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Friday, January 22, 2021

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Woodstock Academy ski team set for action



Photos Courtesy Kevin Brody

The Woodstock Academy alpine ski team stops for a quick picture after its first practice of the 2021 season at Mount Southington.

BY KEN POWERS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WOODSTOCK — Even though the high school winter sports season only officially began three days ago, Woodstock Academy's alpine ski team has been preparing for its season for three weeks.

That's when the skiing Centaurs took to the slopes at Mount Southington in Plantsville — the very same location where they will be racing competitively — for the first of the three practices the team will hold before its five-race regular season begins on Thursday, Jan. 28.

Skiing here in the Nutmeg State runs under the auspices of the Connecticut Interscholastic Ski League (CISL), not the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC).

Because skiing is, obviously, an outdoor sport, and social-distancing and mask-wearing protocols will be followed, the CISL felt

comfortable moving forward.

"We're definitely having a season," Woodstock Academy alpine ski team coach Kevin Brody said. "We're taking responsibility for our own safety precautions regarding COVID-19. Thankfully, Woodstock Academy has been very accommodating. The school is definitely supporting us; it wants to see this happen."

Brody said Mount Southington may limit the participation numbers of some of the larger schools that will be fielding teams, but the Centaurs, with eight skiers (four boys, four girls) currently on the co-ed roster, do not fall into that category.

Woodstock Academy is the only school in Eastern Connecticut that has an alpine ski team, and this is just the Centaurs' second season fielding a team.

Leading the team is senior Zach Brody, coach Brody's son, and junior Eliza

Please Read **SPORTS**, page **A5**

Courtney casts vote for impeachment

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A week after condemning the protests that erupted into violence and aggression in the capital on Jan. 6, Connecticut 2nd District Congressman Joe Courtney joined the rest of the Democrats in the House of Representatives and several Republicans in impeaching President Donald Trump for a second time.

President Trump had previously been impeached in a party-lines vote in January of 2020 due to accusations of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. The exiting Republican President was impeached a second time on Jan. 13 in a 232-197 vote for "incitement of insurrection" after lawmakers accused Trump of encouraging violent behavior from his supporters who marched on Washington on Jan. 6 in opposition of the 2020 Presidential Election results that Trump has continuously disputed. The election resulted in a victory for Democrat Joe Biden who Trump claims stole the election.

Congressman Courtney had previously voiced his support for impeachment procedures in the wake of the Jan. 6 protests which left five dead including at least one police officers and protestors. He had also joined House Democrats in calling on Vice President Mike Pence to invoke the 25th Amendment to remove President Trump from power prior to the Jan. 20 inauguration.

The Congressman released

statements following the approval of impeachment saying he has no doubt the events of Jan. 6 were incited and encouraged by the President as an attempt to defy the results of America's democratic process.

"There is no question that the President helped to foment and incite an attack on our Capitol and our democracy on January 6th, and Representatives from both sides of the aisle came together today to show that there are consequences for these sorts of actions," said Congressman Courtney in a press release. "The President incited a crowd of his supporters to march on Congress with expressed purpose to illegally and violently obstruct a Constitutionally mandated proceeding, namely to tally the certified results of the electoral college. The President's remarks falsely claimed that the election was 'stolen' and called on the crowd to march on the Capitol and 'fight like hell' to 'take back our country.' Leaders and elected officials from across the political spectrum, including from the President's own Cabinet and leaders in the private sector, have stated that it was blindingly obvious that he incited the deadly violence, and afterwards failed to adequately quell the mayhem that trapped Vice President Pence and the leaders of a co-equal branch in a basement for hours."

Congressman Courtney further stated he feels it would have been best for President Trump to resign, but

Please Read **COURTNEY**, page **A3**

Building issues force temporary closure of Killingly Community Center

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KILLINGLY — The Killingly Community Center was recently forced to close for a week due to several issues within the building. The facility has played host to several programs and activities even during the ongoing pandemic as it serves as one of the town's most social-distance-friendly buildings.

Killingly Town Manager Mary Calorio provided an update to the Town Council on Jan. 12 explaining that two specific problems forced the

closing of the building, the first being an issue with the hot water tanks. The community center runs off a dual-tank system for its hot water and one of those tanks failed.

"We had about three inches of water in one section of the basement. Staff was able to remedy that situation. Initially we had to shut off full water to the entire facility because a lot of the valves were frozen, and they didn't have the capacity to isolate off just the hot water system. Our building maintainer was able to work on that system and isolate out the hot water system only so

we were able to restore water, but it was only cold water so we still couldn't open the facility," Calorio said.

The issue has since been remedied after town officials walked through the building and took a closer look at the tank to ensure building codes were being met. The facility is currently able to operate off a single water heater tank thanks to the limited amount of use during the pandemic.

The second issue that was discovered concurrently with the water tank malfunction was some uninvited visitors making their winter homes in

the community center's theater. Squirrels were discovered escaping the New England winter inside the theater section of the facility which is the most actively used space in the center. Officials examined the interior and exterior to find the squirrels' access point and put a stop to their unwanted entry.

"There's a tree that had some good overhanging limbs that they would potentially be able to access. Unfortunately, the soffits and the gutters on that building are severely deteriorated. There are large holes that do provide great access for furry creatures to come in

and now is a good time for them to come in because it is warmer in there. Evaluating that, repairing, or even patching those holes are quite challenging because of the level of deterioration," Calorio said.

The town did hire a pest control company to install humane traps but never ended up catching the animals. Eventually squirrel activity halted enough to allow or the removal of the traps.

"We believe that we've secured it to the best of our ability at this time. It did

Please Read **KCC**, page **A2**



Photo Courtesy

Emma Costa, an eighth grader at Pomfret Community School and a cadette Girl Scout with troop 65500, recently completed her Silver Award project, the highest ranking award a Cadette Girl Scout can earn.

Local Girl Scout earns Silver Award

POMFRET — Emma Costa, an eighth grader at Pomfret Community School and a cadette Girl Scout with troop 65500, recently completed her Silver Award project, the highest ranking award a Cadette Girl Scout can earn.

A Scout needs to spend a minimum of 50 hours working toward a project's goal. For her project, Emma decided to tackle several needs in the community in one project — the need for reusable bags, the need for healthy meals, and the need for filling the shelves at food pantries.

Emma made 30 reusable grocery bags that included a small recipe book with nutrition facts, most of the non-perishable items needed to make the recipes, and a gift card to purchase perishable items. In order to help fund her project, Emma used her sewing skills to make and sell masks

to raise money for the gift cards. She conducted a food drive at her church, Our Lady of LaSalette, and asked family and friends to help by donating food items to fill the bags. Emma states, "working on this project allowed me to help others in need." Emma donated 10 bags to each of the following local food pantries: The Daily Bread, Pomfret Food Pantry, and Friends of Assisi.

In the future, Emma states, "she hopes to tackle other projects like this to support her community."

Troop 6500 is led by Gerri Szamocki, Elizabeth Costa and Tammy Szpyrka. The troop consists of 15 girls from all towns in the Quiet Corner. If you are interested in learning more about scouting or this project, please contact wolfdensupertroop@gmail.com.

Snapshots from a simpler time

What a month this has been! Now I write that the U. S. House of Representatives has impeached President Trump--for the second time. Of course, by the time you read this, you will have a much clearer picture of the outcome of that, and Joseph Biden will be our President. May we quickly begin to become a more peaceful people and a less-divided nation!

With all the turmoil tumbling through my mind, I thought I'd see if I could find some light snippets from Killingly's past to begin this column. The Jan. 21, 1891 Windham County Transcript extract had the following: "Gentlemen will not smoke in the post office in the presence of ladies." Hmm! I wonder if they were smoking smelly cigars? I can't remember exactly when smoking stopped being permitted in many public buildings. I, for one, with my allergies, am glad.

The same issue of the paper contained a list from druggist W. W. Woodward "of the amusing experiences which are met with in the drug store in the attempt to decipher the hieroglyphics which call for remedies for all complaints which flesh is heir to." Here are just a few: "Shammy-Chamois; Alca Hall- Alcohol; Acquante-Aconite; Troches for Coffin-Troches for Coughing; Neppal-Nipple; Helohole-Alcohol; Gomerabeck-Gum Arabic; Borricks-Borax; Ousqui-Whiskey; Haryill-Hair Oil."

Continuing in the lighter vein, I found the following: "Hot baked beans and brown bread will be delivered every Sunday morning at any home in the village." Entry says "from J. E. Logee's card." (January 1892 in the Killingly Business Encyclopedia by Natalie Coolidge). I guess baked beans were a staple food for many New Englanders back then, and many a housewife probably looked forward to not having to cook for a change.

Now the Logee name brings to mind the greenhouses on North Street. However, the Logee family name had

been associated with the bakery business since the early days of the Danielsonville depot village according to H. V. Arnold in his Memories of Westfield and The Making of Danielson. The railroad opened in Danielsonville in 1840, and soon thereafter John Sparks opened a bakery near the railroad crossing and associated himself with James K. Logee. James K. married Julia, daughter of John Sparks in 1844 and eventually became the owner of the bakery and advertised himself as a "Bread and Fancy Cake Baker" in the March 6, 1856 issue of The Windham County Telegraph (Killingly Business Encyclopedia). In the 1800's John Sparks was remembered for having won a lottery about 1830, which enabled him to invest in various parcels of land. (Arnold, "Memories of Westfield," p. 82-83).

James Edward Logee, son of James K. and Julia, continued the bakery operations operating for a while in the building at the corner of Main and Hutchins Streets across from Killingly Memorial School. "A new machine for making crackers has been placed in the bakery of J. E. Logee"-WCT April 1, 1874. "A new and neat cart, from Logee's Bakery, goes through the village several times a day to furnish families with newly made bread, rolls, cake, etc.-WCT June 8, 1876. Wouldn't it be nice in this Covid-19 era to still have a traveling bread man? Fresh bread is comfort food!

I, for one, have been glad that we're having temperatures that are slightly above average. Years ago, when my husband was still alive, we would look forward to the third week of January as "January Thaw" week. Not this year! Apparently the early winter of 1892 was also mild. Since people depended on the



KILLINGLY
AT 300
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WEAVER

winter ice harvest, that was not necessarily good. "Last Saturday the ice-men hereabouts began to gather this important product. Twenty years ago when such a thing as an ice-famine was unknown, nobody wanted it; but now, when every considerable farmer has his ice-house and his Cooley creamer, a mild winter such as we are having causes great [torn paper] and if there was no ice to be gathered, would cause enormous loss" (WCT Jan. 27, 1892). At least some ice was being harvested. This appeared the following week, "George Hoyle has been cutting ice at Quinebaug Lake the past week eight inches thick."

