



Photo Courtesy

Volunteers out and about during last year's April Clean-Up.

Thompson gearing up for April Road and River Clean-Up

THOMPSON — April is upon us, and in the Town of Thompson, that means residents are encouraged to get outside and pick up trash from all 125 miles of our roads and rivers.

The April Road and River Clean-Up has been organized for the last 18 years under the sponsorship of Thompson Together's Environment Committee, in keeping with its philosophy of doing good things for Thompson without asking the Town to do it. Norma O'Leary was the original organizer and driving force behind this effort, because of the mess she saw every spring when the snows melted away. Over the years, O'Leary has continued to pull together an army of volunteers, collecting as much as six to eight tons of trash per year. Tires, furniture, and appliances have been hauled away with the aid of

Town trucks, but the most interesting item found to date was a car submerged in the French River more than 10 years ago.

O'Leary's organizational team includes a group of assistants who use lists developed over the years to contact volunteers and assign coverage to all areas of town. Once the volunteers have been mobilized, they are provided with any needed bags, gloves, and grabbers to do their work. The Town's DPW yard dedicates a dumpster to the road and river trash from this event, since it is important to know how much gets collected each year. For as long as this event has been run, financial support has been provided by The Last Green Valley, and they require feedback on the types and numbers of trash items col-

Turn To **CLEANUP** page **A7**

Day Kimball Healthcare At Home responds to coronavirus

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) At Home, a service division of Day Kimball Healthcare, is closely monitoring the rapidly evolving coronavirus disease COVID-19 crisis and is following the procedures of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), and local public health agencies.

As widely reported, it has been established that older adults and those with underlying medical conditions are at a higher risk for more severe outcomes if infected with the COVID-19 virus. As a result, the CDC strongly urges older adults, especially those with chronic health conditions, to

remain home as much as possible to limit exposure.

As COVID-19 has now reached Connecticut and bordering states, DKH At Home is prepared to meet the challenges this presents.

"Now more than ever, the in-home care we provide is a vital part of preventing emergency room visits and unnecessary hospitalizations, while keeping our patients safe in the comfort of their homes," said Renee Smith, RN, MSN, Executive Director, Day Kimball Healthcare At Home.

DKH At Home is taking the necessary steps to protect its patients and families as care is provided in the home through the course of the COVID-19 pan-

demic, focusing on minimizing risk for infection, while safeguarding the health of its staff. To best achieve this DKH At Home clinicians and staff are adhering to the following procedures:

- All patients, clients, and household members are screened for COVID-19 symptoms and related risk factors prior to beginning care and before every home visit according to CDC and DPH guidelines.
- On a daily basis, all staff are screened for COVID-19 related symptoms before reporting for work. Staff with symptoms are not permitted to visit patients or perform other duties until cleared by their physician and

Turn To **DKH** page **A7**

Federated Church of Christ leads Palm Sunday procession through Brooklyn

BROOKLYN — On Sunday, April 5, dozens of cars lined up at Federated Church of Christ. After a Blessing of the Palms, each received Palms and processed through the town of Brooklyn led by a big red truck with a large cross in its bed. The procession drove by Creamery Brook apartments where they were greeted by residents waving from their balconies.

One resident shared that "It has been so long since I've seen people."

The procession continued

Turn To **PALMS** page **A7**



A NOTE TO READERS

This week's edition of the paper might seem a bit smaller than you are accustomed to, but rest assured, this is only temporary. Due to the unique circumstances we are all living under at the present time, local sporting events and community activities have wisely been canceled as we all try to stay closer to home and practice social distancing.

As we ride out this temporary interruption of life as usual together, we urge you

to continue supporting the local businesses that advertise in your newspaper. They have always been here for you through good times and bad, and now, more than ever, they need you to be there for them in any way you can.

Amid this temporary absence of local events and municipal meetings, we are also looking to celebrate the many quiet heroes in our communities who have gone above and beyond to make this sit-

uation easier for those most affected by it. Let us know if there is someone in your community who you think should be recognized by e-mailing news@stonebridgepress.news.

Above all, know that we have been your trusted source for local news for generations, and we plan to be here for you to generations to come, in print and online at www.stonebridgepress.com.

Pomfret church parishioners join mission trip to Guatemala

POMFRET — Have you wanted to offer your work and expertise to poor parts of the world? A group of volunteers from Christ Church in Pomfret completed its fifth trip in February. They travelled through the organization Partners in Development, Inc. (PID) out of Ipswich, Mass. to the southwest pacific coastal plains of Guatemala to work and stay in remote villages. The work through PID involves one week trips, can be medical, dental and/or construction projects.

This year's group comprised 12 people, six from Connecticut, who did medical work and installed cooking stoves. There were three doctors and two nurses and seven people working on installing 60



stoves. The medical people saw Photos Courtesy

A group of volunteers from Christ Church in Pomfret completed its fifth trip in February. They travelled through the organization Partners in Development, Inc. (PID) out of Ipswich, Mass. to the southwest pacific coastal plains of Guatemala to work and stay in remote villages.

360 patients with translation from Spanish to English and at another clinic translating Queche to Spanish to English.

"Needless to say," quipped Woody Danenhower, pediatrician, "each visit took a while."

"Patients are seen for everything that a primary care doctor might see in the US and additional problems related to poverty, malnutrition and unclean water," stated Marguerite Davis, family medicine. "We see lots for people with anemia caused by parasites and treat whole families for that condition. We are not able to do any of the testing that we take for granted like CT scans and MRI's."

Denise Oles, RN, said, "We can do simple lab testing done on site. A majority of the time

we can provide appropriate free medication."

The stove installation involves concrete blocks as a base, precast concrete pieces and a ceramic fire box assembled on site in homes. A stove pipe is then inserted through layers of tin roof. The stoves replace the open "camp fires" that are used for cooking, removing the smoke from the home, reducing asthma and lung disease, reducing burns and reducing wood use by two thirds. The wood burning stoves are built in Guatemala by their people so they are a win-win for everybody but the wood sellers. In the afternoons, many of the stovers help do crafts with the sponsored chil-

Turn To **MISSION** page **A7**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS SUSPENDED

With many local groups and organizations wisely canceling planned events due to the ongoing coronavirus outbreak, we have temporarily suspended publication of our weekly calendar of events. Once the current situation settles down, we will return to being your go-to source for the area's most comprehensive listing of local events and activities.

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What does **fall prevention** have to do with the COVID-19 pandemic?
Older adults who fall are among the heaviest users of emergency rooms and 9-1-1.
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Right now, emergency departments, hospitals, health care personnel and first responders face an unprecedented load due to COVID-19.
Call 9-1-1 if it's an emergency, of course, but please make the extra effort to prevent yourself from falling. Help reduce the load on our health care systems while reducing your chances of contracting COVID-19.

Stay hydrated • Toilet regularly • Take medications as prescribed
Use your assistive devices • Check in regularly with family members
Avoid risky behaviors – when tempted, think *“I’m not falling for it!”*

STAY HOME • STAY SAFE
STAY ON YOUR FEET

Courtney highlights new guidance for small business owners amid COVID-19 outbreak

NORWICH — Last week, Congressman Joe Courtney (CT-02) issued the following statement after the U.S. Department of Treasury and the federal Small Business Administration (SBA) issued new guidance for small business owners seeking financial aid and relief amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Passage of the bipartisan CARES Act opened up numerous additional resources for small business owners, and kickstarted brand new programs that will help streamline cash-flow directly to small businesses,” said Rep. Courtney. “Now the job is to help employers get connected with these resources – they need the funding immediately, now. Today, the Treasury Department and the SBA both issued guidance and updates for small business owners on how to start applying for these new resources, including disaster loan advances of up to \$10,000, the new Paycheck Protection Program, new SBA debt relief programs and express bridge loans, and more. If we’re counting on an economic rebound following this pandemic, then we’ve got to do more to help out our small businesses now. The CARES Act puts more resources at their disposal, and any small business owner in eastern Connecticut should feel welcome to call my office, or to visit my COVID-19 resource page online for more information on how to start taking advantage.”

Passage and enactment of the bipartisan CARES Act opened up new resources and programs to assist small business hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. Important new resources authorized by Congress include the SBA’s Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), a \$350 billion program to provide cashflow assistance to employers who maintain their payroll during the emergency; Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs), low-interest loans of up to \$2 million that can be used to pay for a variety of expenses; Emergency Economic Injury Grants, which provide an emergency advance of up to \$10,000 to small businesses and non-profits harmed by COVID-19; and more.

POLICE LOGS

PUTNAM — The Putnam Police Department reported the following arrests from March 31 through April 5.

Debye L. Pannekeet, age 60, of Pomfret Center was arrested on March 31 for Breach of Peace in the Second Degree.

Frank Pannekeet, age 60, of Putnam was arrested on April 1 for Breach of Peace.

Michael Freedman, age 29, of Dudley, Mass. was arrested on April 4 for Failure to Respond.

Roswell Summers, age 36, of Putnam was arrested on April 5 for Failure to Appear (second offense), Possession of a Controlled Substance, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

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VILLAGER ALMANAC At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of March 30: Field Sparrow, Short-eared Owl, Great Horned Owl, Woodcock, Tree Swallow, Hooded Merganser, Mallard, Flicker, Wild Turkey, Common Merganser, Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, Song Sparrow, Mockingbird. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.

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Chase leads to Dudley resident’s arrest

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

THOMPSON — A Dudley resident was taken into police custody after leading Webster Police on a chase through Dudley and nearby Thompson, Conn., according to Connecticut State Police.


In a press release, law enforcement officials said Kristen Wilson of Dudley led Webster Police on a high-speed chase ending in a crash over the Connecticut state line on Saturday, March 28. At approximately 4:58 p.m., Officer Sean Ebbeling witnessed a gray Dodge Charger turning onto Thompson Road driven by Wilson who was known to have a suspended driver’s license. Ebbeling attempted to pull Wilson over using

his emergency lights prior to entering the I-395 southbound ramp however Wilson did not stop. She attempted to flee Ebbeling on the interstate.

Ebbeling pursued Wilson who reached speeds of 100 miles per hour. Ebbeling discontinued the pursuit after Wilson crossed into Connecticut and left his sight. Connecticut State Police were then notified of the situation. Ebbeling exited the highway on Thompson where he saw taillights in a nearby wooded area. Approaching the care Ebbeling discovered the vehicle to be Wilson’s. Ebbeling contacted the South Worcester County Communications Center and removed Wilson from the smoking remains of her vehicle. Wilson was transported by ambulance

to Harrington Hospital in Webster for a leg injury. Officer Ebbeling and Officer Robert Ela visited the hospital where medical personnel turned over a small amount of Crack Cocaine and Heroin the had recovered from Wilson at the hospital. Connecticut State Police also reported finding around 20 different baggies containing similar substances.

Wilson was charged with several offenses including possessing a Class A substance and a Class B substance both with intent to distribute, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, failing to stop for police, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, speeding, and marked lane violations. She could also face charges in Connecticut for narcotics possession.



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.

READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER



The result of a crash following a high speed chase involving Webster Police and Dudley Resident Kristen Wilson.

Seniors to play golf at a discounted rate

REGION — We are a social traveling senior golf group and play premium golf courses in Central Massachusetts and Northeastern Connecticut at a reduced greens fee rate. We will play One Thursday each month from May through October usually teeing off at 9 or 9:30 a.m. Men and Women 60 and over are welcomed. You can play 1, 2 or all of our Events according to what fits your schedule. If you are a foursome, three-some, twosome or a single, come enjoy great golf and make new friends.

Our first Golf Day is scheduled for Thursday, May 14th (provided that it is Safe to Play) at Thompson Raceway Golf Course in Thompson, Conn. The greens fees are \$40 for 18 Holes of Golf and Cart. There will be prizes for closest to the pin on all the par-3 holes, a fun prized putting challenge and prizes for Chipping In from off the Green. To sign up, please contact Dick Lisi at wscgolfclub@gmail.com or at 508-410-1332. You can also view us on Facebook at Worcester County Senior Golf Club.

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As a retailer selling essential goods, Ocean State Job Lot stores are open.

As a company, we always look for ways to turn challenges into opportunities. During this time of crisis, we are using our global supply chain to source critical supplies, like masks, gloves, sanitizers and more. These supplies are immediately donated to hospitals and other medical facilities.

We have contributed \$250,000 toward acquiring these vital items, and we are asking for your help by donating at the register. We will use 100% of your donation to purchase supplies, and we'll use our buying power to get the most for your money.

During these difficult times, we are also ramping up our food donation efforts. We could not do this without the incredible support of our customers all throughout the year. We are grateful, now more than ever, for your continued partnership with us.

Thanks for your support, and stay safe.



