

WOODSTOCK VILLAGER

Friday, September 18, 2020

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Eighteen students complete QVCC's CNA Program and receive jobs

DANIELSON – Despite the impediments presented by the Covid-19 outbreak earlier this spring, 18 students have successfully completed Quinebaug Valley Community College's Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program and received jobs in the respective fields.

"Back in March, I remember telling the CNA students that although it was unclear when we would return to class, we would meet back at the finish line -- I never thought that would be five months later! I am so proud of this outstanding group of 18 students that

returned to complete the program. They did not allow Covid to ruin their plans, just postpone them a bit," said Stephanie Majewski, course instructor. "There is such a need in our community right now for qualified CNAs, especially in our long-term care facilities. This fall, QVCC will continue to provide CNA training through a hybrid program, featuring both online learning and in person lab components. I look forward to meeting our future CNAs!"

QVCC is proud to share

Please Read **NURSES**, page A5



Day Kimball Healthcare welcomes new physicians



Emily Ramasra



Paula Dibo



Nicholas Cundiff

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) has recently welcomed several new physicians to the Day Kimball Medical Group (DKMG) in the areas of infectious diseases, internal medicine, and pediatrics.

"We are excited to welcome these highly talented physicians to our growing medical staff," said Matthew Roy, VP, Business Development and Physician Services, Day Kimball Healthcare. "We look forward to their expertise in providing high qual-

ity, comprehensive primary and specialty care services to the community in northeast Connecticut."

Emily Ramasra, MD, has joined the DKMG Internal Medicine practice located at 612 Hartford Pike in Dayville. She is board-certified in internal medicine and specializes in infectious diseases. She recently completed her fellowship training in Infectious Diseases at UMASS Memorial Medical Center, and completed her internal medicine residency at UPMC Pinnacle

Harrisburg in Pennsylvania in 2018.

Dr. Ramasra has peer reviewed publications, and has authored several abstracts, posters, and presentations. She is a member of the American College of Physicians, and the Infectious Diseases Society of America. When not practicing medicine she enjoys running, photography, economics, and spending time with family and friends.

Paula Dibo, MD, has also joined the DKMG Internal

Please Read **DOCTORS**, page A3

NOW Month of Miles community challenge ongoing through Oct. 13

PUTNAM — On Sunday, Sept. 13, Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, Inc. (NOW), in partnership with the HealthQuest Northeast CT Coalition, kicked-off a new community initiative, challenging people of all ages to engage in walking, running, or hiking over a 31-day period.

Titled the "NOW Month of Miles Community Challenge" this initiative asks for individuals and teams to challenge themselves to see how many miles can be achieved in a month. Throughout the month, participants are encouraged to share photos and stories as they log their miles, NOW will also share information on local trails, walks and runs available in the community and through partner agencies. At the end of the month, NOW will announce the top names of those who logged the most miles, in individual age group categories, as well as top teams and top businesses. NOW will also share the total cumulative number of miles logged by all participants. The challenge is generously sponsored by Putnam Bank, A

Division of Centreville Bank, with the first 500 registrants to sign up to receive a free pedometer. Registration to participate in the challenge is open through October 13th and people are encouraged to sign up anytime to participate.

2020 has been an unpredictable year and like many other organizations, NOW has had to make difficult decisions when planning programs and events. With spring recreational sports canceled and schools closed, all of NOW's planned youth sports and wellness clinics and outreach programs were put on hold. The Month of Miles Challenge will serve as a community outreach event to promote NOW's mission of wellness in NECT and as platform to help launch NOW programs for the fall and winter months of 2020. NOW Executive Director Sarah

Wolfburg shared the connection between NOW's mission and the Month of Miles Community Challenge, com-

Please Read **MILES**, page A4

AHS Cady-Copp House construction progress hammers on

PUTNAM — The Aspinock Historical Society (AHS) went to work immediately after receiving a community grant for historic preservation from the Daughters of the American Revolution. Members of Deborah Avery Putnam Chapter DAR in Plainfield, were instrumental in helping the late



and dearly missed Dr. Louise Cutler Pempek submit the grant.

Bill Pearsall, former AHS president and Town of Putnam Historian oversees the Cady-Copp restoration project and reports that contractor Luke Walker has completed exterior work in a month's time. Siding, windows and doors are done!

This accomplishment is huge, but there is still work to do. Pearsall notes that exterior painting is still needed, and will seek volunteers to help with that soon. Additional musts include a driveway in to the historic home from Liberty Highway. This is a big-ticket item. The interior restoration work is still to come as well and must meet all historical guidelines. Pearsall estimates \$35,000-\$50,000 is still needed.

The Cady-Copp home, with many unique features, was donated to the Aspinock Historical Society many years ago, but with no funds for upkeep. Any homeowner knows what it takes to upkeep even a brand new home, so

Please Read **CADY-COPP**, page A3

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September extracts



KILLINGLY
AT 300

MARGARET
WEAVER

This week, I looked at a few September extracts from 50 years ago. The school year was still starting after Labor Day as indicated by the following article. "Killingly School Population Analyzed by Superintendent. A record breaking 3,216 pupils were officially registered as the Killingly School Department inaugurated the 1970-71 season as of Thursday, September 10. Superintendent Paul F. Joyce noted the opening day activities went smoothly and that all of the pupils were successfully housed despite the capacity figures prevalent at most of the schools...The school enrollment figures were as follows: Goodyear (includes a.m. and p.m. sessions, 243; Killingly Central School, 642; Killingly Memorial School, 761; Killingly Junior High School, 458; Killingly High School, 1,112. The enrollment figures cited represent a growth of 110 new pupils since June 1970 and the superintendent stated that during the past two years, approximately 300 additional pupils have been absorbed into the Killingly School System" (Windham County Transcript, Sept. 17, 1970). Were you a pupil in the Killingly schools in 1970?

I was browsing through The Diaries of Dr. Hill 1851-1896 by Marcella Pasay to see if I could find an interesting school tidbit from 19th century Killingly and came across the following. Note how

many school districts the town had in 1878 and what a pittance the teachers were being paid. "Among and to the several school districts, the following specific sums, and no more, and payable in equal amounts quarterly, and on the basis and condition that no teacher shall be paid a salary from this apportionment exceeding \$72 per month while actually employed in teaching: (by districts) Mashentuc (k), 1 teacher at \$8 per week, \$240 for 30 weeks; Tuckers, Sparks, Ledge, South Killingly, Warrens, also each had 1 teacher at \$8 per week, \$240 for 30 weeks; Attawaugan, 1 at \$12, \$360 for 30 weeks; Ballouville, 1 at \$10 & 1 at \$12 per week, \$540 total; Valley, 1 at \$12 per week, \$360 total; Killingly Center 1 at \$8 and 1 at \$10 per week, \$540 total; Williamsville, 1 at \$8, 1 at \$10, \$540 total; 1 at \$8, 1 at \$20, \$600 total; Dayville, 1 at \$8, 1 at \$10, 1 at \$20, \$1140 total; Danielsonville, 8 at \$8, ? at \$10, ? at \$20, \$2440 total; Horse Hill, 1 at \$8, for \$240 for 30 weeks." (p. 156; Marcella extracted this from the Killingly Town Minutes 1853-1897, p. 246). The Killingly panel in Gray's Atlas from 1869 shows the various school districts outside of Danielsonville.

On Oct. 5, 1970, Killingly was going to hold a special Town election to elect members of its first town council, which was to be formed according to the new Town charter. The Sept. 17 Transcript contained short biographical sketches and photos of some of the individuals who were running for council seats. The following were the individuals who were listed; not all districts were

given: District #2, Frederick A. Dawley (D), Philip Lamirand (D), Thomas Ray (R), and Eugene Fitene (R). District #4, Ronald Jussaume (D) and Mervin R. Whipple (R). In Miles of Millstreams by Margaret Weaver, Geraldine and Raymond Wood, I found the names of that initial nine-member council: Edward Allard, Frederick Dawley, Robert Heroux, Frederick Hillman, Ronald Jussaume, Philip Lamirand, Henry Misiaszek, Armand Ricard, and Karl Seiffert. (p. 235; extracted from the WCT, Nov. 5, 1970).

Not all the residents of Killingly were pleased with the new town charter. In fact an opposition group was formed. "Anti-Charter Faction Forms. It has been reported here this week that the town of Killingly will have a new organization named the Committee for Civil Action. Principal purpose of this committee will be to do away with the town charter. Apparent organizers of the group are Charles Beauregard and Mrs. Catherine Conrad, also members of the Killingly Taxpayers Association" (WCT, Sept. 17, 1970).

While checking Miles of Millstreams for the first town council members, I came across two interesting late August 1970 tidbits from the Aug. 27 Transcript. First, "it was voted to create a Sewer Authority to handle the town's sewerage program." Did you realize that the Sewer Authority had been in existence that long?

Secondly, "Dr. Sidney P. Marland, Jr., a Killingly native, was selected by President Richard Nixon for Commissioner of Education," the highest education position in the United States. Some of you may remember him. Part of the following was extracted from an October, 2016 Killingly at 300 column: "Dr. Marland, was born in Danielson, Conn. (Aug. 19, 1914), received bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Connecticut in 1936 and 1950, and a doctorate in educational administration from New York University in 1955. During World War II, he served in the Army in the Pacific theater and was discharged with the rank of colonel, having been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit. Among many activities, Dr. Marland was chairman of the editorial board of Scholastic Inc., and a member of the Connecticut Board of Governors for

Higher Education. He served on numerous national education commissions and study groups before and after his service as Commissioner of Education from 1970 to 1972." He died May 29, 1992. (Extracted from a New York Times article at www.nytimes.com and www.marland.org.)

Did you like to dance to the music of the big bands? Fifty years ago you might have attended this charity event with music by a famous band. "Final arrangements have been completed for the annual Danielson Lodge of Elks Charity Ball to be held Saturday, September 26 at the Wildwood Park Pavilion, Dayville. Sponsored this year, as was last year's, by the Danielson and Putnam Lodge of Elks, the fabulous Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra has been engaged for your dancing pleasure from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. As this was a sellout last year, it is requested that you get your tickets as soon as possible. Tickets may be obtained from any of the lodge officers or at the lodge itself on Center Street. Ticket price is ten dollars per couple. The ball is chairmanned this year by Al Page of Danielson and Norm Bernier of Putnam" (WCT, Sept. 17, 1970).

