

THOMPSON VILLAGER

Friday, September 11, 2020

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Woodstock church to host Sacred Conversations on Race

WOODSTOCK — The First Congregational Church of Woodstock will host three Wednesday evening zoom gatherings for Sacred Conversations on Race, beginning Sept. 16.

The community is invited to join in prayer, reflection, and dialogue on the issue of racism. The book "White Fragility" by Robin DiAngelo will be excerpted for discussion and segments of "My Grandmother's Hands" by Resmaa Menakem will be used for prayer time.

The intention is to dig deeper into factors that impact socialization and perpetuate institutional racism. The program will identify ways to open up conversation by giving and receiving feedback with grace. There will offer suggestions to address inequity and practices to nurture healing.

"Our congregation seeks to grow in awareness and understanding of racism," said Paula Wilmot, a member of the Board of Outreach at the church. "Our hope is to provide a setting to explore the topic through the lens of faith."

Robin DiAngelo, Author of White Fragility states, "Interrupting racism takes courage and

intentionality; the interruption is by definition not passive or complacent. We must never consider ourselves finished with our learning. It is a messy, lifelong process, but one that I find is necessary to align my professed values with my real intentions. It is also deeply compelling and transformative."

Community members are welcome to join any one or all three of the meetings which will run from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and be held via zoom. Participants can prepare by reading the book White Fragility or by listening to online interviews. Podcasts with both featured authors can be found at On Being (<https://onbeing.org/series/>) with Krista Tippett. Look for Robin DiAngelo and Resmaa Menakem: In Conversation from July 9, or Resmaa Menakem: Notice the Rage, Notice the Silence from June 4.

Dates for the meetings are Sept. 16, 23, and 30 at 7 p.m. Further information and the registration link are posted on the First Congregational Church Facebook page and Web site.



Photo Courtesy

The International Paper Putnam Mill recently presented a check for \$5000 to the Pomfret Public Library. Pictured (left to right) with the symbolic check are Meagan Wright, HR Generalist – New England; TJ Billiard, Plant General Manager; David Schwartz, Plant Sales Manager; Bernie Mahon, Plant Manufacturing Manager; Laurie Bell, Pomfret Public Library Librarian; Marc Archambault, Capital Campaign Vice Chairman; and Anita Santerre, HR Administrator.

Pomfret Public Library receives International Paper Foundation grant

POMFRET — Pomfret Public Library has been awarded a \$5000.00 grant from International Paper's Putnam Mill and the International Paper Foundation according to TJ Billiard, Putnam Plant General Manager. Funds will support education and literacy through the development of Early Literacy Kits that families and educators may borrow from the library. The kits will include manipulatives, tools, games, literature, etc. in a variety of themes and disciplines, and will focus on Preschool through Elementary grades.

"International Paper's plant is Putnam, through the IP Foundation is proud to support the Pomfret Public Library project. It's part of the commit-

ment of our more than 110 local employees. Our mission is to impact local organizations that impact literacy and learning. The Pomfret Library through its varied programs is making a difference every day," said Billiard.

Schooling is one of the most pressing and stressful aspects of the CoVid-19 pandemic as administrators, teachers and parents all struggle to balance education and childcare needs with concerns for the health and safety of students and school staff. As part of its role in the Pomfret community the Public Library has been available to the community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please Read GRANT, page A7



Photo Courtesy Wendy Stone

Kristopher Morrisette looks into the Woodstock Fairgrounds, remembering all the fun times in the past and looking forward to the future, when the annual celebration, canceled this year amid concerns about the COVID-19 outbreak, will hopefully return.

Aspinock Historical Society research center temporarily unavailable

PUTNAM — The Aspinock Historical Society (AHS) announced that their Research Center, located in the Aspinock House on School Street, is temporarily closed and unavailable to the public.

The organization has been packing up and cataloging items contained in the Aspinock House, all which will be stored until the new town facility is completed. Once completed, AHS is

pleased to have space allotted to their organization in the new state of the art facility. The space will be used for displays, research, discussions, and more regarding the history of the Town of Putnam.

The AHS Research Center has provided opportunities over the years to many community members interested in researching their genealogy and other items of Putnam's history and looks



forward to greeting you all again once the town facility is complete and they are settled in.

As a 501c3 non-profit organization, AHS depends on

members, donations, and volunteers for all things and various roles. Donations are always accepted and can be mailed to AHS, PO Box 465, Putnam, CT 06260.

Learn more at www.putnamaspinockhistsoc.com and on facebook and instagram. Any questions may be sent to info@aspinockhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

Silk gets late break for win in Thompson 150 Barnburner

THOMPSON — Norwalk's Ron Silk had both the fast car and good fortune he needed to triumph over a stout NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour field in a wild and wooly Thompson 150 at Connecticut's Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park on Thursday, Sept. 3.

Silk was handed the lead under caution on lap 149 when

Ryan Preece ran out of fuel. The veteran Silk then held off point leader Justin Bonsignore on a green-white-checkered overtime finish to capture his 14th career Whelen Modified Tour victory and put an end to Bonsignore's grip on the historic speedway.

Polesitter and six-time champion Doug Coby of Norwalk, CT set the early pace, leading

a three-car breakaway with Holtsville, N.Y.'s Bonsignore and Miller Place, N.Y.'s Craig Lutz. Coby easily held the top spot through the first caution on lap 29 when Anthony Nocella spun while trying to pass Patrick Emerling for fourth. However, the handle on Coby's car began to go away. Coming off turn two on the 67th go-around, both Bonsignore

and Lutz dove beneath Coby and drop-kicked him back to third.

When the caution came out again four laps later for Chris Pasteryak's spin, all the lead-lap cars chose to head down pit road for fresh tires and adjustments. Silk, who started eighth, was sitting in sixth following the pit stop cycle, but when the green flag flew again, the

veteran roared up to third on the outside as Coby continued to drift backwards.

Silk then moved into the second spot on lap 88 and stayed there through two more yellows for spins from Nocella and Calvin Carroll. On the latter caution at lap 108, Coby chose to make an

Please Read SILK, page A7

A fond farewell to the Trinket Shoppe

I'm sure by now, you have heard the sad news that the Trinket Shoppe in Danielson will be closing the end of October. Cindy Parsons, co-owner with her husband Alan Parsons, graciously responded to my email asking for a brief history of this well-known business that has been a Main Street landmark for fifty years. This is her response, "My mother Barbara Vachon was working across the street where the parking lot is for New York Pizza. The name of the store was Davis Cut Rate. The store wasn't doing very well so my mom asked if she could run half with the products that were there and she would take over the other half. My father Don worked for WT GRANTS. The store did well, they moved to our current location in 1970 and started the Trinket Shoppe. We started with jewelry, scarves, belts and Trinkets. They soon added clothing. We have carried prom since the mid 70's Tuxedos started in 2004. We had children's clothing from 1979 until 2013. We had a lot of fun and will miss all the great people!" (Cindy Parsons; Sept. 1 email).

According to a booklet at the Killingly Historical Center by Marilyn Labbe entitled Downtown Danielson Tour, the two business blocks that comprise the Trinket Shoppe are some of the oldest in Danielson. Both were built by Luther Day in 1846. A nineteenth century photo of the building adjacent to Union Street, found in Images of America Killingly, by Natalie L. Coolidge and Robert A. Spencer (p. 14) shows an outside staircase to the second floor. The caption notes that it may be the oldest building in continuous commercial use. By the 1920's the A & P had situated in that location. ("Images of America," p. 46).

In response to a recent query, I've been doing some genealogical research on the Williams family in Northeastern

Connecticut in the 1700's. While reading through the Williams family file at the Killingly Historical Center, I came across the following interesting obituary with November 1926 written across the top. "William H. Williams died early

Monday morning at the home of his son, Charles W. Williams, following a long period of failing health. Mr. Williams was eighty years of age, having been born in Foster, RI May 66, 1846, a son of Henry D. and Levina Simmons Williams. For forty-seven years he had been the miller at the Quinebaug Company grist mill here, retiring only during the past summer." (newspaper not given). Perhaps some of you remember the mill or even recall when it was torn down.

