

Our Readers
Trust Our
Advertisers.

THOMPSON VILLAGER

Friday, September 4, 2020 Serving Thompson since 2005 Complimentary to homes by request

Dignitaries visit Fairvue Farms in Woodstock



Photo Carol Davidge

Dignitaries met recently with Paul Miller, owner of Fairvue Farms in Woodstock. Shown are (left to right) Paul Miller, Lisa Thomas, candidate for Connecticut's 35th Senate District and U.S. Congressman Joe Courtney.

BY CAROL DAVIDGE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock has more operating farms than any other Connecticut town. These include farms with roadside stands and year-round stores, orchards, and dairy farms such as Fairvue Farms, adjacent to Woodstock Fairgrounds on Route 171. On Aug. 20, Fairvue's owner Paul Miller met with U.S. Congressman Joseph Courtney and Lisa Thomas (Democratic candidate for the 35th Connecticut Senate District). "Speaking with Paul Miller at Fairvue Farms was a wonderful opportunity. Congressman Courtney and I wanted to hear about Fairvue's innovations and discuss the role that our federal and state legislatures

can make to support agriculture. Few of us know just how much our farmers are investing in clean water management, healthy conditions for their livestock, and green energy initiatives. The current health crisis has made it very clear how important our local farmers are to ensuring food security, as is encouraging younger generations to become involved in farming," said Thomas. At Fairvue, solar panels provide most of the power that is needed on the farm. Fairvue's cows wear pedometers to monitor whether they are getting sufficient exercise or if the cow is not feeling well. A nutritionist comes to the farm weekly to check the cow's feed. Fairvue produces 14,000 gallons of milk per

Please Read **FAIRVIEW**, page **A4**

Day Kimball Healthcare names Employee of the Month

PUTNAM — Katherine Ratelle, internal medicine referral coordinator for Day Kimball Medical Group in Dayville, has been named employee of the month for August by Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH). Ratelle began her career at DKH in February 2018. In her role as referral coordinator, Ratelle is responsible for insurance authorizations for referrals and diagnostic imaging services. According to Ratelle's supervisor, Valerie Schrupp, internal medicine service line manager, Day Kimball Medical Group, "Kaytee is a very hard worker who is always willing to do whatever is needed for the greater good of the office." In response to being named employee of the month, Ratelle said, "I am excited to be recognized in this way." When asked what she likes most about her job, she said, "I love that the office I work in is like a family." Ratelle was born and raised in Connecticut. She currently resides in Woodstock with her husband, Thomas. Day Kimball Healthcare's employee of the month program is sponsored by Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Connecticut. "The Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribal



Katherine Ratelle

Nation and Foxwoods Resort Casino has been focused on taking care of the people that serve within our community, and we appreciate everything Day Kimball Healthcare does," said Foxwood's Director of Sponsorships and Partnerships Roy Colebut-Ingram. "Supporting meaningful employee recognition programs like that at DKH is just one way that we feel we can express our appreciation." 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

Please Read **RATELLE**, page **A3**

QVCC offers selection of Fall 2020 late start courses

DANIELSON — Quinebaug Valley Community College has announced a fall 2020 late start schedule designed in an accelerated format, allowing students to take 11-week or seven-week courses as an alternative to the traditional 16-week full semester courses. QVCC will be offering a range of late

start classes, beginning the week of Sept. 28 or Oct. 14. These courses give students the opportunity to earn necessary credits in a condensed time frame. Some of QVCC's accelerated courses include American Government, Creative Writing, General Chemistry, Guitar I & II, Intro to Business, Intro

to Engineering, Intro to Theater, Principles of Sociology, Safety in the Workplace, Spreadsheet Applications, Web Design & Development, Yoga, and more. To see the complete list of QVCC's late start offerings: Visit my.comnet.edu Select: Search for Course Offerings Select College: Quinebaug Valley CC Select (O)pen or (C)losed: Click Open Select Course Level: Check Credit Click Get Courses and look for any course title starting with "LS:"

Students interested in enrolling in any late start classes should be aware that while the number of class meetings for late start courses is fewer than the regular fall semester, each course still contains the same number of class hours as the regular semester, therefore the level of study is more intensive. Register online at QVCC.edu/register or book a Virtual Advising Session at QVCC.edu/advising. Not a QVCC student? There's still time to apply as a new or transfer student! Visit QVCC.edu/apply-now.

Celebrate agriculture virtually this month



Photo Brett Kuszaj — Courtesy

September 1 kickoff for September's Celebrating Agriculture was in Sterling with (l-r) CT Agriculture Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, Governor Ned Lamont, Celebrating Ag Chair Lynn Weaver of Woodstock, Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz, Celebrating Ag organizer Rebecca Desjardins of Plainfield, at Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm. To learn more or submit your ag videos or testimonials, visit <http://www.celebratingagriculture.org>.

BY CAROL DAVIDGE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

REGION — Celebrating Agriculture 2020 will be a month-long opportunity for all of us to participate virtually rather than at the Woodstock Fairgrounds. At the Sept. 1 kickoff in Sterling, Gov. Ned Lamont, Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz, Agriculture Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, Celebrating Ag Chair Lynn Weaver of Woodstock, Coordinator Rebecca Desjardins of Plainfield, Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce's Betti Kuszaj and others joined Rick Hermonot at his fami-

ly's ca.1696 Ekonk Hill Turkey Farm. The virtual experience is sponsored by The Last Green Valley and celebrates the 35 towns that make up our National Heritage Corridor in eastern Connecticut and Massachusetts. "I'm so glad that we are standing on land that is preserved forever. Celebrating Agriculture will help us learn about our food, where it comes from, what farming means to our heritage, how it is a part of the Connecticut lifeline. One of the things I love about

Please Read **AGRICULTURE**, page **A2**

With the right financial advisor, life can be brilliant.

What matters most to you in life? It's a big question. But it's just one of many questions I'll ask to better understand you, your goals and your dreams. All to help you live confidently – today and in the future.



Patrick O'Brien, CRPC®
Financial Advisor

The O'Brien Group
A financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.

860.208.9913
66 Main St.
Putnam, CT 06260
patrick.obrien@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/patrick.obrien/

Ameriprise Financial | Be Brilliant.

Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC.
© 2019 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved. (11/19)

Thinking back on colder days



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

This summer can now be remembered as the one with the most 90 degree days (or plus) in Connecticut history, according to Channel 3. I'm starting this on Aug. 26, when we've reached 39 of 90 or plus days. I'm not a fan of so much heat! Fortunately, as I proof-read, we're enjoying a welcome taste of fall; it's beautiful with

white puffy clouds floating on a high blue sky. Nevertheless, this week I've decided write a column that includes "cool you down" with stories from the cold, snowy, and icy winter of 1936. Think of how difficult snow removal can be even in this day and age. The Feb. 20, 1936 Windham County Transcript spoke of the difficulties being encountered at a time when, in addition to machinery, men were shoveling to clear away the mess. "Friday this section received a valentine in the form of a snow storm which deposited about six inches on top of the already thick blanket. Sleet

near the end of the storm made a hard crust. State and town plows were on the job and the main thoroughfares were kept passable, but heavy drifts formed on many of the rural roads. Killingly schools were dismissed at one o'clock, many outside pupils having been sent home earlier by bus when it became evident that the roads might be blocked. These fears proved to be well-founded, for in many places the drifts were three to four feet deep, requiring a great deal of shoveling, before the town's plows could make any impression. Crews went to work Saturday on the snowbanks along Main Street and completed the job of clearing this important thoroughfare on Sunday. Before all the rural roads could be plowed out, however, rain and thaw presented further complications.

"It rained on Sunday and again on Tuesday, developing a deep slush which made driving difficult for motorists and walking almost impossible in many places for pedestrians. Broad Street, as an example, was flooded over much of its length and snow at the road-sides was soft and treacherous, miring the cars of the unwary. "The rain turned to snow Tuesday afternoon, but it was of short duration, as the atmosphere cleared and the mercury fell rapidly until it was playing around the zero mark, with surprising results. Automobiles, their running gears covered with soft, damp slush, were hard hit and in scores of cases the braking mechanism froze, often so tightly that it became impossible to operate the machines. Many of these cars have not yet been returned to normal. Highways which had been cleared of snow became solid sheets of ice to add to the worries of the motorists. The cold continued through Wednesday, with below zero temperatures again recorded last night. "The sidewalk situation has also been complicated by the snow-thaw-rain-freeze program of the weatherman. Walks which had been properly cleaned after the snow presented smooth coatings of ice which could be cared for with

a sprinkling of sand or ashes. In some cases no attempt was made to remove the snow or the subsequent slush, making travel difficult for pedestrians during the warm period and extremely dangerous now that the shush has solidified into a slippery and uneven mass. Those responsible to such walks are liable to a penalty under the by-laws of the borough of Danielson. "Last night the mercury hit new low marks. Brooklyn reported minus seventeen, while E. G. Schaffler said it was eighteen below at his farm in the Ballouville section, and Assistant Postmaster Earle F. Winslow read twenty below at Elmville early this morning." Enough of the weather. The following are a few interesting tidbits that I came across. I'm sure you'll recognize some of the names. "Dr. Gerard M. Chartier of Danielson has been appointed obstetrician at the Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam and will have charge of the free bed service, succeeding Dr. John J. Russell of Putnam, who recently resigned after a long period of gratuitous service. The latter was first named to the post when Dr. Seldom B. Overlock became chief surgeon and Dr. Frederick A. Morrell head of the medical staff many years ago. He will continue to act in an advisory capacity. Dr. Chartier, one of the youngest of Windham County's physicians, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. O. V. Chartier of Hawkins St. He received his education at Assumption College, Worcester, and Boston University School of Medicine, from which he was graduated in 1933. After serving as an interne at St. Francis' hospital, Hartford, he established practice here about two years ago and has a growing clientele. During the past year he has been a member of the courtesy staff at the hospital. He is also commanding officer of the Medical Detachment of the 43d Division Special Troops". (WCT, Feb. 27). "At the Casino Spanish Garden Wednesday night the prizes for amateur acts were awarded as follows: first, Hunter Sisters, tap dancing; second, Angelo Des Pesco,

vocal soloist; third, Oscar Landry, eccentric dancing; fourth, Lillian Harris, tap dancer. In addition to the regular prizes awarded by the Casino, the Puritan Clothing Company is giving five dollars in merchandise at each competition. Local amateur talent recently made an excellent showing in Norwich, Patricia Gelinas taking first prize, while Auger and the Welch Brothers were awarded third. Their next appearance will be on Friday at the Bradley Theatre in Putnam. Several Danielson entrants will also participate in the children's show at Norwich in three weeks". (WCT Feb. 27). "Members of the Captain Put Engine Company and their guests, including borough officials, enjoyed a fine oyster stew supper at the central fire station Saturday night. The repast was prepared by Arthur W. Logee and his corps of assistants. Later in the evening motion pictures were shown, featuring several local fires and parades in which members of the fire department appear. These films, taken by Earle N. Bassett and Henry L. Woisard, were run off by Mr. Woisard and proved a very entertaining part of the program". (WCT March 5, 1936). The mail is being checked although the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center is closed. Please send your membership renewals to P.O. Box 265 Danielson, CT 06239.

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



A Call For Art

Announcing the 17th Annual Art Show and Sale to be held virtually on **October 17, 2020** and running through **January 1st, 2021** on our website.

Online submission deadline September 19th, 2020. Artists may submit up to 5 pieces for entry at \$5 apiece.

Awards are given in the following categories:
Oils, Watercolors, Pastels, Acrylics, Drawing & Printing, Traditional Photography, Digitally Enhanced Photos and Other Media (Digitally Created Art, Assemblage, 3D art, collage, fiber/fabric art)

For further information and the online submission form, visit us at Massasoitartguild.com or e-mail us at info@massasoitartguild.com



Linda Spencer



PERCEPTION PROGRAMS, INC

Creating hope ...changing lives

We can help you feel better

- Mental Health Counseling
- Substance Use Treatment
- Medication Management

Danielson (860) 779-5852
Storrs (860) 420-2450
Willimantic (860) 450-0151

www.perceptionprograms.org



Thompson Maker Fair



Calling ALL Artists & Makers Producers & Crafters

Saturday Oct. 3rd 11am - 4:30pm
Riverside Park
N. Grosvenordale, CT

Register to sell your art and products. We are accepting vendors with well executed hand crafted products. Jewelry, woodworking, food products, pottery, glass, paintings, clothing, metalwork, and much more.

Booth Fee:
\$25 Thompson Resident
\$40 Non Resident
Deadline to Register Sept. 18th

The 2nd Annual Upcycled Art Show will be the same day. Now taking submissions for upcycled artwork!

