



"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent."
- Eleanor Roosevelt

PUTNAM VILLAGER

Friday, July 24, 2020

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Day Kimball establishes food pantry for cancer patients

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) recently established Caitlyn's Cupboard, a hospital-based food pantry to support cancer patients struggling with food insecurity.

Caitlyn's Cupboard addresses malnutrition and food insecurity among patients treated in Day Kimball Hospital's Rose Bove LaRose Cancer Center through the provision of no-cost shelf-stable food and nutritional education on a monthly basis.

"At DKH, we recognize that nutrition plays a vital role in cancer prevention and treatment," said Caitlyn Sward, registered dietitian nutritionist, Day Kimball Healthcare. "Our food pantry program has added another level in our pursuit to treat the

whole patient by meeting their nutrition-related needs during and after their cancer treatment."

Nearly 80 DKH Cancer Center patients have already signed up to receive food through the pantry since its establishment in late March 2020.

"Approximately 42 percent of cancer patients spend their entire life savings within 2 years after their diagnosis," said Sward. "We believe that no one should have to choose between keeping their electricity on and buying groceries for the week. Caitlyn's Cupboard is an opportunity for us to help eliminate some of those difficult choices for our patients."

Day Kimball Healthcare's Cancer Center patients who identify as food insecure can access the pantry.

Sward will schedule pantry appointments with each patient to help them select foods tailored to their specific treatment plan, health needs and dietary requirements. Each person served will receive a three-day supply of non-perishable food for each member of the family, including staple items and healthy snacks.

Caitlyn's Cupboard also provides patients with nutritional information, healthy recipes, and a comprehensive list of local food assistance programs and other community resources.

"We are proud to be able to offer this innovative solution to our patients," said Kristen Willis, director of development, Day Kimball Healthcare. "And we couldn't do it with-

Turn To **PANTRY** page A8



Courtesy

Caitlyn Sward, registered dietitian nutritionist, Day Kimball Healthcare, manages Caitlyn's Cupboard, a hospital-based food pantry located at Day Kimball Hospital's Rose Bove LaRose Cancer Center to support patients who are struggling with food insecurity.

All Aboard: Boxcar Museum seeks help to complete restoration



PUTNAM — The Aspinock Historical Society (AHS) is seeking the community's assistance as the final stages of restoration of the Boxcar Children Museum are rounding the bend.

Covid-19 has been quite a disturbance to our lives this year, and distancing requirements would make managing visitors difficult, so the Boxcar team has used the time wisely to reinforce and re-do the structural body of the boxcar. This steel is heavy and the work is specialized. The time taken to do this extra work will pay off for a long-lasting final product.

Greg Morissette from Trackside Restoration

has been the conductor of the heavy-duty structural steel framework of the project, and has volunteered endless hours to rehab the rusted body. With that specialized work behind them, Greg and the Boxcar Committee are ready for a helping hand from the community.

Every Saturday, starting on July 25, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (weather permitting) volunteers are needed. If you have simply an hour or two, please lend a helping hand. Many hands together will make fast and fun work. No tools are necessary, just wear old clothes and plan on getting dirty. The rewards will be endless.

In addition to the

physical help, Aspinock Historical Society needs a few very specific items to put the Boxcar back together again:

- Exterior steel door with window. To meet ADA requirements. Door openings shall provide a clear width of 32 inches minimum and a maximum of 48 inches. Clear openings of doorways with swinging doors shall be measured between the face of the door and the stop, with the door open 90 degrees.

- Single or double hung window, or possibly a sliding window. There are no more specifics, just a standard size and NO picture windows please.

Turn To **MUSEUM** page A9

LOCAL VETERAN CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY

Valentine
lamartino —
Courtesy



The Town of Putnam recognized WWII veteran Victor E. Lippiello on the occasion of his 100th birthday on Thursday, July 16. The event, held at Rotary Park in Putnam attracted more than 200 well-wishers. Lippiello served in the Philippines in the Pacific Theater Operations in 1945. Lippiello (center rear) is surrounded by his family, son-in-law Thomas Gorham (front) and standing (l to r) son-in-law John Ywarsky, daughter JoAnn Gorham, Lippiello, great granddaughter Josephine Ywarsky, granddaughter Victoria Ywarsky.

bankHometown donates \$2,500 to Pomfret Public Library

PUTNAM — bankHometown recently donated \$2,500 to the Friends of the Pomfret Public Library in support of the library's 2,000 square foot expansion project.