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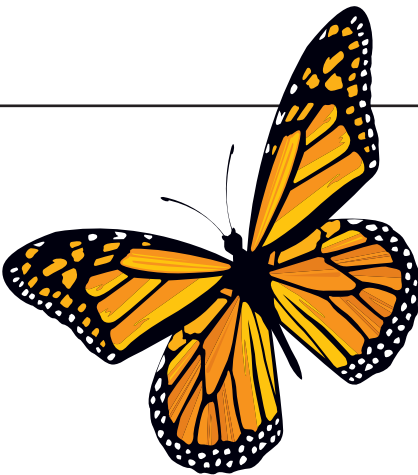
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Mango’s Wood-Fired Pizza Co. & Deviant Donuts to raise funds for Mystic Aquarium

MYSTIC — In an effort to join forces for the greater good of the Mystic community, Mango’s Wood-Fired Pizza Co. and their sister shop Deviant Donuts will be hosting a month-long fundraiser to give back to their neighbor, The Mystic Aquarium.

In light of the current situation with COVID-19, many local businesses have been forced to shut down. To help alleviate the distress caused from a loss of ticket sales at The Mystic Aquarium, Mango’s Wood-Fired Pizza Co. and Deviant Donuts will be giving back by donating a portion of sales from their pizza and donuts. Despite

the restaurants also feeling the impact of the Coronavirus, they have been able to keep doors open for both takeout and delivery.

For the entire month of April, \$2 for every regularly-priced pizza sold will be donated. In addition, for the weekend of Thursday, April 2 to Sunday, April 5, \$1 for any of the “Under the Sea” themed donuts purchased will be donated. Customers can pre-order these donuts by contacting Vault Coffee directly. A minimum of six donuts are required for pre orders from Thursday-Sunday which can be placed immediately. Like other businesses in

the area, Mango’s Wood-Fired Pizza Co. and Deviant Donuts are practicing safe social distancing guidelines and allowing at most five people in the coffeshop at a time.

“For the past ten years the Mystic Aquarium and their visitors have played a large role in our success. And during this difficult time, we’re committing to pay it forward,” says owner, Stefan Ambrosch.

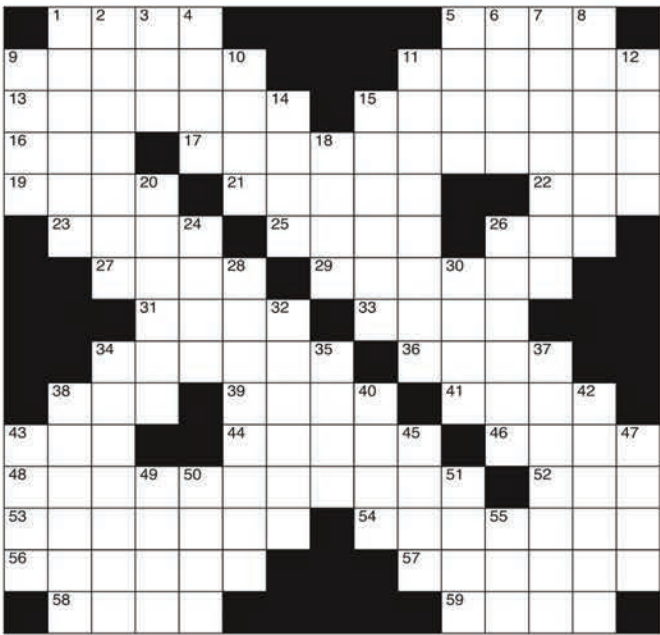
And the feeling is mutual, according to Roslyn Gilhuly, Mystic Aquarium’s Senior Vice President of External Relations, who said “Mystic Aquarium is incredibly grateful to be a part of

the civic pride that exists in Mystic every day. Even more so, in times like this we understand how fortunate we are to be a part of this community. Support from our neighbors including Deviant Donuts and Mango’s will help us to maintain the high-level of animal care during temporary closure in these very uncertain times.”

Mango’s Wood-Fired Pizza Co. is located in the Olde Mistick Village and has been operating since 2009. The restaurant is owned and run by two local brothers, Stefan Ambrosch & Ben Hall. They live by their slogan “Real pizza, real good.”

Deviant Donuts is a small-batch gourmet donut pop-up shop located in their sister-shop, Vault Coffee Roasters. The donuts are all carefully crafted with the latest trends and interests in mind and are 100% Instagram worthy.

For more information on Mango’s Wood-Fired Pizza Co., visit <https://www.mangospizza.com/> or follow on Instagram and Facebook. For more information on Deviant Donuts, visit <https://www.deviantdonuts.com/> or follow on Instagram and Facebook.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Canadian law enforcers

5. Actor Idris

9. Cut or bruise

11. Vegetables

13. Aircraft delivery

15. To make obsolete

16. Things similar to those already noted

17. Columbus is a famous one

19. Age group

21. Denotes nature of sound

22. Klutz

23. Uninteresting

25. Computer manufacturer

26. 2,000 lbs.

27. Genus of seabirds

29. Emerges

31. Baseball stat

33. Witnesses

34. Observed

36. Satisfy

38. Former OSS

39. Small Eurasian deer

41. Wife of Sparta’s king

43. Ballplayer accessory

44. Temporary cessation of breathing

46. Where construction workers ply their trade

48. Arguments that justify a religious doctrine

52. Thick cloud of tiny water droplets

53. Widens

54. Detection

56. Period of inactivity

57. Tomato and vodka are two

58. Greek war god

59. Urinates

CLUES DOWN

1. Churned

2. Seal bottles

3. Million barrels per day (abbr.)

4. Meat from a pig (French)

5. Within

6. Walk in a slow pace

7. Cries

8. About Andes

9. Fishermen use it

10. Expresses delight

11. Shouts

12. Feudal agricultural laborer

14. Sailboat

15. Small Eurasian willows

18. S. American native people

20. Extreme disgust

24. Nonsense (slang)

26. Produce male reproductive cells

28. Computes

30. Pop singer

32. Weds secretly

34. Having two poles

35. Yankee hero Bucky

37. Building

38. Per __, each

40. Six (Spanish)

42. Makes amends

43. Scoundrels

45. Baseball’s best pitchers

47. Some are scrambled

49. Emit coherent radiation

50. Singer Redding

51. Break

55. Institute legal proceedings against

Securitas hiring to meet “significant and immediate” needs throughout state

HARTFORD — Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. has announced that it is actively hiring a significant number of security officers in selected locations throughout the U.S. In Connecticut, the company is specifically hiring in the Greater Hartford, New Haven, and Stamford areas. This hiring is for both permanent and temporary, full time and part time officer positions.

“Security officers are essential workers”, states Nicole Fredericks, Northeast Region Vice President of Human Resources at Securitas. “The

COVID-19 crisis we are consumed with today is clearly unprecedented and continues to affect those around us. More so than ever, Securitas is committed to maintaining a safe environment at all our client sites, whether current or new. We encourage those who have lost their job or are momentarily out of work to consider applying for either a temporary or career opportunity with Securitas.”

While the company’s work force requirements vary across the country, the needs in the mentioned Connecticut cities above are “significant and immediate,” said Fredericks. “The service we provide is vital in supporting our clients’ emergency management efforts as well as assuring public safety in these times. To that effect, the security service industry is essential to organizations continuing to request additional security officers, on the front lines helping to keep our clients and communities safe.”

All Securitas positions require drug and background screening. Interested candidates can apply online at www.securitasjobs.com.

diate,” said Fredericks. “The service we provide is vital in supporting our clients’ emergency management efforts as well as assuring public safety in these times. To that effect, the security service industry is essential to organizations continuing to request additional security officers, on the front lines helping to keep our clients and communities safe.”

All Securitas positions require drug and background screening. Interested candidates can apply online at www.securitasjobs.com.

About Securitas

As the Leader in Protective Services, Securitas and our 370,000 employees worldwide help companies of all sizes and industries achieve superior security programs and results. Our security solutions cut across the Six Pillars of Protective Services: On-Site, Mobile and Remote Guarding; Electronic Security, Fire & Safety, and Corporate Risk Management. From the back office to the boardroom, warehouse to storefront, Wall Street to Main Street – Securitas empowers people, technology and knowledge to advance the industry in general and our clients’ security in particular. For more information about Securitas Services North America, visit www.securitasinc.com.



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Access Health CT extends deadline for the uninsured

HARTFORD — Access Health CT (AHCT) today announced the deadline for the New Special Enrollment Period for uninsured Connecticut residents to enroll in health insurance plans through AHCT is extended to Friday, April 17. Connecticut residents must be lawfully present in the United States, and not incarcerated to be eligible. The effective date of coverage for anyone who enrolls during this extension period will be May 1. Anyone who enrolls before the end of the day Thursday, April 2, 2020 will have a coverage effective date of April 1.

The only way to sign up for this New Special Enrollment Period is by calling 1-855-365-2428. Individuals who experience a Qualifying Life Event (e.g. loss of coverage due to job change or unemployment) or qualify for Medicaid/Children’s Health Program (CHIP), can ALWAYS enroll online, in-person or over the phone and all help is free.

“Over the last two weeks, nearly 1,400 residents have been able to enroll in affordable, high-quality health insurance plans thanks to a new special enrollment period offered by Access Health CT,” Gov. Lamont said. “I applaud Access Health, the health insurance carriers, and the Connecticut Insurance Department for working together to extend that enrollment period so additional residents can sign up for health insurance. No Connecticut resident should have to worry that COVID-19 or another health complication will compromise their financial security.”

“We know there are still many Connecticut residents who need our assistance. I am deeply appreciative of the efforts by the Governor, carriers, Connecticut Insurance Department, and others to make sure more people have access to health insurance during the COVID-19 crisis,” said Access Health CT Chief Executive Officer, James Michel. “We are here to help and are extending the New Special Enrollment Period to accommodate the needs of Connecticut residents.”

“Every resident who needs comprehensive health insurance should be able to get it,” said Insurance Commissioner Andrew N. Mais. “The extended Special



New Special Enrollment Period	
Who’s Eligible?	ONLY qualified individuals who are Uninsured, lawfully present and not incarcerated.
When can I enroll?	Now through April 17, 2020.
When will my coverage start?	The effective date of coverage for enrollments from April 3-17 during the NEW Special Enrollment Period will be May 1, 2020.
How can I enroll?	PHONE ONLY: 1-855-365-2428 (TTY: 1-855-789-2428) 8AM – 5PM Monday – Friday

Enrollment period will allow anyone looking to enroll in a health plan the opportunity to find quality coverage and avoid costly medical bills.”

“We applaud Access Health CT for extending this special open enrollment period,” said Eric Galvin, President of ConnectiCare. “Just as Access Health CT, we’re doing everything we can to support our members through this pandemic including extending the grace period for premium payment, expanding telehealth services, and calling our most at-risk members to help them stay

safe.”

“This is still an evolving situation here in Connecticut and we are continuing to partner with state officials to help protect the public’s health, promote expanded access to care and provide peace of mind for Connecticut residents,” said Jill Hummel, President of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut.

Access Health CT also reminds customers to update their income as they, or members of their household, may be able to:

Increase the financial help they qualify for or become eligible for increased cost sharing reductions to help pay for out-of-pocket expenses like deductibles, co-pays and co-insurance amounts.

Change to a different insurance plan in a different metal tier, that may allow them to qualify for cost sharing reductions that help pay for out-of-pocket expenses like deductibles, co-pays and co-insurance amounts.

Become eligible for Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)/HUSKY Health.

Note: Be sure to report all changes to household income and size to Access Health CT within 30 days.

Other information about this New Special Enrollment Period is available at: Learn.AccessHealthCT.com

Access Health CT reminds residents of the importance of maintaining their coverage throughout the year, and not just during this public health crisis. It is critical that uninsured individuals take advantage of this opportunity to protect themselves financially and ensure they have access to necessary services.


About Access Health CT

Access Health CT (AHCT), Connecticut’s official health insurance marketplace established in 2011, supports health reform efforts at the state and national level. AHCT provides Connecticut residents with resources for better health, and an enhanced and more coordinated healthcare experience, which results in healthier people, healthier communities and a healthier Connecticut. AHCT’s mission is to increase the number of insured residents in Connecticut, promote health, lower costs, and eliminate health disparities. Connecticut residents and small business owners can compare and enroll in healthcare coverage and apply for tax credits for individuals through AHCT. AHCT (or the Marketplace) also partners with the Dept. of Social Services for eligibility and enrollment with state Medicaid Insurance and Children’s Health Insurance Programs. For more information, please visit www.AccessHealthCT.com, like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AccessHealthCT and follow us on Twitter @AccessHealthCT.

