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about this?

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Friday, May 1, 2020

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Good will can be contagious

BY KAREN BUTERA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

REGION — This story is about many of the local small business owners who have had to close and are hurting financially, and how they have been able to still manage to share with others. The northeast corner of Connecticut is made up of many generous people who believe in showing how thankful they are for the local medical professionals and first responders.

One of the major benefactors of these gifts has been our local Day Kimball Hospital. Kristen Willis, Director of Development has been coordinating the donations of food, PPE and monetary donations.

“People are being so generous,” said Willis. “It is a convenience for workers to not have to go out for the food. They do have access to the cafeteria, but it is a comfort knowing the people in the community are thinking about them- that some-

one cares. At the end of their day they have to go home to family not knowing if they are exposed or not. It’s great to know that someone is doing something special for them.”

Debra Lee Smith, owner of Deb’s Place of Danielson treated the DKH At Home staff and support services which included facilities, security, management, materials, EVS, housekeeping, transport and nutritional staff departments to 15 dozen of her muffins.

“I wanted to see everyone in the group get them for a pick me up,” said Smith. “It was posted on FB and from there it grew with donations for the hospital, and it is still growing.”

Like every other restaurant she is closed, but Deb’s Place is different. She is selling her French Meat pies for take-out, and will soon be offering other curb side options.

“The Danielson Rotary will soon be making a donation,” said Smith.

Willis is thankful for her donation, and said “Deb has gone above and beyond, not only donating to the staff itself, but also to the people that are behind the scenes.”

Another food contributor has been Lake Road Generating, of which Vistra Energy is the parent company.

According to Assistant Manager Dawn Fennessy, “We saw that someone had donated to the hospital so we contacted Renee’s Working Girl Catering of Putnam to have them help us to provide lunches to the hospital. She made 100 boxed lunches for us. We also used The Dubliner restaurant of Dayville to provide 35 lunches to the State Police Barracks.”

Lake Road Generating is also working on donations for the TEEG Mobile Food Pantry.

“We are inspired to help out. People have to go to work every day and we appreciate that,” said

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Turn To **GOOD**, page **A8**



Photo Karen Butera

Cheryl (Cher) Kapelner-Champ made a sign to celebrate Earth Day.

Earth Day a longtime passion for Pomfret resident

BY KAREN BUTERA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

POMFRET — On April 22, 1970, the first Earth Day was established. This month marks the 50th anniversary of the event. It was originated by Sen. Gaylord Nelson as a day to educate citizens on the issues of environmentalism. Much of the focus was on green living in order to promote the health of the earth,

bringing recognition to pollution and environmental issues. Today it is celebrated globally.

Cheryl (Cher) Kapelner-Champ from Pomfret loves Earth Day and what it stands for.

“When Earth Day first came out, you did not hear much about it. I finally took notice of it when my three sons went to

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Turn To **EARTH DAY** page **A2**



St. Joseph School to provide Zoom town halls for prospective families

N O R T H GROSVENORDALE — As the Coronavirus continues to change how school is taught on a daily basis, for Catholic schools like St. Joseph School (SJS) in North Grosvenordale, it also has altered how it traditionally reaches out to prospective families. To fulfill this annual rite of spring, Mr. David Sizemore, Principal of SJS, is pleased to announce a series of Zoom information sessions that interested families can be a part of during the first week of May.

“The Zoom platform has truly been a game changer for SJS,” said Sizemore. “After a week of training in mid-March, knowledgeable members of

the SJS community helped to teach those that were new to Zoom in order to keep the entire SJS community connected. Teachers routinely hold class sessions via Zoom, our Parent School Connection (PSC) has had weekly Zoom sessions to provide their thoughts on our Distance Learning Plan, and I host faculty meetings twice a week on this platform in order to get feedback from teachers on how things are going.”

For families interested in joining the SJS community, Zoom Town Halls will be organized during the 1st week of May. In total there will be eight town halls that prospective families can choose from not only

to learn more about what makes SJS so special, but also how to register students for the 2020-21 school year.

There will be two Town Hall sessions per day during the week of May 4, a morning and an evening session.

Monday, May 4:
Morning Session 10 – 11 a.m. Evening Session 7 – 8 p.m.

Tuesday, May 5:
Morning Session 10 – 11 a.m. Evening Session 7 – 8 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6:
Morning Session 10 – 11 a.m. Evening Session 7 – 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 7:
Morning Session 10 – 11 a.m. Evening Session 7 – 8 p.m.

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Turn To **Zoom**, page **A12**

Red Cross assisting Thompson family

THOMPSON — The American Red Cross is helping a family – one adult, no children – after a fire today on Azud Road, Thompson. The Red Cross provided assistance to meet the family’s immediate needs. Responders included Sue Bolen and Eldon Griffiths.

The Red Cross also provided a recovery envelope containing information helpful to families recovering from a fire, including tips on cleanup; notification of important contacts; dealing with damaged items and more.

Those affected will connect with Red Cross caseworkers in the coming days to work on a longer-term recovery plan. The Red Cross is able to provide assistance through the generosity of our donors and commitment of our volunteers.

For more information about the Red Cross visit redcross.org and for information on our home fire preparedness campaign visit: <http://www.redcross.org/ct/schedule-a-visitor> call 1-877-287-3327 and press option 1.



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More memories from readers



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

I'll begin my column with more memories from my readers.

Dave Doiron sent the following: "In the 1950's we kids we kids played outside as often as we could. The lower parking lot area of the bank across from

the historical center was a field where we neighborhood kids played pick-up baseball nearly every day during the summer. There was also another field and an old barn in the Oak Street neighborhood where we played and a hill on Spring Street where we spent the winters sledding and having snowball fights. All of that (is) gone from the old neighborhood" (email April 14).

One hundred years ago, cars were becoming more common since Henry Ford had begun manufacturing more affordable models. An ad in the Saturday, May 1, 1920 Norwich Bulletin informed residents of Northeastern Connecticut that the Elmer Automobile Co., located on School Street in Putnam, was the "exclusive agents for products of the Ford Motor Company in Putnam, Grosvenordale, Thompson, the Woodstocks, Pomfret, Abington, Eastford, Elliott, Dayville, Goodyear, Killingly, Danielson, and Brooklyn." (p. 6, newspapers.com).

An additional look at Danielson articles in the May, 1920 Norwich Bulletins provided a glimpse at what was going on at that time. One article provided some words of wisdom for bicycle riders. "The warning is given: Don't leave your bicycle standing beside the curb on streets in the business section; don't leave it out back of some business block or in some other place offering tempting opportunity for someone to make off with it. Chief John MacFarland issues a warning that Danielson is not a safe place in which to leave bicycles around at the present time. Two wheels were stolen during the past week. Both owners were fortunate enough to recover their property, but that was exceptionally good luck, and cannot endure forever. Most of the bicycle thieves operating here are boys. They're slick and nervy, a combination of talent, or infamy, that permits them to get away with bicycles that are not properly protected from theft." (Norwich Bulletin, May 4, 1920, p. 6; newspapers.com).

The building mentioned in the next item, from the same paper, is still standing adjacent to the railroad tracks in Danielson and houses the New York Pizza Company. "Erwin Bennett of Pawtucket, formerly proprietor of a billiard parlor in what was formerly known as the Central House, now, the Danielson Inn, has been visiting

with friends in Danielson." (See page 17 of "Images of America Killingly" by Natalie L. Coolidge and Robert A. Spencer for a photo of the Central House).

I begin writing this column a week before it's printed. Are you tired of the changeable weather? Forties one day; a brief visit from sixties; then back down again. Such must have been the case in early May 1920. "The temperature dropped to within six degrees of the freezing point in Danielson during the early hours of Monday morning" (Norwich Bulletin, Tuesday, May 4, 1920, p. 6; newspapers.com). My late husband Charles R. Weaver would never plant tomatoes and tender plants until after Memorial Day just to be on the safe side.

Apparently, another concern the beginning of May was the hours that the Danielson Post office was being kept open. "Postmaster Raymond Allen and other members of the post office force do not take at all kindly to the published suggestion that they go back to the old arrangement of keeping the post office open until 7:30 p.m. During the present week the office has been closing at 6:30 p.m. after being open 13 hours, or from 5:30 a.m. The boys are getting up at (5 a.m.; smudged) these days are really on duty clearing up the day's work until nearly 7 p.m. They think that is about long enough, being somewhat in excess of the much talked of eight hour day. Postmaster and clerks would prefer the old schedule--6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. but Danielson is out of tune with the rest of this part of the country as to keeping time, and this fact imposes hardships on the post office force that are sufficient without adding more. Post office regulations state that the schedule of clerks and carriers must be based upon mail train schedules in order to maintain the most expeditious delivery and dispatch of mails...In regard to the man who returns at 7:30 p.m. to put up the mail for the boat train at 7:56 p.m. this mail closed at 6:30 p.m. and is carried to the station before 7 p.m. if possible. The idea that any man should come in at 7:30 p.m. to dispatch the mail on the 7:56 p.m. train is evidence of lack of knowledge of the mail business, as it regularly requires from 45 minutes to one hour or more to prepare this mail for dispatch..." (Norwich Bulletin,

Saturday, May 1, 1920, p. 6; newspapers.com). Now this article not only provides me with food for thought, (I never even thought about the "mail trains") it also sparks my desire for additional research about daylight savings time one hundred years ago. That is why I underlined the part about Danielson being out of tune with the rest of the country. Did each town make its own decision?

Esther Daigneault called after reading the recent column on the Spanish Flu in 1918-1919. She said that her grandfather died of the Spanish influenza in November 1918 in Northbridge, Massachusetts when he was only 28 years old, leaving three children and his wife pregnant with the fourth. Her father was only five. He and the rest of the family survived, including her grandmother and the baby who was born in the spring. In this time of pandemic, Esther said that my story gave her hope. (Telephone call April 15).

I think we all need to hold on to hope. Although a number of individuals are being stricken with Covid-19, and Connecticut is seeing its share of deaths, many people infected with the virus are recovering, and many are not stricken at all. So as I keep hearing on Channel 3, "We Are All in This Together." Do your part. Stay home when possible; social distance; wear a mask. I loved a song that I learned at Girl Scout Camp, "No Man Is An Island; No Man Stands Alone." May we all learn to care for one another and do what we can to bring hope to our family, friends, and all we meet.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, April 2020. Special thanks to Dave Doiron and Esther Daigneault for sharing memories. 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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GOOD NEWS

EARTH DAY

continued from page A1

school and came home with projects. We would talk about it," she said.

Right after this she decided to do her part and help teach her kids some of

the ways that the family could go green. They decided to use organic fertilizer in their garden. also, she and her husband can also be found out in the community helping to clean up on Community Day in years past.

She was married to her husband Steve in June of 1970. It was a wonderful year that held a lot of meaning to them. What she didn't know was that when the first Earth Day was established, buried deep in her subconscious mind was the fact that she was a champion for the earth and wanted to help protect it. She became involved in what was to become the first of many protests in 1977 when she participated with others against the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant, located in Seabrook, New Hampshire.

"The reason for the demonstration was because we thought we could stop

the plant by holding these demonstrations," said Kapelner-Champ. "Today, I realize it is more complicated than I originally thought back in 1977."

