



Tough times never last.
But tough people do.
- Robert Schuller

PUTNAM VILLAGER

Friday, April 17, 2020

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John D. Ryan — Courtesy

Putnam's Scouts BSA Troop 21 and Cub Scout Pack 21 joined forces recently with Cargill Council 64, Knights of Columbus, to collect donations of money and non-perishable food for the Putnam-based non-profit Daily Bread Food Pantry, which serves local, needy people. Knights and Scouts completed food collections shortly before Connecticut's "Stay Safe, Stay Home" advisories went into effect in mid-March. After getting a few late monetary donations, drive organizers just finished the count, with \$2,512 in cash and 2,407 pounds of non-perishable food collected. In addition to collections at three area churches and the Putnam Town Hall, Scouts and adult leaders are shown here at the combined March 14 community collection event at the Cargill Council K of C Hall on Providence Street in Putnam.

Putnam Knights, Scouts collect cash and food for local needy

PUTNAM — In the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic, a recently-completed food drive is helping the non-profit Daily Bread Food Pantry to get through the unusually large need for help they are experiencing.

Scouts BSA Troop 21, Cub Scout Pack 21 and Cargill Council 64, Knights of Columbus, joined together to collect more than \$2,500 and well over a ton of food for local needy people. Knights and Scouts completed food collections shortly before Connecticut's "Stay Safe, Stay Home" advisories went into effect in mid-March. After getting a few late monetary donations, drive organizers just finished the count, with \$2,512 in cash and 2,407 pounds of non-perishable food collected.

Daily Bread Program Coordinator Ann

Kathi Peterson said they are very grateful.

"Thank God for this food drive," she said. "Thank God for what the Scouts and the Knights of Columbus have done."

The local, non-profit, non-denominational food pantry is operated by Interfaith Human Services of Putnam, providing local needy people with food and financial help to pay for necessities like electricity and heating oil. Peterson said that based solely on need, prior to the virus outbreak Daily Bread was helping an average of about 500 to 550 people every month, sometimes more, from Putnam, Pomfret, Woodstock and Eastford. Economic conditions over the last few weeks, however, have increased that number.

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Adapting to life under COVID-19

BY KAREN BUTERA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM — We have all had new lifestyles to adapt to due to the Corona Virus Pandemic. Everyday life as we have known it has changed drastically. Local businesses have furloughed employees, or others are now working from home. Working parents have now become teachers and teachers have had to develop tech skills that they never needed before. Grocery stores are having a hard time keeping their shelves stocked, and many cannot find their favorite products. That elusive toilet paper is still in short supply.

Day Kimball Hospital has also had to make changes by developing better access into the hospital.

According to Joseph Adiletta, Interim President of the hospital, "As things rapidly change, we have tightened up a little more. As people enter through the ER entrance we have a safety officer asking them what they are coming in for, and are then guided to the

proper area. If they have symptoms of the Corona Virus, they are required to put on a mask and ushered into a room in the ER with negative pressure where clinical tests are done on them."

If they are there for another reason, then they are treated in the regular part of the ER.

"We have been preparing for additional beds in additional negative pressure rooms," said Adiletta.

A negative pressure room takes air out to contain the spread of the disease.

"We have been very fortunate to see a low number of Covid 19 patients and have swabbed over 400 people in the community," he added. "Only 27 were positive. Most can be sent home with mild symptoms. We will take care our community members as we always have."

One of the other things that seem to be a problem in all of this is the insufficient amount of PPE- Personal Protective Equipment for the hospital. A call has gone out for donations

Turn To **ADAPTING** page **A7**

Day Kimball Hospital establishes triage tent

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) is taking extra precautions to provide the safest environment possible and protect its patients, staff and visitors due to the escalating coronavirus disease COVID-19 pandemic.

To prepare for a possible surge in patients seeking assessments for the novel coronavirus, Day Kimball Hospital has established a triage and assessment tent outside the emergency department ambulance bay. Considered an extension of the emergency room, the temperature-controlled tent is designed to assemble triage personnel and medical equipment in an attempt to isolate potential COVID-19 cases.

Individuals coming to the Emergency Department will be greeted by a team member who will ask them a series of questions about their health. Based

on the screening results people may be directed to go home to monitor their symptoms in isolation or they may be directed to the triage tent for further evaluation by a healthcare professional.

"This is not set up to be a drive up testing location," said John Graham, MD, Chief Medical Officer and Vice President of Quality and Medical Affairs, Day Kimball Healthcare. "The tent has been established specifically for Emergency Department patients who meet the screening criteria to be more thoroughly evaluated. Only patients that require treatment after their screening will be brought into the hospital from the triage tent."

The Emergency Department at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam is available around

Turn To **TRIAGE** 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 situation 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.

Eastern makes, donates masks in COVID-19 relief effort



WILLIMANTIC — Looking for ways to help during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, a team of volunteer "seamstresses" from Eastern Connecticut State University has collaborated to produce face masks for organizations on the frontlines of the health care emergency. The relief effort is being coordinated by the Center for Community Engagement (CCE), which has a team of 26 volunteers sewing cloth masks during this time of quarantines and social distancing.

Separate from the home-made mask production project, Eastern's Office of Environmental Health and

Safety has donated 1,200 surgical masks to the Windham Emergency Management Office, which will be distributed to various agencies across town.

While hospitals and other healthcare providers face shortages of personal protection equipment (PPE), other essential staff such as grocery store clerks and senior living center staff also say they lack sufficient protections, and have been seeking masks to use.

"We all are worried about the drastic increase in coronavirus infections and if you are like me, you wonder what we can do to help," said Kim Silcox, director of

the CCE. "We are encouraging anyone with a sewing machine to help make masks that can be donated to nursing homes, senior living centers and other sites where masks are in very short supply."

The CCE made its first major delivery of 54 masks this week to the Seabury retirement community in Bloomfield.

"We received an incredible act of goodwill and generosity today from Eastern Connecticut State University," wrote Seabury staff on its Facebook page on April 6. "As our own res-

Turn To **MASKS** page **A7**

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

I hope that all of you and your families are healthy and are finding positive pastimes during this COVID-19 Stay at Home period. For this week's column I decided to go back one hundred years and see what was happening in Killingly and the surrounding communities in April 1920. Note the variety in happenings. I have used the spellings as found in the articles. The word street does not seem to be capitalized as we commonly write it today. Hopefully you'll find the tidbits interesting. Maybe you'll find the name of a relative in the clippings. As always, feel free to email comments. If you are unable to, please write them down and send them to the Killingly Historical Center. Do not call the Killingly Historical Center with them until the Stay at Home period has ended.

I'll start with the most humorous item that I found. Under the news for Danielson and vicinity from the April 13, 1920 *Norwich Bulletin*, "Charles T. Tillinghast is not a nature fakir, so his story of seeing a rabbit swim across Snake Meadow brook on a recent afternoon is regarded here as an interesting contribution to animal lore."(p. 6; newspapers.com).

The same issue and page noted, "Joseph Labelle is erecting two bungalows on the easterly side of School street (Danielson), south of Cottage street. The new dwellings add to the attractiveness of that part

of School street, which has developed rapidly during the past few years." I wonder if I can figure out which ones they were.

The *Norwich Bulletin* of the following day had a write-up of the funeral of a former pastor of Westfield Congregational Church. "Tuesday afternoon the funeral of Rev. Clarence Howard Barber, for more than a decade one of Danielson's most beloved pastors, was held from his home on Main street, with services at 2:00 p.m. at the Westfield Congregational church, of which he had been a pastor. His successor in the pastorate, Rev. Walter B. Williams, conducted the service, which was without ostentation. The body of the church notwithstanding the severity of the storm, was about half-filled. Included in the congregation were many of the members of the church, clergymen from Danielson and other eastern Connecticut towns and a delegation from the Congregational church at Manchester, Conn., where Rev. Mr. Barber was pastor for more than 18 years, prior to coming to Danielson. The bearers were six deacons of the Westfield Congregational church. Willard Danielson, James Danielson, George E. Danielson, George B. Guild, H. B. Surrey, and T. E. Hammett. Burial was in Westfield cemetery. A. F. Wood was in charge of the funeral arrangements"



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

(p. 6, newspapers.com).

For entertainment in Danielson in April 1920 one could visit the "Danielson Casino, Starkweather Building, Bowling and Pocket Billiards, 4 alleys, 3 tables.. Wednesdays Ladies' Day. 'Bowling the sport for all. Prize given away every Saturday.'" (*Norwich Bulletin*, 15 April 1920, p. 6; newspapers.com).

Perhaps instead you would have liked an outing to the Orpheum Theater in Danielson on Friday, April 16 (one night only) to see *The Kiss Burglar* starring "the Famous Winter Garden Girl Patricia O'Hearn with Willie Dunlap, Henry Coote, Donald Archer and Viola Ward. The Most Tempting Galaxy of Girls Ever Girdled "(What a strange phrase!)" (April 15, 1920 *Norwich Bulletin*, p. 6; newspapers.com). A small separate article in the same issue noted, "The *Kiss Burglar*, a snappy musical show, was an attraction that pleased a large audience at the Bradley theatre Wednesday evening."(p.6).

In 1920, automobiles were

in competition with the trolley for room to maneuver in downtown Danielson. I had to chuckle at the following: "In the opinion of many of Danielson's citizens, something will have to be done to curb fast driving of motor vehicles through the borough. The abuse of speed has become particularly flagrant in the business section, where narrow escapes from serious accidents are of daily occurrence. Fifteen miles an hour is the maximum speed at which motor vehicles may be operated within the borough limits, and this fact is well known to every motor vehicle operator, at least each operator makes oath that they are familiar with the motor vehicle laws of the state when accepting an operator's license..." (*Norwich Bulletin*, Aug. 2, 1920, p. 6; newspapers.com)

From Putnam--"For the most part, striking weavers of the Manhasset Manufacturing company did not return to work Monday though a few went back to their looms at the noon hour. The strike is very orderly. During the day the strikers held a meeting to review the situation and to consider what steps should be taken. Lieut. Robert Bridgeman of the state police is in town observing conditions and has with him other members of his department." (*Norwich Bulletin*, April 13, 1920, p. 6, newspapers.com). I will be conducting more research on

this topic for the next column.