Reserve your booth and more information
www.thompsonrec.or Or call 860-923-9440

AGRICULTURE

continued from page A1


farming in Connecticut is that it's part of our DNA. I want to make sure that Connecticut always has its lifeline," said the Governor. Each of us can share our ag experiences by submitting a video or photo or testimonial about a farm, farm animals, a career, crops, recipes, equipment, chores, technology, ag services, soil, nutrition, fiber, processes and procedures, retail shops and sales, history, innovations, ag education, showmanship, harvesting, companion gardening, pollinators, beneficial insects, harmful pests and invasive species, our favorite experiences at our farmers markets, our farm pets. In addition, virtual events are planned. Try to send your submissions by Sept. 11. To

learn more, visit <http://www.celebratingagriculture.org> (or at Celebrating Ag on Facebook or Celebrating Ag on YouTube). Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz read the Governor's Proclamation declaring September 1, 2020 as Celebrating Agriculture Day across Connecticut, and gave a special thank you to local farmers who have helped us live through the COVID pandemic. Lynn Weaver, Celebrating Ag Chair and Branch Manager of Farm Credit East, explained that "Celebrating Agriculture started 20 years ago at the Woodstock Fairgrounds with a mission to bring people together to learn about the vibrant agricultural community we have in Connecticut. Since then, more than 50,000 people have attended Celebrating Agriculture." Commissioner Hurlburt stressed that "COVID-19 has

challenged us in ways that we've never had to think about before (yet) agriculture continues to adapt. Celebrating Ag's virtual platform will make sure that more families get to recognize the value and the importance of agriculture to the state's economy." "Agriculture is the food we eat and the clothes we wear. Everyone is touched by agriculture. I invite and challenge you to look at your habits in your home and business to see how you are supporting local agriculture. Seek out new places for agritourism and farm stands to purchase fresh food. Attend your town's agricultural meetings to see what people are talking about, and find ways to support 4-H clubs and FFA students because they are the future of agriculture," said Desjardins, who is leading the virtual outreach to all of us.

"Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper"

www.ConnecticutQuietCorner.com



Villager Newspapers

TO PLACE A BUSINESS AD:
MIKAELA VICTOR
RETAIL ADVERTISING
860-928-1818 EXT. 313
mikaela@villagenewspapers.com

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:
KERRI PETERSON
860-928-1818, EXT. 303
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD:
800-536-5836
Classifieds@stonebridgepress.news

TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:
E-MAIL:
obits@stonebridgepress.news
CALL: 860-928-4215
OR send to Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR:
E-MAIL:
brendan@villagenewspapers.com
OR send to Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS:
E-MAIL:
paula@stonebridgepress.news
OR send to Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

VISIT US ONLINE:
www.villagenewspapers.com

TO FAX THE VILLAGER:
DIAL 860-928-5946

The Putnam Villager (025-154), The Thompson Villager (024-998) The Killingly Villager (025-004) and The Woodstock Villager (024-999) are published weekly by Villager Newspapers, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Woodstock, CT and additional mailing office(s). POSTMASTER: send address changes to the Villager Newspapers, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

VILLAGER STAFF DIRECTORY

NEWS EDITOR, BRENDAN BERUBE 860-928-1818 x 323 brendan@villagenewspapers.com	ADVERTISING MIKAELA VICTOR ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE 860-928-1818, EXT. 313 mikaela@villagenewspapers.com
--	--

FOR ALL OTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT
KERRI PETERSON
860-928-1818 EXT. 303
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS ARE PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER FRANK G. CHILINSKI 860-928-1818 EXT. 103 frank@villagenewspapers.com	EDITOR BRENDAN BERUBE 860-928-1818 x 323 brendan@villagenewspapers.com
BUSINESS MANAGER RYAN CORNEAU 860-928-1818 EXT. 102 ryan@salmonpress.news	PRODUCTION MANAGER JULIE CLARKE 860-928-1818, EXT. 305 julie@villagenewspapers.com
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR JIM DINICOLA 508-764-6102 jdinicola@stonebridgepress.com	OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:30AM-4:30PM

VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS PHOTO POLICY

As a community oriented family of newspapers, Villager Newspapers welcomes photos from readers, business owners, and other outside sources for publication in any of its titles. Any photos submitted for publication become the property of Villager Newspapers, and may be displayed in our newspapers, as well as on our Web site. They may also be made available for resale, with any proceeds going to Villager Newspapers and/or the photo re-print vendor.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Aug. 24: Baltimore Oriole, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Song Sparrow, Catbird, Indigo Bunting, Common Yellowthroat, Goldfinch, Bluebird, Chipping Sparrow, House Sparrow, Hummingbird, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Barred Owl, Turkey Vulture, Wood Duck, Bobolink. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.

READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER

Retiring into a Shaky Market? Think long-term anyway

As we transition into the month of September, there are many other transitions occurring at this time of year: students going back to school, leaves changing color, and for some, packing up their home office before beginning retirement. Stay tuned this month as we continue to discuss strategies to help you Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well. TM your way into retirement.

If you have recently entered or are on the cusp of retirement, it's hard to tune out the stock market's recent volatility. Many investors who are still saving can safely ignore the headlines, turn off the television and go on with their lives.

Some, especially new retirees, may feel they're in a more precarious position. But by maintaining a healthy dose of asset allocation, risk tolerance, and confidence, they may realize the opportunities that lay ahead of them.

Asset allocation can protect your money

If your money is evenly split among stocks and bonds — which is often the case for retired people — then it already has a built-in cushion. That's not to say timing doesn't matter. It does — and big losses now are the hardest to overcome for people who are in the early stages of their retirement.

"The first couple of years of retirement, those are the years where we don't really want to suffer tremendous losses that we have to sell out of," said Jamie Hopkins, director of retirement research at Carson Group, a wealth management firm in Omaha, Nebraska. "That is your biggest risk period, from an investment standpoint, when you should probably have the most conservative portfolio."

Many — but not all — investors hew to that advice, particularly those in target-date funds, whose mix of investments gradually become more conservative as you approach a specific date.

But some retirement experts have found that an even more conservative mixture at retirement may be ideal. What they suggest may seem counterintuitive but underscores the long game that is the stock market: instead of maintaining that lower allocation to stocks, they suggest you gradually increase it as you age.

Certainly, such a strategy could backfire, especially if you have trouble sticking with it. But becoming too conservative introduces another set of risks: maybe the money won't last as long as you do, or it won't grow enough to offset inflation. For Americans who are 65 now, the average life expectancy is 84.4 years, according to the Centers



**FINANCIAL
FOCUS**
• • • • •
**LAURENCE
HALE
INVESTMENT
ADVISER**

for Disease Control and Prevention. There's also a strong chance those Americans will live into their 90s. That longevity calls for a decent helping of stocks.

So what do I do?

If you haven't retired yet, there are some simple ways to give your portfolio some breathing room. Working a little longer, even part time, is effective when that's possible. And if you're able to postpone collecting Social Security or Old Age Benefits that's another way to guarantee a higher paycheck in retirement over the long run.

If you recently retired, what's your next best step? First, consider what your portfolio mix looks like now; the recent market mayhem may have brought your overall asset allocation to a more conservative place, and maybe it makes sense to maintain that for now. If you have a significant chunk of cash or another source of income outside your portfolio, experts suggest tapping that money in times of market turbulence instead of selling stocks.

Besides cash, investors with a whole life insurance policy — which typically includes a cash savings component that can be tapped — can potentially borrow from that pot of money, he said. (It is later repaid by being deducted when the death benefit is paid out.)

Other options you can consider

There are other adjustments you can make. The most obvious one plays into our base instincts: spend less during market downturns and spend a bit more when the market is doing well.

But if thinking about all of this causes too much anxiety, it may be worth considering whether an insurance product, like an annuity, can take some of the pressure off.

Annuities come in a variety, but some of them can be incredibly complex. There are cheaper, more straightforward products, including single-premium immediate annuities. You pay an insurance company a pile of cash, and in return the company sends you a stream of income for the rest of your life. Or you can buy an income stream for a set period — say, 10 years.

Experts suggest figuring out what your fixed costs are — housing, food, taxes, other basics — and then buying enough of an income stream to cover the portion of expenses that government pensions do not.

That may not sound appealing. But David Blanchett, head of retirement research at Morningstar, suggested considering how much of an emotional burden an annuity could lift. "How is this affecting your happiness?" Blanchett said. "What kind of behavioral cost are you incurring? You can get rid of that if you delay government pensions or buy an annuity."

And if you haven't already considered paying for a dispassionate analysis of where you stand, now may be that time. But you need to be careful here, too. Find a certified financial planner — in times of uncertainty, some extra guidance could save you from a costly mistake.

Helping you secure your financial future

Whether you are planning for, approaching, or currently enjoying retirement, there are tips and strategies to help you maximize and protect your nest egg. This year hasn't gone according to plan, but you can live your best life despite the obstacles. Our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process can help you prepare for the unexpected, and get back on track when it happens. Be sure to continue to check back throughout September as we discuss strategies and tips to help you achieve your retirement goals! For resources and additional information regarding COVID-19, visit our Web site www.whzwealth.com/covid19-resources. To receive information regarding financial advising, visit www.whzwealth.com, call us at 860-928-2341, or email us at info@whzwealth.com!

Authored by Principal/Managing Partner Laurence Hale AAMS, CRPS®. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. 697 Pomfret St., Pomfret Center, CT 06259, 860-928-2341. www.whzwealth.com.

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

Villager Newspapers

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

Brooklyn Parks & Rec to offer outdoor fitness classes

BROOKLYN — The Brooklyn Parks & Recreation will be offering Fall Outdoor Fitness Classes.

These programs are held at the Michael Dragon Complex/Prince Hill Park. Dates, times and program specifics are available on their website. We will follow health guidelines for these types of programs and social distancing will be adhered to. Christina Vogt will be the instructor for these programs. Go to www.brooklynct.org for details. Updates are also listed on the department Facebook page at Town of Brooklyn Parks & Recreation. Office — 860-779-3411, Option 7.

RATELLE

continued from page A1

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.



50 COLORS • \$39 per sq. ft. Installed
(40 sq. ft. or more) Cannot be combined with other offers.

Biggest Selection of Marble, Granite & Quartz of ANY Fabrication Shop
300 Colors To Choose From
Please call for appointment 508-523-3769

508-842-9800 • shrewsburymarbleandgranite.com
620 Boston Turnpike (Rte 9 E), Shrewsbury, MA
(1/4 mi. east of Home Depot — Big Blue Bldg)
Mon-Thurs 8-5, Fri & Sat & 9-4



WOODSTOCK LEGION HOSTS RECRUITMENT BREAKFAST

Photo Courtesy

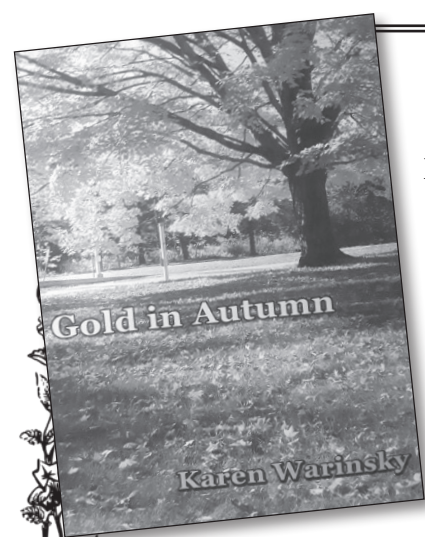
Ronald P. Coderre, American Legion District #4 Commander, joined Woodstock Post #111 on Saturday, Aug. 29 for its membership recruitment breakfast. Joining Coderre behind the grill for a photo are Rich DeLarosa, Coderre, Post Commander Glenn Boies and Bill Celko.

THE SIDING STORE INC.

Siding • Roofing • Windows • Decks • Sunrooms

SUMMER SPECIALS NOW IN EFFECT
\$\$\$\$
Financing available to qualified customers!

thesidingstoreinc.com
860.423.7771 860.963.9035
860.886.1718 860.564.7088
References Galore • Fully Licensed • Senior Discounts • Lead Safe



Gold In Autumn

NOW AVAILABLE AT

Booklover's Gourmet in Webster, MA
Coco's Cottage in Woodstock, CT,
and through Amazon.

Montreal International Poetry Contest Finalist and Woodstock resident Karen Warinsky's

first full collection contains
"universal themes like love
and the curiosities of life to create poems for all seasons," ...

"Just the sort of poetry the world needs right now..."

Warinsky will read selections from her book and share the stage with five regional poets on Sept. 13 at the Roseland Park barn from 2-4 p.m.

Free. Ages 14 and up. Reserve seats by contacting Rick Harless at (860)-963-9557 or email him at ssbn598gold@gmail.com,

PHOTO REPRINTS AVAILABLE
Call for details 860-928-1818



Do your children have everything they need for back to school?

