun seems to sink in the sky and again refracts through the atmosphere at the end of the day, we enjoy how it colors our world with crimson reds and vibrant oranges, and we refer to it as a "sunset". But, technically, the sun neither rises nor sets. Those terms

are scientifically incorrect... deceptive... man-centered. While the sun is moving in its own orbit, it is not rising and setting in relation to the earth. The sun is a star burning at 27 million degrees Fahrenheit. It is 93 million miles from the earth. Because our earth rotates, someone standing on the equator is traveling from west to east at the rate of about a thousand miles per hour. As they race toward the sun it makes the sun appear to rise. As they race away from the sun it makes it appear to be setting. So, sunrise and sunset are egocentric terms. We are describing the effects of the rotation of our world as if everything revolves around us. And we tend to pray that way too.

King David is probably one of the most famous kings of all times. The story of him killing Goliath is known even in secular circles. Throughout

his eventful life David wrote many Psalms and a good number of them were prayers. Psalm 139 is one of those "prayer Psalms." In it, David struggles with God's intense knowledge of him, he marvels at how God intricately formed him in his mother's womb, and then prays a prayer of surrender to God's searching, knowing, probing, and refining. This Psalm is a great example of how someone might pray if they are trying to find God's heartbeat and align their lives with Him. Read it. Let it inspire you to pray and effective prayer.

Bishop John W. Hanson is the pastor of Acts II Ministries in Thompson. During the week, their congregation meets in house prayer groups, where they learn how to pray effective prayers. For more information, please visit www.ActsII.org.

Lesser known provisions of the CARES Act to help you stay afloat



FINANCIAL
FOCUS
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JIM ZAHANSKY
INVESTMENT
ADVISER

In previous articles, we have discussed how the CARES Act provides assistance for those who may need it, from stimulus checks (which have been received by many Americans already), federally subsidized and expanded unemployment insurance, to extended health care enrollment periods, 2020 required minimum distributions (RMDs) waived, and small business relief (Paycheck Protection Program Loans). However, there are additional provisions in the CARES Act that are meant to help people navigate a sudden loss of income. This week, we will focus on additional resources and assistance provided by the CARES Act.

Student Loan Payment Suspensions

Many Americans face the harsh reality of paying off their student loan debt. However, under the CARES Act, interest and required payments on federal student loans have been automatically suspended, without penalty, retroactively from March 13 through Sept. 30. If, however, you wish to continue making payments on your loan, you may do so by contacting your loan provider.

Automatically suspended loans include Direct Loans, PLUS Loans, Federal Perkins Loans, and Federal Family Education Loans. Excluded from this relief program are federal student loans held by a commercial lender or by a school directly, and private student loans.

There is also good news for individuals working toward Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) or Teacher Loan Forgiveness (TLF). Despite the suspension of required payments, each

month through September 2020 will count toward the PSLF program. For teachers in the TLF program who are unable to finish the school year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the partial year will count as a full year.

Debt collection for federal student loans owned by the U.S. Department of Education is also suspended until Sept. 30. This suspension applies to garnishments on wages, tax refunds, and social security benefits.

If your loans are not included in this relief program and your income has been reduced or you are facing challenges during this time, we suggest you reach out to your loan service provider for assistance in evaluating your options.

Mortgage and Renters' Relief

For many people, one topic of concern is how they will continue to keep the roof over their heads if they are suddenly without income. Well, the federal government and individual states are stepping in to provide protection for homeowners and renters. Under the provisions of the CARES Act, individuals with federally backed mortgage loans who are experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19 can request a forbearance period by contacting their mortgage servicer. This will defer mortgage payments for up to 360 days without penalties or fees added to the account, although regular interest will still accrue.

One important aspect to consider is that homeowners will ultimately still be responsible for repaying their mortgage payments. Repayment options vary, so make sure to call your lender or mortgage servicing company to find out what solutions may be available to you.

We suggest that those who can pay their mort-

gage, should make the payment, but if you can't pay your mortgage, or can only afford a partial payment, then you should contact your mortgage servicer immediately.