From North Grosvenordale. "Al Lundstrum of North Grosvenordale, one of the best known middle weight wrestlers in the east, is to leave this week on a tour that will extend until October. The first leg of his journey will take him to Nova Scotia. From the provinces he will work westward and may go as far as the Pacific Coast. Lundstrum will travel in company with Peter Sturgis; they are matched by the men who have arranged the tour. He expects to wrestle twice a week ..." (*Norwich Bulletin*, 13 April 1920, p. 6; newspapers.com). Even doing an internet search I was unable to come up with more on this wrestler. Perhaps one of you can add to the small tidbit. If so, please email me.

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

Day Kimball launches telehealth to expand access to care

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) has launched telehealth services to help care for patients amid the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

Health care providers at Day Kimball Medical Group (DKMG), the physician practices of DKH, are taking the traditional office visit online to continue taking care of patients during these challenging times.

Telehealth video visits – conducted via smartphone, tablet, or a desktop or laptop computer equipped with a web camera – are well suited for most patients who want to see their

provider but do not need to physically come to the practice. For patients who do not have access to a computer or smartphone, a regular phone call with their provider can be scheduled as well.

"Given the COVID-19 pandemic, DKMG is giving our patients an alternative to coming to the doctor's office to receive their care," said Matt Roy, Executive Director, Day Kimball Medical Group. "Telehealth visits will provide our patients the care they need and want, by letting patients see their healthcare provider from the comfort and secu-

rity of their own home. It's a safe, easy and convenient way to keep their appointments and stay connected with their caregivers."

While some patients will still require office visits, based on their status and health conditions, DKMG clinicians are encouraging patients to stay connected through virtual office visits whenever possible.

To schedule a telehealth visit with a DKMG provider, patients should call their regular provider's office. Any patient wishing to be seen as a new patient in one of the DKMG practices can call 1 (844) DKMG DOC (1-844-356-4362) to speak with a patient service representative.

Once a telehealth visit is scheduled, the office staff will send the patient detailed instructions on how to begin the virtual visit.

"The addition of telehealth appointments will make it convenient and safe to receive care with Day Kimball Medical Group. We are committed to helping mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our communities, and this exciting new

option will be a great benefit to patients and clinicians in that effort," said Roy.

For those patients whose provider determines that they need to be seen in person, Day Kimball Medical Group locations are open and continue to welcome patients for their appointments.

DKH's outpatient behavioral health department is also offering telehealth visits for mental health services. The stress and uncertainty of this pandemic can be particularly difficult for people with mental health conditions. These virtual visits will allow patients to talk with one of our health care providers by phone or video chat.

To schedule a virtual appointment with an outpatient behavioral health provider, call (860) 963-6385.

The Rose Bove LaRose Cancer Center at Day Kimball Hospital is also offering telehealth services for certain patient visits. To determine if a virtual visit is appropriate, patients should call the Cancer Center at (860) 963-6425.

Learn more about telehealth services available at Day

Kimball Healthcare during the COVID-19 pandemic at www.daykimball.org/telehealth.

For the latest information, refer to the CDC website, 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 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.



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VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of April 6: Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Pine Warbler, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, American Kestrel, Snipe, Woodcock, Cooper's Hawk, Great Blue Heron, Flicker, Eastern Phoebe, Bluebird, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Field Sparrow. Mockingbird, Palm Warbler. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.

READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER

River Run Academy hires Tina Mannarino as Director of Education

THOMPSON — Dr. Tina Mannarino, an educational leader who has spent most of her career working on behalf of children with special needs, has been named Director of Education at River Run Academy at the Susan Wayne Center of Excellence, a school of Justice Resource Institute (JRI).

Most recently, she served as Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel Services for the Westport (Conn.) Public Schools, where she oversaw school psychologists, social workers, and occupational therapists and managed special education, programs for gifted and talented children, and English as a second language.

Prior to that, she was Director of Programs and Services for Young Children and families at LEARN, a Regional Education Service Center supporting 25 school districts in southeastern Connecticut.

“Dr. Mannarino is a superb leader with experience at all levels. She builds programs, inspires her coworkers and cares deeply that every child has the opportunity to excel,” said Stacey Forrest, assistant executive director of

the JRI’s Connecticut division. “We are thrilled to have her join us.”

Dr. Mannarino grew up the daughter of the head librarian at a Brooklyn, N.Y. high school and has been passionately interested in education all her life.

“I loved it. Very early on I wanted to be part of a school system,” Mannarino told the Westport News in 2018.

She began her career as a school psychologist in New York City before working as an administrator with special emphasis on developing programs for children with special needs. She has a special interest in supporting students who bring relationship challenges to the school environment.

“Education is the means by which a society ensures that everyone, regardless of circumstance, can become their very best selves,” Dr. Mannarino said. “Education is how we unlock the potential in every person, and that is why I am absolutely thrilled to be joining River Run Academy, which does so much good for so many children.”

She served as the Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services

in New London, where she worked for seven years, and prior to that in the New Haven Public Schools, where she worked for 13 years, building an early education program to give children an early start.

Dr. Mannarino received her undergraduate degree and School Psychology degrees from Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, her school administration degree from Southern Connecticut State University, and her doctorate in Educational Administration from the University of Connecticut NEAG School of Education. She has presented at several national conferences and conventions including the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

River Run Academy, located in Thompson, Conn., is the clinical day school at the Susan Wayne Center of Excellence, a school of JRI, located in Thompson. It offers intensive educational, vocational, and clinical services for mild to moderately cognitively impaired students ages 11 to 21.

Eastern Connecticut Conservation District hosting workshop on riprvarian buffers

REGION — As part of a Natchaug River Healthy Watershed Implementation Planning Project, the Eastern Connecticut Conservation District is hosting a free online workshop focused on riparian buffers. Land use in these strips of land along stream corridors, lakes and wetland complexes have a major influence on stream and lake health, as well as overall habitat quality.

The workshop will be held April 28 from 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Dr. Juliana Barrett of CT Sea Grant will give the first presentation, entitled “Riparian Buffers and their Importance in Connecticut.” Riparian buffers play a critical role in protecting our wetlands and waterways. The presentation will include the characteristics of riparian buffers, the services they provide and the ecosystem services provided by different-sized riparian buffers.

Patrick Smith and Bet Zimmerman Smith will follow Dr. Barrett’s presentation and share wildlife camera video clips from their 30 acre private nature

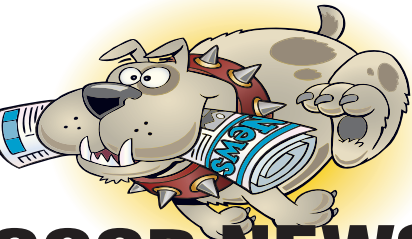
preserve, The Fen, located along Muddy Brook in Woodstock. Their amusing presentation will support the significance of these strips of land as important wildlife corridors as you watch a diversity of animals, from bobcats to wood ducks, featured in their presentation.

Who should attend this workshop? The Natchaug regional watershed includes the towns of Ashford, Eastford, Chaplin, Mansfield, Union, Willington, Windham and Woodstock. Volunteer land use regulatory officials, conservation commission members, planners, wetland officials, builders, and landowners with river or lake frontage, or people who are interested in how the ecosystem they live in works. This will be a family friendly event, so invite the clan to watch with you.

To register for this workshop, please email Jean.Pillo@Comcast.net before April 24. Workshop login information will be sent out after you register for the event.

The Eastern Connecticut

Conservation District is a not-for-profit organization created by State Statute. Our mission is focused on soil and water conservation. We serve 36 towns in eastern Connecticut. To learn more about the services we preform, or updates on the current projects we are involved with, please visit our website at www.ConserveCT.org/eastern.



GOOD NEWS

Red Cross assisting displaced Danielson family

DANIELSON — The American Red Cross is helping one family – four adults, no children — after a fire yesterday on Reynolds Street, Danielson. The Red Cross provided assistance to meet the family’s immediate needs.

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

Those affected will connect with Red

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

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

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WOODSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Developmental Preschool Screenings
Woodstock Elementary Schools is seeking all Woodstock Children born in 2015 to participate in a developmental preschool screening.
Screenings will be held on the following Fridays from 9am-10:30am:

February 14, 2020	April 3, 2020
March 13, 2020	May 8, 2020

Please call the Woodstock Elementary School to schedule an appointment at: 860-928-0471
Preregistration is required.

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QVCC’s Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society earns Five Star distinction

DANIELSON — Quinebaug Valley Community College is proud to announce that the Beta Beta Pi Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (PTK) at QVCC is now recognized as a Five Star Chapter, rising from its previous distinction as a One Star Chapter. This rise to a Five Star Chapter makes QVCC the most improved institution regionally for 2019.

PTK operates on a calendar year basis rather than a school year basis, therefore two sets of officers (spring 2019 and fall 2019) participated in the completion of the Five Star requirements: Krystyna Andrews (Co-President, spring 2019, President, fall 2019), Isabella Notarantonio (Co-President, spring 2019), Abigail Newman (Vice-President of Scholarship & Leadership, spring 2019), Amanda Champagne (Vice-President of Scholarship & Leadership, fall 2019), Sara Watson (Vice-President of Scholarship & Leadership, spring 2019), Kevin Champagne (Vice President of Service & Fellowship, fall 2019), Lynzie Hancock (Treasurer, spring 2019 and fall 2019), Stephen Jacobsen (Recording Officer, spring 2019), Breana Weidele (Recording Officer, fall 2019), Rebecca Ledoux (Public Relations Officer, spring 2019),

and Austin Grimshaw (Public Relations Officer, fall 2019).

Within the requirements for Five Star Chapter status, the Beta Beta Pi Chapter at QVCC attended two New England Region events and completed a College Project. As part of the College Project, the Co-Presidents met with past QVCC President, Dr. Carlee Drummer in the spring of 2019 and decided to support QVCC’s Food Insecurity project. Member Kevin Champagne organized a community meal for the food insecure in Woodstock and solicited the assistance of PTK in raising money for Stop & Shop gift cards to give away at the community meal. Champagne continued to support the College Project by assisting each week with the unpacking and organization of food donations to the on-campus QVCC food pantry.