The Danielsonville panel in Grey's Altas of Windham and Tolland Counties, Connecticut (1869) places a gristmill near the Quinebaug River. In that year William Gleason leased it. I turned to Natalie Coolidge's Killingly Business Encyclopedia for a little additional history on the mill. An October 2, 1879 Windham County Transcript extract indicated a new mill had replaced the one on that map, "The Quinebaug Company gives notice that its Grist Mill is completed and is now prepared to do milling in all its branches and on short notice." The final entry in the Business Encyclopedia told of its demise and provided additional information. "Another of Danielson's old landmarks is about to disappear. The Quinebaug gristmill is being torn down. This three-story frame structure, built like a fortress,



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MARGARET
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has stood right at the confluence of the Quinebaug and Assawaga (Five Mile) rivers for two generations. It was built about 1879-1880, and was practically in continuous operation until 1926. Since then it has been idle. The structure is the property of the

Wauregan-Quinebaug Mill, Inc. Before the Quinebaug Mills Company consolidated with the Wauregan plant the grist mill was operated by the Quinebaug Company. After having helped to build it, William H. Williams was in charge of the grist mill until it was closed. Millions of pounds of grains were processed through the years. There are many who still recall how carloads of corn, buckwheat, and rye were shipped here for grinding, to produce meal and flour. Grinding was also done for individuals who lived in the surrounding country. French burr stones were used in the grinding process. The mill was operated by water power. Its equipment was such that those who worked there had few tasks that were really laborious, for elevators and machines did practically everything." (Norwich Bulletin, found in the scrapbook of Mrs. Fred (Nina) Wood). A photo of the gristmill can be found on page 29 of "Images of America Killingly." (The above information on the date it was demolished was found after Images was published). If you remember the Quinebaug Grist Mill, please share your memories by emailing me or by sending a letter to the Killingly Historical Center at the address below.

There was a mill site located in the vicinity of the junction of the Quinebaug and Five Mile Rivers in present-day

Danielson by the 1730's or earlier. Written on March 22, 1733/4, Nathaniel Spaulding deeded Samuel Danielson one and a quarter acres on the easterly side of the Five Mile River "a little below said Danielson's sawmill." (KLR 4, p. 80). I haven't done enough land record work in that area to know when a grist mill was added.

Saw and grist mills were such a necessity in colonial Killingly and Northeastern Connecticut that a number sprang up quite early on. (Killingly was incorporated in 1708). The earliest documented gristmill in Killingly was that of Nicholas Cady in the present Elmville section of Killingly (near Dog Hill Road/Dayville Post Office). Cady had erected a gristmill and sawmill by 1717 when he conveyed the property to Daniel Waters. (Killingly Land Records, Vo. 1, p. 110). A second very early one in the Daniels Village section in northern Killingly on the Five Mile River was owned by John Parks in 1725 (KLR Vo. 2, p. 117).

The mail is being checked although the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center is closed. Please send your membership renewals to P.O. Box 265 Danielson, CT 06239.

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

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PUTNAM LEGION CELEBRATES LABOR DAY



Photo Courtesy

American Legion Post #13 of Putnam held a Meet and Greet Cookout on Sunday, Sept. 6 at the Putnam Farmers Market. The event attracted approximately 100 people. Department and district personnel joined the program in a membership recruitment effort. Pictured (L to R) are Jim LaCoursiere, former Department Commander and Department Membership Chairman; Jeff DeClerck, Department Senior Vice Commander; Post #13 Commander Brian Maynard; and District #4 Commander Ronald P. Codere.

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e-mail us at info@massasoitartguild.com



Linda Spencer

VILLAGER ALMANAC

AT CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Sept. 1: Blue-winged Teal, Common Nighthawk, Scarlet Tanager, Ovenbird, Blue-winged Warbler, American Redstart, Baltimore Oriole, Bobolink, Song Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Black Vulture, Wood Duck, Bluebird, Chimney Swift, Common Yellowthroat, Red-winged Blackbird, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Flicker, Carolina Wren. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
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WAYNE TUISKULA

It has been over two months since my last update on antiques, collectibles, and auction news. As you might expect, much has occurred since then, including a recently uncovered fake work of art.

The Los Angeles Times reported that a statue attributed to Paul Gauguin that was on display in the J. Paul Getty Museum has now been hidden away in a storeroom. The Getty Museum purchased "Head with Horns" while it was on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City in 2002. The Los Angeles Times reported that the Getty described it as a "superb example" of Gauguin's work. Fabrice Fourmanoir is a Tahitian art dealer who has studied Gauguin's works. Fourmanoir informed the LA Times that he was contacted in 2002 by Wildenstein & Co. of New York who was handling the sale of the statue. He told them that he did not believe it was Gauguin's work because it was smoother than the rougher pieces Gauguin created. Fourmanoir also noted that Gauguin never used a plinth (according to Merriam-Webster: a usually square block serving as a base) in his works. Additional research found

Antiques, collectibles, and auction news

that the plinth contained lacewood, which does not grow in Tahiti. Gauguin only used Tahitian wood. Photos of the artwork were later discovered that belonged to Gauguin's friend, Jules Agostini. Agostini took photos of the statue in 1894 a year before he met Gauguin and while Gauguin was still in France. The new evidence has led the Getty Museum to now attribute the statue to an unknown artist instead of Gauguin.

In more positive news, a 1950's coin operated children's Pegasus ride sold well at auction recently. The Antiques and Arts Weekly reported on the sale of the Pegasus. "The symbol of speed and power, this example predated Mobil's adoption of the steed as its US trademark in 1968," they wrote. It brought \$25,200.

A space suit from Stanley Kubrik's movie "2001: A Space Odyssey" recently sold at auction, according to Vanity Fair. The space suit is believed to have been worn by Keir Dullea during the final shut-down sequence of the HAL 9000 computer. It sold for \$370,000, well above the \$200,000 estimate.

Another item is expected to bring an even larger figure. Smithsonian Magazine reported that the world's most expensive coin is headed to auction. According to the magazine report

"the rare silver dollar is thought to be one of the first, if not the very first, coins minted in the newly independent United States of America." The coin will fetch much more than pocket change with its \$10 million estimate.

We will feature coins from three different estates in our October 29th online multi-estate auction. There is still time to consign for that sale. The preview for our Warren, R.I. auction takes place on Sept. 12 with bidding ending on Sept. 16. Please see the link on our website to register and bid on this auction. I will be appraising items for the Townsend Historical Society's virtual appraisal event on October 10th. Participants can submit photos of their items to the Townsend Historical Society in advance. You can also bring your items in person on the day of the event, and I will appraise them virtually. Please keep checking www.centralmassauctions.com for information on upcoming events.

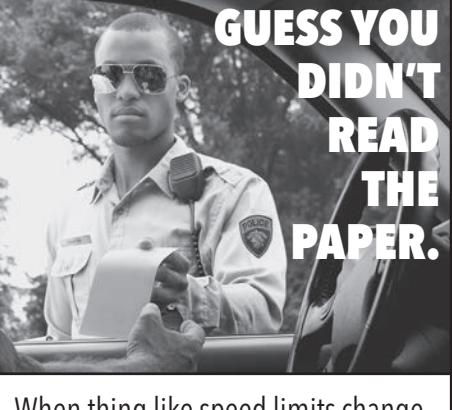
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Employers: How to respond if an employee tests positive for COVID-19



BY KATHLEEN CERRONE, ESQ.

Since March, we have all grown weary of many things. One of those "things" for me is the use of phrases such as "trying times," "unprecedented times," and "historic times." Yet, the point in time at which we find ourselves is all of these things. Employers, as a group, are facing unique challenges and I have found myself advis-

ing many of my business clients in this new niche field of pandemic response. One question that I am asked frequently is, "What do we do if an employee tests positive for COVID-19?"

If an employee has reported COVID-19 symptoms or appears to have symptoms upon reporting to work, that employee should be directed to go home and remain separated from other employees. Sick employees must be told that they can only return to work once a doctor's order allows. Employees with sick family members must be told to report the situation to their supervisor. Those employees should also report what doctor recommendations have been made and must follow all of those recommendations with regard to quarantine.

