

St. Joseph School salutes the Class of 2020



N O R T H GROSVENORDALE — As with the case of school communities across the country, the 8th graders of St. Joseph School in North Grosvenordale have been denied the traditional rites of passage afforded to their predecessors for as long as one can remember. The eighth grade class trip, the Semi-Formal dance as well as the final farewell to the younger students and teachers on their last day of classes are just some of the events that have had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus. However, the spirit of each of the five members of the Class of 2020 is alive and well. At the conclusion of a reverse parade that members of the SJS community held two weeks ago, each eighth grader and their family received a special Graduation Sign that they have proudly displayed at their respective homes.

“There’s an old saying that a picture tells a thousand words and the photos that accompany this article tell many more than that,” said David Sizemore, Principal of St. Joseph School. “While I have only

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Day Kimball Healthcare resumes select services delayed by COVID-19

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) is taking a thoughtful, gradual approach to resuming select procedures and services that have been delayed due to executive orders related to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

A phased reactivation plan began this week in accordance with guidelines set forward by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). As DKH re-opens certain patient services, it will maintain extensive safety measures and initiatives it put into place early on in the crisis by establishing COVID-safe care standards across all of its locations.

Given the low infection rates in Windham County, along with a strong supply of personal protective equipment and the implementation of numerous safety measures, DKH leaders determined that now is the right time to begin treating patients who have had their screenings, surgeries, exams, or other care postponed.

“In preparation for the pandemic, we revised our operations to create a safe, COVID-19 free environment for patients

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Journey around the world with your local library

WOODSTOCK — On Saturday, June 6 at 11 a.m., the West Woodstock Library will host The Virtual Concert: Around The World (in 80 Days)! A Music, Bubble and Comedy Show features wonderful classic and original children’s songs and tales, from Turtle Dance Music.

Journey with us on a hot air balloon as we explore musical instruments from all over the world including a didgeridoo (Australia), a hammered dulcimer (Thailand), a Kalimba

(Zimbabwe) and many more! The show engages children with songs, comedy, bubbles, and music technology. Join us for this novel 40-minute performance which will be accompanied by hands-on, visual, and sensory experiences. Kids will dance, sing, laugh, use their imaginations and connect with new friends. All ages.

This is the Summer Reading Program kick-off for West

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A TWIST ON TRADITION



Photo Courtesy

On Memorial Day, the Town of Thompson honored their fallen heroes with the traditional parade with a twist. The parade of cars carried veterans, Scouts, First Responders, individuals and Suffragists. Thanks to John Lenky, John Rice, and D.R. Hoenig the ladies of the Suffrage100 committee were escorted in style including a Model A and a 1921 flatbed truck. This event mark the second in the Six Months of Suffrage Program which will run through to October. The committee was formed to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment which gave women the right to vote and to highlight the importance of registering to vote and exercising that right. Thank you Elmer Preston and Virginia Livernoche from VFW Post 10088 who organized the parade.

Six Months of Suffrage program kicks off

THOMPSON — As part of the state-wide centennial celebration of the ratification of the 19th amendment, Thompson Suffrage100 Six Months of Suffrage program was kicked off on May 20 with the first of seven events; Votes for Women Sash-making and a fashion presentation by Marissa Dufault, Events Coordinator, at Historic New England. This event hosted by Thompson Recreation and Thompson Public Library, held via ZOOM, proved to be a remarkable opening for the series of events planned for the next six months.

Women and girls from Thompson and other surrounding towns joined committee members as well as Susan Bysiewicz, Lieutenant Governor; Denise Merrill, Secretary of the State; and Mae Flexer, State Senator for this fantastic presentation and Suffrage Movement history lesson about the importance of fashion to the cause.

Bysiewicz stated “I was so delighted when I heard you were continuing to celebrate despite the challenges of COVID-19.”

The Lieutenant Governor

went on to talk about Connecticut being at the forefront of women’s rights whether we are talking about Suffrage or whether we are talking about trailblazers in general. She also shared that she was thrilled to learn that the women of Eastern Connecticut were leaders in the Suffrage Movement though she never doubted it because the women have amazing strength, courage and perseverance.

Bysiewicz did go on to say that “We have so much more to do” in relation to equal pay, other women’s issues, and

Turn To **SUFFRAGE** page **A3**

Restaurants of Killingly, past and present



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

Progress! As I write this article in Connecticut we are several days into Phase I of the COVID-19 recovery. Although we must still wear face masks, as of May 20th a number of businesses have been allowed to reopen with limitations.. Restaurants may open but only with outside seating.. It is like tak-

ing baby steps, but it is progress. I am a curious person by nature so I couldn't resist going to downtown Danielson on May 22 to see what changes I could find.. Deb's Place, on the corner of Main Street and Center Streets, had reopened with tables for outdoor dining.. Large, orange safety barriers on Center Street kept traffic away from the tables.. Pizza Pizzazz already had outside seating, however, there were more orange barriers across the parking area near the New York Pizza Company.. Zip's Diner, situated at the intersection of Routes 12 and 101 in Dayville, had erected several large tents so they could meet the guidelines and patrons could be protected from the elements.. (Photo of Zip's Killingly Revisited, p. 61).. I did not walk down to George's Galley to see if they had instituted modifications; neither did I check Giant Pizza or other area restaurants..

Thinking about restaurants gave me the topic for this week's column--restaurants and places to grab a quick meal in Killingly's past.. Back to Deb's Place.. Perhaps some of you recall when this corner location was occupied by the Donut Kettle, Andy's Pizza, or Belade's Restaurant.. The Killingly Business Encyclopedia by Natalie Coolidge entry noted that Belade's opened for business December 13, 1982.. It was "operated by three brothers--Robert, Richard and Daniel Belade, grandsons of Louis Bertorelli, who for many years owned the New York Fruit Store on Main Street.. In 1984 David Blair and Susan Davis became the proprietors.

Perhaps you're old enough to recall another Center Street restaurant, Sunny Lunch, which. "derived its name from the sunny side of the street" and dated back to the 1930's.. George T. McKeone was listed as an early proprietor.. Others included Antonio and Albino Caron, Alton Frost, Tyler Andrews, Henry Briere, and Susie Hopkins.. "In 1934 during a national textile strike the militia was fed

here.. Employees of utilities companies also ate here during floods in 1937. and at the time of the 1938 hurricane..". The July 8, 1971 Windham County Transcript carried an ad that it was for sale.. (Killingly Business Encyclopedia).. For a photo of Sunny Lunch, see "Images of America Killingly Revisited" by Natalie L. Coolidge, p. 66).

A few years ago Joan Kent had shared some memories about another Center Street restaurant, Carl's Lunch. She said that it was across the street from the Orpheum Theater; it had wonderful fries and grinders and was very busy.. A small place, she said that you really had to hurry after a movie if you wanted to find a seat.. Often girls would meet their boyfriends at Carl's.. (The Killingly Business Encyclopedia lists the owner of Carl's Luncheonette as Carl Kruschefsky with entries appearing from 1947 to 1957).. Joan recalled that in those days the drugstores had lunch counters and would also sell sandwiches.. Rudy's, which was located where Danielson Surplus Sales is now situated, had very good egg salad sandwiches (conversation May 5, 2016; Villager May 13, 2016).

Do you remember Luke's Coffee Shop on Main Street?. The caption under a photo of it in "Images of America Killingly Revisited" stated it was started December 8, 1945 by Luke O. and Mabel Gendreau and continued in business until the 1950's (p.61).

Perhaps you recall Pete's Lunch, which was located at the lower end of Danielson's Main Street near where George's Galley now is.. According to entries in the Killingly Business Encyclopedia, it was established by Peter Fafaras and his brother-in-law Peter Kalivas about the end of 1947. When the adjacent Keystone Block was destroyed by fire on January 9, 1970, "the thick wall of ice that accumulated between the Keystone and Pete's Lunch protected it from the fire, causing only broken windows and some water damage." ("Images of America Killingly Revisited," p. 54).. Entries continued in the Business Encyclopedia for Pete's Lunch until 1978.

I knew that there had been conversations at the Killingly Historical Center many years ago about restaurants in Danielson so I used the search on my computer to see what I could find.. In an article written for a May 2009 Villager, Gary Wrobel noted, "Many customers

(of Pete's) parked on Water Street and entered by walking right through the kitchen to the front where there were stools..". He remembered one little pin-ball machine in the corner.. During the same conversations, he also recalled Vandale's, located where George's Galley is now situated, was a variety store but also had a lunch counter.. He also remembered a tiny little diner called Duffy's Diner, which was situated near the railroad tracks in Danielson. (For a photo of the diner, see "Images of America Killingly Revisited," p. 62).

During that same 2009 conversation Lynn LaBerge recalled Eatmore's Lunch that was located on Water Street in the old Spinning Wheel building across from present-day George's Galley.. According to the Killingly Business Encyclopedia, the business was owned by George Calomeris.. Irene Doiron was a waitress there.. Entries for the eatery run from 1946 to the 1964/65 Telephone Directory.. The Spinning Wheel building is no longer standing.

I've barely begun to list some of the many restaurants that the town has had through the years and haven't mentioned any from the 19th century. Please feel free to email me with some of your memories about these and other restaurants and some of the various foods that were your favorites.. I'm sure the menus were much different than they are today since we now have the availability of so many ethnic dishes.. You can also send letters with memories to the Killingly Historical Center.. Please do not call since the Center is not open.

"Images of America Killingly Revisited" is still available for purchase at the Killingly Historical Center and contains numerous photos from Killingly's past..