Concentration-Character-Courage

Socially distanced classes

Quest Martial Arts, 56 Riverside Dr., Thompson (860.928.9218)
questmartialarts.us



GARDEN
MOMENTS

MELINDA
MYERS

As summer transitions into fall, it is time to help lawns recover from summer stress. Let the weather and the condition of your lawn help you develop a plan suited to your landscape.

Continue mowing actively growing lawns. Mow high, leaving cool season grasses like bluegrass and fescues at least two and a half, preferably three and a half inches tall after cutting. Warm season grasses like bermudagrass, carpetgrass, centipedegrass and zoysia should be grown at 1 to 2 inches tall, while St. Augustine should a bit higher at two to three inches for best results. Taller grass is better able to compete with weeds, is more drought tolerant and less susceptible to insects and disease.

Mow often, removing no more than one third the total height. Leave short clippings on the lawn. They will quickly break down, adding organic matter, moisture and nutrients to the soil. Run your mower over long clippings to reduce their size and speed decomposition.

As the tree leaves begin to fall just mow them into small pieces and leave them on the lawn. As long as you can see the grass blades through the shredded leaves your lawn will be fine. And

just like the clippings, they add nutrients and organic matter to the soil.

Fertilize lawns in early September and high maintenance northern lawns again around Halloween, but always before the ground freezes. Make sure the last fertilizer application to warm season grasses is at least one month prior to the average first killing frost.

A healthy lawn is the best defense against weeds. Even with proper care these unwanted plants can bully their way into your lawn. Try digging, root and all, to remove small populations of weeds. Think of it as a workout or way to reduce stress.

If you decide to use a weed killer, try spot treating weeds or problem areas to minimize the amount of chemical used. Select the least toxic or an organic product whenever possible. Whether using traditional or environmentally friendly products read and follow label directions carefully. All these products are plant killers and can cause damage to other plants if not applied properly.

Fall, when the cool season grasses are actively growing, is also the best time to core aerate or dethatch lawns suffering from thatch build up or compacted soil. Overseed thin lawns after core aeration or dethatching. You'll have better results once the thatch layer is removed or openings exist for the grass seeds to contact the soil and sprout.

Those growing warm season grasses should wait until the lawn greens up in



Photo Courtesy

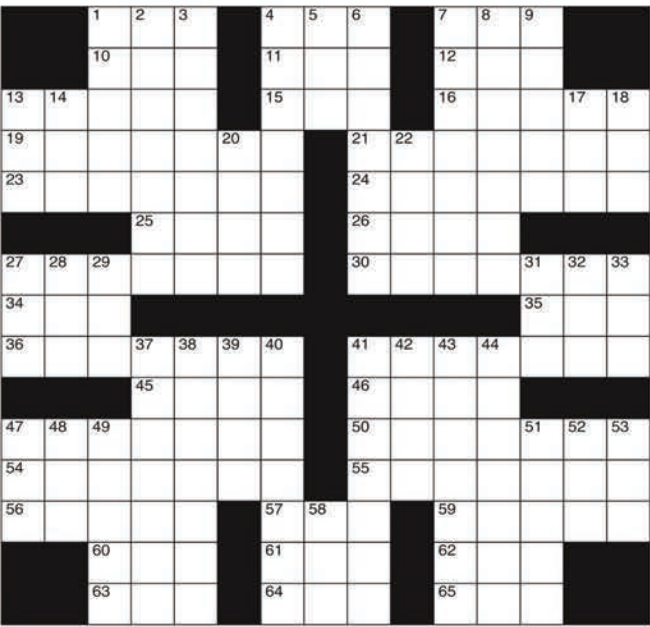
A healthy lawn is the best defense against weeds.

spring or is actively growing in early summer. Avoid doing this when the weather is hot and dry.

Begin implementing some of these strategies and soon you'll be on your way to a healthier, better looking lawn for the coming growing season.

Melinda Myers is the author of more

than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

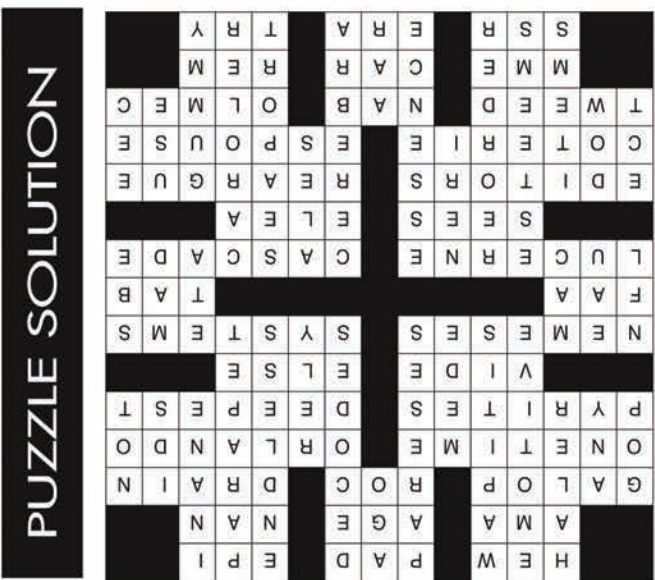


CLUES ACROSS

1. Chop with an ax
4. Where a bachelor lives
7. Indicates near
10. Doctors' group
11. It's just a number
12. Type of bread
13. Lively ballroom dance
15. Charles S. Dutton TV series
16. A way to use up
19. Singular event
21. Home of Disney World
23. Minerals
24. Most insightful
25. Consult
26. In addition
27. Agents of downfall
30. Organizations
34. Supervises flying
35. Bar bill
36. Alfalfa
41. Dish soap
45. Witnesses
46. Ancient Greek City
47. Newspaper bigwigs
50. Discuss again
54. Small group with shared interests
55. Support
56. Popular sportcoat fabric
57. Take hold of
59. Pre-Mayan civilization
60. Woman (French)
61. Wheeled vehicle
62. Georgia rockers
63. Cold War player (abbr.)
64. Pitching stat
65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Czech monetary unit
2. Arousing intense feeling
3. Elks
4. Muscular weaknesses
5. Before the present
6. Figures out
7. Infinite
8. A low wall
9. Silly
13. Political organization
14. Used of a number or amount not specified
17. Divisions of the psyche
18. Denial
20. Ancient Iranian person
22. Count on
27. Popular sports league
28. Water (French)
29. Partner to cheese
31. When you hope to get there
32. Angry
33. One point east of due south
37. Respects
38. Organize anew
39. French wine grape
40. Intrinsic nature of something
41. Neural structures
42. Brews
43. Where ships take on cargo
44. Holiday season singer
47. Shock treatment
48. Popular average
49. Products
51. A type of bear
52. Utilize
53. Old world, new
58. Swiss river



Weiss, Hale & Zahansky associate achieves career milestone



Kelly Graves

POMFRET CENTER — Weiss,

FAIRVIEW

continued from page A1

day from 1,400 cows. Silage from corn and stalks are crushed into tiny pieces and fermented for feed.

"We feed our cows better than we feed ourselves," said Miller. They also take very good care of dairy cow babies. When you pass Fairvue, you'll see small hutches. When born, a baby calf has no immune system. To protect them, Fairvue houses each individual newborn calf separately for two months. Gradually they are introduced into groups. Paul and Diane Miller and their son David run Fairvue Farms. This year has been extremely challenging. This summer's

Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors' Associate, Client Operations & Service, Kelly Graves Achieves Career Milestone

We are thrilled to announce Kelly Graves, Associate, Client Operations & Service has passed her FINRA® Securities Industry Essentials (SIE®) exam. FINRA's SIE® exam is an introductory-level exam that assesses a candidate's knowledge of basic securities industry information including: fundamental concepts for working in the industry, such as types of products and their risks; the structure of the securities industry markets, regulatory agencies and their functions; and prohibited prac-

tices.

Kelly Graves joined our team in October 2018 after a 17-year career as a paralegal where she developed invaluable skills in client service. Kelly has her B.S. in business administration and is broadening her industry knowledge by studying for the various FINRA® licensing exams.

Kelly supports our client operations and service team, helping to ensure timely and dedicated service on new accounts, transactions, and investment portfolio management.

We are happy for Kelly on this well-deserved accomplishment!

Visit www.whzwealth.com to learn more.

severe drought has caused a 30 percent reduction in feed crops. COVID19 caused an oversupply of milk so that Fairvue and other dairy farms had to cut production.

"We'd like to be able to sell all the milk we can produce, especially since only 40 percent of milk consumed in Connecticut comes from this state," said Miller.

Fairvue is surviving by cutting expenses and with help from CARES Act and the Payroll Protection Program which helped keep their farmworkers employed.

"We appreciate the help that Joe Courtney provided. Joe was the first Connecticut Congressmen in 100 years to serve on the House Agriculture

Committee," said Miller.

Paul Miller is also Chair of the Connecticut Milk Producers Board, which this year has donated \$40,000 to food banks and is purchasing coolers for local food kitchens.

"Supporting local agriculture and small business is important to me in my current role as Coventry Councilwoman. Fairvue Farms, HyTone Farm in Coventry and Fort Hill Farm in Thompson are among the six family farms that produce the outstanding Farmer's Cow brand, which strengthens the future of family farms and is one of many successes in Connecticut farming," said Thomas.

MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

Mercury is an element that can be harmful to human health and the environment if not disposed of properly.

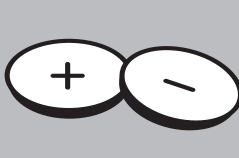
Mercury is found in products such as:



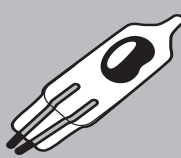
Thermostats



Thermometers



Button-Cell Batteries



Mercury Switches



Fluorescent Lamps

Please contact your local Board of Health or Department of Public Works for information on where to safely dispose of these items.

keepmercuryfromrising.org

SPONSORED BY



Are you part of a herd?



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

Life is an incredible journey, full of twists and unexpected turns. We are herd animals and were not created to make this journey alone.

As most of you know, I was shocked in February to be diagnosed with Stage 4 Stomach Cancer. It was unexpected and certainly unwelcomed but it's now part of my life's journey. I embrace the reality and fight for time. As I've said before, there is no cure and so I'm told I can't beat this but I'm fighting to go the distance. I believe I'll still be here, writing this column in five years.

My diagnosis isn't all negative. I've never felt so loved and cared for. I have a team of medical professionals fighting on my behalf. I have friends I haven't seen in years reaching

out, visiting and offering their support. But best of all is my family.

My wild and crazy sisters, Debra and Kim, and their wonderful husbands, Keith and Roger, travelled from North Carolina and Florida to spend a week with me. They came to catch up and have fun, but to also provide support and lend a hand. As I mentioned a few weeks ago, we are downsizing from our very large home of twenty-five years into a condo that's dramatically smaller, so they, along with Arlene's best friend, Tracey, who's just like family, spent most of each day helping us rummage through shelves, cabinets and boxes to determine what we keep, sell or pitch. It was an emotional week preparing for the estate sale, but in many ways, it's the history of our forty-five years of marriage, laid out on tables for others to buy. My sister's sense of humor and free spirit not only made the experience tolerable but fun. I don't see them often enough but when we do see each other, we make

it count. I don't know what I'd do without them.

Tracey didn't really know them until this week. She was in complete dismay as my sisters chased down a local police officer to give him a Buster Bar (from Dairy Queen) and to tell the young officer he was appreciated. That's just how they roll.

For those of you who are long-time readers of my column, know that my daughter, Tara Beth, and her husband Jeff, accepted positions in Pasadena, Calif. over four years ago and headed west, with our grandsons, Caleb and Noah. Like most of life's twists and turns, it was a mixture of happiness for their new opportunities and sadness to see them go. Their move wasn't ended with a period but only punctuated with a comma, as they announced this week they are moving back. We are thrilled. I'll never miss one of my grandson's baseball games or concerts again! My only regret is that their move is motivated by my health. My life journey should not dictate

theirs, but I was told, "Don't worry about it. I only have one Dad and we want to be close." Of course, I did the only thing I could do in that moment. I cried. As I said, I've never felt so loved.

In a lighter note, my handsome and smart nephew, Westin, called me on Sunday to tell me about his new dog. He said, "My puppy is two years old and I'm five."

I responded, "So, you were three years old when he was born."

Weston paused and said, "He wasn't born. We bought him!" I laughed all day at the enthusiastic innocence of his words.

I've always loved my friends and family, but never fully realized the importance of relationships and how their love can brighten the darkest times. I'm grateful. My heart is full.

For those who say, "I don't have friends," be a friend. Join a small group at your church. Take up a group hobby that places you in the same room with others of similar interests. Volunteer for a local charity.