Throughout the years, she has moved a few times until she and her family made their home in Pomfret. Likeminded people tend to find one another. That is what happened when Kapelner-Champ learned of a group called 'Quiet Corner Shouts!,' which she partnered up with. It is a group of over 300 members that campaigns for things they believe in. They gather on the corner of routes 44 and 169 and peacefully protest by carrying signs for any issues they believe should be brought to the attention of Quiet Corner citizens.

After realizing that this year marks the 50th anniversary, she wanted to do something special to celebrate it. Being an artist was one of her many talents, and she decided to use that gift by making a sign for the Pomfret corner. She went out to the barn and found a piece of wood that she thought was the right size. He husband got it out for her and primed it.

"He is my backbone," she said. Since she did not have the proper paint for the sign, and not wanting to go out to a store to purchase any, she and her husband thought it would be a good idea to use leftover acrylic indoor paint. She wanted a simply stated sign and came up with the words, "Earth Day - Est. 1970."





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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 April 20: Northern Waterthrush, Hermit Thrush, Winter Wren, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, Barred Owl, American Kestrel, Pine Warbler, Wood Duck, Common Snipe, Woodcock, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Phoebe, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Great Blue Heron, Mockingbird, Swamp Sparrow, Cedar Waxwing, Louisiana Waterthrush, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Eastern Towhee, House Finch, Bluebird. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.

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QVCC launches Cannabis Studies certificate program

DANIELSON — Quinebaug Valley Community College is launching Connecticut's first Cannabis Studies program this summer, following approval from the CSU Board of Regents.

QVCC's Cannabis Studies program creates an opportunity for students to learn about the United States' fastest growing bumper crop by taking QVCC's Business Entrepreneurship course this summer, followed by QVCC's Cannabis Law and Policy course in the fall. In Spring 2021, QVCC will offer its Horticulture of Cannabis course for the first time. The 15-credit Cannabis Studies certificate includes classes in alternative medicine, botany, business and communications.

Students enrolled in QVCC's

Cannabis Studies program will learn about the legal challenges confronting cannabis farming, production, and consumer use; cannabis cultivation techniques and cannabinoid/THC extraction processes; the farming economics of land, labor, and capital; governmental regulations and laws affecting small business; and developing opportunities in western and alternative medicines and therapies.

Horticulture and policy courses at QVCC will be taught by Virginia Champagne, owner of Blueberry Hill Organic Farm in South Killingly—a USDA Organic Certified farm offering over 200 varieties of berries, melons, greens, vegetables and poultry. Champagne, who has a Master of Science degree in horticulture, recently began

cultivating hemp. She also serves on the Killingly Agricultural Commission and previously was a researcher at the University of Connecticut.

QVCC is the first in Connecticut to offer a certificate program in cannabis studies, joining Colorado State University Pueblo and the University of Vermont's Larner College of Medicine, which respectively offer a minor in cannabis studies and multiple certificates in medicinal chemistry. A growing number of academic institutions have been offering cannabis-related coursework in legal studies and plant science throughout the last two years, including UConn, Harvard, Vanderbilt, Ohio State, and Florida A&M. Two colleges currently offer major degrees: Northern Michigan University in Marquette and

North Dakota's Minor State University have both launched Medicinal Plant Chemistry bachelor's programs.

The college is well-placed to facilitate a cannabis studies program. The faculty involved are experts in the fields of business, finance, and health—the cornerstones of the proposed program. And students can extend their studies beyond the certificate program to receive an Associate Degree in business, biology, chemistry, or healthcare.

For more information regarding QVCC'S Cannabis Studies program, please contact O. Brian Kaufman at obkaufman@qvcc.edu.

Free workshop offered on avoiding expensive septic repairs

REGION — The Eastern Connecticut Conservation District (ECCD) has rescheduled the second part of their From Faucet to Flush, What Everyone Should Know About Their Home Water Systems workshop to May 6.

From Faucet to Flush Part 2 will be held on Wednesday, May 6 beginning at 7 p.m., and will feature Andrew Coleman, President of Skips Wastewater Service of Ellington. Coleman will explain the types of septic systems, how they work and, using images from a special fiber optic camera, he will show examples of what can go wrong,

and also tell you how to prevent it from happening. You will learn about common avoidable causes of septic system failures, what the signs are, or whether your system may be in need of replacement.

Virtual meeting space is limited to 100 participants at this workshop. Pre-registration is required. Email Jean.Pillo@Comcast.net to reserve your spot. When your email is received, you will be sent a link that will allow into the workshop. New to Zoom? The process is simple. Using your computer, tablet or even your phone, you will be able to click on the meeting link

and you will be brought to the workshop site. Enter the meeting information and password provided when you registered by email, and you will be let into the meeting. Your microphone and video cameras will be turned off for this event but you will be able to ask questions.

From Faucet to Flush Part 1 featuring Private Well Testing in Connecticut took place on April 6. This workshop was recorded and will be available to watch from the ECCD Web site, www.ConserveCT.org/eastern.



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POLICE LOGS

Putnam police log

PUTNAM — The Putnam Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of April 20-27.


Tesha Coy, age 22, of Putnam was arrested on April 21 for Criminal Violation of a Protective Order and Breach of Peace.

Jerrett Williams, age 19, of Putnam was arrested on April 22 for Disorderly Conduct and Assault in the Third Degree.

Cory John Benoit, age 25, of Pomfret Center was arrested on April 24 for Improper Use of Registration, Failure to Display Number Plates, Operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle, and Failure to Carry a Registration Certificate.

Nicole Smith, age 29, of Putnam was arrested on April 26 for Operating Under the Influence, Evading Responsibility, Operating Without a License, Reckless Driving, and Failure to Stop.

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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.

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



It's times like these that you can count on us most.

At Day Kimball, your safety is always our number one priority. That's true for all medical issues.

Our Emergency Department stands ready to treat any emergency, 24/7, in a safe, COVID-19-free environment. In fact, we were among the first in the state to evaluate patients in their cars to prevent the spread of the virus. And we are utilizing an evaluation tent in order to keep potential COVID-19 patients separated.

We've limited visitors to ensure minimal exposure for our staff and patients. In addition, anyone entering Day Kimball, from patients to visitors to staff, is screened and masked upon arrival.

And we are fully-equipped with the most advanced personal protective equipment. As well as with two specialized isolation rooms where potential COVID-19 patients are kept separate during their evaluation for everyone's safety.

For over 125 years, Day Kimball has been committed to providing our community the best, and safest, care. That commitment has never been stronger than now.

Whatever health situation you may face, we'll be here for you.



DAY KIMBALL HEALTHCARE

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daykimball.org/coronavirus

The importance of estate planning during a health pandemic



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Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors is committed to helping you on your journey to Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well.TM Though you may not necessarily think you need an estate plan right now, or you just haven't gotten around to it, now is a good time to consider this helpful information to guide you towards building your estate plan. The reality is, this pandemic has us all worried about our health, our jobs, and the uncertainty surrounding us daily. The question you should ask yourself is 'if I get sick or when I pass away, will my financial affairs and healthcare decisions be carried out according to my wishes?'

Having legal documents in place can help alleviate unnecessary stress placed on family members faced with making these decisions without knowing your wishes. An estate plan generally consists of a durable power of attorney, healthcare proxy, a will, and possibly a trust. These documents designate a trusted person to make important decisions related to your wellbeing and financial affairs.

You should work with an attorney to help you develop an estate plan and work with your financial advisor to ensure the estate plan fits into your holistic financial plan. Without these documents in place, a court may be left to decide what happens to your assets or your family has to make medical decisions, and it may not be aligned to your wishes.

The Estate Planning Must-Haves

Here is a list of items every estate plan should include:

- Will/trust
- Durable power of attorney
- Beneficiary designations

Letter of intent

Healthcare power of attorney

Guardianship designations

In addition to these six documents and designations, a well-laid estate plan also should consider the purchase of insurance products such as long-term care insurance to cover old age, a lifetime annuity to generate some level of income until death, and life insurance to pass money to beneficiaries without the need for probate.

This article will go over wills and trusts, power of attorney, healthcare proxy, and beneficiary designations, as well as strategies to overcome the social distancing barrier we face.

Wills and Trusts

A will should be a part of everyone's estate plan, even if you do not have substantial assets. Wills allow you to direct who will receive your property and if you have minor children, who will assume guardianship. Trusts are typically for more complex estate plans. A Trust will transfer property to be managed by a trustee for a stated beneficiary and can offer greater protection of assets.

However, simply having a will or trust isn't enough. The wording of the document is critically important. A will or trust should be written in a manner that is consistent with the way you have divided the assets that pass outside of the will. For example, if you've already named your sister as a beneficiary on a retirement account or insurance policy (assets that typically pass outside of a will to a named beneficiary), you don't want to leave the same asset to a second cousin in the will because it could lead to a will contest. If you don't name a beneficiary, or if the beneficiary is deceased or unable to serve, a court could be left to decide the fate of your funds. A judge who is unaware of your situation, beliefs, or intent is unlikely to make the same decisions as you would.

We have these conversations with our clients as part of our

Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well.TM process. You should discuss your situation with your attorney and financial advisor to see what route is the best for your personal situation.

Designate a Power of Attorney

You should have someone legally dedicated to making essential decisions in the event you become unable to make them on your own. Two of the most important aspects of your estate plan are the documents delegating your healthcare and financial powers of attorney.

The vast majority of married couples name each other as agents under a general durable power of attorney. However, in some cases, it might make more sense to have another family member, friend, or a trusted advisor who is more financially savvy act as the agent. These documents allow an agreed upon agent to act on behalf of you in managing various aspects of family life. For example, if there is a need to make any changes to an account or access a safe deposit box, one spouse can act for the other. In cases where an individual is battling an illness, this option can prevent unnecessary exposure to others and help ease stress. Absent a power of attorney, a court may be left to decide what happens to your assets if you are found to be mentally incompetent, and the court's decision may not be what you wanted.

Healthcare Power of Attorney

A healthcare proxy designates an individual (typically a spouse or family member) to make important healthcare decisions on your behalf in the event of incapacity. If you are considering executing such a document, you should pick someone you trust, who shares your views, and who would likely recommend a course of action you would agree with. After all, this person could literally have your life in their hands. A backup agent should also be identified, in case your

initial pick is unavailable or unable to act at the time needed.

Other important healthcare documents include a living will (sometimes called an Advance Health Care Directive) and a HIPAA waver (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996). A living will specifies end-of-life treatment, such as the decision to be taken off of life support or a Do Not Resuscitate order. Without a living will, these difficult decisions lay in the hands of your healthcare provider or family members. A HIPAA waiver ensures all medical records will be accessible to the person of your choosing in the case of incapacity or medical emergency. Without the waiver, your healthcare proxy is not privy to your medical records, and the physician or hospital may not consult with you about the status of the patient.

Estate Planning During COVID-19

So now you know a little bit about estate planning, but where do you go from here? First, we suggest you meet with your financial advisor and attorney to discuss the best plan of action for you, your family, and your assets. During COVID-19, many businesses are practicing safe social distancing measures by working remotely to connect with clients. At Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, we are available during normal business hours by phone, email, and video conference. Attorneys are also offering creative solutions to get estate planning documents signed and finalized. Documents can be drafted and emailed or delivered to you for review. Again, contact your financial advisor and attorney to agree upon the best way to go about drafting these documents that works for you.