Also, within the requirements for Five Star Chapter status, the Beta Beta Pi Chapter at QVCC completed an Honors in Action project. The students picked a theme that interested them, developed an action plan that employed what they learned through research, and applied it to a need at the college and community. The QVCC team decided to assuage the hardships that cause invol-

untary part-time employment. Based on their research, the biggest factor that bogs down workers’ ability to attain better jobs is a deficit in marketable skills or education. The QVCC team sought to tackle issues that prevent people from seeking higher education, focusing on childcare and transportation. The team met with the American Job Center (AJC), QVCC’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) coordinator, and QVCC’s Early Childhood Education (ECE) professors to address these issues and find viable solutions to implement on campus and in the community. With the assistance of the AJC, they planned an on-campus orientation to increase students’ job networks and opportunities. They also spread awareness for SNAP, emphasizing its transportation benefits both on campus and around the community. Lastly, they ran a fundraiser for ECE to assist in the certification necessary to establish a daycare on campus. The project began in April 2019, continued through the summer, and culminated in late November/early December 2019. The team consisted of Rowan Coleman (Chepachet, R.I.), Genie Johnson (Woodstock), and Emily Rosaci (Woodstock);

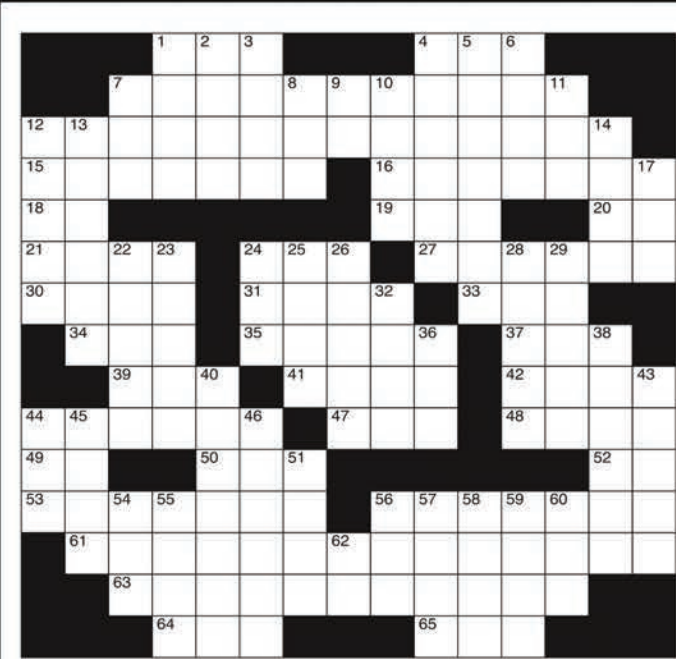
Mark Lowe, Chapter Co-Advisor, mentored the team on the project.

Several QVCC students, in addition to QVCC’s Chapter Co-Advisors, received New England Region Awards. Rowan Coleman of Chepachet, RI won third place for the Distinguished Chapter Member Award due to her significant contributions to the Honors in Action Project. Completion of this project was the final requirement QVCC’s chapter needed to become a Five Star Chapter. QVCC’s chapter officers also won third place for the Distinguished Chapter Officer Team Award, which recognizes their leadership in achieving Five Star Chapter status. Notably, QVCC won first place in Theme 8: Worlds of Work for their work in identifying an issue and providing a solution based on thorough research. Finally, QVCC Chapter Co-Advisors Debora Rimkus and Mark Lowe won the Horizon Advisor Awards for supporting their students in completing the requirements to move QVCC from One Star Status to Five Star Status.

Two QVCC students, Kevin Champagne and Kristina Dyba, were also nominated to the All-Connecticut Academic Team. Both students were

chosen to represent QVCC on the basis of their excellent academic achievement, dedicated service to the community and QVCC, and their ability to overcome significant challenges in their lives. These students would have been honored at a ceremony at the State Capitol on April 17; however, the event was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Finally, QVCC would like to recognize the new PTK members for the 2019-2020 school year: Amanda Abbott, Caitlin Barclay, Kaylea Bessios, Aaron Blanchflower, Ashley Bonnette, Willard Brin, Julia Christensen, Joshua Cruz, Isabella Donaldson, Ashley Finley, Bryna Ford, Lisa Gardner, Kim Garrity, Rebecca Gervais, Jared Green, William Hamill, Sylwia Helwig, Samantha Hindle, Elijah John, Emily Keeling, Ismail Kiani, Adam Klessner, Candice Koolhaas, Kristen Lafleche, Mark Lamountain, Jordan Lawrence, Kris Levesque, Sherry Lowe, Jordan Mahon, Lillian Mandeville, Michaela Marshall, Jocelyn Matulis, Tatiana Oliveras, Jarrica Rainville, Shelby Pendleton, Anjuli Pickett, Ashley Sackschewsky, Naomi Sargent, Robert Siwko, Ruth Soderburg, Aislin Tracey, Kathryn Vegiard, and Brianna Worden.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Germanic mythological god

4. Cash machine

7. Improvement

12. What voters want

15. Sheepish

16. Placed at powerful level

18. Measure of illumination

19. Trent Reznor’s band

20. Commercial

21. Amounts of time

24. English broadcaster

27. Rolls of tobacco

30. Position

31. Expresses pleasure

33. Corporate exec (abbr.)

34. Body part

35. Bleated

37. Businessman
39. Beats per minute

41. Defunct Italian monetary unit

42. Broken branch

44. Put in advance

47. Arrest

48. Prefix indicating adjacent to

49. Artificial intelligence

50. Disfigure

52. The Fighting Irish (abbr.)

53. Not in any place

56. Predict

61. A system of getting stuff from one place to another

63. Philosophy of the principles of things

64. US gov’t office (abbr.)

65. Seaborgium’s former name (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

1. Network connector

2. Primordial matter

3. Get up

4. Uncoordinated

5. Ill-fated cruise ship

6. Work hard

7. Drivers’ speed

8. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)

9. Healthcare pro

10. Egyptian Sun god

11. Expresses the negative

12. Some are three-legged

13. Clothing manufacturer

14. Close by

17. Tooth caregiver

22. Housing material

23. Flows through

24. Founder of Babism

25. Honorific title
26. A type of letter

28. Seize and hold firmly

29. Artery

32. Body fluids

36. Press against lightly

38. An island in the Pacific

40. A reminder of past events

43. Austrian spa town

44. Peter’s last name

45. Something a mob might do

46. Of the bones of the feet

51. “Amazing Stories” writer

54. Nazi-resistant youth group (abbr.)

55. Used to have (Scottish)

56. A way to cook

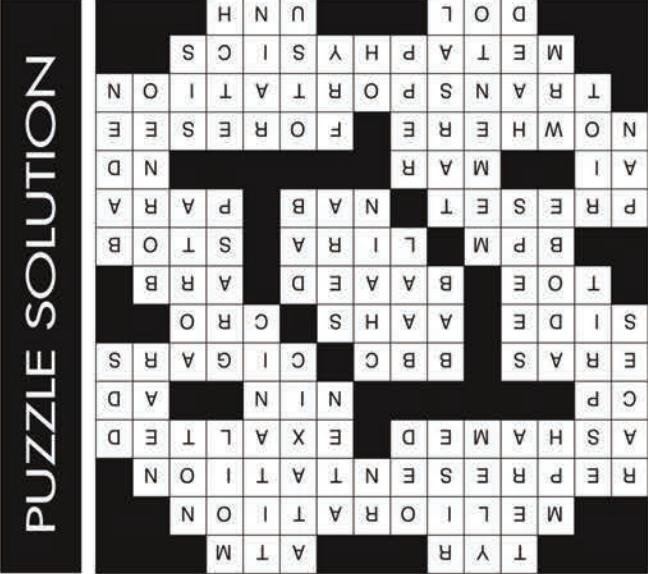
57. Japanese port city

58. Type of precipitation

59. Engrave

60. Female sibling

62. Expresses emotion



Building a Pollinator Pathway

REGION — Need a preview to spring? The Woodstock Conservation Commission is inviting you to attend an online presentation on our new initiative, the Pollinator Pathway Program. The presentation will be on April 23 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. Due to the Covid-19 virus, the presentation will be given via a Zoom meeting and limited to the first 100 people who register. This will be a family friendly presentation.

The goal of the Pollinator Pathway is establishing pollinator-friendly habitats and food sources for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinating insects and wildlife. With the reported decline in these important pollinator species, it is more important than ever to rethink our landscape management behaviors to benefit these

critical organisms that pollinate our back-yard vegetable gardens and fruit trees.

How to join the Pollinator Pathway Program is simple. From this presentation, you will learn about the importance of including native flowering plants in your landscape and how that will benefit many types of native pollinator organisms. You will learn about things we commonly do that actually harm our native pollinators, and what is recommended to replace those lawn care ideas. This will both beautify your yard and improve the natural environment we live in. Finally, we will be asking people to voluntarily sign a simple pledge to use pollinator friendly landscape management practices. We will then be able to plot your address on a simple Google map, because a pathway is not

made from a single point, but a series of points close together.

To register for this program, send an email to WCC. Woodstock.CT@gmail.com. Please include what town you live in in the email. You will be sent the login information closer to the meeting.

Who should sign up for this workshop? Residential property owners, public garden managers and landscapers. Registration is not restricted to Woodstock residents because pollinators do not recognize political boundaries. The program will be recorded and posted to the Woodstock Conservation Commission Web site, www. WoodstockConservation.org, if you can’t tune in on the date of the presentation.

Woodstock Elementary School receives grant from Education Foundation

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Education Foundation approved a \$1,899 grant request for using education.com for the Woodstock Elementary School kindergarten through fourth grade teachers and students to help empower both parents and teachers to ensure each child’s needs will continue to be met during this time of distance learning. Education.com is an innovative platform that empowers our educators to continue teaching by using shared lesson plans and assignments with their students. It allows for the exchange of finished assignments and continued personal feedback from teacher to student.

“This grant request was of

an urgent nature because distant learning has already begun at the Elementary and Middle schools”, said Jeffrey Gordon, President of the Woodstock Education Foundation. “Time was of the essence to ensure that our teachers, students, and parents had the resources they needed for continued success in this unprecedented distance learning environment. Working together, we will continue to provide resources to help enrich the educational experience of our Pre-K through eighth grade public school students.”

The Woodstock Education Foundation approved the request for funding within 6 hours of receipt so that the web platform could be rolled out

ASAP. Thank you to Michelle Salvass and Heidi Randolph for your “out of the box thinking” putting together this grant request.

The Woodstock Educations Foundation’s mission is to broaden the sphere of learning for Woodstock students by fostering partnerships that provide resources to expand the reach of the PreK-8 public school experience.

The Woodstock Education Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors of local, community people. Since 2005, the Woodstock Education Foundations had funded close to \$500,000 in education grants.

To learn more about the www.WoodstockEducation Foundation, go to Woodstock Education Foundation.org.