The CARES Act also protects those living in various forms of public housing by providing a temporary freeze on evictions, as well as late fees, for nonpayment of rent for 120 days beginning March 27. Landlords are not allowed to issue a notice to vacate until after the temporary freeze period and will not be allowed to require a tenant to vacate until 30 days after giving the notice. This freeze

Governor Ned Lamont issued an executive order halting eviction before July 1 (except for extenuating circumstances such as physical harm to another tenant or the landlord). Additionally, in Connecticut, for rent due in May 2020, landlords must grant a 60-day grace period for payment upon the request of tenants. If a tenant has a paid security deposit of more than one month's rent, the tenant can apply all or part of that excess to April, May, or June rent. In either case, the tenant must notify their landlord that they have lost a job, lost hours, or otherwise

rights as a tenant, visit www.ct.gov/coronavirus.

Our Commitment to Empowering the Community to Live Well

This week, we want you, our dedicated readers, to know that the CARES Act is lengthy and there is a lot to it. However, millions of Americans can benefit from the CARES Act if you are aware of what to look for. We have covered these benefits in previous articles in hopes that our readers will understand their options for stay-

Turn To **ZAHANSKY** page **A12**



Community Connection

Your area guide to buying, dining & shopping locally!



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OBITUARIES

Joseph Andrew McDonald Sr,

Oxford - On Saturday, May 2, 2020 Heaven gained a special angel as Joseph Andrew McDonald Sr, born



March 9, 1932, passed away peaceful in his sleep at Webster Manor where he was lovingly nicknamed The Mayor of the Manor due to his infectious charm and outgoing personality. No matter his situation it was always his mission to bring a smile to your face.

Andy was blessed to have the love of a large family, leaving behind his wife of 64 years, Doris Beatrice (Beaudette) McDonald, one living brother Cleo McDonald, 5 children including his daughter Susan McDonald Vincent, daughter Andrea Cutting with her husband Michael Cutting, son Mark McDonald with his wife Michelle McDonald, daughter Sandy Hansen with her husband Tom Hansen and his son Joseph Andrew McDonald Jr with his wife Leah McDonald. He also left

12 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. As a devout Catholic he was looking forward to being reunited with his parents and 7 siblings that passed before him. He was a devoted member of St Roch's church where he lead rosary classes, bible study and prayed over anyone in need. In his earlier years he was a Sergeant in the United States Air Force and served in the Philippines. Upon leaving the military he worked at Webster Spring/General Spring where he retired from while also serving as a reserve Oxford police officer for many years. But of all the titles he held over his years, Dad was the one liked best. To know him was to love him. He had a hug, a joke or a prayer for everyone he met and along with his wife they raised a very strong, tight knit family that stretched far beyond DNA. However, God waited long enough for his loyal patron and needed him by his side, so until we meet again he will be deeply missed.

Unfortunately, Due to issues with covid 19 church services will be scheduled at a later date.

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

Marjorie E. (Clapp) Bell, 76

BROOKLYN, CT- Marjorie E. (Clapp) Bell age 76 passed away Saturday, May 2, 2020 at her home with her loving family at her side. She leaves her husband of fifty one years, Bruce D. Bell. She also leaves sons, Kevin D. Bell and his wife Tonya of North Hampton, MA and Eric E. Bell of Brighton, MA. She also leaves Lola her beloved cat. Marjorie leaves a sister Eleanor and a sister who predeceased her, Sharon Clapp of North Hampton, MA.

She was born in Melrose, MA daughter of the late Allan Clapp and Jessie (Machaick) Clapp living in Brooklyn for the past thirteen years prior to that living in Littleton, MA. Marjorie was a homemaker and worked in health

care as a CNA. Some of her joys were crocheting, bread making and cooking. She always had a spare loaf of her homemade bread for friends and family.

There are no calling hours. Services will be announced at a later date and will be held at the Line Baptist Church, 179 Killingly Rd., Foster, Rhode Island 02825. Please omit flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Hospice and Palliative Care of Northeastern CT., 320 Pomfret St., Putnam, CT 06260. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com

Phyllis A.Simmons,84

Phyllis A.Simmons,84 of 110 Foster Center Road Foster,Ri passed away peacefully on Saturday May,2,2020 at Woodpecker Hill Health Center Coventry,Ri She was born September 28,1935 in Providence Ri to the late Harry and Bertha Simmons.