The Pomfret Public Library recently embarked on a fundraising campaign to support an expansion project that will double its current size. The library

Turn To **DONATION** page A9



Courtesy

bankHometown's Woodstock office Assistant Vice President and Branch Officer George Dimopoulos and bankHometown President and CEO Robert J. Morton with the Pomfret Public Library's Capital Campaign Chair Kate Cerrone and Librarian Laurie Bell.

PET PALS HOSTING CAN DRIVE

KILLINGLY — Pet Pals is holding a can drive for homeless and needy animals on Saturday, Aug. 8 at the Killingly Town Garage on Route 12 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Due to social distance constraints, all donors must call for an appointment at 860-317-1720. This drive is limited to clean soda and beer cans only. No plastic or glass this day. Drive will be closed as soon as the truck is filled. Dry cat food (Purina brands preferred) and cash donations always appreciated. For more information or appointment, call Pet Pals at 860-317-1720.



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Pomfret School announces Head of School Scholar Honors

POMFRET — Students named to this list earned a grade point average of 4.00 and received no grade lower than an A- for the Spring 2020 Term.

Hannah Dean of Brooklyn (2020)
Rose-Michaela Nsubuga of Danielson (2021)
Olivia Riley of Brooklyn (2021)
Cooper Ames of Pomfret (2022)
Thomas Bergendahl of Pomfret Center (2020)
Meredith Bergendahl of Pomfret Center (2023)
Grace Bullied of Pomfret (2022)
Maya Bullied of Pomfret (2023)
Isabella Canavan of Pomfret Center (2022)

Jessica Farrell of Woodstock (2020)
Tatum Fisher of Pomfret (2022)
Maya Gerum of Pomfret Center (2023)
Jeffrey Gibbs of Pomfret (2020)
Helen Hale of Pomfret Center (2020)
Kale Hart of Pomfret Center (2023)
Jack Heroux of Pomfret Center (2023)
Bridget Horst of Pomfret (2022)
Kevin Li of Pomfret (2020)
Daphne Li of Pomfret (2022)
Vivien Mark of Woodstock (2020)
Rose-Michaela Nsubuga of Danielson (2021)
Bailey Sheehan of Pomfret (2021)
Ian Wolanin of Pomfret Center (2022)
Blake Zahansky of Pomfret Center (2021)

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.



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.

Woodstock Legion post hosting open house

WOODSTOCK — The Benson-Flugal Post 111 American Legion, Inc. invites all veterans and their families to our open house breakfast on July 25.

Come to our post, located at 22 Stone Bridge Rd., Woodstock, to see what we do for our community. We are always looking for new members and due to the LEGION Act of 2019 all veterans who have served since Dec. 7, 1941 are eligible to join.

Our points of contact are Glenn Boies, Commander, 860-234-5525 or Chuck Jones, Adjutant, 860-983-3759.

STORRS — The University of Connecticut proudly announces its Dean's List for the Spring Semester of 2020.

Brooklyn
Zachary Fiedler, Kara Heilemann, Jaime Jax, Justin McCormack, Nicholas Niemiec, Ian Sauco, Makara Sorel, Michael Zheng

Danielson
Mead Bragdon, Olivia Swanson

Dayville
Travis Mann, Patrick Meagher, Madi Ruta

North Grosvenordale
Joshua Allen, Taylor Ware

Plainfield
Liz Loport, Jillian Petrocelli

Pomfret
Will Schad

Pomfret Center
Dave Blain

Putnam
Montana Cook, Hannah Desrosiers, Simone Fournier, Mason Lafleur

Woodstock
Dani Duquette, Pat Houlihan, Aaron Lambert, Eden Law, Ciri Miller, Nathan Price, Alyssa Rianey, Joshua Resnick, Ethan Werstler

Woodstock Valley
Deanna Guilani, Emma Kelleher

Area residents graduate from UConn

STORRS — The University of Connecticut congratulates the following area students who received degrees at the conclusion of the Spring Semester of 2020.