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Pomfret to hold Bulky Waste Days April 24 and 25

POMFRET — April Bulky Waste collection days are a go for Pomfret Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 434 Killingly Rd. on Rout 101 at the Killingly town line.

According to First Selectman Maureen Nicholson, "There has been more than usual interest in our April bulky waste collection event. Many residents are home and taking advantage of this time of reduced working hours to clean up and clean up around the house and want to get rid of their efforts. Keeping our residents safe means some adjustments to how we handle this event."

In order to hold bulky waste collection while still enforcing corona virus necessitated

social distancing, there will be some modifications to our usual guidelines. Most importantly, residents must unload their own vehicles. They will be given directions and shown where to unload, but bulky materials will not be handled by anyone but the owner. Bring someone along to assist in unloading if necessary. There will not be a Swap Stop, and no single stream recycling drop off. Residents are asked to maintain the six-foot distancing and avoid socializing. Identification will be shown to the Constable on duty through closed vehicle windows.

Nicholson asks residents "Please be patient, there may be delays as we work to keep everyone safe. Pack your vehicles to facilitate unloading. The first

items to come off are electronics, then bulky items, mattresses, tires, and propane tanks.”

Pomfret residents now have options to the Pomfret sponsored bulky waste events held three times a year at the Murdock property. Both Woodstock and Brooklyn have opened their transfer facilities to Pomfret residents. Woodstock will sell annual passes for \$200 to the first 50 residents to apply at the Woodstock Town Hall. Brooklyn has opened their facility to Pomfret residents on a pay as you go basis. The details for both facilities are available on the Pomfret Town Web site, from the First Selectman's Office page, as well as the on Brooklyn and Woodstock Web sites.

*Thompson
Speedway closed
through May 20*



THOMPSON — Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park is aware of Connecticut Gov. Ned Lamont's Executive Order 7X, which extends all current prohibitions on business activities through May 20. We will continue to abide by the directives of our local government and health officials during the COVID-19

pandemic and will have to further adjust our 2020 season schedule accordingly. The safety of our race teams, fans and staff remains paramount.

We will have further updates once available.

*Bradley Playhouse to broadcast
Friday night variety show*

PUTNAM—Are you ready for an escape to the Bradley Playhouse?

The “new norm” has called for drastic and novel means of getting over the self-quarantines and social distancing edicts. The need for virtual hugs, soothing music, wonderfully entertaining comedians, musicians, actors, singers and dancers are spawning live streaming and virtual entertainment venues, across the globe. The Bradley Playhouse in Putnam has joined the ranks with broadcasting The Bradley Playhouse Virtual Variety Show each Friday for the foreseeable future, at 7 p.m. on The Bradley Facebook page.

Catch the Live streaming of Scott Higgins, The Bradley's own Laugh Pass Funny man, as the emcee. Scott will provide his own

comic relief and introduce you to Bradley Performers, past, present and future, and others videoed at their “shelter-in-place” locations around the world, performing the extraordinary talent they are known for.

Escape! The fear, anxiety, boredom, frustration, loneliness, and happiness deprivation, and tune into the Bradley Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/TheBradleyPlayhouse/>. Get an instant transfusion of smiles, foot tapping, nostalgia, belly laughs and community at the Bradley Playhouse. See how they can bring the theatre to you, since you can't come to them.

For questions or more information, please visit our website: www.thebradleyplayhouse.org or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TheBradleyPlayhouse/>.



Eastern student Olivia Mott Assistance available for inducted into Pscychology veterans' benefits Honor Society

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University recently inducted 30 psychology students into Psi Chi, the international honors society for psychology. Students are invited into the society if they are a declared major or minor in psychology, have at least 12 credits of psychology coursework and a GPA of 3.5 or higher in psychology and an overall GPA of 3.0.

Among the recent inductees is Olivia Mott of North Windham, a junior who majors in Psychology.

The goals of Psi Chi are to recognize academic excellence and to nurture academic growth. The society hosts conventions, research award competitions and certificate recognition programs. The society publishes a Psi Chi newsletter quarterly to unite members and recognize achievements across chapters.

Eastern students who are inducted into Psi Chi attend several social events hosted by psychology faculty, graduate school panels, and receive extensive support

from faculty to further their education. There are also financial benefits, including eligibility for the Richard Bronson Memorial Scholarship, which students can use to defer graduate school costs or attend a convention. Students inducted into the society receive lifelong membership. The society is recognized as an excellent starting point for professional growth through meeting leaders in their field, having an opportunity to promote research and meeting with other members of the society.

REGION — The Connecticut Soldiers, Sailors, Marine Fund was established in 1919 to assist needy wartime veterans and their families. It is now administered by the Connecticut American Legion. Assistance is provided for temporary periods only, and is limited in amount, frequency and duration as specified by the State Fund Commission in accordance with the provisions of the American Legion Bylaws. Income and asset limitations apply.

Also available is information regarding the types of available assistance, contact information for Fund Representatives as well as how and where to apply. Connecticut veterans requiring assistance may contact

one of the agency's full-time Veterans Aid Investigators or a volunteer Fund Representative serving their locality in order to discuss their situation and the assistance that the agency might be in a position to provide.

If you are a veteran that has received benefits in the past and your documents are on file, please contact us at twig1027@aol.com or call us at 860-209-5923 or your SSMFund representative and we can assist you with benefits within the 12 month guidelines. Unfortunately, we cannot accept new applications, as they require many needed documents to begin the process.



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POSITIVELY
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GARY W.
MOORE

It's easy to take some occupations and services for granted until something causes us to take notice and appreciate what they do. 9/11 developed a deep and sincere appreciation for police officers and the men and women of the fire department. I think superficially before we watched them in action on 9/11, we knew they put their lives in harm's way to protect us, but as the twin towers fell, it burned into our collective memories the risks they took and sacrificed they made on that fateful day.

It's commonplace now to run across a man or woman in military uniform and thank them for their service, as we should. They are both the first line and last line of our defense. They earn and deserve our eternal gratitude.

There is a new kind of war raging across the globe. It's not against an armed enemy threatening to send missiles into our cities and there's not an invasion force staging to take away our freedoms. Instead, it's a microscopic virus with a technical name that a few short months ago we'd never heard, but today, it's upon everyone's lips across the globe.

COVID-19 has created a pandemic the likes of which have not been seen since 1918. It's global in nature. It harms and kills not because of political or racial differences. It infects us because it can ... and is.

Our troops in uniform may be called into a support mission as this virus continues to expand. The men and women of the police and traditional fire department may also be called into support, but the front line of this war is being fought by a different uniformed group and the risks are as great as if they were armed and facing a foreign invader.

An army in scrubs ...

Their uniforms are referred to as scrubs and the risks they are taking to protect us are as deadly as bullets and bombs. Today, this battle is being fought and will ultimately be won by medical tech's, nurses, doctors and all those in the health care system that support them.

I'm fortunate to have as my family doctor, a man who is also head of internal medicine at my local hospital. He hasn't had a day off in a long time. I'm currently having a health issue unrelated to COVID-19 and he answers my emails and returns phone calls late at night, after he's spent twelve or more hours at the hospital. My Doctor, like many others, is a leader and a hero in this war.

A good friend of mine is CEO of our local medical center. He's working around the clock in a community that is suddenly exploding with new cases. I sent Phil a text a few days ago to express my gratitude and encourage him. He's a great CEO and is providing the lead-

ership we need in this battle, as are many others.

The infantry in this fight, and those who are at most risk are the techs and nurses. They are in close contact with the enemy trying to take over our bodies. While we are all trying to self-quarantine and social distance ourselves from each other, our nurses and techs are rushing in to take our blood pressures and temperatures. They are purposefully and willingly coming in direct contact with patients who are infected, not because it is their job but because it is their calling. I think it takes a special type of bravery and dedication to put on those scrubs and walk into the healthcare facility armed only with a stethoscope and a mask. I'm afraid that once this crisis has come to an end, the sacrifice made by our healthcare workers may potentially be shocking. We already owe them a debt we can never repay.

I spoke with Maddie, a local RN at my cancer center. I asked her if she was afraid.

She responded, "I listen to the news and come to work fearful that we will not have the supplies we need or not enough beds. So far, we do. My greatest fear is of course becoming infected. I cannot treat and serve you if I am in the bed next to you."

I was struck by the dedication of this married RN with two little girls at home. Her fear is that she may not be able to take care of her patients. I'm humbled and touched by her dedication.

So once social distancing is a distant memory, please give your doctor, nurse, tech and support staff a hug and a hearty thank you. Their dedication and bravery are inspirational.

They deserve no less. ■

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

Thompson Public Schools salutes unsung heroes

As Superintendent of Thompson Public Schools, I could not be more proud and thankful to principals, teachers and paraprofessionals who have pulled together to organize our online learning program. Shifting from a traditional school structure to a virtual learning platform has been a tremendous change. I applaud all of our educators for their efforts to support our students and their families during this challenging time.

In addition to our teachers, the district has always relied upon our cafeteria workers, custodians, technology team and security to support the school's basic function of educating the youth in Town. This group of unsung heroes have been a life line to our district during this health emergency which forced schools to close.

Breakfast and lunches are being prepared by our cafeteria staff and distributed each day at four distribution sites. Under the leadership of Lisa Durand and Chris Murphy, the folks in this department are packaging up



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almost 500 breakfasts and lunches daily. Food is delivered to distribution sites by our custodial and security team Monday through Friday for any child living in Thompson up to the age of eighteen. Children do not need to be present to receive the meals and a neighbor or friend may also pick up and deliver.

Thompson Public Schools Meal Site Distribution:

TEEG
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Thompson Library
11 to 11:45 a.m.
East Thompson Fire Department
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Quinebaug Fire Department
Noon to 1 p.m.

Custodians have played a vital role in keeping the school campus disinfected and germ free as much as possible. They have also been responsible to retrieve text books and curriculum resources from classrooms for students and teachers to be distributed outside

of the building. Working together with Bill Birch, Facilities Director the custodial staff has also pitched in with meal and mail deliveries along with securing equipment for the tech team and cafeteria which is outside their regular duties. They are doing whatever it takes to keep our school campus operational and safe.