Phyllis was predeceased by her son Thomas Simmons. Brothers Harry Simmons,Jr.,Gilbert Simmons,Robert Simmons,Foster Simmons,James Simmons and Russell Simmons. Sisters Helena Chase,Claire Moran and Deloris Dutch.Phyllis is survived by her two sisters Roberta



Lamphere of Foster Ri, and Marilyn Pate of New Philadelphia,Pa. She also leaves behind numerous nieces,nephews,great nieces and great nephews and many caring friends. Phyllis loved going to the ocean to dig quahogs,she also loved venturing in the woods to find greens to make wreaths and roping for the holidays and picking blueberries. She was an avid New England Patriots fan. In her spare time she liked to do word searches and play Bingo. Due to the current pandemic,a memorial Service will be held at a later date. Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Anderson Winfield Funeral Home of 2 Church Street Greenville, RI.

Joseph Francis Kania, Jr., 67

Joseph Francis Kania, Jr., 67, of Alfred Maine, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at home. He was born on November 3, 1952, to the late Joseph Francis Kania Sr. and Rita Barbara (Cyr) Kania, in Danielson, CT where he lived from childhood to young adult life.

He graduated from Killingly High School in 1970 and enlisted in the Air Force the same year. The Air Force trained Joe in Safety and Fire Protection.

After his discharge in 1977, he was employed by the U.S. Department of Labor where he used his fire-fighting experience at Westover Airforce Base in Chicopee, MA, and later the Groton Submarine Base in CT.

In 1985 Joe transitioned his professional career in safety and protection to the private sector working as a Loss Control Engineer for the Hanover and CNA Insurance Companies.

In 2002, after more than 12 years in the insurance industry, Joe returned to government service. His duties took him to throughout the eastern seaboard and to international postings in Germany and Iraq.

On March 23, 2011, Joe married his second wife Dianne Harrington of Holden, MA.

Upon retirement, Joe turned to a new and different interest, farming. He and

Dianne bought an apple orchard, built their second home in Alfred, ME, and began to learn the art and science of growing apples, blueberries, and pumpkins. Joe had a lifelong interest in aviation. In 1999, he enrolled in private pilot training and obtained his license. He later bought his own single-engine Cessna which he had hangered in Sanford, Maine.

Joe had a great love for his grandchildren. The grandchildren loved visiting Papa and Grammy in Maine and had fun learning about farming as they joined in the activities of daily life.

Joe also wrote two children's books, The Magic of Flying with Grandpa and Farming with Grandpa that combined his love of his grandchildren with his favorite pastimes.

Joe is survived by his loving wife Dianne; first wife Eileen; daughter Renee Kania, son Aaron Kania and step-son T.J. Harrington (Lisa); brothers and sisters, Gloria Kania Fabian, Maryann Lalumiere (Richard), Pamela Dion (David) and James Kania; grandchildren, Lily, Swede, Colin and Jack; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, great-nieces and nephews, and many dear friends.

Private interment will be in the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery in Springvale, ME on Thursday, May 7th with a limited number of family members.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, his wife and family request that donations be made in Joe's memory to The American Heart Association <https://www.heart.org>



Jeanne Cote.

Richard was born in the village of Chatham, New York on September 12,

Richard A. Ross, 80

FITCHBURG – Richard A. Ross, 80, passed away peacefully on Thursday April 30, 2020 at the Highlands of Fitchburg.

Richard is survived by his wife Diane (Belanger) Ross; three sons: Mark, Alan, and Scott Ross; three daughters: Laura DiTomasso, Tonia Zwicker, and Sue Richard; two brothers: Ronald Ross of New York and Gary Ross of Utah; five grandsons and six granddaughters; he also leaves several nieces and nephews. Richard was predeceased by his former wife of 29 years

1939, son of the late Robert A. and Pauline (Welch) Ross. Richard served honorably as a sergeant first class in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and worked as a bus driver for many years prior to his retirement. Richard enjoyed his Boston Sports Teams, oldies music, and playing cards; he especially enjoyed his Saturday night cribbage games with his family and friends. Richard was the Bingo Caller for St. Joseph's Parish for many years; he left us with treasured memories and laughter. We will miss him.

A private graveside service will be held in the St. Joseph's Cemetery in Fitchburg, MA.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street Webster, MA.