Brooklyn
Benjamin Brouillard, Riley Burns, Nicole Cadro, Nicholas Chan, Lindseyanne Exarhoulias, Michaela Green, Kara Heilemann, Tyler Metivier, Ambrose Pireson, Hallie Tedeschi

Danielson
Mead Bragdon, Noah Brisson, Karlee

Miller
North Grosvenordale
Jacob Donohue, Austin Miller, Furu Sherpa

Plainfield
Alexus Arrington, Zoe Beaver, Peter Coffey, Micah Donley, Xavier Gonzales, Gabrielle Laflesh, Ian Leblanc, Thomas Linevitch, Brandon Missino, Jenna Rainville

Pomfret Center
Rachel Byrne, Saraemilia Garciasgomes, Wanjiku Gatheru, Brandy

Hebert, Corrinne Jones, Jonathan Mathews, Keenan Rivers

Putnam
Cody Corey, Hannah Desrosiers, Mariela Kridzelis

Woodstock
Shay Albert, Danielle Duquette, Ashley Fisher, Aaron Lambert, Edward Lanzoni, Andrew Larson, Brian Lefevre, Evert McKee III, Lela Miller, Alyssa Rainey, Roger Stohlberg

Woodstock Valley
Deanna Guilani, Noah Morrison

Caroline Labbe named to Spring 2020 Honors List at Pomfret School

POMFRET — Caroline Labbe of Pomfret Center, from the Class of 2020, was named to the Spring 2020 Honors List at Pomfret School. To achieve this level of distinction, Caroline earned a grade point average of at least 3.330 and received no grade lower than a B.

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.

PUTNAM POLICE LOG

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

Mallory Kunz, age 30, of Putnam was arrested on July 13 for Failure to Appear in the Second Degree and Cruelty to Animals.

Scott Plummer, age 49, of Woodstock was arrested on July 16 for Failure to grant right of way and Unsafe backing.

Christopher Johnson, age 37, of Putnam was arrested on July 16 for two counts of Strangulation in the Second Degree, two counts of Risk of Injury to a Minor, Violation of a Protective Order, Assault in the Second Degree and Threatening in the Second Degree.

Dana Cook, age 42, of Worcester, Mass. was arrested on July 17 for Failure to Appear in the Second Degree.



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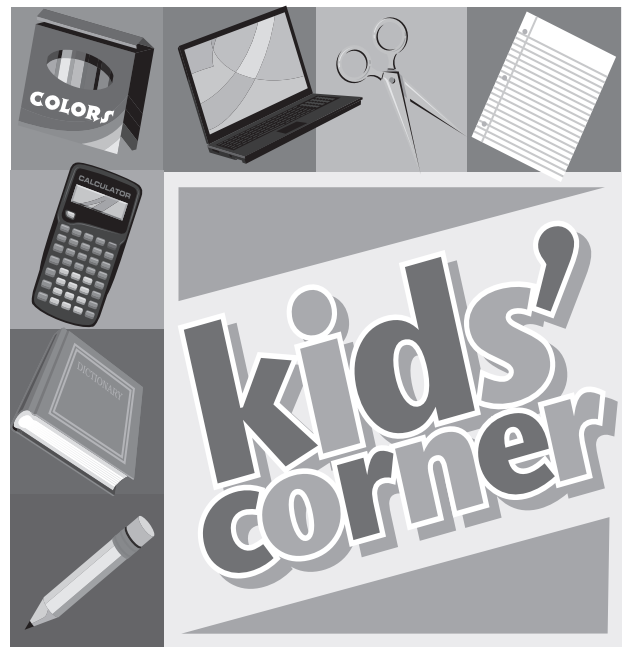
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THIS SEA CREATURE IS A LARGE MOLLUSK THAT RESIDES INSIDE A CONICAL SHELL.

ANSWER: CONCH

What’s the Difference?

There are four things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A

B

Answers: 1. Rope on swing missing 2. Boat missing 3. Extra rock in water 4. Distant island bigger

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

JUL 20

- **1810:** CITIZENS OF BOGOTÁ DECLARE THEIR INDEPENDENCE FROM SPAIN.
- **1969:** ASTRONAUT NEIL ARMSTRONG BECOMES THE FIRST MAN TO WALK ON THE MOON.
- **2015:** THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA RESUME FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AFTER FIVE DECADES.