Some of the businesses in Danielson have had unusual names. "Beatty's Bee Hive" certainly fits the bill. "Beatty's New Bee Hive...Conspicuous among these busy business houses is the spacious dry good store so long owned by George Leavens, and recently christened, "Beatty's Bee Hive." Since it has come into the hands of Mr. Irvine Beatty,...there has been a general transformation of the interior, the walls and ceiling have been newly covered, a new and inviting cloak room has been arranged, there has been a classification of goods into different departments,... [it is] brilliantly illuminated in the evening with electric light--making the entire appearance quite a pleasant surprise to old customers. The entire store, with its large and elegant stock of goods, has taken on the beauty of a first-class city store." (WCT Jan. 24, 1894). "The new curtains in Beatty's 'Bee Hive' are novel. A large bee hive is painted in the middle of the curtain, with the proprietor's name above and underneath the words 'dry good store.'"

(WCT Jan. 31, 1894). One of my favorite things about this time of year is having a little more "free" time to read. I'm thoroughly enjoying Creating Connecticut-Critical Moments That Shaped a Great State by Connecticut State Historian Walter Woodward. Its chapters cover a variety of topics including the Dutch and English controversy in the earliest years of the colony, why Connecticut is named the Nutmeg State, "The Irish in Connecticut" and more. It's designed to be read either chronologically or by picking a chapter. I've been doing the latter since I wanted to read about former governor John Dempsey, who had been Putnam's mayor at the time of the 1955 Flood. Woodward gives such a wonderful tribute to Dempsey. Some of you are still alive who lived and worked with him; you will surely enjoy reading it. The book is available from Amazon.com. The mail and answering machine are being checked on a regular basis although the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center is closed to the public. Please send an email to the director or leave a message on the answering machine if you would like to donate items or have research questions.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, January, 2021. Special thanks to Marilyn Labbe and Natalie Coolidge for newspaper extracts and the Killingly Business Encyclopedia. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (when it reopens) or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250 (when the Historical Center reopens). Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, CT 06329.

SNHU announces Fall 2020 Dean's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the fall 2020 Dean's List. Eligibility for the Dean's List requires that a student accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.5-3.699 and earn 12 credits for the semester. Ariana Koivisto of Brooklyn Terren Allen of Dayville

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, non-profit institution with an 88-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the «Most Innovative» regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

Amanda Bogoslofski named to SNHU President's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Amanda Bogoslofski of Thompson has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's fall 2020 President's List. Eligibility for the President's List requires that a student accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.7-4.0 and earn 12 credits for the semester. Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, non-profit institution with an 88-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners

worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the «Most Innovative» regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

Spencer Kalafus named to SNHU President's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Spencer Kalafus of Pomfret Center has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's fall 2020 President's List. Eligibility for the President's List requires that a student accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.7-4.0 and earn 12 credits for the semester. Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, non-profit institution with an 88-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional university

by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

Savanah Kyllonen named to SNHU President's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Savanah Kyllonen of Brooklyn has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's fall 2020 President's List. Eligibility for the President's List requires that a student accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.7-4.0 and earn 12 credits for the semester. Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, non-profit institution with an 88-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the «Most Innovative» regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

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require with that closure of the one week there was a number of fitness programs that had to be cancelled," Calorio concluded.

As of this report, the Community Center was back in operation hosting scheduled classes and meetings.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Jan. 11: Merlin, American Tree Sparrow, Red-tailed Hawk, Barred Owl, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Mockingbird, Common Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird, Junco, Cardinal, Song Sparrow, Purple Finch. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.

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“In the Studio” is a newer feature for the Villager Newspapers. The Quiet Corner is home to many artists and makers, some of whom have national or international recognition for their work in fine art, handcraft, performing art, art education, and graphic art. In this semi-weekly series, we’ll talk with our artist neighbors and learn about their careers, current projects, and connections to our towns. We’ll also learn some “artspeak” terms in our conversations, demystifying some of those “artist words” and terms.

This issue’s interview is with designer George Brin. One of the Quiet Corner’s hidden gems, George is an accomplished instrument maker, furniture maker, educator (and competition cyclist).
I’d really like to hear more about your hand made instruments. Please describe what you make.

As an artist, I have worn many different hats at different times in my career. I received my degree in Industrial Design from Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) in 1995. This degree has allowed me to work in many different fields: product design, furniture, architecture and teaching. While I continue to work in all of these fields, I have focused much of my attention in the last 12 years on making instruments. In that time, I have made acoustic guitars, basses, ukuleles, banjos and dulcimers, as well as some electric instruments. In 2013 I created *String Tinkers* with my late business partner Don Spaeth where I made an eclectic collection of instruments from reclaimed and repurposed boxes, tins and other found materials, along with a variety of custom acoustic instruments. To date, I have made over 120 different instruments. Not that I am counting.

How much of your work is commissioned?
Much of what I have made in my career has been commissioned work or collaborations with clients. In the early 2000’s, I worked closely with the architectural firm, Office dA of Boston to create an experimental collection of furniture with a focus on lamination. It was a very innovative and exploratory period in my career, and I enjoyed the creative freedom allotted to me. The collection was unusual and unique and it is a body of work I am very proud of.

What are you working on right now?
Much of my time these days is focused on education. I teach a course called Spatial Dynamics in EFS (Experimental and Foundation Studies) at RISD.

In the Studio

CYNTHIA SAARI

However, my focus, presently, has been on designing and building my house. It has been a dream since I was a boy to design and build a home. The process of addressing every aspect of creating a home, from land acquisition to materials to fabrication techniques has been a very exciting and enriching experience. It is an amalgamation of all the skills I have acquired throughout my career, and it feels empowering to put them into practice.

What kind of research or preparation do you do before starting a project?

Most projects start by first sketching potential concepts based on discussions I have had with a client. Many times, the initial concepts evolve from a design or idea I have been working on in my sketchbook. From there, I usually develop the overall form by making scale models. This process is twofold. One, it allows me to work through any potential form issues or challenges in fabrication. Secondly, it gives the client something physical to see and hold. This is tremendously valuable in the decision-making process.

What is one of your greatest challenges or greatest rewards as an artist?

One of the greatest challenges as an artist or designer is knowing when to stop. Finding the balance between creative freedom and making a living has always been difficult. Being trained as an industrial designer, my inclination is to be as efficient and purposeful as possible. That is why much of my work is devoid of frills or superfluous decoration. I adhere to the philosophy of the architect Mies Van der Rohe, form follows function.
The greatest reward, without question, is the excitement a client shows when they see the finished product. It brings me great satisfaction seeing a client happy. It is also very gratifying to see something from my creative mind-space evolve into the physical realm.

If you could give your younger self one piece of advice, what would it be?
If I could give my younger self advice, it would be to take a business class or,

even better, apprentice with an artist in the field to gain a better understanding of the balance between creativity and making a living doing something you love. Many artists suffer from burnout because they worry so much about how to make money, that they lose their love of their craft. Without some level of business acumen, this can be the artist’s greatest challenge.

Do you have a general philosophy about making art?

My philosophy about art is simple – it is in the eye of the beholder. There is no universal “art” standard, just as there is no universal “food” standard. Everyone’s tastes are different. Personally, I have never viewed myself as an artist, but rather a designer. As a designer, I feel my guidance comes out of problem solving and rational thinking. That is not to say that I am not inspired by nature and the greater world around me—I am. My “art” comes from my attention to detail, and my desire to create something that is aesthetically pleasing, while still being useful and functional.

This is great information George. (Your use of scale models is fascinating—I’m so glad you mentioned that.) I found some images of your furniture by Googling your name, as well as some String Tinkers “YouTube” videos. **Thank you for sharing your insights.**

Today’s terms
Lamination, in technology, the process of building up successive layers of a substance, such as wood or textiles, and bonding them with resin to form a finished product. Laminated board, for example, consists of thin layers of wood bonded together. (Encyclopedia Britannica)
Recycled art [or reclaimed] is creative work that’s made from discarded materials that once had another purpose. Artists who make recycled art take those materials and make them into something new. (ref. study.com)
We welcome your feedback on In the Studio. Contact Cynthia at Schoolhousedesigns2@gmail.com, or the Editor at brendan@villagernewspapers.com.

About the writer: Cynthia Saari (Woodstock, CT) is a nationally recognized flameword glass artist. She has exhibited her work & taught for over 20 years; her glass beads have been included in numerous publications & invitations. Cynthia offers talks & workshops in the Quiet Corner; she is an adjunct professor of art at a local college.

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.

COURTNEY

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absent of that action the House decided to take matters into their own hands and make President Trump the first United States President to ever be impeached twice.
“The President’s actions must be met with consequence,” Courtney concluded. “I am proud of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who did the right thing (Jan. 13) by voting for this Article of Impeachment.”

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POMFRET SCHOOL FALL 2020 HIGH HONORS LIST

POMFRET, Conn. — Students named to this list earned a grade point average of at least 3.670 and received no grade lower than a B+ for the Fall 2020 term.
Rose-Michaela Nsubuga of Danielson
Isaac DiIorio of Pomfret
Jack Heroux of Pomfret Center
Daphne Li of Pomfret
Ian Wolanin of Pomfret Center
Adam Tillinghast of Danielson
Kellen Horst of Pomfret
Bridget Horst of Pomfret

Cameran Steiger of Pomfret Center
Brooke Zahansky of Pomfret Center
Taiwo Osborne of Brooklyn
Olivia Riley of Brooklyn
Clayton Lehmann of Putnam

Founded in 1894, Pomfret School is an independent college preparatory school for boarding and day students in grades 9 through 12. We also offer a postgraduate year. Set on 500 acres in the celebrated Last Green Valley of Northeastern

Connecticut, our mission is to cultivate a healthy interdependence of mind, body, and spirit in our students. We offer 8 academic disciplines, more than 100 elective courses, 25 athletic options, and numerous opportunities to participate in community outreach and service programs.

Samantha Gisleson named to Siena College President’s List

LOUDONVILLE, N.Y. — Samantha Gisleson was named to the Siena College President’s List for the Fall 2020 Semester. Samantha is from Thompson.
The President’s List requires a 3.9 grade point average or higher.
Founded in 1937, Siena College is a private, Catholic Franciscan, residential, liberal arts college with a student body of about 3,000. Siena College offers 36 degree programs, 80+ minors and

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If it please the court



BEYOND
THE PEWS

BISHOP JOHN
W. HANSON

Many wise lawyers have begun addresses to a presiding judge using this familiar phrase: “If it please the court.” In a few words, they are recognizing the authority of the judge and the entity that has given the judge their authority. The lawyers are making a respectful argument by emphasizing their humble role in the system. They are appealing to a higher power. It seems to me that Americans would be wise to take the same approach as they talk to God about the predicament in which we find ourselves now days - because we need divine help!

Unrest, epidemics and corruption are not new. Empires have risen and fallen

for millennia, and they have often fallen for the same reasons - because mankind is slow to please the highest court of the universe. Today may seem extremely troubled to those of us trying to grapple with its issues, but a brief look at history will reveal that people and countries are not any more messed up today than they have always been. One thing has changed, however; we are now more interconnected as a world, so we are more aware of, and more effected by, the chaos of other people groups than at any other time in history.