If an employee has tested positive for COVID-19, the employ-

er must inform fellow employees of their possible exposure, but maintain confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act ("the ADA"). Normally, under the ADA, employers are prohibited from asking employees about symptoms or illnesses or doctor's advice to them. However, during a pandemic, certain exceptions apply. During a pandemic, symptoms or a diagnosis of COVID-19 presents a "direct threat" and/or a "significant risk of substantial harm," which are exceptions to some ADA guidelines, so employees may be asked questions and may be excluded from the workplace until proof that there is no longer potential threat or harm.

I recommend that, should an employee test positive, the employer inform everyone in the workplace that an employee has tested positive, with-

out providing the name of the person in the communication, whether verbal or written. However, details should be given as to when the employer was notified of the positive test, and details should be given as to whether there has been guidance provided by either a physician or health department as to what precautions must be taken, whether that be quarantine, contact tracing, testing of those in close contact, or other precautions.

Employers should also notify individuals with whom the infected employee came in contact during the 14-day period prior to the positive test, including, but not limited to, customers, visitors, vendors, or consultants. Consult your attorney if you have questions relating to sick leave, the Family Medical Leave Act, or OSHA requirements during COVID.

Presented by Kathleen M. Cerrone, Esq. Sources: Connecticut Business and Industry Association, Employer Guidance: <https://www.cbia.com/resources/coronavirus/coronavirus-employer-guidance/respond-employee-tests-positive-covid-19/>; Total HIPPA Compliance, What Should an Employer Do If an Employee Tests Positive for COVID-19?, <https://www.totalhipaa.com/what-to-do-if-an-employee-tests-positive-for-covid-19/>; Kathleen M. Cerrone is a partner at the law firm of Borne, Smith, Aleman, Herzog & Cerrone LLC d/b/a The Northeast Law Center, with two locations: 155 Providence St., Putnam and 124 Wauregan Rd., Danielson. Kathleen (best known as "Kate") can advise you on your business planning strategies. Ask Kate about her Corporate Care Plan.

How to know if you're ready to retire



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Retiring is a huge life event, and it isn't one that comes with many do-overs. You have to get it right the first time. Luckily, there are ways to prepare for retirement—and even practice it—to help ensure you're ready when the day comes.

Last week, we introduced retirement planning as our main topic of discussion for September. In today's article we're going to dive deeper into some key strategies to get you on track to transition into this new chapter of your life.

What to do first

A few years before you plan to retire, have a practice run. If you have a retirement plan that gives you a clear picture of how much money you'll have to live on annually, spend a full year to two years living only on that amount. If you don't, your first step is to meet with a financial advisor to get sense of your retirement income esti-

mate. If you can live comfortably on the decided amount, that's great. If not, it's better to know that now rather than later, and it's time to devise a plan to increase your future income.

Have a timeline for your decisions

Do you know when you must make certain retirement-related decisions? Do you even know what decisions you'll need to make? Having a clear idea of these decisions and a timeline to make them will reduce your stress and make retirement a smoother event.

Pre-retirement decisions

Before you retire, you'll need to determine if you have any debts that need to be refinanced. It's hard to refinance mortgages or other loans when you don't have demonstrable income, so do this long before you give notice at work.

You'll also need to decide how you'll handle long-term care expenses and if you want to use long-term care insurance for some of those potential costs. Applying for this insurance should ideally be done ten years prior to retiring, and three to five years before is basically the last chance for it to be affordable.

Retirement day decisions

Retiring likely means losing your employer-sponsored benefits, so you'll need to make decisions about health insurance. If you're retiring at or

after age 65, then you can seamlessly transition into Medicare. Make sure you remember to enroll in Medicare Part A 60 to 90 days before your 65th birthday whether you're planning to retire or not. For Part B, you can wait to enroll until after your retirement as long as you're at least 65 years old.

If you're retiring after age 63 and a half, you can use COBRA provisions to continue your employer health plan for up to 18 months until you're eligible for Medicare. However, if you're retiring earlier than that, you'll either need to join your spouse's health plan or to use the health insurance exchange in your home state.

If you will be receiving a pension, you'll need to decide how you'd like to receive your benefit. You will likely be given the option to maximize your benefit as a single person—meaning it expires after your death—or a few options on how you'd like a spouse to receive income from your pension should they outlive you.

Post-retirement decisions

Social Security is a very complex benefit and timing your benefit claim is an important decision you'll need to make. You and your spouse must determine whether to claim immediately at age 62 or to wait until full retirement age or even age 70 to begin receiving benefits. The decisions you and your spouse make can greatly impact how much money you're eligible to receive during your lifetimes and during a period of widowhood for either of you.

You'll also want to review your current insurance coverages to see where you can save money. Since you're no longer commuting to work, you may be able to lower your car insurance premium. If you're paying for disability insurance, you'll no longer need it and can let it expire. Lastly, if you have term life insurance, you may no longer need the extra death benefits and can consider discontinuing the coverage after claiming your Social Security

and pension income.

The most important step

The most important thing to do before you retire is to make sure you have a substantial nest egg you've built up over the years.

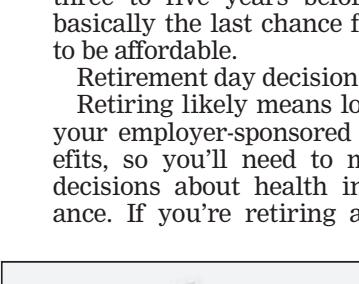
You don't know what the future will hold, and having access to capital—especially funds not subject to market volatility—is vital to a successful retirement. One tip we like to share, is to have about 6 months to one year of expenses in liquidity. This can help you secure your financial future.

The lesson

There's a lot to consider when you're thinking about retiring. Starting to make decisions and prepare for the life change early will help you be successful in your retirement. 2020 has not gone according to plan, but you can live your best life despite the obstacles. Our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process can help you prepare for the unexpected, and get back on track when it happens. Make sure to check back throughout September for more retirement strategies! Visit our Web site, www.whzwealth.com/our-process, to learn more about how we can help you on your journey toward achieving your financial life goals.

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Cooler temperatures and warm soil make fall a great time to add trees to your landscape. Make the most of this investment of money and time and give your tree its best chance at survival with proper planting and care.

Select a tree suited to the growing conditions, your landscape design and available space. Make sure it tolerates the sunlight, soil and temperature extremes. Check the tag for the mature height and spread. You'll have a better-looking plant that always fits the space with minimal pruning.

Avoid planting near overhead utilities since trees and power lines make for a dangerous combination. Contact your underground utility locating service at least three business days before placing the first shovel in the ground. It's free and all you need to do is call 811 or file an online request.

Once the area is marked, you can get busy planting. Ensure your tree thrives for many years to come with proper planting. Dig a saucer shaped hole three to five times wider than the root ball. It should only be as deep as the distance from the root flare to the bottom of the root ball. The root flare, where the roots bend away from the trunk, should always be at or slightly above the soil surface.