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

William J. Gazzola

KILLINGLY- William "Bill" J. Gazzola passed away on May 3, 2020 at home after a battle with glioblastoma. Born in 1944 in New York City, Bill was the oldest child of the late William H. and Margaret (Scarpati) Gazzola.



Bill grew up in the Bronx, NY where he attended St. Mary's Elementary and Cardinal Hayes High School during which time he met his wife-to-be, Diana. After high school, Bill worked at AT&T and attended NYU. He and Diana were married in 1965. Before moving to Connecticut, Bill, aka "Mr. G.," taught Industrial Arts for five years at Theodore Roosevelt High School.

In 1972, Bill and Diana settled in Killingly, Connecticut with their two sons. Bill worked briefly restoring and refinishing furniture before taking a teaching position at Killingly High School in 1977. He went on to earn his bachelor's degree at Goddard College and his master's degree at Rhode Island College. Bill taught at Killingly High School for twenty-eight years where he relished his time with his students. After retiring in 2005, he relished time with family and friends, especially time spent on Cape Cod. Bill loved to shellfish with his grandchildren and took delight in preparing his famous

grilled garlic oysters for them. Bill also enjoyed writing short fiction. For thirty-six years, he was a member of the Writer's Hotel, a close knit writing group that met in Vermont every Spring and Fall.

Bill leaves behind his devoted wife Diana (DeFeo); his son Chris and his wife Kelly, their children Chloe and Mae who lost their "Doodily"; younger son Adam and his son Alexander who called him "Paka", and Alex's mother Effi (ex-wife), Bill and Diana's bonus daughter Agnes Bernard of Windham. He also leaves his sister Carolyn Werge and her husband Bob who was his lifelong friend from the AT&T days in New York; brothers David of New Hampshire; Paul of New York; sister Margaret Eltablawi and her husband Hesham of Killingly; sister in law Violeta DeFeo of NY and her late husband Ralph DeFeo, Diana's brother; and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews. He was predeceased by his youngest brother James. Bill is also survived by numerous cousins. He will be missed by many close friends and colleagues in New York, CT, VT and Cape Cod, MA.

Services have respectfully been omitted. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St. Putnam, CT. For memorial guestbook, please visit www.GilmanandValade.com.

Beverly Williams, 70

WOODSTOCK – Beverly (Davis) Williams, 79, of Brickyard Rd., died peacefully at Orchard Grove Specialty Care in Uncasville on Sunday, May 3, 2020.



Born in Providence, Rhode Island, she was the daughter of the late Paul and Arlene (Mullen) Davis, Sr. She was predeceased by her husband, Russell Allen Williams, who passed away on November 27, 2017. They were married September 27, 1958.

Beverly worked for Windham Container, Crabtree & Evelyn, and Brook's Pharmacy Distribution. She enjoyed collecting trivets, gardening, and feeding the birds and wildlife that wandered through her property.

Beverly is survived by her son, Jeffrey Williams of ME; her grandson, Travis Williams and girlfriend Emily Bruno; four granddaughters, Lauryn Langlois and husband Ryan Langlois, Ashley Williams, Jasmin Williams, Kasandra Caron and boyfriend Peter Koch; seven beautiful great-grandchildren, Quinn Langlois, Mason Langlois, Gracelyn Langlois, Landen Langlois, Karley Caron, Bently LaBonte, and Emma Koch. Beverly was predeceased by her son, the late Russell A. Williams; and two brothers, Paul Davis, Jr. and Robert Davis.

A burial will be scheduled for a later date in Barlow Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Beacon Hospice or the Alzheimer's Association. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Pauline L. Fontaine, 79

PUTNAM – Pauline (Ziemski) Fontaine, 79, of Woodside St., passed away on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at Day Kimball Hospital.



Born in Dudley, MA, she was the daughter of the late John and Kathryn (Quigg) Ziemski, Sr.

Mrs. Fontaine worked as a teacher's aide for 22 years at Thompson Day Care. She also worked as a prep-cook for Marianapolis Preparatory School. She was the co-founder of Mountaineer Family & Friends, country band. She sold Tupperware and donated her time to NECT Relay for Life as well as many other benefits and charities. She was the recipient of the N.E. Country Music Club Hall of Fame Award and previously served as their alternate trustee to their board. She was the youngest of eight children and was always known to be late for everything. She was known for the red lipstick she would leave on men's foreheads as a sign of her love.