Jesus predicted a world like the one in which we now live when he said: Watch out for doomsday deceivers. Many leaders are going to show up with forged identities, claiming, “I am Christ, the Messiah.” They will deceive a lot of people. When reports come in of wars and rumored wars, keep your head and don't panic. This is routine history; this is no sign of the end. Nation will fight nation and ruler fight ruler, over and over. Famines and earthquakes will occur in various places. This is nothing compared to what is coming.

They are going to throw you to the

wolves and kill you, everyone hating you because you carry my name. And then, going from bad to worse, it will be dog-eat-dog, everyone at each other's throat, everyone hating each other. In the confusion, lying preachers will come forward and deceive a lot of people. For many others, the overwhelming spread of evil will do them in—nothing left of their love but a mound of ashes.

Staying with it—that's what God requires. Stay with it to the end. You won't be sorry, and you'll be saved. All during this time, the good news—the Message of the kingdom—will be preached all over the world, a witness staked out in every country. And then the end will come. (Matthew 24:14 MSG)

When our world is topsy-turvy it causes us to search for order or meaning. We tire of politics, biases and spin. We beg, “Just the honest facts please!” That is why so many take comfort in the Bible; it doesn't hide humanity and it doesn't sugar-coat truth. It has stood the test of time, becoming one of the most tested and proven books in the world. A graphic that can be found

on www.OpenBible.info demonstrates just how amazing the Bible is. It shows the 340,000 cross-references between the Old and New Testament. Even though the Bible was written by many different authors who lived in many different times and places, there is incredible unity within Scripture - because it was inspired by the ultimate judge of the universe.

Since we are watching the predictions of Jesus come to pass, it should make us want to turn to the Supreme Authority of life, whether or not it pleases the mob, the financially powerful, the political elites or the religious rulers of our day. Soon we will all stand before the King or Kings who is called the “Righteous Judge”. We would be wise to approach Him today with the words, “If it please the court,” and then live our lives in a way that truly pleases Him.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries, in Thompson. He and the congregation He leads are committed to serving God with respect and obeying His Word. For more information, please visit www.ActsII.org.

Putnam Area Foundation awards grant for online art gallery



Photo Courtesy

Pictured: Tom Borner and Elaine Turner.

PUTNAM — Thomas A. Borner, President of the Putnam Area Foundation, has announced the award of a \$2,500 grant to The Northeastern Connecticut Art Guild, Inc. The grant will be used in connection with establishing an online gallery featuring local artists and their work to reach and inspire the community.

“This has been a particularly difficult time for the Art Guild with COVID-19,” commented Elaine Turner, its President, “and this Grant will build on the Art Guild’s work moving forward.”

Mr. Borner commented, “We are pleased to play a part in assisting the Art Guild in building a community partnership in supporting the arts.”

Mr. Borner stated that the Foundation, originally organized in 1999, has a mission in supporting northeastern Connecticut philanthropic organizations.

“The charitable organization under the IRS Section 501 (c) (3), and continues to provide support for not-for-profit groups, institutions, schools and other organizations operating in the

community as a way of adding to the quality of life in northeastern Connecticut,” stated Mr. Borner.

The independent Foundation targets its areas of investing in the communities which relate to education, health and human services, art, cultural and youth programs. Grant applications and requests will be considered on a semi-annual basis and may be obtained by contacting Thomas A. Borner, P.O. Box 166 Putnam, CT 06260.

Brooklyn resident named to Quinnipiac Dean’s List

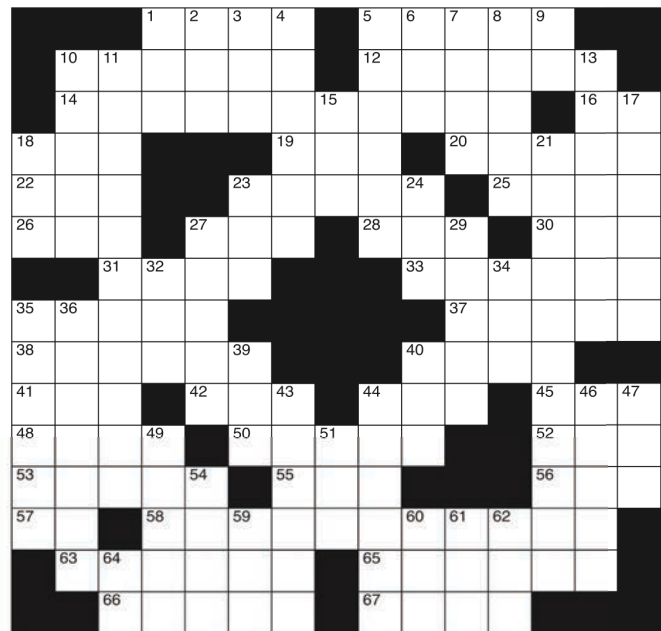
HAMDEN — Alyssa Arends of Brooklyn has been named to the Dean’s List for the Fall Semester of 2020 at Quinnipiac University.

We recognize our highest academic achievers each semester on our dean’s list. We are impressed by how ambitious

and driven our students are, and we are proud to celebrate their accomplishments.

Students who excel in scholarship by earning a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C are recognized by earning a spot on the

dean’s list. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis (A through C) to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
5. 2014 Winter Olympics host
10. Soft fabric
12. Covered in flowers
14. Works at a college or university
16. Keeps us cool
18. Corpuscle count (abbr.)
19. Similar
20. Birthplace of Muhammad
22. They __
23. Preamble to a book
25. Southern China people
26. Hair product
27. The woman
28. Partner to cheese
30. One point north of due east
31. Round Dutch cheese
33. Be in awe of
35. Christmas song
37. Emits coherent radiation
38. Something that is comparable to another
40. Monetary unit
41. The cutting part of a drill
42. Resinlike substance secreted by certain insects
44. Touch lightly
45. Toyota SUV
48. __ and Andy, TV show
50. Made less dangerous
52. Assets under management (abbr.)
53. Nostrils
55. Moved quickly
56. Thai isthmus
57. TV personality Roker
58. Honors anew
63. Rags
65. One who obtains pleasure from inflicting pain or others
66. Marketplaces
67. Dark brown or black

CLUES DOWN

1. Nowhere to be found (abbr.)
2. Not new
3. Brew
4. Stain with mud
5. Chief or leader
6. Luke Skywalker’s mentor __-Wan
7. Type of sauce
8. Sharpens
9. Priestess loved by Zeus
10. Jean Henri __, French entomologist
11. Regulates supply of fuel
13. Disturbing and horrifying
15. Equal (prefix)
17. Hosts film festival
18. Tattered piece of clothing
21. Rich desserts
23. Unique motor (abbr.)
24. Disfigure
27. Chemical substance
29. Slang for famous person
32. Department of Labor
34. The A-team rode around in one
35. Beach cabin
36. Living things
39. Gun (slang)
40. Disconsolate
43. Stroke gently
44. Actress Richards
46. “Cletus Hogg” actor
47. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
49. Brazilian mountain range
51. Upset
54. One with supernatural insight
59. Insecticide
60. Taxi
61. “Much __ about nothing”
62. Cannister
64. Popular clothing retailer



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Woodstock Academy senior Zach Brody models the new speed suits that the alpine ski team will be competing in this year at Mount Southington.

SPORTS
continued from page A1

Simpson, the daughter of assistant coach Jeff Simpson. The other boys on the team are sophomores Davis Simpson (Jeff’s son, Eliza’s brother), Anthony Listro and junior Neil Camara. Joining Eliza Simpson on the girls’ side of the squad are fellow juniors Jillian Marcotte and Ksenija Martinovic — a foreign exchange student from Montenegro — and eighth-grader Emma Brody, coach Brody’s daughter. Coach Brody said his son Zach and Eliza Simpson excel on the slopes in



Woodstock Academy junior Eliza Simpson displays the plaque she received for earning Team Connecticut honors last season.

large part because of their desire to be the best skiers they can possibly be. “There’s a lot that goes into the sport of ski racing,” coach Brody said. “There’s a mental aspect to the sport as well as a mechanical aspect, and the sheer physicality of it. In addition, there’s the training and the attention to detail, and the focus that goes into planning your runs and researching the courses you’re going to be racing on, so you know what to expect. All those dynamics play into the success of the athlete. “But above all of that, it’s the heart of the skier; their drive to be the best they can be, their passion for the sport, their determination is what determines



Woodstock Academy senior Zach Brody leaves the gates during a competition last season at Mount Southington.

how successful they are. That’s what sets them apart,” coach Brody continued. “Ski racing is not a team sport. It is driven by a team because they do have teammates, but ultimately it is you against the clock. It’s about getting down the mountain the fastest in a sport where tens of hundreds of a second count. One muscle twitch could mean the difference between finishing first, second, or third.” Kevin Brody said skiing for his family, as well as the Simpsons, is a lifestyle. Zach Brody began skiing when he was seven; Emma when she was two. Eliza Simpson began skiing when she was two years old as well. Wendy Brody, Kevin Brody’s wife and Zach and Emma’s mom, has been skiing for

a long time, too. Zach Brody and Eliza Simpson are both members of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association. Simpson skis out of Mount Snow; Brody at Wachusett Mountain. The highlight of Simpson’s ski racing season last year was her earning Team Connecticut honors and competing on a team that vied for the Eastern Region championship. Coach Brody is happy that all his skiers are in the fold this season, but especially Eliza Simpson and his son Zach. “They are two established athletes within the sport of alpine ski racing,” Coach Brody said. “To have them in this program means we can field a nice, viable team led by two high-caliber athletes.”

Testing leftover seeds for viability

The beginning of a new year finds many gardeners preparing for the growing season ahead. Clearing space to start seeds indoors, inventorying seeds and supplies, and ordering seeds, plants, and more are usually part of the process.



GARDEN
MOMENTS

MELINDA
MYERS

sunflowers, and yarrow for three to five years; monarda four years, and calendula for four to six years. But the longer you grow plants, the more likely you are to push the limits. This often results in unexpected success or valuable insight for future gardening endeavors.

While organizing, you may uncover seeds from past seasons. Do not discard these just yet. When seeds are stored properly, many can last from one to five years or more.

Seeds stored in a cool location like the refrigerator in an airtight container maintain their viability best. But even those stored in less-than-ideal conditions may surprise you. Older seeds may still sprout once they pass their average life expectancy, but you are likely to see a reduction in the success rate.

The type of seed also influences how long seeds can be stored and remain viable. Start by checking the expiration date on the seed packet. Onions, parsley, and parsnip seeds usually last one year. Corn, okra, and peppers two years; beans and peas for three years; tomatoes, turnips, beets, chard, and watermelon four years; and Brussels sprouts, cabbage, muskmelons, radishes, and spinach last for five years.

The same principles apply to saved flower seeds. Marigold and zinnia seeds can maintain good viability for two to five years; ageratum, nasturtium,

When in doubt use this quick-and-easy test to see if your seeds will sprout. Place ten seeds on a damp paper towel. Roll up the towel with seeds inside, place in a plastic bag and store in a warm location.

After a week or so, unwrap the paper towel and check the seeds for sprouting. If nothing has happened, rewrap the seeds and wait a few more days.