New Word

TIDE

alternate rising and falling of the sea

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Coast

SPANISH: Costa

ITALIAN: Costa

FRENCH: Côte

GERMAN: Küste

Did you Know?

FLIP-FLOPS ARE WORN ALL SUMMER LONG, ESPECIALLY WHEN WALKING ALONG THE COASTLINE. SIMILAR FOOTWEAR WAS ONCE WORN BY ANCIENT EGYPTIANS.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: Lighthouse

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Sunday: Closed

Character is revealed in the toughest of times

We are living through unprecedented and uncharted times. A pandemic has seized our world, while social unrest and violence has swept into our major cities. Add to it all that it's an election year and everything that is happening has become politicized. It appears that the nation has never been more divided. It has put us on the edge and I'm witnessing people I know speaking and acting in ways I would have otherwise never imagined. How we respond to what's happening in our world is as important as the events themselves.

Respond to circumstances rather than reacting.

There is a difference. A response is thoughtful while a reaction is often "knee jerk" in nature. A response is measured, while a reaction is often the first thing that comes to mind and is usually emotional. When we calmly respond, it often disarms and relaxes others to do the same. Reactions are what we see playing out on our streets and in social media.

Relax. Take a breath. The world is not coming to an end. The truth is that cable news, and reactions to it, are play-



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

ing out on social media and encouraging us to believe otherwise. Don't believe it. As bad as you may believe things are today, tomorrow the sun will rise and a new day will begin. Yes, take a breath and relax. A new day is coming.

Like the streets, Facebook can be dangerous territory. You may not get physically hit by a brick, but you can certainly suffer the loss of friendships and incite anger that dominates your life.

I rarely post anything on social media that is controversial. I use Facebook and other apps to keep up with friends and family, post my columns and news about my books. I'm a very casual social media user.

I've been following the Covid-19 issues with intense interest. The great mask debate rages on. For every medical professional that says masks are not helpful, there seems to be twenty-five that say they work. I ran across a picture that showed how the virus is spread and how masks can help. The best data I can find say that masks can reduce the spread of the virus by up to 65%. Nothings perfect. Certainly not a mask, but a 65 percent reduction is significant. We teach our kids to cough and sneeze

into their arms. It's also not perfect but better than coughing into the open. If true, isn't a mask better than nothing?

So, I posted the graphic and commented, "I think this makes sense." I didn't expect the firestorm that quickly followed. The first comment from a friend began, "You of all people should know better ..." (an example of a reaction rather than a response). Then came the numerous comments about "constitutional rights" and the idea that the pandemic is actually a "plan-demic" and a government conspiracy.

A friend of mine who is a Doctor of 35 years posted a comment about the effectiveness of masks and a young nurse offensively offered him her nursing books, as if he was totally uninformed and she had all the answers. It devolved quickly into a raging mess.

I chose to respond rather than react. Trust me, I could have easily let my emotions rage but instead, I just deleted the post and went on with my day.

Yes, I was bothered and hurt by a few of the comments. But more than anything I watched in wonderment as rational and smart people so openly and purposefully began attacking others who disagreed. My response was to delete the posting and stop giving space

for others to react in anger and immaturity. Once the post was gone, everything on my page normalized and I assume everyone else went on with their day.

I'm not smarter or better than anyone else, I just choose to respond rather than react. I choose to be positive and not add fuel to the fire of negativity. Some do the same thing, while the majority do not. To react or respond is a choice we make, just as being positive or negative, or pessimistic or optimistic. These choices determine our success and quality of our lives. And yes, these choices determine our happiness.

Last week, I said I'd never met a successful pessimist. I'll add to it this week by saying I've also never met a happy pessimist.

Want to avoid losing friends? Choose to respond rather than react. Want to be happy? Choose to become an optimist.

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.

Tips to help your landscape beat the heat

Summer has arrived and for many so has the heat. High temperatures and dry conditions often lead to watering bans. This is not only hard on gardeners but also our gardens and lawns. Fortunately, there are ways to help plants thrive despite stressful growing conditions.



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....