"James Francis Dorsey, professionally known as Jimmy Dorsey, was an American jazz clarinetist, saxophonist, composer, and big band leader. He composed the jazz and pop standards 'I'm Glad There is You' and 'It's the Dreamer in Me. He was born February 29, 1904 in Shenandoah, PA and died June 12, 1957 in New York." (Wikipedia).

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

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

A new season of opportunity and happiness

Today, I'm in my home working on the final column that I'll pen from this location. Next week, I'll write my first column from our new home.

We are in a season of change and transition.

I've written some part of my books or columns, from every space in this home. As I walk from room the room, the memories of children, now adults, are overwhelming. I remember our first night here and how we all ended up in one bedroom as the noises of the new home settling were a bit unsettling to our senses, but our first experiences hearing a pack of coyotes howling in our front pasture sent everyone scrambling in terror into our bedroom.

Pictures taken at our front door of our children's first day of school ... a house full of their friends scrambling in after classes to snack and unwind.

I remember every Thursday night, how our home would fill with over sixty high school students, craving mac and cheese, and chili dip. Arlene was Director for our local high schools "Campus Life / Youth for Christ" program. I remember the laughter of these wonderful students still echoing through the entire place. This home has touched many lives through these last twenty-six years.

A friend that I met on several of my book tours, as I was on his radio show, on KSFO in San Francisco, Rabbi Daniel Lapin, once said, "I believe the lives of people leave an imprint on this earth. I feel and sense them as I travel to new locations. Important events remain. You must open your heart and mind to feel them."

I know he is right. I feel the imprint of our lives together permanently imprinted onto this home and forty acres. I

hope the new owners will be open to feeling the joy left behind.

A new beginning! We'll move on Tuesday and Wednesday. As you read this, the transition from old to new will be in motion or already in place. Decisions will be made about where furniture will fit and how

our new routine will flow in this unfamiliar space.

The late-great Zig Ziglar famously said, "The greatest successes in life often happen when we change locations." I agree. Old habits are broken, and we look at life through fresh eyes. A new perspective reveals new experiences and opportunities. Arlene and I are enthused about our new life prospects.

We've loved our lives here and we'll leave with a touch of sadness but enter this new season of our lives with optimism.

As the old hymn proclaims, "it is well with my soul."

What is the moral to this story?

Embrace change with enthusiasm. We can't fight the aging process and the inevitable transition in our needs. Life is always shifting and evolving. Nothing stays the same. Embrace the change and be creative. Be optimistic. Believe the best is yet to come. Seek out and find the good, then enjoy the new opportunities brought on by the change. To do otherwise only brings on sadness and depression.

I choose optimism and happiness in this new season of my life.

Won't you join me?

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryW Moore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.



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Trend-setting daffodils for gardens and bouquets



GARDEN MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA MYERS

Daffodils are having their day. Floral designers are opening our eyes to a world of gorgeous daffodils that extends far beyond the iconic yellow trumpets. These unexpected varieties include doubles, bi-colors and split cups, in colors such as creamy white, peach, pink, gold and orange. Plant the bulbs in fall to see these beauties emerge in your spring garden. Then enjoy how they elevate all your spring bouquets.

A benefit of planting some of these more unusual varieties is being able to stretch the daffodil season. Be sure to include some early bloomers such as miniature Tete a Tete. Another early bloomer is Barrett Browning. This heirloom variety's orange-red cup has a yellow halo at the base, set off by bright white petals. Silver Smiles is a subtle beauty. A cluster of two or three little flowers tops each stem. Greenish-white petals surround a pale-yellow cup that fades to buff and then white.

Pink-cupped daffodils have been around for almost 100 years yet are still relatively unusual. Grow them in filtered sunlight to accentuate the color. Blushing Lady has yellow petals and a flared, salmon-pink cup. Turn up the pink even more with Pink Pride. Another early-blooming variety, it features a ruffled cup that opens apricot and gradually turns coral pink.

As early daffodils begin

to fade, midseason varieties take center stage. This is the time for split corona and double daffodils. Both types work well with the more traditional daffodils, while adding flair to gardens and arrangements.

Instead of a trumpet, the cup of a split corona daffodil is split into sections. These split cups may be ruffled or pleated and often lay flat against the outer petals. One of the showiest split cup daffodils is Cum Laude. Its white petals frame a frilly, peachy-yellow cup with a green eye. Include other split-cup varieties such as Cassata, with a delicate ruffled yellow split cup and white petals, or Lemon Beauty with a star-like yellow cup set against white petals. Can't decide? Plant a split-cup assortment to find your favorites.

Close out the season with double daffodils. Their fluffy flowers resemble roses, and most varieties are fragrant. Delnashaugh (longfield-gardens.com) is one of the most impressive doubles. Its enormous, 4" flowers feature layers of frilly white and peach-pink petals. Tahiti is just as large, with soft yellow petals and red-orange ruffles.

Two of the latest bloomers are also two of the most fragrant: Cheerfulness and Yellow Cheerfulness. Each stem is topped with a mini bouquet of three or four little rose-like flowers, each the size of a cherry tomato. They are incredibly beautiful and extremely long-lasting.

In a vase, daffodils can essentially arrange themselves. The more flower forms and colors you include, the better. Have a little more time? Add a few stems of forsythia or curly willow and some other spring favorites such as bleeding heart, tulips



Photo Courtesy

Delnashaugh is one of the most impressive double daffodils with its frilly petals, while early blooming Pink Pride has ruffled cups that start off apricot and gradually turn coral pink.

and hyacinths.

The stems of freshly cut daffodils release a clear sap that can shorten the life of other flowers. Conditioning your daffodils is easy and eliminates this risk. Cut the stems to the final length and stand them in a clean container of cool water for four to six hours. After that, they can be combined with tulips and other blooms. Just remember to not recut the stems.

Nothing says spring like a yellow trumpet daffodil. But with so many other flower styles and colors to choose from, why not stretch your

boundaries and discover some new favorites?

Melinda Myers has written numerous books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Longfield Gardens* for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

CADY-COPP

continued from page A1

you can imagine the challenge of rehabbing an historic home and then keeping it up to snuff. This has been a challenge for the small, volunteer only and member/donor based organization. But AHS has a vision of what Cady-Copp will become – a living museum and a walk through different eras as you pass from room to room. Potential for local students and community members to visit will be priceless, and it will be another attraction for visitors to our area.

Cady-Copp is valuable because Manasseh Cutler was tutored in the Cady-Copp Cottage and went west to influence U.S. History immensely. He helped build the first permanent settlement in the Northwest Territory, and was instrumental in creating the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 allowing no slavery in the territory. While there, he also founded Ohio University. His son, Ephraim Cutler also played a major role in early U.S. History. Details can be found in David McCullough's popular book, *The Pioneers*. Remaining Cutlers can be found in Putnam!

Donations of any amount are welcome to help complete this project as swiftly as possible. AHS will also accept donations of materials that may be of use to this project as well. Questions can be emailed to AspinockHistoricalSociety@gmail.com. Donations can be mailed to AHS, PO Box 465, Putnam, CT 06260.

To learn more about Putnam's Aspinock Historical Society, visit www.putnamaspinock-histsoc.com and like them on Facebook and Instagram.

DOCTORS

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Medicine practice in Dayville. She received her medical degree from Universidad Católica de Córdoba, Facultad de Medicina, Córdoba Argentina in 2014, and completed her internal medicine residency this year at SBH Health System in Bronx, NY.

Dr. Dibo was the recipient of the Resident of the Year Award for best physician from SBH Health University in June 2018, and is a member of the American College of Physicians, and the American Medical Association. Dr. Dibo is fluent in English, Spanish and French. In her free time she enjoys spending time with family and traveling.

Nicholas Cundiff, DO, has joined the DKMG Pediatrics

Center located at 320 Pomfret Street in Putnam. Dr. Cundiff obtained his medical degree from Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine in Athens, Ohio in 2017, and completed his pediatric residency in 2020 at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, South Carolina.

Dr. Cundiff has participated in numerous research and quality improvement projects, and various poster and didactic presentations. He is the founder and director of Stella Maris Ministries, a non-profit corporation that provides children with complex medical needs a sailing trip in the Charleston harbor, joined by their families as a time for respite and new memories.

All three physicians are accepting new patients. To schedule an appointment with any of these

providers, call 1 (844) DKMG DOC (1-844-356-4362). Learn more at daykimball.org/accepting-patients.

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.



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.

POLICE LOGS

PUTNAM — The Putnam Police Department reports the following recent arrests.

Elizabeth Foss, age 19, of Putnam was arrested on Sept. 10 for Violation of a Protective Order and Disorderly Conduct.

Stephen Bennett, age 46, of Brooklyn was arrested on Sept. 10 for Criminal Mischief in the Third Degree.

Tyler Lane, age 26, of Thompson was arrested on Sept. 11 for Creating a Public Disturbance.

Derek Brooks, age 36, of Putnam was arrested on Sept. 11 for Creating a Public Disturbance.

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



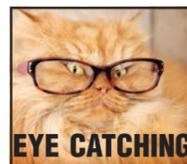
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½ Greek Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Side Salad, Pita	\$12.00
Lamb Shank, Rice Pilaf, Side Salad, Pita	\$15.00
Gyro	\$8.00
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Dolmades (Stuffed Grape Leaves)	\$5.00

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Deciding when to retire: When timing becomes critical

As we continue the conversation this month about key strategies for retirement planning, this week will focus on the timing of your retirement plan. Deciding when to retire may not be one decision but a series of decisions and calculations. Three of the most important areas to consider are: anticipated expenses, sources of retirement income, and how long you'll need your retirement savings to last. Today, we will outline planning strategies and tips to help you on your journey to Live Well.

Thinking about early retirement?

Retiring early means fewer earning years and less accumulated savings. Also, the earlier you retire, the more years you'll need your retirement savings to produce income. And your retirement could last quite a while. According to a National Vital Statistics Report, people today can expect to live more than 30 years longer than they did a century ago.