If all the seeds have sprouted, you have 100% germination and can plant the seeds as recommended on the package. If only half the seeds sprout, for example, you will need to plant the seeds twice as close together to compensate for the lower germination rate.

The sprouted seeds can be planted indoors or out depending on the time of year, available space, and your climate.

If none of the seeds sprout, consider breaking out the glue and getting the family involved in turning these leftover seeds into works of art. Select a variety of sizes, shapes, and colors to create your masterpiece on wood or heavyweight card stock. Large seeds



Photo Melinda Myers

Older seeds may still sprout, but it is likely there will be a reduction in the success rate.

like beans, peas and corn are easy for crafters of all ages to handle. Use tweezers for finer seeds that add detail and texture to your creation. Testing seeds now can help you save money when placing your seed order. You can focus your planting budget on new seeds and supplement with your existing inventory.

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.

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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Take your Vitamin D

Recent studies have suggested that Vitamin D is one way to build our immune systems against inflammation and viruses, including COVID-19. During summer months, it's easy to get our daily dose by eating fresh fruit and vegetables and by spending more time outdoors. However, with winter brings a challenge with shorter days and the ability to absorb the much needed vitamin.

During a trek to the top of a mountain last week, we met a doctor who went on to explain how, during winter months, the Vitamin D the sun gives off does not radiate to the levels high enough for our bodies to absorb it. He suggested taking Vitamin D supplements until about April, advice he takes himself. We can also find vitamin D in oily fish, mushrooms and certain dairy products.

Individuals who live in the Northeast during winter at higher latitudes are at higher risk of having a deficiency in the vitamin. Experts say adults should get at least 600 IU per day of Vitamin D.

It was during the 1980's when it was discovered that our immune cells had receptors for Vitamin D, and that it played a crucial role in the gastrointestinal tract. Experts suggest that the more vitamin D in your system, the less likely you will suffer from inflammatory bowel disease or Crohn's disease. Lung and gut health was also improved. Vitamin D offers aid to the gut by keeping the micro-biome healthy.

Of course, with all things, do not go overboard. It is recommended that individuals do not take more than 4,000IU per day to avoid any toxic side effects. Vitamin D aids in calcium absorption, so if those levels spike, calcium levels may spike, affecting the kidney. As with all things, always check with your doctor before taking any supplements.

On another note, this winter seems to be flying by for some of us. The holidays seem to have come and gone in a flash. We are just two weeks away from what many call the longest month of the winter, the dreaded February. Usually temperatures drop well below zero, and stay there for far too long. However, we find that if you embrace these winter months, enjoy your snowy walks and hot cocoa you might actually find yourself missing these chilly, refreshing days when the extreme heat hits this summer.

LETTERS POLICY

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.

Stop the pandemic of lies

To the Editor:
The founders of our country like Jefferson and Madison often said that democracy requires informed citizens. Today, we are badly misinformed.

Donald Trump has for years tried to undermine faith in our electoral process, and still maintains that the last election was stolen from him. His claim has been carefully debunked by numerous reliable sources. Yet polls show that about three quarters of Republicans still believe his claim. This badly divides our country, and if left to continue will cripple it.

There are three sources of this plague of lies: social media, cable news, and super spreaders.

Platforms like Twitter and Facebook earn their money through advertisements. The more time the platforms can get you to engage, the more they will earn from their advertisers. They get you to engage through unseen algorithms, computer code, that reward you for your

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Woodstock Democratic Committee condemns violence

To the Editor:
The Woodstock Democratic Town Committee condemns the Jan. 6 criminal attack on the Congress of the United States of America, and those persons who encouraged, aided, or participated in this attack.

We support a detailed investigation and prosecution of all guilty parties to the full extent of the law.

Members of the Woodstock Democratic Town Committee, both individually and collectively, have for many years enjoyed

cordial relations with our neighbors and colleagues of all political affiliations, and expect to continue to do so. Nevertheless, we denounce the insurrectionist elements of any party and all forms of domestic terrorism, and we urge all Woodstock citizens to do likewise.

WOODSTOCK DEMOCRATIC
TOWN COMMITTEE

Accountability or freedom?

To the Editor:
Reading the letters to the Editor this past week in the Villager, I had to do a double take. It seemed I was reading a copy of Pravda from the old Soviet Union, calling for holding opposition supporters "accountable."

Hmm! An interesting term!
What happened to freedom of speech? We - conservatives - put up with Democrats crying and whining about the 2016 election and Hillary's loss. I don't recall anyone seeking to re-educate or hold accountable those that

opposed the conservative point of view.
Millions of men and women have served and died over the last 245 years to purchase and maintain my right, and yours, to believe and express opinions and speech that many will not agree with.
That is what a "Free Society" is all about!
If you are such a "snowflake" that opposing views offend you, then grow a backbone.

MICHAEL DURNING
WOODSTOCK

Some truth

To the Editor:
I would like to share one of my favorite quotes:
"So the final conclusion would surely be that whereas other civilizations have been brought down by attacks of barbarians from without, ours had the unique distinction of training its own destroyers at its own educational institutions, and then providing them with facilities for propagating their destructive ideology far and wide, all at the public expense. Thus did Western Man decide to abolish himself, creating his own boredom out of his own affluence, his own vulnerabil-

ty out of his own strength, his own impotence out of his own erotomania, himself blowing the trumpet that brought the walls of his own city tumbling down, and having convinced himself that he was too numerous, labored with pill and scalpel and syringe to make himself fewer. Until at last, having educated himself into imbecility, and polluted and drugged himself into stupefaction, he keeled over--a weary, battered old brontosaurus--and became extinct." — Malcolm Muggeridge

ROD BEDARD
POMFRET

Dauphinais cares for her constituents

To the Editor:
I have had a battle with the New York Toll about a false toll charge since August of 2020. They claimed my car went through the tolls and sent me a bill. Neither I nor my car have been in New York in three years.

Bills and penalties came every month, and then a notice that it was turned over to a collection agency. I sent to them on four different times a photo of my car and a copy of the registration each time. The photo of the car going through the tolls was a modern white SUV; my car is a brown classic car. Never received

any feedback from New York agency. Did not know what to do next.
I contacted my state Representative, Anne Dauphinais, to see if she could be of any assistance. In a short matter of time, Anne and her team got the problem resolved. I think it is great that we have a representative and her team that cares about the regular person and is ready and willing to help them. A job well done.

ALFRED H. SCHINGS
KILLINGLY

A shameful endorsement of violence

To the Editor:
Ed DeLuca's letter to the Editor in your Jan. 15 edition entitled, "The day that Congress quivered," should appall all readers who cherish our form of government.

And I'm not referring to the profound revelation that the primary job of politicians is to get elected (and re-elected). Most people, and all students from their first day in Political Science 101, understand that's true. After all, only those holding political office have direct influence and power over the direction of the government. Losers of elections can't legislate or exercise power. Unfortunately, it gives some people pleasure to call members of Congress "whores" because they must raise a lot of money to get elected under our system.

I am referring to the deplorable device that Mr. DeLuca employs in discussing the recent murderous insurrection at the Capitol. It is one that all demagogues, authoritarians and wannabe dictators use. At some point, they deplore the actions of the rioters but

also send the not-too-subtle message that the actions were justifiable and even desirable. In referring to members of Congress during the riot, Mr. DeLuca gleefully wrote, "I truly hope that...the lot of them...soiled their pants..." Juvenile, but his message is clear: violence is okay. In this case, five people died as a result, including a police officer.

President Trump employs this same tactic that students of history will recognize from Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia. His avalanche of lies, repetition of baseless conspiracy theories and scapegoating of immigrants have poisoned our politics and resulted in one of the darker times in our history. Hopefully our institutions prevail against the sycophants, Nazis, white supremacists, racists, anti-Semites and conspiracy theorists who are bent on destroying the republic by any means necessary.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
KILLINGLY

We must stop the lies now.

How? First, by asking legislators to pass laws constraining the media from passing on lies. We can ask them to require the Federal Communications Commission to enact constraints on the media, just as the Securities and Exchange Commission puts constraints on markets. This can be done in a way that maintains our precious freedom of speech.

Second, we as citizens can each make sure that we are critically evaluating the information that comes before us. Scholars at MIT and elsewhere have done studies showing that if people are asked to "cognitively reflect" on claims, they are better able to identify false ones. So, before we accept and share claims, let's all think critically. It could save our democracy.

JACK MCCLELLAN
WOODSTOCK

What will you do when the germs are gone?

My disposition usually bottoms out in February. Now I've moved it up to January. We only have a couple of weeks left in a month that blurs into all the rest, since our world changed last March.

My grandchildren like to talk to me about what we will do together when "the germs," as they call the pandemic, are gone. Their optimism about the future led me to imagine what I will do when freed from the current restraints. When the doors open again on public life, what will you do? Might as well dream big. There is no penalty.

Never in my life have I watched as much television as I have these past months. I sit on the couch with the old cat so much that we are wearing it out. My husband occupies a chair nearby that will have to be recovered. He ques up one cooking show after another. His favorites

are Rick Stein and Nick Stellino. I try to read and ignore them, but my attention is always riveted to the screen when the chefs exclaim about the food they are tasting. They make me want to eat at restaurants again.

When the pandemic is over, I want to order Brian's fish cakes at the Vanilla Bean Café. I'd like a salad on the patio at Jessica Tuesday's. Fish from Anya would be great with a nice glass of wine. I hope the Inn at Woodstock Hill offers jazz on the patio again. I'll turn up with friends. With luck I'll get the corner table at Elizabeth's Farmhouse and tuck in to a chicken dish. Thai Place pho must be eaten with dear friends.

That's just a few of the local places I want to visit.

Imagine walking in to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston for the sheer fun of seeing contemporary art again. I'd like to meet a friend at the Florence Griswold Museum and wander the grounds, talking to her. I'm counting on The Bradley Theatre and The Complex to come roaring back with great shows. I love the hush in the hall of the Boston Symphony just before they strike the first note. We can't wait to go to another North Meadow House concert in Hampton and enjoy the hospitality of Beverly and Mark Davis.

My husband likes to plan trips. So far, he imagines us touring the Scandinavian countries and then Cambodia and Laos. Sounds fine to me, especially if I also do a week of hiking with my friends, probably on the south coast of Wales. Some of my ancestors helped settle Nova Scotia and that's on my list too. We had signed on to visit Italy during the harvest season, but it was cancelled. Wonder when that will ever happen. Every year I visit my brother and I can't wait to see him.

Most of my dreams are simple. I want to invite people for dinner and celebrate holidays with my family. I'd like to squeeze my friends and feel them embrace me as well. I would like to attend meetings and lectures in person and read aloud with my poetry group. I want to sing, off key as usual, in my beautiful church. I want to admire someone's new baby with a flood of compliments and a smile. I'd like to interview a long time resident of the area or the owner of a new business and write about it.

I'd like to take a deep breath, fling open my arms and celebrate that "the germs" are gone and we can be together again.