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This award is sponsored by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents and the Northeast Area Superintendents of Schools Association. It is given to a student who represents leadership service at school, academic prowess relative to ability and service to others in the community. This year, the recipients of the award were Sophia Scandalito and Colby Smith Pomfret Community School, Class of 2020.



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More dispatches from the Spanish Flu pandemic

Due to COVID-19, the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center will be closed until further notice.

As I write this, we are now into the third week of the Coronavirus Pandemic precautions and closures around the State. Schools, churches, and non-essential businesses are closed, and those that are open are operating under new safety measures with only 50 percent of the fire-code population of a business permitted inside at one time. When I went to the Putnam WalMart, only one entrance was open so employees could count heads; arrows directed the flow of traffic through the grocery aisles. Cleaning products and disinfecting products were still in short supply; however, employees were stocking shelves with toilet paper, an item much in demand. "Social distancing" has become a common phrase and if an individual has to be shopping, all are urged to stay at least six feet from others. Stores have markers and signs on the floors at check-out counters, and some have installed plexi-glass shields for the protection of cashiers. (If you find it strange that I am including this paragraph, please keep in mind that I should be recording history in addition to writing about only the past). Face masks are in very short supply, even for health care workers, but instructions for homemade ones are being passed around the internet.

My daughter-in-law Ashley Weaver asked me if I knew any-

thing about the Spanish flu of 1918. I told her that I knew little, but I did decide to see what I could find. Keeping in mind that I could not use Windham County Transcript microfilms with the historical center and library being closed, I went to the internet. Fortunately I have a subscription to newspapers.com so I did find a few local articles.

The Oct. 10, 1918 Norwich Bulletin had the following about the Dayville section of Killingly: "The graded schools have been closed the past week, owing to influenza and grip." "Influenza patients in the village include on Otis Street Mrs. Hosea Green and Mrs. Moran."

According to deaths reported in the same issue, the Goodyear (Rogers) section of town was also hard hit with both children and adults being stricken: Theodore Forcier (15), a student at Killingly High School; Aldolphus LeDuc, a mill employee who lived in the boarding house, Rene Lamoureux, and an unnamed child. "It was stated during the afternoon that health conditions in that village are improving. There has not been a new case in four days, during which period seven deaths have occurred, and those who are ill are, in practically every case, on the road to recovery. The situation was such on Wednesday as to give encouragement that the worst is over."

Activities were being impacted by the flu in other parts



KILLINGLY
AT 300
MARGARET
WEAVER

of town. "Because of prevailing public health conditions, it was announced that the annual roll call and supper to have been held this evening at the Westfield Congregational church has been postponed." (Norwich Bulletin 10/10/1918; newspapers.com).

Fighting was still taking place during World War I, but influenza delayed servicemen from the Putnam area from departing for camp. "This is the day on which more than sixty general service men were to have left this city for a southern cantonment to begin military training, but the call has been postponed on account of the amount of illness in the camps" (Ibid).

I turned to the Connecticut history website for more on what was happening across the state. (<https://connecticuthistory.org/the-spanish-influenza-pandemic-of-1918/>). Unlike this pandemic, where the western portion of Connecticut has been impacted more quickly, Southeastern Connecticut was stricken first in 1918. David Drury wrote the following: "The port of New London saw the first outbreak

in Connecticut. Between 600 and 700 influenza cases were reported in the city by the third week of September. About half of those stricken were service personnel, many of whom were lodged in private homes. "The entire city is under quarantine for men in uniforms who are not allowed to leave New London without a special physician's permit," *The Courant* reported. From New London County, the "Spanish Lady" (as it was euphemistically known) headed north and west, spreading across the state. Five hundred cases were reported in Hartford by September 21; Willimantic schools were ordered closed a week later. On September 30, students at Yale University were provided with muslin masks to cover their noses and mouths while attending public gatherings. By the first week of October, local officials in several communities had cancelled fairs, football games, and theater performances. October marked the outbreak's deadliest month in Connecticut, with more than 5,000 flu-related fatalities recorded. For four successive weeks, beginning on Oct. 12, deaths totaled in excess of 1,000 per week, reaching a peak of more than 1,700 during the week of October 19."

Drury noted that penicillin was not available since it was not discovered until 1928. "With the medical profession seemingly at a loss in how to treat the disease or prevent its spread, many households

fell back on age-old home remedies, including camphor ('placed in a bag and hung from one's neck,' according to *The Courant*), onions (either eaten or worn on the body), whiskey, and prayer."

My late grandmother, Margaret Campbell Lyter, a 1914 graduate of the nursing school at the University of Pennsylvania and the only graduate nurse in the Dauphin-Middle Paxton, Pennsylvania area, nursed a number of patients during those trying times in 1918-1919. It is my prayer during this pandemic that all our health care professionals be protected from harm as they are doing so much to help contain the virus and cure the sick. May you all be blessed with good health in the coming days. Social distance, wash your hands frequently, stay home when possible, and enjoy the beauty of our very early spring!

Margaret M. Weaver
Killingly Municipal Historian,
April 2020. For additional
information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or
visit the Killingly Historical &
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Beyond the Portfolio Part 2 - How the CARES Act can help small businesses and hospitals

As we continue to manage the effects of COVID-19 as well as understanding the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors is dedicated to keeping you up to date with information. This week's focus will be on outlining the CARES Act's provisions that relate specifically to businesses and hospitals. Many small businesses are being negatively affected by COVID-19, but the CARES Act is designed to help mitigate those effects to maintain immediate business operating costs, help pay employees, and stay afloat. As we discussed last week, there are rapid changes happening in the global economy. We



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are aiming to assist our community beyond the investment portfolio as we navigate these uncertain times together.

How the CARES Act can help small businesses
As many people know, small businesses have been seeing significant impacts due to the sudden decrease in consum-

er activity as everyone practices self-isolation and social distancing. Under the CARES Act, there are three main aspects directed at alleviating the effects of COVID-19 on small businesses: how to maintain immediate operating costs, how to pay employees, and how to stay afloat.

If your company is in need of immediate cash assistance, an Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) or Grant

may help you. The CARES Act increases the accessibility of a Small Business Administration (SBA) EIDL to more recipients (e.g., ESOPs and sole proprietors). These grants provide an emergency advance of up to \$10,000 to small businesses and private non-profits harmed by COVID-19 within three days of applying for an SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL). To access the advance, you first apply for an EIDL and then request the advance. The advance does not need to be repaid under most circumstances, and may be used to keep employees on payroll, to pay for sick leave, meet increased production costs due to supply chain disruptions, or pay business obligations, including debts, rent and mortgage payments. In addition to the grant portion, EIDLs offer lower interest loans of up to \$2 million, with principal and interest deferment at the Administrator's discretion. EIDL loans

are available to pay for expenses that could have been met had the disaster not occurred, including payroll and other operating expenses.

The SBA is also offering federally backed loans under the Paycheck Protection Program, allowing small businesses to borrow up to \$10 million and defer payments for six months to one year. Forgiveness for a portion of the loan amount may be available for expenses incurred for maintaining payroll, group health insurance, and certain preexisting debt and utility obligations during the eight-week period following the origination of the loan. One thing to keep in mind is that the amount of forgiveness will be reduced if there is a decrease in the business's total number of employees and/or a significant decrease in compensation to employees during the period of Feb. 15

Turn To **HALE** page **A10**



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Connecticut volunteers, pictured here, included Pete Mann, Kevin Lewis, Woody Danenhower, Glenn Warner and Marguerite Davis.

MISSION

continued from page A1

dren or play soccer. Kevin Lewis remarked “Those kids are pretty resilient. They take a soccer ball in the face, shake it off a little and go back to playing!” When the team leaves Guatemala, the development work goes on throughout

the year. Other volunteer teams arrive one or two times/month. The medical clinic continues by a Guatemalan doctor. The social worker checks up on the more than 300 children sponsored by US donors. The sponsored child must continue in school. The \$35/month donation improves the family’s nutrition, the family becomes eligible for a micro loan to run a family business and



The stove team installed 60 stoves in homes where cooking over open fires is common.

eligible to have a home built for them with a 30-year mortgage. The process is simply life transforming. If you would like more information about PID in Guatemala, Haiti,

Mississippi or Peru, go to the www.pidonline.org Web site, where you can sign up for trips or call Dr. Davis at her office 860-774-1255. Volunteers will travel again in February 2021.

DKH

continued from page A1

the DKH Employee Health Department. In a patient/client’s home, staff adhere to stringent hand hygiene, aseptic clinical bag technique, and disinfection of equipment to prevent the spread of infection. For any patient, client or family member with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection, and for those with cough, shortness of breath, or fever greater than 100 degrees, staff will don appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including a gown, gloves, mask and eye protection. All current and new patients have been, or will be given verbal and written education on how to best protect themselves and others from the spread of COVID-19. “We appreciate the trust our patients and families have placed in us to provide care in their homes. Everyone at DKH At Home is more committed than ever to improving and protecting the health of the communities and individuals we serve,” said Smith. As part of its comprehensive response to the COVID-19 emergency, DKH At Home’s HomeMakers program can assist seniors with social distancing efforts by helping them with shopping and errands, and is offering and subsidized shopping services for seniors with financial hardships. HomeMakers is also offering care management services for seniors. DKH At Home encourages individuals to take steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in their homes and in the communities. If an individual suspects that they were exposed to coronavirus, DKH urges them to contact their

healthcare provider to see if they can be cared for at home. To learn more about coronavirus disease precautions for the home and recommendations for close contacts and caregivers of patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, visit www.daykimball.org/coronavirus. These steps will prevent the spread of the virus in the home and community. If you think you were exposed to coronavirus, talk to your doctor to see if you can be cared for at home. For question or concerns, please contact (860) 928-0422 to speak with a DKH At Home staff member. For the latest information, refer to the CDC Web site, www.cdc.gov and the CT DPH website, www.ct.gov/coronavirus. Local measures to contain the spread of the virus are available at Day Kimball Healthcare at www.daykimball.org/coronavirus, or call 2-1-1, the CT State Hotline for information.

About Day Kimball Healthcare Day Kimball Healthcare is a nonprofit community healthcare system comprised of Day Kimball Hospital, 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.

CLEANUP

continued from page A1

lected each year. Another big supporter of this event is Bogey’s Ice Cream at the Thompson Speedway. Volunteers receive coupons from the Recreation Department equivalent to the number of bags filled, redeemable for free ice cream cones at Bogey’s. Unfortunately, the designated day for French River cleanup is cancelled this year due to the Corona virus, since the setup of this event makes it difficult to maintain proper social distancing among volunteers. Thompson Together plans to get back to this event next year, and in the meantime, individuals are encouraged to clean the riverbanks on their own. New this year is an experiment called Nips for Holiday Cheer. Everyone notices the increasing number of glass and plastic nip bottles on the sides of

the roads. Unfortunately, these small bottles are not included in the State nickel reimbursement program for soda and beer bottles, and our local legislators have been unsuccessful in getting them included. The Thompson Together Board of Directors decided to collect nips separately this year to demonstrate the bottles’ impact on trash on the side of the roadways. Seed funds for Nips for Holiday Cheer have been provided by the Thompson Economic Development Commission. To participate in Nips for Holiday Cheer, you must be a resident of Thompson. From April 1 to Dec. 5, collect and bag your nips, periodically dropping them at Town Hall, or another collection point to be determined later. Each bag of nips collected must be labelled with your name, contact information, and the number of nips in the bag. The volunteers will keep a running tally through the year, and following the last collection date

on Dec. 5, each participant will be awarded a gift card to a local general retailer, in the value of ten cents per nip collected, just in time for the holiday shopping season. It is hoped that the evidence of the mountain of nips that will be collected over the next eight months will spur public pressure on the legislature to take action on this roadside scourge. Interestingly, the State of Maine already offers a five-cent redemption on nip bottles. For more information on this program, please call Thompson’s Planner, Tyra Penn, at 860-923-9475. In these tumultuous days, Thompson Together encourages residents to consider that getting outside to clean roads is a great way to exercise while remaining socially separated from others. The bonus is that you will leave clean roads behind you, and you are welcomed to join in. Call the Recreation Department at 860-923-9440 with questions. Stay safe.

PALMS

continued from page A1

past Pierce Baptist and returned to Federated Church of Christ. Communion was distributed “take out” style in individually pre-wrapped Chinese food containers. Coffee hour to go was also available.

The Rev. Jane Emma Newall said the event was meaningfully to both those from Federated Church of Christ and guests from the community who participated. Folks were very moved by the experience. Some were in tears. One person wrote “We passed out palms, communion and hope

to a flock that needed all three.” Holy Week and Easter will feel very different this year. Rev. Newall says, “This year Easter is not what we expect, but then again, Mary did not find what she expected when she arrived at the tomb on the first Easter. The miracle was in the emptiness.”