Not only will you need your retirement savings to last longer, but inflation will have more time to eat away at your purchasing power. If inflation is 3 percent a year — its historical average since 1914 — it will cut the purchasing power of a fixed annual income in half in roughly 23 years. Factoring inflation into the retirement

equation, you'll probably need your retirement income to increase each year just to cover the same expenses. Be sure to take this into account when considering how long you expect (or can afford) to be in retirement.

There are other considerations as well. For example, if you expect to receive pension payments, early retirement may adversely affect them. Why? Because the greatest accrual of benefits generally occurs during your final years of employment, when your earning power is presumably highest. Early retirement could reduce your monthly benefits. It will affect your Social Security benefits too.

Also, don't forget that if you hope to retire before you turn 59 and a half and plan to start using your 401(k) or IRA savings right away, you'll generally pay a 10 percent early withdrawal penalty plus any regular income tax due (with some exceptions, including disability payments and distributions from employer plans such as 401(k)s after you reach age 55 and terminate employment).

Finally, you're not eligible for Medicare until you turn 65. Unless you'll be eligible for retiree health benefits through your employer or take a job that offers health insurance, you'll need to calculate the cost of paying for insurance



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LAURENCE HALE
INVESTMENT ADVISER

or health care out-of-pocket, at least until you can receive Medicare coverage.

Delaying retirement
Postponing retirement lets you continue to add to your retirement savings. That's especially advantageous if you're saving in tax-deferred accounts, and if you're receiving employer contributions. For example, if you retire at age 65 instead of age 55, and manage to save an additional \$20,000 per year at an 8 percent rate of return during that time, you can add an extra \$312,909 to your retirement fund. (This is a hypothetical example and is not intended to reflect the actual performance of any specific investment.)

Even if you're no longer adding to your retirement savings, delaying retirement postpones the date that you'll need to start withdrawing from them. That could enhance your nest egg's ability to last throughout your lifetime.

Postponing full retirement also gives you more transition time. If you hope to trade a full-time job for running your own small business or launching a new career after you "retire," you might be able to lay the groundwork for a new life by taking classes at night or trying out your new role part-time. Testing your plans while you're still employed can help you anticipate the challenges of your post-retirement role. Doing a reality check before relying on a new endeavor for retirement income can help you see how much income you can realistically expect from

it. Also, you'll learn whether it's something you really want to do before you spend what might be a significant portion of your retirement savings on it.

Phased retirement: the best of both worlds

Some employers have begun to offer phased retirement programs, which allow you to receive all or part of your pension benefit once you've reached retirement age, while you continue to work part-time for the same employer.

Phased retirement programs are getting more attention as the baby boomer generation ages. In the past, pension law for private sector employers encouraged workers to retire early. Traditional pension plans generally weren't allowed to pay benefits until an employee either stopped working completely or reached the plan's normal retirement age (typically age 65). This frequently encouraged employees who wanted a reduced workload but hadn't yet reached normal retirement age to take early retirement and go to work elsewhere (often for a competitor), allowing them to collect both a pension from the prior employer and a salary from the new employer.

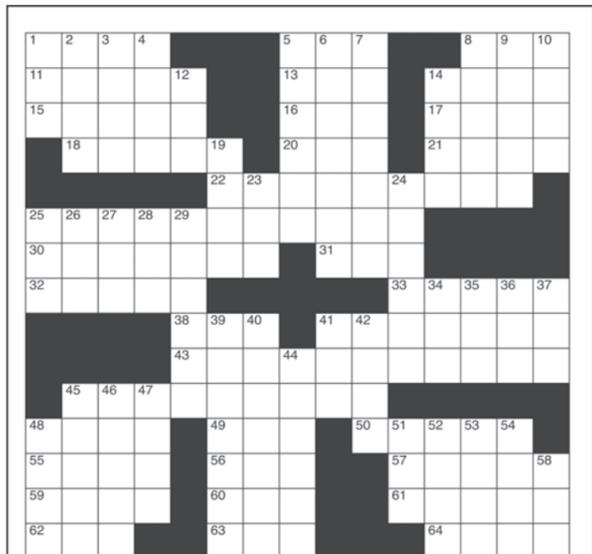
However, pension plans now are allowed to pay benefits when an employee reaches age 62, even if the employee is still working and hasn't yet reached the plan's normal retirement age. Phased retirement can benefit both prospective retirees, who can enjoy a more flexible work schedule and a smoother transition into full retirement; and employers, who are able to retain an experienced worker. Employers aren't required to offer a phased retirement program, but if yours does, it's worth at least a review to see how it might affect your plans.

Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well.TM

The sooner you start to plan the timing of your retirement, the more time you'll have to make adjustments that can help ensure those years are everything you hope for. If you've already made some tentative assumptions or choices, you may need to revisit them, especially if you're considering taking retirement in stages. And as you move into retirement, you'll want to monitor your retirement income plan to ensure that your initial assumptions are still valid, that new laws and regulations haven't affected your situation, and that your savings and investments are performing as you need them to. At Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, we work with our clients to create a unique retirement plan, tailored directly to help them achieve their goals. For additional information, retirement planning resources, and more, visit our website www.whzwealth.com. To receive information regarding financial advising, visit www.whzwealth.com, call us at 860-928-2341, or email us at info@whzwealth.com!

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These materials are general in nature and do not address your specific situation. For your specific investment needs, please discuss your individual circumstances with your representative. Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors does not provide tax or legal advice, and nothing in the accompanying pages should be construed as specific tax or legal advice.

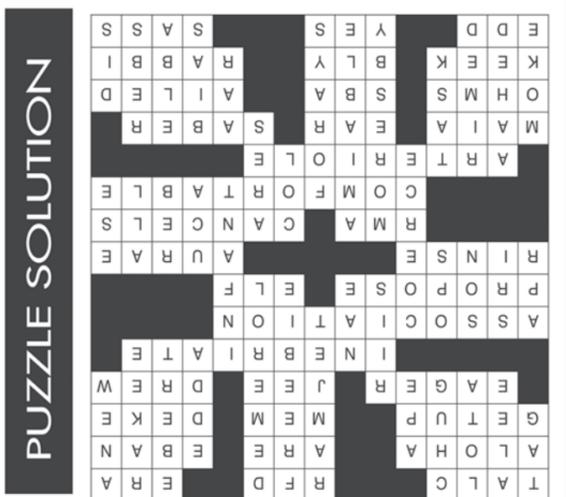


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Greasy powder (abbr.)
- 5. Rural Free Delivery (abbr.)
- 8. Amount of time
- 11. Greeting
- 13. Form of "to be"
- 14. Israeli diplomat
- 15. Outfit
- 16. The 13th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 17. Deceptive movement
- 18. Anxious
- 20. Popular Letterman guest
- 21. Saints' signal caller
- 22. Intoxicate
- 25. Relationship
- 30. Ask for one's hand in marriage
- 31. Popular Will Ferrell film
- 32. Gargle
- 33. Warning sensation before migraine
- 38. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 41. Erases
- 43. At ease
- 45. Small branch of an artery
- 48. Mother of Hermes
- 49. Body part
- 50. Cavalry sword
- 55. Wellness chants
- 56. Helps little firms
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. Peep
- 60. Nellie ___, journalist
- 61. Spiritual leader
- 62. Doctor of Education
- 63. Affirmative
- 64. Cheek

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Popular kids' game
- 2. Away from wind
- 3. Round water pot
- 4. Drink quickly
- 5. A simple type of jet engine
- 6. Something for nothing
- 7. Painkiller
- 8. Siskel's pal
- 9. Strong spirit distilled in Turkey
- 10. Again
- 12. Imitate
- 14. Icelandic poems
- 19. Jacob ___, American journalist
- 23. No (Scottish)
- 24. Newborn
- 25. Credit term
- 26. Nonprofit research group in CA
- 27. Male offspring
- 28. Important baseball stat
- 29. A way to compel
- 34. Fiddler crab
- 35. Jewish equivalent of "Sir"
- 36. Every
- 37. Midway between east and southeast
- 39. Anti-slavery treaty
- 40. A friendly manner
- 41. Military figure (abbr.)
- 42. Area units
- 44. Sudden incursions
- 45. Expressed pleasure
- 46. Covered with hoarfrost
- 47. Job
- 48. Donkey
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. Light dry-gap bridge (abbr.)
- 58. Criticize



MILES

continued from page A1

menting "Traditionally, NOW focuses on youth wellness with our programs, education and outreach, but this challenge is a way for our entire community to become motivated to move and is inclusive of all ages. The main intention is to make this a fun experience, because getting outside and walking, running and hiking should be enjoyable. Our hope is to see families, friends, and businesses participating and encouraging each other to be active, not just for one month, but beyond the end of the challenge."

As a non-profit that supports youth wellness in Northeast Connecticut, NOW exists solely through funds raised at events and through donations from individuals and businesses. As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, NOW had to make the decision to cancel all planned fundraising events, including the 9th Annual A Taste for NOW

~ In Memory of Nick Haines, the 3rd Annual NOW Bartender Night, and the Ninth Annual NOW Road Race & Walk ~ Lap the Lake. The NOW Road Race event was originally scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 13 and had been sponsored by Putnam Bank — a division of Centreville Bank. When the decision was made to cancel the race, NOW reached out to Putnam Bank and the management with Centreville Bank to propose a shift in sponsorship to the Month of Miles Community Challenge, which was planned to honor the spirit of the race. The bank responded quickly, lending their support to the new event. NOW used the sponsorship to provide pedometers to participants of the Month of Miles Community Challenge. Sarah Wolfburg noted the long-time support of Putnam Bank for NOW programs and events, "Throughout the history of the NOW Road Race, we have been fortunate to have Putnam Bank as our main sponsor and we are very grateful for their continued support, including this new

initiative to promote healthy activity in the community." In addition to Putnam Bank's sponsorship, NOW is also supported by the HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut Coalition and their Step It Up Northeast Connecticut initiative, which promotes walking as an activity to reduce stress, anxiety, depression, fatigue and chronic illness.

NOW is a non-profit human services organization focused on youth wellness. NOW provides children with the opportunity to participate in area wellness activities and athletics programs, offering scholarships to the youth of the community with up to 95 percent of the cost being subsidized by NOW. The mission of the organization is to provide all children, regardless of financial resources, equal opportunities to achieve & maintain youth wellness, beginning at an early age.