NANCY WEISS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Double jeopardy

To the Editor:

Once again, we are witness to the double standard of policing in America and the underlying racial bias that drives the cog in our wheelhouse. If you don't think race has anything to do with the vitriol of the Trump worshipers, let me remind you of some blaring examples of the duplicity and complicity that enabled the attempted coup and insurrection at the Whitehouse.

In April and May, we witnessed irate white protesters, armed with semi-automatic rifles storm the Michigan capitol building. And what motivated their tantrum? The State had implemented public health strategies to slow down a raging pandemic. Refusing to wear masks, they followed their Chancellor's dog whistle to fight for their liberty ("Liberate Michigan!" he tweeted). Let me remind you that being asked to wear a mask during a pandemic was not what Patrick Henry had in mind when he famously chimed "Give me liberty or give me death!" If

anything, Henry would gladly have worn a mask to quell one of the many deadly epidemics that swept through the 18th century.

What is most appalling about that dressed up rehearsal for an attempted coup, is the lack of response from the police, and the presidential high five they received. No one was arrested. Before entering the capitol without masks (while COVID-19 raged through neighborhood), the police took the temperatures of the unmasked armed bandits. Unfortunately, there is no PPE for stupidity. Imagine, if you will, that the so called "protesters" who were truly insurrectionists, were a group of armed Black and Brown men. We know darned well that a Black man can't carry a squirt gun without an immediate public execution by the police.

Flash forward to August 2020 and the systemic murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis. Massive protests broke out across the country. Yes,

there was some looting and rioting in the aftermath. There's a fool in every crowd. Yet the protests themselves were remarkably peaceful marches. African Americans, Black and Brown people and their white allies raised their voices in a chorus of 'Enough already!' The streets were heavily patrolled by a militarized police force shielded, armed and ready to respond to the slightest step out of line (God forbid that Black people speak up or show their anger). Not long afterwards, another Black Man, Jacob Blake, was gunned down in Kenosha, Wisconsin in front of his children. During the predictable protests, a white teenager, Kyle Rittenhouse, brazenly walked the streets carrying a semi-automatic rifle. Being underage, it was illegal for him to own and carry such a weapon. The self-proclaimed vigilante was welcomed by the police, who thanked him and tossed him a water bottle. Later, after shooting and killing two protestors, he was hailed by the Chancellor as a hero. Kyle Rittenhouse was allowed to return home without an arrest, where he concocted a story of self-defense because a protester tossed a water bottle at him.

A white boy armed with a killing machine threatens and kills black protesters yet is allowed to go home to his mother. A Black boy (Tamir Rice) is gunned down in a playground while playing with a toy gun.

When Black Lives Matter finally marched (peacefully) on Washington, the Capitol was heavily barricaded and armed up by an obvious police presence. The Chancellor called for the National Guard and teargas to teach those American citizens who were exercising their first amendment rights a lesson. Holding up a Bible he has never read, he ordered the police to disperse the protesters for the sake of a fake news photo-op.

Yet armed, white militia and protesters continued to vex state capitols around the country because they didn't want to wear masks, and later because they believed the Chancellor's false claims that the election results were fraudulent. The Chancellor's personal militia guard, The Proud Boys, conspired to kidnap and behead the governor of Michigan. And most recently, 100 protesters (mostly white men), some armed with long guns gathered at the State Capitol in Georgia in support of Trump. The Secretary of State and his staff had to evacuate their offices due to threats by Trump henchmen who were unhappy with the election results.

And here we come to this moment of double jeopardy in Washington where armed protesters stormed into the Capitol after the Chancellor's urged them to do so during his speech. Although Trump had been calling for violent protests and a coup for months and had called out his pit bulls who gathered en masse to overturn the

elections, there was very little police presence at the Capitol. Capitol police were ashamedly unprepared for the infiltrators who stormed the building in an attempted coup. The Chancellor sat alone in a room, watching T.V. and gleefully tweeting falsehoods, while the President elect showed leadership and spoke up against the insurrection. Later, the Vice Chancellor had to step up because Trump refused to send the protesters home.

I know I sing to the choir and many of you reading these words will chock it up to liberalism. But the disease of racism and white supremacy systematically plays itself out every day in how we police and in our broken justice system. In our own backyards it goes unnoticed by most. But mark my words, the fear mongered by white slaveowners during the 18th century slave uprisings is deeply instilled in a white America whose generational trauma has gone unchecked and systemically validated for too long. A Black man is dangerous and must be subdued. Good and kind everyday Americans, Christians who believe they don't have a racist bone in their body, view reality through the unchecked lens of racial bias which is especially evident in the vitriolic reactions to Black Lives Matter.

In August, during the Black Lives Matter Protests, I heard the owner of a local store brag about arming up and upping her target practice. We all remember that white couple who sat on their front porch during the protests brandishing guns because they believed that a group of unarmed, peaceful black protesters were coming for their property. Who can blame them? After all, the Chancellor had been warning suburban women that "they" (meaning people of color) were coming to destroy their neighborhoods and their ways of life. Meanwhile, my own rural neighborhood is riddled with automatic rifles firing into the night, gearing up for some kind of race war. Not long ago I was verbally accosted by a rage-filled white man at a stoplight, who screamed at me for two minutes, foaming at the mouth and telling me I should be ashamed of myself. I guess he didn't like my Black Lives Matter bumper sticker. But I am not ashamed, and I will not apologize for being a white ally and standing up for justice. I will not be gagged because of the unchecked racial bias which has triggered some people into a reactive tizzy when it comes to Black Lives Matter. Clearly, our white fragility is being shattered against a wall we ourselves have constructed at the urging of an utterly failed and flawed president.

Our white fragility is shattered against the wall we ourselves have constructed.

DONNA DUFRESNE
POMFRET

Memories of UConn Ambassador “Dee” Rowe

To the Editor:

The death of University of Connecticut Athletics Ambassador Donald “Dee” Rowe on Sunday, Jan. 10 spread quickly around Connecticut, New England, the United States and beyond. “Dee” was a man who became your friend for life, the instant you met him. He was a dignified, nattily attired, intelligent and warm individual, who when he shook your hand, held your elbow and looked you in the eye, you realized was the “real deal.”

I first became acquainted to “Dee” through another real gentleman cut from the same cloth, his lifelong dear friend the late Andy Laska, the famed basketball coach and athletic director at Assumption College. “Dee” like Andy was a Worcester guy, although he continued building his legend from the time he arrived on the UConn campus in Storrs in 1969. Coincidentally, that was the same year I served as President of the Putnam High School Alumni Athletic Association.

In search of a speaker for the PHSAAA Sports banquet I reached out to Laska for help. He arranged for Rowe to come to Putnam, which was the beginning of my friendship with Rowe. Among “Dee’s” numerous qualities he was known as a great after dinner speaker and spell binding raconteur. Needless to say, that evening in Putnam, he captured the audience and the ear of the school’s principal, Charlotte G. McCulloch.

The following Monday, my phone was ringing off the hook. Miss McCulloch was so impressed with Rowe, she wanted to engage him as a speaker at an all-school assembly, which eventually was another Oscar winning performance on the part of Donald “Dee” Rowe.

Some years later, as Development officer at Day Kimball Hospital, I was in need of a motivational speaker for a medical staff fundraising dinner. Reaching back, I contacted “Dee” who came to the Inn at Woodstock Hill and once again put on an Academy Award winning performance. From that time on, I'd run into “Dee” primarily at basketball games. Typical “Dee” he always remembered my name.

Each time we met it was always, the handshake, the elbow and the look in the eyes with, “Ronnie, how are you? How’s your family? How’s everything at the hospital? Send my best to everyone in Putnam.” And to me, the most important thing was, he was genuine.

The last time we met was about six years ago at the XL Center. By this time, Dee was beginning to experience some health issues. Regardless of his situation, it was always about how I was doing. That was “Dee.”

A very accomplished individual, he was a successful prep school and college coach and athletic director, a true family man, and an honored individual, who cared more about the person on the other end of the handshake than talking about how he was. That was the “Dee” Rowe that I and legions of others knew and remember.

It’s safe to say that with his passing, it will be many years before there’s another “Dee” Rowe gracing our presence. And I’m certain the tales I’ve just recounted are being told or written by hundreds like me around Connecticut, New England, the United States and beyond. God speed, good friend.

RONALD P. CODERRE
PUTNAM

Creating a safety net to bridge times of financial crisis



Throughout the pandemic we have seen that in times of crisis, we are forced to shake pennies out of a piggy bank. There are ways we can be overly prepared to be ready if we see another financial crisis or pandemic in your lifetime. Having a financial safety net in place can ensure that you are protected when a financial emergency arises. One way to accomplish this is to Plan Well by setting up a cash reserve, a pool of readily available funds that can help you meet emergency or highly urgent short-term needs.

How much is enough?

Most financial professionals suggest that you have three to six months' worth of living expenses in your cash reserve. The actual amount, however, should be based on your particular circumstances. Do you have a mortgage? Do you have short-term and long-term disability protection? Are you paying for your child's orthodontics? Are you making car payments? Other factors you need to consider include your job security, health, and income. The bottom line: Without an emergency fund, a period of crisis (e.g., unemployment, disability) could be financially devastating.

Building your cash reserve

If you haven't established a cash reserve, or if the one you have is inadequate, you can take several steps to eliminate the shortfall:

Save aggressively: If available, use payroll deduction at work; budget your savings as part of regular household expenses

Reduce your discretionary spending (e.g., eating out, movies, lottery tickets)

Use current or liquid assets (those that are cash or are convertible to cash within a year, such as a short-term certificate of deposit)

Use earnings from other investments (e.g., stocks, bonds, or mutual funds)

Check out other resources (e.g., do you have a cash value insurance policy that you can borrow from?)

A final note: Your credit line can be a secondary source of funds in a time of crisis. Borrowed money, however, must be paid back (often at high interest rates). As a result, you should not consider lenders as a primary source for your cash reserve.

Where to keep your cash reserve

You will want to make sure that your cash reserve is readily available when you need it. However, an FDIC-insured, low-interest savings account is not your only option. There are several excellent alternatives, each with unique advantages. For example, money market accounts and short-term CDs typically offer higher interest rates than savings accounts, with little (if any) increased risk.

Note: Don't confuse a money market mutual fund with a money market deposit account. An investment in a money market mutual fund is not insured or guaranteed by the FDIC. Although the mutual fund seeks to preserve the value of your investment at \$1 per share, it is possible to lose money by investing in the fund.

Note: When considering a money market mutual fund, be sure to obtain and read the fund's prospectus, which is available from the fund or your financial advisor, and outlines the fund's investment objectives, risks, fees, expenses. Carefully consider those factors before investing.


It's important to note that certain fixed-term investment vehicles (i.e., those that pledge to return your princi-

pal plus interest on a given date), such as CDs, impose a significant penalty for early withdrawals. So, if you are going to use fixed-term investments as part of your cash reserve, you will want to be sure to ladder (stagger) their maturity dates over a brief period of time (e.g., two to five months). This will ensure the availability of funds, without penalty, to meet sudden financial needs.