Join a herd. Be part of a pack. They want and need you as much as you need them, and for most of us ... the day will come when you need their love and support.

Yes, creating meaningful relationships takes effort but it will be effort well spent.

I also hear other say, "I'm estranged from my family." It's not too late to forgive and forget. It doesn't matter what happened. It was in the past. Unless the relationships are toxic, dangerous or otherwise damaging, make the effort to reconnect. Reach out and rekindle family connections. I don't think you'll be sorry.

We were not created to travel alone.

Join the herd.

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

D12 Renegades take second

ELITE TRYOUTS BEING HELD

REGION — The inaugural season of the Elite Softball program recently concluded. A quick modification of the season due to COVID still allowed all four teams to play a great season. The D12 Raiders went undefeated going into the season ending tournament in Mansfield. Both D12 teams (Raiders and Velocity) ran into some tough opponents and couldn't make the final two.

On the 12u side, both the Dragons and Renegades had great seasons. The D12 Renegades defeated E. Greenwich 5-4 in a thrilling semifinal matchup in the D12 Tournament in Woodstock.† Kaylee Ziarko bounced back from a rough start earlier in the morning to pitch a complete game and pick up the victory.† Ziarko was brilliant, striking out seven batters while only allowing four runs on five hits over six innings of work.

The Renegades took an early 2-0 lead with two runs in the top of the first inning, thanks to a leadoff single by Campbell Favreau, followed by an RBI single by Rosie Lopez and an RBI groundout by Kaylee Ziarko.† The Renegades would score one more run in the top of the second, as Avery Hardacker led off the inning with a single and scored on an RBI groundout by Hailey Summers.† E. Greenwich would score two runs in the bottom of the second to cut the lead to 3-2 but the Renegades would answer with two runs of their own in the top of the third, thanks to four consecutive



base hits by Alayna Strickland, Ellary Sampson, Laci Sinni and Hardacker.† E. Greenwich would not go quietly as they scored two more runs in the bottom of the third to make it a 5-4 game.† From that point on, it was all pitching and defense as no more runs would be scored, and the game ended with Ziarko setting down the side in order in the bottom of the sixth.

Offensively, the Renegades were led by Campbell Favreau (1-4), Rosie Lopez (1-3, RBI), Alayna Strickland (1-3), Ellary Sampson (2-2, RBI), Laci Sinni (1-2, RBI) and Avery Hardacker (2-3, RBI).† With the win, the Renegades (3-2) advanced to the championship game against the Webster Wrath (3-1).

The D12 Renegades fell to the Webster Wrath 12-7 in the championship game of the 12U D12 tournament held in Woodstock.† Webster took advantage of several early miscues by the Renegades defense to take a commanding 7-1 lead after the first inning.† The Renegades settled down and played better for the next few innings, cutting the Webster lead to 9-5 heading into the bottom of the fourth inning.† Webster would score two runs in the bottom of the fourth and one more in the bottom of the fifth to take a 12-5 lead into the last inning.† The Renegades scratched out two runs but could get no closer.

The Elite program provides a year long softball experience for

those players aged 10-16 who wish to improve their skills and understanding of the game. Anyone living or going to school in the District 12 and District 11 area is eligible to try out. CT Little League District 12 consists of Stafford, Willington, Mansfield, Ashford, Woodstock, Union, Chaplin, Hampton, Eastford, Brooklyn, Pomfret, Thompson, Killingly, Putnam and Woodstock.

Elite is a step above the regular season Little League season so we expect the players trying out to have the drive to improve their softball skills and play at a higher competitive level. We will not divert from the core Little League principles of community and having fun. It is also understood that everyone will have different commitments whether it's on the parents end for getting kids to practices or the players playing other sports or activities. No player will be told they have to attend every practice or be punished for not attending. Players are expected to make every effort to attend all tournaments as scheduled. Practices will start in September and run through April (with November and December off). Tournaments will be local and run from April to July.

Tryouts are being held on Sept. 13 and 20. Players of all skills are invited to attend and there is no charge to try-out. More information and to register for tryouts can be found at www.ctdistrict12.org.

Please direct any inquiries to randy@ctdistrict.org or visit our website at ctdistrict12.org. We can also be found on Facebook at D12SoftballElite.

The Quiet Corner Page

Now Serving Putnam, Woodstock, and Thompson

Your Ad Here!

To join this page, call us today

508-909-4126



30% off

PAINTS & STAINS

PRICES STARTING AT \$26.94

15% OFF Painting Supplies

Take and additional 10% OFF our everyday low price on custom-ordered wallpaper.



239 Kennedy Drive, Putnam, CT
860-928-0429
HOURS: M-F 7AM-7PM • SAT 8AM-6PM • SUN 10AM-6PM

ATTENTION VETERANS: Did you know we participate in the VA Community Care Network for Chiropractic Care?

If you are a veteran receiving primary care at a VA hospital, you are able to request a referral for chiropractic care at our office, which will be paid for by the VA. Being Community Care Network providers allows us to offer covered chiropractic treatments to veterans right here in Dayville, and gives Veterans greater choice and accessibility to care outside of VA medical facilities.





Call today to book 60, 90 or 120 minute sessions:

Enjoy the Many Benefits of Chiropractic Care and Massage Therapy

You shouldn't have to travel to the spa or pay spa prices for convenient, effective treatments right here in Dayville.

Swedish Relaxation Massage

This type of massage focuses on overall relaxation of the body and mind as well as enhancing healing and improving function of the body.

Therapeutic Massage

Encompassing site specific, exploratory, sports, stretching and myofascial techniques, all designed to treat acute or chronic soft tissue dysfunctions.

Also offering:

Certified Prenatal Massage, Cupping, Hot Stones, Exfoliating Treatments and Foot Scrubs



BACK & BODY CHIROPRACTIC

LIMITED TIME OFFER:

60 Minute Deep Tissue Massage for \$75
Plus Hot or Cold Stones included
with any new client booking!

24 Putnam Pike, Suite 3 • Dayville, CT

860-412-9016

“Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper”

ConnecticutQuietCorner.com



BEYOND
THE PEWS
.....
JOHN
HANSON

The casual tourist can take a 40-minute cab ride from Framingham, Mass., through the heart of Boston to the airport. In the process they will travel through what used to be neighborhoods and business districts, and they will drive under buildings, subway lines, and the Boston harbor. To them it may not seem like it, but the highway they will travel is a big deal.

The final few miles of the trip to the airport is part of “The Big Dig, one of the largest civil engineering projects ever done in the United States. It consisted of 161 lane miles of highway, (about half in tunnels) and four

major highway interchanges within seven and a half miles. To dig this network, 16 million cubic yards of dirt were moved - that is the equivalent of 541,000 truckloads. Contractors used 3.8 million cubic yards of concrete, which is enough to build a sidewalk three feet wide and four inches thick from Boston to San Francisco and back three times. Begun in 1991, the project was not completed until 2007, but they successfully rerouted one and a half miles of the Central Artery of Interstate 93 underground, built 300 acres of park above ground, constructed I-90 under the harbor and built the Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Memorial Bridge over the Charles River. The Boston Globe estimated that the project will ultimately cost \$22 billion, including interest, and that it will not be paid off until 2038.” (www.ma.gov)

“The result of this amazing project was a 62 percent reduction in vehicle hours of travel on I-93, the airport tunnels, and the connection from Storrow Drive. Traffic went from an average 38,200 hours per day before construction (1994–1995) to 14,800 hours per day

in 2004–2005, after the project was largely complete. The savings for travelers was estimated at \$166 million annually in the same 2004–2005 timeframe. Travel times on the Central Artery northbound during the afternoon peak hour were reduced 85.6 percent.” (Wikipedia)

No telling what traffic would be like today had the Big Dig not been dug, because in the early 1990s, every day 200,000 cars were trying to navigate I-93, making it one of the most congested highways in the United States. Today the project handles about 536,000 vehicles each weekday. The Big Dig was a big deal!

The same can be said for what Jesus did. The average person might view the story of Jesus coming to save the world as no big deal. But when Jesus was born, He fulfilled hundreds of prophecies - that, in itself, is a statistical wonder. He left his throne and was born of a virgin, which has never been done before or since.

Then it got bigger and better. Jesus healed the sick, cast out devils, commanded the weather and raised the dead. He was so effective that the most

important leaders of His day became jealous. When it was time, He survived the bigotry, self-righteousness and politics of his own people who collaborated with their sworn enemies to publicly lynch the God-man who had done nothing wrong. However, in their rage and political scheming, they helped fulfill many more prophecies that predicted Jesus would die for the sins of mankind and rise from the dead on the third day. That story is one of the most well-known and well-loved stories of all times, because it was a very big deal. Finally, 40 days after his resurrection, Jesus rose into heaven in front of 500 witnesses, promising to come live in the hearts of those who believed and give them power to follow him into everlasting life - another very big deal. Don't be fooled, the story of Jesus is a very big deal. Be brave enough to embrace it and it will change your life in a big way.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson, where they make a big deal about what God has done. For more information please visit www.ActsII.org.

Absentee ballot applications on the way Eastern student interns at Travelers Insurance

BY CAROL DAVIDGE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

REGION — Between Sept. 8 and 11, each registered voter in Connecticut will be mailed an absentee ballot application by the Secretary of the State. Watch for your application in your mail. Then (in order to receive your absentee ballot), first it is necessary to fill out the absentee ballot application and place in its envelopes, carefully following all instructions, and place it into the secure drop boxes in your town or mail to your town clerk.

This year, all voters may check the COVID-19 item on the application, according to Secretary of the State Denise Merrill. The Secretary of State recommends placing your application in the ballot box rather than in the mail, although mailing the application is an option. The Town Clerk will mail out ballots beginning October

2. Please return your application early to be sure the Town Clerk receives your application in time to mail your ballot to you. After Oct. 2, once the Town Clerk has received your application, a ballot will be mailed to you. Once you receive your ballot, you can fill it out, again carefully following instructions, and place the ballot in its envelopes in the secure ballot box. If you mail it, the Secretary of State recommends mailing it as early as possible. All absentee ballots must be received by the Town Clerk by Nov. 3 at 8 p.m. In person voting will be Nov. 3 from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Information can be found at myvote.ct.gov. Voters can check their registration status at myvote.ct.gov/lookup. Although absentee ballot applications will be mailed to every eligible voter, they are also available online in English and Spanish at myvote.ct.gov/absentee.



Eastern student interns at Travelers Insurance WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University senior Shai-Lin Gothreau of Putnam interned at Travelers Insurance this past summer in its Operations Leadership Development Program (OLDP). Gothreau is from Putnam and majors in Business Administration.

In her position at The Travelers, Gothreau worked with product architecture in the business insurance section of the company. Her duties included product architect design and developing and improving new and existing business insurance products. Gothreau also used her internship to

expand her network and refine her technical, analytical and presentation skills.

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, Gothreau's internship was carried out entirely in a virtual setting.

“I think the main challenge was working remotely and still getting the full experience of the internship,” shared Gothreau. “Travelers did a great job of making sure us interns got as much of the full experience as possible. I was able to still connect and form friendships with the interns and people within the program and the company.”

She hopes to get a full-time position at Travelers after graduation.

www.ConnecticutQuietCorner.com

Booklyn Parks & Rec to host concert series

BROOKLYN — The Brooklyn Parks & Recreation Department will host three concerts this September at the Maury Bowen Complex at Riverside Park, located off Day St/Greenway Drive in Brooklyn. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Social distancing will be maintained during these events.

The following concerts are scheduled:
Sept. 13 – Jesse Liam Band, Sept. 20 – Cat's DJ with the sounds of the '50's & '60's, Sept. 27 – Cat's DJ with the sounds of the '70's, '80's & '90's. These concerts are free to the public. Park opens at 4 p.m., and concerts begin at 5 p.m. No Alcohol allowed in town parks.

State guidelines will be followed. Rain updates will be posted online and on our Facebook page.

Call or go online for more information: 860-779-3411, Option 7 or www.brooklynct.org.

TRUST YOUR NEIGHBORS

Buy Local • Shop Local • Support Your Community!