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

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VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of May 18: Worm-eating Warbler, Green Heron, Sora, Orchard Oriole, Willow Flycatcher, Killdeer, Wood Thrush, Blackpoll Warbler, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, Blue-winged Warbler, Ovenbird, Baltimore Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, Bobolink, American Kestrel, Indigo Bunting, Song Sparrow, Hooded Warbler. Visit ctaclubon.org/pomfret-home.

POLICE LOGS

Putnam police log

PUTNAM — The Putnam Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of May 15-22.

Richard Leduc, age 52,	of Putnam was arrested on May 19 for Operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle and Failure to Display Marker Plates.
Kathrine Baker, age 57,	Putnam was arrested on May 22 for Disorderly Conduct.

Day Kimball Healthcare COVID-19 Response Fund receives \$40,000 donation

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) has received a \$40,000 donation from The Scripps Family Fund for Education and the Arts to support its efforts in fighting the coronavirus in Northeast Connecticut.

The contribution benefits the Day Kimball Healthcare COVID-19 Response Fund, established to provide critical supplies, equipment and resources in response to the pandemic.

"Never has there been a more crucial time for our community to come together in support of each other," said Kristen Willis, director of development, Day Kimball Healthcare. "We are incredibly grateful for The Scripps Family Fund's willingness to step up in this critical time of need as our front line healthcare workers care for COVID-19 patients from across our region. Their generosity will make a lasting impact and will be forever remembered and appreciated."

The Scripps Family Fund for Education and the Arts is a private family foundation based in Connecticut. The Fund has recently launched an emergency response to the COVID-19 crisis, supplementing its usual grant making focused on educational initiatives in underserved communities throughout Connecticut and New York City.

In addition to the grant to Day Kimball Healthcare, to date the Fund has made donations to other organizations including Access Agency, Inc., the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group, Americares Free Clinics, Building One Community, Children of Promise, Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Fairfield County's Community Foundation, New Canaan Community Foundation and 4-CT.

"We are deeply touched by this generous contribution from The Scripps Family Fund in recognition of the life-saving care our healthcare heroes provide during this unprecedented time," said Joseph Adiletta, interim president, Day Kimball Healthcare. "We truly appreciate their concern for and support of DKH. This donation will enable us to further support our front-line caregivers while they remain focused on supporting the needs of our community."

The charitable donation is part of more than \$90,000 that has been raised through the DKH COVID-19 Response Fund since its recent establishment in April. DKH has also received valuable donations of medical grade protective gear, homemade masks, and other criti-

cal medical supplies.

"Day Kimball Healthcare has a long-standing commitment to the health and well-being of our community," said Adiletta. "Today, that promise is more important than ever and we are grateful to have widespread support throughout Northeast Connecticut and beyond as we face this pandemic together."

For more information on how to donate to DKH's COVID-19 Response Fund visit www.daykimball.org/giving/covid-19-response-fund or call the Development Office at (860) 928-7141.

About Day Kimball Healthcare

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

Villager Newspapers

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

JOURNEY

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Woodstock Library's Read Around the World (in 80 Days!) Summer Reading Program, which begins in June. E-mail Ms. Sue at susandstern@gmail.com with your children's names and ages to get the Zoom link and password for this exciting virtual performance and for information about our summer reading program, which features a reading passport, prizes, activity packets, and free books.



Local students graduate from College of the Holy Cross

Local students graduate from College of the Holy Cross

WORCESTER, Mass. — A total of 707 students received bachelor of arts degrees from College of the Holy Cross during a virtual celebration of the Class of 2020 on May 22.

The live video program, during which graduates received electronic diplomas, featured a special message

from director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and Holy Cross alumnus Dr. Anthony Fauci '62.

The virtual celebrations will be followed by an in-person commencement ceremony for the Class of 2020 to be held in spring 2021.

The following local students earned degrees:

Stephen Conde, of Danielson, Summa Cum Laude

Michael Raheb, of Danielson, Summa Cum Laude

About College of the Holy Cross

The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of

3,100 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

SUFFRAGE

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encouraging more women to run for political office.

Sen. Mae Flexer congratulated the group for all the months of planning it took to formulate Six months of Suffrage programs especially this year. She went on to say "this makes Thompson a real bright spot in our State-wide celebration of this anniversary. It makes me really proud to say 'I'm their State Senator. Look at all the great things they are doing.'" Flexer also drew a correlation between the Suffrage Movement of 1917-1918 which was stalled due to the Spanish Flu of 1918. As we find ourselves in the midst of another pandemic we need to look back and draw strength from the leaders of that time who were able to persevere and push congress toward ratification of the 19th Amendment. She agrees with Susan Bysiewicz however; that

there is so much more work to be done.

"The Thompson Suffrage100 committee is a group of hard-working, smart, funny, talented, wise, and strong-minded women who thoroughly enjoyed the work it took to prepare all of these wonderful events. We were undaunted by COVID therefore we reassessed, and are making accommodations in order to still bring them to the residents of Thompson and area communities. I am thrilled with the participation in our first event," said Renee Waldron, Suffrage100 committee chair.

Save the Date! On Sunday, June 14, at 4 p.m., Donald Williams, author of Prudence Crandall's Legacy, will facilitate a discussion about the activist and her role in fighting against slavery and discrimination. This presentation will be via ZOOM as well. Register at thompsonrec.org or call 860-923-9440 or 860-923-9900. We can also walk you through the ZOOM process if you need assistance.





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Add a splash of color by painting your front door. Look for colors that complement your home’s siding and the surrounding landscape. Then add a seasonal wreath or other door decoration. A wreath of seed packets in the spring, succulents or silk flowers in summer, dried materials in fall and greens in winter add seasonal interest to your home. Visitors will look forward to the change of seasons marked by your door’s décor.

Add a few containers at the front entrance. Select a color and size

that complements your home’s size and architecture style. Reduce maintenance with self-watering containers that extend the time between watering. Further your enjoyment with solar-illuminated planters powered by the sun to add a magical glow to the landscape as the sun sets.

Define planting beds and create a finished look with edging. Use a sharp shovel to dig a V-shaped trench around small garden beds or employ the help of an edging machine for larger areas. Fill the trench with mulch to create a mowing edge and keep weeds out.

Or boost the aesthetic appeal and further define the space with edging materials like the Stomp Edge. This easy-to-install edging material is made from recycled rubber and only requires a few hand tools and minimal time to install.

Keep unruly plants out of the lawn or off walkways while defining the garden space

with decorative garden edging. You can keep it simple with Gardener’s Supply Company’s Stratford Edge Irons that mimic the edging found in Shakespeare’s garden in Stratford England. Or add an artistic flare with a more decorative edging like the Nocturne Border Edging.

Weed garden beds to improve the overall appearance and health of garden plants. Weeds not only compete with your desirable plants for water and nutrients, but many are hosts for insect pests and diseases that can harm your desirable plants.

Once weeded, spread a one- to three-inch layer of organic mulch like shredded leaves, evergreen needles or woodchips over the soil surface. The finer the material, the thinner the layer of mulch needed. Organic mulch helps conserve moisture, suppress weeds and improve the soil as it breaks down. Select a mulch that is aesthetically pleasing and won’t

overwhelm the beauty of the plants.

Keep mulch off tree trunks, shrubs, stems and crowns of perennial and annual plants. Covering stems and plant crowns can lead to root rot and other problems that can negatively impact the plants’ health and longevity.

Freshen existing wood mulch by lightly tilling or raking, so the darker mulch below the surface moves to the top. Avoid over mulching. It is a waste of money and can be harmful to your plants.

Make it a fun weekend by mixing in some tasty treats or a barbecue once the work is done. As you enjoy the benefits of your weekend’s efforts, you’ll be anxious to start tackling those bigger landscape tasks.

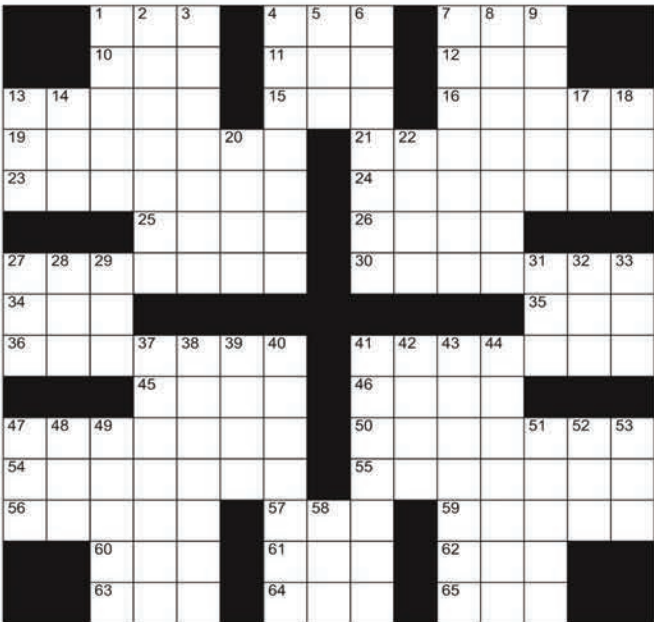
Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses* “How to Grow Anything” DVD series and the *Melinda’s Garden Moment TV* &



Courtesy

Define garden spaces with decorative garden edging while keeping unruly plants out of the lawn and off walkways.

radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Gardeners Supply* for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