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EDITOR

Finding a silver lining

This editorial is being written immediately after our Editor returned from a walk around town. While we are all undergoing a complete change in the way we live our lives, and the reason is scary and horrifying, there is a silver lining. This coronavirus has caused a camaraderie among people that seems to break through barriers of religion, race, political beliefs, socioeconomic status or where we live in the world. We truly are all in this together.

During our walk, we saw entire families slowly strolling up and down side streets, with no real destination, simply enjoying the sun and warmer weather. It was nice to slow down enough to notice the cracks in the sidewalks, or notice the intricate woodwork on the old houses we passed. Seeing the community through a new, calmer, less stressed pair of eyes was interesting. While a cloud of uncertainty hangs above all of us, it's clear that despite the unknown, shoulders have dropped a bit, and we have been forced to slow down and just be present. These are stressful times, no doubt, but it hasn't gone unnoticed that the majority of people seem to appear more relaxed. [This, of course, does not include those on the front lines fighting this virus, to whom we say a heartfelt thank you.]

There are so many unknowns when it comes to this situation. We don't know when it will end, we don't know whether the virus will mutate when the warmer weather we've all be waiting for finally arrives, and we don't know how it will affect our economy or our livelihoods in the long run. What we do know is that, again, we are all in this together.

Strangers are stopping strangers (at a safe distance, of course) and having conversations that go beyond the weather. This outbreak has created a need for us to talk and to relate to each other for comfort, and to simply process what is happening.

While passing by a gentleman getting ready to grill his dinner on the back porch, we struck up a conversation about going stir crazy, sharing a few laughs and well wishes, and then we were on our way. People have slowed down enough to lift their heads from their phones, laptops, steering wheels and television sets to open their eyes fully to the world around them. There are more smiles and head nods exchanged. People are making more eye contact with one another, almost to say yes, I'm uncertain too, but we will be all right.

With nowhere to go aside from home and work (for some of us who also deserve thanks for continuing to put their health at risk so we have groceries and supplies to live on), priorities have shifted. People have used this time to really think about what matters in their lives. They have caught up on their reading, or re-visited old hobbies and house projects that have sat dormant for years.

Finally, this situation gives us all an excuse an excuse to just 'be.' Could it be that people can really benefit from simplifying their lives? How will things look when the world re-opens? We have a feeling that people will be friendlier and more appreciative of being able to clink beer mugs and raise a toast at their local watering holes. Perhaps people will find the value in slowing down.

We are living in a point in history that will live on in perpetuity. These few months will be read about and discussed for decades to come, long after we are gone, as we look back now and wonder about simple things like what it would have been like to live without electricity or a way to keep our food cold. We're not sure there has ever been a time when the entire society has shut down, when town squares look like ghost towns or something out of a movie set with no one in sight.

To those reporters and editors to come after us, we will tell you that these times are surreal. Despite not knowing what's going on and watching the news change every day, people are generally in good spirits and are finding ways to decrease stress and otherwise find some sort of joy.



OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you to the Woodstock Academy community

To the Editor:

I want to take this opportunity to thank the entire Woodstock Academy community for its resilience, professionalism and support over the last few weeks. As you are reading this, we are starting our fourth week of eLearning, and to say that I am proud to be a member of this community would be an understatement. Throughout this process, we have spoken about having the same mission and purpose; it just looks different.

What we have witnessed from our staff has been nothing short of amazing. Teachers, support staff and guidance counselors have all stepped up to modify our program into an online format so that our students will not miss out on any opportunities. Teachers have retooled their curriculum to make traditional high school classes into online courses which many of our students will see in college. The guidance department has created videos for our community about the college process and applying for scholarships—no different than the assemblies we would normally have. Our para-professionals are working with teachers and students on a one-to-one basis so all of our students will have an opportunity to learn. The administrators have set the tone and provided unmatched leadership so that teachers can just focus on their students and content. We are not so naïve to think that everything is going perfectly, but we can assure you that because of the planning and dedication of our professional staff, we are adjusting and dealing with issues as they arise.

While the staff deserves praise, I have been most impressed with our students. Teenagers these days typically struggle with many issues, on top of those in the world of academics. As we prepared for the transition to eLearning, the students were always at the forefront of our mind. Every decision we have made, and will continue to make, puts our students first. The resilience and hardiness they have shown has been an inspiration. I have had the pleasure of visiting a few “classrooms” and observing what has been

happening; while I can assure you it looks different, the learning, creativity and dedication of our students is still very present. Whether the student is sitting in Seoul, Chicago, or Canterbury, each student was engaged and doing their best to continue to experience an outstanding high school education.

To the larger Woodstock Academy community, I want to thank you for your continued support. Whether it was assisting us to get over 120 boarding students home within a week, or stepping up to collect and donate extra medical supplies to our local first responders, or to the countless other individuals who reached out and said, “What can I do to help?”—you all made a difference. Throughout this crisis we keep reading various quotes about what defines true character, and one of my favorites comes from William Shakespeare: “We know what we are, but not what we may be.” How lucky we are, to live in a community where so many quickly and quietly step forward to help others.

Our number one goal is always to keep our entire community safe. But, we have developed plans that may allow for some of the June activities for our seniors. This was all shared with the seniors through an online class meeting held this past week (visualize that). If we are allowed to return, we will have the best end-of-the-year celebration we have ever had in our 219-year history.

We know that The Academy plays an important role in our corner of the state. We also know that many people are proud of our program and storied history. Please know, that what we have seen from our students and staff at this time of crisis should bring a renewed sense of pride as to what the future holds for our beloved school and all who comprise it.

With Pride and Appreciation,

CHRISTOPHER SANDFORD
HEAD OF SCHOOL
THE WOODSTOCK ACADEMY

Trump’s approach has been too hands-off

To the Editor:

With a dire supply shortage of critical personal protective equipment, and with the White House taking a largely hands-off approach, many hospitals and community health centers have taken it upon themselves to coordinate with private individuals, to keep their hospitals and health centers from running out.

Because the Trump administration has failed to coordinate purchase and distribution of supplies, states are forced into bidding wars for protective equipment, with each battling another to buy up precious masks and gloves.

New York hospitals have found it easier to fend for themselves rather than rely on the Trump Administration. Using private corporate jets, New York's Mount Sinai Health System flew in 130,000 N95 coronavirus protecting masks from China – with the help of a senior partner at Goldman Sachs and a call to Warren Buffett. The Health System asked Goldman CEO David Solomon to call Warren Buffett, whose Berkshire Hathaway owns the private jet company, NetJets. Minutes later, the hospital was on the phone with NetJets Chairman Adam Johnson, who scrambled the aircraft for the mission.

Thinking outside the box, as he often does, Tesla and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk has acquired a trove of ventilators from China and shipped them to the U.S. for distribution

to hospitals in need during the coronavirus.

Musk said on Twitter that «China had an oversupply, so we bought 1255 FDA-approved ventilators on Friday night & airshipped them to LA.”

“If you want a free ventilator installed, please let us know!” he added.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom confirmed to reporters Monday that Musk had secured the medical equipment.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, also came to our aid by sending a planeload of supplies to the US.

“It is important to note that when offering assistance to U.S. president Putin assumes that when U.S. manufacturers of medical equipment and materials gain momentum, they will also be able to reciprocate if necessary,” Reuters news reports.

Although President Trump appointed Vice President Pence to be in charge of the coronavirus effort, the President never gives up the microphone, praising himself for all kind of things, and in between self praise, he reads the reports of what actually has been done by others.

Since the President’s administration has defined a gun shop as an “essential business,” perhaps he believes we can shoot the virus.

RAY CANNING
POMFRET

There will be Easter!

To the Editor:

There will be no Palm Sunday services this year, but there will be Easter! There will be no Good Friday services this year, but there will be Easter! There will be no Easter Sunday gatherings, but there will be Easter! There will be no Easter egg hunts, or family ham dinners, or chocolate Easter bunnies, or anything else that we celebrate on Easter for that matter, but there will be Easter!

Why? Because Easter is not an event, or a service, or a meal, or a hunt, or any of those things. You see, Easter is a Person, and His name is Jesus Christ. There will be Easter because just over 2,000 years ago God sent His Son to earth to live a perfect life for 33 and a half years and to become the sacrificial lamb for us all. As John the Baptist said in the Gospel of John, “the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”.

But, it wasn't enough for Him just to die and be placed in a tomb. There is no power in death. There is only power in life, new life... Resurrection life! And so, three days later God the Father raised His Son from the dead to offer new life to all who would put their trust in Him. “For God so loved the world that He gave us His only beloved Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but

have everlasting life.” — John 3:16

Jesus foretold of this death-and-resurrection event when speaking to Martha, the sister of Lazarus, just before bringing him back to life when He said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life.” Again, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is not just a historical fact, but a Person, “I am the resurrection!”... Jesus Christ Himself. And that's why there will be Easter!

As long as Jesus Christ lives in the hearts of men and women who have put their trust in Him...His birth, His life, His death, and His resurrection, there will always be Easter. I believe Peter said it best when he wrote, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” 1 Peter 1:3

Don't let another Easter go by without experiencing a true relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ. There will be Easter...because He lives!

BERNIE NORMAN
CREATION CHURCH
THOMPSON

Keeping our spirits up in the face of uncertainty

I don't keep chickens, so when a beautiful red fox wends his way along the edge of our property, my heart beats faster at the sheer joy of seeing something so unexpected and magical. As Mr. Fox looks for his breakfast, I identify with his concern about the randomness of the food supply. He needs a good mouse or two. I need oranges and bags of flour. We are caught in a moment when our settled lives are more random than ever before. Rather than focus on what is wrong, I

choose instead to count what is going well.

At 7 a.m., I tune in to our local radio station, a habit I've reactivated. At first, there is the highly professional voice of an announcer from a network service and then the familiar tones of local people, including the owner, and a long-standing reporter. The news covers town government, police reports, school matters and volunteer organizations. Except for a few arrests, the news is remarkably positive and short.

Soon, the station moves to programs. The owner compliments, cajoles and subtly directs guests to deliver their messages. Often, talk focuses of student athletes and charitable requests or achievements. Even now, even at a time of real sorrow, in an area that is far from well-off, the dinners, raffle tickets, food pantries keep going. I don't believe other places do it as well, and I feel grateful.

Moments spent on FaceTime with my children, grandchildren, brother and friends have taken on emotional currency. I can't smell the sticky, sweet back of the neck of my six-year-old grandson. When I see him again, he will resist me wrestling him to the floor to kiss him, but I can kiss his face on screen before he runs off. The twins know the sound of my voice and wave at my image. My brother and I talk about superficial things because deep thoughts are too bleak.

When unsettling ideas intrude, I go to my garden and throw myself into the rhythm of the soil. I think about the plants and shrubs I want to buy. Oddly enough, I don't have a forsythia bush. That's easy to fix. I long for a witch hazel tree as I love the early blooms and the distinctive smell. Friends gave me a pussy willow; which next year will be robust. My stock of Lenten roses has increased and I need low-growing evergreens.

My neighbor is outside these days working in her garden. Somehow, we are creating order in a disorderly world by pruning and raking, while looking forward to what nature brings next.

As I work, I'm listening to a book I loved as a child: “The Trumpet of the Swan,” by EB White, with the author as reader. White's voice is that of an older man with a New England accent. It is a fine story and a comfort even as I watch turkey buzzards roost nearby. I'm reminded of the Stew and Story program at a nearby inn. There is joy in listening to a good reader.

I'm grateful every afternoon when a folksinger friend shares one perfect song. With another friend, I take a deep breath and meditate or do yoga with her several days a week. Technology that makes us pull out our hair one minute, gives us gifts that connect us the next.

From the red fox, to myriad types of technology, we live in the familiar and the uncertain. As we keep up our spirits and our distance, we can lament the current situation and embrace ways to remain connected.