Review your cash reserve periodically

Your personal and financial circumstances change often—a pandemic, a new child comes along, an aging parent becomes more dependent, or a larger home brings increased expenses. Because your cash reserve is the first line of protection against financial crisis, you should review it annually to make sure that it fits your current needs. If you need further assistance working towards achieving your long-term financial life goals, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office at 860-928-2341 or email us at info@whzwealth.com. Our team is here to help you live financially fearless, whatever that means to you.

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Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.
– Benjamin Franklin
www.860Local.com



OBITUARIES

Annette Navarro, 98

DAYVILLE- Annette (Varieur) Navarro, age 98, passed on peacefully at Westview Health Care Center on January 14, 2021. Anne, as she was



known, was born in New Bedford, MA on September 9, 1922 to Aurore and Hormidas Varieur. She and her family moved to the Attawaugan section of Killingly, CT. She moved to Danielson in 1970 and in 1983 moved to her home at Alexander's Lake in Dayville.

In 1942 Anne enlisted in the Women's Army Corps during World War II, serving her time in the meteorology assistance field. Her term of service was cut short, needing to return home and attend to family matters because of the death of her mother. She was honorably discharged in December of 1944.

She married John Navarro on November 27, 1947, and last November celebrated their 73rd anniversary. Anne worked for many years in local textile mills. She later owned and operated her own business, Navarro's Liquor Shoppe in Danielson. After retiring she and John enjoyed life at their home at the lake. You would often see them on their back porch waving to their lake neighbors passing by while sipping a glass of wine.

Anne was predeceased by her three sisters, Jeanne Ricci DeGregorio, Agnes Knorr and Helen Clark and her brother Norman Varieur. She was also predeceased by her son Michael in 2016.

She is survived by her beloved husband John, her daughter Suzanne Chartier and son-in-law Louis and her daughter-in-law Gloria Navarro of Marietta, GA. She, 'Memere', leaves her four grandchildren, Matthew Navarro (Carolyn) of Park City, UT, Nicholas Navarro (Stephanie) of Marietta, GA, Marybeth Hart (Amber) of Belmar, NJ and Andrew Chartier (Joshua Leveque) of New Haven, CT. She leaves five great grandsons, Carson, Brooks, Ryan and Noah Navarro and Callen Hart. She also leaves several nephews and a niece.

Anne liked socializing with friends at parties, singing while dining at The Place Restaurant in Brooklyn, traveling and exercising. She was an avid reader. She especially loved attending her grandchildren's athletic and theatrical events. A wonderful and positive soul, she was always the happiest with a houseful of family. Her favorite thing to say about her family was "How Lucky We Are!"

Funeral services are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT. For memorial guestbook please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

(Chief) Bruce William Cooper, 73

(Chief) Bruce William Cooper (age 73) 2/24/1947 – 1/12/2021 was granted his reward of passing peacefully into eternity in his sleep, at his home after a short illness.



Chief Cooper was a lifelong resident of the village of Rogers in Killingly and a 57 year member of the Williamsville Fire Engine Company, serving as dedicated Chief for 30 of those years.

His education included Goodyear School, KJHS, Ellis Tech and the rest of his education being gathered at the school of hard knocks.

As a youngster, Bruce worked at Quinequack farm for the Harrington family, in road construction for Shields Construction Company and eventually moved on for the next 30 years as a maintenance worker at Rogers Corporation.

He leaves behind two incredible children who are strongly a product of his ways and wisdom: Keith (Bruce) Cooper, Lisa (Cooper) Gaudreau and her husband, Kevin Gaudreau, Bruce's two beloved grandsons, Brandon (Cooper) Gaudreau and Benjamin (Cooper)

Gaudreau, sister, Paula (Cooper) Panteleakos and her husband Charlie, several nieces, nephews, cousins and his extensive fire department family.

Chief Cooper was a no-nonsense leader who taught many EMS and Firefighters in the town of Killingly and will be missed enormously by all of them.

Bruce was predeceased by his beloved parents, William (Bill) and Beatrice (Bea) Cooper of Rogers, and his daughter-in-law, Tina (Pelkey) Cooper, who he now resides within eternity.

There are no calling hours due to our current situation but optimistically looking forward to a gathering in Bruce's memory in the spring.

If anyone would care to donate in Bruce's memory, please either make it to the Williamsville Fire Engine Company P.O. Box 141, Rogers, CT. 06263 or Stephens Memorial Hospital, 181 Main Street, Norway, ME. 04268 (Bruce grew very fond of this small hospital during his initial illness).

The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA is directing arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Joseph A. Waldron, 60

NORTH GROSVENORDALE- Joseph A. Waldron, 60, of Main St., died Monday afternoon, January 11, 2021 at St. Vincent Hospital in Bridgeport. He was the loving husband of Renee L. (LaPalme) Waldron. Born in Providence, he was the son of the late George R. and Frances N. (McSheehy) Waldron.

Mr. Waldron worked for over 25 years as a plasterer for H. Carr & Sons prior to working for Altieri Construction and starting his own plastering business.

Joseph was a member of Boston Plasterer's and Cement Masons Local 534. He was a music enthusiast, enjoyed riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle, spending time with family and using his artistic talents to craft unique works of art.

Joseph is survived by his wife, Renee (LaPalme) Waldron; three children, Athena Melse of Providence, and Seth and Gabriel Waldron both of N. Grosvenordale; his siblings, George J. Waldron of Scituate, RI, Barbara Langlais of Scituate, RI, Donna Foisy of Chepachet, RI, Joan Waldron of Cranston, RI, and Patricia Passano of Warwick, RI; grandchildren, Josiah, Elias, and Zion Melse; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his siblings, Judith Waldron and Kathleen Waldron.

Due to current Covid-19 concerns, funeral services are private and have been entrusted to the Valade Funeral Home & Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, CT. Memorial donations in Joseph's memory may be made to Day Kimball Hospital, Attn: Intensive Care Unit, P.O. Box 632, Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Christopher Martin Moon

Christopher Martin Moon, born on September 14th 1947 in Pomfret, CT, died peacefully, with his wife Inez of 44 years by his side at his home in Danielson, CT on January 12th 2021.



Chris was one of five Moon brothers born in this order: Gary, Peter, Russel, Chris, and Dana, and son of Edward Moon III and Leonore Martin Moon. He was beloved by his community and many friends at the Pontefract Boat Club of which he was a member for 42 years. As a man of few words, Chris's stolid nature led him to a life of caring for cows, chickens, peach and apple orchards, and farms. He loved to be outdoors. Once, while skipping work to go fishing in the Connecticut River north of Hartford, he caught the largest salm-

on of the day; the accomplishment was covered by the newspapers.

His preoccupation of fixing what he could collect and salvage, his steady endurance of the challenges along the way, and the boundless mutual love shared in his marriage to Inez sustained him through a 25-year journey with cancer.

He is survived by his wife Inez, stepchildren Jack Underwood and Cheryl Thomas, grandchildren Sarah, Stephanie, Gregory, Jason, Grant, as well as a son and a daughter from a previous marriage.

Chris will be interred at Christ Church Pomfret cemetery. A remembrance at the graveside will be held in the Spring with the Rev. Alon White officiating.

Donations in his memory may be made to The Red Cross, The Alzheimer Association, or an organization of your choice.

Gerard J. Messier, Sr., 78

PUTNAM – Gerard J. Messier, Sr., 78, of School St., passed away on Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at Matulaitis Nursing Home. He was the loving husband of the late Barbara J. (Heath) Messier. Born in Putnam on January 9, 1943, he was the son of the late Gerard and Viola (Dragon) Messier.

Mr. Messier worked for 39 years as a button polisher for U.S. Button, a job that he loved. He enjoyed listening to the piano player and playing bingo with his Matulaitis friends. Before he became ill, he looked forward to family dinner every Monday with his kids and grandkids. He especially loved spending time with his grandchildren and was a fixture in the bleachers, cheering them on for every school concert, award ceremony, baseball, basketball, football game and graduation.


Gerard is survived by his son, Gerard Messier, Jr.; his daughters, Valerie Schrupp and her husband Donald of Putnam, Elizabeth Messier of Putnam, and Cheryl Piligian and her husband Robert of Putnam; his grandchildren, Catherine and her husband Bert, Timothy, Heather and her husband Michael, Justin and his wife Angela, Jared and his wife Sarah, and Thomas; and his great grandchildren, Lucas, Xavier, Zachary, Amy, Matthew, Skyler, Kady, Lexi, Eli, and Trevor, as well as his Matulaitis family. He was predeceased by his son, the late Joseph Messier.

Due to the current Covid-19 Pandemic, services are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT. Memorial donations may be made in his name to the Alzheimer's Association, 200 Executive Blvd, Southington, CT 06489. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Patrick Robert Dragon, 50, died on Saturday, January 2, 2021, at Hartford Hospital after a courageous battle against COVID-19. He was born in Putnam December 29, 1970 son of Robert and Ann Marie (Bernier) Dragon. A lifelong resident of Brooklyn, Patrick was a 1989 graduate of Killingly High School. He was also a graduate of Norwich Technical School, having studied in the Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Program. For several years Patrick was an EMT with American Ambulance in Griswold. Patrick was a proud member of the 107th Training Troop and entered the Connecticut State Police (CSP) Training Academy in January 1998. Upon graduation from the Academy, Patrick served his community as a patrol trooper at Troop D in Danielson, a Resident Trooper in the Town of Sterling, and a Major Crime Unit Detective. Patrick was also a certified Fire Investigator/Fire Marshal with the Fire & Explosion Unit and an Accelerant Detection K9 Handler with his beloved K9, Brocade, by his side. While assigned to the Fire & Explosion Unit, Patrick was a first responder to the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown. Patrick was a decorated trooper having received numerous commendations for Life Saving, Meritorious Service, and Unit Citations. He retired from the CSP in February 2018 as a Trooper First Class, finishing where he started, at Troop D. A loyal servant with a desire to continue helping the communities around him, Patrick moved from retirement to the Foster Rhode Island Police Department to serve as an emergency dispatcher. Patrick was also a dedicated member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department for 34 years, serving as Lieutenant, Captain, and most recently Deputy Chief. In the year following the Sandy Hook tragedy, Patrick and a handful of Connecticut first responders participated in the Post Critical Incident Seminar hosted by the Virginia Law Enforcement Assistance Program (VALEAP) to address their traumas experienced on that fateful day. He met with several VALEAP peers and founders who had traveled a similar journey as first responders to the Virginia Tech shooting, and together, they formed strong bonds. As a compassionate and thoughtful leader, Patrick was immediately invited to become a VALEAP team member. Over the next seven years, he participated in many seminars as a speaker. As a Police Trauma Survivor, Patrick turned his life experiences into teaching and sharing, in turn, helping fellow law enforcement and first responders across the nation. Outside of his work, Patrick possessed a love of music, a passion for the outdoors, and hosted endless bonfires, grilling with his friends. His love of life was only out measured by the size of his heart and smile. In addition to his parents, Patrick is survived by his older sister, Michele Hearn, her husband Thomas, and their three children, Samuel, Jack, and Katherine of Sutton, MA; his younger brother, Jason, his wife Rebecca, and daughter, Isabella of Montgomery, TX; and an uncle, Ronald Bernier, of Brooklyn. Patrick was predeceased by his younger brother, Michael, in 1992. Funeral services are private, due to the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. A Celebration of Patrick's Life will be scheduled for June. In lieu of flowers, for those who wish, donations may be made in Patrick's memory to the VALEAP, 5 North Fifth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219 or by accessing VALEAP.org and clicking on the link "How You Can Help". tilling-hastfh.com