CLUES ACROSS

1. It’s now called Experian

4. You can draw it

7. Very fast aircraft

10. Go quickly

11. Fifth note of a major scale

12. Biochemical abbreviation

13. Make somebody laugh

15. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

16. City in NE Morocco

19. Colorless gas

21. NE football player

23. A snake is one

24. Small spot

25. Inform

26. Republic of Ireland

27. Large statues

30. Documents about an individual
34. Helps little firms

35. Namibia’s former name

36. Large insects

41. Thirsty

45. A well-defined track or path

46. One who utilizes

47. Plant-eating mammals

50. Not in tip-top shape

54. Alternate names

55. A part of a broadcast serial

56. City in central Italy

57. LOTR actor McKellen

59. Trees provide it

60. Men’s fashion accessory

61. Type of screen

62. Snakelike fish

63. Possesses

64. When you aim to get there

65. Tooth caregiver

CLUES DOWN

1. Hit heavily

2. Italian rice dish

3. Some are cocktail

4. A citizen of Israel

5. Read-only memory

6. Passed by

7. Northern diving ducks

8. References

9. Iranian language

13. Swiss river

14. Woman (French)

17. Gov’t department (abbr.)

18. Consumed

20. Ailments

22. Balkan Jewish appetizer

27. Reciprocal of a sine

28. Skywalker mentor __-Wan

29. Resinous secretion of insects
31. Similar

32. Female sheep

33. Cool!

37. Borders the Adriatic Sea

38. Flowers

39. It’s sometimes upped

40. Immobile

41. Female body parts

42. Common request

43. Made a second thrust

44. Fell into deep sleep

47. Subway resident

48. Brew

49. The event of being born

51. Aspirations

52. Doctor of Education

53. Punk musician __ Dee Ramone

58. A subdivision of a play



APPRECIATION FOR OUR HEROES



Photo Courtesy

Mickey Morgan of Woodstock has put many hours into expressing his appreciation for our heroes during this time of crisis.



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Remaining optimistic in a negative media world



I have written on this subject before, but as this current election cycle is beginning to heat up, I hope to pre-empt the anger and vitriol with what I think is basic common sense.

If you believe the 24-hour news channels, the sky is falling. Chicken Little, in the form of talking heads, would have us believe that the end is near. As I mentioned in a column a few months ago, it's good business for the TV and AM radio talkers to have us frightened of the impending doom. Whether it's the danger of a pandemic or the upcoming election, their fear-mongering causes us to keep coming back for the next news alert, so we can learn how the end will be delivered and by whom. Don't allow them to pull you in.

Politics are a nasty business.

Plato warned us, "Never give power to those who seek it." Our democratic form of government seems to only reward power to those who seek it with a vengeance ... and lots of cash.

George Washington was the perfect leader. He did not seek power and in fact, gave it up twice. After he led us to victory against the British in our war for independence, there were those who wished to make him king, yet General Washington refused and retreated to the solitude of Mount Vernon, his estate on the Potomac. Several years later, he was drafted to become our first President. He resisted but did not refuse his call to duty and served two terms. Again, the people wished to make him our permanent ruler. In his humble wisdom, once again, the "Father of Our Country" gave up power and returned to life at Mount Vernon. I believe George Washington to be the greatest American President and one of the world's greatest leaders.

The mission of my column is to help my readers to be

positive, uplifted, encouraged and optimistic in a world that is increasingly pessimistic and negative. It really doesn't matter which way you lean. Sean Hannity and Rachel Maddow, for example, could not be more different in rhetoric and beliefs, but are opposite sides of the same coin. As I have said here several times before, they, and others like them, are a major part of the problem in our country. If you think you are turning on the evening television to get the news, forget it.

There is a big difference between opinion and hard news. Hard news, and there's not much of it on television or talk radio, is found more frequently in your local newspaper ... this newspaper, in fact ... and a few trusted national sources. What we are tuning into at night on television is opinion and commentary. It is purely a left or right leaning person telling you what is going on in the world based on their personal bias and agenda. Both sides are guilty. What is masquerading on nighttime television as news is nothing

more than propaganda mixed with entertainment.

Where is our George?

I don't believe we'll find a George Washington today because we are currently too angry and divided to listen to reason. Washington would appeal to very few voters in this environment. If we believe our side is good, the other side must be evil. If you aren't with us, you must be against us. If I am right, you must be wrong. This kind of thinking has me asking ... "Where do we go from here?"

Turn off the noise and get back to "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness!"

Let's all pull together this election season, regardless of where you lean and not allow the anger and vitriol to pull us under. Half of my friends lean left, and I love them. The other half lean right, and I love them too. I'm going to encourage you to love your friends and neighbors regardless of political leanings. Do not get into ideological arguments on social media, but if you do, please don't unfriend your

friend! Just ignore them until the dust clears. Remember, they are a friend for a reason ... keep them as a friend after the election.

Don't let this election cycle define you as a person.

Trust me ... regardless of who wins in November, the sun will rise the next morning. These United States of America will remain a beacon of democracy in a world looking to us for leadership. Rejoice in the fact we live in a country that allows "We the People," the common citizen, to choose. I love my life in the greatest nation in the history of mankind. Please rejoice with me in the realization that no matter who wins or loses, the USA will continue to thrive.

May God continue to bless The United States of America

Gary W. Moore is a syndicated 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.

Important 529 plan reminders for 2020 and beyond

Higher education may never look the same after COVID-19 runs its course. After all, nearly all colleges and universities halted in-person classes for the remainder of the semester, and many transitioned to online learning plans that weren't exactly designed for the coursework. Some schools opted for pass-fail grading for the academic year, both as a way to help students achieve their educational goals but also to make sure nobody has to retake courses they are struggling with due to the pandemic.

Students trying to choose a college by May 1 can't visit college campuses to get a feel for each school, and many schools are (or will be) required to give cash refunds for room and board fees students weren't able to benefit from. The list goes on and on.

That's why now is an excellent time to think over your college savings 529 plan strategy if you have a child approaching college or one already in school. At Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, we work with our clients to help them achieve their financial life goals, and in some cases, that means setting up a college fund for their children or grandchildren. Here are some important 529 reminders and updates to consider for the rest of 2020 and beyond.

Refund on the way? Put it back into your 529 account

Taking the right steps now can help you avoid a penalty if you find yourself receiving a refund for college room and

board expenses you originally paid for with 529 money. Specifically, if you took a distribution from a 529 this year to pay for college expenses and you get a refund from your school, you need to put the amount of the refund back into the 529 account within 60 days.

Failure to retribute funds within 60 days could mean that your distribution was not for qualified expenses, which also means a 10 percent penalty plus capital gain taxes. However, the IRS has announced that due to COVID-19, you can redeposit the refunded amount by July 15, or 60-days after the refund was issued, whichever date is later.

You can also use the money for eligible higher education expenses you have coming up right away. This might include college textbooks, computer equipment, or prepaid dormitory costs for next year.

Yes, 529 accounts can be used for online school

It's important to remember that, yes, 529 funds can be used to pay for online education at eligible institutions of higher learning. The United States Department of Education has a tool that lets you check schools to see if a college is eligible for 529 plans at www.savingforcollege.com. Generally speaking, eligible schools include most accredited public, nonprofit, and privately-owned-for-profit postsecondary institutions.

While it's possible you or your dependent were thrown into online learning without any choice in the matter this



year, the fact that 529 funds are good for online learning is worth considering as you determine college options moving forward.

You can use a 529 plan for K-12 education

If you have extra 529 plan funds you aren't sure you'll use, or if you currently have kids in private school, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 expanded the allowable uses of these accounts to include up to \$10,000 in annual private K-12 tuition expenses.

However, you should check with a qualified accountant before using funds for K-12 education because some states have been slow to adopt this change, so withdrawals may be subject to state taxes.

You can use 529 plan funds to pay student loan debt

Due to the passage of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement (SECURE) Act that was signed into law on December 20, 2019, families with 529 college savings plans can use up to \$10,000 in 529 savings per student, per lifetime for qualified higher education loans.

However, some states may be slow to adopt the change

enacted by federal law and may not count the money you deduct as a qualified higher education expense.

Take steps now to update your records

With many college plans changing drastically, now is the time to get your ducks in a row in terms of record-keeping. For starters, you should get out all of your paperwork and ensure your records are complete and match your distributions.

Also, moving forward, make sure you keep detailed records of future qualified education receipts in case you face any questions after using 529 funds for college expenses that were ultimately refunded this year. This includes any receipts for expenses paid to schools themselves as well as receipts for books, computer equipment, and other purchases deemed eligible for 529 plan use.

College 529 savings plans can help you save money for college that gets to grow on a tax-advantaged basis until you need it. However, you should spend some time making sure you don't get hit with a penalty for reasons you could prevent.

At Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, we are dedicated to helping our clients achieve their financial life goals. If you are interested in learning more about college planning, check out our Web site, www.whzwealth.com/resources for college planning calculators, information, and more! You can also call us at 860-928-2341, or email us at info@whzwealth.com!

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Julia Chute named to UVM Dean's List

BURLINGTON, Vt. — Julia Chute, Class of 2022, has been named to the dean's list for the spring 2020 semester at the University of Vermont. Chute, from Woodstock, is in the College of Arts and Sciences.

To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

About UVM

Since 1791, the University of Vermont has worked to move humankind forward. Committed to both research

and teaching, UVM professors -- world-class researchers, scholars, and artists -- bring their discoveries into the classroom and their students into the field. Located in Burlington, Vermont, one of the nation's most vibrant small cities and top college towns, UVM is a Public Ivy and top 100 national research university educating 10,700 undergraduate students, 1,627 graduate students, 776 certificate and non-degree students, and 478 M.D. students in the Larner College of Medicine



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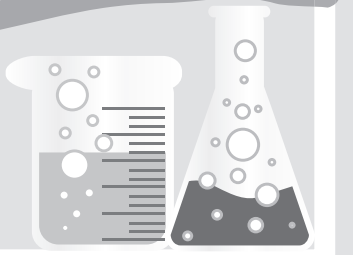
During the summer of 2020, we are making this a "work at home" position with all interviews being done over the phone.