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Use this time to get your estate planning in order. Chances are you now have the

time to think through the concerns you have placed on the back burner for so long. For those who have an estate plan in place, now is a good time to take stock and review it. If you do not have an estate plan in place, start by designating powers of attorney for finances and healthcare matters.

Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors is dedicated to empowering the community to Live Well.TM We want to be sure that you, our dedicated readers, are equipped with the right information to prepare an estate plan. While right now we are all in different circumstances – some of us are working from home, others still going in, and some have been laid off or furloughed – if we work together to make resources and information accessible to everyone, we might have a better chance at coming out of this on a positive note. For access to resources such as assistance in Northeast Connecticut, as well as articles, podcasts, and more, visit our website www.whzwealth.com/covid19-resources. If you are interested in receiving holistic financial planning and advising, please call us at 860-928-2341 or email us at info@whzwealth.com for more information.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Where was the “Shot Heard ‘Round the World?” fired?

April 19, 1775 — a short 243 years ago, right around this time — marked the start of the Revolutionary War after the battles of Lexington and Concord. Normally, the event is commemorated with reenactments and various other celebrations; however, due to social distancing requirements, that did not happen this year.

The debate continues to heat up, however, as to whether or not ‘The Shot Heard Round’ the World’ took place in Concord, or in neighboring Lexington.

This time in our history, while brutal and necessary, brings with it much intrigue for many. The tenacity and bravery of those who fought for our independence is beyond admirable. The events that took place during the Revolutionary War, read like a novel in modern times and have been brought to life through books and films where we need to be reminded that this story is not fiction.

On that spring morning, more than 700 British soldiers who were given a secret tip on the whereabouts of colonial military supplies in Concord, marched towards town to confiscate the lot. The Patriots who had developed a top notch intelligence network, largely the work of George Washington’s Culper Ring, and the Sons of Liberty, had received notice weeks in advance and were able to move the supplies to safety.

Paul Revere and William Dawes had plans to ride ahead of the British troops to warn other Patriots. Knowing the task was risky, Revere secured the help of about 30 other men to make sure word reached Lexington and Concord if the two were captured. Revere told militia leaders to look at the steeple of the Old North Church each night for a signal. One lit lantern meant the Regulars would come by land through the Boston Neck. Two lanterns meant the British would come via the Charles river on row boats into Cambridge, ‘One if by land, two if by sea’.

The night before the famous battle, Dr. Joseph Warren sent Dawes to Lexington where he was joined with Revere to warn Sam Adams and John Hancock that the British were coming.

It was midnight in Lexington when Revere and Dawes were joined by a third rider, Dr. Samuel Prescott. Prescott had been courting a woman in Lexington and met Dawes and Revere by chance. Because he believed in the cause, Prescott joined the men. The three riders were stopped by a British patrol not long after. Dawes was able to escape by reversing his direction. Prescott jumped a stone wall and fled using a short cut only locals knew about. The doctor was the only rider to reach Concord. Revere who was now captured, was surrounded by six Regulars and was searched and interrogated.

“An officer clapped his pistol to my head, called me by name and told me he was going to ask me some questions, and if I did not give him true answers, he would blow my brains out,” Revere wrote in his diary.

The Regulars were spooked by the sound of gunfire in the distance, and let Revere go after asking him for an alternative route to town. Revere made his way back to Lexington where he regrouped with Hancock and Adams, who planned an escape to Woburn.

Throughout the night, the ‘Rebels’ gathered to intercept the British. When the red coats were seen marching onto the Lexington green, the local minutemen knew they were outnumbered. Out of the dawn a shot was fired, and no one knows to this day which side was responsible for it. After the scuffle on the green, eight minutemen and one British soldier were killed. There were accusations from both sides laying blame on one another.

William Sutherland, a British soldier, is on record saying, “I heard Major Pitcairn’s voice call out. ‘Soldiers, don’t fire, keep your ranks, form and surround them.’ Instantly some of the villains who got over the hedge fired at us which our men for the first time returned.”

Sylvanus Wood, a minute man had recalled something different, “he swung his sword, and said, ‘Lay down your arms, you damned rebels, or you are all dead men – fire!’ Some guns were fired by the British at us from the first platoon, but no person was killed or hurt,

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OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A chance to reconsider

To the Editor:

After a recent windstorm, I watched the ragged clouds pass over and the sky clear to a calm, bright blue just before sunset. I’m holding this in my mind as a hopeful metaphor. My husband and I have been trying to take care of our elderly parents by shopping, etc. Every time I go into public, I feel a deep anxiety. Will I get it today? Will I pass it on? Who will I hurt without knowing?

As a freelance writer and half of a very small family business, I have felt the financial burden. We are in that “too small to matter,” unconventional employment predicament many Americans now find themselves. I have been humbled by many sincere offers of help and support from friends—unexpected and deeply touching.

This pandemic has offered our country a good look at how we are hurting each other in so many ways, with greed, corruption, selfishness, ignorance, denial and a frightening lack of awareness that how we live—every

COVID 19 & balance

To the Editor:

Balance in one’s life is paramount to remaining healthy and happy. Exercise vs rest/relaxation, low fat healthy foods vs birthday cakes and donuts, work vs vacation, alcohol vs nonalcoholic beverages. It’s safe to say that most people desire a bit of both sides in order to maintain health and happiness. I fear that people are losing sight of balance with the horrible pandemic we are up against.

Our leaders in response to the pandemic began closing down many of our all nonessential businesses as well as many of the activities we all have come to enjoy. The reason given to us for their mandate was to “flatten the curve and to prevent overwhelming our healthcare system,” simply put, to save lives. People who have been living in areas most affected by the virus and others as well could clearly understand the logic of our leaders. Many others have and continue to struggle with understanding the lockdown as they have minimal cases in their towns, counties, or states.

No matter how you have viewed the closures, the curve is flattening. The healthcare system through dedicated and hardworking professionals has been able to keep ahead. The point here is that we need to start moving towards balance as we strive to stay healthy. Staying healthy doesn’t simply mean avoiding the Covid 19 virus, there is much more to health. Alcohol sales are up, domestic abuse is up, and the hidden disease of mental health in our population is under greater pressure.

Not being able to work and provide for your loved ones is a strain at best and destructive at worst. Not being able to work out at your

Trump’s disinfectant comments have been blown out of proportion

To the Editor:

Recent comments from the President of the United States mentioning the use of bleach, disinfectants, or UV light to help fight the coronavirus certainly have people questioning their own hearing.

Was it a smart thing for the President to even put himself in that position at this time? Definitely not! And if Mr. Trump directly told the American people to start snorting Lysol, I missed that part of it, but then again, it’s a “take it as you will” situation. One thing for sure is that the news media is having their usual “cut and edit” field day with this one.

Anyhow, I will now caution you all about drinking the water from a public water supply

Justin Anderson: serving Connecticut on two battlefronts

To the Editor:

Uncharacteristically, I answered a phone call from a number I didn’t recognize last week. Like most people I know, it’s a good way to avoid telemarketers. However, as fate would have it, the caller was Justin Anderson, one of the Republican candidates running in Connecticut’s 2nd Congressional District. Justin introduced himself and politely asked if it was a good time for us to talk. As a first time delegate for the 50th Assembly District, I welcomed him reaching out to me, and we had a very interesting conversation.

Justin was raised in Middletown, has continued to reside and work in Connecticut over the years in addition to four deployments after 9/11. He is a 30-year veteran of the Connecticut Army National Guard and has a varied and very impressive military background. I would urge everyone reading to visit his Web page at www.justinanderson-congress.com

single one of our actions—affects every other creature on this planet.

As I try to stave off intense frustration for how our government is handling this crisis, I return again and again to images of hope and human decency blossoming everywhere: Big red hearts for our front-line heroes on lawn signs; roving birthday parties, balloons and cheers streaming from car windows; parades of teachers and first responders, lighting up the streets with love and appreciation; and media images of the most polluted cities in the world with crystal clear skylines.

The pandemic is throwing us a terrifying lifeline. How often does the whole world get a chance to stop and consider our present... and time to plan for a better future? Let’s take this chance, together. What shall the world be for your children? What have you received? What will you give?

CRIS CADIZ
POMFRET

Word of the day: Ambivert

The word of the day on my phone app is: ambivert. While it sounds a bit peculiar, it defines what most of us are, or at least were, in the not so distant past. Ambiverts are neither extroverts or introverts, but a mix of both. Most of us like being with others and equally feel a need to retreat or feel shy. Without much preparation, we now interact with few people face-to-face. If we live with others, they are the extent of our actual world, with virtual visits a new lifeline to the larger universe. While solitude has always seemed like a positive thing, loneliness is not. Of necessity, we have to balance them both.



NANCY WEISS

There comes a time, probably developmentally, when one realizes separate-ness. I grew up alone as my brothers were much older than me. I liked the company of animals, the new worlds revealed in books and the escape of being outdoors. Other children came to play nearly every day and my parents were warm and attentive, but I was just as happy watching the dust motes in a shaft of light in the barn or swinging in a hammock staring at the leaves of an elm tree. Many, perhaps most children, find a place of comfort within themselves. Learning how to be alone may help us escape the feeling of being lonely.

When my husband and I married, we were in our 20s. I was afraid of giving up my precious independence. It was fashionable to write one’s vows, so I put in a piece from Kahlil Gibran, a popular poet at the time. The line is: “Let there be spaces in your togetherness, And let the winds of heaven dance between you.” As the years go by, we have both grown in our own directions and found ways to give each other the solitude we need.

Holed up in our house, we are fortunate to have enough room indoors and out to dance alone and together.

Creativity flourishes in solitude. Think of the painter so engrossed in her work that she forgets about lunch and notices the passage of time only when the light begins to change. Or the writer who going inward taps into the imagination that reaches outward to other people. Musicians hear entire works inside their minds when it is quiet. Sculptors look at materials and see something waiting to emerge. It happens best in solitude.

Through the years, I’ve tried meditation. During this isolation, I’m fortunate to have a remarkable friend, who teaches a group of us, on line. I’ve always felt too twitchy to meditate, but with time on my hands, I try. The goal is to escape thoughts and emotions and just be. There is a sense of ease that is the best part of solitude.

As an extrovert, I can’t wait to return to a busy, social world. As an introvert, too, I want to know there’s someplace to go and something new to see. For most of us, there is the mix. We know we have learned from our solitude, but where it will lead is unknown. Perhaps we will develop a deeper sense of wonder or gratitude. Perhaps, a greater appreciation for the people with whom we live. Perhaps we will create our own works of art or plant gardens. Perhaps we will clean out the closets, the basement and garage.

Whatever we do, solitude can be refreshing and productive while loneliness can be exhausting. As we wait for our world to slowly reopen, let’s find joy and our special place in the quiet moments.