ed member of the East Brooklyn Fire Department for 34 years, serving as Lieutenant, Captain, and most recently Deputy Chief. In the year following the Sandy Hook tragedy, Patrick and a handful of Connecticut first responders participated in the Post Critical Incident Seminar hosted by the Virginia Law Enforcement Assistance Program (VALEAP) to address their traumas experienced on that fateful day. He met with several VALEAP peers and founders who had traveled a similar journey as first responders to the Virginia Tech shooting, and together, they formed strong bonds. As a compassionate and thoughtful leader, Patrick was immediately invited to become a VALEAP team member. Over the next seven years, he participated in many seminars as a speaker. As a Police Trauma Survivor, Patrick turned his life experiences into teaching and sharing, in turn, helping fellow law enforcement and first responders across the nation. Outside of his work, Patrick possessed a love of music, a passion for the outdoors, and hosted endless bonfires, grilling with his friends. His love of life was only out measured by the size of his heart and smile. In addition to his parents, Patrick is survived by his older sister, Michele Hearn, her husband Thomas, and their three children, Samuel, Jack, and Katherine of Sutton, MA; his younger brother, Jason, his wife Rebecca, and daughter, Isabella of Montgomery, TX; and an uncle, Ronald Bernier, of Brooklyn. Patrick was predeceased by his younger brother, Michael, in 1992. Funeral services are private, due to the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. A Celebration of Patrick's Life will be scheduled for June. In lieu of flowers, for those who wish, donations may be made in Patrick's memory to the VALEAP, 5 North Fifth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219 or by accessing VALEAP.org and clicking on the link "How You Can Help". tilling-hastfh.com



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GOOD



NEWS

OBITUARIES

Francis W. McNally “Mac”, 89

Francis W. McNally “Mac”, 89, of Brooklyn passed away January 13, 2021 at Pierce Memorial Baptist Home of COVID-19. He was a loving husband for 64 years to Hannah (Litke) McNally. Born in Putnam March 17, 1931, he was the son of the late Warren and Una (Fortney) McNally. Francis worked for 46 years at the A&P Tea Company food store mostly in Danielson. He was a member of the Mortlake Fire Company of Brooklyn for over 50 years and volunteered as a Day Kimball Hospital Escort. Mac was a talented wood worker and artist in wood crafts. He and Hannah enjoyed a lifetime of camping and traveling throughout the United States and all of Canada with family. Besides his wife, survivors include two daughters Laura Breisacher of Stanstead, Quebec, Canada. Molly McTigue and husband

Phillip of Charlton, MA. And one son Gregory McNally and wife Carlene of Oakfield, ME and Mims, FL. A grandson Jeremy McNally of Maine. Three sisters Arlene Altmeier and Sandra Peterson of Putnam and Phyllis Miller of Sterling. Mac was predeceased by two sisters Florence Kennette and Cynthia Laurion both of Putnam. The family wants to thank the entire staff at Pierce Baptist Home and Dr. Botta for all the wonderful care, help and happiness given to Francis and the entire family. Due to COVID restrictions, funeral services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Mortlake Fire Department in Brooklyn, CT in Mac's memory. To all of his many friends, have happy memories of times shared with him. tillinghastfh.com

Ronald W. Turski, 74

Ronald W. Turski, 74, of Danielson, CT, beloved husband of Alannah Turski, died Wednesday January 13, 2021 at



Day Kimball hospital. Born January 27, 1946 in Monroe, MI, he was the son of the late Julius and Veronica Turski. He was one of thirteen children.

Ron worked most of his career in the well drilling industry, Self-employed as The Bit Doctor, sharpening and repairing bits all over New England for companies like Numa in CT, On Target in ME and JCR Drilling in NH. He also worked on projects like The Big Dig in Boston MA, the East Side Reservoir (Diamond Valley Lake) CA and he also set up a company for repair in Japan. His lifetime business helped put him on the front cover of Water

Well Magazine. Most recently he was employed for Rol-Vac where he worked in shipping and receiving.

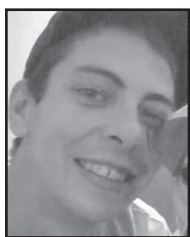
Ron will be greatly missed for his hard work and humorous disposition. He was always joking around, he loved deep sea fishing and going to the casino.

He is survived by his wife, Alannah, of 42 yrs, his children, Melissa Philibert (Glenn), Todd Turski, Kimberly Caron (Bob), Joe (Renee) Turski, and Kerri Turski. He also is survived by six grandchildren; Sean, Nicole, Jake, T.J., Kyleigh and Cassie.

He is predeceased by his brothers Dick Turski and Paul Turski, and stepson Jason Gomes. Services are private. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA is directing arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Ryan Lee Tetreault-Chamberland (“Byrd”), 30

Ryan Lee Tetreault-Chamberland (“Byrd”), age 30, passed into eternal rest on January 2, 2021 with his parents by his side. He was born on March 29, 1990 in Putnam, CT and lived most of his life in the Moosup area.



Ryan completed high school and went to work as soon as he could. His employment included the 99 Restaurant, Country View Restaurant, Putnam Plastics, Storage, Etc., and his last position was at Morgan Truck Body. It was during his time at Morgan Truck Body that Ryan began suffering with a sore foot. That sore foot led to finding out that he had cancer in his lungs, foot, spine, and brain. He underwent numerous radiation treatments, endured some chemotherapy, and had two surgeries on his spine so he could continue to walk. Ryan was a very strong-willed person and insisted on doing his own shopping until the week he passed. He will be remembered for having fought a brave and courageous battle until the end.

Ryan was an all-around good person and had many friends, but his best

friend was his canine companion Kona, who was by his side through all his trials. One of his favorite things to do was walk and play with her.

Ryan is survived by his mother Holly L. Tetreault, his father Randy M. Chamberland, his brother and sister-in-law Brandon and Nicole Chamberland, his two nieces Kendall and Kaylee Chamberland, all of Moosup, his maternal grandmother Lynn L. Krajewski of Danielson, and his maternal great-grandmother Dorothy G. Post of Putnam. He is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and his best friend/canine companion Kona.

Ryan was pre-deceased by his brother Donald P. Chamberland, his paternal grandmother and grandfather Kathleen and Donald P. Chamberland, his maternal grandfather David L. Krajewski, and his previous canine companion Mikko.

A celebration of life for Ryan will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice of NE CT. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home 48 School St., Webster, MA is directing arrangements. Share a memory or light a candle at www.shaw-majercik.com.

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LEGALS

TOWN OF KILLINGLY BOROUGH OF DANIELSON SEWER TAX NOTICE

The third quarter installment of taxes as well as the supplemental motor vehicle tax for the Town of Killingly and the Borough of Danielson becomes due on January 1, 2021 The second installment of sewer use charge is also due January 1, 2021. Taxes will become delinquent on February 2, 2021 Sewer Use charges will become delinquent on February 1, 2021 and subject to interest at the rate of 18% per annum, 1 ½% per month or any fraction of a month, from the due date. A minimum of \$2.00 interest will be charged for each delinquent bill and installment. Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, as follows; Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 9-4pm Tuesday 9-5pm Friday 9-11am. By mail at; 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, by text or online at our website www.Killinglyct.gov. Dated at Killingly this 14th day of December, 2020
Mrs. Patricia Monahan C.C.M.C.
Revenue Collector for the
Town of Killingly
December 25, 2020
January 8, 2020
January 22, 2020

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

On January 11, 2021, Woodstock Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency granted approval for application UP-11-20-37 – Ronald Petro – 155 Paine Road – restoration/dredging of pond – use permitted as of right. On January 12, 2021, Woodstock Wetlands Agent granted approval for application 01-21-05 – Thomas Thibodeau, 404 Senexet Road – new single-family construction with septic and well.
January 22, 2021

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE

The second installment of real estate and personal property taxes, sewer use bills, and motor vehicle supplemental taxes listed on the October 1, 2019 Grand List becomes due and payable to the Town of Woodstock on **January 1, 2021**. Payment must be postmarked or brought into the office by **February 1, 2021** to avoid an interest charge. Interest will be charged on **February 2, 2021** on all delinquent payments at the rate of one and one-half percent per

month, or a minimum charge of \$2.00 on each bill.

Motor Vehicle Supplemental taxes not paid by **February 1, 2021** will be reported as delinquent to the Motor Vehicle Department.

If you have any questions, please contact the Tax Collector's Office at 860-928-9469 ext. 318 or the Assessor's office at 860-928-6929 ext. 326. The Tax Collector's office hours **during the month of January, 2021** are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The town hall will be **closed on Fridays**.

The office will be closed at noon on Thursday, December 31, 2020 and will be closed on Monday, January 4, 2021 for New Year's Day Holiday and on Monday, January 18, 2021 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Linda Bernardi, CCMC
Woodstock Tax Collector
415 Route 169
Woodstock, CT 06281

December 25, 2020

January 8, 2021

January 22, 2021

TOWN OF THOMPSON

On January 14, 2021 the following wetlands agent approval was issued: Application # WAA20040 approved with conditions, Laura Hauser, 31 Center St. (Assessor's Map 116, Block X, Lot 8) - reconstruction of a single family home and septic system in the 100-foot upland review area for Little Pond. Marla Butts, Wetlands Agent
January 22, 2021

LIQUOR PERMIT Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I, CRYSTAL A KISTNER 73 BIRCH ISLAND RD WEBSTER, MA 01570-1547 Have filed an application placarded 01/21/2021 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at 1017 RIVERSIDE DR NORTH GROSVENORDALE CT 06255-1709 The business will be owned by: DOL-DRE INC Entertainment will consist of: Disc Jockeys, Karaoke, Live Bands, Comedians Objections must be filed by: 03-04-2021 CRYSTAL A KISTNER
January 22, 2021

January 29, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Richard R. Richmond (20-00315) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, January 7, 2021 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:
Sandra K. Richmond,
c/o WILLIAM H ST ONGE, ST ONGE
& BROUILLARD, 50 ROUTE 171,
WOOOSTOCK, CT 06281,

(860)928-0481
January 22, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Oliver C. Rosenquist (21-00011) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, January 8, 2021 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:
Dale E. Rosenquist,
c/o EVELINA MONIKA RUSZKOWSKI,
THE PRUE LAW GROUP, P.C.,

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SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

I don't think I'll find many that will disagree that our nation is in turmoil. From an election that a large minority of our friends and neighbors feel was stolen, to an assault on our nation's Capital, the concern about what will come next is eerie.

There has never been a more important moment than now for both sides, red and blue, liberal and conservative, to consider the attitude and wisdom of Abraham Lincoln ...