To learn more about NOW, to make a donation, or to sign up for the Month of Miles Community Challenge, visit www.NOWinMotion.org.

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St. James School announces meal program requirements

DANIELSON — St. James School announced today its policy for determining eligibility of children who may receive free or reduced-price meals served under the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP), or free milk served under the Special Milk Program (SMP).

Local school officials have adopted the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEGs) for family size and income criteria for determining eligibility. The following income guidelines will be used in Connecticut from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, for determining

eligibility of participants for free and reduced-price meals and free milk in the Child Nutrition Programs. Children from families whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

To apply for free or reduced-price meals or free milk, households should fill out the application and return it to the school. Only one application is required per household and an application for free or reduced-price benefits cannot be approved unless it contains complete eligibility information as indicated on the application and instructions.

2020-21 Income Guidelines for Child Nutrition Programs											
Free meals/milk						Reduced-price meals					
Number in family	Annual gross income	Monthly gross income	Twice per month	Every two weeks gross income	Weekly gross income	Number in family	Annual gross income	Monthly gross income	Twice per month	Every two weeks gross income	Weekly gross income
1	16,588	1,383	692	638	319	1	23,606	1,968	984	908	454
2	22,412	1,868	934	862	431	2	31,894	2,658	1,329	1,227	614
3	28,236	2,353	1,177	1,086	543	3	40,182	3,349	1,675	1,546	773
4	34,060	2,839	1,420	1,310	655	4	48,470	4,040	2,020	1,865	933
5	39,884	3,324	1,662	1,534	767	5	56,758	4,730	2,365	2,183	1,092
6	45,708	3,809	1,905	1,758	879	6	65,046	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251
7	51,532	4,295	2,148	1,982	991	7	73,334	6,112	3,056	2,821	1,411
8	57,356	4,780	2,390	2,206	1,103	8	81,622	6,802	3,401	3,140	1,570
Each additional family member	+ 5,824	+ 486	+ 243	+ 224	+ 112	Each additional family member	+ 8,288	+ 691	+ 346	+ 319	+ 160

Connecticut State Department of Education • Revised June 2020

Eastern tops list of public regional universities in New England

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University is the top-ranked public regional university in New England for the second year in a row in this year's U.S. News and World Report's edition of "Best Colleges." Released on Sept. 14, the report also shows that Eastern is again the highest ranked institution among Connecticut's four state universities.

Regional universities such as Eastern offer a broad range of undergraduate degrees and some master's degree programs, with limited doctoral programs. They are ranked based on 17 criteria that include peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, class size, faculty resources, admissions selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving.

"Given the uncertain and challenging times facing our nation as a result of COVID-19,

I am delighted to see Eastern maintain its ranking as the top public regional university in New England," said Eastern President Elsa Núñez. "This ranking reflects our university's commitment to academic excellence and our faculty's dedication to providing Eastern students with personal attention. I am especially pleased that we have been able to maintain our position for another year, despite the impact the pandemic has had on higher education.

"Students and their families turn to the Best Colleges rankings to help decide where to attend college. These newest rankings reaffirm that Eastern is providing a relevant and high-quality education on our beautiful residential campus."

Eastern was also the 26th highest ranked public university in the North Region, which includes colleges and universities from New England,

New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland, and is known as the most competitive among the four regions that make up the U.S. News and World Report ranking system.

This year's U.S. News and World Report rankings included reviews of more than 1,450 schools nationwide and are available at www.usnews.com/colleges. They will also be published in the Best Colleges 2021 Guidebook, published by U.S. News & World Report and available on newsstands on Oct. 27.

For the past 36 years, the U.S. News and World Report rankings, which group colleges based on categories created by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, have grown to be the most comprehensive research tool for students and parents considering higher education opportunities.

POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL RECEIVES DONATION FROM LOCAL GIRL SCOUT



Photo Courtesy

PCS eighth grader Emilia Costa was awarded a Silver Award, the highest award one can receive at her level in Girl Scouts. She sewed 120 masks and donated them to Pomfret Community School. She enjoys sewing and added, "In the future I hope to achieve my Gold Award which is the highest award any Girl Scout can achieve." School Nurse Mrs. Lupien gratefully accepted Emilia Costa's masks. They are already being put to good use.

NURSES

continued from page A1

that each of the 18 students received jobs following completion of the course, seven of which were hired locally by Westview Health Care Center, situated in Dayville.

"We are truly excited to welcome several new QVCC Certified Nursing Assistant graduates to our Westview family," stated David T. Panteleakos, Administrator. "The CNA training and certification program at Quinebaug Valley Community College is absolutely invaluable to the health care industry and our community."

The demand for CNAs in our area is extremely high. The hands-on experience offered at QVCC can further your education as a nurse or in other health care fields. QVCC is offering a hybrid CNA course beginning on Sept. 14, in addition to a section that will be added in October. Anyone who is interested in registering should contact Amanda Giles at atagiles@qvcc.edu to be added to the waitlist. The cost of the class is \$1,250 with tuition assistance available.



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OBITUARIES

Emily E. Quintal, 88

PUTNAM— Emily E. Quintal, 88, of Mill St., passed away on Wednesday morning, September 9, 2020, at home surrounded by her loving family. She was born on February 11, 1932 in Kenbridge, VA and raised on a tobacco farm with her three sisters.



After high school, Emily worked as a bookkeeper for Billy Crowder. She fell in love with Bob Quintal while he was stationed nearby at Camp Pickett and after just four months, they married on January 12, 1954 immediately after his discharge. Without fear, Emily left her childhood home to move to Putnam, CT where she made her home for the next 66 years. Her southern accent never faded, and she was frequently asked where she was visiting from. Emily raised her two children at home and when they started school, she volunteered at St. Mary's School in the cafeteria, library, and the rectory. She conquered breast cancer, outlived her husband of 54 years and continued to live alone in her own

home quietly reading with her dog. After many prayers, Emily became a great-grandmother on April 14, 2020. A few long months later, it was with great delight that she was finally able to hold her great-grandson in her arms. Emily is survived by her two children, Robert L. Quintal, Jr. and his wife Christine of Woodstock, and Claire Q. Mackowiak and her husband Richard of Eastford; her two grandchildren, Robert Mackowiak and his wife Amanda of Oakland, RI and Jordan Quintal of Woodstock; great-grandson, Quinton G.L. Mackowiak; and her sisters, Lucille Wood, and Anne Hudson. She was predeceased by her sister, the late Anna Arthur.

Services are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT. Memorial donations may be made to Day Kimball Hospital Hospice Care, 32 S. Main St, Putnam, CT or to St. Jude Children's Hospital, Memorial Processing, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

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Robert A. Durand, 71

THOMPSON— Robert "Bobby" Durand, 71, of Rachel Dr, passed away Thursday, September 3, 2020 at Hartford Hospital. Born in Webster, MA, he was the son of the late Albert and Anna (Blanchette) Durand.



Mr. Durand was a veteran of the United States Army having served as a cook during the Vietnam War. He was a prep-cook and waiter at the Provincial House of the Daughters of the Holy Spirit. He had a passion for refinishing antique furniture and for a time had a business in Thompson.

Holidays weren't the only time you'd find Bobby in the kitchen.....cooking, baking, canning, you name it he'd be doing it! He totally enjoyed playing the

piano and especially loved to dance. If there was a beat Bobby was moving to it. He also very much enjoyed crocheting, making hats and booties for his nieces and nephews. Needlepoint, flower gardening and vegetable gardening were also much-loved hobbies for him!

Bobby is survived by his brothers, Ronald Durand and Richard Durand; his sisters, Constance Durand, Georgette Menzone, Susan Durand, Jeanne Gendreau, and Sandra Krogul. He was predeceased by his siblings, the late Lucienne Kaleszewski, Rene Durand, Dennis Durand and Katherine Gunderson. He also leaves behind many nieces and nephews, including quite a few great nieces and nephews. Bobby was especially fond of Ken Barylski and Missy Desrochers.

Services are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman & Valade Funeral Homes & Crematory, 23 Main St, N. Grosvenordale, CT 06255. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Edward Gaffney, 97

Edward Gaffney died at the age of 97 on September 9, 2020, in Dunedin, FL. He died after a short illness of natural causes. He was a teacher of Vocational Agriculture at Killingly High School in Danielson, CT, Woodstock Academy in Woodstock, CT and Tourtellotte Memorial High School in Thompson, CT. After his teaching career, he was guidance counselor at RHAM High School in Hebron, CT. and worked as an administrator at Pinellas Technical Institute in Clearwater, FL, from which he retired in 1990. He was a proud US Army veteran of WWII. He served with the Fifth Division Field Artillery, known as "Red Diamond Division" of General George Patton's Third Army. He saw action in France, Luxembourg and

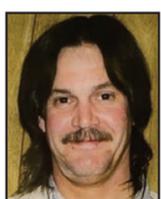


Germany. He was awarded five battle stars for his service to the war effort. He was a graduate of the University of Connecticut, where received both bachelors and masters degrees. He also received a Sixth Year Certificate from the University of Florida. Mr. Gaffney was predeceased by his loving wife of 72 years, Louise Sylvester Gaffney. He also leaves 6 children: Edward Gaffney, Jr. of Grosse Pointe Farms, MI., Denise Hartz of Deep River, Connecticut, Mark Gaffney of Lilburn, Georgia, Pamela Willet of Nashville, TN, Patrick Gaffney of Palm Harbor, FL and Terese Gaffney James of Dunedin, FL. He also leaves 15 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren. His friendly smile and warm demeanor will be missed by his family and friends. For many decades and up to the time of his death, Ed was a huge fan of the Lawrence Welk Show and never missed it. For the last ten years of his life he spent a lot of time watching vintage TV westerns like Gun Smoke, Bonanza and Have Gun will Travel.

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Kenneth Cranston Briggs, 59

DAYVILLE — Kenneth Cranston Briggs, 59, of Dayville, passed away unexpectedly at home on August 27, 2020.



Ken was born in Putnam on June 3, 1961, son of Mildred Bean Briggs and the late Cranston Archer Briggs. He attended local schools, including The Rectory School and H. H. Ellis Tech, and was a graduate of Killingly High School in 1979.