JEFF CHILD
WOODSTOCK

ED DELUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

TAMI JO WYKES
BROOKLYN

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Woodstock budgeting

To the Editor:
With the COVID-19 crisis and the governor's order that blocks public meetings, this year's budget has gotten even less scrutiny than usual, which isn't much. In a year where state and local finances are pretty much in unknown territory this can be problematic to say the least. According to the April 2 Woodstock Board of Selectmen meeting minutes (also video available), there will be a special Board of Finance (BOF) meeting on May 5 when the BOF will pass the budget and set the mil rate for the 2021 fiscal year, without any public input whatsoever, effectively by-passing the town ordinance which requires referendum approval for appropriations over \$100,000.
Following are a few issues and questions that the BOF, and town auditors, should address prior to their "approval" of this budget.
Questions to Woodstock Board of Finance
Issue 1:
This year's budget, 2021 fiscal year, appears to include \$218,136 of capital expense for Woodstock Academy tuition "Capital Assessment" this is on top of roughly \$212,000 capitalized from last year. Now that Woodstock Academy has made it clear that this will be an ongoing part of tuition and therefore a

recurring expense, shouldn't the capitalization of this recurring expense be treated as the recurring expense it clearly is and how it was treated in the past? Has this issue been reviewed by the town auditors and town attorney in light of the new information regarding its ongoing nature? If this will again be treated as a capital expense, to what asset will this be assessed and what is the plan for depreciation of that asset in light of the recurring expense?
Issue 2:
This year's town government budget includes \$25,000 for a tree warden listed under "Public Safety Boards and Commissions." On inquiry to the town treasurer, I learned this is not actually a "Tree Warden" but is funding that will go through the highway department to pay contractors for "trimming and removal of trees along Woodstock Roads". This expense has gone back several years and is obviously a "recurring expense." Last September the BOF approved using \$75,000 from the Capital Nonrecurring Account for the removal of dead trees against the objection of some BOF members; this was then passed in a Town Meeting in December. Capital expenses are by definition "nonrecurring expenses". In light of this, to what asset does the BOF plan to assess these capital funds

and how do you plan to deprecate that asset? Also, if this type of expense is to be considered a capital nonrecurring expense why does it continue to be included in the expense budget for the town as it has been for several years? Further, why is this expense, which will flow through and be the responsibility of the Highway Department, not part of the Highway Department Budget?
Issue 3:
The current, as of this writing, Prop 46 Worksheet dtd March 24th does not match the latest available, April 9th, Board of Education Budget in the area of Special Education – it also doesn't match the previous BOE proposal either. The Prop 46 Worksheet shows expenses for Special Ed. more than \$256,000 higher than the BOE budget and thereby raising the allowed spending limit by that amount. Does the BOF plan to bring up-to-date the Prop 46 Worksheet and then bring the overall budget in compliance with Proposition 46?
Issue 4:
During the April 2 Board of Selectmen's meeting, it was announced that in light of the coronavirus issue, and the governor having lifted the requirement for public meetings, all BOF meetings for April were canceled

and that the BOF would meet on May 5 to approved the proposed budget and set the mil rate. While the state, governor's office, has waived the need for public meetings this year, the town has an ordinance titled, "Ordinance Concerning The Appropriation Of \$100,000 Or More" that requires any appropriation of \$100,000 or more to go to referendum. This is town requirement not a state mandate. Does the governor have the authority to waive town ordinances? Has this issue been reviewed with the town attorney? What is the basis for overriding a town ordinance? Why is this budget not going to referendum in early June after the State lifts the "Shelter at Home" order and give the town taxpayers the opportunity to weigh in on the proposed budget? An early June referendum would still allow sufficient time for the Tax Collector to issue tax bills in time for the July payment deadline as this has been done in the past.
These issues/questions were sent to the Woodstock BOF earlier this week.
Remember the old adage "never let a crisis go to waste." Stay safe and keep an eye on what is going to happen to your money. There will be life after COVID-19.

DAVE RICHARDSON
WOODSTOCK

False patriots

To the Editor:
"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."
So wrote Thomas Paine in his pamphlet entitled «Common Sense» during the bleakest days of the War for Independence. It is with these words in mind that I reflect with dismay and disgust at the recent spate of 'protests' in response to the on-going public health and safety measures enacted by many states.
These self-anointed 'patriots' asserting their individual rights and liberties are a real threat to the health and safety of their fellow citizens. These self-absorbed false 'patriots' are more like spoiled adolescents having public tantrums. They wave their flags and, in some cases, brandish their firearms because they feel aggrieved at being inconvenienced during the current public health crisis. As Paine wrote, these are the current batch of

sunshine patriots shrinking from the service of their country. These false 'patriots' and their ilk do not appear to understand that rights and liberty come with responsibilities of service to the greater good of the citizenry of our nation. I observed these fake 'patriots' waving signs saying "I need a haircut" or "I deserve to work." Nowhere to be seen were any signs supporting our front-line "Patriots"; the EMTs, Paramedics, Nurses, Respiratory Therapists, Doctors, Lab Clinicians, Police, Fire fighters, Grocery and Pharmacy employees. Those that do not, and would not, shrink from their duty to care for their fellow citizens.
Reflect on the "Greatest Generation" of Americans, among whom my mother and father were a part. That generation of true "Patriots" endured the great depression with steely resolve to overcome the deprivations of that time. Never would they band together in unruly groups protesting their individual circumstances. They endured the pain of financial devastation without complaint or civil protest. They did so

for years, not mere weeks. They maintained faith and fidelity to their nation and fellow citizens because they understood that they were "all in it together." This same generation answered the call of national duty when we were suddenly and deliberately attacked by navel and air forces of the empire of Japan. The men, and women, rushed to enlist in the armed forces in defense of their nation. Without complaint. Those that could not serve in the armed forces applied themselves selflessly to doing anything and everything they could to support their fellow citizens. During the war years, those on the 'home-front' endured rationing of basic foodstuffs for years. They donated metals, grew Victory Gardens, purchased war bonds, among countless other contributions.
Were it not impossible, I wish these treacherous false 'patriots' could be impressed into national service to do their duty to this country. Perhaps they would learn what duty to others means. For those that may have previously served in the military, it

would be an effective remediation of their loss of belief in the concept of duty. They should be assigned to assist in distributing food to those patiently awaiting a return to normalcy. They could do the yard-work for the essential workers too fatigued to do it themselves. They could learn the meaning of the privilege of being an American.
In the final analysis, this crisis will end. Hopefully sooner than later. But we can be assured that there will come another crisis. Perhaps one that poses an existential treat to our very way of life. When that crisis arises, do not look to the false 'patriots' to stand by their fellow citizens to do their duty. They will indeed again shrink from the service of their country. Rather look to those that go quietly forward, contributing their labor to the good of their fellow citizens, their nation. The selfless, the self-sacrificing, the true "Patriots."
KENNETH G. TRUESDALE
BROOKLYN

True colors are revealed during a crisis

To the Editor:
You can tell a lot about the character of a person by how they respond during a crisis, which is why I imagine it's difficult to work in the White House these days. Even if you are the national expert on vaccines, epidemics, and pandemic protocol, you never know when the "president" will have a tantrum and use you as a scapegoat to cover up his own ineptitude.
While health workers and state officials are struggling to save lives, the reality show mogul who happens to occupy the Whitehouse is busy trying to build up his TV ratings in his daily Coronatopia Circus briefs (which are anything but brief). Were it not such a dire situation, the absurdity of it all would be almost comical. They say that war and other national crises can make or break a presidency, but there is no playbook for a presidency that was broken from the start.
The federal government, once abundantly stocked with devoted civil servants, scientists, engineers, economists and other experts has been severely stripped down and disrupted by Trump and his right-wing anti-federalist agenda. Being a consummate disrupter, he has left behind a trail of chaos with no one to pick up

the pieces. It is unfortunate that the Presidency, once a national symbol of stability, has become a national threat to our security and well-being. Except for Dr. Fauci, Dr. Birx, and Dr. Bright (the leading expert on vaccines whom Trump recently fired), there is no adult supervision in the Whitehouse. Trump has spent the last three years dismantling the systems of government that would have been in charge of managing a pandemic, and literally trashed anything the Obama administration accomplished, i.e. the pandemic manual created during the H1N1 and Ebola outbreaks. It's no wonder his administration was caught off guard. It has become pathetically obvious that the nepotism and cronyism of this administration left a gaping hole in our ability to respond to a public health and economic crisis. Trump hasn't "drained the swamp. He's filled it up with filth and sludge. I guess that's what you get when you put a fox in the henhouse and a toddler in charge of running the country. Someone needs to change the diapers.
Just as a crisis can reveal an individual's true character, we can now see the flaws in a system which has been rigged toward profit and greed. The fragility of a gig and service-based

economy is obvious, and the truth has been revealed about how humans have impacted air pollution and climate change. We can see the life and death threat of institutional racism in how African Americans have been disproportionately at risk of succumbing to the virus. Unfortunately, the toddler in chief is incapable of reflecting upon the lessons the corona virus can teach us. Instead, he chooses to ramble, rant and rave from his podium, looking for a quick fix that will puff up his ego. Like injecting bleach in our veins or taking drugs which haven't been approved by the FDA. Ach – science schmience! What do the experts know about anything? I guess Dr. Trump got his degree from one of his fake online universities.
I stopped watching the White House not-so-briefs a few weeks ago. Trump's relentless attacks on the legitimate fact-based press and his supplicating belly-rubs for the fake Fox "news" sycophants are not what this country needs right now. We need calm, rational fact-based information. We need good old fashioned engineering and problem solving. We need science, not prayers (although I pray to God we don't have to put up with four more years of this crap). We need true grit

leadership.
That's why I suggest everyone unplug their cable TV and plop a big old antenna on the roof. Get rid of the misinformation trucked by the Fox network and the whining opining of CNN. Stick to your local news stations and listen to your Governors. The governors and the mayors are the ones who have truly stepped up and shown leadership. Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker (Republican) and Marty Walsh, mayor of Boston (Democrat), and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, pose good examples for how to run a daily briefing about the corona virus. I particularly respect Charlie Baker who is the voice of calm and reason, respectful of the health experts and often claims that the "data will drive the decisions". He puts science above politics, and has worked tirelessly to support the healthcare community by finding PPE and engaging small businesses in manufacturing equipment to support hospitals. He doesn't hog the mic or chastise the press for asking the difficult questions. He's – well – a grown-up. Wouldn't it be nice if we had a grown-up in the White House?
DONNA DUFRESNE
POMFRET

We must support each other through this

To the Editor:
In my last editorial, I wanted to thank all those thrown into a situation they never expected. I stated how those in my profession - nursing – first responders – etc., at least have some of the training, preparation, drills with some semblance of a plan in place to help us to manipulate forward in unexpected situations. I was wrong in that statement. There is no emotional preparedness for this epidemic.
No one can be prepared for the outcomes of this pandemic in the hotspots our nation faces. Our soldiers train for all kinds of deployments, yet when it comes down to it, how do we prepare our soldiers to face the unspeakable tragedy no human can be prepared for?
My point is simple. We all need to support each other now and as this pandemic decreases. We face a new normal. We must stand together. We must, at this time, do what our first responders are asking. Those on the front lines are pleading with us to isolate, to do everything we can to slow this virus down. 9,200 healthcare

employees have contracted this virus. Please wear a mask, use social distancing, wash continually with soap for 20 seconds. In layman's terms, this virus is a cell that protects itself with a layer of fat; put very simply, wash away the fat and you kill the cell. If you want to explain to your children about the social distancing, just ask them to remember when it's freezing cold outside and you breathe, you see your breath. That's moisture coming from your lungs. This takes place every time you breathe in and out, so even if you don't see moisture, it's there. If you sneeze or cough, the droplets are expelled even farther. Please don't endanger our first responders by our carelessness. They've held our loved ones in their care, had to replace family members with their thoughts, touches, convey hope and comforts. They watch them die. When all that is done, they do it again for the family. Let's think about how we would feel as we stay at home and say goodbye to a loved one over a videoconference if we are looking up to have the technology at our disposal.