Set the tree in the hole, then peel back and cut away any burlap and wire cages. These can eventually constrict root growth. Roughen the sides of the hole and backfill with the existing soil. Water thoroughly to moisten

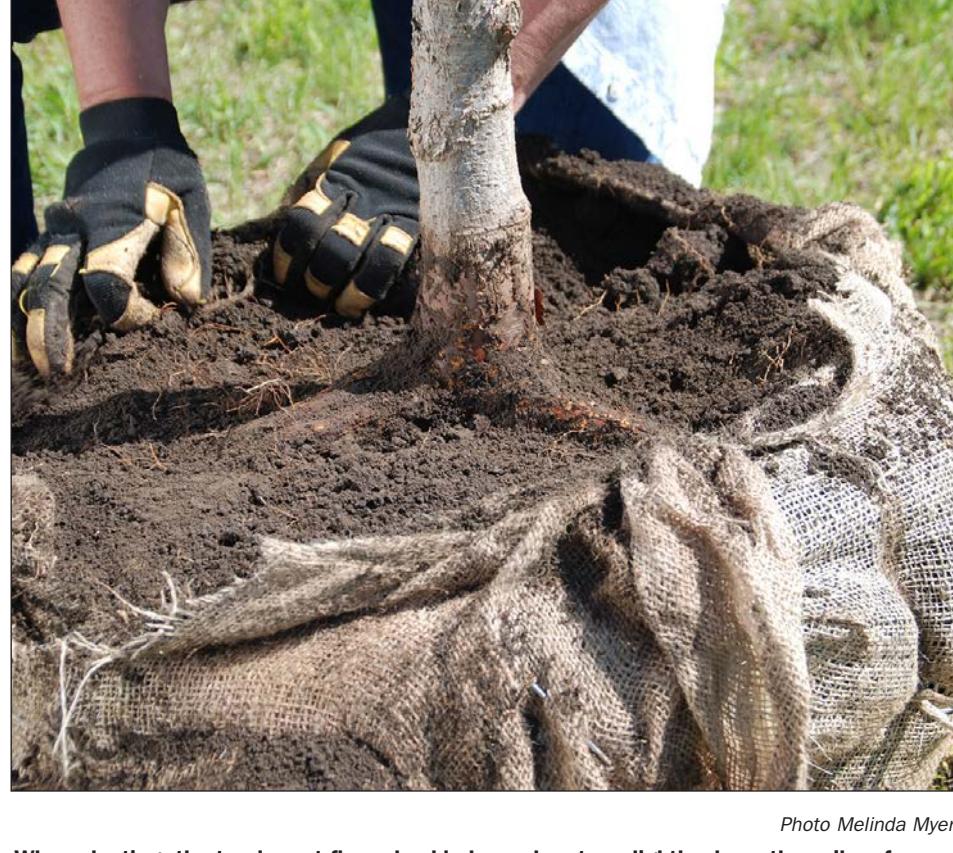


Photo Melinda Myers

When planting, the tree's root flare should always be at or slightly above the soil surface.

the roots and surrounding soil.

Continue to water thoroughly whenever the top few inches of soil are crumbly and moist. Proper watering, especially during the first two years, is critical for establishing

trees. Watering thoroughly as needed encourages deep roots and a more drought tolerant and pest resistant tree.

Monitor soil moisture near the trunk and beyond the rootball. Since

many containerized trees are grown in soilless mix, the rootball dries out more quickly than the surrounding soil. Adjust your watering technique and schedule to accommodate this difference.

Mulch the soil surface with a two- to three-inch layer of woodchips or shredded bark to conserve water, suppress weeds and improve the soil as it decomposes. Pull the mulch back from the trunk of the tree to avoid disease problems.

Remove any tags that can eventually girdle the tree and prune out any broken or rubbing branches. Wait a year to fertilize and two years, once the tree is established, for additional pruning.

Continue providing tender loving care for at least the first two years. Make regular checkups, prune to create a strong structure, and keep grass, weeds and lawn care equipment away from the trunk throughout the lifetime of your tree. Your efforts will be rewarded with years of beauty and shade.

*Gardening expert Melinda Myers has more than 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. Myers is the host of The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers' Web site is www.melindamyers.com.*

Surprised when God answered

Throughout the centuries after the life of Jesus, the progress of the church has ebbed and flowed. Sometimes God's people have done well, and at other times they have strayed far from God and His truths. Whenever He could find them, God used people to restore the church to the right paths. The church, at large, began straying away from a Biblical view of "the Godhead" and "the plan of salvation" as early as the 2nd century. But through movements such as the reformation and the awakenings He has been able to incrementally restore the truths that were originally established. One such movement that helped restore an understanding of the baptism of the Holy Spirit as experienced by the disciples on the Day of Pentecost was the Asuza St. revival.

An important precursor to that great revival in Los Angeles was what happened in Topeka Kansas, in 1901. Charles Parham was a minister who established Bethel Bible School - a Bible School where people lived by faith. He

was at a place in his spiritual and theological journey where he was understanding that there had to be a greater experience with God than just a confession of faith. So, in December of 1900 when the semester was coming to an end and Parham was leaving for a few days, he challenged his students to study the Bible to determine what evidence was consistently present when the first century Christians received the Holy Spirit.

As the students studied the book of Acts, they discovered a consistent event associated with salvation was that believers were baptized with the Holy Spirit. They also noticed that was usually accompanied by them "speaking in tongues." In other words,



BEYOND
THE PEWS
• • • • •

BISHOP JOHN
W. HANSON

early Christian converts spoke in a language they had never learned as a part of their salvation experience.

The students spent several days in prayer and worship, and held a New Year's Eve watchnight service at Bethel on Dec. 31, 1900 and then another on Jan. 1, 1901. They were fighting a war to see the power of the church restored. Prayer was the weapon they used to break long-held beliefs in order to embrace biblical theology.

God responded with a demonstration of truth. In the New Year's service, a woman by the name of Agnes Ozman felt impressed to ask everyone to pray for her to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit. While people were praying for her, she immediately began to speak in a language she had never learned.

What a pleasant surprise!

During this period of time, there was an African-American man by the name of William Seymour who, because for Jim Crow laws, sat outside Parham's classrooms and listened to the teaching about the HG. He would later move to LA where he eventually received the baptism of the HG, speaking in tongues. He became a key leader of the Asuza St. mission that was an epicenter of a movement that has now seen millions baptized with the Holy Spirit, evidenced by speaking in tongues. It is a delightful and surprising experience awaiting anyone who will seek Him.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries of Thompson, where hundreds of people have experienced salvation just like the first century Christians did. For more information, please visit www.ActsII.org.

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The year without a fair



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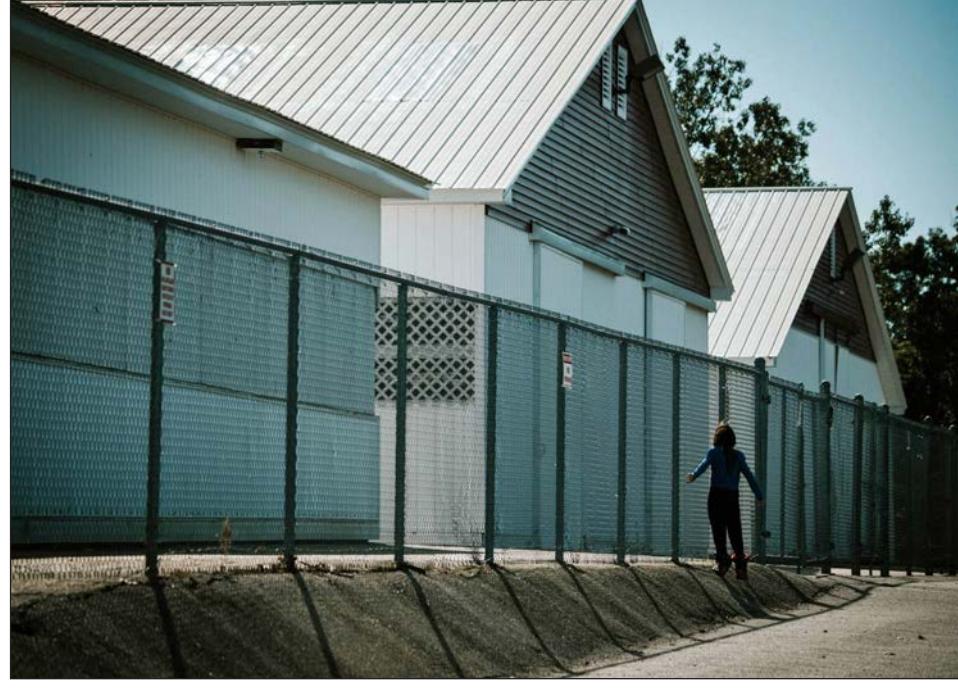
Woodstock Fair sign



Angela Young Left and Dani Chaput work at the family run Woodstock Creamery. Angela Young does not remember a Labor Day weekend without the fair and neither does her mother. Maybe during WWII was the last time the fair had to close.



Woodstock Creamery decided to have caramel apples and have their cows, sheep and other farm animals available for petting on Labor Day so that the community can still have some fun on Labor Day weekend.



Kristopher Morrisette runs along the fence of the closed fairgrounds.