Maintaining the district's technology inventory is a daunting task during a typical school year and we know this last quarter of FY 19/20 is certainly like no other! A special shout out to Heather Burns, Technology Director and her team for keeping the learning engine running in Thompson. Elementary students we not issued a take home computer prior to the schools being closed and this team had to scramble to gather up all the devices throughout the schools to loan out to students so they can connect with teachers to receive instruction. This team not only supports the technology hardware but have been essential in providing technical assistance for software programs and other applications to almost everyone in the district. At this point, the entire management of the district depends

upon this unit of skilled technicians.

The role of our security team under the supervision of Ben Barbour has changed dramatically. Mr. Barbour and his limited staff continue to ensure safety on the school campus. They also monitor lunch distribution at the four designated sites. Security is now responsible to organize the distribution of computers, text books, teacher curriculum resources, deliveries and donation pickups. In addition, security personnel are making sure all employees onsite are practicing social distancing and wearing protective gloves and masks. Their service has been invaluable in keeping the men and women that are working inside our schools safe.

Throughout this ordeal, every employee of the Thompson school community has come together with a spirit of helping each other to support students and families. I appreciate the efforts of everyone. I feel it is important to especially thank our cafeteria workers, custodians, tech team and security personnel who are not often publicly recognized for their contributions but at this unusual time are the heroes we are all depending on.

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FOOD DRIVE

continued from page A1

“We’re still operating, and now we’ve had recently-unemployed people here we wouldn’t otherwise see,” she said. “The money will be put to good use to help our clients pay for basic needs, while the food from the Scouts and the Knights has helped to make the difference for us in a difficult time.”

The combined three-week collection included support from three local churches, Putnam town employees and the public. The drive began when Scouts and Knights passed out hundreds of distinctive bright yellow plastic “Scouting for Food” grocery bags at the masses being celebrated at St. Mary Church of the Visitation in Putnam and Most Holy Trinity Church in Pomfret. It was soon expanded to collections by the Congregational Church of Putnam and by Putnam town employees. As part of the effort, people were asked for monetary donations and to also fill the yellow

bags with groceries and bring them back. Knights and Scouts followed up later and collected the donated money and food as the drive went on.

For years the Knights of Columbus and Boy Scouts of America parent organizations have had national food-collection programs for the needy. In 2008, that led Cargill Council 64 and Troop 21 to start working together every year to assist local, needy people. New Cub Scout Pack 21 was added this year.

Of course, this time the whole effort was overshadowed by the oncoming Coronavirus, which made collecting food and money for the local needy more important than ever.

“We all know the economy has taken a big hit since the virus took off,” said Cargill Council 64 Grand Knight Douglas Bergstrom.

Bergstrom is the elected leader of the Catholic fraternal benefit society, which is made up of more than 200 men from Putnam, Pomfret, Woodstock and the immediately surrounding area.

“We got lucky with the timing on

this, just as things got tougher,” he said. “We’re very grateful that the donations came at the right time to do the most good.”

Along with the church and Putnam town employee collections, on Saturday morning, March 14, the drive included a community collection of food and money at the Cargill Council 64 Knights of Columbus Hall on Providence Street. During the outdoor event, motorists pulled into the parking lot with their cash and bags of groceries. Meanwhile, customers were giving their donations to volunteers stationed two blocks away, at Putnam Supermarket. Just after noon, Knights and Scouts trucked the food over to the pantry, located at the Living Faith United Methodist Church on Grove Street, where they helped to bring it inside.

Scout leaders were on hand to supervise their young volunteers.

“We have younger kids in the Cub Pack, so we wanted to teach them about serving others right from the beginning,” said Pack 21 Cubmaster Sean

Weaver, who leads boys and girls age five through ten.

The Putnam Cub Scout pack started last fall, so this was their first big project to help their community.

“They did great, and they learned about helping people. I’m very proud of them,” Weaver said.

Meanwhile, Troop 21 Assistant Scoutmaster Patricia Gaffney agreed with the idea that this drive came at just the right time.

“I have two teenagers at home who know how to eat,” Gaffney said. “It’s tough enough putting food on the table anyway, without having so many people out of work all of a sudden. I’m glad our Scouts could help out.”

The drive is over, but the area will continue to have many needy people for some time. Donation checks may be mailed to Interfaith Human Services of Putnam. P. O. Box 281, Putnam, CT 06260.

TRIAGE

continued from page A1

the clock for the evaluation and treatment of individuals of all ages with all types of injuries and illnesses, including those who have concerns or symptoms of coronavirus. DKH recommends that anyone who develops a fever, cough or difficulty breathing should contact their primary care provider.

“I am confident that we are providing high-quality care for the people in our community as we deal with this unprecedented situation,” said Dr. Graham. “We are doing everything we can to make sure our staff and

health care providers can continue to be on the front lines to provide care for our patients.”

DKH is following CDC guidelines and screening protocols while maintaining standard infection control best practices. DKH also remains in close communication with state and public health officials to monitor the spread of the virus.

For the latest information, refer to the CDC website, 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 www.daykimball.org/coronavirus or call 2-1-1, the CT State Hotline for informa-

tion.

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

ADAPTING

continued from page A1

from people who has extra equipment that they can share.

According to Kristen Willis, Director of Development of Day Kimball Hospital, “We requested donations of PPE and had a great response. Eighty-five individuals, businesses, manufacturers, organizations and schools came through with a variety of items that we needed. We continue to need equipment because we cannot predict what we will be facing. We can never prepare enough and encourage others to make donations.”

Schools have been donating some of the supplies that are used in the nurse’s office, and the Windham-Tolland 4-H camp has even donated gloves.

During one of Gov. Ned Lamont’s daily updates on the virus, he said, “Generosity and good deeds are contagious.”

It certainly is in the northeast corner of the state.

“We have a wish list on our site, daykimball.org/donateppe,” said Willis. “Primarily, we are always in need of N95 and face shields, surgical masks, gloves, gowns and hand sanitizer. Our effort is in collaboration with Northeast District Department of Health.”

The hospital is the official collection point for PPE.

“We have helped out first responders such as the fire department and other health folks who cannot get what they need. We have given donated handmade masks to local nursing homes,” Willis added.

Another important item on their wish list is monetary

funds.

“If someone wants to help out but cannot participate with PPE, they can help out by giving monetary funds. It gives us the flexibility to do what we need to do,” she said.

Also, many individual residents have been helping out. Dot Casey of Thompson is one of those individuals. She has been a bus driver for Putnam schools for close to 14 years.

“Because of the Corona Virus, I have been out of work since March 13,” she said. “I know there is a need out there so I started to make masks about 2-3 weeks ago.”

She has always loved sewing and started when she was about 11. She would make clothes for her kids when they were younger and sewed many other items or tailored clothing. She always had excess fabric in her supplies and decided to sew and donate masks for first responders. A friend knew a nurse at a Hartford Hospital and she donated some there. Casey also donated some to a hospital in Rhode Island and to police in New Hampshire. Many others also received her masks.

“I have made about 150 of them so far,” said Casey. “I make them in an assembly line style- first by cutting and pinning the fabric and then sewing them. It takes almost a half hour to make one.”

Right now, there is a shortage of elastics that are used in the homemade masks and she had to get creative by coming up with alternatives.

“It takes about 14 inches of elastic per mask,” Casey said.

She plans to continue to make her masks for some time.

MASKS

continued from page A1

idents and staff have been creative in making their own homemade masks, this boost from Eastern couldn’t have come at a better time! The first batch of 54 masks arrived today and we couldn’t be more grateful.”

Masks have also been delivered to Ted’s IGA in Hebron, Sunset Hill group home in Hampton, Crossroads Physical Therapy in Columbia, the Hospital of Central Connecticut in Southington, St. Joseph Living Center in Windham and Windham Hospital. The CCE’s next major delivery of 80 masks is scheduled for later this week to the No Freeze Hospitality Center in Willimantic.

“I am definitely not an experienced seamstress,” said Trudy Hyatt, Banner management information specialist at Eastern, who tried three different patterns before settling on one that she can make well. “They become easier to make every time I do one and they sew up quickly so you feel like you’re getting something done that may help someone somewhere. I can make about four a night. It keeps me busy with something other than technology. I’ve given

some out to friends and relatives and will be delivering some to my local grocery store.”

There are many patterns online for making homemade cloth masks. One type, which the CCE provides the pattern for, is called an Olson mask. Silcox says this design is what sites are asking for, as opposed to flat masks with folds.

“Any prewashed cotton fabric will work,” she said. “Many sites recommend an old t-shirt for the inside next to the skin and 100 percent cotton for the outside, including old pillow cases, sheets, etc. It doesn’t have to be pretty!”

“I have appreciated the opportunity to make face masks and honored to be making them for people in my community,” said Mary Oliver, university assistant for the CCE. “Production making is an art in itself and making different designs that people have requested is a technical challenge to which I look forward. Using fabrics I have on hand (quilt scraps, cotton clothing, old sheets and pillow cases) is a creative experience in itself. I’m so glad there are community folks just jumping into this, as the process of making something really useful now is a small way to give back.”

“My oldest daughter is a registered nurse in a Connecticut hospital,” said Nancy Deede, university assistant for the CCE. “I hear her horror stories and realize her need to have cloth masks on hand for her family at home, including three young boys (my grandsons). I sent masks to my other children and grandchildren as well. Helping them has helped me to deal somewhat with being unable to see any of them. I intend to offer masks to my neighbors also.”

For details on two patterns endorsed by the CCE, visit <https://www.instructables.com/id/Olson-Mask-for-PPE-With-Filter-for-Personal-and-No/> or <https://sarahmaker.com/how-to-sew-a-surgical-face-mask-for-hospitals-free-pattern/>.

While wearing masks is being encouraged for the general public during forays from home (grocery stores, pharmacies), it is important to note that such homemade masks are not equivalent to N95 masks or other medically approved personal protection equipment used by health care providers. They offer no guarantee of protection from the COVID-19 virus and should not be presumed to replace approved equipment being used in hospitals and other facilities.

The Quiet Corner Page

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Lessons from another pandemic

A recent conversation with someone who experienced the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918 prompted a bit of research into that era on our part, and what we found was that things back then were, in many ways, not so different.

The Spanish Flu infected one third of the world's population, and roughly 675,000 people died in the U.S. as a result. Interesting to note is that this particular strain of the flu virus did not, in fact, begin in Spain, but most likely somewhere in the farm belt of the United States. The name was born from the fact that infection reports in the Iberian Peninsula were particularly high, and Spanish King Alfonso XIII fell ill from it.