NANCY WEISS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No shortage of Trump bashing

To the Editor:
It was noted in the Villager newspaper last week that the issue was thin of its usual content; however, it certainly wasn't thin of the same old, repetitive criticisms from the "no fans." The basic content of their letters have become as predictable as an Alec Baldwin sketch on "SNL."
Most notable was the mention that President Trump hasn't done anything to show "empathy for the sick and dying." But didn't he immediately sign the COVID relief bill as soon as it got to his desk? The same bill that was stuffed with unnecessary "pork" (added by whomever) and delayed by the House Democrats. Yes, the President could have vetoed the bill, but he signed it as presented, but then any effort on his part will be called out as a "little to late" action by the no fans and a subject for their continual moaning. Yes, the President should have acted sooner on this crisis, but to even suggest that he has no empathy for the sick and dying is far beyond a stretch.
I'd like to now acknowledge Ms. Wykes and Mr. Bedard as contributing Opinion letter writers. By now, you've both no doubt figured out what is most evident: what the no fans say is always an "on it" fact - but whatever a "Trumpster" posts is questionable and usually "demands a response." What the Trumpster says is "hateful and demeaning" - but they do nothing of the kind. (Really?) They don't belong to a cult - but those who support the

President do. Their opinions come from free thinking individuals, whereas those of the Trumpster are one-sided and biased. But whatever you do, don't dare question them or their heroes (like Pelosi, Biden or Schiff, among others), because in return you'll only hear that whatever you present is either untrue, baseless and of course laced with "insults and slander for every Trump critic."
Anyhow, I'm now going to break one of the no fans commandments; if you want to call out an "idiot-in-chief," how about Nancy Pelosi? She is a true "do as I say, and not as I do" hypocrite who more than deserves the same criticisms that you no fans throw at the President! So what has she actually done to show any empathy for the sick and dying? I've asked before why is it that the democrats won't ever work with the President and the no fans basically said that "it's all his fault." (Any surprise there?) But whatever you no fans do (and taking into consideration whatever "level" you think you're on), don't get all soft-shelled on me and continue to sob about the "mud-slinging" that only us "Trump fans" (supposedly) do - because you're doing an equally good job of it as well! I could write a no fan response to my own letter because I already know what's forthcoming. (If only hitting the lottery was that easy.)
ED DeLUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

We love those letters bashing President Trump

To the Editor:
I've read the "Letters to the Editor" bashing President Trump with the name calling and accusations of everything; some are so farfetched, you just have to laugh.
We watched the Democrats try to impeach him, and we all knew what the outcome would be, in addition to spending over \$3 million of taxpayer money. The Democrats probably knew this, but went through the semantics figuring it would hurt his re-election... guess what, it cemented his re-election. Even with this being over, now Pelosi and Schiff want to, under the pretense, have a 9/11 style COVID-19 investigation, but again, trying to put the blame of President Trump...you can't make this up.
Nothing will ever change in Washington until Pelosi, Schumer, Schiff and Nadler and the old guard are out of office. Donald Trump represents something different for a broad path of America that is serious about wanting a less intrusive government, a more robust economic recovery and leadership that protects our interests around the world and what we need to carry the country forward in the coming years. He represents America, not Planned Parenthood, not giving illegal aliens the right to vote, not creating sanctuary cities and not putting "pork" in COVID-19 bill, which delayed the passing of it.

The answer is that President Trump is better suited to shake up the status quo in Washington. There is only one person with the ability to continue to do it, Donald Trump. Despite all his faults, he is best suited to blow up the inbred corruption of the Washington-New York elites and the "good ol boys club" that have become millionaires putting aside what is best for America.
The Democrats supposedly are putting up the best they have to run against President Trump, and the best they came up with is Joe Biden. A 77 year old man who has been in politics 47 years, whose family and friends have profiteered more than any other politician, whose son has made millions from a foreign government for a no-show job, and he blames President Trump for everything, but that's the Democrat's way. Biden has so many gaffes in all his speeches and appearances and his hot temper, this is who the Democrats want and back to represent them...not America.
So continue to write all the negative letters you want, call him all the names you want, make up more lies than MSNBC and CNN, but in the end, Donald Trump will win the 2020 election, thanks to you and the Washington.
TOM PANDOLFI
WOODSTOCK

Christian contentment

To the Editor:
In our present day discontentment, we are made more aware of the general misery of the human race than ever before. Though there is a rare jewel called Christian contentment, which comes from both the reading and study of the Scriptures and the worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In other words, it is finding delight in God's wise plan for your life and humbly allowing Him to direct you in it.
God wants us to be content; that is why Christ was crucified and resurrected on your behalf, done to make you content today. Remember Jesus saying, "It is finished." We have all we need, on this side of heaven. Let us celebrate together in solitude over the Easter

holiday by reading aloud from the Gospels, the story from eyewitnesses of His death and resurrection [Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John]. Those of you who have a personal relationship in Jesus, break bread and juice, remembering Jesus' memorial meal - seek first forgiveness of your sins and allow His Spirit to lead you in repentance [1 Corinthians 11:14-21]. And, we can all pray for each other, using the book of Psalms in directing our souls and spirits with praise to our Lord. These are meaningful habits of godliness and righteousness. Happy Easter!
MITCH SANTELLI
PASTOR, FAITH BIBLE EVANGELICAL
FREE CHURCH
WOODSTOCK

Easter blessingsa

To the Editor:
Quite a ride we've had these last few weeks, eh? Despite the anxiety, fear and disruption in our lives, we are all working together and trying our best to maintain a positive attitude and the belief that we will all be stronger for this pause in our very busy lives. It has been an amazing benefit from all of this and is reaffirmed in how we are treating one another. It is so appropriate that it is happening during this Holy season and a recurring theme to most people that I have talked to and interacted with on social media.
Blessed to have a comfortable home, some land to get out in the fresh air on and a river to roam beside. It is the first time that I have walked that river path in thirteen years! We have made some awesome memories and pics to hold onto. We've tackled some home and yard projects that have been satisfying and fun to accomplish together.
Thanks to technology, we can visit with our grandchildren and see their hopeful and innocent joy. In our one and a half year old granddaughter's newly acquired garbled language, she seems to be telling us "Mom, Dad, Bro and I are home together!" as she dances around their living room and blows

us kisses. Facetime is our lifeline to her, her brother and their parents and their joy in being together is apparent. We have a blast connecting with our family, despite the real and physical obstacles that separate us during this difficult time. When this is over, our hugs and time together will be precious beyond words and never taken for granted again.
Easter is this weekend, and whatever your belief system, let's meditate on or pray that our loved ones, those on the front lines and our society will acknowledge the divine presence that exists within each of us. Let's continue to be thankful for so much, amidst so much uncertainty. Don't let fear freeze you from doing and saying the right things from now on to remain positive and encourage your loved ones, neighbors and strangers. We have been given a great gift to realize that we are all in this together and we will overcome much more than the virus going forward.
God bless us all and peace be with us, now and forever...
TAMI JO WYKES
BROOKLYN

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

Please include your place of residence and phone number for verification, not publication. Letters must be received by noon on Tuesdays.



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
GARY W.
MOORE

I awoke at 5:30 a.m., started a fire in our darkened kitchen fireplace and am sitting in the quiet of the morning, counting my blessings.
My family is healthy and quarantined together. We are only missing my oldest, who is sheltered in Los Angeles. My daughter, son-in-law and my two grandsons are sleeping soundly on the floor above me. My youngest son is sleeping in the basement with our grand dog Walter. Our dear friends and my daughter's in-laws, Stu and Lynn, are here and I'm going to make my grandmothers recipe for biscuits and gravy for breakfast. I cannot describe the joy am feeling at this moment.

I think people often interchange the words joy and happiness as though they are the same. They are not. Happiness is a feeling you get from outside events and/or circumstances, while joy radiates from within. Your happiness is dependent on things or other people while your joy is only dependent upon you. Want to be joyful? Easier said than done? Start by counting your blessings.
Joy is from the heart.
I find my joy in my love of family and friends. I am joyful in making breakfast for my family. I get happiness from seeing them feel enjoyment from my efforts. I feel joy in writing. I'd do it even if no one ever read it. I get happiness knowing people do.
So, what is my goal in quarantine? Love my family. Reach

Finding joy in quarantine

out to friends. Write to positively influence others. Finish my book, "Carbon Hill." Spend more time in prayer and contemplation. My plate is as full as my heart.
What about you?
How many times have you wanted to do something, but you complain you have no time? How often have you thought you'd just like to have a little time to yourself, or just a moment of peace and quiet? Sheltering in place can make those wishes come true.
You know me as a weekly columnist, but I'm also an author. In fact, I think of myself as an author that also writes a column, and not the other way around. I need to get busy and finish my fifth book.
I'm told that Shakespeare wrote King Lear while in quar-

antine for the plague. When I first heard that, I laughed and thought, as an author, hearing that is a lot of pressure. But then again, No pressure. I'm just a storyteller. I need to dig in and finishing telling the story of the Tallman brothers and "Carbon Hill."
Make positive decisions during quarantine and put them into action!
Why waste time? What is that project you've always wanted to complete? Get moving! Write a book, build the model, complete the puzzle, write some letters, renew contact with those you've lost contact with. Explore the possibilities, then act!
And I do understand that some of you are afraid. I think we all harbor some level of fear and that's normal. Work to turn

your fear into healthy caution and follow all the guideline for remaining safe.
And for some of you who have a loved one who is sick, or you are not well, I'm praying for you now and I encourage others to do the same. Want me to pray for you or a friend or loved one by name? Send me an email or snail mail and I will do so. I won't post it here, but my phone number is on my Web page. It's easy to find. If you want me to pray with you, give me a call. And for those of you who don't believe in the power of prayer, please accept my positive thoughts for you as I pray for you.
To pray is a decision I make personally. You don't have to do the same. I had a young stu-

Turn To **MOORE** page **A12**

HALE continued from page A6

through June 30. Small businesses could apply for and receive loans to cover their payroll and other qualifying expenses starting April 3. The completed application form can be submitted to any SBA Participating Lender or FDIC-insured depository institution. For more information pertaining to the guidelines, including how to apply, visit <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance>.
Another aspect of the CARES Act designed to help businesses are the tax provisions. Businesses that experienced a significant decline in gross receipts compared to the prior year may be eligible for a payroll tax credit of up to 50 percent of wages paid during the crisis. Only the first \$10,000 of wages per employee would qualify for this credit, and eligibility for this credit varies. For example, those who receive the PPP loan are not eligible. The tax provisions allow taxpayers to defer paying the employer portion of certain payroll taxes through the end

of 2020, with all 2020 deferred amounts due in two equal installments, one at the end of 2021, the other at the end of 2022.
Finally, with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (TCJA), businesses were limited in their ability to use net operating losses (NOL) to offset income. Under the CARES Act, NOL arising from the tax years 2018 and later may be carried back five years to offset income in such years. As a result, some businesses may be able to amend past tax returns and generate tax refunds that were otherwise unavailable. Speak to your tax preparer for specific guidance on how to best manage for your business.
Provisions directed at supporting hospitals
Many hospitals are trying to navigate sudden increases in COVID-19 patients, as well as a significant need for equipment to help protect their employees and patients. The CARES Act allocates over \$140 billion in appropriations to support the U.S. health care system. A large portion is dedicated to providing personal and protective equipment for health care workers, testing supplies,

increased workforce and training, accelerated Medicare payments, and supporting the CDC, among other health investments.1 Specifically, there is \$100 billion dedicated to an emergency fund for the Department of Health and Human Services to make grants available to providers. Several provisions relevant to hospitals and health systems as businesses and employers may provide additional sources of needed revenue.
Living well beyond the portfolio
During these uncertain and unprecedented times, it is important to focus on ways to Live Well.TM beyond your investment portfolio or retirement plan. If you are a business owner, have confidence in knowing that there are policies in place to look out for you, your employees, and your families. Though the effects of COVID-19 will not impact our daily lives forever, it is important to practice ways to Live Well.TM to make it to the light at the end of the tunnel. Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors is dedicated to empowering the community to Live Well, which at this time means staying healthy, and staying safe.

For more information regarding the effects of COVID-19 and the CARES Act, including articles, resources, and podcasts, visit the resource guide on our Web site, www.whzwealth.com/covid19-resources.
Authored by Principal/Managing Partner Laurence N. Hale, AAMS, CRPS®. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. 697 Pomfret St., Pomfret Center, CT 06259, 860.928.2341. <http://www.whzwealth.com>
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or fax them to (860) 928-5946.

Photos are welcome in JPEG format.

OBITUARIES

James J. LaRochelle, 60

NORTH GROSVENORDALE- James J. LaRochelle age 60 passed away Thursday morning, April 2, 2020, at the University of MA Healthcare Center



Hopsital, Worcester, MA. He leaves his loving wife Laura J. Hackett, and a son Tyler Day both of North Grosvenordale, He also leaves his parents, Roland LaRochelle and Mary (Bachand) LaRochelle

and a brother Roland LaRochelle and his wife Delores all of Southbridge, also a niece and her husband Amy and Patrick Reynolds of Dudley. He also leaves many brother and sister-in-laws that loved him dearly along with numerous friends. Jim lived in North Grosvenordale, Ct for the past 20

plus years,

James was the Head Maintenance Engineer for the Shaner Group in Southbridge. Some of Jimmy's joys were his motorcycle, his two dogs Ruby and Tilly and his love for his family and home.