Ken was a lifelong resident of Killingly. He worked in several grocery stores and as a painter. He enjoyed

the company of his dogs, Lily and Jack, playing his guitar and lending a hand to his friends.

Besides his mother, he leaves his sister, Barbara Briggs Scripps, and her husband Sebastian, of New Canaan, CT; his son, James Briggs, of Danielson; his grandson, Briceson Briggs; two nieces, Katherine and Julia Scripps; many good friends and extended family.

Burial will be private. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to NECCOG Animal Services, 125 Putnam Pike, Dayville, CT 06241.

Ruth Lippiello, 94

NORTH GROSVENORDALE— Ruth (Ferko) Lippiello, 94, of Riverside Dr., died Saturday, September 12, 2020, at Davis Place Rehabilitation Center.



The heaven's gained a new angel when Ruth passed from this earth to be with her beloved Lord. She was the loving wife of Constantino "Connie" Lippiello. Born in Jersey City, New Jersey, she was the daughter of the late Michael and Elizabeth (Spisak) Ferko. On November 30, 1946, in Jersey City, NJ she was united in marriage to Connie Lippiello.

Mrs. Lippiello worked as a laborer in area factories.

Ruth enjoyed reading and spending time with her grandchildren. She was a member of the Thompson Senior Citizens, VFW, a devout member of St. Joseph Church in N. Grosvenordale where she was one of the first lecturers and eucharistic ministers. Ruth also used to run the Royal Travelers group.

Ruth is survived by her husband of 73 years, Constantino "Connie" Lippiello; two sons, Lawrence Lippiello and his wife Cheryl of Putnam and Daniel Lippiello and his wife Jayne of Tamarac, FL; a daughter, Theresa Blain and her husband Robert of N.

Grosvenordale; six grandchildren, Derek, Jodi, Todd, Michael, Meghan, and Donald; six great-grandchildren Charlee, Bodie, Colton, Lincoln, Riley, and Jacob; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was predeceased by her two sisters, Elizabeth Santa Cattarina and Florence Miller.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Ruth's family from 9:00a.m. to 11:00a.m. on Saturday, September 19, 2020 in the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:30 a.m. in St. Joseph Church, 18 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, CT. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery.

Ruth was always known for her caring, compassionate, and loving manner. We know family and friends from far and near cannot be with us on Saturday. We understand. We hope that you can honor Ruth with a nice deed or a random act of kindness to help someone else and carry forward who she was. Due to the current Covid-19 restrictions please practice social distancing and wear a mask while attending Ruth's services. Memorial donations in Ruth's name may be made to St. Joseph Church, P.O. Box 665, Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Timothy M. Moran, 34,

Timothy M. Moran, 34, of Woodstock, went to be with the Lord following a stroke September 3, 2020 at Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT. He was born in New Haven, CT on December 27, 1985, son of Michael and Linda "Lyn" (Barrett) Moran.



He grew up in Madison, CT, Jupiter, FL and Branford, CT, was an alumnus of Branford High School and received his bachelor's degree at UCONN, spending a year studying abroad in Istanbul. Timothy worked in a variety of settings, most recently with the ARC of Quinebaug Valley as a caregiver to the disabled.

He was a gentle, kind, caring and intelligent young man. He had a passion for politics, fairness, and justice. Tim loved his family, was a good friend, had a great sense of humor,

and enjoyed movies, good fiction and role-playing games.

He leaves his dad and mom, Michael and Lyn Moran, his sister Alicia Labonte (Noah) of Eastford, nieces and nephew, Zoe, Olivia, Adeline and Emerson and his extended family, aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was predeceased by his paternal grandparents Emerson and Carolyn Moran of Palm Beach Gardens, FL and his maternal grandparents Harry and Irene Barrett of Reno, NV.

Funeral Service was held on Saturday, September 12, 2020 at 11:00 am at the Grounds of the Congregational Church of Eastford, 8 Church Road, Eastford, CT. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Caring Families Pregnancy Services, P.O. Box 71, Willimantic, CT 06226, or donate online at carefamilies.com/donate. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE

EDITOR

A taste of autumn

While there are plenty of topics to discuss this week on the local and national level, we decided to keep things light, and to do our best to foster a sense of unity among our readers.

One quick note to share this week is a story of two neighbors, with opposing political signs on their yards, having a thoughtful conversation. Yes, this actually happened. The two neighbors sat side by side in their vehicles and after about 20 minutes of a calm, respectful conversation, learned that they had more in common than they didn't. Sometimes that's all it takes, is an open mind and a mature outlook. This is a story we can appreciate.

Hanging heavily on our hearts, though, is the absence of the yearly fall fairs that take place all around New England. While we understand the circumstances that led to several cancellations, it still doesn't make us miss it any less. With that said, we decided a fun idea would be to have a Fair night at home.

Who says you can't blast Tim McGraw or Garth Brooks in the back yard and have a complete meal of fair food for a night? There are simple games you can set up at home as well, including water balloon pop, pick a duck (all you need is a few rubber ducks and a bucket or pool of water), water coin drop, and the bean bag toss to name a few. Get creative with your prizes depending on who is in attendance.

There are homemade recipes for all of your fair favorites as well. Soft pretzels, fried dough, apple crisp, steak and cheese, corn dogs, nachos with melted cheese whiz, French fries with malted vinegar or ketchup and a bloomin' onion with ranch for the win.

A family fair night is one way to keep the tradition alive. If you want to go a step further, there are plenty of farm stands and pumpkin patches still in operation to get that downhome feel. In addition, a drive to a local farm for kids of all ages to see cows and horses is an easy field trip.

We decided to include recipes for our top three fair food picks.

Fried Dough:

2 cups unbleached flour
1/2 cup nonfat dry milk powder
3 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
4-1/2 teaspoons shortening
2/3 to 3/4 cup water
Oil for deep-fat frying
Butter, honey and lemon juice, optional

Directions

Combine flour, dry milk powder, baking powder and salt; cut in shortening until crumbly. Add water gradually, mixing to form a firm ball. Divide dough; shape into 12 balls. Let stand, covered, for 10 minutes. Roll each ball into a 6-in. circle. With a sharp knife, cut a 1/2-in.-diameter hole in center of each. In a large cast-iron skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Fry dough circles, one at a time, until puffed and golden, about 1 minute on each side. Drain on paper towels; if desired, serve warm with butter, honey and fresh lemon juice.

Caramel apples:

Ingredients
Heavy Cream
Light Corn Syrup
Brown Sugar
Butter
Salt and Vanilla Extract

First, rinse and dry the apples.

Pull out the apple's stem and insert a caramel apple stick.

For the caramel, cook the first five ingredients on the stove until the candy reaches 235°F (113°C). Reaching 235°F (113°C) should take about 15 - 20 minutes.

Remove caramel from heat, then stir in the vanilla. Allow caramel to cool for a few minutes, then dip your apples. Let the excess caramel drip off, then place on a nonstick surface such as a silicone baking mat lined baking sheet.

Once set, you can wrap the caramel apples in cellophane.

Bloomin' onion:

Combine mayonnaise, sour cream, horseradish, ketchup, paprika, garlic powder and cayenne pepper. Chill this while you prepare the onions.

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OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A COVID-19 death in Woodstock

To the Editor:

On Sept. 8, citizen review and approval died in Woodstock. Gov. Lamont's Executive Order 7S.7 due to COVID-19 was a contributing factor. Services will be private at the sole discretion of town officials. There are no public calling hours. Please mourn privately.

Exactly six persons' decisions can allow this to happen. A vote by two out of the three selectmen, and a vote by four out of the six members of the Board of Finance. Executive orders allow local officials to make decisions that once required the votes of the citizens. In fact, those orders prohibit a public referendum or vote - until at least February 2021, when Lamont's executive orders "might" expire.

[On Sept. 8], the Board of Finance approved, without the opportunity for town meeting or referendum, the expenditure of \$431,000

from the Capital Non-Recurring account for a number of projects and expenses in the Town. Whether you agree that the now-annual \$212,000 Woodstock Academy surcharge is a "capital expense" and "recurring" doesn't matter. Or that \$42,981 for "emergency" tree trimming is really an emergency because of those darn gypsy moths and emerald ash borer beetles. These may be worthy expenses for your tax dollars. Or not. But six people make that decision now - not the thousands of Woodstock voters who pay for these things.

I don't doubt the sincerity and dedication of my fellow Board of Finance Members or the Board of Selectmen. I do wonder, however, about the need for rush decisions to fund discretionary projects, the seeming lack of concern for meaningful voter input, and the frequent dipping into the Town's capital

Turn To **BRADRICK** page A9

Should the party that runs Chicago be running our country?

To the Editor: In Chicago over the Labor Day weekend, 51 people were shot, 10 fatally, and one of them was an eight year old girl. This again happens while Chicago Mayor Lori "Light on Brains" Lightfoot continues to be an ineffective waste of a leader. The New York Times reports: "A violent August in NYC" - shootings double, violence up by 50 percent. That article went on to report a total of 242 shootings for that month, and I wonder how Mayor "Bozo" de Blasio can sleep at night? Did you know that more than 160 New York business leaders signed a letter urging him to stop his city's decline? Personally, I'd like to see the day when the citizenry drags the lot of these useless Governors and Mayors out of their homes and puts them in a pillory - yeah, now that's the ticket!

I find it odd that only since the death of George Floyd, that you, now, so-concerned, white folks are now waving the «I feel for you» flag. Before it, you all went about your merry little ways while paying little, or no

attention to the killings and injustice that happened previously. Yes, you probably grimaced a little when you heard about it, but then all you did was either pop open another beer or just go out to eat. I'm guilty of the same - but at least I have the guts to admit it! So, go ahead and show your well intent faces at racial justice rallies, then go home and pat yourselves on the back but also ask what you've actually accomplished? The sad fact is that racial injustice has been around for all of my 69 years on earth. In 1966, when I was 16, The Mothers of Invention came out with a song called "Trouble Coming Every Day," that I suggest you give a listen to. And if you want to see how the police dealt with protestors back then, there is also a black and white YouTube video that will really open your eyes!