I was reading an article the other day about an LA nursing home who had two Covid -19 patients test positive. So they tested all staff members that were involved with these two patients. As they started to get results, they wanted their entire facility tested. At the end of the testing, 90 percent of the staff were infected and 75 percent of the residents. Most of them not showing any symptoms at all. Asymptomatic. So those folks are going out into the community. A few weeks later, their residents and staff were being admitted to the hospital and dying. The best defense is offense. Just act like you have it. Act like you're a carrier. Act like the person next to you is a carrier. We most likely are. When this pandemic starts to slow, we will have a better understanding of it, a better understanding how to care for each other, and I'm sure statistics about the virus will be overwhelmingly surprising.
If you're not protecting yourself, you're endangering me, my family and yours. Anyone who is not protecting themselves is lengthening the duration of this pandemic. It's wonderful to

see people thanking the first responders with hearts and banners, but the best way to thank them is to not put them in the position they are in now. We are all responsible parties.
The brother of a friend of mine wrote her a beautiful message which I would like to share with you now:
"Hi all. Dealing with this incredible time has sort of heightened an awareness for me. When I go to the market and everyone is wearing their masks, unbelievably I have recognized so many people that I have not seen for so many years. We all turn gray and wrinkled. Maybe also shrink in size and grow in weight. What has struck me is that people's eyes don't seem to change. Without the grayness and wrinkles on our faces, eyes seem to be the same as I remember. Just an observation. Send thoughts on your experiences to all. Most importantly, stay in touch."
LUCY MAC WILLIAMS
WOODSTOCK

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When will enough be enough from Trump?

To the Editor:
 I don't know. I cannot fathom how Trump supporters can still hold onto this poor excuse for a leader. On one hand, he lies in saying he has absolute power, and on the other, he claims no responsibility for what is going on with Covid-19. How can anyone support a person who embodies such an obviously absurd and contradictory philosophy of life?
 Psychologist and psychotherapist Dr. John Gartner has taught for many years at the Johns Hopkins University Medical School, specializing in the treatment of borderline personality disorders. He has said, "People such as Trump are malignant-narcissist sadists because they, at some deep level, are driven to cause harm to other people. Trump's life is proof of this. He enjoys ripping people off and humiliating people. He does this manically and gleefully. In his mind, Trump is creating chaos and instability so that he can feel powerful. Sadism and violence are central to Trump's malignant narcissism and his decision-making about the corona virus pandemic."

"Trump is not just incompetent. He is actively engaging in sabotage. The bullying, the violence, the destruction, frightening people, humiliating people, getting revenge and the like — such behavior is what Donald Trump has done his whole life. It is who Donald Trump really is. Unfortunately, too many people are still in denial of that fact."
 This is not just psycho-babble from some egghead in an academic ivory tower. Anyone who watched The Apprentice has to know just how sadistic and vile Trump really is and how much he enjoyed berating and belittling people. And no, it was not just an act or his being sarcastic. Too many people have come forth to attest to Trump's complete scorn for people. His handling of the current crisis is further proof of his mental condition.
 Dr. Gartner made another frightening statement, "Make no mistake. Donald Trump is going to find a way to attack and cause great harm to the American people if he believes that he will lose the 2020 election." I believe Dr. Gartner. I think we should be

afraid — very afraid.
 You know, it is astounding that a country that is arguably the most technologically advanced could wind up having the greatest number of infected people and the most deaths in the world. It's obvious that Trump's denial of reality has been the cause. He is solely about numbers and appearances. But these have come back to bite him.
 Every expert has said testing is necessary to get by Covid-19. Why has he been so against testing? Because testing will inflate the number of people infected and dying. It will make him look bad. But he is incapable of realizing that working through this crisis quickly is in his best self-interest. He can only see things day-to-day.
 Why aren't Trump supporters outraged that Trump and his administration have shown virtually no compassion or empathy towards those sick and dying? The only evidence of concern is a 12 second spot from the Surgeon General about keeping safe and a few banal statements in his "press conferences." Trump wishes Kim Jong Un

well but hasn't said that to America. Why indeed. It is just more proof that Trump has no regard for anyone but himself.
 As Dr. Gartner has said, "The American people are hostages to Donald Trump. We are being abused by him. We know that Trump is lying. We know that he's doing nothing to help us. We feel helpless to do anything to stop him. It is causing collective mental despair. In this way Donald Trump is inducing feelings of rage and outrage — and he keeps doing it. It is not that all Americans are suckers or dupes, it is that Trump is a master at such cruel and manipulative behavior."
 When are Trump supporters going to realize that we all are basically Trump's hostages? When are we, as a country, going to rise up and in the words of Peter Finch in "Network," shout out, "I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore?"
 STEPHEN ETZEL
 PUTNAM

Lush peonies add beauty and fragrance to early summer gardens



GARDEN
 MOMENTS

 MELINDA
 MYERS

Set aside a sunny spot in your garden or landscape for a few easy-care, herbaceous peonies. These traditional favorites are treasured for their bountiful early summer flowers, vigorous, shrub-like habit and amazing longevity. Peonies blend nicely with other perennials and are a good addition to both formal and informal garden designs.
 The peony's sumptuous flowers and captivating fragrance have been admired by generations of gardeners. While many other plants come and go, peonies have staying power. The variety 'Sarah Bernhardt' was introduced in 1906 and has been popular ever since. Its plush, pale pink flowers have silvery tips and open late in the peony season.
 To maximize your enjoyment, extend the peony season by growing an assortment of early, mid and late-blooming varieties. Choose wisely and it's possible to have peonies in bloom for a month or more. If you live in an area with rel-

atively warm weather, plant more of the early and midseason varieties so the plants have plenty of time to display their blossoms before the weather gets hot.
 Add variety to your peony display by including plants with different flower styles. Options include single, anemone, semi-double, double and bomb types. Herbaceous peonies also come in many beautiful colors, including white, cream, coral, pink, rose and dark red.
 Start the season off with a few of the earlier bloomers such as Coral Charm, Buckeye Belle, Festiva Maxima, Bowl of Beauty, Black Beauty, Purple Spider and Red Charm (longfield-gardens.com). Coral Charm's lightly fragrant flowers are a unique blend of coral and cream. This semi double peony is the recipient of the American Peony Society Gold Medal.
 The large double ruby red flowers of Buckeye Belle are displayed on compact plants that are the perfect size for perennial gardens. Pairing this peony with the snowy-white flowers of Festiva Maxima is a striking combination.
 Transition into mid-season with the heirloom variety Red Charm. Its long stems have few side buds, which makes it great for cutting. And the rose-like fragrance perfumes gardens

and bouquets. For a completely different look, consider the fragrant, double bomb flowers of Lady Liberty. Its frilly inner petals are cream and apricot, and form a tight ball resting on a double row of flamingo pink petals.
 Anemone-style peonies have frilly centers surrounded by a single or double row of larger petals. The variety Sorbet features layers of candy pink and cream petals. It is deliciously fragrant, with sturdy stems that are excellent for cutting. Don't overlook other classic, mid-season bloomers like Duchess de Nemours, Celebrity and Red Supreme.
 Close out the peony season with the large, raspberry-red blossoms of the classic French double peony Felix Crousse, and other time-tested favorites such as Lady Alexandria Duff and the beloved Sarah Bernhardt.
 Peonies are known for their extravagant flowers, but the plants themselves are almost as impressive. Leaves emerge in spring with a tinge of red and reach a height of three feet within less than a month. By the time the flower buds appear, the plants are the size of a small shrub. After the flowers fade, the peony's lush, deep green leaves remain all season, providing a nice backdrop for nearby blooms. As temperatures cool in fall, the foliage



Photo Courtesy

Sarah Bernhardt peony, introduced in 1906, is one of the world's most popular peonies.

often displays a nice reddish fall color.
 Bare root peonies may be planted in spring or fall. After planting, they will take some time to settle in. Young plants need 3 years or more to reach full size, but after that, they will flower every year for decades to come.
 Melinda Myers has written numerous books, including 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 and was commissioned by Longfield Gardens for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

GOOD
continued from page A1

Fennessy.
 Some of the other food related donations came from Jessica Tuesdays, Cliff Bar, Deary Brother's- Mike's Stand who sent over sundaes with toppings for the hospital staff in general, The Broken Crust provided meals to the Emergency Department and the hospital clinical

departments were the recipients of Blended Nutrition nutritional teas and snacks.
 "Next week, we are expecting a delivery from Guida Dairy, initiated by Jon Hermonot of Fairholm Farm who supplies milk to Guida," said Willis. "Guida will donate half gallons of milk for the staff to take home."
 Before all of the changes that Covid-19 created, the hospital started a food pantry in the Oncology department called

Caitlyn's Cupboard for the patients. It was started by Caitlyn Sward, the Oncologist Nutritionist. The items are geared toward any special needs that they have.
 "We were going to make it a collection type of opportunity, but we could not move forward," said Willis. "The East Woodstock Congregational Church held a food collection drive for the Oncology patients for the Oncology Food Pantry. UNFI also provided over

25 cases of assorted personal care items for the patients- all natural soaps and creams, including candies and mints that they need."
 Willis is thankful for all of the unselfish donations that the hospital has received. If you would like to donate in any way, you can go to www.daykimball.org for more information, or call Kristen Willis at 860-928-7141, ext. 18.

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OBITUARIES

Joseph Roger Lindley, 86

Lancaster, SC - Joseph Roger Lindley, 86, passed away peacefully at his home on April 16, 2020. Joe was born on July 16, 1933 in Central Falls, RI to the late John Lindley and Catherine (Pollett) Lindley. After high school, Joe went to work at Ansonia Wire and Cable and later joined the United States Air Force to serve his country during the Korean War. Upon being honorably discharged from the Air Force, Joe attended Providence College earning a bachelor's



degree in Physics while also maintaining a full-time job to support his young and growing family. He continued his higher education at Bryant College earning an MBA. Joe lived for many years in Putnam and Thompson, and worked as a physicist at Belding Heminway in Putnam where he later rose to the position of President of the Thread Division. He worked at Belding's for 32 years where he led the division through major growth and transition.

Joe had a passion for his family and a special way of connecting individually to each and every family member so that they felt a special connection. He loved the game of golf and when not spending time with his wife or family, you could find him on the golf course. He shared his passion of golf with his

son and his grandchildren with annual family golf retreats to Myrtle Beach. Joe was also known for his incredible sense of humor, and his vibrant personality resulted in people just loving to be around him. He taught his family how to keep laughter and joy as a key element in their lives. He was always a strong shoulder to cry on, an understanding confidante, and a touchstone that always put his family first.