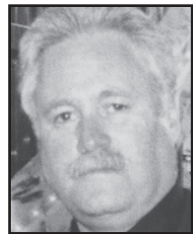
Please consider making a memorial contribution donations to the American Diabetes Foundation in honor of James.

Services will be announced at a later date. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with funeral arrangements.

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of James.

Alexander G. 'Glenn' Thibeault, 68

CHARLTON- Alexander G. 'Glenn' Thibeault, 68, passed away April 2, 2020 at Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge.



He leaves behind his wife of 36 years, Corinne E. (Ryder) Thibeault, his mother, Teresa F. (Dubuque) Thibeault of Charlton, 2 sons; Nathan Alex

Thibeault and his significant other Michelle of Charlton, and Joshua Lee Thibeault and his wife Anne Marie of Putnam, CT., a step-daughter, Melissa Vassar of Brookfield, 2 brothers; Wayne N. Thibeault and his significant other Kelly of Southbridge and Dean M. Thibeault and his wife Mary of Oakham, a grand-daughter Marijane, step-grandchildren; Johnathan McGary, Amanda Joy Hurd and her significant other Nolan, Xavier and Zachary and his close companion and furry friend 'Izzy'.

Glenn was born in Southbridge August 18, 1951 son of the late Alexander A. Thibeault who died March 21, 1999, and lived in Charlton most of his life.

He was a graduate of Charlton High School, was a master electro plater and

was a certified plastic welder and several other classified programs for the U.S. Government which he held many certifications.

He worked for LSA Clean Parts as a chemical technician, he also served on the Charlton Sewer Commission for 10 years and was instrumental in the design of the project. Glenn loved music and was an avid collector, and loved to travel to Vermont and Lake Champlain.

Glenn recently became certified as a food server on a food truck venture with his best friend Gabe Rivera of Southbridge.

Due to the current health conditions, mandated by state and federal guidelines, Funeral Services will be Private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to: The Multiple Myeloma Foundation, P.O. Box 414238, Boston, MA. 02241-4238.

The ROBERT J. MILLER-CHARLTON FUNERAL HOME, 175 Old Worcester Rd. is assisting the family with arrangements.

To leave an on-line condolence or to Share a memory, please visit: RJMiller-funerals.net

Barbara R. Yeagher Dalterio, 92

SOUTHBRIDGE- Barbara R. (Bazinet) Yeagher Dalterio age 92 passed away Thursday, April 2, 2020 at Overlook Masonic Home, Charlton. She leaves sons, Robert Yeagher Jr. of Thompson, CT and Brian Yeagher of Dudley, daughters, Jean E. Walker of Webster and Michelle F. Yeagher of Sterling, CT, twelve grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. Barbara had a son who predeceased her, Barry Yeagher of Webster. She had one brother that predeceased her the Honorable Dr. Wilfred Bazinet of Thompson, CT. She was born in Webster daughter of the late Wilfred Bazinet and

Florence (Barre) Bazinet and lived in Southbridge for several years, prior to that living in Thompson, Ct. She was the wife of the late Robert E. Yeagher Sr. and Salvatore Dalterio. There are no calling hours. There will be private graveside services in Mt. Zion Cemetery, Webster at a later date. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Gerald C Carlson, 80

Jerry Carlson passed away on April 3, 2020 after complications from COVID-19. Jerry was a hardworking family man, outdoorsman and animal lover. He was a veteran of the US Army and worked as a sheet metal worker and belonged to sheet metal workers union 63 for most of his life.



Always hardworking, he also bartended for many years and raised pheasants (the pheasant whisperer) at Singletary Rod & Gun Club for the last 42 years, where he was a lifetime member. Despite having

multiple joint replacements, he still chopped and split all his own firewood and was still working on his woodpile the day before he was admitted. In his younger days he loved to fish and hunt. He had plenty of annoying 'dad jokes' and loved Family Feud, The Price Is Right and Hee Haw. He had a glass of Merlot (which he always pronounced mer LOT) every evening. He also loved to annoy telemarketers and hated when anyone swore. He loved vacationing

in Maine and the Berkshires yet he always loved coming home to his piece of paradise.

He will be greatly missed by the love of his life Phyllis (Belisle) Carlson, his children Melissa (Peter) Voas, Stephen (Carole) and Rachel Carlson. His grandchildren Jason (Jennifer) Voas, Nicole (Levi) Schutter, Jamal, Naomi and Haleigh Carlson. His great grandchildren Aurora and Harrison Voas and Wyatt and Julia Schutter.

Jerry was predeceased by his parents Conrad and Celia (Chesna) Carlson and his brother Robert and sisters Barbara (Mercer) and Donna Carlson.

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

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to C/O Children's fund, Singletary Rod and Gun Club, 300 Sutton Ave. Oxford MA 01540.

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Jerry.

Ernest E. LaCroix, 95

SOUTHBRIDGE- Ernest E. LaCroix, 95, of Roger St., passed away on Sunday, April 5th, in Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge, after an illness.



His wife and love of his life, Janice A. (Lachapelle) LaCroix, passed away in 2009. His son, Ernest E. LaCroix, Jr., passed away in 2009. He leaves his step daughters, Sharon Rust of Southbridge, Linda Legere and her husband Ron of Sturbridge and Laurie Meehan and her husband Dennis of Southbridge; his step son, Michael Pontbriand and his wife Cindy of Lecanto, FL; his seven grandchildren, LoriAnne



Bernier and her husband Mark of N. Grosvenordale, CT., Jaime Cagle and her husband Michael of Tucson, AZ, Joshua Roy and his wife Rona of Sturbridge, Stephanie Kaferlein and her husband Matthew of Spencer, Dennis Meehan III and his wife Sarah of Southbridge, Christopher Meehan of Sturbridge and Michael Pontbriand, Jr. of Lecanto, FL; 7 great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by several brothers and sisters. He was

born in Southbridge the son of William and Rozilda (Benoit) LaCroix. Ernest was a US Army Veteran of World War II, serving in the 82nd Airborne Division in the European Theatre. He was a recipient of the Purple Heart.

Ernest was a Postal Carrier for the US Postal Service in Southbridge for 30 years, retiring in 1986. He was a member of the Leonide J. Lemire post 6055 of the VFW in Southbridge. He was also a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers. Ernest enjoyed going out to eat, loved Coney Island, and trying different restaurants with his daughters. He loved traveling and enjoying the beach, especially Maine and Florida with his wife. The greatest joy in his life was his wife, their children and grandchildren.

Due to current health restrictions his graveside service in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Southbridge will be private. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 30 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Florence G. LaCroix, 89

SOUTHBRIDGE- Florence G. (Mongeon) LaCroix, 89, of Hamilton St., passed away on Sunday, April 5th, in the Southbridge Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center, after a brief illness.



She leaves her longtime companion, Donald R. Pion; her daughter-in-law, Lorraine LaCroix of Plainfield, CT; her two sisters, Carolyn Sells of Florida and Donna LaRoche of E. Douglas; and her granddaughter, Lori-Anne Bernier of Thompson, CT. Her

son, Ernest A. LaCroix, Jr. passed away in 2009. She was also predeceased by her two brothers, Joseph Mongeon and Robert Mongeon and her three sisters, Doris Piche, Alice Menard, and Janice Bernardone. She was born in Charlton

the daughter of Joseph E. and Grace M. (Clarke) Mongeon.

Florence worked at the American Optical Co. in Southbridge for many years. She later worked at Schott Fiber Optics for several years before retiring many years ago. Florence was very fond of animals. She also enjoyed collecting and loved buying all kinds of items from the Publishers Clearing House.

She was the sweetest lady that anyone could know and she was loved by all who knew her.

Due to the current health restrictions her graveside service in St. Mary's Cemetery Southbridge will be private. There are no calling hours.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

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OBITUARIES

Frederick A. Baird Jr., 73



W O R C E S T E R - Frederick A. Baird Jr. age 73 passed away Monday morning at the St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester, MA. He leaves his wife of 35 years Sharan A. (Springer) Baird of Worcester. He also leaves daughters, Jessica Ring and her wife Erin of Worcester and Pamela Cavallo and her husband Jaye of NJ, also sons, Craig and Jason of Worcester, grandchildren, Hunter, Forrest , Emma, Kailyn and Kendall. He also leaves a sister Beverly Boza of Worcester.

Fred was born in Worcester, son of the late Frederick A. Baird Sr. and Blanche (Cusson) Baird and lived in Worcester all his life; he was a Vietnam Era US Air Force Veteran. Fred was a electrician and worked for IPG Photonics, Oxford, MA; he enjoyed riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle, and watching his children and grandchildren playing sports. Fred was a season ticket holder for Holy Cross football. The love of his life was quality time with his grandchildren.

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

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Fred.

Jeanne A. (Hebert) Ford, 87

SOUTHRBIRDGE- Jeanne A. (Hebert) Ford, 87, went on to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus, on Saturday, April 4th, in the Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge, after a long illness.



Her husband, Russell N. Ford, passed away in 2011. She leaves her three sons, Glenn Ford and his wife Michelle of Eastford, CT, David Ford and his wife Deborah of Thompson, CT, and Scott Ford and his wife Heather of Southbridge; her six daughters, Deborah Morrison and her husband David of Southbridge, Paula Addington and her husband Eugene of Hereford, AZ, Sandra Benoit of Conway, SC, Susan Robidas of Thompson, CT, Jayne Lefebvre and her husband Richard of Huntingdon, Que., Canada, and Lynn Miller and her husband Bernard of Wake Forest, NC; her sister, Irene Isabelle Vasquez of Rochdale, MA; 23 grandchildren; 36 great grandchildren; 4 great great grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; along with many many friends. She was born in Southbridge the daughter of Hormidas

and Emelia (Mongeau) Hebert. After retiring Jeanne and Russell lived in Maine for 16 years before moving back to Southbridge several years ago.

Jeanne worked at the American Optical Co. in Southbridge for almost thirty years, retiring many years ago. Jeanne above all loved her Lord Jesus Christ and her family. She was a devoted member of the Greenville Baptist Church in Rochdale. When she lived in Maine she was a member of the Red Hat Society and Living Waters Assembly of God. She enjoyed sewing and reading. She was also very fond of the Hallmark Channel movies, especially the Christmas movies, for Christmas was her favorite time of year.

Due to the current health restrictions her graveside service in the Worcester Memorial Park, Paxton, will be held at a later date. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 30 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01710 or to The Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, KS 66675-8516.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Lucille Steibel, 96

CHARLTON - Lucille (Bodiford) Steibel, 96, passed away at the Masonic Overlook Health Center on March 28, 2020;

She is survive by her husband William Steibel and her daughter Melanie Levine. Lucille was born in Columbus, Georgia on December 28, 1923, daughter of the late Bennie and Mae Lilly (Purvis) Bodiford; she was a teacher for many years, prior to her

retirement.

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

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Lucille.

Suzanne M. Parslow

WEST WARREN- Suzanne M. Parslow passed away Thursday, April 2, 2020 at her home. She leaves her children Rosann Goodine, Donald Goodine, Robert Goodine, Tina Goodine, Ira Estabrook and Scott Goodine, fifteen grandchildren, 32 great grandchildren and three great great grandchildren. She was the daughter of the late Donald

L. Cleveland and Mary L. Cleveland.

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

Herbert E. “Gene” Thompson, 93

CHARLTON – Herbert E. “Gene” Thompson, 93, formerly of Sandwich, MA passed away peacefully on April 1, 2020 after a long battle with Alzheimer’s disease.

Gene was born to Harry and Grace (Brug) Thompson in the small town of Plainville, MA; he graduated from the Mass Maritime Academy in 1945. At the end WWII Gene was aboard a gasoline tanker in the Pacific; after the war, he served in the Naval Reserves. Gene worked as a stationary steam engineer, completing his long career at the Canal Electric plant in Sandwich, MA.



On November 15, 1952, Gene and Carolyn Ralston were married, a marriage that would last for sixty-seven wonderful years; together they raised two sons, David and Peter.

Gene enjoyed fixing things, working in his yard, and harvesting shellfish; he loved his family and would always be right there to help.

Gene is survived by his wife Carolyn; two sons: David Thompson and his wife Martha and Peter Thompson and his wife Lorraine; his grandchildren: Marcus, Sarah and her husband Shawn, and William; his great-grandchild Jack, and his nephew Harry Schaller.

Please consider a memorial contribution to the Alzheimer’s Association in honor of Gene.

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

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Gene.