It's been questioned that when we had a black president, why didn't he fix the prob-

Turn To **DELUCA** page A9

Walking on eggshells

To the Editor:

Anyone who has grown up in a somewhat dysfunctional family knows what it's like to spend your childhood walking on eggshells. Even young children know when the adults they inherited are too fragile for truth-telling. They learn to navigate a minefield watching for signs and triggers, taking care not to drop any bombshells that would ignite a firestorm of volatility. Those delicate shells, too thin-skinned to protect innocence are packaged to hide truth yet designed to crack it open at the slightest misstep. One must walk softly while tiptoeing through white fragility.

Being a white ally and attempting to be an anti-racist in America in this time of political black lash is like being the white elephant in a room full of eggshells. We tiptoe across the steppingstones of racial justice and equity while trying not to offend our white commu-

nity, our friends and family. We slip and fall on the broken yokes of hurt feelings after pointing out racist remarks. But at the same time, it is necessary to call out racism when we see it. At some point you need to tell it like it is. If not now, then when? If not me, then who?

When I was in third grade, the only African American boy in the whole school slammed my fingers in my locker. I do not know if it was purposeful or accidental. I do know that I let out a litany of cuss words. Words my father would have said when he jammed his fingers in the guts of a tractor. I don't think the words were racist unless "bible-back-bastard" had some hidden meaning. In the midst of screaming pain and the tears and the cussing, an angel of darkness swept

Turn To **DUFRESNE** page A9

Let's run a clean campaign, please

To the Editor:

I would like to address something I saw that really bothered me as a constituent and citizen in the 44th district. I read a post on Winy Radio on July 30, 2020 from Christine Rosati Randall and I was very confused. It said "...I have made a decision to run my campaign without accepting state funding, and I will not be participating in the Connecticut Citizen's Election Program." She implored her opponent, Anne Dauphinais to follow suit. Now this sounds like a humble, thoughtful selfless statement. She won't be asking for political donations for her campaign and will run a campaign on her word; I guess??? Well she lied!

My question is why? Why would you make a statement such as this when it can be easily fact-checked. She has indeed entered an application for the Connecticut Citizen's Election Program. Some of you may say "So what, what is your point?" My point would be this speaks to her true character. Why lie about campaign fundraising? That is really disingenuous and not very wise. Anyone can go to the SEEC website and look at the registered candidates. You can even pull up the application dated Aug. 6, when she sent in her grant application. I think she needs to tell us why she lied. And then you must ask yourself, if she will be deceptive about something so easily proven false, what would she hide from the people of District 44 if she won in November?

Some of you may have noticed the grant was received within a week after that Winy post so you could surmise that she changed her mind. Not likely since it would be near-

ly impossible to follow all the necessary steps: Begin donation requests, collect \$5,400 minimum in donations, choose a Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer able to pull all of this together in a week, open the campaign account where the funds are sent and send in the grant application packet. This would be short of a miracle. About the same likelihood of her beating Representative Dauphinais in this matchup.

One thing I respect a great deal about Anne Dauphinais is her level of honesty and integrity. It surmounts most. She does run a clean campaign, she tells the truth whether you like it or not, and she stands by her convictions. I remember some mud-slinging and questionable tactics last time they faced each other but I figured I would give Ms. Rosati Randall the benefit of the doubt and still vote for Anne but listen to her platform and what her plans for us would be in the future were she to beat Representative Dauphinais. I am very concerned however, at the level of attacks on Representative Dauphinais when Ms. Rosati Randall is lying straight out of the gate. What other deceptive tactics is she going to enact? I think it's important before anyone votes a Yes for Ms. Rosati Randall, she answers why she lied about the grant knowing that she was already working towards applying for it.

Here is the link so you can "fact check" my comments. https://seec.ct.gov/ecris-reporting/pdfviewer.aspx/noscan.pdf/SEEC1A_12629_202008062049.PDF

PATTI LARROW GEORGE
DAYVILLE

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to
brendan@villagernewspapers.com

Please include your place of residence and phone number for verification, not publication.

Letters must be received by noon on Tuesdays.

The turkeys of Ekonk Hill offer hope for the future

I felt like the turkeys at Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm. I was in Boston with my husband, who was there for his annual check-up. I usually wander around the big city hospital, but I decided to walk to busy Coolidge Corner. As I began, mask securely on my face and eyes straight ahead, I felt like pinning myself against the wall, just as the turkeys did the day I saw them released from the barn to enjoy free range pastures. The students around me



NANCY WEISS

were free and outside, but things have changed. We need to adjust.

My neighbor posted photos of her teenage children on their first day of school this year. They

were in their bedrooms working on their laptops. As local high schools follow various protocols, I'm sad thinking about what students are missing. High school is fraught with emotional and intellectual highs and lows, but it is one of the most exciting, memorable parts of life. There are bad moments for everyone, but also time to feel really good and truly alive. It is a place for growth and freedom.

Can the personality and charisma of a teacher come across online? I don't know, but I expect so. It is just a different version of connection. It can't be as direct as one gets from being face-to-face with another person, but it does happen. My husband and I meet with our friends on zoom, and feel close to them. My church holds on-line services and I feel as sense of community. I attend board meetings on line and while the technology can be confounding, it works.

It's a changed world, and we have to adjust, but imagine the challenges for a freshman in college. When I moved into my dorm, my father pulled up to the back door, lit another cigarette as I pulled my bags out of the car, handed me some cash and told me to call him on Sundays. I was thrilled. Out from under his parental thumb, I was ready to make friends, do some school work and have a wonderful time. Today's college kids need to socially distance, keep their masks on and exercise control over themselves. Now that's a very heavy list of requirements, never mind trying to find your way to an eight o'clock across campus.

Recently, I tossed out mounds of notebooks that contained interviews with state and local businesses. I wrote articles for a variety of publications, several of which are regrettably no longer around. The tools of my trade are important to me and I love nice paper and fountain pens, but the stories were printed ages ago and the notebooks belong in the recycling bin. As I looked at the names of the owners and the dreams they had, it made me sad. So many small businesses don't succeed regardless of the skills and dedication of the owners. In these troubled times, it is likely that places that have flourished in the past may also not survive. Let's resolve to buy what we can locally. It has to be more than a slogan. It has to be a commitment.

The college students I passed in Boston were totally comfortable in their world. They were masked, distanced and moving fast. High school students must be finding ways to learn about what and who is cool and still get through Algebra II. Businesses come and go, but need our support if we want to have any local character. The turkeys at Ekonk Hill walked slowly out into the sunshine in a different world. We will too.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Think about it

To the Editor:

Everyone can have their own opinion and believe what they choose to believe...mine is believing in the America that we have known.

Not everyone is the same, but I know I'm not alone in my beliefs that what is happening now is insanity. We do not gather, and we do not hide in our homes. We are the silent majority. We get no airtime, we don't burn things down or beat up people, we go to work and support our families and we love America. We want to protect the unborn, we salute the flag and stand for our National Anthem. We sing "The Star-Spangled Banner." We respect law enforcement and obey the law and we do not want to defund the police. We appreciate our military; they are the very backbone of this country. We believe all lives matter because that is what we learned from reading the Bible and our parents. We do not believe in ambushing our law enforcement people. We treat everyone with respect no matter what color their skin is while BLM is out of control.

Then we have constant Letters to the Editor from Sweetnam, Dyfrense, Etzel and others who never back up their statements with facts but do write long columns after column

Learn the truth

To the Editor:

Last week, a writer called me out for not specifically identifying the lies I had complained of on this page. I had pointed out that Democrats were not, in fact, out to destroy this country and burn it down, as he had alleged. I hardly thought any testimony or references were needed to refute such incendiary ("in-cendiary" - starting a fire,) lies.

Speaking of burning things, I would point out that any leaders blocking efforts to slow climate change are complicit in the fires burning down our West Coast right now.

The big lie in that writer's most recent letter is the one that keeps him from understanding why we are saying that black lives must matter, too. The lie is concisely stated. Here it is:

"The police aren't murdering, shooting or harming any of my relatives because we're smart enough not to put ourselves in that position...I don't have outstanding warrants against me...and I don't get snippy with the police."

Brionna Taylor didn't have any outstanding warrants, and never had a chance to get snippy when she was shot in her bed.

Twelve-year-old Tamir Rice never had a chance to get snippy and had no warrants against him or time to explain that it was an Airsoft toy gun he was holding when Cleveland Officer Loehmann shot him while his patrol car was still rolling up.

At a traffic stop, Philando Castile informed the officer that he had a permit for the pistol

BRADRIK

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fund – our savings account, if you will – justified by the ease of shoehorning a recurring expense into a capital project – and completely avoiding the fiscal limitations of Woodstock's Proposition 46.

DELUCA

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lem of racial injustice, but maybe it just didn't exist while Obama was in office? Also, can anybody explain to me why pancake syrup, rice, movies, books, statues, logos and building names weren't offensive or racist when Obama was president?

Whomever is blaming Donald Trump for this violence is wrong. Saying the President of the United States does not care about people being shot is way off base because he's offered help on several occasions but has been ignorantly refused. I could care less if you don't like us "Trumpers" attacking the democrats for any reason, especially when they are allowing this madness to continue. Are you "no fans" really that narrow-minded

EDITORIAL

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First, cut the onions. Cut a small flat spot on the none root end of the onion. Then remove any dried or damaged peels. Place the onion flat side down on a cutting board (root side up). Using a sharp knife starting about 1/2 inch from the root make a clean slice downward. Next turn the onion one quarter turn and make another clean slice downward. Follow that with two more quarter turns and two more clean slices

to make us think they are smart and continue to call us names. Have you ever heard God Bless America or God Bless the USA from any Democratic politician, especially Biden/Harris? Why is it that riots continue in every city under Democratic leadership? Take this past weekend, when two law enforcement people were ambushed and then protestors blocking the hospital emergency entrance to get them aid? Did we hear anything from Pelosi, Waters Schumer, where most of this is happening in their districts or even Bide or Harris or any Democrat? We do hear from Pelosi about her being "set up" because she sneaked in a hair salon that were supposed to be closed.

We know Joe Biden will not last, so do you really want Kamala Harris, with absolutely no experience, be the President, but rather spews hate and she will be the most radical VP ever? The only thing they know is to defeat President Trump and allow whatever it takes to do so, Do we really want the destruction of America to continue under Democratic leadership...think about it?