In 1918, Washington, D.C. public health officials tried to warn citizens of the symptoms and how the disease was spread via posters. One poster read, 'INFLUENZA' Spread by droplets sprayed from nose and throat. Cover each cough and sneeze with handkerchief, spread by contact, avoid crowds, if possible, walk to work, do not spit on floor or sidewalk, do not use common drinking cups and common towels, avoid excessive fatigue, if taken ill, go to bed and send for a doctor. The above applies also to colds, bronchitis, pneumonia and tuberculosis' The virus began to spread rapidly due to the close proximity in military encampments during the First World War. The disease was a very contagious H1N1 strain of the flu.

What we know from our 1918 counterparts is that social distancing does work. Newspapers downplayed the flu, and President Woodrow Wilson had his own family and staff were infected. During that time, Wilson didn't pay much attention to the pandemic. In fact, no public statement from him was ever made in regards to it. His focus was on the war.


We've heard that over the next few weeks, we will see a dramatic surge in confirmed COVID-19 cases. We've also read reports that the curve is flattening in some places. This does not mean that folks should think the pandemic is over. Everyone should, of course, still be practicing social distancing among the many other precautions we've heard about.

In 1918, schools were shut down and public gatherings were banned. By the summer of 1919, the flu pandemic came to an end. Individuals either passed away or developed an immunity to it. In 2008, researchers discovered a group of three genes that caused a person's bronchial tubes and lungs to weaken which paved the way for bacterial pneumonia. This is what made the Spanish flu so deadly.

Back in 1918, the first outbreak dwindled into spring, however it re-emerged during the fall. The Spanish flu came in three waves. The first was in the spring of 1918 that included mild symptoms. That fall the flu mutated into a more deadlier version, that hit those between the ages of 20-40 the most.

During the winter, the third wave hit and by the spring time the illness was no more.

An October newspaper excerpt from 1918 reporting the cancellation of Halloween read, "Because of the "flu" epidemic, there is to be no Hallowe'ening this year. The Board of Health has strongly urged against any demonstrations and the Burgess today, issued orders that there be no observance of the Hallowe'een season. Howard Heinz, of the Federal Food Administration has issued an appeal to the people against the waste of foodstuffs, during this season. Corn, beans, peas, apples, pumpkins, etc should not be used. Every year thousands of pumpkins are cut up and wasted in making Jack-O-Lanterns. The same wasteful practice has applied to apples in the time honored Hallowe'en sport of bobbing for apples. It is not the purpose of the food administrator to discourage harmless little celebrations in the home, but this year it is imperative that every scrap of food be saved."



OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It may be time for a change

To the Editor:

On this very windy, rainy day...without a "being outside" option, I am reminded of early comments and posts about employer behavior and their reaction to our current crisis. One post stated that how employers behave during this turbulent time will show their core values toward their employees and society. It resonated with me, and I believe it is true.

I find it so awesome to see small businesses, large corporations and individuals reaching out - donating their time, money and resources to the cause of helping others and particularly to their employees. A good friend of mine works at Big Y in West Hartford and was already a very loyal and dedicated employee. They received a raise and weekly hourly caps were temporarily dismissed, so that they could continue to serve their customers. That is the point of business, isn't it? They really stepped up to the plate with regards to the extra pay, safety precautions and most importantly, their communication to and in gratitude of their employees...from the top.... company wide.

Many people I know work at our two casinos...also loyal and dedicated. Despite a complete shutdown, leaders of these companies have been in touch via social media and

apps, custom-designed to their thousands of employees and personally communicating with them....to reassure them, wish their families well and compel them to hang in there. These leaders assured them that there would be ongoing communication to keep them aware of developments going forward as they occurred. In the midst of such uncertainty, their "attitude of gratitude" for their employees and customers goes a long way.

This is one of the blessings of this time and circumstance. When evaluating your employer's behavior and connection with their employees, customers and communities, maybe it will be time for you to consider other opportunities. There actually are many. Maybe not. Maybe your loyalty has been bolstered by their reaching out. However, maybe you have been dissatisfied with your current employment. Maybe you want something more than the steady paycheck you are no longer receiving or even just honest communication of sincere concern from the top, which so far has been non-existent. If so, maybe, use this time to channel what you really want in a career or employment situation and ultimately make a change in your life moving forward.

TAMI JO WYKES
BROOKLYN

The simple joy of a letter

To the Editor:

I recently started writing letters to my mom. She is closing in on 83, and is dealing with dementia. She forgets things now, and it is getting worse. I figured that besides calling her weekly, I would also send a letter every week or so.

Her response to my letters took me by surprise. Not only does she love getting them, she cherishes them to the point that she asked me to bury them with her when that time comes. She reads them over and over.

Some thoughts on the pandemic

To the Editor:

Another one of the growing of those who wish our President said more truths instead of lies or half truths. How about a President taking and showing some accountability to the part he plays in dividing the country. Accountability in his total lack of doing anything in the early stages of the Covid-19. He finds or spins blame on to everybody on the reason for the very slow federal response to the ongoing crisis. Nobody is saying that he is any way responsible for virus, but his lack of attention early January is what has made the effects of the virus more harsh and damaging. If in early January when given his Presidential Daily Briefings (PDB), which all presidents get daily with all kinds of intelligence information on all events around the world. It is a great resource if you read it. Most Presidents have used it to know more about world affairs. Knowledge is only good when proper action is taken in response to situations that require Presidential actions. This did not happen for a month or so, time lost that can never be recovered. If not for many Governors in this country things may have been worse.

Actions in preparing for things like pandemics is better than "cheerleading" for the United States. In this time period of going to his rallies it could have better spent by ramping up the federal response for PPE's, masks and ventilators. One last thing on this, could write a book on his inactions and how it has hurt many Americans, there will be books written on this subject, it was on March 3 that the President stated "any person who wants a test can get one"; it has been 41 days, and this is still not true. As with many things in this

country, getting a test, it may depend on your wealth and connections.

Which leads me into the real purpose of this editorial: this pandemic has showed that there are many different Americas in this country. The enemy in this country is Income Inequality. The poorer you are, the more likely you are to be affected more harshly by the virus than others. Showed how shaky the ground under most Americans is. More likely to be unemployed, scrambling to pay rent, utilizes, student loans, etc. More likely to be affected by this for the next five to 10 years. Businesses will close and never reopen. Most of this country is employed by small business, but large corporations will have an easier opportunity to recover, some on the public dole. When the economy is booming, corporations, pay little or no taxes, but things go bad they disproportionally receive help from the government. The people in the gig economy not so much or the wait is longer creating much anxiety in people. This should be the driving force in this year's elections. Debate it and find a solution. Unfortunately, you will hear more about Democratic candidate Joe Biden's son that about this. Health care that all can afford...no, solutions to environmental issues...no.

One beef or point with Villager, is they pick or make the headline to the all editorials. I am glad that they give us an opportunity to speak our mind. My goal is to try bring points that help in the discussions not hate and tribalism. I wish all well be safe and stay home. Even if it is boring as Hell.

DAVID CASSETTARI
DANIELSON

Food for thought?

To the Editor:

Mr. Ed DeLuca and Mr. Tom Pandolfi don't like it (Letters to the Editor, Villager, April 10) when local citizens point out some of the missteps of the current Administration in Washington. They call it "bashing Trump." (As if Mr. Trump himself hadn't made a career out of "bashing" people.)

So, with that firmly in mind, we'll do no "bashing" today. We'll simply pose a question:

What do the following things have in common?

- Trump Taj Mahal
- Trump's Castle
- Trump Plaza Casinos
- Trump Plaza Hotel
- Trump Hotels and Casinos Resorts
- Trump Entertainment Resorts
- Trump Steaks
- GoTrump (online travel site)
- Trump Airlines

- Trump Vodka
- Trump Mortgage
- Trump: The Game
- Trump Magazine
- Trump University
- Trump Ice (bottled water)
- The New Jersey Generals (pro football team)
- Tour de Trump (bicycle race)
- Trump Network (nutritional supplements)
- Trumped! (syndicated radio spot)
- Answer: They all failed/went bankrupt.

So, in the context of the latest (as of Easter Sunday) tally of 530,000 confirmed cases and 20,614 deaths from COVID in the United States (the highest in the world) and the curve still showing exponential growth, does this give either of our two letter writers pause?

SINCERELY YOURS,
JOHN A. DAY, JR.
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

No virus can touch our memories

Now that we have all gotten far too much of the quiet time we thought we'd never get, you may find, as I do, that your mind is wandering and dreaming more than ever before. As a life-long insomniac, remembering my dreams is a surprise. When I try to decipher their meaning, I find a mixture of nostalgia, reordering of memories and a heavy dose of anxiety. I'm filled with gratitude for all the people who have helped me throughout my life.

In no particular order, these marvelous faces march through my mind. The recent death of teacher, leader, historian and lively soul, Louise Pempek popped up and reminded me of how smart she was. She earned a Ph.D. and took a position at Putnam High School teaching physics. She was funny, slightly disorganized and delighted by her students. I was dismal at math and physics seemed scary. I learned about vectors from Dr. Pempek, whom I later called Louise. A few years ago, she met with writer, David McCullough, when he visited the area to research Louise's famous relative, Manassah Cutler. I'm sure the two intellectuals had a fine time.

When I feel anxious, I think of Barney. Barney spent part of his life as a hired man, an important job around farms and rural properties. He was good with animals, livestock and pets, and incredibly thrifty. He turned up one day after we bought an antique farm and just went to work. He knew how to repair the heavy barn door and make it roll smoothly. He knew how to corral the farm animals I brought impulsively. He rebuilt an old stone paddock. He climbed down the well to fish out a dead snake.

When he presented me with a bill for his work, neither of us discussed it. I paid him. We exchanged a few words and smiled. He died suddenly. I didn't know his children and I didn't go to the funeral. I always felt my father sent him to help me. For all his work and ability, I didn't thank him enough.

Easter reminds me of Bobbs. I never babysat, had no younger siblings and few relatives. My in-laws spent most of their time in Florida. When our daughter was born, I was completely at sea and alone. Along came Bobbs. With her blue eye shadow, large ear rings and soft up-do, she was a godsend. She swept into our house and took charge during the week so that I could return to my job. She was lively and funny, the perfect daily companion for our child. Together, they walked up and down the driveway and ventured out to explore the world in small doses. At Easter Bobbs decorated a branch with colored eggs. When I see a photo of her or remember certain nursery rhymes, her presence envelopes me again.

In dreams I hear her laughter.