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds ..."

We are on a dangerous path, only a few steps away from a point of no return. Let's not take those last few steps.

Can it begin now, with us?

We need a peaceful transfer of power without any hitches and we need a new administration that enters office in the

spirit of Abraham Lincoln.

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds..."

Yes, our nation is wounded. Anything less than this attitude carries the potential of lighting a powder keg. It's a matter of choice at this moment. President-Elect Joe Biden can calm his supporters and move forward with malice towards none and with charity for all. Extremists on the side of the left are using words like, 'purge' and 'punishment' when talking about those on the right who supported President Trump. Make no mistake about it, President Trump has acted like a petulant child in the weeks leading up to the attack on our Capital. His careless words were and are dangerous.

I implore us all, red or blue, liberal or conservative, to abandon the violent and angry rhetoric and come together as friends and neighbors. We may see the world differently ... but we are still friends and neighbors.

I was taught a valuable lesson by my former, Pastor, Dr. Dan Boone. I was CEO who was at odds with a business competitor. We both attended the

same church and the aggressive businessman within me was screaming, "Go in for the kill" and I easily could have. I had a clear advantage, and I could have ended my competitor's business. Over lunch. My pastor said, "Oh. I'm wondering if you'd do me a favor."

I assured him that I would. He then told me of a local business that was in trouble and asked, "Will you pray for Tom and Mary? (not real names) "There business is in trouble and a failure will cause them to lose everything." He was of course talking about my competitor.

I gave my word and prayed for them daily. My attitude changed. I found a way that my success would not cause their failure. I have never regretted the decision to back off. My prayers for a competitor created compassion and an invaluable realization.

Life isn't a zero-sum game. For one side to win the other doesn't have to lose. I'll admit that I didn't vote for President-Elect Joe Biden, but now he's first on my daily prayer list.

Even if you were a candidate, your success in life didn't depend on this election. Your personal happiness wasn't destroyed or created by who won or lost. Your happiness is

a choice. If you are angry and miserable, it is because you chose to be so.

I happened upon a delightful movie on Netflix this week. "Full Count" is a story of a young athlete's success that was unfairly stolen from him and how he deals with his future. After many twists and turns he comes to a life changing realization. "Life isn't going to make you happy. Your happiness is going to make your life." Lots of wisdom in those words.

So, what's my point? The election is over. On January 20, 2021, a new administration will take office. Let us stop being Biden or Trump supporters and be supporters of our country and each other. For those of you who pray, I'm asking you to join me in praying for peace and unity.

First, let's pray for the health of our new President and administration, let's pray for wisdom to move our country successfully forward and for compassion for, and from, our new leadership.

Let's also pray for President Trump and his supporters. Pray that he will come to terms with his loss and move forward the rest of his life using his influence for the good of all. I pray he takes a lesson

from the example set by former President Jimmy Carter.

If you're not a praying person, set aside what anger you feel for your fellow citizens. Extend kind thoughts and words for all regardless of which candidate they supported. If your candidate won, rejoice ... but please do not think of revenge or getting even. If your candidate lost, pray for the success of the new administration.

Do not allow your joy to turn into vindictiveness nor let your disappointment turn to violence. We can do better ... and will.

Only our adversaries benefit by our division and failure, while the entire world benefits from the unity and success of the United States of America. Don't allow the actions of extremists on either side to extinguish the beacon of democracy.

Will you join me in prayer and positive words and actions?

May God continue to bless the United States of America.

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

A skillet supper makes for easy entertaining

Roasts and hams certainly may get a lot of fanfare for holiday dining, but chicken is a versatile food that is mild enough to be molded into whatever flavor profile cooks desire. Chicken also can be dressed up so it easily competes with other protein sources for top billing on holiday tables.

Easily cooked on the stovetop in a flash, this recipe for "Almond Chicken With Peaches and Roquefort" from "125 Best Chicken Recipes" (Robert Rose) by Rose Murray can be customized and multiplied depending on the size of the crowd. While peaches may not be in season where you live during the holidays, simply substitute two small pears, which work well for fall and winter meals. Serve with crisp green beans and lemon couscous, which is easily made by adding 1/2 teaspoon grated lemon zest and 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice to warm couscous.

"Almond Chicken With Peaches and Roquefort"

Serves 2

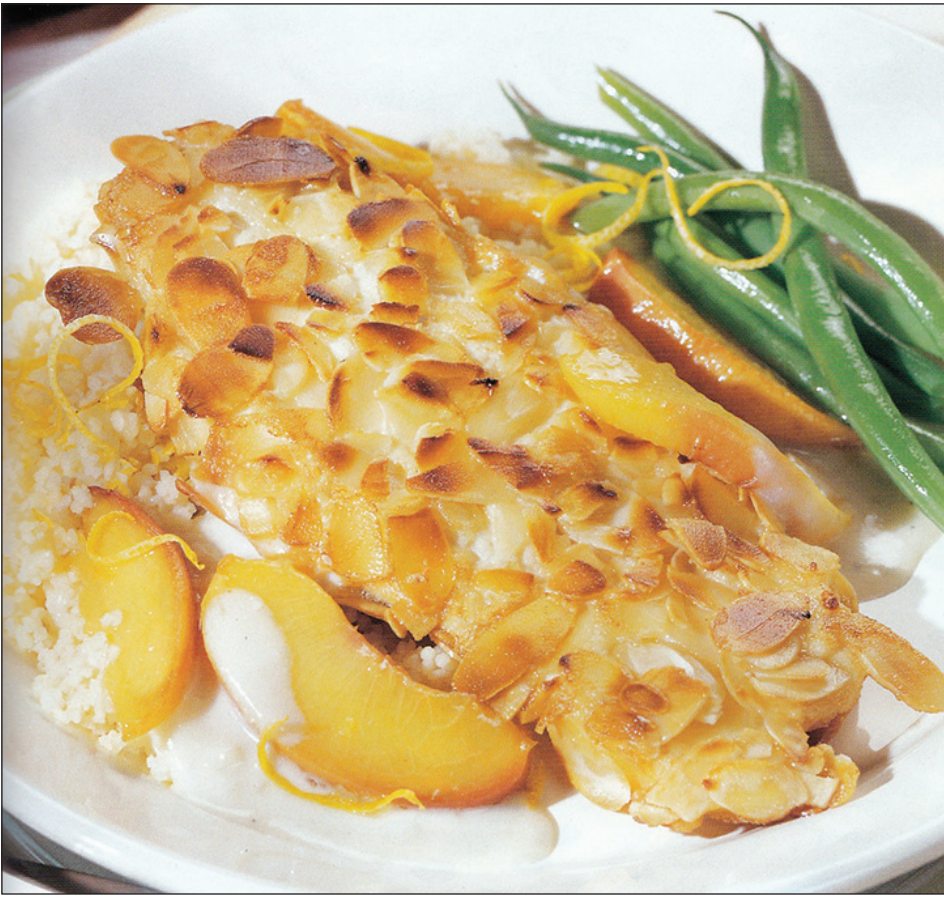
2 skinless, boneless chicken breasts

1/4 cup all-purpose flour

Salt and pepper

1 egg, lightly beaten

- 3/4 cup sliced almonds
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 unpeeled peaches, sliced; or 2 small pears, cored and sliced
- 1/4 cup dry white wine or chicken stock
- 1/4 cup whipping cream
- 2 tablespoons Roquefort or Gorgonzola cheese
1. Place chicken breasts between two pieces of plastic wrap and pound to an even thickness of about 1/4 inch. Dredge in flour mixed with 1/4 teaspoon each salt and pepper. Dip each breast in egg and coat with almonds.
 2. In a large skillet, heat half the oil over medium heat. Add chicken and cook about 5 minutes per side, turning once, until golden and no longer pink inside. Remove to a warm platter and keep warm.
 3. Add remaining oil to pan and heat over medium heat. Add peaches (or pears) and cook 1 minute. Stir in wine and bring to a boil; cook 3 minutes to reduce. Stir in cream, cheese and salt and pepper to taste. Cook stirring, until thickened. Spoon sauce around the chicken and serve.



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Risky behaviors that can lead to chronic disease

Chronic diseases pose a significant threat to the general public. It can be easy for adults in the prime of their lives to overlook the danger of chronic diseases, especially if they feel good and aren't exhibiting any symptoms to suggest their health is in jeopardy. But overlooking the potential dangers of chronic disease can prove deadly.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that chronic diseases like heart disease, cancer and diabetes are the leading causes of death and disability in the United States. Chronic diseases are costly as well, as recent reports from the Rand Corp. and the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services indicate that 90 percent of annual health care expenditures in the United States are for people with chronic and mental health conditions.

While there's no way to guarantee a person won't develop a chronic disease, avoiding certain risky behaviors can help adults greatly reduce their risk for various chronic diseases.

Tobacco use
The CDC notes that tobacco is the leading cause of pre-



ventable disease, and not just among smokers. While 34 million adults in the United States smoke cigarettes, 58 million nonsmokers, including children, are exposed to secondhand smoke, which can cause chronic diseases like stroke, lung cancer and coronary heart disease. Children exposed to secondhand smoke are at

increased risk of impaired lung function, acute respiratory infections, middle ear disease, and more frequent and severe asthma attacks.

Poor nutrition
The value of fruits and vegetables is well-documented. In spite of that, the CDC reports that fewer than 10 percent of

adults and adolescents eat enough fruits and vegetables. In addition, the CDC reports that 60 percent of young people between the ages of two and 19 and half of all adults consume a sugary drink on any given day. Such beverages, as well as processed foods, add unnecessary sodium, saturated fats and sugar to people's diets,

increasing their risk for chronic disease as a result.

Lack of physical activity
The Department of Health and Human Services has issued physical activity guidelines designed to help people improve their overall health and reduce their risk for various diseases. But the CDC reports that just 25 percent of adults and 20 percent of adolescents meet the recommended physical activity guidelines. Low levels of physical activity can contribute to heart disease, type 2 diabetes, certain types of cancer, and obesity.

Excessive alcohol consumption
The CDC notes that excessive alcohol consumption can cause heart disease, irregular heartbeat, high blood pressure, and stroke. In addition, the CDC reports that the less alcohol a person drinks, the lower his or her risk of cancer becomes.

Chronic diseases are a formidable opponent. But people of all ages can reduce their chances of developing such diseases by avoiding a handful of risky behaviors.



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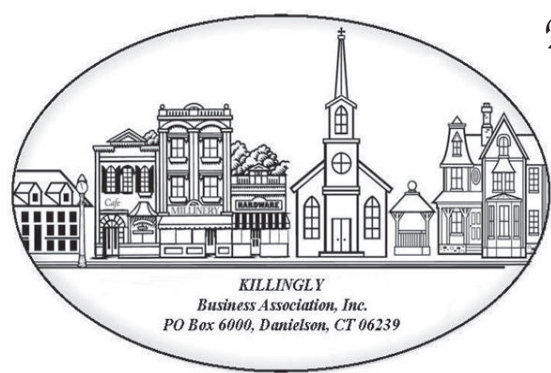


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