THE LAW OFFICE OF
GABRIELLE LABONTE
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

WILLS AND TRUSTS
MEDICAID PLANNING
PROBATE

5 VINA LANE • P.O. Box 709
BROOKLYN, CONNECTICUT 06234
PHONE: 860-774-3700 • FAX: 860-774-6300

CARPENTRY SERVICES CT, LLC
Remodeling Kitchens, Baths and More!
CALL **Gene Pepper** at 860-230-6105
carpentryservicesct.com
CT #0606460 • #MA-HIC#196807 • RI #763
Veteran owned and operated since '89

Lower Cost Dry Cleaning!
Wash & Fold Service

Dayville Dry Cleaners & Laundromat
Rte 101 Dayville - Across from XtraMart
860-779-2777

LEONARD ZADORA & SONS, LLC
DEMOLITION, SEPTIC SYSTEMS & EXCAVATION
FREE ESTIMATE

- New & Repaired Septic Systems
- Landscaping
- Stumping • Drainage Systems
- Sewer Connections
- Frost Walls • Cellar Holes
- Snow Plowing
- Loam • Sand • Gravel • Fill

860-774-1737

108 Thompson Pike, Dayville, CT 06241
40 Years Experience • Licensed & Insured

Advertise on this weekly page featuring local business.
For more information call today (508) 909-4126

GILES CONTRACTING
Building & Remodeling
Peter Giles
28 Years Experience

Custom Homes • Additions • Garages
Remodeling • Decks

Kitchens • Bathrooms • Wood & Tile
Flooring • Roofing • Siding • Windows

508-450-3913
Email: Gilescontractingllc@yahoo.com
Licensed & Insured in MA & CT
www.allconstructionneeds.com

SUMMER COMFORT IS EASIER THAN YOU THINK.
UP TO \$1000
CT Energize Rebate (on qualifying units)
AMERICA'S #1 SELLING BRAND OF DUCTLESS
mitsubishicomfort.com

© 2015 Mitsubishi Electric
Bring cool comfort to any room... without wasted energy or noise

HOMETOWN HEATING LLC
549 Wolf Den Rd., Brooklyn CT 06234
CT License #404527 | HOD # 75 • HOD # 941
hometownheatingllc.com
860.779.2222

Transform Your Home Today!

We are authorized retailer of Benjamin Moore Paints & Stains. Our Staff Makes it easy to find the right color, paint and supplies to ensure a successful project!

EASTFORD Building Supply

189 Eastford Rd., Eastford, CT 06242
ph: 860-974-1924 • fax: 860-974-0099
eastfordbuildingsupply.com

Showplace Cabinetry is made in America by employee-owners who take great pride in every cabinet they craft for you. Your creative choices are nearly unlimited, and it's all backed by the assurance of a lifetime warranty. Call us to learn more about what we can do for your dream.

SHOWPLACE CABINETRY™
100% EMPLOYEE OWNED • MADE IN AMERICA • SOUTH DAKOTA • LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY

YOUR DREAM, CLOSER TO REALITY

Monday-Friday 7am-5pm
Saturday: Closed
Sunday: Closed

VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS
 Putnam Villager • Thompson Villager • Woodstock Villager • Killingly Villager
 "Hometown Service, Big Time Results"

EMAIL: ADS@VILLAGERNEWSPAPERS.COM
 VISIT US ONLINE www.towntotownclassifieds.com

ARTICLES FOR SALE**010 FOR SALE**

ARTICLES FOR SALE
 Nordic Track Exerciser-\$300
 Epson Photo Printer
 Cd/DVD with program
 \$650
 Car or Truck Sunroof
 \$100
 Rollup School Map
 \$50
 Many Chairs
 \$25 each.
 Electric Fireplace
 \$140
 2 Antique Printing Presses
 Manufacturing 1885-
 \$1500 each.
 Call:
 508-764-4458

010 FOR SALE

CANON CAMERA
 AE-1 MANUAL
 With Lens and Flash
 52 mm UV 35 mm 52 mm
 Zoom II
 62 mm UV model 202
 35-70 mm 1007773
 Asking \$150.00
 OR BEST OFFER
 1-774-230-7555

FOR SALE
 1 year old black
 Amana stove \$300.
 (860)928-0773

Town-to-Town
CLASSIFIEDS
 TO PLACE YOUR AD CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-536-5836

200 GEN. BUSINESS**205 BOATS**

MIRROCRAFT 12 FOOT "V"
 BOTTOM. MINNKOTA
 MAXXUM 40 POUND
 THRUST. VARIABLE
 DRIVE. VERY LOW HOURS. 3
 SEATS WITH PEDESTALS
 .OARS, ANCHOR, TRAILER,
 SPARE TIRE . ALL VERY
 GOOD CONDI-
 TION. \$1500.00. CALL 508-987-
 0386 LEAVE MESSAGE.

295 BUILDING SUPPLIES

COPPER PIPING
 used not for domestic water var-
 ious sizes and lengths, ridge
 vent, used counter tops, used
 plate picture windows in wood
 frame, hardwood flring, fir tile
 12 x 12, make appt. 508-344-
 0732

Automotive

700 AUTOMOTIVE**725 AUTOMOBILES**

CAR PARTS
 for 1956/55: 56 buick special
 conv. chrome, dash brd,
 taillight assembly, bumpers, top
 lift cylinder, carburetor, trim, etc.
 860-315-7395

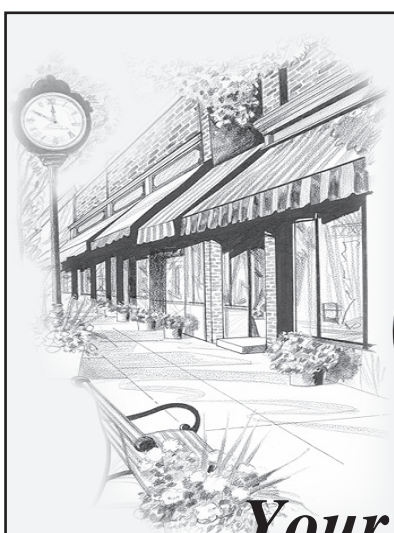
FOR SALE:
 1997 BMW 528i 96k \$5000 or
 BO, 2001 Cadillac Eldo \$2350,
 \$1997 Cadillac
 Concours \$1800.
 call: 508-344-0732

Keep your GREEN
In your community!
SHOP LOCAL



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

*George Wilhelm
 Friedrich Hegel*



Community Connection

Your area guide to buying, dining & shopping locally!

COMMUNITY SPECIAL

This size ad for only
\$35/wk for 14 weeks

**Receive A Free
 1/2 Page Ad**

CALL MIKAELA AT
 508-909-4126
 FOR MORE INFORMATION



Your area guide
 to Buying,
 Dining &
 Shopping
 Locally!

**Support Close
 to Home!**

Morin JEWELERS
 Fine Jewelry & Gifts
 The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

WE BUY GOLD

**Specializing
 in Custom Designs**
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™
 BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
moringjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
 Located at CVS Plaza

ADVERTISING WORKS!

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Citizens of Woodstock are hereby informed that the Board of Assessment Appeals for the Town of Woodstock will hold its sessions on the following dates: Monday, September 14, 2020, beginning at 6:00 PM Tuesday, September 15, 2020, beginning at 6:00 PM Wednesday, September 16, 2020 beginning at 6:00 PM Appointments must be made by calling the Assessor's Office before September 10, 2020 at 860-928-6929 Ext 326 or Ext 327 or E-Mail: assessorasst@woodstockct.gov The September session is held solely for appeals on MOTOR VEHICLES for Grand List 2019. Sessions will be held at the Town Hall Office Building at 415 Route 169, Woodstock, CT. Vehicle in question must be present at appeal session. Notice given of sessions held to conform to section 12-110 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut. BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS Rebecca Hyde Ron Cabana Edward N. Larson, Chairman August 28, 2020 September 4, 2020

TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission at its Regular Meeting on Monday August 24, 2020 beginning at 7PM via Zoom, rendered the following decisions: PZC 20-17 – Site Plan Review – Property Owner Charles Tewksbury, 0 Breaults Landing Rd., Map 141, Block 17, Lot 203, 204 & 205, R40, New home construction on a Town unaccepted, approval permitted by the Planning and Zoning Commission according to Town of Thompson Ordinance Article IV Building on Unaccept-

ed Streets and section b.

(1) and (2) gives the Planning Commission the Option of issuing written permission for the building permit. Approved with conditions. PZC #20-19 Application: Applicant David Coman, owner for property at 0 Hagstrom Rd, Map 19, Block 85, Lot 6A, Zone R-80, Gravel Permit Operation Renewal. Applicant David Coman confirmed there was no activity on the site during the 2019-2020 renewal period. Approved with conditions. File may be reviewed on the Planning and Zoning Website, in the Zoning Office, or the office of the Town Clerk during normal business hours. Respectfully submitted, Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman September 4, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF EASTFORD

On August 18, 2020 the duly authorized agent of the Eastford Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency approved the construction of wraparound porch on small cabin and construction of wraparound porch and slab under existing home within the Upland Review area at 120 Union Rd., Map 59 Block 2 Lot 5 located in Eastford CT. September 4, 2020

TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission at its Regular Meeting on Monday August 24, 2020 beginning at 7PM via Zoom, adopted the new Zoning Regulations and Map effective September 15, 2020. The new Zoning Regulations can be viewed online on the Planning and Zoning website page or in the Planning Office at the Town Hall. Respectfully submitted, Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman September 4, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Paul F. Mailloux (20-00223) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, August 20, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
 Carolyn Mailloux,
 c/o KATHLEEN MARY CERRONE
 (attorney for Carolyn Mailloux),
 BORNER. SMITH, ALEMAN, HER-
 ZOG & CERRONE, 155 PROVIDENCE STREET, PUTNAM, CT 06260, (860)928-2429.
 September 4, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Justin Parsons (20-00301) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, August 20, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
 Heather Parsons,
 c/o BRENDAN KEVIN NELLIGAN
 (attorney for Heather Parsons),
 KENNEDY JOHNSON SCHWAB &
 ROBERGE LLC, 555 LONG WHARF DRIVE, 13TH FLOOR, NEW HAVEN, CT 06511, (203)865-8430
 September 4, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Elizabeth S. Putnam (20-00274) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, August 20, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to

promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
 James Nowack,
 c/o ALYSON R ALEMAN, BORNER SMITH ALEMAN HERZOG & CERRONE, LLC, 155 PROVIDENCE STREET, PO BOX 166, PUTNAM, CT 06260, (860)928-2429
 September 4, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF David J Grenier (20-00300) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, August 20, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk


The fiduciary is:
 Aimee J Griffin
 c/o ANNA VLADIM ZUBKOVA,
 ANNA ZUBKOVA, ATTORNEY AT LAW, P.O. BOX 275, PLAINFIELD, CT 06374
 September 4, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Robert R. Marcy (20-00290) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, August 26, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
 Ronald L. Marcy,
 c/o Attorney Gabrielle Labonte,
 5 Vina Lane, P.O. Box 709,
 Brooklyn, CT 06234
 September 4, 2020



Villager Newspapers

P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TELEPHONE: (860) 928-1818
FAX: (860) 928-5946
WWW.VILLAGERNEWSPAPERS.COM

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Happy trails

Actress Shirley MacLaine once wrote “Fear makes strangers of people who would be friends.”

This week, the topic of strangers has been at the forefront of our minds. Having met several strangers on the hiking trails over the past few months has opened up an appreciation for others that has always been there, yet as of late, for some reason, these meetings have become more meaningful. Simple conversations can lead to an unraveling of several rewarding conversations.

They always say there’s no such thing as a solo hike, and it’s true, for the most part. While hiking the Mount Cabot loop during a recent excursion to our friendly northern neighbor New Hampshire, a chance meeting with a teacher from the southern part of the Granite State took place. It was interesting to hear his views on his school re-opening plan and how he handled remote teaching. According to him, he sort of “rolled with it.” On that same trail, a fortunate meeting with Ray took place. A CPA from Boston who was on his 47th of New Hampshire’s 4,000 footers, was in the right spot at the right time. Being five feet, one inch in height, the hop from one boulder to the next on top of The Horn, would not have happened without a boost from Ray. Claspng his hands together and lifting me from one perch to the next made for a great lunch on top of the mountain. His tales of climbing to the Mt. Everest base camp and his ski adventures all over the world was the perfect accompaniment to a well deserved peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

A 66 year old veteran named Brian was the perfect person to head down Mount Willard with. After the storm wreaked havoc on the trail, the trek down was, well, sort of like an obstacle course. Brian (and his dog) shared so many eye-opening stories about his time serving in the military. I was proud to have him by my side and honored he shared his story.

On top of North Sugarloaf, a Spanish teacher with her family topped the list. They were in from Mass for the weekend. They shared their love of New Hampshire with the best humor and were so appreciative of the nature around them. The family has decided to make lemonade out of lemons and are choosing to get their elementary age students out into the mountains as much as possible, the kids said they love every minute of it.

When hiking sections of the Appalachian Trail, you will meet a ton of thru hikers, each coming with a unique name. This past week, while hiking the Beaver Brook Trail up to Mount Moosilauke, “Whole Foods,” “Square Peg” and “Sherpa” each had amazing tales. Whole Foods is from P.A. And was hiking south to Georgia, in a kilt. Square Peg stopped to chat as he was making his way down and told us, this was his third time completing the AT. Sherpa told us that the wind at the top literally blew him over. He was a tiny thing, and after summiting, we believed him.