Joe is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Maureen, daughters, Kathleen Weidman (and her husband, Richard Moon) of Wayne, PA, Patricia Chadbourne (and her husband John) of Charlotte, NC, Karen Lindley of Lancaster, SC, and Donna Brown (and her husband, Jon-Patrick Butterworth) of Indian Trail, NC, daughter-in-law, Suzanne Lindley of Thompson, CT and sister, Caroline Mulligan of Lincoln, RI. In addition to his late son Joseph James of Thompson, CT, Joe was preceded by his parents John and Catherine Lindley as well as brothers Gerald and John Lindley. He is also survived by his eleven grandchildren, Sean Lindley, Nicholas Weidman, Jonathan Lindley, Matthew Weidman, Christopher Brown, Ashley Drew, Nicole Potgeiter, Kara Weidman, Jessica Brown, Emily Chadbourne and Brandon Butterworth, as well as his seven great-grandchildren.

A private service was held in South Carolina on April 21, 2020. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association at www.alz.org, the American Heart Association at www.heart.org or a charity of your choice.

Martha O'Rourke Tanner

Martha Elizabeth Crosscup Pfeufer O'Rourke Tanner was born on June 13 1932 in Newton MA and passed



away on April 18 2020 in Putnam CT at the age of 88. Martha was preceded in death by two sets of parents/step-parents, her father Richard Crosscup and step-mother Gwendolyn Bennett, and her mother Reed Champion Pfeufer and step-father James Pfeufer. Martha's life was filled with interesting stories that spanned legacies of the Great Depression, the Harlem Renaissance, the Atomic Age, the Civil Rights Movement, the Space Age and so much more. One in a zillion, one of the smartest women anybody could ever know, a real story-teller whose life, presence, and stories will be greatly missed.

Martha led an interesting life. An alumna of the University of Chicago, Martha married and divorced the late Thomas O'Rourke with whom she had four children, had a career in editing and publishing, and created and produced a magazine before she met the late Frank Tanner in 1960 and started a whole new adventure. She relocated to Foster RI in 1962 with Frank Tanner with whom she had four more children. After Frank Tanner's death, she met Frank Hall with whom she had much laughter and companionship, and equal interests in all things historical.

Among her varied careers, she ran

an antique and collectibles business, worked as freelance writer and a reporter for the Observer, taught clerical skills, was a self-taught herbalist, ran for public office, and worked in the admitting office at Our Lady of Fatima Hospital. Most importantly, Martha instilled in her children an avid love for education, nature, and the creative. Martha also instilled in her children a fierce level of resilience and independence. Martha was a life-long champion for civil rights and social justice, and was known for her unending passion for political discourse. It would be remiss not to mention her extremely active imagination which was so much enjoyed and produced so many engaging conversations, memories, and beloved family stories.

Martha is survived by her partner Frank Hall of Danielson CT, her daughters Katherine of Calgary Alberta, Suzanne of Waynesville NC, Audrey of Oakland CA, Cynthia of Nahant MA, and by her sons Kevin of Minneapolis MN, Frank of Falmouth MA, Eric of Los Angeles CA, and Jeffrey of North Scituate RI. She is also survived by 14 of her 15 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren, two brothers Eric Pfeufer of Cambridge MA and Joachim Pfeufer of Nantes France, numerous nieces and nephews, and many extended family and friends.

A memorial gathering will be planned later. Contributions in honor of Martha's life can be made to the Southern Poverty Law Center or the Audubon Society of Rhode Island.

Elizabeth ("Lib") Putnam (néé Sprague)

Elizabeth ("Lib") Putnam (néé Sprague) died peacefully in her sleep at 7:05 p.m., on Sunday, 26 April 2020 at Vanderman Place,



Willimantic, CT. Born in Boston, MA, on 29 November 1930, to Isaac (Jr) and Elizabeth (Clarke) Sprague of Boston, MA, she attended the Northfield School (Northfield, MA), and spent five summers working as a waitress at the hotel on Star Island, one of the Isles of the Shoals (NH), which she often called one of her favourite places "in the world". After Northfield, she attended the University of New Hampshire (1949-51), but left to marry Stanley Reno Putnam of Winchester, NH, on 24 March 1951 in Peterborough, NH. (They divorced in 1976.)

They moved to East Woodstock, CT in 1957, where she lived until moving to South Woodstock, where she

opened a one-woman plant and garden center, The Watering Pot, on Rte 169. While running The Watering Pot, she completed her bachelor's degree in business and horticulture at the University of Connecticut. She closed The Watering Pot in 1995 and moved to Dayville, CT, where she lived on Weeks Lane, until moving to the Seely Brown Village in Pomfret Center in 2018.

An expert gardener—planting 2000 daffodils or tulips was all in a day's work, and prodigious swimmer (swimming back and forth across Pond Factory in Woodstock, and Lake Alexander in Dayville were favourite routines), Lib was also a skilled musician who sang in the choir, served as substitute organist and pianist at East Woodstock Congregational Church, and put her children to sleep by playing Mozart or Beethoven on the piano. While at EWCC she drove meals to shut-ins and seniors as part of the ministry of FISH (Friendship in Serving

Humanity), and was instrumental in raising funds for the church's carillon.

After moving to South Woodstock, she became a faithful and active member of First Congregational Church of Woodstock, where she volunteered for a variety of projects and ongoing ministries—anonously sending hundreds of birthday and anniversary cards on behalf of the church, knitting dozens of prayer shawls and scores of hats for preemies. Her great-grandchildren love to wear the sweaters that she knit from patterns that were "in her fingers", and always receive compliments when they wear them.

Lib's counsel was often sought by her many friends, and freely given when requested, always with a warm and cheering smile.

She was pre-deceased by both of her sisters and her brother, a son (Robert Stanley), grand-daughter (Lydia Tribbie Marlowe), and great-granddaughter (Kathryn Elizabeth Godshall). She is survived by four

children—Frederic Clarke Putnam, Elizabeth Louise (Wickman), Patricia Jane (Yang), Pamela Carrie (Marlowe), four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

A note of special thanks goes to Dr. Leilani Nixon, her medical proxy, and the Rev. Ms. Debbie Pallatto-Fontaine, her interim minister, whose care and friendship meant so much to her and were so greatly helpful to her widely scattered children.

A public memorial service will be held at First Congregational Church of Woodstock at a time and date to be announced.

Her family asks that, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations be sent to either First Congregational Church of Woodstock Music Fund (543 Route 169, Woodstock, Connecticut 06281) or to Windham-Tolland 4H Camp Scholarship Fund (326 Taft Pond Road, Pomfret Center, CT 06259).

Contact: fredputnam@gmail.com



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OBITUARIES

Joseph J. Gietek, 71

WORCESTER- Joseph J. Gietek age 71 passed away Friday, April 17, 2020 at Univ. MA Healthcare Center Hospital, Worcester. He leaves two sisters, Mary Bonczek and Stasia Gietek of Worcester. He had a brother that predeceased him, Edward Gietek of Worcester.
He was born in West Falen Germany son of the late Wacław Gietek and Anastazja (Brogowska) Gietek and lived here all his life. Joe enjoyed

music, he played the trumpet and bugle and was the lead singer in the Joneses group.
There are no calling hours, all services are private. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster have been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Daniel T. Phillips, Sr., 52

WEBSTER - Daniel T. Phillips, Sr., 52, died unexpectedly Thursday, April 23, 2020 at his son's home.
He leaves his mother and stepfather, Hannah (Bienczak) Sachs and Maurice Sachs of Worcester; a son Matthew R. Coburn and his fiancé Laura Bilodeau of Plainfield; 3 other children; a grandson, Tucker Daniel Coburn; 2 brothers, Charles R. Phillips of Gloucester and Adam F. Phillips and his fiancée Breanne Giard of Webster; 4 sisters, Rainbow McBride of Oxford, Cathlene Mahoney of Yucca, AZ, Rebecca Fortin of Canterbury, CT, and Alice F. Phillips of Woodstock, CT; nephews

and nieces. He was preceded in death by his beloved son Daniel T. Phillips, Jr. in 2015.
He was born in Putnam, CT on September 8, 1967, a son of Charles G. Phillips who died in 2006. He lived in Webster most of his life.
Mr. Phillips was a truck driver for many years. He loved Harley Davidsons and hot rods, especially the Camaro. He enjoyed rebuilding classic cars.
Funeral services will be held privately, with burial in Windham Center Cemetery. There are no calling hours. Arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster.
www.websterfunerals.com

Glen C. Haynes, Jr., 64

PUTNAM- Glen C. Haynes, Jr., 64, Woodstock Ave., died Saturday morning at Day Kimball Hospital. He was the loving husband of the late Judith T. (Bonneau) Haynes. Born in Muncy, PA, he was the son of the late Glen C. and Romona V. (Yocum) Haynes.
Mr. Haynes worked for many years at Loos & Co. in Pomfret manufacturing cables for aircraft.
He enjoyed talking on his CB, fishing, and shooting his many guns. Glen was an avid New York Giants and Penn State football fan. You could also find him on Sunday watching Nascar as well.
Glen is survived by his daughter, Kimberly Light and her wife Sara of Moosup; three sisters, Debbie Keiser and her husband Glenn, Valerie Golder and her husband Vince, and

Janice Neece and her husband Marc all of PA; two grandchildren, Destiny Light and Mya Light both of Moosup; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a brother Mickey Haynes.
The family would like to extend a heart felt thanks to Dr. Raja Fattaleh and his staff for the dedicated care that they showed to Glen.
Due to the global pandemic a Memorial Service and burial will be held at a later date. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT.
Memorial donations in Glen's memory may be made to Paws Cat Shelter, 240 Rte. 171, Woodstock, CT 06281. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Kevin M. Citrino, 58

PUTNAM- Kevin M. Citrino, 58, of Powhattan St, passed away on Monday, April 20, 2020 in his home. Born in Philadelphia, PA, he was the son of the late Ralph and Margaret (Armstrong) Citrino.
Mr. Citrino worked as an autobody technician for Precision Collision and Town and Country Auto.
Kevin was a member of Local 81 and enjoyed drawing, painting, classic cars, and punk rock

music.
Kevin is survived by his former wife and companion Melinda Peterson and Kathleen (Reddy) Horowitz; his sons, Jeremy Citrino of Portsmouth, NH, and Jared Citrino of Charlotte, NC; his daughter, Shannon D. Citrino of Cumberland, RI; and his granddaughters, Megan Hoxie and Evelyn Hoxie.
There will be no services and arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Anthony Tivnan, 77

WORCESTER- Anthony Tivnan age 77 died Saturday, April 18, 2020 at Worcester Rehabilitation and Healthcare. Anthony was predeceased by a sister Roseann Tivnan of Worcester. He was born in Worcester son of the late Thomas F. and Rose M. (Cobiski) Tivnan and lived in Worcester all his life. Anthony worked for many years at the Felters Company

in Millbury. There are no calling hours services and burial are private in St. Johns Cemetery, Worcester. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Gerard R Aubin

Gerard R Aubin passed away April 14, 2020 following a heart attack. He was born Sept 23, 1961 in Putnam, CT son of Shirley and Leo Aubin Sr. Gerard was Developmentally Disabled as a result of complications during his birth, and spent the majority of his life under specialized care. He was a patient at Apple Rehab in Avon, CT for last few years. He was predeceased by his father Leo Aubin Sr,

brothers Kirk, Leo Jr and Kevin. He is survived by his mom Shirley and brother Keith of Putnam, CT, brother David of Killingly, CT, Daniel of North Carolina, and Kerry Baker of Killingly, CT, several nieces and nephews. The family would like to thank everyone for their support during this difficult time. Special thanks to Judy Weiss from DDS for her assistance. May he rest in peace.