For more information, send us an email letting us know a little about you to:

Brendan Berube, editor
brendan@villagernewspapers.com
Villager Newspapers



SCIENCE FACT!




THIS DEVICE REQUIRES A LENS TO TAKE IN LIGHT RAYS AND USES GLASS TO REDIRCT THEM TO A SINGLE POINT TO CREATE AN IMAGE.

ANSWER: CAMERA


What’s the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A




B



Answers: 1. Two pairs of sunglasses 2. Plane is turned 3. Phone has screen 4. Wallet is missing money

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY



- **1883:** THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE, WHICH LINKS BROOKLYN TO LOWER MANHATTAN, OPENS.
- **1935:** MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL’S FIRST NIGHT GAME IS PLAYED AT CROSBY FIELD IN CINCINNATI.
- **1992:** THE LAST THAI DICTATOR, GENERAL SUCHINDA KRAPRAYOON, RESIGNS AMID PRO-DEMOCRACY PROTESTS.

New Word

DEVELOP


grow or cause to grow and become more mature

How they SAY that in...

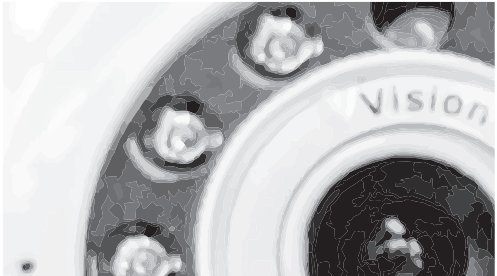
ENGLISH: Photograph
SPANISH: Fotografia
ITALIAN: Fotografia
FRENCH: Photographie
GERMAN: Bild

Did You Know?

THE EARLIEST KNOWN SURVIVING PHOTOGRAPH WAS TAKEN BY JOSEPH NICEPHORE NIEPCE IN 1826 OR 1827. IT SHOWS A VIEW FROM AN UPSTAIRS WINDOW IN FRANCE.



GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SECURITY CAMERA

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to burgers. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 24 = o)

A. 1 23 13 10 16 12 3 7 12
Clue: Meat sandwich

B. 6 24 17 17 20 25 3
Clue: Burger addition

C. 10 16 25
Clue: Type of bread

D. 19 24 24 4
Clue: Sustenance

Answers: A. hamburger B. topping C. bun D. food

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Here’s How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

ANSWER:

Emily Faist of Woodstock receives Association of Public Accountants scholarship

DUDLEY, Mass. — Emily Faist was recognized at the Nichols College spring award ceremony by receiving the Massachusetts Association of Public Accountants scholarship. This scholarship is given to a student of high academic achievement who specializes in accounting and chosen by the Accounting Program Chair. Massachusetts Association of Accountants, or MAA is a professional accounting organization which administers peer reviews and continuing professional education (CPE) for CPA's. This scholarship was made available

from the Continuing and professional education proceeds. This award is being presented to two seniors that are continuing at Nichols in the 3+1 program. Bailey is at the top of her class and plans to continue on with Nichols College to complete her master's degree in order to qualify to sit for the CPA exam. She is a helper insider and out of the classroom and is considered a mentor to all students.

About Nichols College
Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and

leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

In addition, all patients will be screened in advance of appointments and will have their symptoms checked upon arrival to a DKH facility.

Positive patients, or those displaying symptoms of COVID-19 and are awaiting test results, are isolated in separate care areas from non-COVID-19 positive patients. Individuals who think they may have COVID-19 or have been exposed are still encouraged to contact their health care provider before coming to a DKH facility.

"Our caregivers have gone above and beyond to demonstrate their commitment to the Northeast Connecticut community," said Adiletta. "Their skills and expertise made all the difference as we worked to meet the challenges of COVID-19. Thanks to their efforts, and our community's commitment to social distancing requirements, we have remained the safest hospital in Connecticut during the pandemic and we now stand ready to safely welcome patients with other health care needs."

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

Eastern student Analia Correa inducted into Spanish Honor Society

WILLIMANTIC — The Department of World Languages and Cultures at Eastern Connecticut State University inducted three students into the Sigma Delta Pi national honor society for Spanish this spring 2020 semester.

Among the inductees is senior Analia Correa of Danielson, who majors in Spanish.

The Nu Chi chapter of Sigma Delta Pi was established at Eastern in 1979 and is the oldest honor society in the College of Arts and Sciences. Since its inception, hundreds of students have been recognized for their outstanding achievement in Hispanic studies.

ST JOE'S

continued from page A1

been blessed to have been with these young people during the past two years, each of them represent what we hope an alumnus from SJS ultimately becomes: a caring, respectful, and nurturing person. I could not be more proud of Katie Atwood, Kylie Cummings, Amelia Hull, Clayton Lehmann, and Kiera MacKenzie!"

Several of the teachers at SJS also echo Sizemore's sentiments. Rick Lepore, the long-time Technology teacher and Choir Director put it best when he said that "the whole eighth grade class always brought a smile to my face. Teaching them has always been a great pleasure!" Marshall Eaton, the eighth grade Algebra teacher, who spent thirty-nine years teaching various levels of Mathematics at the Pomfret School before teaching eighth grade Algebra this past school year also expressed his gratitude working with the Class of 2020 adding that "their success in the Algebra class at SJS will help them make a successful jump to secondary school Mathematics."

Lastly, Nicole Ruoppo, the eighth grade Homeroom teacher as well as the teacher of Social Studies and Language Arts for the Class of 2020, shared her feelings in

this manner:

"Having taught these students over the last three years, I can say that they have all grown by leaps and bounds. As sixth graders, they were nervous and overwhelmed more often than not. Now, as upcoming graduates, they are strong, confident young people ready to take on the world! They are willing to speak for what they believe in, debate others tenaciously, and put their utmost effort into whatever task they are given. I can't wait to see where the world takes them!"

While many end of the year activities for the Class of 2020 had to be cancelled, Sizemore is optimistic that commencement exercises will still take place in a traditional setting.

As of this writing, graduation for the Class of 2020 has been moved to Saturday, Aug. 1 from its original date of Saturday, June 13. By Aug. 1, I sincerely hope that we will be at a different re-opening phase of the Coronavirus so that we can hold graduation at the church like we normally do. Again, this all depends on where things stand at that time in accordance with directives given to us by state and local authorities as well as through diocesan policies. We also have a Plan B in the works in case we have to do something different, but we will definitely honor the Class of 2020 on Aug. 1.

Reading the morning newspaper is the
realist's morning prayer.



George Wilhelm
Friedrich Hegel





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A most solemn holiday

As many events over the past few months have been cancelled in an attempt to flatten the Coronavirus curve, Memorial Day celebrations were not exempt. Typical ceremonies were altered as a way to honor those lost serving our country while still maintaining safety.

When Memorial Day was first celebrated, it was known as Decoration Day following the Civil War. Youngsters would place flowers in cemeteries while they sang songs and honored those lost due to war. The Civil War, which ended in 1865, took the lives of more people than any other war in the history of the United States; the estimate is roughly 620,000, with the Union losing 365,000 and the Confederacy 260,000. History says that more than half of these losses came as the result of disease. As a result, the first national cemeteries were created.

In 1868, General John A. Logan, the leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans called for a nationwide day to honor fallen soldiers. General James Garfield gave a speech at Arlington National Cemetery on the first Decoration Day and the more than 5,000 people in attendance decorated more than 2,000 graves, both Union and Confederate.

The holiday, as we all know, is celebrated on the last Monday in May, and became an official holiday in the year 1971. Parades across the country take place, and people visit cemeteries where family members who have served in the military have been laid to rest.

At 3 p.m. every year, a moment of silence takes place across the country. In December of 2008, President Bill Clinton signed the “National Moment of Remembrance Act” which designated the time be at 3 p.m. In 1966, the government marked Waterloo, New York as the official birthplace of Memorial Day. In Waterloo, every business in town would shut their doors and owners would venture out to decorate graves with flags as well as flowers.

Originally, Decoration Day was intended to honor those lost in just the Civil War. After the First World War, America felt the need, and rightfully so, to honor all those lost serving their country. In WWI, 116,516 Americans died at war, and 405,399 were lost during WWII. The Korean War took 36,574 lives, and the Vietnam War cost 58,220 lives. A total of 4,411 were lost in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 73 in Operation New Dawn, 2,346 as the result of Operation Enduring Freedom, 48 in Operation Freedom’s Sentinel and 61 in Operation Inherent Resolve.

We hope that our readers, and all Americans, took a moment at some point over the long weekend, even in the midst of our current circumstances, to pause and remember the reason for this most solemn of holidays.

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to
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GOOD NEWS

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We need a President who leads by example

To the Editor:

A good deal of our country is at best un-American, and at worst pure evil, if one is to believe the musings of our fearless leader, Donald J Trump. In no particular order, the President has pointed his (dubious sized) finger at Nancy Pelosi, Barack Obama, Joe Biden, late night talk shows, John McCain, Jeff Bezos, CNN, MSNBC, Hillary Clinton, Saturday Night Live, Whistleblowers, Inspector’s General, the courts, Joe Scarborough, the NIH, the CDC, Democratic governors, woman who have accused him of rape and sexual harassment, ok all Democrats, Paul Ryan, Chuck Schumer, the FBI and all American intelligence agencies, FOX news (!), the media and science in general. Alas this list is just an example and does not include those rascals abroad such as the mayor of London, the WHO, the Lancet medical journal, Mexico, and the entire continent of Africa. At the same time Trump has made it be known that he is without flaw and free from the burden of mistakes that seems to plague all other living (and dead) men and women. Indeed, there are those who have called him the chosen one, raising him to a level of biblical proportions, a description which Trump has accepted in modest adulation. Forget historians, Trump also believes he is the greatest (and most persecuted) President in US history. I suppose he’ll need to add US political scholars to his enemies list.