TOM PANDOLFI
WOODSTOCK

he was carrying, but the officer panicked and shot him seven times as Castile was sitting in the car with his girlfriend and her daughter. Castile had been stopped 49 times in 13 years for minor traffic and equipment violations, the majority of which had been dismissed, about par for the course for a black man driving in St Paul.

My white friends and I somehow don't get stopped for tail light out or failing to signal. I know to put my hands on the steering wheel if I'm stopped because I know that, after domestic disturbances, it's the most dangerous thing for police, but not having my hands on the steering wheel is unlikely to get me or my white friends shot.

I've had some wild old days but never experienced injustice from law enforcement. Every black American I have gotten close to, some of them with culture and class status well above mine, has stories of mistreatment at the hands of police, if it's just a few bad apples, they sure do get around. I know a hundred stories like those above. There are serious, deadly flaws in the relationships between law enforcement, D.A.s, police unions and the minority communities that they should be serving.

It's not about being smart enough not to get smart with peace officers. That's a lie. Google and join our Windham NAACP to read the truth and work for justice.

G. LESLIE SWEETNAM
WOODSTOCK

Disclaimer: these opinions are my own, and do not necessarily (and probably don't...) represent the opinions or positions of other members of the Board of Finance or the Board of Selectmen.

ROY BRADRIK
WOODSTOCK

other radicals in the democratic party over their push to defund the police. This happened after 6 people were shot in his hometown of Brooklyn, N.Y. Imagine that, even a staunch and vocal democratic supporter like Sharpton is also speaking out against democratic stupidity!

With the Presidential election happening in some 50 days, you should ask yourself this question: Do you really want the country to be run by the same party that runs New York City, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Minneapolis and Chicago, and also brought us "the squad?" I certainly don't!

And by the way, this letter was totally agreed with, and approved by, my (Black) nephew!

ED DELUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

downward. You should have four clean slices down on the onion equally spaced apart. Now cut three to four equal spaced cuts downward in each of those four sections. Then turn the onion root side down and gently fan out those sections.

First in a large bowl big enough to hold the onion whisk together the milk and eggs. Then in another large bowl combine the flour, paprika, cumin, oregano, thyme, salt, cayenne pepper, black pepper and garlic powder. Then put one of the cut onions in the flour mixture.

Using your hands coat the onion with the flour mixture spreading and separating the onion to make sure that it all gets breaded. Next dunk the onion into the egg mixture. Then back into the flour mixture using your hands to coat the onion.

Use a heavy pan like a dutch oven and heat the oil to 375 degrees. Using a skimmer ladle or tongs slowly place the onion root side up in the hot oil. Fry for about six minutes or until a deep golden brown. Next remove the onion to paper towels to drain.

DUFRESNE

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down upon me. Her name was Gabigail. She was the daughter of the Unitarian minister in town. Her parents were educated and upper middle class. Mine were not. She was probably bound for Abbott Academy, the local female prep school. I was bound and tied to public school. Gabigail grew in stature as if a pure white pedestal of righteous indignation had lifted her skyward as she glared at me and pointed her finger. "You're a racist!" she proclaimed.

I didn't know what a racist was but knew it must have been something bad. I should have known about racism. It was, after all, 1963 and Birmingham Alabama was burning. The KKK had ignited white indignation over desegregation and the race relations agreement the Reverends Martin Luther King and Fred Shuttlesworth had arranged with the city's mayor. Not unlike what we see today, white black lash and indignation turned violent. You might not be bombing black churches, but if you can't help yourself from shouting "All Lives Matter!" whenever you see a BLM sign, or re-posting the racist tweets of the divider in chief who occupies the Whitehouse, then you are perpetuating the racist narrative which has been cultivated by Fox "news" and their Trump propaganda. Racial violence starts with words and the venom of hate behind them.

Although Gabigail may have seen herself as defending the poor kid who smashed my fingers, I'm not sure he was any more aware of the race thing than I was. He seemed more intrigued and astonished by the cussing sailor girl who stood before him. What Gabigail did accomplish though was a public shaming driven by classism and what we might call elitism. Suddenly, I was Eve in the Garden of Eden, shamefully aware that I'd been naked all those years. My nakedness stemmed from my rural (somewhat poor) roots. Here I thought I was like every other kid in the school, but in one fell swoop I was made to realize that I was less than most and possibly better than some but somehow aligned with ignorance and hate by birth. As if my people would have anything to do with those redneck KKK Southerners.

I should have known these things. After all, I'd already experienced the rolling of eyes and clicking of tongues among teachers and their penny-loafer pets. I should have known that I was looked down upon by the way my teacher would angrily grab my hands in search of the speck of dirt she once found beneath my cousin Norman's nails. He was poorer than me, being on "The State" (welfare) and all, and definitely troubled.

I may not have understood the word "racist", but that public shaming caused me to spend the rest of my life walking on eggshells around people of color. Even worse, it disabled me from acknowledging, disrupting, and naming the everyday racism we all encounter. I turned a blind eye. After all, I didn't want to be another Gabigail, shaming and accusatory. So, I politely laughed at the off-color jokes made by relatives and co-workers. I learned how to deflect conversations and deescalate white rage when I became the ranting post for their working-class frustration. I used empathy as a tool to chip away at injustice. I get it. No one wants to be accused of being a racist. But there comes a time for truth and now is that time.

I did my best to counter racism within my own safety net. As a teacher I made sure I taught about African American history and the civil rights movement.

I spent years researching, writing, and performing as CT State Heroine Prudence Crandall who opened the first school for African American girls in 1832. I participated in every diversity grant offered by EASTCONN so that my rural, mostly white students got to interact and establish relationships with more diverse populations. But even then, I tiptoed around the angry parents who didn't want their kids going on a field trip to Hartford or to be exposed to those Hartford kids. Perhaps I was too empathetic in assuring them that I understood the vast difference in culture between rural and urban. I was, after all, raised in a sheltered rural environment. But we all knew the coded language of racism: urban, meaning black. The great white coding of language continues today as a perverse type of redlining. How many realtors continue to site standardized test scores to signify "great schools", meaning mostly white as we systematically tango with a segregated and increasingly gated society.

Anti-racism work is a long and complicated journey and we are all on this ride together. Black, white, immigrant and other. As Americans, we cannot escape racism. It is deeply embedded in the culture, policies, and structure of our fledgling republic. If you "don't see color" then you are part of the problem, because most of white America would rather hide behind their rose colored, white blind glasses than acknowledge that racism still exists in this country. No, it didn't go away when we elected a black president and the fact that a handful of black celebrities and football players are multi-millionaires does not mean that the equity doors are wide open. They still have to teach their sons how to stay alive when they encounter the few "bad apple" police who implicitly perceive them as a threat due to the color of their skin.

As for myself, I would like to stop walking on eggshells. I don't want to have to worry about your fragile feelings or triggers when I put a black lives matter sign on my lawn; I no longer will apologize for those who are too afraid to stick their necks out for justice because they don't want to litter their quaint villages with signs; I will no longer use empathy as a crutch while white rage turns its ugly head into pathetic slogans such as "all lives matter". I will not cower to the ugly and false accusations that standing (or kneeling) for justice makes me unpatriotic or a police hater. I will walk with truth and justice.

Empathy and sadness will not mend the rift in this country because feelings don't require action. One can wear the cloak of liberalism yet continue to be a bystander. In anti-bullying curriculum we teach students about the spectrum between the bully and a bystander. Most people hang out in the bystander zone because we all know that if you confront a bully, they are apt to turn on you. Being a bystander is passive and like turning a blind eye to race and diversity, it only perpetuates the bullying. But occasionally you find people who are willing to disrupt bullying and risk saying something. Working toward becoming an anti-racist is learning to say something. We are all a work in progress in this big beautiful and sometimes messy republic, but most Americans think of themselves as being non-racists, which is akin to being a bystander on the bully spectrum. As for myself, I continue to work toward that anti-racist zone because the alternative to anti-racism is akin to being a bystander and helping to perpetuate racism.

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VFW kicks off annual Patriot's Pen Essay Competition

PUTNAM — Commander Hans Lowell and Auxiliary President James Bradley of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Albert J. Breault Post 1523, announce the kick-off of the VFW's annual Patriot's Pen youth essay competition. Middle school students in grades 6-8 in public, private, parochial schools or being home-schooled have the opportunity to compete and win thousands of dollars in national awards. The VFW enacted the Patriot's Pen competition in 1995 to encourage young minds to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern American society by composing a 300- to 400-word patriotic-themed essay. The theme for the 2020-2021 com-

petition is "What is Patriotism to Me?" Students begin by competing at the local Post level. Post winners advance to District competition with District winners advancing to the state competition. State first-place winners compete for their share of thousands of dollars in awards, and the national first-place winner is awarded \$5,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. Each year, more than 138,000 students participate nationwide. Deadline for student entries is Oct. 31, and interested students should contact their schools office and teachers. For more information contact Patriot's Pen Chairman Lisa Salisbury by email at vfwauxiliaryputnamct@gmail.com.

VFW kicks off annual \$30,000 scholarship competition

PUTNAM — Commander Hans Lowell and Auxiliary President James Bradley of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Albert J. Breault Post 1523, announced the kick-off of this year's VFW's Voice of Democracy Scholarship competition. Local high school students in public, private, parochial schools or being home-schooled have the opportunity to compete for thousands of dollars in scholarships and a trip to Washington, D.C. Students must write and record a three-to-five-minute essay on the

selected theme using an audio CD or flash drive and present their recording, typed essay and completed entry form to their local VFW Post by Oct. 1. The 2020-2021 theme selected is "Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?" Students begin by competing at the local Post level. Post winners compete at the District level with the winner advancing to the state competition. All state first-place winners receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. to tour the city, be honored by the VFW and its

Auxiliary and receive their portion of \$154,000 in national awards, the top scholarship being \$30,000. Each year, nearly 57,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Deadline for student entries is October 31, 2020 and interested students should contact their schools office and teachers. For more information contact the Voice of Democracy Chairman Lisa Salisbury by email at vfwauxiliaryputnamct@gmail.com.