For over three decades, Gail has swung open the door once a week and taken on my kitchen and my house. With a hearty laugh, a great sense of her relationships and a deep love of animals, especially cats, she adds order to our lives. When my daughters were young, they hovered around her as she cleaned. She listened to their stories and taught them by example the art of conversation. We marvel at how quickly, effectively, and happily she works. True order won't be restored until she returns.

At this sad, complicated time, we remember the people who come into our lives and make them better. We can revel in memories and connections. No virus touches them.



NANCY WEISS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When actions do not match words

To the Editor:

On Monday evening, April 13, the Putnam Board of Finance convened an online Zoom meeting to deliberate the fate of the budgets (town, library, and Board of Education) for the town for the coming fiscal year, which begins on July 1. To say that we are in unprecedented and difficult times might be one of the most obvious understatements of recent times. As a member of the Putnam Board of Education, I was distressed by the unanimous vote that the Board of Finance members took to forward a Board of Education budget for consideration of \$18,794,001, which was a cut of \$828,419 from what the Board of Education members had unanimously requested.

There is a quote from Abraham Lincoln that is particularly relevant to our current situation in Putnam: "I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts."

During the 15 years that I have served on the Putnam Board of Education, this year's budget process is by far the most complicated for the following reasons:

As we all know, property revaluation is coming online starting July 1, with the average homeowner in Putnam seeing their property value increase by 12 percent, which means higher taxes.

During the current fiscal year, the Board of Finance approved taking \$600,000 out of the Wheelabrator reserve account to help offset taxes this year. During this crisis, the Board of Finance is choosing not to offset our taxes by again taking \$600,000 out of this reserve account even though the money is there, which only makes our situation starting July 1 all the more difficult.

\$848,885 is being added to the town budget starting July 1 for the debt servicing on the new town hall project.

Finally, we are in the midst of a crisis that has cost many Putnam citizens their jobs, with little clarity as to when and how this crisis will end.

It has been said in times of crisis in the past that what people truly

care about comes out in how they act during that crisis. In a time of crisis, where organizations ranging from the American Psychological Association to the National Child Traumatic Stress Network are sounding warning signs about the psychological wellbeing of our children, the Putnam Board of Finance is recommending dramatic budget cuts to our schools. These cuts will mean the loss of teachers, support staff, educational programs and the precise kinds of supports that our kids will need when they return to school.

A different way forward:

The mill rate in Putnam, although one of the lowest in the state of Connecticut, can be reduced from its current 22.06 rate to help offset the increase homeowners will face because of property revaluation.

The town's reserve funds should be utilized during this crisis to help offset taxes and pay for critical services. Why do we have a reserve fund if not to use it during a crisis?

The town's library budget should be level funded for next year, and not cut as the Board of Finance is suggesting.

The schools can manage with a \$500,000 reduction from the Board of Education's original budget request; this will preserve essential services that our children will need when they return to school.

I heard town leaders who voted for these draconian cuts to our town schools actually say that they support education. Obviously, in a time of crisis, these words mean nothing compared to the actions that the five members of the Putnam Board of Finance took on Monday evening. Please contact the members of the Putnam Board of Finance and the Mayor's office to express your support for ensuring that our children have the services that they need when they return to school from this crisis. Express your support for a different way forward.

MICHAEL MORRILL
CHAIRMAN
PUTNAM BOARD OF EDUCATION

Where to begin?

To the Editor:

Oh dear, where to start? I needn't belabor the horrific lies Trump has been spouting, the ways he has been hurting efforts to combat the pandemic or his refusal to accept any responsibility. These are evident to anyone with half a brain to check facts.

Amidst all the concern about our health, we need to be aware of other things that Trump is doing to establish his dictatorship. One thing his supporters feel good about is all the deregulation that is going on. They want less government and fewer restrictions on government and business – basically a retreat to simpler times.

What they are ignoring, to our detriment, is that the world has become incredibly complex. It is like a Gordian knot that is impossible to unravel or understand. However, unlike Alexander the Great, who by legend solved the problem with a single sword stroke, we haven't access to such a simple solution. The world doesn't work that way. Simplistic ideas cannot handle complex issues and massive deregulation will only harm us.

Most regulations were put into place to protect us and we need to remember why they were created. In the early 20th century, anti-trust laws were enacted to protect us from robber barons. The FDA was created to ensure we have pure food and medications that were effective and safe. The SEC was created to protect us from stock manipulation and predatory practices. The EPA was created by a Republican stalwart, Nixon, to protect us from pollution. Labor laws, including OSHA, were enacted to protect the average worker. The FAA is there to ensure safe air travel.

–Those supporting deregulation are forgetting the Cuyahoga River fire in Cleveland, the incredible smog over Los Angeles and Pittsburgh, the open sales of heroin and cocaine, quack medicines, the unbridled stock market and poor bank regulations that caused the Great Depression, child factory workers, poor sanitation in many cities, or 10, 12, 14 hour workdays.

I just read that Trump has been trying to undo the regulations against exposure to mercury because they only produce "a few million dollars a year in measurable health benefits." Wait

a minute – they still provide benefits so why does Trump want to do away with them? Why endanger anyone? Whatever happened to the slogan "to err on the side of safety?"

To fight the deregulation mind set is to understand that large corporations and the wealthy are incapable of controlling their greed. It has been proven over the decades that the average person is at the mercy of these insidious factions unless government or someone steps in to protect us.

Moving onto a different subject, I have to shake my head in wonderment as to why Trump and the Republicans want to destroy the United States Postal Service. Presumably it is because it is losing money. They refuse to support the USPS in the current bail out legislation. It's OK to bail out huge corporations but not OK to support an essential element of our society and economy. The USPS is perhaps the fourth largest employer in the US, after the government and the Military.

The Post Office's basic problem is not so much the competition, but restrictions Congress has placed on how it operates through the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006, passed by a Republican-controlled Congress. For instance, the Post Office is the only entity in the US that is required to pre-pay pensions out to 2056. This costs about \$5 billion a year. Without this artificial burden, the Post Office would be making an operational profit.

–Furthermore, they can only charge what Congress allows. Increases require government approval. Unlike other delivery companies, the USPS cannot charge what the market will bear. They cannot even go to Congress to change the rules or rates. The law prohibits their lobbying Congress. And who or what will fill the vacuum if the USPS is allowed to fail? Like the effort against ACA, the Republicans are making a lot of noise and threats but providing no solutions.

–BTW, the bail out package would allow application for assistance from vineyards, including those owned by the Trump family, but not the USPS. This makes sense doesn't it?

STEPHEN ETZEL
PUTNAM

Thoughts on Boeing

To the Editor:

President Trump announced last week, as part of the new Stimulus Package, "We'll be helping Boeing." This drew cries of outrage from the families, relatives and friends of the 346 people who were killed in the two 737 Boeing plane crashes, citing allegations of the company knowingly putting profit before people's lives.

Events since the crashes have convinced those friends and relatives that there is a 'business as usual' attitude continuing within the company. At the time of the crash, Boeing's CEO Dennis Muilenburg's annual compensation, before he was fired, was over \$23 million (just for the sake of comparison, with you and I, if Mr. Muilenburg worked five days a week every week that year, he earned just over \$88,000

per day, or just over \$11,000 an hour) If that outrageous yearly compensation wasn't enough, he walked away with an extra \$60 million, which the company said was due him under his contract.

The replacement for Mr. Muilenburg is to be paid a base salary of \$1.4 million, and is eligible for \$26.5 million in long-term incentive. The company reported that other executives were also paid quite well including: Executive VP more than \$10 million, Technology Officer more than \$8 million, Financial Officer more than \$8 million, and General Counsel \$8 million. These, of course, are only the tip of the iceberg; there are many more sizable incomes in Boeing. It was suggested in other publications reporting on the company, that somewhere in this country there must be some very

smart men and women who could fill these positions for less than a tenth of those incomes.

Since the two 737 crashes, the company has found itself perhaps needing to pay out billions of dollars for damages in compensation to families and losses to other airlines and other collateral damage. But lo and behold, as the Stimulus package came along, surprisingly it was found that Boeing would be eligible for a large part of the \$17 Billion set aside for "businesses critical to maintaining national security." Almost immediately, President Trump announced, "We will be helping Boeing."

One provision of the Stimulus package restricts bonuses or increases in executive compensation, but does nothing to tamp down the seemingly high payrolls of top executives; a pro-

vision Boeing may find objectionable. However, Boeing may not be in such difficulty as one might imagine, since the new CEO stated, "if the government demands a stake in the company in exchange for grants or loans, we are not interested, we will just look elsewhere."

If Boeing doesn't need taxpayer dollars, and can look elsewhere, perhaps President Trump might look more clearly at how much of the stimulus package should benefit millionaires. But then, a billion here and a billion there seems like pocket change: its only taxpayer money that our children and grandchildren and great grandchildren will struggle to pay.

RAY CANNING
POMFRET

The importance of maintaining confidence in the market during periods of volatility

At Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, we understand that investors are easily shaken during times of significant market volatility. However, in this article we will discuss why it is important to maintain confidence in the financial markets during uncertain times, like those we are facing today due to COVID-19, along with strategies to support a positive outcome. You may be wondering how anyone could maintain confidence in the market considering the levels of volatility we are currently facing. First, remember your financial life goals to motivate long-term planning. Second, our unique and strategic Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well.TM process is based on the principle that prices are set to deliver positive future expected returns for holding risky assets; our clients are in a position where volatility is expected and planned for. Finally, position your portfolio using diversification and asset allocation so that in the event of volatility like we are currently experiencing, if one area of your portfolio is not performing well, another may make up for it. We will discuss each of these, along with many other considerations to prepare for volatility.

History speaks for itself

To understand how people can maintain confidence in the market, it is important to look at what is happening now and compare it to historical context. History is a good indicator of market performance and turnaround after an event like we are experiencing

now. While this pandemic is different from other historical events we have experienced in recent history, the financial markets have maintained its resiliency throughout other world events that have caused bear markets.

Since 1950, when you look at all 13 bear market events, you see that for those who stayed in the markets saw during these significant downturns were rewarded with a 35.6 percent return one year after the bear market, three years later saw a 14.1% return annually, and five years later saw an 11.2 percent return annually. These figures illustrate a stock market represented by S&P 500 stocks PR Index. While past performance is not a guarantee of future results, the historical returns of the markets shown here prove resiliency from past events.