But as outlandish as all this may seem, his base believes this too. Which is why the current Covid-19 crisis may be too complex for our country to handle. One can easily argue that Trump is wrong when he says that he is not responsible for decisions regarding the virus policy (he has relegated this to governors) and at the same time tweeting thoughts that would appear to rebut his own administration’s recommendations. Each day brings more confusing and contradicting statements. We have been told by the President that we have plenty of tests even though this is far from the truth and the Federal government has not put its foot down and declared that production of testing materials is a national emergency. He has started taking hydroxychloroquine to prevent Covid, a drug that has been shown to be useless and potentially dangerous. He has called for reopening houses of worship without mentioning the restrictions his own task force suggests.

Trump has created operation Warp Speed (to create a vaccine) even as he has distanced himself from the country’s researchers as well as from the rest of the world. There is a good chance that a vaccine will be discovered outside the United States. Even possibly in (gasp) China. Isolating ourselves may doom Americans to being at the back of the line. Amazing, as has America up until now has been the world leader when it came to health policies, treatments, and drugs.

We are in the midst of the greatest crisis in our lifetime. One could argue that it is the greatest crisis in American history. Wars end. Prior epidemics burned out without decimating the economy. This one may last for years and lead to a Great Depression and a longterm fundamental change in how we

practice business. It threatens to dwarf other economic disasters which have crippled the country. This one involves every corner of the world and our financial resources will need the rest of the global business community to help us out of this mess.

This is why it is so disappointing that Trump calls for further isolation. He wants to withdraw us from the WHO and cut off their funding to decimate its ability to function in the midst of the pandemic. As long as the virus lives anywhere in the world it threatens everywhere in the world including America. Sadly, unlike other countries, we do not have a nationwide policy because Trump has morphed the Presidency from someone who leads the world to one sitting on the sidelines and cat calling. His Covid 19 committees are a joke made up of his political cronies. Has anyone heard any recommendations from them lately. At all? No. Just random presidential tweets equating Covid 19 with the November presidential election. Jared Kushner, one of Trumps toady mouthpieces has gone as far as saying the virus is a Democratic hoax which will evaporate after the election. He sits on the task force. Its simply astonishing that this could be White House policy but there were no protests from his father in law.

Opening the country again will take a balancing act between public safety and common sense. Trump is correct in that using up all our energy in preventing further Covid suffering will lead to more deaths from other diseases, such as suicide and drug addiction, as well as more common diseases such as heart disease and cancer as people put off their routine medical care. Which is why everyone, including Trump supporters, have to be responsible. Covid is not a hoax. Avoiding large gatherings does reduce the chance that the virus will spread. Facemasks do reduce transmission of the virus. The President needs to lead us. But instead of setting an example by wearing a mask and social distancing, he struts around barefaced and supports mob rule opposing states’ safety decisions. Even re-entering houses of worship is possible with the proper precautions. On the contrary, we are seeing crowds of people frolicking in bars, streets and beaches, doing their best to spread the virus. All this will only prolong the agony. Just a few carriers can cause considerable damage. It is a sad state of affairs that a country which produced the Greatest Generation can’t forego one holiday weekend.

Many still look to the President for guidance. He just stokes the flames of silly conspiracy theories in an effort to maintain power and stroke his fragile ego. Questioning current executive policy should not automatically lead to public humiliation. A person who disagrees with the President is not a nasty charlatan, and is not doing it simply to affect an election. And more than ever, being a responsible and caring neighbor, who considers the safety of his fellow citizens is desperately called for. Mr. Trump needs to says this. Unfortunately, the man in the White House would rather play golf.

LEE WESLER
WOODSTOCK

A reason to hope

To the Editor:

Reading 12 year old Brooke MacWilliams’ recent letter to the editor gave me great hope for the future of the world. She shows wisdom beyond her years and her message is so much more inspiring than the usual political commentary provided in this column. I have

renewed optimism that the next generation will make the world a better place.

Thank you, Brooke, for making my day, and I wish you and your family all the best!

ERIC BEATTIE
WOODSTOCK

A positive outlook

To the Editor:

As I have looked through different social media sites all I see are posts focusing on negative attributes that are plaguing our community at this time. Although Covid-19 has brought about a huge change to most individuals in the community, it is time to begin to focus on the positive activities going on in our community. Each week day, compassionate men and women are working to offer lunches to families in our town. TEEG provides breakfast and lunch to the children of each family who drives to their location. I have even seen these men and women out in the rain in order to give food to families. This even goes beyond our own town. Many neighboring towns are offering this same service. Another example of the positive activities going on in our community is how many businesses are beginning to reopen following the government guidelines. As I have driven around our area, many restaurants

have begun to open outdoor eating locations. Local businesses such as Our Father’s Table, Ninety-Nine Restaurant, and many restaurants in downtown Putnam have created an outdoor seating area. Even Main Street in Putnam has a designated area for individuals who have bought food and are looking for a nice place to sit down and eat it. Due to the decrease in travel in this time, it is a perfect time to repave the highway. Interstate 395 has been worked on for weeks in order to make the road much smoother and safer. Usually this big of a project would affect many individuals, but since most people are at home during this pandemic, this is an ideal time to accomplish this task. As I assume many others are, I am very excited to see how our community has learned throughout this experience.

BY BEN CANNISTRACI
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Finding focus through 17 syllables

If you are like me, we often try to do more than one thing at a time. If I am eating breakfast, I am also reading the news, listening to the radio, wondering if the cat wants in or out. My mind flits like showy Mr. Cardinal, who flies by my window in a frantic effort to get something done. I may be watching the timer on the oven while also reading a poem in the New Yorker. Now that we are in a different world, we are focusing more.

About six weeks ago, a group of us began writing daily haiku. Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry that is composed of 17 syllables. Five in the first line, seven in the second and five at the end. The subject is often nature and a surprise is revealed in the last line. The five of us, women, who off and on have written together, began sharing. No one missed a haiku for more than



NANCY WEISS

a month. Sometimes there were photos. Sometimes, there were sentences describing the source of the inspiration. We wrote back and forth, praising, wondering, supporting each other.

The most consistent comment about the process was our collective feeling of focus. At a time when there are no firm answers, plenty of bad news and isolation, the seventeen syllables are an anchor. Like any good habit, they made us sit down and put out a small product that we could share. I tended to write my poems at the end of the day. Others liked early morning. It made us see what was blooming in our backyards or in our hearts. I shared daily glimpses of two red foxes as they hunted for breakfast.

I know people who don’t need a pandemic to find focus. Birders come to mind. Andy Rzeknikiewicz, Ron Tillen and Rob Craig can spot a bird in flight and describe its lineage. Artists are similar. Painter Barbara Lussier is laser sharp. Christine Kalafus and Michelle Cole transform images into poems. Gary Osbrey on WINY makes every interview positive by paying absolute attention. Of course, there are many others.

I don’t think any of us has ever stayed put for so long. The Internet is full of photos of birds hatching, flowers unfolding, sunrise and sunset. We are seeing nature at a more leisurely pace as animals, reveal themselves and we have the time to look around. Focusing on nature is helping everyone feel more connected to the miracle of our earth.

Parents have created memorable graduation celebrations and birthday parties without leaving home. Our daughter was invited to a wedding where the guests were urged to drive by and wave. It all seems impossibly sad, but traditions were celebrated in an unforeseen way. Looking closely into the happy face of a graduate or a new bride even virtually, is affirming and intimate. When we have virtual cocktails with friends, eventually, I feel close to them. I focus on their eyes.

Paying close attention is how we become good at things. Musicians study and practice and then block out everything as they listen when they play. YoYo Ma gave a concert for Memorial Day and I felt closer to him than when we saw him in person. Piano pieces played by friends in their homes are a welcome gift. We watched a mandolin player who was in Oregon and applauded on line when he finished. He nodded in appreciation.

I can’t wait to go places and see people again, but I hope I can hang on to at least 17 syllables of focus.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

America needs a real leader

To the Editor:

One of the few blessings of the pandemic is a renewed sense of the importance of connection and the realization that we are all in this together. So I want to thank Ed DeLuca and Jerry Houle for making the effort last week to help me try to understand why so many Republican voters have remained loyal to President Trump and his administration. When this is over (will it ever be?), I'd very much like to have that beer.

But...Mr. Houle's explanation of why he originally supported Mr. Trump conjured the image of a post-apocalyptic world (say "Beyond Thunderdome") in which a bedraggled figure emerges from a cave and mumbles to no one in particular, "But the emails... the emails..." I guess I can understand Clinton disgust as a reason for initially favoring a businessman known primarily for a string of failures, multiple ethical lapses, and six bankruptcies (Is that being "more qualified" than a former U.S. Senator and Secretary of State?), but I have a much harder time explaining continued support after the businessman failed in his most basic duty to the American people: keeping us safe. I don't see any way to sugarcoat it.

So, here we are on Memorial Day weekend 2020, coming up on 100,000 deaths from the virus in the United States, and the President of the United States has been off playing golf for two days and re-Tweeting a series of insults by a failed congressional candidate who calls Hillary Clinton a "skank" (who are these adults who use words like that?... who raised them?) mocks the physical appearance of Stacey Abrams and Nancy Pelosi, and baselessly implies a talk show host is guilty of murder. On Memorial Day itself, ignoring the Mayor of Baltimore's request not to visit Fort McHenry, he read, in his usual teleprompter monotone, a speech that only glancingly mentions those who died from the pandemic but later tweeted out threats to the effect that he would move the Republican convention from Charlotte, N.C. if "full occupancy" of the convention center is not allowed.