Pauline is survived by her daughters, Marion Appleton and her wife

Christyna of Selkirk, NY, and Linda Fitzgerald of Putnam, CT; her sister, Mary Champagne of Putnam; her fiancé, Lucien Larue of Putnam; her chosen and "older" adopted sister, Lorraine Breton; eight grandchildren and seventeen great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husbands, the late Dana McKissick, George Caron, and Robert Fontaine; her son, the late Dana "Woody" McKissick; and her siblings, Margaret "Margie" Shaffer, Dorothy "Dot" Tremblay, Jane Ziemski, John Ziemski, Jr., Thomas Ziemski, Sr., and Edward Ziemski.

A public memorial service will be scheduled at a time when we can comfortably come together and celebrate Pauline's kind, compassionate and unselfish spirit. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT. Memorial donations may be made to the Relay for Life N.E.C.T. Team Angels in Heaven, c/o the American Cancer Society, 111 Founders Plaza, 2nd Floor Suite 200, E. Hartford, CT 06108. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.



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News

Wheels & Deals

Town-to-Town Classifieds

LEGALS

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
The Planning & Zoning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 7:45 p.m., to be held in accordance with Governor's Executive Order 7B, conducted as a web-based virtual meeting via Zoom. Login information will be contained on the agenda found at the Woodstockct.gov website. #SP638-02-22 Stephen & Lorraine Gabriele, Crystal Pond Rd (Map 6385, Block 39, Lot 39F) – Multi-family residential development. Chairman Jeffrey Gordon, M.D. May 8, 2020 May 15, 2020

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
Wetlands Agent has granted approvals for the following applications: #03-20-04 Scott Gebo for James Byrnes III, 1226 Rt 168 – Septic system repair (03/31/2020); #04-20-05 Melissa O'Day, 68 Lakeview Dr – 8 ft deck extension (04/15/2020); #04-20-06 Josh Huck, 711 Brickyard Rd – Above ground pool install (04/14/2020); #04-20-07 Wilson & Pat Burgos, 128 Indian Spring Rd – 16x24 deck (04/22/2020). Tina Lajoie, WEO/CZEO. May 15, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Catherine J King (20-0-0161) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated May 4, 2020, ordered that all claims must be pretested 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:
Heath W Bourgoin

c/o JAMES K. KELLEY
LAW OFFLCES OF
JAMES K. KELLEY & ASSOCIA,
33 BROAD STREET, DANIELSON,
CT 06239
May 15, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Dagmar Noll (20-00167) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated May 4, 2020, ordered that all claims must be pretested 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.
Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Rebecca Noll
c/o TRACIE L MOLINARO
(ATTORNEY FOR REBECCA NOLL),
ST ONGE & BROUILLARD, 50 RTE.
171, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281,
(860)928-0481
May 15, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Louise C. Pempek, AKA Louise Cutler Pempek, AKA Louise Carolyn Pempek (20-00165) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated April 27, 2020, ordered that all claims must be pretested 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.
Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Joseph Scott Pempek, aka J. Scott Pempek, 90 Five Mile River Road, Putnam, CT 06260
May 15, 2020

StonebridgePress.com



ZAHANSKY
continued from page A9

ing afloat. Whether that means student loan suspension, mortgage forbearance, or rent moratorium, there may be solutions available for you. At Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, we understand that everyone is in a different, and potentially difficult situation right now, which is why we provide information to empower our community to Live Well.

(Pastor of St. James Church Danielson; 1979 – 1991)



Father Richard R. Boucher, M.S., 86, a Missionary of Our Lady of La Salette, died May 1, 2020 at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut. He was born January 16, 1934 in Bristol, Connecticut, the son of Leo and Frances (Stone) Boucher. He was the second oldest of six children. After attending grammar school in Bristol, he completed high school and college at the Hartford La Salette Seminary. Father entered the La Salette Novitiate in Bloomfield, CT in 1953 and pronounced his First Vows on July 2, 1954 and his Perpetual Vows on July 2, 1957. On May 28, 1960, Father was ordained to the priesthood at the La Salette Seminary Church in Ipswich, MA. He continued his studies and received a Master's Degree in Latin from Boston College in 1961. In his first fifteen years of ministry, he was a professor at the La Salette Seminary in Altamont, New York where he taught Latin and Greek. In 1975, Father was assigned to the