On top of Mount Nancy, a family surprised ‘Dad’ for his 50th with party hats and cupcakes. It was so neat to be a part of that. Impromptu parties are the best. This is a story that deserves it’s own and will be forthcoming in the next few months.

Whether you chat someone up on the trails or in line at the store, you never know what you will learn. Some people will engage, others won’t. It’s a coin toss and that can be a fun game all it’s own.

If you have a fear of talking to strangers, do it anyway. When you do something repeatedly the fear tends to dissipate and your conversation techniques will feel more natural. If you imagine that the person is already your friend, you’ll treat them as such and this approach can alleviate an awkward feelings.

In the words of Anais Nin, “Each friend represents a world in us, a world not born until they arrive, and it is only by this meeting that a new world is born.”



OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Destroying America?

To the Editor:
What a collection of lies and incendiary insults in last week’s Opinion pages. Democrats are not trying to destroy our country. We serve Connecticut, the Quiet Corner, and the USA on every level of society and government with all the selfless passion we can muster in these dark days. We won the popular vote but lost the White House to a man who is not interested in leading the whole country but who appeals his fearful alarms to a smaller and smaller group of voters.

None of the racial justice rallies I’ve joined have damaged anything, but I sure understand the urge to burn and destroy, not America, not our country, but destroy the refusal to address the four-hundred years of unjust treatment our fellow Americans have endured.

Nonviolence preacher Martin Luther King warned you, “Riots are the language of the unheard,” but you’re still not listening to the cries that are louder and clearer and more consequential than any burning building. If the police were murdering your brothers and sisters and children you’d riot, too. You arm and armor yourselves in militias to threaten a governor’s lawful request just to wear a

Outrage in Brooklyn

To the Editor:
I wrote a letter back in April 2009 about wanting to homestead on my current property in Brooklyn and detailing how I planned to do this in the most eco-friendly way possible. The plan included raising honey bees, chickens, ducks, and as I had recently been prescribed goats’ milk by my family physician, a small number of goats. I took a copy of this letter, some articles on other families raising such animals in various city limits, and the doctor’s note, to our zoning department and was advised I would need to engage an attorney and get a variance, as I was not zoned for raising these animals here. I also took a copy of the letter to each of my neighbors. Each and every one of them signed the letter giving me their approval and permission to raise these animals here.

I am sharing all of this with the Villager’s readership because after getting the signatures from every single neighbor, I contacted a zoning attorney and looked into getting that variance. He told me I didn’t need a variance. This was an agricultural town, I have a hardship in that my doctor has prescribed goat’s milk for my health and well-being, and I had all of my then-neighbors’ approval. I acted on his advice and started raising chickens and ducks the following spring. Later, in 2014, I

There is an agenda behind calls for “Law & Order”

To the Editor:
These past several weeks, the Villager’s Letters section has seen any number of letters filled with ad-hominem attacks on other letter writers, the not-so-subtle uses of Mr. or Ms. in referring to letter writers one agrees with, the use of only the last name when referring to those one does not agree with, and, in at least one case, the misspelling of a last name. Minor things, but telling. The overall tone of these particular letters, virtually all in support of Donald Trump, has been hostile, angry, and filled with fear-mongering, exaggeration, and paeans to Law and Order. The timing is auspicious. The Republican National Convention just wrapped up in full-on non-social distanced fashion, the Rose Garden bedecked banana republic-style with hundreds of American flags, the lighting angled perfectly to max-

Giving credit where credit is due

To the Editor:
In what may come as a total surprise to some, I’m going to start off by giving Mr. Joe Biden some credit. Pelosi told him not to debate President Trump, but he overruled her and insisted that he will do just that. I only hope that he also told her to shut the hell up and get lost! Who does she think she is by trying to stop this election tradition? That nonsense only strengthens my resolve that Pelosi has totally lost her mind and that she’s nothing more than a power crazy, control freak, as well as - again - the poster child for term limits.
I’ll give Mr. Biden even more credit because he’s waking up and speaking out against the violence plaguing the streets even though it’s been labeled as a “little too late” action. He no doubt did only this because more voters are getting sick and tired of the democratic electorate who are not doing their jobs. I find it surprising that now some other democratic politicians are also speaking up and have decided to take action against these rioters; and it’s about time they all did! Kudos to the Mayor and the Governor of Wisconsin (both Democrats) for calling in the National Guard when violence hit that state. Also to the democratic Mayor of Denver, Colo., who promised jail time to those “anarchists” causing damage in his city, and I only hope that he makes good on his word. I will however shame the

mask and wait to get that haircut.
This casual, universal vitriol, from the president right down to his simplest local supporters, is designed to encourage the kind of armed civil war that will allow Trump to cry “emergency!” and again ignore the will of the majority of Americans and perhaps even the Electoral College.

I read strong language in these pages about Trump’s incompetence, narcissism and immorality, but I don’t hear Democrats accusing his supporters of treason and anarchy. Those are fighting words, and lead to the kind of current deadly violence Trump warns us will be part of a Biden presidency, though that kind of violence is right now causing fear during his own presidency. Reelect him and it will get worse.

There is a group of people that hates our country and wants to destroy it, but the lies and spin the Russians feed us has always been to elect and reelect their Bull In The American China Shop. Don’t help the Russians destroy America.

G. LESLIE SWEETNAM
WOODSTOCK

added Nigerian Dwarf goats. I did all of this openly, not believing that I was doing anything “wrong” because of this advice. Did I receive bad legal advice? Apparently so. But who among us would have acted differently? This was an attorney. One would think he would know what he was talking about. Additionally, in the 10+ years that these animals have been here, there has never been a single complaint about noise, odor, or any other possible offense.

Until now.
I have a new neighbor who has complained about roosters crowing. I get it. If you’re not used to it, and even sometimes when you are, it can be annoying. But at least one of my roosters has made his home here since 2010 and this neighbor has been here for at least two of those years. Why is it a problem this year? Why wasn’t there a problem last year? Why didn’t this neighbor have the decency to at least knock on my door and talk to me about the problem before taking it to the town as a complaint? I’m not an unreasonable woman. We might’ve resolved it in a much more amicable manner. And, though I’ve been willing to work with current zoning in removing the roosters, why isn’t that good enough for this neighbor? This neighbor is now challeng-

Turn To **BURBANK** page **A10**

imize the power and magnificence of Dear Leader. There would be no Republican platform this year, there would only be fealty to whatever it is that Donald J. Trump, in his infinite wisdom, decides is best for the country. And he is going all-out fear: they are coming for you in your suburbs (in fact, they will do away with the suburbs), they are coming for you in your beds, and never mind the coronavirus — it’s in the past and even if it’s not, well, everyone’s going to get it sometime. Law and Order. That’s the ticket. Do we care about vigilantes in the streets or self-proclaimed militias? No, we do not. Do we care if cops continue to shoot unarmed black people in the back? No, we do not. What we want is Law and Order. Is that code? You bet it is. In the midst of this craziness, it is well to

Turn To **DAY** page **A10**

Virginia State Senate - and the democrats who control both chambers of legislation - for passing a bill that would make assaulting cops a misdemeanor. So see, kids, I can give credit to the other side and be critical at the same time, but will you “no fans” ever change your “agenda” and do the same?

Speaking of Mitch McConnell, back in May, when the democrats were still hiding their heads in the sand, he condemned “senseless violence” by demonstrators in both Minnesota and in his home state of Kentucky, and said “anger at the deaths of African Americans by police was certainly understandable.” And as far as I know, Steve Bannon is not a politician and if he goes to jail, I could care less.

So now I’m going to go off on a (no doubt, more usual) rampage! The “do nothing” Mayor of [Portland] Oregon, Ted Wheeler, is now blaming President Trump for the continual chaos in his state by saying that he (Trump) created it. That statement is the height of stupidity and a mere diversion from the fact that he is a totally pathetic failure in his duty to protect the people in his city! Did you know that Wheeler was tear gassed while taking part in a protest? When he addressed the protestors, many of them mocked, booed and cursed him! This out of control ignominy is even too brain-dead to realize that the demonstrators were actually laughing in his

Turn To **DELUCA** page **A9**

School days, school days...

Who among us doesn’t feel something deep inside this time of year when we see a school bus pulling away after picking up children?

There are memories of our own first days of school and those of our sons and daughters. Perhaps a few tears. Perhaps deep sighs of relief.

Perhaps the same generalized anxiety and puzzlement at how this year of all years will go. No matter the emotions, we know that once they get to school, they will begin a new year with their teachers, who are among the most powerful influences

in their lives.

I read through and tossed out all my report cards from elementary school recently. As I pulled each card out of its yellow envelope, I remembered my teachers. From Mrs. Murdock, my first grade teacher, to Mr. Glenn, Mr. Profetto and Mr. McNally, the three who oversaw seventh and eighth grade, memories flooded back. Teachers see us and know us in ways few others ever do.

Everyone wanted to be assigned to the younger teacher in any particular grade. Generally a woman, she was beginning her career and full of energy. She might be pretty and stylish and every pupil developed a crush on her. Later, we might realize that it was the more seasoned teachers who were the most effective, but school like much of life is as much what we imagine as what is real.

Until fifth grade, all of my teachers were women. They were generally married and childless or more likely, single. They wore floral print dresses, sensible shoes and stuffed tissues inside their sleeves. It was impossible to imagine their lives outside of school and if I ever met one in a store or at an event, I was flustered. It was hard to see them as real people as they were held up to a special standard. They still are.

Zenny Sosnowski was a Marine. On the first day of fifth grade picked up a boy in my class and bounced him against the blackboard. We were thunderstruck. Mr. Sosnowski went on to become a remarkable teacher, despite that shaky beginning. We payed close attention to him. He was impossible to fool and knew immediately that I had skipped the most basic aspects of math. He became a coach, a mentor, especially to boys, and a legend. I hope everyone has a teacher like him as he was gifted. Many are.

My mother, my daughter, other relatives and friends were or still are teachers. My mother taught in rural schools. My daughter worked in a wealthy suburban high school. It takes a very special set of skills. In my mother’s day that included running a woodstove to heat the school. In my daughter’s it was helping teenagers learn how to have friends as well as earn A’s.

Beyond loving and fearing our teachers is a new conundrum. We want them to be up-to-date and technologically savvy as well as empathic. We want the old model and the new. This year most will juggle both as they stand before classes and teach on line. Teachers will lament the awkwardness and inadequacies of new methods while they dive right in to doing their jobs.

One of the important parts of becoming educated is learning to adjust and grow. Teachers manage this challenge for themselves and their students. There will be dust-ups over union demands, parent anxiety, students longing to socialize and learn. It won’t be easy, but teachers are special people. They will make it work. At a challenging time, together with their students they will create new memories.