Michael P. Henry, 61

STURBRIDGE- Michael P. Henry age 61 passed away Sunday, April 5, 2020 at his home. He leaves his daughter Trisha M. Walsh and her husband Michael Walsh Sr. of Webster, two grandchildren Michael Jr. and Tasana. He also leaves a brother Timothy Henry of Worcester, four sisters; Barbara King of Millbury, Mary Ellen Lambert of Worcester, Patricia Henry of Grafton and Ruth Dansereau of N. Brookfield. He also leaves his special friend for over 30 years Susan McDonald of Webster.

He was born in Worcester son of the late Joseph Henry and Ruth (Raymond)

Henry and lived in Sturbridge for the past ten years prior to that living in Worcester. He was a formerly employed at Hudson Belting in Worcester.

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

Rosemary H. Wieloch, 78

DUDLEY – Rosemary H. (Meleika) Wieloch, 78, died Friday, April 3, 2020 in Harrington Healthcare at Hubbard after being stricken ill at home. Her husband of 54 years, John J. Wieloch, Sr., died in 2015.

She leaves a son, John J. Wieloch, Jr. of Dudley. She was preceded in death by her brother Phil Meleika.

She was born and raised in Oxford, a daughter of Felix F. and Charlotte J. (Korzun) Meleika and graduated from Oxford High School in 1959. She then earned a certificate in hair dressing.

Mrs. Wieloch worked as a hairdresser



at Gloria’s Beauty Salon in Webster for 8 years and then operated her own business at her home on a part-time basis for 11 years. After that, she became a homemaker.

She was a member of Saint Joseph Basilica in Webster and a member of the Saint Joseph Polish Women’s Club. She enjoyed crocheting, jewelry making and painting.

Her funeral and burial will be held privately for the family. Donations in her memory may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 260 Cochituate Road, Framingham, MA 01701. Arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster, MA.

www.websterfunerals.com

Russell G. Norwood Sr. 72

Russell G. Norwood Sr. 72, formerly of Worcester passed away March 18, 2020 at Harrington Healthcare - Hubbard Campus.

He leaves three children, Michael Norwood and his wife Tammy, Russell Norwood Jr. and his wife Wendy; Kellie Theriault and her husband Joshua. He also leaves several grandchildren and his brothers Stanley Norwood Jr and George Norwood. He is pre-deceased by his fiancé Edna Barnes and his former spouse, Linda Norwood. Russell worked

many years for St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester. Russell loved NASCAR, local car shows and listening to Elvis and the oldies.

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

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in memory of Russell.

Warren Knight

CANCELLATION of Graveside service for Warren Knight in Abington Cemetery. Service was scheduled for Saturday, April 18 and will be postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Services will be announced at a later date. www.smithandwalkerfh.com for updates.

MOORE

continued from page A10

dent who said, “I don’t believe in God or prayer ... so will you pray for me?” I prayed for her until her crisis passed. (Let the contradiction of her question sink in ...)

This too shall pass.

I don’t know what’s in store for us over the next few weeks and months. I’m not a health care worker or government official. All I’m certain of is that this isn’t the end of the world. This too, shall pass. The world will survive. I also understand that the death toll is high and growing. Just remember, if you shelter in place, the odds of you getting sick are minuscule. And if you are sick and remain in place, you won’t pass it to others. I think this will fit into the category of “Do good. Be good.”

Turn your fear and boredom into positive productivity during quarantine. Decide to make the most of this time and find both happiness and joy in doing something you have always wanted to do.

Stay healthy. Don’t be afraid. I’m praying for you. ■

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

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Betty T Church (20-00130)
The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated March 23, 2020, ordered that all claims must be pretested to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Donald F Church
c/o THOMAS E DUPONT, THOMAS E. DUPONT, ESQ,
35-ACADEMY STREET
P. O. BOX 267, DANIELSON, CT 06239
April 10, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Paul Roger Dery, AKA Paul R. Dery (20-00131) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated March 27, 2020, ordered that all claims must be pretested to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
c/o WILLIAM J MONTY, LAW OFFICE
W MONTY, 930 ROUTE 169,
PO BOX 266, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281
April 10, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Vernon R. Freelove (20-00097)
The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated March 30, 2020, ordered that all claims must be pretested to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

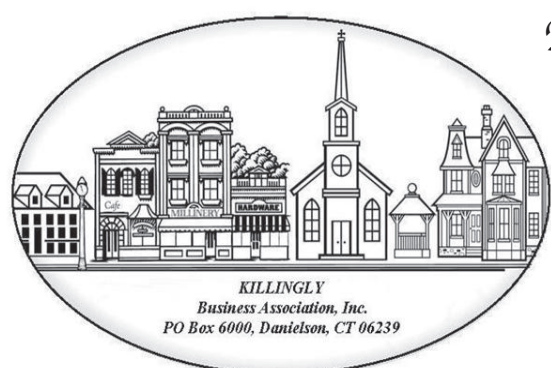
The fiduciary is:
Mildred Button, 1938 Glasgo Road,
Griswold, Ct 06351
April 10, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Verna E. McCullough (20-00138)
The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, ordered that all claims must be pretested to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Janna K. Deveny
c/o MICHAEL C MAGLIOCCO (attorney for Janna K. Deveny),
MICHAEL C. MAGLIOCCO,
ATTORNEY AT LAW, 14 MANSFIELD AVE, WILLIMANTIC, CT 06226, (860)423-6358.
April 10, 2020

Legal Notice
In accordance with Sections 22a-449(c)-105(h)(7) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the party responsible for historic environmental issues of certain property known William Prym, Inc. (aka Prym Consumer Products USA) in Killingly, Connecticut is providing this notice of its intent to conduct remediation at 444 Hartford Pike. Subsurface investigation in the area of the former fuel oil tank farm identified a localized area of fuel oil residues. The remedial activities are intended to address the fuel oil residues and will be performed in accordance with Connecticut regulations and a state approved Remedial Action Plan. Questions or requests for additional information should be directed in writing to Prym’s agent, SE Technologies, LLC, 500 Mosites Way, Suite 100, Pittsburgh, PA 15205, Attn: Steve Gerritsen. You may also contact the Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection with questions or comments, within 45 days of this notice, at 79 Elm Street Hartford, Connecticut 06106.
April 10, 2020



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Sat	12-9pm
Sun	11-5pm

We will maintain our current hours and have plenty of cans, bottles, and growlers to go!

To comply with state regulations, we will not be doing any draft beer or tastings on-site until April 30th.

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This closure may be extended through April 6th depending on statistics and guidance from the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

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OBITUARIES

Yvette D. Devault, 86a

WEBSTER – Yvette D. (Corriveau) Devault, 86, passed away peacefully at home on Tuesday March 24, 2020.



Being predeceased by her husband, the late Arthur Devault, Yvette is survived by two brothers: Rene Corriveau of FL, and Lucian Corriveau of NY; her daughter in law Debbie Champagne who lived with and cared for her for the past three years; her granddaughter Robin Champagne-Brewer of Maine, four great-grandchildren: Jazlyn, Jaron, Lilly, and Grace of Maine, and one great-granddaughter Beatrice Tomah, also of Maine. Doris also leaves several relatives and friends. Yvette is

also predeceased by her son Bobby Champagne; two daughters Debbie Champagne and Ann Corriveau; four brothers: Roger, Dickie, Donald, Jerry, Albert, and Bernie.

Yvette was born in Sturbridge, MA on July 7, 1933 daughter of the late Lucian and Irene (Tetreault) Corriveau; she worked at Ethan Allen Furniture ad an upholsterer for many years. Yvette greatly enjoyed cooking, especially for her family and treasured friends.

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

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Yvette.

Melissa Donna (Choiniere) Morency, D

Melissa Donna (Choiniere) Morency, Died very unexpectedly Friday March 13, 2020 due to undetermined medical condition.



She leaves behind her 2 remarkable daughters, Charlie 19 and Dani 16. Her boyfriend Michael Hart of 7 years. She was deeply in love and looking forward to their future together. Her daughters father Daniel with whom co-parented. Her mother Pamela Choiniere, 2 brothers Joshua and Jacob and his wife Ginny. Her great grandparents Edward and Donna Leavitt whom she absolutely adored. She leaves many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews that she was absolutely devoted to as well as a very large extended family.

Melissa was a devoted mother, not just to her amazing daughters, but to all of their friends as well, often planning and participating in outings such as Warp Tour, movies, Holiday Light Parade, Fire and Ice, sleepovers, visits to Salem, hikes at Purgatory Chasm, eating out, and so much more. She was a 2nd mom to many. Melissa was a NASCAR fan. Fiercely loyal, her favorite driver was Kevin Harvick. She loved gaming owning several systems. She was partial to Spyro 1 and Crash. She was a prolific shoe collector, she favored Adidas. She loved the Boston Bruins. She had her concealed carry permit and believed in gun rights and ownership. Lastly, she made the best damn cheesecake in the world. In lieu of flowers there has been a [gofundme page set up by Melissa Payne](http://gofundme.com/page/set-up-by/Melissa-Payne).

Shelley J. Smith, 53

WOODSTOCK – Shelley J. Smith, 53, passed away Monday, April 6, 2020 after a bravely fought battle with glioblastoma. She died at home surrounded by her friends and family.



She was the loving wife of Matthew Smith for 27 years. Born in Hartford, she was the daughter of Jack and Jean Hexter.

Shelley grew up in Tolland, CT and graduated from Tolland High School. After graduating from UCONN, she was a special education teacher in Ashford, CT and Mary Esther, FL. Shelley faithfully served her nation for 20 years as a military spouse, frequently acting as a single parent on short-notice in locations around the world and sometimes in very difficult circumstances. She made life-long friends where ever she went. She enjoyed many activities, but above all, she loved being with her family. She was an excellent cook and

enjoyed hosting friends and family. Shelley also enjoyed gardening, bee-keeping, cheesy monster movies and hitting the beach. She was a sweet, easy-going person and a loving, outstanding wife, mother and daughter.

Shelley is survived by her sons, Aaron and Justin, daughter Ashley, brother Craig Hexter and his wife Tricia of Michigan as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and many friends that she considered family.

Shelley's family would like to thank the wonderful doctors, nurses, caretakers, aids and their staff professionals who cared for her during her illness.

The family intends to have a Celebration of Shelley's Life after the Coronavirus subsides. Please visit pietrasfuneralhome.com for updates and online condolences.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the Connecticut Brain Tumor Alliance, Inc, PO Box 370514, West Hartford, CT 06137 or <http://www.ctbta.org>

Brandon L. Malarkey, 31

Brandon L. Malarkey age 31 passed away unexpectedly at his home on Thursday, April 2nd in Dayville CT.



Brandon was predeceased by his Mother Brenda Vose and grandmother Pauline Vose both of Killingly. He is survived by his parents, Michael and Kim Malarkey Of Jewett City, his brothers: Dylan Malarkey and wife Jessica , Eric Malarkey And wife Jordyn , Shawn Malarkey and girlfriend Samantha all of Killingly, CT. His grandmother Phyllis Malarkey along with many aunts uncles and cousins as well as

good friends survive him. Born March 13, 1989 he attended Plainfield High and graduated June 2007. Brandon will be remembered as a very kind hearted guy who always strived to be as independent as possible. A Funeral and celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date to be announced pending the end of our present health epidemic. In lieu of flowers donations can please be sent to Line Baptist Church in Foster R.I. This was a church that Brandon greatly enjoyed throughout his life and had many friends who were like family to him. Brandon was known to have been a great mentor to other children who attended there also. Share a memory at www.gagnonandcostellofh.com

Catherine Joanne King

BROOKLYN - I Catherine Joanne King died at my home in Brooklyn, CT, on April 2, 2020. I am survived by my beloved grandchildren, Tawnya Larkin (Josh), Traci Surrell, Heath Bourgoin (Melissa). I was predeceased

by husband Warren O. King, children – Christine Langlois, Lynette Bourgoin, Matthew Warren King.

At my request cremation will be private and at the discretion of the family.

Lois Siegmund

Lois Siegmund Celebration of Life postponedCelebration of Life event that was scheduled Lois SiegmundÀ on

April 18 at the Inn at Woodstock has been postponed. The Inn is currently closed.

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OBITUARIES

Doria LaBrec, 93

PLAINFIELD– Doria (Menard) LaBrec, 93, of Windsor Ave., passed away peacefully at the Colonial Health and Rehabilitation Center on Saturday, April 4, 2020. Born in North Grosvenordale, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Doria (Guindon) Menard. She was predeceased by her loving husband, the late Harold A. LaBrec, longtime masonry instructor at Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School.