The delicious concessions stands will be missed by everyone.



There will be no horse shows this year.



The animal barns will be empty this year because the Fair has to close because of Covid-19.



I will miss the Doughboy bought annually at the fair.



The exhibition hall stands ready hopefully for next year.



This is where we always buy our fair tickets we are hopeful to be here next year!

SILK

continued from page A1

unscheduled pit stop after having fallen all the way to eighth. Silk made two attempts to divebomb Bonsignore for the lead after the restart, but Bonsignore was ready and took the lead right back each time.

On the 125th circuit, though, Silk was able to make the move stick, getting past Bonsignore entering turn three. Lutz did the same to Bonsignore a few laps later, and Berlin's Preece was right behind him as he started to come on strong.

Following Nocella's third spin of the night on lap 133, Bonsignore surged back into second on the restart. The field then ran out of real estate exiting turn four, which led to a red flag after Eric Goodale, Timmy Solomito, and Sam Rameau piled into the frontstretch wall. Racing resumed with eight laps to go, and after Preece negotiated his way to the runner-up spot, he swung to the outside of Silk entering turn one, taking the lead on lap 147 to thunderous applause.

But the biggest twist was yet to come. The seventh caution flew a lap after

the lead change when Kyle Bonsignore pounded the turn-four wall. As the field circled under caution, Preece's fuel tank suddenly ran dry despite having packed it full before the start. Preece helplessly coasted to a stop in the pits as Silk found himself back in the lead. Lutz lined up alongside Silk for the final two-lap sprint and tried to make a last-ditch charge, but slid up the track in turn one, allowing Silk to get away for the win.

Despite his 7-of-8 Thompson Speedway winning streak getting snapped, Justin Bonsignore maintained his point lead with a runner-up finish. Chelmsford, Mass.'s Jon McKennedy took third starting at the rear for an unapproved adjustment. Pasteryak recovered from his mid-race spin to finish fourth while Coby sliced through the field late to come home fifth. Dave Sapienza, Ronnie Williams, Nocella, Matt Swanson, and rookie Tyler Rypkema rounded out the top-10.

Berlin, CT's Keith Rocco added yet another win to his Thompson Speedway resume by taking the checkered flag in the 25-lap Sunoco Modified feature. Rocco put on a breathtaking battle with Somers' Todd Owen over the first 12

laps, which began with them going three-wide around Oxford, Mass.'s Troy Talman at the initial green flag.

The duo then swapped the top spot four more times through a series of slide jobs and crossovers. Rocco finally got the lead for good in turn three just before the halfway point, and Owen began to slow several laps later with a deflating tire, letting Rocco cruise to the victory. Talman passed Owen in the closing circuits to take second.

Bellingham, Mass.'s Woody Pitkat fended off a series of challenges to pocket \$1,200 for winning the 25-lap Late Model feature. Pitkat earned the pole in qualifying and had a rear view mirror full of North Dartmouth, MA's Derek Gluchacki for the first half of the event.

A trio of cautions then flew over an eight-lap span, the last of which came on lap 21 when Walter Sutcliffe and Michael Mitchell smacked the turn-two wall. When the field re-racked for a four-lap shootout, Pitkat chose the inside line with Gluchacki at his right-side door.

It was Gluchacki who got the initial break on the restart, leading the 22nd circuit by a nose. After Pitkat drove it deep into turn one, Johnson responding by swapping lanes off turn two. Rehoboth, Mass.'s Jake Johnson then tried to dive three-wide in turn four, but broke sideways coming off the corner, allowing Warwick, RI's Mark Jenison to slip by him. Pitkat was able to clear Gluchacki entering turn one that time and motored away to the win.

Gluchacki edged Jenison off the final corner for second. Johnson, Ryan Lineham, Matthew Lowinski-Loh, Brian Tagg, Rick Gentes, Travis Jurcik, and Jason Larivee Jr. completed the top-10.

Danielson's Ryan Waterman made his move late to snag the victory in the 20-lap Twisted Tea Limited Sportsmen feature. Multi-time champion Shawn Monahan of Waterford powered to the lead at the start over polesitter Lawrence Barrett. Monahan then led a three-car breakaway with Waterman and Barrett in tow.

However, the handling started to go away on Monahan's #55 at the halfway mark. Waterman was there to take advantage, diving beneath Monahan entering turn three on the 14th cir-

cuit and muscling his way to the front. Although Monahan was able to hang with him at first, it was Waterman who held the upper hand as he took the victory by three car lengths. Barrett, Diego Monahan, and Nikolas Hovey completed the top-five.

Belchertown, Mass.'s Josh Carey went wire-to-wire to triumph in the 20-lap SK Light Modified feature. Carey started on the point, which put him in the best possible position to avoid Steve Kenneway's fiery turn-two crash on the opening circuit. Kenneway was not injured in the incident.

When the green flag came back out, Carey had to contend with Woodstock's Paul Charette for the top spot. Charette kept the pressure on for much of the event, but Carey pulled away in the final laps for the win. Oxford, MA's Nathan Pytko completed the podium.

Sterling's Jared Roy took the victory in the Twisted Tea Mini Stock feature. Roy grabbed the lead from polesitter Steve Michalski at the drop of the green flag in the 15-lap feature with Mansfield's Dave Trudeau not far behind.

The event's lone caution on lap 12 for David Trudeau Jr.'s spin gave both his dad and Tommy Silva one final shot at the lead. Roy drove away from both though to claim the win. Dave Trudeau finished second while Silva came in third after missing qualifying.

The Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park oval will play host to the 48th Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing from Friday, October 9 to Sunday, Oct. 11. A total of 17 divisions are tentatively scheduled for the annual racing festival, including the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, Pro All Stars Series Super Late Models, 350 Small Block Supermodifieds, and Northeast Midget Association. The full schedule and pricing will be announced in the coming weeks.

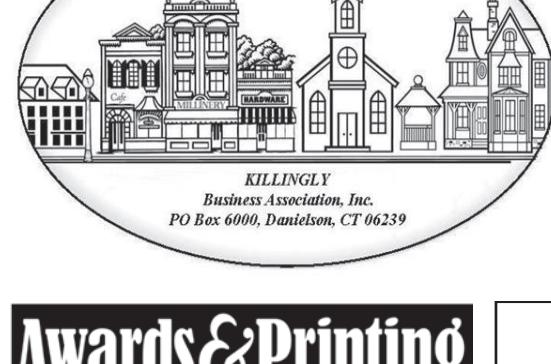
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The Library is in the midst of a Capital Campaign aimed at doubling the size of the current facility. The Campaign, which has a goal of \$500,000, is led by General Chairperson Atty. Kate Cerrone and Vice Chairpersons Marc and Mary Archambault.

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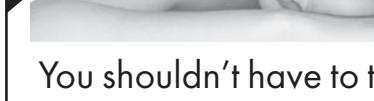
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EDITOR

The flavors of fall

The first day of fall is upon us. Sept. 23 will mark the first day it is socially acceptable to drink pumpkin and apple flavored coffee, doughnuts, bread and burn fall scented candles. Coffee shops and bakeries are already busting out the fall flavors.

Pumpkin enthusiasts beware, on the flip side, there are several people who think it is too soon. A survey that posed the question, "When is it OK to start drinking and eating pumpkin?" produced the following responses:

"Right now!"

"First day of fall."

"I always strive for after Labor Day, but often start on July 12th."

"I'm waiting until September 1st."

"After zucchini season."

It is true, there are more people in New England who are holding on to every last bit of summer than those looking forward to fall. To those people, we get it. Some people refuse to swap their flip flops for boots until the first snow fall. The end of the summer season really isn't so bad. With fall comes hearty crock pot recipes, crisp evenings, sweaters, boots, and Halloween. The closer to Halloween we get, the closer to snow, which means the ski resorts will soon be open for businesses. What could be better?

Perhaps the best part about fall is foliage. The leaves are already changing and soon New England will be swarming with tourists, camera's in tow. Peak foliage will hit during the last week of September through the first week of October.

Within the next four weeks, temperatures will drop drastically, with some hot days still sprinkled in for balance. The good news is, there is still plenty of time to sneak in a few more summer hikes, a kayak excursion on the lake, a few more backyard barbecues, or a day reading out on the hammock.