Just recently in the Atlantic, Tom Nichols talks about his father's generation and their concept of manliness: these were men, he says, "who understood that a man's word is his bond and that a handshake means something. They are men who still believe in a day's work for a day's wages. They feel that you should never thank another man when he hands you a paycheck that you earned. They shoulder most burdens in silence—perhaps to an unhealthy degree—and know that there is honor in making an honest living and raising a family."

Nichols wonders why so many working-class men celebrate an imitation aristocrat with none of those qualities and he speculates it is because Trump is not a man but a boy: "In the end, Trump will continue to act like a little boy, and his base, the voters who will stay with him to the end will excuse him. When a grown man brags about being brave, it is unmanly and distasteful; when a little boy pulls out a cardboard sword and ties a towel around his neck, it's endearing. When a rich and powerful old man whines about how unfairly he is being treated we scowl and judge; when a little boy snuffles his tears and says he was bullied—treated

worse than Abraham Lincoln, even—we comfort."

"I think that working men," he goes on, "know what kind of 'man' Trump is." "And still, the gratification they get from seeing Trump enrage the rest of the country is enough to earn their indulgence. I doubt, however, that Trump gives them the same consideration. Perhaps Howard Stern, of all people, said it best: 'The oddity in all of this is the people Trump despises most, love him the most. The people who are voting for Trump for the most part... He'd be disgusted by them.' The tragedy is that they are not disgusted by him in return."

All of us would like to see America great again. But the way to achieve greatness is not by picking fights with our allies: Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. It is not by repeatedly threatening NATO. It is not shamelessly turning our backs and abandoning the Kurds who fought so valiantly with us against ISIS. It is not, like a petulant child, pulling out of the Paris Climate Accords, or threatening the WHO with withdrawing funding in the middle of a horrible global pandemic. It is not by being cowed by an autocratic Vladimir Putin doing everything in his power to destroy our democracy. It is not by destroying environmental standards. It is not, above all, by turning Americans against each other.

How can we and our government make America great again? By rolling up our sleeves (talking to each other, respecting each other) to deal with problems and devise solutions. That is the way we Americans have always done it. Recognizing that of the approximately 2.5 million agricultural ("essential") workers in the U.S., 1.25-1.75 million are undocumented, a "real" man, a real leader, would gather all relevant experts on the subject and devise an immigration plan that would ensure that these workers are valued, that their safety and health are protected, not build a ridiculous "wall" or claim that these same workers are "murderers and rapists."

A real leader would quietly work out our beef with the WHO by careful negotiation. A real leader would recognize that the pandemic is just a dress rehearsal for the disaster that is climate change and do everything in his power to minimize it but still prepare the country, not use it as a wedge issue to prop up a moribund industry and divide Americans. A real leader would not insult anyone, never mind women, the disabled, or anybody he considers "weaker." A real leader, a real man or woman, would quietly lead the nation in mourning for not only the military who gave their lives in service to the country, but for all those who died in the course of driving buses, lifting bedpans, stocking grocery shelves, placing IV's, picking fruit, packing meat, manning ambulances, driving police cars, staffing ERs over these past three months to keep our country going. A real leader would also rededicate himself to making sure that not one more person dies.

America can be great again, but not the Trump way.

JOHN A. DAY, JR.
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

High school Bio, part II

This is the second of a two-part biology lesson for eastern Connecticut's high school students, who may have missed a lot of class due to the pandemic.

To the Editor:

I have never had enthusiasms for those at-home DNA testing kits. They would probably tell me that I'm a Eurasian this or Caucasian that. Maybe 14 percent Iberian Peninsula? My recent relatives are from the United States. Their relatives lived in Europe. And their relatives likely spent time in other parts of Europe and the Middle East. Beyond the privacy concerns that come with giving a business access to your DNA, the tests don't seem terribly revealing. There's been so much migration and mixing of human populations over time, the tests will likely tell most people that they are a lot of different percentages of multiple ethnic groups. But today is your lucky day! I can provide you a 100% accurate genetic ancestry report that is also 100 percent free! And no need to go spit in a cup, I have your results right here.

You are African. You, me, and every other human, regardless of skin color, ethnicity, or recent history, can trace our family to Africa, if you go back about 300,000 years. That's the age of the oldest evidence of our species, Homo sapiens, bones and teeth found in a Moroccan cave. Before sapiens evolved, there were many other species of humans living throughout Africa. Fossils of extinct humans and other hominids representing many different species and times continue to be found throughout the continent today.

Last week, I promised to tell you about your 125,000th great-grandma. Well, she was most definitely African. She lived about two million years ago and based on fossils which date to that time, her name was probably Homo erectus. H. erectus is the name of a species of human that was astonishingly successful. They made tools and expanded out of Africa, far into Asia. The bodies of H. erectus were similar to modern H. sapiens. If you passed a clothes-wearing erectus on the sidewalk of a large city, you probably wouldn't notice, even if your eyes weren't glued to your phone! They were about as tall as us, with long legs, a large brain and smaller jaws than earlier hominids.

So what did your greatest of grandmas do for a living? We have to look at bodies to figure this out. Fish make a living swimming in water. Worms make a living crawling through thick sediments. Both groups of animals have evolved obvious adaptations to live a certain lifestyle. The clues to what our ancestors were doing are all over our bodies, which of course, we have inherited, with minor modifications, from our 125,000th great-grandma. Our fingers, for example, did not evolve to type away on keyboards or write with pencils. Fingers, as a body structure, evolved long before anything like humans existed. We have just found new uses for an ancient trait. Let's consider some traits that are unique to our species.

Unlike other primates, humans are naked apes, we lack a thick coat of fur. We have abundant eccrine sweat glands which allow us to cool ourselves, not by panting, but by evaporation of water from the surface of our skin. We are bipedal, with narrow hips, foot arches, an Achilles tendon, and large gluteus maximus muscles. These are clear adaptations for moving across land in hot,

sunny environments. But did humans spend their days walking or running? Well, we can obviously do both and so could H. erectus. There are other uniquely human traits that can help answer this question. Unlike apes and ancient Australopithecines, humans have a robust nuchal ligament, which prevents our head from flopping around while running. Large semicircular canals in our ears improve balance and head stability while running. Short toes, along with other characteristics such as specialized joints, bones, and veins, are evolved adaptations for efficient running. And your giant butt muscles? They are barely engaged while walking but contract forcefully while running.

So why did all of these unique running adaptations evolve? The best explanation is that our ancestors were running for food on the open plains of Africa. Early humans likely made their living persistence hunting, which involves chasing much faster animals for a long, long time. Those four-legged animals, who wear fur coats, could only cool themselves by panting, which cannot happen while they are running. While the prey species' temperature increased, our ancestors' temperatures did not because they could shed heat by sweating. As long as our ancestors could keep their potential dinner on the move and out of shade, they could acquire plenty of fat, protein, iron, and calories by running animals into a hyperthermic state. No tools or sophisticated weapons required. Running was their weapon. Those humans who had adaptations for more efficient running were more successful at producing offspring than those who did not.

We have inherited the bodies of long distance runners. Running is what the human body evolved to do, just as a hawk's body evolved to fly. Of course, we no longer need to run for our dinner and many of us today can and do live sedentary lives. We have machines! There are consequences, however, associated with taking an animal out of its niche. We humans call them medical problems and diseases. Many preventable human disorders are simply the result of taking a body built for running and letting it sit. And sit. The list of maladies is long and varied. Even the seemingly normal act of forcing teenagers like you out of bed at 5 a.m., driving them to school buildings where they sit in chairs, indoors and out of sunlight, immobilized, hour after hour after hour, year after year, is abnormal and detrimental to their health. It's not what our bodies evolved to do. If you are looking for some summer reading, I recommend checking out "The Story of the Human Body" by the Harvard evolutionary biologist Dan Lieberman. He eloquently and thoroughly describes what our human bodies evolved to do and the consequences of ignoring that history.

One upside to our new pandemic lives might be that you have an opportunity to do things a little differently. Without the need to chase down school buses before sunrise, you can get a healthy amount of sleep. You can get outside more, move more. And maybe, if you decide to take up running this summer, you can think about your 125,000th great-grandma. She could run an antelope into the ground.

JON DIPPO
BIOLOGY TEACHER
QUINEBAUG MIDDLE COLLEGE

The nation's well being depends on ousting Trump

To the Editor:

This is probably too early to argue the point, but Trump is already working to influence the upcoming election. First, he is already spreading absurd conspiracy talk about voter fraud. I say absurd because many studies have been done which prove that voter fraud simply does not exist in America. To wit:

Justin Levitt at the Loyola Law School Los Angeles studied one billion votes cast in general, primary, special, and municipal elections between 2000 and 2014. He found 31 "credible allegation that someone may have pretended to be someone else at the polls". 31 out of a billion. Sure is a lot of fraud.

The Heritage Foundation found 1,285 proven cases of voter fraud from 2000 to 2016. Most of these were not fraud by individual voters but irregularities in those counting votes.

The Washington Post found, in the 2016 election, four documented cases of fraud out of 136 million votes.

In Kansas, the Republican secretary of state examined 84 million votes cast in 22 states in the 2016 election to look for cases of duplicate registration. The project yielded 14 prosecutions, representing 0.000017 percent of the votes cast.

In an effort to cover up evidence, Trump shut down the Select Advisory

Commission on Election Integrity whose purpose was to ferret out any and all fraudulent voting. A number of law suits were brought against the Commission but court filings show the panel didn't uncover any evidence of fraudulent voting during its 11 months in operation.