Doria loved being a hairdresser in her younger years, but when she married Harold LaBrec, she devoted her-



self and cherished her loving family. Doria enjoyed flower gardening and all types of crafting including needle work. Her son Harold attributes a lot of his interest in creating to his mother's loving influence. Doria is survived by her son, Harold and his wife Sandra LaBrec of Griswold; and her beloved granddaughter, Cheryl Racicot. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT. 06260 and per the request of the family are private. Memorial donations may be made to the Colonial Health and Rehabilitation Center, 16 Windsor Ave., Plainfield, CT. 06374. For memorial guestbook visit [www. GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

Jeannette Laincz

DUDLEY - Jeannette Laincz passed away on March 31, 2020; She was pre-deceased by her husband of 63 years, John Laincz and her daughter Donna Hohler; She leaves her son-in-law Robert Hohler, two grandchildren Dr. Stephanie Pennington and her husband Bryan of Woodbridge, CT, and Jonathan Hohler and his wife Melissa of Dudley, MA; three great-grandchildren, Vincent Pennington and Ava



and Danika Hohler. Jeannette was born in Dudley to her parents Anthony and Clara (Laprey) Menzone; she was pre-deceased by her older brother Joseph Menzone; she leaves her younger brother Robert Menzone and his wife Debbie of Maine. Private funeral services have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street Webster, MA. A guest book is available at [www. shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com) where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Jeannette.

Lorraine L. Adams, 77

GROSVENORDALE – Lorraine (LaChappelle) Adams, 77, of Reardon Rd., passed away peacefully at UMass Memorial Medical Center on Monday, March 30, 2020. Born in Windham, CT, she was the daughter of the late Mitchell and Phobe LaChappelle. Mrs. Adams was a school bus driver for the Town of Thompson. She enjoyed playing Bingo, cards, Scrabble, loved birds, dogs, foxes and feeding the deer. She also enjoyed gardening, going to yard sales and antiquing. She always had a great sense of humor.



Lorraine is survived by her sons, Gordon Adams II, and his wife Muriel of Putnam, James Adams and his wife Diane of Putnam, and Donald Adams of Putnam; her daughters, Susan Montpelier of Canterbury and her longtime companion, Douglas Urbanowski, and Lorrie Anne Adams of Grosvenordale; eleven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Services are private and arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT 06260. Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Memorial Processing, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Nancy Bell Asal

Nancy Bell Asal went home to be with her Lord and Savior April 4, 2020. She was the daughter of the late Holman and Edna (Leveille) Bell, born August 19, 1929. As a young woman she worked as a switchboard operator for the Bell Telephone Company. Through mutual friends she met her future husband Richard J. Asal Sr. They married on September 3, 1955 at the home they would share for the next 58 years. She and Richard were an adventurous couple who loved to travel. In 1966 they bought and converted a school bus into a camper. They took many memorable trips with the whole family in tow. She would document these trips by keeping a daily diary. They both invested themselves in raising their 10 children. She was a stay at home mother with strong values who managed to make sure her children attended church every Sunday. Through this her children were blessed with extended church family, people who helped to shape their lives for the



better. Nancy loved to bake and was quite an artist. She was well known for her hand knitted Christmas stockings that are cherished by many. She is survived by her children Andre (Patricia) Asal of Anderson, SC., Richard Asal Jr. of Thompson, Debra Piper of Thompson, Priscilla Asal of Putnam, Cheryl Bisson of Thompson, Carla (Fred) Kress of Littleton CO., Sandra Law of Lexington SC., Kristine (Lawrence) Campos of Putnam, Scott Asal of San Diego CA., and Virginia Asal of Thompson. Also surviving her are numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Richard, granddaughter Rebecca Piper Herron, great grandson Charles Spenser Finnegan Bledsoe and great great grandson Everest Hines-Greene. Thank you Mom for all your love and support. You will be greatly missed. Till we meet again in heaven... We love you. Services will be held at a later date. Share a memory at www.smithand-walkerfh.com

Thomas (Tom) Grochmal, 73

Thomas Edward Grochmal, 73, of Killingly, passed away peacefully at his home on Thursday, March 26, 2020. Mr. Grochmal, known to his friends as Tom, was born on November 18, 1946 in Willimantic, CT. He spent his grade school years in the Willimantic school system and graduated from the University of Connecticut with a master's degree at the age of 23. He spent two years in the Army and eventually ended up as an instructor at H. H. Ellis Technical School in Danielson, CT. He was much-loved by his students until his retirement in 2011 after thirty years of teaching. Unfailingly dependable and steadfastly kind, Tom was a rock for those who loved him. He could always be counted on for a helping hand and was more grandfather than uncle to his sister Maryann's children. After his retirement from teaching, he cherished the time he spent babysitting his great-nieces, Charlotte and Gwendolyn. Tom enjoyed following the careers of Sandy Kofax, Johnny Unitas, and the great Stan "the Man" Musial, as well as the UConn Husky teams. For many years, Tom spent his free time running, hiking tall mountains, and traveling (often to hike new tall mountains). A lover of



history and a vast repository of classic movie and music trivia, Tom also loved photography (before it went digital) and spent considerable time documenting his nieces' childhoods and the area's Tiger Lilies. Tom was predeceased by his father, Stanley J. Grochmal and his mother, Helen (Wood) Grochmal; his maternal grandparents, Holmer T. Wood and Grace (Thompson) Wood, of Windham Center, CT; his paternal grandparents, John Grochmal and Caroline K. Grochmal, of Coventry, CT; and one brother, Stanley E. Grochmal, of Danielson, CT. He was also predeceased by his longtime stepmother, Vivian B. Grochmal, of Danielson, CT. He is survived by his sisters, Dorothy E. Grochmal of Danielson, CT and Maryann E. Szela and her husband, Jan, of Pomfret Center, CT, and his stepsiblings, James Riley of Pompano Beach, FL, Daniel Riley of Moosup, CT, and Diane Shields and her husband, Dan, of Roanoke, VA, as well as several nieces and nephews. He will be missed immeasurably. A private person all his life, Tom preferred to depart the world in the same fashion he lived in it—quietly and with little fuss. He asked that there be no services held and his ashes scattered amongst places he loved. Memorial donations may be made to the World Wildlife Fund, an organization of which Tom was a longtime supporter. tillinghastfh.com

Jeanne S. Mackie, 95

PLAINFIELD - Jeanne S. Mackie, 95, of Brooklyn passed away peacefully on March 25, 2020 at Colonial Health & Rehab in Plainfield. She was born in Hartford on March 7, 1925 daughter of the late John R. and Winifred (Wilbur) Mackie. Jeanne grew up in Sterling but lived most of her life in South Killingly and Brooklyn. She worked as a hairdresser for Betty Rose in Plainfield, and after many years retired from American Optical in Southbridge, MA. She was a life-long member of the



United Protestant Church in Sterling, serving as Clerk and organist. She leaves a brother Arthur Mackie of Montville, foster brothers Dudley (Carol) of Ashford, and Lincoln (Janice) Cooper of Sterling, foster sister, Carolyn Cooper of Ballwin, MO. Although she never married, she was a caring, loving aunt to all her nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers, John and George Mackie, and sisters Barbara, Patricia, and Cynthia. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Tillinghast Funeral Home, 433 Main Street, Danielson is in charge of arrangements. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Project PIN, PO Box 936, Moosup, CT 06354

Julie (Hopper) Deso-Pizzotti, 67

WORCESTER – Julie L. Deso-Pizzotti, 67, of Sterling St, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family in Woodstock, CT. Born in Redding, CA., she was the daughter of the late Charles E Hopper and Virginia A. (Hill) Mapes. Mrs. Deso-Pizzotti was a passionate reader. She would often finish a book in a single day. She loved to sing and make people laugh, always considered the life of the party. Most of all, she loved spending time with her daughters, grandchildren and great granddaughter.



Julie is survived by her daughters Jenny Mossey, Jody Herrera, Jamie Deso-Palaima and Jillian Deso-Webber. She is also survived by her grandchildren Nicole & Amanda Mossey, James & Chloe Herrera, Adaline & Harry Webber and great granddaughter Ada'Mae Garner. She was predeceased by her parents, Virginia A. Mapes and Charles E. Hopper, her stepfather Douglas O. Mapes and her sister Kristy A. Masterson. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St. Putnam, CT. A graveside memorial service will be scheduled at a future date. For memorial guestbook visit [www. GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

Robin L. Everburg, 59,

Robin L. Everburg, 59, of Woodstock, CT passed away at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, CT, on Wednesday, April 1, 2020. Robin was born and raised in Southbridge, MA, the first daughter of Ruth and Don Everburg. She was the granddaughter of the late Wilbur and Emma Smith of Woodstock and the late Bill and Ruth Everburg of FL. In addition to her parents, she is survived locally by sister Sherry and two nieces, Audrey and Erika Helmetag. She moved to Woodstock with her family approximately 30 years ago. Robin was an excellent student, taking much joy in learning. A graduate of Gordon College in Wenham, MA she attained an international award for excellence in a foreign language (in her case French), the only one in her class to achieve this honor. Robin partnered with her mother in the work of Robin's Nest Studio in Woodstock and became a very accomplished artist. Many homes in the area and beyond have her work. An avid reader with a special focus on American and British history, she had a personal library of hundreds of books. Bookstore visits were very high on her list of favorite things to do. Blessed with a prodigious memory, could recall virtually everything



that she had either seen or read even decades later. Was always, when in doubt, go ask Robin. Robin enjoyed family times and particularly loved sailing on the family sailboat in RI's ocean waters. An excellent swimmer, her father soon learned never to get in a race with her in the pool. She also got special enjoyment from her work with Cornell University's Birdwatcher's program and inputting to them weekly her findings. During their inputting season, she could be frequently be seen hurrying to get her binoculars to most accurately identify the specimens. Another passion of Robin's was in the rescue and care of homeless cats. Over the years, she personally cared for over 120 of them. She leaves a most devoted gray angora named Smoky. Robing was very proud of her two nieces and in their accomplishments. Took much joy in their lives and hearing their stories. Also, a special thank you from her family to her friend carl Matson of Woodstock who was very much involved in Robin's life. A memorial service in celebration of Robin's life is planned for later date. A graveside service was held at the convenience of the family in Elmvale Cemetery, Woodstock, CT. Donations may be made in her memory to Paws Cat Shelter, 240A Route 171, Woodstock, CT 06281. Share a memory at [www. smithandwalkerfh.com](http://www.smithandwalkerfh.com)

Vasilios T. “Bill” Siozopoulos, 93

DUDLEY– Vasilios T. “Bill” Siozopoulos, 93, entered Paradise on Saturday March 21, 2020. Being predeceased by his beloved wife of 54 years Sophia (Kotoulas) Siozopoulos in 2010, Vasilios is survived by two daughters: Steliane Thompson and her husband David of Holden, and Despina Kiely of Dudley; his brother Theophilos Siozopoulos of Thessaloniki, Greece; five grandchildren: William, Elias, and Nicholas Thompson; Alexandra and Christopher Kiely; he also leaves many relatives and dear friends. Bill was born in Polykastanon, Greece on March 12, 1927, son of the late Theodore and Theodora (Tsiliminga) Siozopoulos. Bill was extremely proud of his Greek heritage, as a young man, he served honorably in the Greek Army during World War II; he moved here with his wife in 1956. Bill and Sophie were very active at the original Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church on High Street where Bill served as treasurer on the parish council. Bill was a founding member of the new church constructed on Lake Parkway; he and his wife greatly loved their church community; they were always eager to lend a helping hand and provide supplies for church fundraisers, especially the annual Greek Festival. For nearly forty years Bill and his wife operated the former Mini Mart, more affectionately known as “The Greek Market” on Main Street in Webster, which he continued operating until just a few years ago. As proud business owners, Bill and Sophia helped define the true meaning of philanthropy; they cared for their customers as if they were family; they delivered groceries to the homebound



during blizzards, they open-heartedly helped those with limited financial resources, they provided for their community while successfully raising a family. Bill was the quintessential hard-working Greek immigrant who worked earnestly to provide for and care for his family who he was devoted to; they were truly happy helping others. Bill and Sophia raised their family with the firm belief that kindness is the most important quality and that you can reach your goals with hard work and dedication. During the past two years, whenever Bill was seen in the community, he was fondly remembered for his kindness and generosity. Bill was approached by caring recipients of his kindness and even children of children remember him; he was a very proud, stoic, hard-working, family-devoted, and truly inspiring man who never hesitated to help anybody. As the outpouring of support from the community continues it is clear he has left an everlasting impression and will never be forgotten. Due to the current pandemic, private funeral services were held at the Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Webster; Private Committal Services were held in Mount Zion Cemetery, where Vasilios will rest next to his beloved Sophia. Once the current pandemic resolves, a Celebration of Life Gathering will be arranged and announced. In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to the Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church Memorial Fund in honor of Bill. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street Webster, MA is honored to have been entrusted with funeral arrangements. A guest book is available at [www. shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com) where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Bill.

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