The Old Farmer's Almanac says of winter 2021, "Our long-range forecast is calling for a cold winter with normal to below-normal temperatures in areas from the Great Lakes and Midwest, westward through the Northern and Central Plains, and Rockies. Remember last year's almost snow-free winter in the Northeast? Well, this year our prediction is very different, with the possibility of a blizzard hitting the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast states during the second week of February. This storm may bring up to one to two feet of snow to cities from Washington, D.C. to Boston, Massachusetts."

So wether you're still sipping pina coladas or drinking a pumpkin spiced latte while dreaming of jack-o-lanterns and the smell of wood stoves, this IS the perfect time of year for you.

The soul of a nation

To the Editor:

Plenty has been said about how we got here on the political slope which slants violently to the right and the left, and I don't need to tell you there is a lot of rhetoric and propaganda on both sides by those who have adopted "The Culture Wars" as a way of life. But I find it more interesting to examine Thomas Moore's quote from his book *Care of the Soul*: "...the root problem is that we have lost our wisdom about the soul, even our interest in it. We have today few specialists of the soul to advise us when we succumb to moods and emotional pain, or when as a nation we find ourselves confronting a host of threatening evils." Thomas Moore, "*Care of the Soul*" (1994)

Indeed, we do find ourselves confronting a host of threatening evils. But we have been here before in America's

Green Bank's battery storage proposal deserves our support

To the Editor:

The Connecticut Green Bank (a quasi-public entity devoted to achieving cleaner and more reliable energy for Connecticut) recently submitted a proposal to Connecticut's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ("PURA") seeking approval of a program to incentivize home battery storage for up to 10,000 Connecticut homes fitted with rooftop or ground-mounted photovoltaic solar panels. The idea behind the proposal is to move residential solar power to the next phase: battery storage for the

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Lisa Thomas has my vote

To the Editor:

I am very excited that Lisa Thomas is the Democratic candidate for State Senator to represent the 13 towns in Eastern Connecticut comprising the 35th District. Having served with her on the Coventry Town Council, I have seen how deeply she cares about her constituents and how responsive she is to their questions and needs.

Lisa is passionate and knowledgeable

about issues that she and I share – education, small businesses, environment, our farmers, the elderly, and particularly at this time when we are all so thankful for the dedication of our first responders, I point out her support on the Coventry Town Council for public safety. Always an advocate for our volunteer fire departments, she went into a

Turn To LEWIS page A9

Thomas will advocate for our environment

Thomas will advocate for our environment

To the Editor:

Lisa Thomas, Democratic candidate for Connecticut's 35th State Senate district, is driven to protect all aspects of Eastern Connecticut's environment. During her time living, raising a family, and serving in Coventry, she has been a problem solver who understands the value of Eastern

Connecticut's natural resources.

Thomas has already led my hometown of Coventry in efforts to increase alternative energy reliance, as well as aided in halting invasive species overgrowth in Coventry Lake. Exemplifying her pride for environmental justice and critical thinking skills, Thomas holds dearly the creation of the

Turn To LUNG page A9

Look here not there

To the Editor:

"Puff the magic dragon helicopter gunship" and shoot at Americans is a little extreme for you thin skinned liberals — what? Do you cult followers realize that protesting is a Constitutional right. The same right that allows people of simple minds to think that firing up a gunship is allowed. It may be disgusting and what most normal thinking would be totally against it but it is your right to say it. So, apparently only your opinion counts or is allowed. Hence one of the biggest problems in this Trump-driven time, agree

with the Fascist leader or be gone.

Remember when the Republican party represented sound fiscal policy, the debt grows and is out of control, national defense, now it praises authoritarian governments and our allies are left to fend for themselves and we fought wars to fight back against communism, now Russia is trying to wreck the democracies of the world and our elections. Nothing is done by this administration and the GOP to speak up. Germans in the 1930's put all their faith in Hitler and how did that

Turn To CASSETTARI page A9

Mutual respect is a step in the right direction

To the Editor:

Boy, did they all come out of the woodwork last week. I've been wondering where you guys were. I'll give my occasional sparring partner, Ann C. Rosebrooks, the nod because not once did she ever use the "T" word in her letter. She has my respect because she has what it takes to personally call me out if she feels the need. G. Leslie Sweetnam, mentioned "a collection of lies" in Villager letters, but I didn't see any specific examples of where they were, and it's definitely a one sided opinion not to think that "incentrity

insults" haven't been pointed in both directions. I'll agree that democrats do whatever, wherever, but these aren't the democrats whose names you constantly see in the news. I'll also say that I've more than proven that there are way too many democratic politicians who are avoiding their sworn responsibility by not doing their jobs. I won't mention their names because that list would make a Donna Dufresne letter look like something that would fit on a business card! (And no offense to her was meant.)

Turn To DELUCA page A9

Rosati for State Representative

To the Editor:

Two quotes apply to this endorsement for Christine Rosati Randall: "All politics is local" and "By their works Ye shall know them." Don't let the Biden vs. Trump contest eclipse the local races; state reps have an immediate, long-lasting impact on Killingly and Plainfield.

Those who voted for Anne Daupinaias made an ill-informed choice. We need only look at

their records to confirm who is working in our best interest and who is really an obstructionist (or, at least in one case, still acting like a pharmaceutical lobbyist), a person who sits in the middle of the path like a toad, voting no on constructive bills while promoting mean-spirited or harmful ones. Daupinaias voted against capping the price of insulin.

Turn To KRZYWDA page A9

sullied past of conflict and violence which emerges during each paradigm shift in the social and material culture. Yet we always seem to pull ourselves up by the bootstraps and move forward, generation by generation. However, something feels different in these strident times. Perhaps it's our obsession with technology and social media, along with all the materialistic entrapments which have caused us to go astray. Or the information overloads which tend to short-out our brain-scape, numbing our ability to listen to or see another point of view from the myopic mud in which we swim.

Those with a conspiratorial obsession with the culture wars point fingers toward the 1960's which ushered a parade of cultural revolutions into the millennium. But what could have been more revolutionary

than the righteous causes of the religious zealots and abolitionists of the 19th century who took on slavery? They too fought their battles in social media. They preached to the choir in their own magazines and newspapers, just as we do on Facebook. Often, they would duke it out in letters to the Editor of local and state-wide newspapers. Thought and opinion may have moved slowly back then, given the technology at hand, but the fervor was just as ebullient as the rabid rants you encounter online and even at social gatherings.

So what makes the "threatening evils" of 2020 so different from those of the 1960's or the 1830's or 1776? I wonder if Thomas Moore was right when he said we lack the wisdom of the soul. Does America even

Turn To DUFRESNE page A9

energy produced by home solar systems. Participating homes would use the batteries for emergency back-up power during power outages. (That could have come in handy recently!) Importantly, though, the batteries would also be used by the electrical grid to supply power to the broader public during hot summer days when power demand spikes and existing power plants struggle to keep up. Adding batteries to existing solar panels helps realize the full potential of renewable solar energy and decreases reliance

upon old and dirty fossil fuel utility plants and the need to build new ones. I urge readers to check out the Green Bank's proposal on its Web site and to e-mail PURA at pura.executivesecretary@ct.gov with reference to Docket 17-12-03(REF09) to show support for this innovative approach to emergency power and modernization of the electrical grid.

TOM HUGHES
EASTFORD

Drifting into fall

When I sit down to write, I set the timer on my phone for 25 minutes. I promise myself that I will not get up and move the laundry from the washer to the dryer, or let the cat in or out for the 100th time, until I hear the chime on the phone that gives me permission to move. I thought I'd made up the routine until I told my daughter about it, and she said it is called the Pomodoro Method, or the Pomodoro Technique. She had given a seminar about it. I Googled it and found she was correct, as usual.

While it is annoying to have one's eldest child always seem to be a step ahead, it is the way things go, and what we all want when we begin the process of helping our children become open minded, open hearted, interesting individuals. Perhaps I knew about the

Pomodoro Method and forgot, or perhaps it is just reasonable to divide up work units into bite sized pieces. Whatever the reason, Francesco Cirillo claimed the process as his own in the late 1980's, when time management was popular, just before the Internet set its claws into us.