MELINDA
MYERS

shredded leaves, evergreen needles, or shredded bark mulch over the soil in garden beds and around trees and shrubs. Mulching will conserve moisture, keep roots cool and moist, and suppress weeds. As the organic mulch decomposes, it adds nutrients and organic

matter to the soil. All these benefits stem from one maintenance task.

Mow lawns high and often, removing no more than one third the total height of the grass. Taller grass produces deeper roots, making the lawn more drought tolerant and more resistant to insects, disease, and other environmental stresses.

Leave the grass clippings on the lawn. They add nitrogen, organic matter, and moisture to the soil. One season of clippings is equal to one fertilizer application. Every time you mow you are improving the soil and fertilizing the lawn.

Sharpen your mower blades to save time by boosting efficiency. And speaking of savings, your mower will consume 22 percent less fuel and your lawn will use up to 30% less water when your mower blades are sharp.

Use a low nitrogen, slow release fertilizer if your lawn and garden plants need a nutrient boost. These types of fertilizers release small amounts of

nutrients over an extended period of time. The low level of nitrogen reduces the risk of damaging your already heat-stressed plants.

Remove weeds from garden beds and borders as soon as they appear. These "plants out of place" steal water and nutrients from your desirable garden plants. Plus, they can harbor insects and diseases that are harmful to your garden plants. Removing them before they flower and set seed means you will have hundreds of less weeds to pull next season.

Provide stressed plants with a bit of shade from the hot afternoon sun. Containers can be moved to a more suitable spot during heat waves. Add a bit of temporary shade to garden plants that are struggling to survive in the blazing hot sun. A strategically placed chair, lattice or umbrella may be all that is needed. As temperatures drop, you can move plants back in place and remove the temporary shade.

Use the shade to your advantage as well. Garden in the shady spots whenever possible or use a pop-up canopy to provide shade when needed. Always drink plenty of water, use sunscreen, and work during the cooler morning and evening hours.

Then take some time to enjoy your handiwork. Look at the progress that has been made as you sit back, relax, and enjoy your favorite beverage.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, includ-



Melinda Myers

Mulching garden beds and around trees and shrubs conserves moisture, keeps roots cool and moist, and suppresses weeds.

ing 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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EDITOR

No one wants to be left behind

Who wants to be left behind? Not me. I took out an arrangement of silk flowers, fluffed them up and plunked them down on top of the bookshelf in my office. They are the only fake flowers I own, and while I have a somewhat uneasy relationship with them, they look good on camera and that was my aim. I want to stay in touch by seeing and being seen by others. The computer is the only way right now.



.....
NANCY WEISS

I participate in several video meetings and a weekly church service. I want the background behind me to look good. When I watch the news, I study the commentators' rooms carefully. Some are disappointing. Almost everyone has the same Abraham Lincoln biography on their shelf. Most have boring framed citations on the wall. A few times I've spotted a cat in the background, but few other clues to their taste and possessions.

It's interesting to peek into someone else's home. It's even better to actually visit, which I miss right now. Sometimes the person we know in the outside world is far more interesting in their home. Sometimes our homes reflect us like a bathroom mirror. I've been to messy homes that were owned by people who were seemingly immaculate or tidy places where the denizens were chaotic at work but the opposite with their own things. Mostly, we reflect our personalities in our homes because we are so intertwined.

As a child, I went in and out of many homes. In a rural community, people never used the front door, except for weddings and funerals. Whether it was a grand property or a small farm, people pulled around to the back and knocked on the side or back door, if not announced in advance by a barrage of barking dogs and greeted on arrival by the homeowner. Back entrances held the promise of a basket of kittens, a collection of boots and gardening tools, and a unique smell, peculiar to that house. I can call up several residences with a remembered whiff.

I recently learned of the death of watercolor painter, Tom McCobb. Tom and his wife, Janet, operated a charming B&B in Pomfret for decades. Tom had an art gallery in the barn behind the house and painted scenes throughout the area and in Maine, where he spent part of each summer. Tom was a grab-the-gusto sort of man with a booming voice, strong opinions and real talent with a brush. I bought a number of his paintings as he captured scenes of the world I love. Some are of houses we both knew.