Jeannette A Lespasio, 77

PUTNAM-Jeannette Jason Lespasio, 77, of Sabin St. passed away on March 20, 2020 at Westview Convalescent Center. Jeannette "Gram" Lespasio's story began on June 1, 1942 in Revere Massachusetts as the earth winked. She was the daughter of the late August Pacheco Jason and the late Henrietta May McCarthy Jason.

Her story ended on March 20, 2020 as the earth wept until her journey to live her eternal life began. Nettie, as her siblings called her, was the youngest of five. She embraced the adventurous, gregarious, passionate, and resourceful personalities surrounding her as a child. She had a zest for life! Some may refer to her as amusing or humorous most of the time. I would describe her as SPICY and uniquely ours to love.
I have been told one of her fondest memories growing up was sneaking off to Suffolk Downs Racetrack with her father. Two peas in a pod chomping at "The Bit" for a winner. Jeannette enjoyed scenic motorcycle rides, searching for cows on country roads and hiking the hills of Carmel California. Summer was her favorite season. She spent many days picnicking with her family at Quaddick State Park. She enjoyed long days at Canobie Lake Park watching the sunset.
Whether she was laughing playing a game of cards or swearing mastering a crossword puzzle she loved life! Driving to Fox Woods, coffee at Thompson Dam or visiting with family and friends, it was the little things that mattered. Her grandchildren will remember her as having a sassy atti-

tude and being quick witted. She can still be heard saying "Come Give Gram A Kiss". We Miss Ya, Mama 333.
Jeannette is survived by her two daughters, Lorna Jean Caprio and her partner Roger LaFleur of Woodstock, Lynnette Smith and her partner Gary Michaud of Putnam; step children Roseann Lespasio and Francis Lespasio of Boston, MA.; grandchildren Brad Herlihy and his wife Destiny and their children Connor and Nora of Woodstock, Bryan Herlihy and his wife Lauren and their children Rowan, Declan and Tristian of Woodstock, Nadia Twerdy Dumeer and her husband Dustin and their son Brody of Sterling, Jessica Smith and her partner Bryan and daughter Juliana of Putnam, Daniella Smith of Huntington Beach, California; Nichole, Holly and Amy Lespasio of Boston, MA.; great granddaughter Lydia Orłowski-Smith of Thompson, daughter of the late Michael Smith, Her sister Lillian Carbone of Stoughton, Massachusetts, nieces Lisa Gannetta, Lauri Patnaude, Diane Thompson, Theresa Doucette, Patrice Giammarco and Tina Rhodes.
Jeannette was predeceased by her parents, August Pacheco Jason and Henrietta May McCarthy; first husband Richard J Caprio and her husband Michaelangelo V Lespasio; stepson Rafael Giovanni; sisters Loretta Patnaude and Marie Heath; brother August Jason; grandsons Neil Lespasio, Frankie Lespasio and Michael Anthony Smith; niece Kristine Carbone; nephews Christopher and Ralph Patnaude.
Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT. 06260

Mary E. Wright, 93

CHARLTON- Mary Elizabeth (Betty) Rankin Wright, 93, passed away at The Overlook in Charlton, Massachusetts, on April 17, 2020 of natural causes.
Born in Boston Massachusetts on March 31, 1927, daughter of Elmer Paull Rankin and Catherine Grace Sanger, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 50 years, Brooks, her brother Robert and twin Elmer Paull Jr. She is survived by her children Aldrich Wright (Louise) of Brattleboro, Vermont, Anne E. Wright (Peter) of Sydney, Australia and Martha G. Wright of North Oxford, Massachusetts, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.
She graduated from Radcliffe College in 1949, and went on to receive her Masters in Social Work from

Boston University in 1954. Her successful career included helping delinquent teens and surveying nursing homes and hospitals for the state of New York. Having spent most of her life in New England and New York, she and Brooks also enjoyed many years in Arizona and New Mexico. Betty was an avid gardener. She also enjoyed sewing, knitting, weaving, oil painting and pastels. Most of all she loved to travel the world with Brooks, and then host dinner parties to share their adventures with friends. She had a passion for helping teens with family planning, education and development.
Donations in Betty's memory may be made to Planned Parenthood.
Private 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 Betty.

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Photos are welcome in JPEG format.

OBITUARIES

Patricia Brousseau, 79

Patricia Brousseau, 79, of Dudley, passed away peacefully in her daughter's home, on April 17, 2020, after a short illness; she is survived her loving husband, Roger Brousseau, and family including her daughter Lori Kasik, and husband, Mike, daughter Lynn Gion, and husband Dan, her grandchildren Chad Kasik and his wife Amy, Ryan Kasik, Danny Gion, and Chelsea Gion; she also leaves behind her two brothers Vincent Menzone and his wife Joan, and Donald Menzone, all of Dudley, with whom she was very close, as well as nieces, nephews, life-long friends and neighbors, whom she adored.



Patricia was born in Dudley, the daughter of the late Vincent and Dolores (Plasse) Menzone. She was a lifelong resident of Dudley.

She was a hairdresser for over 40 years, first starting her career in Webster and then fulfilling a dream of becoming self-employed, with her own

salon, The Hair Loft, in Quinebaug CT. Patty was a great cook, and especially enjoyed creating Italian feasts in her home, to share with family and friends, with homemade pasta, meatballs, and of course her homemade sauce.

Patty was also an animal lover and rescued both cats and dogs over the years; she most enjoyed time spent with family and cherished her weekly breakfast get-togethers with her brothers Vin, Don and sister-in-law Joan. Patty was happiest spending time with family; she was a selfless, loving mother and grandmother, who always put her family first. Patty was also a loyal Patriots fan and enjoyed weekly get togethers to watch the game with family.

Private funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of 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 Patty.

Rita Blaine, 94

DOUGLAS- Rita (Royer) Blaine age 94 passed away Monday, April 20, 2020 at Care One, Millbury. She was the wife of the late Edward Blaine. He leaves two brothers, Joseph Harvey Royer of Uxbridge and Joseph Charles Royer of Millbury and a sister Marie Theresa Bingham of Uxbridge.

She was born in Northbridge daughter of the late Charles Royer and Maria (Lamontagne) Royer and lived in Millbury for the past 10 years prior to that living in Florida. She worked

for many years for the MA Division of Employment Security.

There are no calling hours and all services are private. Please omit flowers and donations may be made to a charity of donors Choice. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster 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.

Ruth C. Lindblad, 92

SPENCER- Ruth C. (Brown) Lindblad age 92 passed away Monday, April 20, 2020 at Tatnuk Park, Worcester.

She was the wife of the late Roland Lindblad who died in 1989. She leaves a daughter Darlene Granger and her husband Robert of Spencer, a son Russell F. Lindblad and his wife Sandra, grandchildren; Scott Lindblad, Brandon Granger, Kristen McArtor and Syndi Lyn Luciano.

She was born in Charlton daughter of the late Elmer Brown and Marion (Anthony) Brown and living in Boynton Beach, Florida and

Denisport, Cape Cod. She worked at Worcester City Hospital where she was a registered nurse. She also had her Master's Degree in Nursing. Their are no calling hours, services are private and burial in. Please omit flowers and donations may be made to the Shriners Children's Hospital, 516 Carew St., Springfield, MA 01104. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St. Webster has been entrusted with her arrangements. A quest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Robert F, McCormack



enlisted in the US Army and served 2 years at Fort Benning, GA. He was a

Robert F. "Butch" McCormack son of the late William F. And Mary (O'Neil) McCormack passed away at home peacefully of natural causes on Thursday, April 16, 2020. He was the loving husband of the late Marilyn (Ellison) McCormack.

Robert and Marilyn were born in New Britain, CT and both graduated from New Britain High School. He then

member of the Knights of Columbus and St. Mary's Parish in Putnam.

Robert leaves behind three sisters Catherine M. Scalise of Berlin, Virginia M. Lombardo of New Britain and Lorraine M. Gibson fo South Lyme. Robert also had 30 nieces, nephews and many grand nieces and nephews who had the pleasure of calling him Uncle Butch. Bob enjoyed cruising around lake Bunggee on his pontoon boat during the Summer and watching NASCAR on Sunday afternoon. He was a big fan of NASCAR Whelen Modified Races and would attend Spring and Fall races at Stafford Motor Speedway with several nephews and friends.

Butch will be fondly remembered by his family and friends and in our hearts forever.,

Norman Roger Allard

Norman Roger Allard was born February 3, 1933 to Edward P. and Lillian (Beaulac) Allard. Joe or coach as he was known to his many friends and former athletes lived a full and prosperous life. As a teenager he developed a passion for sports where he excelled in Football, Baseball, and Track at Killingly High School. He next took his passion to UConn where he played Football for four years as a varsity letterman and baseball until an injury ended that career. He was involved in ROTC as a battalion commander at UConn and he served in the Army and National Guard after college. He returned to his alma mater Killingly where he taught science and coached football, baseball, and basketball, and then served as athletic director until his retirement in 1992. He left a lasting legacy at Killingly High and throughout eastern Connecticut. Joe married the love of his life Ann in 1957 and she was his constant companion, they became antique dealers and auctioneers and Joe was a renowned expert on old bottles and stoneware, in retirement he taught lectures on antiques for several years at QVCC, he and Ann traveled extensively until her death



in 2001, but he continued to travel throughout the USA and Europe and his annual pilgrimage to Florida. He is survived by his son Norman and his wife JoAnne, His daughter Cindy Ferraro and her husband Dave, and Linda's husband Ricky DeMarco and most importantly his grandchildren Zoe and Zane Allard, David, Evan, and Derek Ferraro. Amy Martin and her husband Cody. Kristen Storer and her husband Chris, Amanda Newcomb and her husband Tom, and great grandchildren Becket, Axel, Petra, Lily, and Rory. Joe was predeceased by his wife Ann (Stuyniski), his brother Edward, and his daughter Linda DeMarco. Joe was named to the inaugural class of the Killingly High School hall of Fame which brought him much pride. We would like to honor Joe with donations to his favorite place Killingly High School in lieu of flowers please make donations to his go fund me page where the money will be used in his name to benefit the athletic department. His Go-Fund Me page is: Coach Allard Killingly High School Athletics Legacy Fund. The family would like to thank his companion for the last two years Piotr Swiatek for his care and support. Funeral services will be private. A Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be announced at a later date. tillinghastfh.com

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LEGALS

BOROUGH OF DANIELSON ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING

The legal inhabitants of the Borough of Danielson qualified to vote at Borough meetings are hereby notified and warned to join Google Meet on May 11, 2020 at 7:00 pm for the following purpose to wit:

1. To hear and act upon the report of the President.
2. To hear and act upon the report of the Fire Chief.
3. To hear and act upon the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 as presented to the meeting.
4. To see if the voters will vote to authorize the President and Treasurer to borrow money, if required, upon notes of the Borough, whether funded, floating, emergencies or of any other nature during the ensuing year.
5. To do any other business proper to be done at said meeting.