The inventor named the system after his tomato shaped kitchen timer, Pomodoro in Italian. It has us break time into 25 minute units separated by short breaks. One can repeat the process four times before being allowed a longer break. Jot down a mark to keep track of the reboots and that is it. It actually works and gives a sense of control at a moment when we are drifting.

It may be my Puritan forebears, but I don't like to drift. At the end of the day, I like to think I accomplished something. In these difficult times, I am seeing plenty of work being done, largely by others. Family members are working hard from home and others are off to jobs that demand a great deal.

For me, however, except for the heavy lifting of writing articles and a daily haiku, I've settled into a life that is limited by the pandemic.

This is where time management becomes even more important.

The amount of time I've spent saving frogs is silly, especially because they are not one bit grateful. I'm rescuing them from pools and pots. Much like the turtles I remove from roadways in spring, the frogs look blankly at me wondering why their plans have been altered.

Woolly bear caterpillars are taking up attention too. They are one true symbol of the advent of fall and I am finding them everywhere. They are furry and slow, black on front and back and a lush brown in the middle. I'm not sure the coloration is a sign of the winter to come, but I study the relative amount of black to brown anyway. I mistakenly thought the woolly bear caterpillar became a butterfly, but as with so much else, I was wrong. It turns into an Isabella Tiger Moth, which doesn't look like much.

While the frogs and the woolly bears go about their appointed tasks, I gather up items for winter. I need a half cord of wood. The daffodil bulbs will arrive and need planting. Summer clothes need to be packed away, most not worn during these strange times. If I divide the tasks into 25 minute intervals, I'll get everything done, just as my daughter predicts.

September is a wonderful time in New England. We can divide it into bite sized pieces and savor or we can roll up in a ball like the woolly bear, but no matter what don't just let the time drift.

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.

A life of accumulating stuff

I heard once that the first half of our life is spent accumulating things, while the second half is getting rid of those very same things. In our case, time has been more heavily weighted to accumulation, while getting rid of them has been a more sudden and quicker event.

As most of you know, we are at a time and age where we are downsizing. We've spent the last 26 years in an exceptionally large home on forty acres and are downsizing into a significantly smaller place. The move requires that we sell, donate, give away or dump, eighty percent or more of our belongings. In the beginning, the thought sounded arduous and painful, but it has been quite the opposite. It has been a "freeing" experience. It has lightened our load and relieved a fair amount of pressure.

As we've sorted through forty-five years of marriage in boxes of our belongings, I wonder why we ever bought most of it to begin with. It's as if we were on a search for meaning in things, that we later found to be meaningless. I believe I bought things to make myself feel

better and when I didn't ... I bought more. The more I bought, the more of a burden it became, so to relieve the stress ... I bought more. I think it's a vicious cycle that most of us go through. We all become burdened at some point with boxes of stuff. We either deal with it or leave it all to our kids to deal with after we are gone.

So, we decided to have an estate sale, which turned out to be the right choice for us. It went well and I'm guessing half our stuff sold. It was an interesting experience. I thought I'd be able to hang around, greet people, answer questions ... but I was wrong. An hour before the sale began, George, the owner of Cait's, the estate sale company, asked me where I was going during the sale. I responded that I planned on staying and he began emphatically shaking his head and said, "No. You cannot be here. Go hang out with a neighbor or find another place to be."

It was a mixture of feeling insulted



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

and hurt. It was my stuff, in my house! How could he tell me to leave? Arlene looked at me and smiled. "He didn't want to see you holding on to someone's ankle as they drag you out the door, while you are crying and pleading, 'please don't take my stuff!'"

"You think I'd do that?" I asked.

"It didn't take long for him to figure you out." She took me by the hand and pulled me towards the door. "Let's not stay and find out."

We got in the car and instead of leaving, parked under a tree near the entrance to the property and watched people come in and later leave with our stuff. It wasn't a sad experience but just an odd sense of curiosity. Why did they want that? Where are they taking it? What will they do with it?

The next day was different. I decided to hide in the bedroom and stay close, but my personality and curiosity didn't allow me to stay in hiding long. I slowly ventured out and had a fun time greet-

ing friends, meeting new people, and seeing smiles on faces as I watched our 'stuff' bring joy to others.

I also smiled, knowing someday, sooner or later, that same stuff may be in someone else's estate sale as they wonder, "why on earth did I buy this?"

My advice, for whatever it's worth

... Don't put your faith and happiness in material things. They eventually end up being burdensome and rarely deliver the expected pleasure. First and foremost, look to a higher source. For me, that is in Jesus. For you it may be something different. Then, find your earthly joy and satisfaction in family and dear friends.

Stuff ... is just stuff. I don't miss any of it.

Neither will you.

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

LUNG

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Coventry Lake Advisory and Monitoring Committee, proposed by the Coventry FPSP (Future Problem Solving Program) which she coached.

In addition to her work on Coventry Lake, I am so appreciative of Thomas's support for the Last Green Valley which spans a majority of the district. As an avid outdoors explorer, I am proud to support a candidate who has our region's natural rich history and rural

landscape in mind. Her support for this non-profit has helped with land conservation, education, land appreciation, and more!

With Thomas advocating for our region in Hartford, I have no doubt that she will fight for our forests, rivers, and more. It is my hope that others in the district will recognize her passion and how valuable this work is for us, in our rural location with many outdoors loving folks.

MEGAN LUNG
COVENTRY

LEWIS

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practice burn with them to learn firsthand the dangers they face. She rode along on the snowplowing route with one of our Public Works employees. She also supported the efforts of

our Police Department to become one of the first in the State to start using body cameras and become CALEA certified. I know she will be a strong and positive voice in the Senate in promoting and influencing these issues and other matters important to the people of Eastern Connecticut.

Anyone who has worked with Lisa knows the great energy and dedication she brings to whatever program she represents or position she holds. These qualities along with her ability to ably communicate her views, present reasonable arguments, and offer compromises and innovative solutions will not only well serve those of us in Eastern Connecticut but citizens throughout the State of Connecticut.

I urge you to join with me and vote for Lisa Thomas.

JOAN LEWIS
COVENTRY

CASSETTARI

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work for them and the rest of the world. He creates disharmony in the country and then tries to BS his way out. Law and disorder. You know when he is lying, simple when his lips move.

Trump stated recently that coronavirus is coming to an end, 'we are rounding the corner' but what is around that corner is nothing but a speeding train. Mr. Deluca 186,000 people have died, scientists say that 300,00 by election day and maybe as many as 400,000 could be dead by the first of the year. Lack of leadership, federal government involvement and help, only denial has been Trump's approach to the virus. These people are somebody's mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandma

and grandpa. This is sad and did not need to happen, after all, it will magically disappear. People are stressed, poorer, tired, worn out by this, many have lost their jobs, homes, businesses as well. If he only was not so concerned and worried about himself!

Are we better off than we were four years ago. Now he calls people who served this country and provided the American way of life losers and stupid. When does it get better?

Trivia question for all, name the business/s or enterprise that Trump started or bought that has become a thriving, still existing and prosperous company?

I will give you time to think about that one.

DAVID CASSETTARI
KILLINGLY

DUFRESNE

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have a soul? We know that there is a certain spirit which Americans flaunt around the world. After all, our nation was founded on the motto "The Spirit of 1776," but what does that mean in the context of depth, wisdom and soulfulness? Not much. We tend to be a shallow, feisty and cranky lot as a nation, and even though we've been caught up in countless religious movements we are easily distracted by our materialism and politics. So what does it mean for a nation to have a soul, and how does it manifest itself when the waters are troubled?