NANCY WEISS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Welcome to Fantasy Island

To the Editor:
The Democratic and Republican Conventions are finally over! Two weeks of political overload; I could only stand to watch highlights of both.
The DNC has been criticized by some for being too dark and negative --- maybe, but when you're dealing with reality, it isn't always pretty. On the other hand, the RNC should have been renamed "Welcome to Fantasy Island with the Trump family." Donald Trump must think the whole country developed amnesia, or that we're all as dumb as he is. One hundred eighty thousand Americans (and counting) have died of Covid-19, the economy is in the toilet, racial tensions continue to explode, and unemployment numbers are at record highs. In spite of all that, our clueless (but egotistical) President stands in front of the White House like he's hosting a block party, with a big grin on his face. Of course, as usual,

The soul of a nation

To the Editor:
Plenty has been said about how we got here on the political slope which slants violently to the right and the left, and I don't need to tell you there is a lot of rhetoric and propaganda on both sides by those who have adopted "The Culture Wars" as a way of life. But I find it more interesting to examine Thomas Moore's quote from his book *Care of the Soul*: "...but the root problem is that we have lost our wisdom about the soul, even our interest in it. We have today few specialists of the soul to advise us when we succumb to moods and emotional pain, or when as a nation we find ourselves confronting a host of threatening evils." Thomas Moore, *Care of the Soul* (1994)
Indeed, we do find ourselves confronting a host of threatening evils. But we have been here before in America's sullied past of conflict and violence which emerges during each paradigm shift in the social and material culture. Yet we always seem to pull ourselves up by the bootstraps and move forward, generation by generation. However, something feels different in these strident times. Perhaps it's our obsession with technology and social media, along with all the materialistic entrapments which have caused us to go astray. Or the information overloads which tend to short-out our brain-scape, numbing our ability to listen to or see another point of view from the myopic mud in which we swim. Those with a conspiratorial obsession with the culture wars point fingers toward the 1960's which ushered a parade of cultural revolutions into the millennium. But what could have been more revolutionary than the righteous causes of the religious zealots and abolitionists of the 19th century who took on slavery? They too fought their battles in social media. They preached to the choir in their own magazines and newspapers, just as we do on Facebook. Often, they would duke it out in letters to the Editor of local and state-wide newspapers. Thought and opinion may have moved slowly back then, given the technology at hand, but the fervor was just as ebullient as the rabid rants you encounter online and even at social gatherings.
So, what makes the "threatening evils" of 2020 so different from those of the 1960's or the 1830's or 1776? I wonder if Thomas Moore was right when he said we lack the wisdom of the soul. Does America even have a soul? We know that there is a certain spirit which Americans flail around the world. After all, our nation was founded on the motto "The Spirit of 1776," but what does that mean in the context of depth, wisdom and soulfulness? Not much. We tend to be a shallow, feisty and cranky lot as a nation, and even though we've been caught up in countless religious movements we are easily distracted by our materialism and politics. So what does it mean for a nation to have a soul, and how does it manifest itself when the waters are troubled?
I recently read an article about why conservative Christians are voting for Trump even though his character and behavior are the antithesis of Christianity. The writer was a deeply conflicted soul still fighting the crusades. In his eternal battle between good and evil, anyone who stands one degree to the left of Richard Nixon is a leftist communist. The thesis of his argument was that the righteous right needs a warrior like Trump, because they've tried everything else (dignity, respect, civility) since the 1960's. The same could be I'm sure this relic of McCarthyism and the John Birch Society believes that America lost its soul in the '60's, and in his mind it's a white, Christian soul, and doesn't it piss people like him off when we embrace all religions? Perhaps he is right that Americans began to turn away from churches and institutions in the '60's. But I remember it as a deeply faithful time of prayerful Civil Rights marches, kneeling for justice and a great spiritual awakening as the children of the '60's began to explore Eastern religions and practices. I remember it as a time when America was turning away from the shallow materialism of their parents' generation as they sought a deep-

Trump wants to blame Joe Biden and the Democrats for everything that's gone wrong. Hello --- Earth to Trump --- you're the President, pinhead! This all happened on your "watch," and all you've done is make things worse!
Trump has proven he's incapable of running our country. Add that to his long history of failed businesses, and it's pretty clear that the only thing he can run is his mouth. Four more years of this dishonest, corrupt administration will bury this great country of ours. The Biden / Harris team isn't my first choice to replace Trump, but they get my vote. This life-long unaffiliated voter hopes that once Trump and his criminal cohorts are gone, the Republicans will take back control of their party, and restore some legitimate balance in our government.

TODD PATRIE
POMFRET CENTER

er understanding of themselves and who we are as a nation. So I don't think America lost its soul in the '60's.
If you turn back to the 1830's, another rebellious generation which had reaped the harvest of their parents' prosperity was questioning authority. These children of the industrial revolution (another paradigm shift) defied the status quo and took the Constitution to heart in their arguments against slavery. During their quest to build a better America, they started newspapers, communes, and joined religious movements that shook the rafters of the mainstream churches. They used the power of the pen, armed with such fanatical religious language it would raise more than a few eyebrows today. Like the 1960's, these young people initiated the reform of prisons, education, women's rights, and civil rights. They were driven by an internal set of principles which they believed were God-given and therefore more valid than the laws of man. Abolitionists such as Prudence Crandall prayed and meditated, sometimes opening the Bible randomly for guidance. It seems like their America had a soul, although the rest of America disagreed it was the right kind of soul. After all, slave holders used the Bible as a tool of repression in a feeble attempt to justify their own pact with evil.
I'm beginning to think that the American soul is a ping-pong match driven by economic ups and downs. The generations who have brought wisdom, change and evolution to America were the byproducts of the previous generation's economic surge forward and the rise of the middle class. The generations who suffered the consequences of economic recessions and depressions, tend to be more cautious and content with the status quo. They are not the risk-takers who will pull us forward. Out of necessity, they become shallow and materialistic - their brain is numbed by their biology and the need of survival. I suspect that these generations lack soul and fall back on the fundamentals of religion, that "inoculation against the real thing." Soulfulness is too risky and requires a foundation of courage. It is up to their coddled and entitled children to venture into that frontier.
When you look at America as a series of uptrends and downtrends, you realize that we have always had a soul, even if it is occluded or skips a generation or two. Wisdom, courage, spirituality, and an eye toward the future have pulled us out of the doldrums since the teetering beginnings of this democratic republic. The early colonies floundered for several generations as they tried to get their bearings and groundings on this new continent. But when tobacco, trade and shipping took hold it was game, set, and match for the next generation. Universities were built and with them came the "Age of Enlightenment" which influenced the founding fathers and gave them the intellectual courage and desire for a revolution. War-torn and reeling from too much change, America recessed in the late 18th and early 19th century. When the industrial revolution helped to build a wider middleclass, the children of that generation were able to get a better education. Boarding schools for boys and girls flourished. Minds were opened and expanded. America was expanding and flourishing.
It seems that the key to America's soul has always been education. The early Puritans took to educating their daughters so that they could read the Bible and write letters. Little did they know that it would lead them to reading novels and newspapers which broadened their minds and their yen for bigger horizons. If expansion of the mind is what leads America to her soul, then ignorance is what holds her back from the spiritual actualization of what she could be. Unfortunately, we suffer the burden of ignorance with each generation as those with a kind of perverse nostalgia disrupt progress and the trend toward the light, enlightenment and justice. It's almost as if the lesser self of our body politic comes full

Turn To **DURESNE** page **A10**

The sad truth

To the Editor:
The sad truth is that African Americans were brought to this country in chains and sold like cattle on the auction block, branded and abused, mistreated with no concern for their plight and humanity. They had no rights, they were whipped beaten and sold off to other owners. Families were not kept together, children sold, mothers and fathers separated . After the civil war they were kept in poverty, share cropping, denied education and voting rights. Evil organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan brutally enforced restrictions on black people and made them suffer. Segregation was an evil system. Lynching was rampant.
Indian or Native Americans were treated as less than human they were bribed and languages were eradicated. Forced by trickery and false treaties they were relocated to reservations that were desolate and with few resources.
Mexican and South American workers were brought here to harvest our

crops under low wages and poor conditions with no rights and no safety. The Chinese workers who built our railroads were also brutalized. In the second World War Japanese Americans were rounded up and imprisoned and they lost all they had owned.
It is no wonder that with the brutal killing of George Floyd and the continued racial inequality and lack of equal justice for all, that protests have erupted. I do not
approve of looting and violence but I do approve of non violent protest.
Little has improved; people of color are still on the bottom of the economic ladder; they are not safe from bigotry and social injustice. They are denied equal opportunity to rent or own homes in many areas, they are treated as criminals by police even when they have done no wrong. We cannot rewrite history but we can do better in the future.

ANN C. ROSEBROOKS
THOMPSON

Trump supporters need to reassess where the country stands

To the Editor:
Might makes right. The ends justifies the means.
Most rational people would consider these statements ethically, morally, religiously and philosophically immoral. But Trump, the alt-right, the white supremacists, and, I fear, most Republicans and Trumpers do not think so. Trump's disdain for conversation and compromise and his explicit support of violent response has established a body of thought that is antithetical to the basic promise of the Republic.
The Republic has the basic challenge of protecting all its citizens, not just those who won the election. That protection is of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Note that the first item in this hallowed list is life.
Trump clearly has little interest in life. He only sees the world as a possession, not a process. This type of mindset harkens back to medieval times and even into the 1700's in England where property was more valuable than life. You could be hanged for stealing a loaf of bread.
Yes, demonstrators have committed arson and vandalism, and that cannot be condoned. But it is only property. It is the white supremacists and ill-trained police that have been shooting and killing people. And Trump has not shown any concern about those illegally shot.
I read articles by Trumpers extolling all the great things Trump claims to have done. I need to dispute some of them. First, he lied to you about the wall. Very few new miles have been built. Most of the money has been spent to repair existing walls or completely wasted on no-bid contracts. Most of the money has been stolen from the Military and other agencies - perhaps illegally, but both parties in Congress haven't had the fortitude to challenge this. And then there is Bannon and his rip off of Trump contributors. Just another worthy endeavor that Trump championed.
Then there is the claim about reducing immigration. That may have happened but at what a terrible human cost? Any compassionate person would understand the end does not justify the means. Brutality can never be sanctioned.
Then there is the claim about record low unemployment. What a crock. On Jan. 1, 20106, as Trump was taking over, the rate was 4.9 percent - all due to Obama's efforts. By Jan. 1, 2020, it was down to 3.6 percent. Not a significant change, and not worthy of outrageous bragging. Oh yes, it's now at 10.2 percent because of Trump's extraordinary management of the economy.

DELUCA
continued from page A8

worthless face! So now, the new democratic strategy is to shift the blame for their incompetence to President Trump by saying: "this is happening in Trump's America." Really? That has to be an all-time low - even for them - considering the fact that the vast majority of this destruction is occurring in states run by democrats, and that their Governors and Mayors have refused President Trump's offered help. Yup, talk and shifting blame is obviously much easier than action, but inaction and avoidance is what I've come to expect from these mindlessly controlled, little wind-up toys!
It may have been suggested that I'm the one who needs «something new when giving an opinion»; either way,

Then there is the claim that the economy before Covid was doing so great. These claims are based mostly by looking at the stock market. It's booming, but why? First, the tax-cut package primarily benefited the wealthy and the corporations, not us average folks. And then the Covid stimulus package had a great deal to keep things going. Of the \$2 trillion, only about 300 Billion went to average people and small businesses. \$730 billion went directly to the wealthy and 300-500 Billion went to corporations. This money and that of the tax cuts did not go into the economy. The corporations did not build plants or give raises. They paid dividends and bought back stock. The only benefit was to the stock market. And where did the wealthy spend their money? Not on steaks, cars or building things - it went into the stock market and further pumped it up.
But then you say your retirement is doing great because of the booming stock market. Wake up. The stock market produces nothing and is not part of the substantive economy. Your worth is only a number in a computer. The only time your retirement portfolio has any real value is when you cash it in and spend it. Until then its only value is to make you feel good. Most retirement plans can't be liquidated ahead of time so you are hoping that 10, 20, 30 years down the line it will still be there. Makes today's Dow seem somewhat fragile doesn't it?
Trump has also lied to you when he said he would drain the swamp. Trump has filled the government with incompetent, ignorant and self serving people. Many of these appointees have a history of vilifying and condemning those very departments they now head. This is corruption and destruction in its most basic form. And look how many of his "best and brightest" are in legal and ethical trouble and how we have scandals and damning books coming out almost daily. Compare that to where there were virtually none in the Obama administration.
You Trumpers do not like being called cult members. But anyone who pledges unquestioning allegiance to a person and not to the larger vision of a party, a philosophy or a country is by definition a cult member. Anyone who ignores the crimes, the incompetence, the hate-spewing, the refusal to take any responsibility or the egregious self-aggrandizement of their leader is a cult member. Please re-assess your values and see how small and mean a world you've built for yourself.

STEPHEN ETZEL
PUTNAM

that's hypocritical because you "no fans" do the exact same "one trick pony" thing by constantly calling President Donald Trump the same old names, by blaming him for everything, and especially in comparing him to Hitler.
Last weeks Villager had many good letters in it, especially the insightful letter by Claudia Allen, and no doubt Mr. Cassetari noticed several other people also "attacking/blaming" the democrats. Thank you, Mr. Pandolfi, Mr. Poplawski and Mr. Hull for your open-minded letters and I couldn't have said it any better. And, if I was the intended recipient of Mr. Cassetari's "local leader of the Tumpteer cult" jab - I'll gladly accept the title!