Of course, Trumpers will ignore these facts and call them fake news – but they are not. Face up to reality for once.

Trump is also against mail-in voting because he is afraid that too many people will vote. High turnouts have usually gone in favor of Democrats because the majority of Americans are not rich or subservient to large corporations. He is not unique in this fear. The Republican Party has worked for decades to prevent people from voting. First it was poll taxes, then restrictions on registration and most recently shutting down polling locations making it hard for people to vote. Now Trump wants to recruit 50,000 volunteers to "oversee" voting in the closest swing states. This is a blatant move at intimidation to make people fearful of going to polling places.

He also has threatened to withhold monies from states if they allow mail-in voting. First, he does not have the power to legally withhold funds – but that doesn't bother him making the

threat. Secondly, this is clearly extortion and intimidation aimed at the governors of these states. The mere threat, much less the actual implementation in itself, constitutes a crime and is worthy of impeachment.

But once again, Trumpers will ignore the fundamental threat to the order of law this constitutes.

Oh yes, Trump is an outstanding hypocrite here since he voted by absentee ballot in the Florida primary and will do so again in November. What a guy.

And now onto Covid-19. The legitimate news has made the overwhelming case that Trump has mishandled the entire situation, maybe criminally so thru dereliction of duty, malfeasance and dishonoring his oath of office.

Trump is so unaware of things that he has placed himself at risk, no mean feat for a germophobe. No mask, no separation and taking hydrochloroquine. I know people in power can force their physicians to do things that are stupid and this is clearly the case. His physician, Dr. Harold Bornstein should lose his license for prescribing an unapproved and dangerous drug. Especially to the President of the United States.

In fact, Trump's physician is just another toady in this corrupt administration. Trump himself wrote his last

physical examination report, not Dr. Bornstein. A two page bit of pap. And Bornstein has not completed Trump's latest physical started in February. Why not? Of course, it might show Trump is not the paragon of health he brags about.

But Trump says he is too busy for it. Right – he spends 4 to 8 hours a day watching cable TV and creating 100 tweets a day. He indeed has the time and it would be better spent running the Government and completing his physical instead of bitching about his detractors.

Trumpers list all the good things that Trump has done to justify their continuing support of him. And I will admit there may be a few things that I could agree that he has done well. However, on balance, the irreparable and fundamental damage that he has done to the order of law, the Constitution and the established norms that keep our nation stable and viable far outweigh his "accomplishments" and dictatorial proclamations. We must remove him and the Republican Senate in November. Our very existence is at stake.

STEPHEN ETZEL
PUTNAM

OBITUARIES

Richard P. Gadoury, 68

DUDLEY – Richard P. Gadoury, 68, died Sunday, May 17, 2020 in Massachusetts General Hospital after a long illness.



He leaves 5 siblings, Donald W. Gadoury of Dudley, James S. Gadoury and his wife Maria of Woodstock, CT, LuAnn Gadoury with whom he lived, Jean E. Deary of Thompson, CT, and Janet E. Gadoury of

Dudley; and many nephews and nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces who all adored him.

He was born on November 13, 1951 in Webster, the son of Henry J. and Eleanor E. (Kokernak) Gadoury and was a lifelong resident. He graduated from Bartlett High School in 1970 where he was a standout forward for

the Bartlett High Indians’ basketball team. He attended Nichols College.

Mr. Gadoury was a sports enthusiast of all New England teams. He enjoyed watching television, particularly political debates. He especially looked forward to family gatherings and the holidays.

The family would like to express their gratitude to the caring staff at South County Dialysis in Webster where Richard was treated like family for the past 6 years.

A memorial Mass will be held at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Webster at a later date. There are no calling hours. Donations in his name may be made to the Boys and Girls Club of Webster and Dudley, 55 Oxford Avenue, Dudley, MA 01571. Arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster. www.scanlonfs.comx

Susan (Gorham) Gardner

Susan (Gorham) Gardner of Groton, MA died Friday, May 15, 2020 after a brief illness in Massachusetts. She will be deeply missed. Sue



was born on December 11, 1937 in Providence, RI, the daughter of the late David and Arlene (Vallett) Gorham. She was a graduate of Lincoln School in Providence, RI and Green Mountain

College in Poultney, VT. Sue will be remembered for her kindness, generosity, and love of a good laugh.

Sue was a devoted and caring wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother who shared her life with two loving husbands. She spent 35 joyful years with David W. Parker (deceased), together raising four children. After 19 years in Foster, RI, they settled in Pomfret, CT building a beautiful home on Hamlet Hill. They also spent many happy weekends at the Shoestring, their family camp in Vermont. Sue spent many years as a Medical Technician at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, CT.

She shared her “Second Story” with William A. Gardner (deceased). They were married for 21 loving years in Orleans, MA. On the Cape, they enjoyed Nauset beach year-round, hosting many visits of family and friends and took advantage of these years to travel extensively.

Sue had many interests throughout

her life and was an avid reader. A talented crafter with an artistic eye, she filled her homes with her creations including magnificent, hand braided rugs, artfully arranged antiques and always had a beautifully set table, even for simple meals. Sue was a gifted gardener with a busy green thumb and spent many happy hours in her cherished gardens. She loved animals of all kinds, from her beloved chocolate labs to rescued raccoons, geese and many more. Sue took great delight in all holiday celebrations with her family, particularly making Christmas special each year.

She was an active volunteer including serving as a Deacon at the Federated Church of Orleans.

Susan leaves three sons, Scott Parker, and his wife Tracy, Adam Parker and his fiancé Lisa Carter, David Parker and his wife, Susan, one daughter, Amy Farrell, wife of the late Dennis Farrell, a sister Abby Gorham, eight grandchildren, nine great grandchildren and Will’s four children Greg, Leslie, Randy, and Gary.

Services will be private. Memorial contributions in Sue’s name may be made to Friends of Snow Library, Orleans, MA (friendsofsnowlibrary.org). Smith and Walker Funeral Home, Grove Street, Putnam, CT has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at www.smithandwalkerfh.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Warren Williams, 76

WEBSTER – Warren Williams, 76, died Monday May 18, 2020 at home, surrounded by his family, after an illness.



He leaves his wife of 51 years, Patricia A. “Patty” (Fijal) Williams; 3 daughters, Jennifer W. Looney and her husband William G. of Dudley, Kellie M. Bennett and her husband Scott of Thompson, CT, and Brenda J. Williams

of Webster; 4 grandchildren, Katerina A. and Andre D. Looney, and Luke R. and Skyler Bennett; his mother-in-law, Anna B. (Tryba) Fijal; sister-in-law, Barbara (Fijal) Kryger; nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his sister, Carol Anne Williams.

He was born on July 18, 1943 in Worcester, the son of Frank A. and Pauline (Hall) Williams and was raised in Auburn. He graduated from Auburn High School in 1962.

Mr. Williams first worked as a car detailer for Cross and Bracchi Auto in Auburn. He was a heavy equipment operator for J.E. Murray Construction in Auburn for over 25 years, then again for Steve Turnbloom Construction. He worked as a mail courier for Commerce Insurance for 10 years, retiring in 2008.

Warren was an avid golfer and enjoyed being outdoors and working in his yard. His greatest treasure was the time he spent with his family.

The family would like to thank the nurses from Care Central VNA & Hospice for their care and compassion during this difficult time, And in particular his nurse Tara.

There are no services planned. Donations in his name may be made to Care Central VNA & Hospice, Inc., 34 Pearly Lane, Gardner, MA 01440. Arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster. www.scanlonfs.com

Diantha “Dee” (Holbrook) Dower, 90

Diantha “Dee” (Holbrook) Dower, 90, of Brooklyn, CT died in her sleep at Pierce Memorial Home on May 19, 2020. She was born in Hartford, CT on September 21, 1929, daughter of the late Marjorie Pike and George Treat Holbrook.



Dee graduated from Wethersfield High School in 1947, and Westbrook College, Maine with a degree in Art. She had a lifelong appreciation of and talent for art and could quickly whip up a caricature or drawing.

Living close to New York City in New Jersey, she often visited its many museums and instilled in her children, grandchildren and nieces and nephews her love of museums and art. She also loved music including musicals (best seen live) and operas (good for cleaning the house).

Dee enjoyed singing in choirs both at church and then at The Pierce Home. Dee worked devotedly as a teacher for over 50 years, a job that she excelled at and truly enjoyed doing until retiring. She is fondly remembered at Woodstock Academy by staff and generations of students, who she enjoyed seeing in the years following their graduations. She was predeceased by her husband,

Phillip Dower. She is survived by her three children, four grandchildren and three great-Grandchildren. Son, Rick Disch, of Brunswick, ME. Daughter Sarah Robinson (Gabe), their children Rob Robinson (Brittany), grandchildren, Lincoln and Baron; Sabra Mitchell (Jacques) and their son, Jacques Jr. , Daughter, Maggie Domas and her children George and Charlie (Ariel). She is also survived by her sister, Tammy Harris (John) and their children Douglas “Deke” Harris (Angie), Miranda Bergmeier (Tyler) and daughter, Lilly, and Geordie Harris (Deshea) and children, Lucas and Ruby. Dee is also survived by her brother George “Zeb” (Janet) and their children; Matthew, Elizabeth and her children Gregory and Lauren, Johannah and her children Paulo and Sam. Dee remained close with her late husband’s nieces and nephews; Ceila, Nat, Jack, Gail, Andy, Beth, Barb, Herbie, and their families.

Her family would like to thank the staff of Pierce Memorial Home, who became an extended family during her years with them.