Diversification plays a role

It is clear from the above paragraph that equities have proven to be resilient over time and reward the long-term investor. Additionally, diversification of asset classes is an important consideration for maintaining confidence in the markets. For example, including fixed income as an investment vehicle in addition to equities in your portfolio may be important to provide stability. In the recent downturn, fixed income played its defensive role as the Federal Reserve



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cut interest rates to zero and announced unlimited quantitative easing – buying an unlimited amount of government debt, as well as corporate and municipal bonds in the biggest expansion of its balance sheet in history. In times like these, a balanced approach to asset allocation is essential for long-term investors, with a focus on high-quality companies that can weather this downturn and thrive in the economy that will emerge.

Even though April will continue to show signs of volatility, the underlying trends continue to look somewhat better. We are starting to see some leveling off of the market because global daily increases of new virus cases are slowing down despite death cases in the US increasing – growth rates hover around 10 percent per day. Whereas two weeks ago it was at 15 percent, and 30 percent a few weeks further back. This gives the markets some confidence that the light at the end of the tunnel is nearing, therefore they have responded more positively. However, we expect continued market volatility for the foreseeable future as we all better understand the economic impact of the sudden stop of pre-COVID-19 economic activity.

The markets are responding to new information as it becomes known, but the market is pricing in unknowns,

too. As risk increases during a time of heightened uncertainty, so do the returns investors demand for bearing that risk, which pushes prices lower. In these uncertain times, it's easy to let fear guide your decision making, but when it comes to your investments, a more rational outlook may be your strongest ally.

Maintain confidence and stick to your plan

A volatile market is not the best time to do a complete makeover of your portfolio, rather, stay calm and consider your unique long-term financial life goals that you're trying to achieve. Maintaining a firm grasp on your fundamental investment strategy can help you be more thoughtful about making any significant changes.

To demonstrate why buying and holding is better than attempting to time the market, consider this quick hypothetical data set:

At a -10 percent market downturn, an investor who is out of the market for 100 days gains 7.11% annualized return. When the market downturn threshold rises to -30 percent, an investor out of the market for 100 days could gain 8.71 percent annualized return. However, utilizing a stay in and diversify strategy, you could gain 9.57 percent annualized return.

Another example to help you visualize the importance of maintaining confidence in your strategic long-term

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Photos are welcome in JPEG format.

OBITUARIES

Katherine M. (Delisio) Annese, 77

WEBSTER- Katherine M. (Delisio) Annese age 77 passed away Monday, April 13, 2020 at the Brookside



Rehabilitation and Nursing. She was the wife of the late Joseph A. Annese who passed away in 2002. She leaves five sons and their wives; Anthony L. Annese and AnneMarie of Webster, Joseph Annese and Jennifer of Thompson, CT, Christopher Annese and Kim of Douglas, Matthew Annese and Donna of Woodstock, CT and Michael Annese of Webster, also a daughter, Maria Brinkley and Daniel of N. Grosvenordale, CT, eight grandchildren; James, Vincent, Joseph, Daniel, Victoria, Tallia, Josephine and Michalyn. She also leaves a sister Theresa Delisio of Ohio she had a sister that predeceased her Dorothy Delisio of CA. Kathy also leaves many friends and former customers.

She was born in E. Lyme, CT daughter of the late Francis Delisio and Josephine (Gallo) Delisio and lived in

Webster most of her life. She was a member of the Webster Sons of Italy and the St. Louis League of Catholic Women. She enjoyed travel and quality time with her family. Her and her husband Joseph owned and operated the Webster Nursery starting in 1971 then opening Dudley Nursery in 1991. Their business comprised of wholesale as well as retail flowers. The retailed shrubs, plants of all type and did landscaping. They were one of the largest tulip and lily growers on the East Coast. They were well known through out New England. Joe and Kathy spearheaded the St. Louis annual festival for many years.

There are no calling hours, all services will be at a later date. Please omit flowers and donations be made to the Tri-Valley Elder Services, 10 Mill St., Webster, MA. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Katherine (Delisio) Annese, please visit our floral store.

Ronald Miner, 84

BROOKFIELD - Ronald Miner, 84 of Brookfield, MA died peacefully on April 8, 2020.



He leaves behind his three sons Keith, Darryl, and Troy, five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren and his very special friend of eight years Karin Rhault. He was predeceased

by the love of his life and soulmate of 56 years, Sandra (St. Martin) Miner whom he grew up with as a child two houses away in "Little Canada" of his hometown North Brookfield. He was also predeceased by his brother Gerald Miner and sister Valerie Paquette. He is the son of the late Lionel and Evelyn

Miner.

Ronald worked in the maintenance department of Quaboag Corporation in North Brookfield and is a veteran of the United States Army.

Ron was most at home putting around his house and was skilled in fixing things and creating gadgets. His homemade Halloween displays drew crowds every year. Ron and his wife Sandy were talented dancers in the area that are frequently mentioned to this day. A private burial will take place at a future date. 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 can post a condolence or light a candle.

Stanley Pelczar, 88



WEBSTER - Stanley Pelczar, 88, passed away peacefully at his daughter's home while surrounded by his loving family and caregivers after a long and courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease on Saturday April 11, 2020.

Stanley is survived by his daughter Donna Morgan of Webster and her husband Dale; his grandchildren: Emily and Daniel Morgan;

his home health aide: Charlotte Bissonnette; he also leaves many nieces and nephews.

Stanley was born in Uxbridge, MA on January 8, 1932 son of Joseph and Anelia (Tomkiewicz) Pelczar; he graduated from the Worcester Trade

School and served honorably in the United States Air Force during the Korean war.

Stanley's family wishes to extend their utmost appreciation to the special people at Summit Eldercare who were always so attentive to Stanley's needs and wellbeing during his time there. "Smashing" is "For Sure" in a better place.

Stanley's family kindly requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be sent to the Cure Alzheimer's Fund., 34 Washington Street Suite 310 Wellesley Hills, MA 02481 in honor of Stanley.

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 Stanley.

Richard "Seamist" G. Beausoleil, 85

DANIELSON- Richard G Beausoleil, fondly known by his friends as "Seamist", 85, of Reynolds St., formerly of Putnam, died Tuesday April 7, 2020. Born in Putnam, he was the son of the late Euclide and Marie Ange (Petrin) Beausoleil.

Mr. Beausoleil worked as a machine operator at Cranston Print until his retirement in 1999. He enjoyed playing pitch and making his delicious pork pies for his friends and family.

Richard is survived by a daughter,

Michelle Nicol and her husband Kevin of Putnam; his siblings, David Beausoleil of Putnam, Leo Beausoleil of Danielson, and Lucille Nelson of Putnam; four grandchildren, Ethan, Evan, Megan, and Kyle Nicol all of Putnam, and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by two brothers, Robert and Ronald Beausoleil.

A public Mass of Christian Burial and inurnment will take place at a later date as the pandemic restrictions have been lifted. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com

Kristin F. Wilson, 38,

Kristin F. Wilson, 38, of Webster, died Saturday, April 4, 2020.



She leaves behind children, brothers, sisters, and a step-father. Along with many other friends and family. She was loved greatly and will be truly and deeply missed. She struggled throughout her life and is now at peace. She will be cremated and ashes will be spread with her mothers in the moun-

tains of New York as per her wishes at a later date.

Funeral services will be private and at the convenience of the family. After cremation, her ashes will be scattered with her mothers in the mountains of New York.

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 message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Kristin.

Felix F. Condua II, 64

WORCESTER- Felix F. Condua II age 64 passed away Sunday, April 5, 2020 at Webster Manor, Webster, MA. He leaves family members, Nana N. Condua, Myeesha Wyette and Nana Kofi Condua.

He was born in Ghana son of the late Felix F. Condua I and Sophia (Edwards) Condua.

Felix was employed by Cernova Corp in Marlborough where he worked as a

Ceramic Technician.

There are no calling hours, all services are private and at the convenience of the family. 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.

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ZAHANSKY
continued from page A9

plan, is the hypothetical growth of \$1,000 invested in US stocks in 1970. Someone who stayed in the market, despite volatility and timing when to buy and sell, had their \$1,000 turn into \$121,353 by 2020. However, missing the S&P 500's best-performing day, brought that down by over \$12,000. Missing the best 25 days brought them down \$94,364 to growth of just \$26,989 from 1970 to 2020.

Market index tracking data since 1926 in the US shows that stocks have generally delivered strong returns over one-year, three-year, and five-year periods following steep declines. The impact of missing just a few of the market's best days can be profound. Staying invested and focused on the long-term helps to ensure that you're in a position to capture what the market has to offer.

There's no proven way to time the market, so history argues for staying put through good times and bad.

Stay Calm, Stay Confident

Although our investment committee tracks certain economic and market data, we can't tell you exactly when the markets will turn around or by how much, but our expectation is that bearing today's risk will be compensated with positive expected returns. That's been a lesson of past health crises, such as the Ebola and swine-flu outbreaks earlier this century, and of market disruptions, such as the global financial crisis of 2008–2009. Additionally, history has shown no reliable way to identify a market high or low to maximize long-term performance. These beliefs argue against making portfolio changes based on fear or speculation, even as difficult periods occur.

We are firm believers in the long-term prospects of the market, and we have confidence that investors who

take risks may be rewarded over time. Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors is here as your partner in the community as we all navigate the changes occurring due to COVID-19. For more resources, including information pertaining to COVID-19 and the CARES Act, as well as podcasts, articles, and more, check out our resource page at www.whzwealth.com/covid19-resources. If you feel you are not receiving holistic financial planning and advising, please call us at 860-928-2341 or email us at info@whzwealth.com for more information.

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1. BlackRock, Inc “Student of the Market”
2. Brad McMillan, CFA, CAIA, MAI, “Is There an End in Sight for the Coronavirus Crisis?” Commonwealth Financial Network
3. “US Equity Returns Following Sharp Downturns,” Dimensional Fund Advisors LP
4. “The Cost of Trying to Time the Market,” Dimensional Fund Advisors LP
5. “US Equity Returns Following Sharp Downturns,” Dimensional Fund Advisors LP

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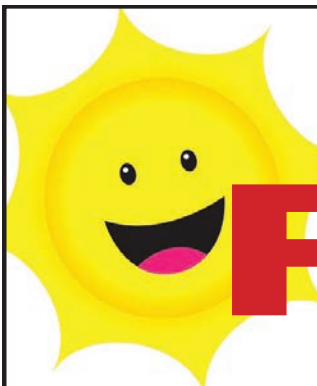
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