La Salette Hartford House where he served as Superior and Treasurer for four years. He was named Pastor of St. James Church in Danielson, CT in 1979 and ministered there until his next assignment in 1991 to Our Lady of La Salette Church in Canton, Georgia as Pastor. He then returned to Hartford House in 1992 and ministered at various times as superior, treasurer and house council member for many years. Father Boucher had a great appreciation for the Hartford House community and served them in various capacities during his time of ministry there. He was intent on living the charism of La Salette which was seen and esteemed by those around him.

In addition to his La Salette Community, Father Boucher is survived by his brother Ronald Boucher of Massachusetts, his sister Sandra McDermott of Maryland and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his siblings Leo, Joyce and Lawrence. A private graveside service was held on May 06, 2020. Please visit dillonbaxter.com to share a memory with the Community or family and to watch the funeral service.

Ruth J. Cooper, 92

NORTH HAMPTON/ WORCESTER- Ruth J. (Itchner) Cooper age 92 passed away on May 10, 2020. She is the wife of John C. Cooper of Hadley. She also leaves a daughter Rachael Graham of North Hampton and two grandchildren. Ruth was predeceased by a daughter Judith Ann Cooper of Ipswich. She was born in Providence, RI daughter of the late Fred Itchner and Bertha (Henries) Itchner and lived in Worcester for twenty five years, most

recent in Hadley and North Hampton. She also spent some time in San Francisco. Ruth was an adjunct professor at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA. There are no calling hours. Services are private. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

For those who have more questions or would like to know what resources are available, visit our website www.whzwealth.com/ covid19-resources for articles, podcasts, a CARES Act Q&A, and more. If you would like financial planning assistance, call us at 860-928-2341 or email us at info@whzwealth.com. Authored by Principal/Managing 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>.

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Traveling with pets is more popular than ever



Today's pets are increasingly on the go. Individuals and families planning to travel are increasingly choosing to take their pets along with them.

A survey by the American Pet Products Association found people spent \$69.51 billion on pets in 2017. A large chunk of spending — around \$6 billion — was directed toward pet accommo-

modations and boarding. Statistics Canada says that Canadians spent more than \$8 billion on pet-related items in 2017, and about half of that spending was on veterinary and other pet services.

Pet owners have options regarding pet care when leaving home for business or pleasure. Pet owners can hire pet sitters, leave the pet with

a friend or family member, arrange for boarding, or bring their pets along with them.

Nowadays, millions of pet owners are taking their pets with them when they travel. To meet the demand, everything from hotels to Airbnb accommodations to airlines are enabling people to bring companion animals along. Some major airports offer pet-relief

areas and even Amtrak rail service recently started letting small pets on board.

Certain facilities charge fees to bring pets along. Such fees typically range between \$100 and \$200. Some pet-friendly places even offer special perks, such as staff that takes the pets for walks when the owners are away from their rooms. The Kimpton hotel chain

does not charge pet fees and also offers free pet beds, water bowls and treats, making it easy for customers to travel with their companion animals.

If pets are coming along for the ride, flight or stay, pet owners should brush up on these pet travel tips.

- Obtain a health certificate. Schedule a visit to the vet and have them

offer a health certificate listing immunizations and the state of the pet's health. Many airlines, hotels, pet care centers, and border crossing authorities will require such proof of pet wellness.

- Research local vets. Find a vet or animal hospital near the hotel or city where you will be staying. In the event of an emergency, you'll know where to go.
- Plan for pit stops. Give pets time to stretch their legs and take bathroom breaks. Try to take breaks every two to three hours.
- Vet the transportation service. Check the train or plane policy for bringing pets along. In addition, look into the history of transporting pets, keeping an eye out for any incidents of pets being lost or injured.
- Bring a crate or carrier along. Many pets feel safe and secure in crates, and hotels or airlines may require pets be contained when unattended. So be sure to bring a crate when traveling with a pet.
- Contact the tourism board. Ask a local tourism board about local pet-friendly accommodations and restaurants.

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