I recently read an article about why conservative Christians are voting for Trump even though his character and behavior are the antithesis of Christianity. The writer was a deeply conflicted soul still fighting the crusades. In his eternal battle between good and evil, anyone who stands one degree to the left of Richard Nixon is a leftist communist. The thesis of his argument was that the righteous right needs a warrior like Trump, because they've tried everything else (dignity, respect, civility) since the 1960's. I'm sure this relic of McCarthyism and the John Birch Society believes that America lost its soul in the '60's, and in his mind it's a white, Christian soul, and doesn't it piss people like him off when we embrace all religions? Perhaps he is right that Americans began to turn away from churches and institutions in the 60's. I remember it as a time when America was turning away from the shallow materialism of their parents' generation as they sought a deeper understanding of themselves and who we are as a nation. So, I don't think America lost its soul in the '60's.

But we sure could use our own righteous warrior to fight the good fight for racial and social justice.

If you turn back to the 1830's, another rebellious generation which had reaped the harvest of their parents' prosperity was questioning authority. These children of the industrial revolution (another paradigm shift) defied the status quo and took the Constitution to heart in their arguments against slavery. During their quest to build a better America, they started newspapers, communes, and joined religious movements that shook the rafters of the mainstream churches. They used the power of the pen, armed with such fanatical religious language it would raise more than a few eyebrows today. Like the 1960's, these young people initiated the reform of prisons, education, women's rights, and civil rights. They were driven by an internal set of principles which they believed were God-given and therefore more valid than the laws of man. It seems like their America had a soul, although the rest of America disagreed it was the right kind of soul. After all, slave holders used the Bible as a tool of repression in a feeble attempt to justify their own pact with evil.

I'm beginning to think that the American soul is a ping-pong match driven by economic ups and downs. The generations who have brought wisdom, change and evolution to America were the biproducts of the previous generation's economic surge forward and the rise of the middle class. The generations who suffered the consequences of economic recessions and depressions, tend to be more cautious and content with the status quo. They are not the risk-takers who will pull us forward. Out of necessity, they become shallow and materialistic - their brain

KRZYWDIA

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Rosati-Randall secured a \$200K STEAP grant for a commercial water line and a \$1 million grant for downtown Danielson. Dauphinais voted against tracking animal abusers. She voted against a contract giving low-wage caretakers of the disabled a minimal raise. And while Dauphinais voted to increase teacher pension contributions by two percent, she then diverted the money

to other accounts. That's both unethical and hypocritical.

Rosati Randall voted "yes" in 2015 for added state aid that would have lowered our property taxes, and she voted "no" in 2016 against a state budget that would have cut aid to towns. Christine Rosati Randall was working on exempting 100 percent of Social Security from state income taxes. Send her back to the legislature to finish her work. Go vote!

STEVEN KRZYWDIA
KILLINGLY

- and it happened on his birthday! Now, he's saying that he's moving out to protect his neighbors - what a hypocrite - because obviously, in his narrow, "pin-head" mind, the rest of Portland doesn't need protection. I wouldn't doubt that his condo association didn't actually ask him to leave. We also now have the Pelosi hair salon scandal where she claims that she was "set up." Both Rush Limbaugh and Jordan Levy had a field day with these stories, but of course liberal radio never mentioned them at all. Pelosi put herself in that position by going to an ordered, closed salon, but instead of accepting any responsibility, she cowardly shifted the blame away from herself. I would have actually gained a smidgen of respect for her had she admitted that she just made a mistake. I only wonder why this jabloni didn't just call the salon and arrange to have a hair stylist come to her home? And because of all this, protests have now reached the doorstep of the queen of the democratic party. But at least Pelosi will have a fresh hairdo if she ever has the decency to apologize to them.

I feel just as badly about racial injustice as the next guy, and it doesn't seem that we've come all that far in solving the problem, but destruction and rioting in the streets is definitely not the answer. Fact is that at my job, I deal with people of color, and with other ethnic groups on an almost daily basis. I treat them with respect, as they do with me - and I'd say that's (at least) a step in the right direction.

ED DELUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

is what leads America to her soul, then ignorance is what holds her back from the spiritual actualization of what she could be. Unfortunately, we suffer the burden of ignorance with each generation as those with a kind of perverse nostalgia disrupt progress and the trend toward the light, enlightenment and justice. It's almost as if the lesser self of our body politic comes full force to do battle with the ever-progressive soul of a nation. You can see it in the venomous Trumpian spin and the rabid parroting of the right-wing nuts like Alex Jones and Rush Limbaugh, who see themselves as culture warriors.

If education truly is the seat of America's soul, then we must take caution to protect this sacred tenet of the United States. To paraphrase Thomas Jefferson: A democratic republic requires an educated people. One of the first things on the to-do list in the dictator's manual is to go after the schools. Every despot knows that an educated populace will become their undoing. So take caution, America, as Trump and his spin-machine continues to attack education on all levels: calling the intellectuals and educated populace, writers and the free press "elitists" with disdain on his tongue; the republican agenda of privatizing public schools; the underfunding of public schools; and undermining of teachers and professors are but a few examples. The poisonous cultivation of ignorance will eventually rob America of her soul. A soul requires enlightenment and forward motion. It cannot thrive in a hostile environment of anti-intellectualism. We should be asking ourselves if we are selling America's soul in order to earn a few political points.

DONNA DUFRESNE
POMFRET

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LEGALS

Town of Thompson Invitation to Bid on the Purchase of

1395 Riverside Real Property

The Board of Selectman of the Town of Thompson, per Town ordinance 10-014, hereby provides notice that the Town is soliciting bids for the purchase and sale of an 1.3 +/- acre parcel of real estate owned by the Town known as 1395 Riverside Drive in North Grosvenordale, CT and shown on Assessor's map 56 Block 61 Lot 2.

Sealed bids in the form of a proposed purchase and sale agreement at a minimum purchase price of \$30,000 will be accepted at the office of the First Selectman, 815 Riverside Drive, PO Box 899, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255 until Oct. 2, 2020 at 1 pm. Bids must be in a sealed envelope with a notation of Sealed Bid – 1395 Riverside Drive on the envelope.

Sealed bids will be opened on October 6, 2020 at the 7:00 p.m. Board of Selectmen meeting, or at another Board of Selectmen meeting. Award of con-

tract shall be made, if at all, to the highest, responsible and qualified bidder. The Town of Thompson reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, or any part thereof, to waive defects in same, or to accept any proposal it deems to be in the Town's best interest. The Town of Thompson reserves the right to negotiate with any bidder prior to award. The Town may make investigations to the extent it deems necessary in order to determine the bidder's qualification. To that end, the Town of Thompson reserves the right to award this contract, if at all, to a bidder other than the highest bidder.

Information on the property is available on the Town website www.thompsonsonct.org and at the First Selectmen's Office.

September 11, 2020

TOWN OF THOMPSON

On August 31, 2020 the following wetlands agent approval was issued: Application # WAA20035 approved with conditions, Kenneth Weiss, O Thomp-

son Rd. (Assessor's map 116, block 24, lot 56A-1), new single family home, septic system and driveway.

Marla Butts, Wetlands Agent

September 11, 2020

& STEELE, 811 BOSWELL AVE,
P.O. BOX 548, NORWICH, CT 06360
September 11, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Linda H. O'Malley (20-00304) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, August 25, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Marjorie Chase, 124 Wagher Road,
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255
September 11, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Grace H. Landry, AKA Grace Bridget Landry (20-00303) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, August 24, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

G. David Landry,
35 Fremont Street, Putnam, CT 06260
September 11, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF John W Kirchner (20-00256) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, September 1, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Suzanne Kirchner
c/o BETH A STEELE, DIFRANCESCA
September 11, 2020

September 25, 2020

TOWN OF KILLINGLY METERED USE ROAD ASSESSMENT LEGAL NOTICE

Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, as follows; Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9-4pm Tuesday 9-5pm Friday 9-11.

The first installment metered use and installment of benefit road assessment is due September 1, 2020. If payment is not received on or before OCTOBER 1, 2020 the installment becomes delinquent and subject to interest at the rate of 18% per annum, 1 1/2% per month or any fraction of a month, from the due date. A minimum of \$2.00 interest will be charged for each delinquent tax bill and installment.

Please visit our website for full details and online payments www.killinglyct.gov.

Dated at Killingly this 19th, day of August 2020

Patricia Monahan CCMC
Revenue Collector for the
Town of Killingly
August 28, 2020
September 11, 2020
September 25, 2020

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