ED DELUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

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

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

OBITUARIES

Donald R. Gould, 75

NORWICH– Donald R. Gould, 75, of Laurel Hill Rd., passed away peacefully with his loving wife of 56 years, Louise (Robitaille) Gould by his side on Sunday, August 23, 2020. Born in Putnam, he was the son of the late Joseph and Rose (Hazzard) Gould. Donald was a master stone mason. He was a retired member of Local 230, Laborers Union for 30 years and a council member of the Nipmuck Nation. Donald is survived by his two daughters, Roberta L. Gould of West Hartford CT, and Donna Rae Gould of Leaverett, MA.; two brothers, Kenneth



Gould of Putnam and William Gould of Killingly; three sisters, Janet Cote of Killingly, Annette Butler of FL., and Rose Figueroa of Danielson; three grandchildren, Darius Bartolomei, Tommy Keech and Delina Bartolomei. He was predeceased by his brothers, the late Raymond Gould, Joseph B. Gould and James Gould. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made and will be appreciated to Hospice of NECT, P.O. Box 632, Putnam, CT 06260. Funeral arrangements are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT. 06260. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Philip A. Raymond, 78



PUTNAM– Philip A. Raymond, 78, of Cleveland St., died Friday morning, June 5, 2020 at home. He was the loving husband of Kathleen Raymond. Born in Webster, MA, he was the son of the late Arthur and Viola (Skotchless) Raymond. Mr. Raymond was a proud Army veteran serving during the Vietnam War with Company C, 101st Engineer Battalion. On November 17, 2013 he was united in marriage to Kathleen (Sawicki) Maynard. Mr. Raymond worked for many years as a mason for J&L Construction. He was a member of the American Legion Post 76 in North Grosvenordale and an honorary life member of

the former Knights of Columbus 2087, St. Bernard Council in North Grosvenordale. Philip enjoyed working out at the gym and staying healthy. Philip is survived by his loving wife of seventeen years Kathleen Raymond; his stepson Brian Maynard of Thompson; a brother Harold Raymond and his wife Deborah of Grosvenordale; and several nieces and nephews. Philip was predeceased by a sister, the late Karen E. Raymond. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a graveside service to be held on Saturday, September 12, 2020 at 11:00AM in West Thompson Cemetery, 289 Riverside Dr., Thompson, CT 06277. Funeral services have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. Memorial donations in Philip's memory may be made to the American Legion Post 67, P.O. Box 909, N. Grosvenordale, CT 06255. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Miriam Brown Boldry, 88

Beloved wife, mother, grandma, great-grandma, aunt, and sister, Miriam Brown Boldry, 88, passed away peacefully at her home in E. Woodstock, CT August 30, 2020 surrounded by her family. She was born to the late Claire Alexander and Martha Brown Anderson in Johnstown, PA on November 25, 1931. She attended Westmont Upper Yoder High School in Johnstown and graduated from Bucknell University with a degree in Elementary Education. She married her college sweetheart, J. Stuart Boldry, on August 13, 1955 at the Church of the Visitation in Johnstown, PA. After graduation, she taught elementary school for several years in both Hatboro and Wilkinsburg, PA. Miriam continued her love of education after settling in East Woodstock, CT as a substitute teacher in the Woodstock School system. Miriam was an active volunteer throughout her entire life. She was a Life member of the Day Kimball Hospital Women's Board and a hospital escort volunteer for over 35 years. She was a past member of the Woodstock Republican Town Committee and Registrar of Voters, Chairperson for the Scholarship Committee at Day Kimball Hospital and a supporter of the Opera New England of Northeastern Connecticut. Miriam enjoyed her flower gardens and loved playing bridge and bowling. She was a long-time member of Quinnetis Golf Club (past club champion) and an avid follower of the LPGA, WNBA, and UConn Women's Basketball. Her true joy, however, was her family. While her children were growing up, they spent much of their free time skiing in the winter and camping in the summer. She never missed her children's numerous sporting events, glee club and band concerts or other

special occasions. She adored her grandchildren and saw them as often as she could. She especially enjoyed the weeklong visit at the "Beach House" in Rhode Island every August where the family would gather from across the country. She touched the lives of everyone she met with her kindness, compassion, beautiful smile and supportive nature. She will be deeply missed. Miriam is survived by her husband, J. Stuart Boldry of E. Woodstock, children J. Stuart Boldry Jr. (wife Jennifer) of Lincolnshire, IL, Deborah Boldry (partner Laura Callahan) of Glastonbury, CT, Elizabeth (Boldry) Cochrane (fiancé Halvor Gaasrud) of Southbury, CT and Carolyn (Boldry) Weiby (husband Steve) of Excelsior, MN. She adored her eight grandchildren, Peter Cochrane (wife Kristine), Emily Boldry, Katherine Cochrane, Margaret Boldry, Hannah Weiby, Matthew Boldry, Abigail Weiby, James Cochrane, two great-grandchildren, Julian and Emma Cochrane, niece Dr. Lisa Caruso and nephew Andrew Bruno and their families. She was predeceased by her sister, Margaret L. Bruno, her brother-in-law, Dr. Stephen C. Bruno and her son-in-law, Peter A. Cochrane. The family of Miriam Boldry wishes to extend sincere gratitude to Maureen Collum, Renee Cummings and many other home care providers for their devotion, love and care over the years. Relatives and friends are invited to a visitation from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 3, 2020 in the Gilman Funeral Home, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 4, 2020 in the Most Holy Trinity Church, 568 Pomfret St., Pomfret, CT. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Muddy Brook Fire Department, 93 Woodstock Rd., Woodstock, CT 06281 or to the Most Holy Trinity Church, P.O. Box 235, Pomfret, CT 06258. For memorial guestbook, visit www.Gilmanandvalade.com

BURBANK

continued from page A8

ing the rest of the animals being here. To say that I am angry that someone can simply move in and rip the heart and soul out of one of their neighbors, negatively impact a neighbor's health and well-being, and even negatively impact a potential livelihood, is putting it mildly. Granted, my dreams of a more sustainable homestead have fallen by the wayside. Sadly, there have been some financial challenges over the years that have prohibited any investment in a small business venture included in that letter. The corporation I worked for then took a downturn 6 months' after writing the letter and I lost that job. Within another year, I also lost the two part-time jobs that I had been working at the same time to earn extra money. It

took several years to find another full-time position at Old Sturbridge Village only to lose it after 16 months' time after a fall on the ice last winter left me laid up for several months with a fractured shoulder. Now, as I start to get back on my feet and try to stave off a potential foreclosure, I am getting kicked in the gut with yet another hardship. Maybe this is God's way of telling of me that, no matter how much I love Brooklyn, He wants me elsewhere. I'm not sure how, or where, and it breaks my heart that someone can come in and force me out of the home that I have fought so hard to hang onto for over 19 years as a part of this community and a resident of this town. And, yes, I do have to relocate. Growing up on a packaged, processed diet and ongoing trauma in my childhood home, I have nearly every digestive disorder known to mankind. I can-

not eat meat because I cannot digest it. Needless to say, my chickens and ducks provide the eggs that have become a staple in my diet to provide protein. I cannot consume caffeine. I cannot eat fried foods (though I confess I cheat with Johnny's fish and chips once in a while...and pay for it later). Chocolate, breads, pastas, and refined sugars are also no-no's. That leaves me with a pretty limited diet...and one that I would prefer to grow and raise myself so that I am not further impacted by more processed "foods". Additionally, the added stress from this threat has exacerbated my Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Chronic Epstein-Barr at a time when I need to be on top of my game if I'm going to look into that relocation. Nobody should have to go through this...not when they did the work to build this legally. And I do not want this hanging over my head every time

another new neighbor comes into town. I'm not sure what I hope to gain with this letter to the editor. Maybe it's just a chance to unload because what's happening to me is wrong on so many levels it isn't funny...because I did the work 11 years' ago; I didn't want to lose any beloved pets to just this situation. Maybe it's a warning to all of my other neighbors that this can happen to you, too. All it takes is one arrogant hotshot from the suburbs to decide they don't like where you've located your vegetable garden and take away your right to farm. Maybe it's simply a heartfelt "goodbye" to a town I had hoped to call home for the rest of my days here on earth and must now forsake. May God bless you & keep you! Yours in Christ,

LISA A. BURBANK
BROOKLYN

DAY

continued from page A8

get back to basics. What are these protests all about? What is going on? Perhaps the clearest and most compelling words I've come across were spoken by former Boston Celtics' coach, Doc Rivers, at a press briefing last weekend. When asked about the shooting of Jacob Blake in Wisconsin, a man who was shot seven times in the

back at close range by a policeman, Rivers said: "What stands out to me is just watching the Republican convention and they are spewing this fear. All you hear is Donald Trump and all of them talking about fear." "We're the ones getting killed. We're the ones getting shot. We're the ones that are denied to live in certain communities. We've been hung. We've been shot. All you do is keep hearing about fear." "It's amazing why we keep loving this country, and this country does not love us back." "When you watch that video, it's sickening. It's sickening. You know his kids

were there. How do they ever get that out of their mind? How will those kids ever be normal? If you watch that video, you don't need to be Black to be outraged. You need to be American and outraged. How dare the Republicans talk about fear? We're the ones that need to be scared. We're the ones that have to talk to every Black child. What white father has to give his son a a talk about being careful if you get pulled over?" "The training has to change in the police force. The unions have to be taken down in the police force. My dad's a cop. I believe in good cops. We're not trying to defund the police and take all their money away. We're trying to get them to protect us like they protect everybody else."

"It's just ridiculous. It keeps going. There's no charges. Breonna Taylor, nothing. We protest and they send riot guards. They send people in riot outfits. They go to Michigan with guns and spitting on cops, and nothing happens. All we're asking is you live up to the constitution. That's all we're asking for everybody." Law and Order. How ironic. "We keep loving this country and this country does not love us back." How sad. How very, very sad. Sincerely yours,

JOHN A. DAY, JR.
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

To place an In-Memoriam, Card of Thanks, Birthday or Anniversary Greeting, in the Villager Newspapers

the deadline is Monday at noon for that week.

Ad prices are \$15 for a 2x3 (actual size 2.4" x 3") or \$25 for a 3x4 (3.7" X 4") or 4x3 (5" x 3"). You can add a photo at no additional cost.

To send by mail, please mail to **Villager Newspapers P.O. Box 90 Southbridge, MA 01550** Personal checks, Visa, Master Card, Discover and AMEX are accepted.

For more information, please call 508-909-4126 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news and she'll be happy to help!

DUFRESNE
continued from page A9

force to do battle with the ever progressive soul of a nation. You can see it in the venomous Trumpian spin and the rabid parroting of the right wing nuts that see themselves as culture warriors. If education truly is the seat of America's soul, then we must take caution to protect this sacred tenet of the United

Gilman & Valade
Funeral Homes and Crematory

100th Anniversary

"Living Up to a Tradition Started 100 Years Ago"
~ Bob Fournier

1919 2019

"A century of dedication, compassion and guidance."

Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory
104 Church Street, Putnam, CT 06260 • 860-928-7723 • GilmanAndValade.com

DONNA DUFRESNE POMFRET

GOOD NEWS

Thank you for

25 Years

Window & Door SALE!

Renewal
by Andersen.



an Andersen Company

BIGGEST
new customer discount!

We celebrated our 25th Anniversary Sale back in May, but with all that we've recently been through, **we wanted to give you one final chance this year to get our BIGGEST new customer discount!** Thank you for 25 amazing years!

Until September 30th

save 25%

on windows, patio doors and entry doors¹

with

\$0

0

0%

for

1 year¹

down payments interest

For 25 years, we've been making this project easy and stress-free.

We're the only full-service replacement **window division of Andersen**, one of the oldest window companies in the country, so you know we're not going anywhere. We manage and are accountable for everything—selling, manufacturing, installing and the warranty for all your windows and doors. And know that we've adjusted our operations to serve you in the safest way possible.

After 25 years, our Fibrex® material is still vastly superior to vinyl.

We custom build all of our windows with our exclusive composite material called Fibrex. Andersen researched and tested Fibrex for decades before ever installing it in a home. Our windows feature reinforced seals for greater protection against drafts and sloped sills to drain water away. **Don't settle for vinyl windows when Fibrex is two times stronger than vinyl.**

After 25 years, our installers have seen it all.

When it comes to home improvement, experience matters. Our Master Installers are incredibly skilled professionals who've installed thousands of windows and doors. So, you can feel confident that **your windows and doors—as well as your home—will be in the hands of expert craftsmen** who've seen and done it all.



Call to get this special price before Sept. 30th!

959-456-0067

Renewal
by Andersen.



an Andersen Company



¹Offer not available in all areas. 25% discount applied by retailer representative at time of contract execution and applies to purchase of 3 or more windows and/or entry or patio doors. Valid during first appointment only. Cannot be combined with other offers. Initial contact for a free Window and Door Diagnosis must be made and documented on or before 9/30/20, with the appointment then occurring no more than 10 days after the initial contact. No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. Not all customers may qualify. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Renewal by Andersen retailers are independently owned and operated retailers, and are neither brokers nor lenders. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only, and all financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Renewal by Andersen retailers, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender. All residents of islands including but not limited to Martha's Vineyard will be subject to an island surcharge. CT HIC.0634555. MA 173245. RI 36079. Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. Southern New England Windows LLC is the authorized representative of Renewal by Andersen and the registered Home Improvement Contractor. Renewal by Andersen does not hold this HIC number. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are marks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *Using U.S. and imported parts. **All sales, marketing and installation of windows is conducted by Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England, an independently owned and operated affiliate operating in RI, CT and Cape Cod, MA.**