2019-2020 Approved Budget	2019-2020 Actual and Anticipated	2019-2021 Proposed Budget
REVENUES		
General Fund		
Property Taxes		
700015	700015	805200
(uncollectible 5%)		
-35000	-35000	-40000
Back Taxes Collected		
30000	30000	30000
PILOT Money		
10980	10980	10980
Elderly Tax Relief		
0	0	0
Telecommunications Tax		
1020	1020	900
LOCIP Grant		
3306	3306	2830
Fire Protection Services		
20000	20000	20000
Interest Income		
1200	1200	2000
General Funds		

0	11000	0
Total Revenues		
731521	742521	831910
EXPENDITURES		
Fire Department		
Operating Expenses		
Allotments		
23000	23000	20000
Fire Chief Salary		
		8000
Annual Member Recognition		
		3000
Capital Expenses		
6000	6000	6000
Operating Expenses		
93520	93520	90390
Retention/Recruitment		
32000	32000	34000
Pension Fund Indicator		
8300	8300	8000
Total		
162820	162820	169390
Other Expenses		
Building Maintenance		
33000	33000	35000
Building Reserve		
5000	5000	20000
Facility Infrastructure Reserve		
		15000
Fire Truck Loan Payment		
62500	62500	62540
Fire Truck Reserve		
20000	20000	25000
Hydrants		
245053	256053	267400
Insurance		
47200	47200	42000
Total		
412753	423753	466940
Total Fire Department		
575573	586573	636330
General Government Expenses		
Attorney		
2500	2500	2500
Auditing/Accountant		
15000	15000	15000
Borough Administrator Net Salary		
14605	14605	15000

Borough Clerk Office Expense		
1000	1000	1290
Building Rehab Loan Payment		
13500	13500	13500
Council Contingency		
500	500	500
Council Expense		
500	500	500
Election		
1000	1000	1000
Insurance		
13200	13200	13200
Legal Notices		
2000	2000	8000
Government Payroll Taxes		
3126	3126	4850
Fire Department Payroll Taxes		
		4200
President's Net Salary		
692	692	1000
Revitalization		
300	300	200
Sidewalk Repair		
1000	1000	20000
Sidewalk Reserve		
0	0	20000
Stipend for Council		
525	525	840
Street Lights		
70000	70000	57000
Tax Collection Services		
15000	15000	15000
Tax Refunds/Liens		
1500	1500	2000
Total General Government Exp		
155948	155948	195580
Total Expenses		
731521	742521	831910
Dated May 1, 2020		
Borough of Danielson		
Join Google Meet by calling		
860.428.0442 or by email to		
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May 1, 2020		

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF David A. Osier (20-00144)
The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the

Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated March 26, 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:
Maxine A. Marcy,
c/o WILLIAM H ST ONGE
(attorney for Maxine A Marcy),
ST ONGE & BROUILLARD,
50 ROUTE 171, WOODSTOCK, CT
06281, (860)928-0481.
May 1, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Joel C. Lavertu (20-00148)
The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, 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:
Edgar Lavertu,
c/o JAMES K KELLEY (attomey for Edgar Lavertu), LAW OFFICES OF JAMES K. KELLEY & ASSOCIA,
33 BROAD STREET, DANIELSON, CT 06239, (860)774-9627
May 1, 2020

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EDITORIAL
continued from page A6

being probably charged only with gunpowder. The company immediately dispersed; and while the company was dispersing and leaping over the wall, the second platoon of the British fired, and killed some of our men. There was not a gun fired by any of Captain Parker's company, within my knowledge."

While the British soldiers continued to search for supplies, the colonial militia was able to regroup in Concord where they later met the red coats at the North Bridge. The British were outnumbered this time and retreated to South Boston after losing several soldiers.

Some say the Shot Heard Round the World happened on the bridge in Concord, while residents in Lexington have long said the first shot to kick off the revolution took place on their green.

The phrase 'Shot Heard Round the World' was coined by author Ralph Waldo Emerson 62 years after the battle. His poem, titled

"Concord Hymn," was about the Battle of Concord.

*By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood,
And fired the shot heard 'round the world"*

Some historians say that because the Battle of Concord was the first real American victory in the Revolutionary War, that shot, should be considered the one heard 'round the world'.

Other historians say that because the first shot took place in Lexington, that should be the famous "shot heard 'round the world."

In his diary, Paul Revere wrote about the battle, "I heard the report, turned my head, and saw the smoke in front of the British troops, they immediately gave a great shout, ran a few paces, and then the whole fired. I could first distinguish irregular firing, which I suppose was the advance guard, and then platoons. At the time I could not see our Militia, for they were covered from me, by a house at the bottom of the

street."

In Concord, British Lt. Col. Francis Smith, in a report to General Thomas Gage, said that the British were the first to fire in Concord.

"While at Concord we saw vast numbers assembling in many parts; at one of the bridges they marched down, with a very considerable body, on the light infantry posted there. On their coming pretty near, one of our men fired on them, which they returned," Smith wrote.

The debate has continued between the towns of Concord and Lexington, as to which is the birth place of American Liberty. Even though the first shots took place in Lexington, Emerson's 'Shot' was fired in Concord.

In 1875, President Ulysses S. Grant wanted to forgo attending the centennial to avoid conflict between the two towns. In 1894, the Lexington Historical Society sought to name April 19, 'Lexington Day' to the outright objections of Concord citizens. To ease both towns, a compromise was made where April 19 is now referred to as "Patriot Day."

ZOOM
continued from page A1

Mr. Sizemore will be hosting each session and will have various members of the SJS community, teachers, parents and students, present for families to ask questions. Prospective families are free to ask any question they would like, whether about our academic program, athletics, clubs, parental involvement, as well as how our faith-based education program transforms children into young adults by the time they graduate.

Lindsay Lehmann, a long-time parent and chairperson of the aforementioned PSC, summarized what her family's membership in the SJS community has been like, especially in this new time we all find ourselves in:

"We love St Joseph School for many reasons, but the number reason we are at SJS is because of our school community. As a member for eleven years, St. Joe's is our family away from home. As chair of our Parent Association (PSC), I am proud of the connection that our families have and how we take care of each other through positive encouragement and support. We found St Joe's when I was searching for an option for my four year old to attend Pre-

Kindergarten. We were not Catholic, but immediately fell in love with the warmth of both the teachers and the families at St. Joe's. We quickly felt at home in every aspect of being a Falcon. During this pandemic, our families have remained connected in many ways, but I have truly cherished the weekly PSC Zoom sessions to help families and give them an outlet to ask questions, provide suggestions, and connect socially. The entire Lehmann family is also full of gratitude and pride for the hard work of our SJS teachers, not just during this unique time, but for their dedication throughout many, many years!"

Families interested in attending any of the Town Hall sessions listed above should contact Principal Sizemore by email at dsizemore@sjschoolng.com. In the days leading up to the first Zoom session, Mr. Sizemore will email Zoom invites out as well as have information on how to access these Towns Halls posted on the school's Web site, www.schoolofstjoseph.org. For those families that would like to register their children for the 2020-21 school year, you may do so online by clicking on the Registration Tab found on the homepage of our Web site.

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Putnam Middle School honor roll

PUTNAM — Putnam Middle School has released its honor roll for the third quarter of the 2019-2020 schoolyear.

Principal's List

Grade 8: Melodie Anderson, Brady Devlin, Robert Dion, Lily Goyette, Savannah Loiselle, Autumn Taylor
Grade 7: Madison Lamothe, Isabelle Magalhaes, Isabel Porter, Hailey

Summers

Grade 6: Christian Adams, Christopher Benoit, Leah Benzie, Audrina Buzanoski, Nicholas Devlin, Eliza Joslin, Zoe Kaliszewski, Gavin Matte, Kaydence Morris, Anna Polaino, Kasyn Robillard, Madison St. Hilaire, MadisonThomas

First Honors

Grade 8: Skyler Adams, Michael Armstrong, Emmaline Bowers, Lucian Canova, Giana Cinque, Cora Rose Desrosiers, Atiana Estes, Ashley Jordan, Nathaniel Lazarou, Keegan Lyons, Kathryn McArthur, Adam Sekula, Isabel Vergoni
Grade 7: Faye Battersby, Caleb Bellerose,

Lucas Benoit, Sawyer Britt, Anthony Cosentino, Evan Mailloux, Lilah Moran, Jacob Olson, Olivia Orthmann, Jenna Simas, Trinity Zamora
Grade6: Kaydence Barnett-Spaulling, Anthony Beaudette, Olivia Bedard, Talan Bellerose, Mackenzie Bertrand, Christina Blanchard, Kaylee Borders, Gabriell Cerasiello, Christian Dashnaw, Caeden Frenier, Joselin Garcia Osorio, Evan Garvey, Erin Gravell, Dillion Guibault, Jon'ane Lacey, Jesus Lopez, Adian Martin, Abdoulaye Mbye, Cali McCaughey, Genesis Morales, Miguel Morente Uz, Ava Nadeau, Damien Nicholas, Madalyn Parquette, Jacob Pedersen, Jennifer Peterson, Anne-Lise Robert, Mateo Sanchez, Lilly Smith, Nathaniel Sudol, Dyllan Troiano, Joao Victor Vieira, Mikayla Walford

Second Honors

Grade 8: Lucas Carita, Aysaiah Chavez, Joseph Choquet, Ariel Danburg, Travis Fredette, Kylie Howe-Barnett, Colin Martin, Tyler Parmentier, Ethan Robert, Jack Seiffert, Josephine Spalding, Ramaya Talabert, Javien Vazquez

Grade 7: Raihden Albino, Alex Bisonnette, Isabella Brown, Brooke Champagne, Richard Clifford, Aaliyah Daughenbaugh, Antonio Furtado, Olivia Hetrick, Hale Karadeniz, Logan LaFrance, Deven Lamothe, Brianna Larrow, Victoria Madore, Timothy Maltais, Kaylee Mayo, Edy Morente Mendez, Ava Morrison, Dominic Navedo, Emily Olecki, Carlito Ortiz, Nathaniel Pearsall, Kyle Remillard, Richemond Robert, Bella Sanchez, Gannon Siddall, Rebekah Tirrell, Justin Vukas, James Watson, Ava Wolinski, Jasmin Wolinski
Grade 6: Manuel Acevedo, Jason Asselin, Bethanie Dashnaw, Tyler Duquette, Alliea Falke, Devin Fleck, Jacob Fucci, Maeve Gabbard, Collin Gaudette, Aaron Gilfoy, Kenneth Goloski, Benjamin Gustafson, Owen Hennessey, Gabriella Hoel, Lincoln Jackel, Demario Knott, Savannah LaFlash, Ariyanna Lance, Julius Lang, Joao Victor Mendes, MiKaylah Renaud, Gavin Roberts, Cassandra Rogers, Hayden Russell, Gavin Ryder Medina, Nicholas Sterling, Esteban Suarez, J-veion Teeter, Joel Therrien

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