There will be a memorial service at the convenience of the family. Cremation Society of Connecticut has care of the arrangements.

Mary T. Hall Place, 85

Mary T. Hall Place, 85 went home to be with her precious Lord and Savior April 16, 2020.



Mary was joyfully welcomed by husband Vincent, her parents Theron and Elizabeth Hall, her sister and best friend, Peggy (Vangarderen/Revena), brother Teddy, sisters Jean and Ann, her oldest

and youngest daughters; Mary Beth (Ryan) and Katie (Goodspeed) her grandson Kevin Fallon and many more loved ones.

Mary leaves behind 8 children; Jean Cyr (Jay), Barbara Place (Jim), Vincent Place (Danna), Patricia Hamlin (Martin), Timothy Place (Michelle), Joseph Place (Marcie), Kevin Place (Dahlia) and Brian Place. She also leaves behind 31 grandchildren, Elizabeth Fawcett (Jim), Sarah Mattice (Al), Seneca Ryan, Jamie Cyr, Jackie Cyr (Alexa), Joey Cyr (Alli), Sean Fallon, Kelly Fallon, Laura Place, Sarah Place (Dennis), Vinnie Place, Hannah Place, Melissa Place, William Daha, Matthew Hamlin (Sara), Laura Leffew (Joshua), Grace Pereria (Charles), Joseph Hamlin (Heather), Katherine Place, Meghan Higham (Brent), Christine Laramie (Tyler), Alyssa Place, Samuel Place, Benjamin Place, Teddy Place, Lexi Place, Tony Place, Logan Place (Sarah), Derek Goodspeed, Craig Goodspeed, and Darren Goodspeed. She also leaves behind 26 great grandchildren, a brother, Norman Hall (Dana), and sisters in law, Joan Hall, Deannie Condon, and Penny Redmond, brother in law, Patrick Ravena, sons in law Daniel Ryan and Ron Goodspeed, and many nieces, nephews and prayer warrior friends.

Mary was born 1935 in North Creek, New York to Theron and Elizabeth Hall. Mary graduated from Chestertown High School in 1952, as valedictorian of her class. There she met our Dad, Vincent and together they raised our large family for 51 years.

Every evening our Mom made a big

dinner and each morning, a big breakfast. She was adamant about us taking our vitamins before we ran out the door to school. She was quite ahead of her time in many ways. Each night, our Mom would come into our rooms and say prayers with us and rub our backs. And somehow, she still found time to volunteer for Right to Life and do presentations including St. Mary’s Academy.

Our Mom Loved our Lord and was eager to share this love with her children. One Christmas, our Mom gave each of us a bible and a cross. Some of the children still cherish and use this well-worn bible to this day.

Our Mom was an avid Prayer warrior and we are sure it took her half the day to complete all the prayers for her many children, grandchildren and loved ones. One of her favorites scriptures was: I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Certainly, her faith got her through many dangers, toils, and snares. She prayed constantly for her grandchildren with addiction and visited her grandson in recovery to share her encouragement and faith. PTL

Our Mom had a unique sense of humor, that became more apparent in her later years along with a streak of rebellion which she indeed passed on to some of her children.

She loved family picnics and always made her delicious potato salad, leaving a portion without onion for one of her sons in law.

Our Mom was truly a Proverb’s woman and now Grace has brought her home.

Charitable donations may be made in Mary’s name to The Friends of Assisi Food Pantry, 77 Water St. Danielson Ct. or the Parry Romberg Connection (the rare disease our little sister had)

There will be a Celebration of Mary’s life this summer @ The Christian Worship Center, Warrensburg, New York, June 27th followed by a Potluck gathering @ Ushers Park. All are welcomed.

We are grateful to God for his gift of our amazing Mom for so many years.

Thelma E. Kaitbenski, 88

SOUTHBRIDGE- Thelma E. Kaitbenski, 88, went home to be with the Lord on April 29, 2020. She bravely battled ovarian cancer. She is predeceased by her husband, Frank, who died in March 2008. She is survived by a daughter, Janet Atwell and her husband, Ray, of Charlotte, NC, a daughter, Donna Weaver and her husband, Lynn, of Woodstock, CT, and a son, Steve Kaitbenski and his wife, Suzanne, of Southbridge, MA. She had 6 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren along with several nieces and nephews.

She was born in Upper Zion, VA, on May 19, 1931, to Harry Murdock Beazley and Leola (Hall) Beazley. She moved to Southbridge in 1955 and lived there the remainder of her life.

She retired from the American Optical where she had been an executive secretary for 39 years. She attended Faith Baptist Church in Southbridge. She enjoyed spending time with her family, traveling, line dancing, braiding rugs, rug hooking and exercising at the Y.

A graveside service will be at a later date. Donations in her memory can be sent to Faith Baptist Church in Southbridge, Dennison Drive, Southbridge, Ma 01550 or VNA Hospice in Worcester, MA.

Belanger Funeral Home, 51 Marcy St. Southbridge is in charge of arrangements.

An online guestbook is available at www.BelangerFuneralHome.com

Send all obituary notices to
Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90,
Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail
to Obits@stonebridgepress.news



LEGALS

TOWN OF BROOKLYN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION

At the regular meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday, May 19, 2020, the following action was taken:

1. SP20-001 Special Permit for Business-Related Uses at 15 Hyde Road, 1.55 acres in Village Center Zone (Map 25, Lot 58), Applicant: Evan Sigfridson – APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS.
2. SPR20-001 Site Plan Review for Health Club at 208 Providence Road, 1.29 acres in Restricted Business Zone (Map 34, Lot 26), Applicant: Jason Donahey-APPROVED.

Dated this 20th day of May 2020
Michelle Sigfridson
Chairman
May 29, 2020

Town of Eastford Connecticut Planning Commission Notice of Decision

On May 12, 2020 the Planning Commission made the following decision: File # 20-001 Scott Perry, 101 Eastford Road, Eastford, CT. Amended Subdivision. APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS UNANIMOUSLY.

File # 20-002 RCN Ashford, LLC, Lakewoods Subdivision, Eastford, CT. Amended Subdivision. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Details can be found in the minutes filed at the Town Clerk’s Office, Town Office Building, 16 Westford Road, Eastford, CT.

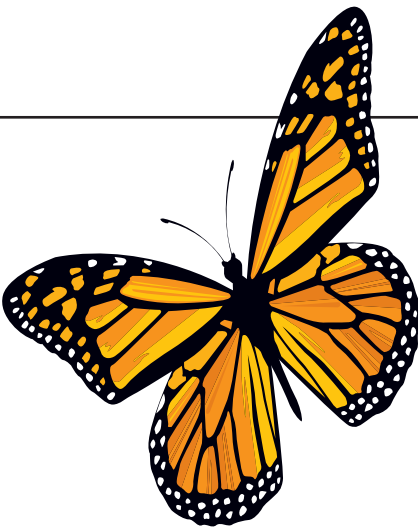
Dated at Eastford, CT this 20th day of May 2020.
Susan Welshman
Recording Secretary
May 29, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Sarah Tamsin Bland (20-0000134) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated March 30, 2020, ordered that all claims must be pretested to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
William R Bland, 49 Cosgrove Rd., Willington, CT 06279
Kathleen Bland, 49 Cosgrove Rd., Willington, CT 06279
May 29, 2020



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What can and cannot be composted



Avid gardeners know that compost can add vital nutrients to soil used in gardens, container plants and lawns.

The fact that compost is so versatile and nutrient-dense may not even be its most admirable quality. Made from items

used in and around the house, compost costs just about nothing to produce.

The raw materials that make up compost come from organic waste. These can be disposables from the garden and kitchen, as well as other areas around the house. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, yard trimmings and food scraps add up to 20 to 30 percent of the municipal solid waste in the United States. Turning waste into compost not only helps the landscape, but also the planet.

Compost is relatively easy to make, and there are scores of materials that can be put into compost. But it is just as essential to know which ingredients cannot be used in compost.

OKAY FOR COMPOST

Most organic materials, or items that were once living, can be used in compost. Plant-based items used in cooking, such as potato peelings, carrot skins, banana peels, cocoa hulls, coffee grounds and filters, corn cobs, apple cores, egg shells, fruit peels, kelp, and nut shells, can be added to compost.

Other items from around the house, like unused kitty litter, hair, shredded newspapers and cardboard, leaves, flowers, paper, pine needles, ashes, and sawdust, can be successfully added to

compost. Stick to items that are not treated heavily with chemicals.

Should not be used in compost
Inorganic and non-biodegradable materials cannot go into compost. These are items like plastic, glass, aluminum foil, and metal. Pressure-treated lumber, although a natural material, is treated with preservatives and often pesticides that can be harmful if they leech into the garden.

The small-gardening resource Balcony Garden Web indicates coated or glossy printed papers, such as those from catalogs, magazines, wrapping paper, marketing materials, and business cards, should not be added to compost piles because of the chemicals and inks used in these pages.

Planet Natural Research Center says to avoid pet droppings from dogs and cats. Animal products like bones, butter, milk, fish skins, and meat, may decompose and start to smell foul. Maggots, parasites, pathogens, and other microorganisms can form in the compost. These materials also may attract flies and scavenger animals. Plus, they decompose very slowly.

Any personal hygiene products should be avoided because they are tainted by human fluids and that can pose a health risk.

While weeds are not harmful in compost piles, there is the risk that seeds can germinate and then infiltrate garden beds when the compost is used. The same can be said for tomato plants and some other hardy fruits and vegetables.

Compost is a winner in the garden and around the landscape. Learning which ingredients can and can't be added to compost piles is useful for any gardener.

The Quiet Corner Page

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