LEGALS

TOWN OF THOMPSON

At the September 8, 2020 meeting of the Thompson Inland Wetlands Commission the following applications were approved with conditions: Application # WAA20022, Marc Baer, 1227 Thompson Rd., Assessor's map 116, block 24, lot 10, construct house, well, septic system, driveway and associated grading, and Application IWA20026, WBA Real Estate LLC, 22 Woodstock Road (Assessor's map 29, block 104, lot 23), septic repair, parking lot improvements and access road for future site development. George O'Neill, Chair September 18, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Betty Lou Buttrey (20-00246) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, June 30, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Brenda Duquette, Clerk The fiduciary is: Debra Shepard, 26 Bush Hill Rd., Brooklyn, CT 06234 September 18, 2020

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Local residents graduate from Wentworth Institute of Technology

BOSTON — The following local residents have graduated from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Mass.
 * Zachary Roethel of Putnam
 * Tyler Hopkins of Thompson
 The university held a special virtual salute to its summer graduates on Aug. 16. Founded in 1904,

Wentworth Institute of Technology stresses project-based, hands-on learning, with an emphasis on cooperative education and careers, community enrichment, and contributing to the economic vitality of the Greater Boston region. The nationally ranked school is recognized as a leader in engineering, technology, design and science.

Wentworth has some 19 bachelor's degree programs in areas such as architecture; construction management; mechanical, biomedical and civil engineering; and computer science. It offers master's degrees in in applied computer science, architecture, civil engineering, construction management, facility management, and technology management.

Local residents earn academic honors from Clark University

WORCESTER — The following local students have been named to first honors on the Clark University Dean's List. This selection marks outstanding academic achievement during the Spring 2020 semester.
 * Kendyll L. Smith, of Brooklyn
 * Christina Mary Kopacz, of North Grosvenordale
 * Emily R. Vincent, of

North Grosvenordale
 To be eligible for first honors, students must have a grade point average of 3.8 or higher, of a maximum of 4.3 (all A+s).
 Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal arts-based research university that prepares its students to meet tomorrow's most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 33 undergraduate

ate majors, 31 advanced degree programs, and nationally recognized community partnerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our learning community to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence. <https://www.clarku.edu/>

Peace Day celebration canceled amid COVID-19 concerns

PUTNAM — The Greater Putnam Interfaith Council annual Peace Day celebration has been cancelled this year due to Covid concerns.

However people are invited to send prayers, readings, music, or other offerings for peace to putnaminterfaith@gmail.com for posting on the GPIC Facebook page. The United Nations International Day of Peace has been observed around the world on September 21 since 1981. In 2001, the General Assembly unanimously voted to declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace through observing 24

hours of non-violence and cease-fire. The 2020 theme for the International Day of Peace is "Shaping Peace Together," calling on people to celebrate the day by spreading compassion, kindness and hope in the face of the pandemic.

For the United Nations, 2020 was already meant to be a year of listening and learning. To mark its 75th anniversary, the UN has invited people worldwide to join UN75, the largest and furthest-reaching global conversation on building the peaceful and prosperous future that we want.

Pomfret Center resident earns second academic honors from Clark University

WORCESTER, Mass. — Mackenzie C. Stewart, of Pomfret Center, has been named to second honors on the Clark University Dean's List. This selection marks outstanding academic achievement during the Spring 2020 semester. To be eligible for second honors, students must have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, of a maximum of 4.3 (all A+s).
 Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal arts-based research university that prepares its students to meet

tomorrow's most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 33 undergraduate majors, 31 advanced degree programs, and nationally recognized community partnerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our learning community to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence. <https://www.clarku.edu/>

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Scott Higgins comedy “Comedy in the Afternoon” to benefit Bradley Playhouse

PUTNAM — The Theater of Northeastern Connecticut at The Bradley Playhouse announce that they will be hosting Comedian Scott Higgins and his Comedy All Stars for a show at Stonehurst at Hampton Valley, Sunday, Sept. 27 at 4 p.m.

The gates open at 3 p.m., with Noah Lis, the talented musician and singer who appeared on the sixth Season of the TV show “The Voice,” performing from 3:30 until 4 p.m. The comedy show begins at 4 pm as Scott Higgin’s stable of hilarious comedians take the stage to help you forget any cares you may have during these trying times. They say “Laughter is the best medicine,” so be prepared to be healed!

Scott Higgins has been performing at sell out per-

formances at The Bradley and many other venues around the New England area. He has worked with such talent as Tim Cotter, Bill Burr, John Pinette and Jeff Garlin. He was featured on Sirius XM radio and appeared in the film “Street Players,” a Road Rambler Film Production.

His cast is equally as talented and feature Mike Koutrobis-Seen in movies such as “Bleed For This” and “Ghostbusters”; Ace Aceto - Co-host of “Behind The Funny Podcast”; Comedy Central’s Howie Mason - Comix Comedy Club Mohegan Sun, The Kate Theater; Rodney Norman - Winner 2018 Clean Comedy Challenge, Boston Comedy Festival; Derrick Fonseca - Comedy Connection in Providence and Boston; Roman Pierce - The Steve Katsos Show.

The proceeds from the show will go directly to the general fund at The Bradley Playhouse, who has struggled mightily, after having to close and stay closed due to the Covid-19 Connecticut state mandates. The funds will close the gap of income lost as a result of having to stay closed.

To purchase tickets for this “laughter get-away” and help keep the Bradley the iconic theater it is, or for additional information and to purchase your tickets online go to our website at www.thebradleyplayhouse.org or call the box office at 860-928-7887.

Directions to the Venue: <https://www.stonehursthamptonvalley.com/>



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Your HealthQuest Northeast CT partners have created these unique opportunities to get you moving in the right direction:

WALK WITH FRIENDS CHALLENGE

Day Kimball Healthcare Walking with Friends Challenge 2020 – Sept 1-30, 2020 – DKH employees - Stay active, stay connected with this virtual step challenge for participants of DKH Anthem medical plans who are registered on Engage. Learn more by emailing nlgilman@daykimball.org

NOW Month of Miles Community Challenge – Sept. 13 - October 13th

How many miles can you walk, run and/or hike in one month? Sign up as an individual, team, or business and log the most miles you can each week. First 500 to sign up receive a free pedometer. Register at: <https://www.nowinmotion.org/event-items/now-month-of-miles-community-challenge/>

Putnam Sculpture Affair – On display through October 1st

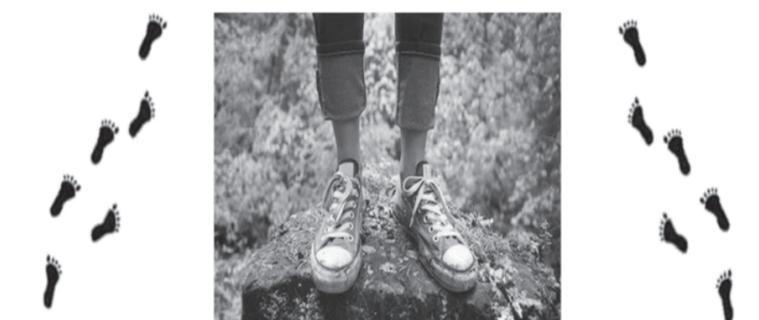
Enjoy an artistic collection of over 20 sculptures by award-winning artist Dale Rogers while walking the Putnam Business District and Putnam River Trail. Check Putnam stores and restaurants for maps or download from the WINY Radio Rockin’ Scroll at: <https://www.winyradio.com>

WALKtober – September 19 – November 1, 2020 - The Last Green Valley celebrates 30 years of walking, hiking, biking, paddling, and exploring the National Heritage Corridor. This year features over 130 on-ground and virtual opportunities. Registration required. View the online calendar at <https://thelastgreenvalley.org/walktober/>

Tackle the Trail to support Quinebaug Valley Community College – Saturday, October 17, 2020 – Individuals and up to 5 person relay teams will compete in a 20-mile point to point race which starts in Windham and ends in Pomfret, CT. Participate on-ground (20 miles) or virtual (1/2 marathon). Registration in advance required at <https://tacklethe-trail.org/>

All events and participants will practice and follow all CT COVID-19 guidelines.
<https://www.nddh.org/>

This ad is made possible by a Preventative Health & Human Services Block Grant from the Connecticut Department of Public Health



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The Northeast District Department of Health and HealthQuest Northeast CT partners applaud The Last Green Valley, Inc. on 30 years of walking the walk and promoting healthy lifestyles in such a beautiful and beneficial way! Explore over 130 Walktober opportunities and hundreds of trails at: <https://thelastgreenvalley.org/walktober/> <https://thelastgreenvalley.org/explore-the-last-green-valley/explore-guide/>

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- Brooklyn** – Creamery Brook Trail, School Street at Brooklyn Elementary School – 1-mile
- Canterbury** – Canterbury Town Green, 1 South Canterbury Road – 1.5-mile easy loop
- Eastford** – George Askew Nature Trail, 12 Westford Road – 1-mile
- Hampton** – Airline State Park Trail - Seven segments ranging from .5 – 1.9-miles
- Killingly** – Quinebaug River Multi-Purpose Recreational Trail, Junction of Rts. 6 & 12 – 4-mile paved trail
- Plainfield** – Quinebaug Valley State Trout Hatchery/Trolley Trail, 141 Trout Hatchery Road – 0.7-mile
- Pomfret** – Five sections of the Airline State Park Trail – ranging from 0.4 – 2.5-miles
- Putnam** – Quinebaug River Trail Storywalk/Cargill Falls, Kennedy Drive & Rt. 44 – paved 2.5-mile trail
- Sterling** – Moosup Valley State Park Trail, Main Street, Sterling – 5.8 miles
- Thompson** – West Thompson Lake Shoreline Trails, 449 Reardon Road, N. Grosvenordale - 4+ miles
- Union** – Bigelow Hollow State Park & Nipmuc State Forest, Route 171 - 9000+ acres
- Woodstock** – 50-Acre Wood, Pond Factory Road - 1.5-mile easy loop plus letterboxing

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- Improve balance, coordination, blood sugar, mood & sleep quality
- Increase aerobic capacity & energy levels
- Reduce anxiety, stress, body fat & risk of chronic illness • Strengthen bones, muscles & heart





This ad is made possible by a grant from the Connecticut Department of Public Health