Cobbscroft, the house he and Janet shared, was decorated in vibrant colors with attractive draperies and slipcovers. Of course, they had dogs and paying guests and well as family and friends. Mixed with the smell of delicious breakfasts was oil paint, canvas and an afternoon cocktail. New owners added their own touches but each one leaves something behind.

I can't wait to visit people in their homes again. I'm eager to see old places and step into new ones. I've enjoyed wandering around private gardens and standing outside talking to friends, but settling into a soft couch or sitting down on a hard kitchen chair for a long visit is where I want to be.

From my computer screen, I check the view of my home office. The flower arrangement is okay. It looks as if I'm keeping up. But when our isolation ends, please – come to my house. Or better yet, invite me over.



OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My perspective on our political divide

To the Editor:
Our Political System is built on debate and compromise. Although we are a collection of very different individuals, our political system lumps us into two perspectives: Conservative and Liberal. Our ultimate goal is to achieve a better way of life for us and for our children, and to pass on a political system that ensures sound values and security. Each “side” gives a little to achieve what both can live with. Generally, our two major parties support different - and both valid - perspectives on how to achieve that goal. Loosely speaking, Republicans tend to favor state's rights, big business and ‘trickle down’ effects reaching workers, tax cuts, no handouts and increased military spending. Democrats tend to favor national policy, the workers and those unable to work, tax support to provide a safety net for the unfortunates and decreased military spending.

Discussion, debate, compromise allow us to come to workable, fair policies that improve our country's people and position in the world. This also requires good information, innovative thinking based not

in emotion and instinct, but in scientific, well-proven fact.

But ultimately, we are a collection of individuals, so to lump all “the Democrats” and “the Republicans” together violates our individuality and the remarkable range of ideas/opinions in our world. Sadly, back in the 90s, then Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, began to push strong division between right and left, and since then it has become increasingly more difficult to find meaningful compromise between two valid points of view. Under our current Administration, this sense of separation has come to a new level.

We have so much to do so our children can thrive and have the same privileges, comforts and securities that we have. We can solve these problems by coming together, not by dividing. People in the world working together to better our world. Doesn't that sound good?

KAREN RYKER
WOODSTOCK

Blaming the victim

To the Editor:
In Gary W. Moore's July 17 Positively Speaking, he responds to an email regarding his claim that we are who, what, and where we find ourselves solely because of our decisions. The emailer challenged him by stating he had lost everything as “a victim of circumstances” beyond his control. Moore's response was to not resort to blaming others, advocating for a “pull yourself up by your bootstraps” philosophy.

Unfortunately, we are often unable to change our course as we'd like or live the life we hoped for; try as we may. Where we find ourselves is not simply the result of our decision making; circumstances beyond our control can significantly impact our life's trajectory moving us along a path we would not have selected. Infants and young children, for example, have no decision-making power, with their lives being in the hands of their caregivers. Where they live, go to

school, their level of access to quality health care, who their family allows them to interact with, and more weighs in heavily on who they become. Another example is found in those enslaved by others. The current movement toward making reparations for the consequences of slavery in America acknowledges our responsibility for the negative impact upon them and their later generations.

Yes, it is true that we can accept our fate and make the best of it, even when it is never what we would have decided on if given the opportunity. I understand that it is in one's interest to try to overcome obstacles, and think positively. But, to believe that we are not subject to forces and conditions outside of our influence is naive. To preach to, and almost chastise, those who have been negatively impacted this way is akin to blaming the victim.

PATRICIA SUSLA
WOODSTOCK

The beginnings of a police state?

To the Editor:
OK, It's starting. First, it was LaFayette Park, and now it's Portland. We're seeing the beginnings of a police state. Trump is sending in basically storm troopers in full camouflage and with no insignia into Portland to illegally detain peaceful demonstrators. It appears that these goons are from Homeland Security, U.S. Marshals Service, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Federal Protection Service. They are seizing people, taking them to unknown locations in unmarked cars, reading them their Miranda Rights and detaining them for hours. They are finally let go without being formally arrested or charged.

These demonstrators were doing nothing illegal, but their detainment is definitely illegal. Their First, Fourth, and Fifth Amendment Rights are being violated egregiously. Whatever the protestors may be doing that might be illegal are misdemeanors at best. Why is Trump using federal power to quell misdemeanors which are clearly the prevue of the local law enforcement? Why indeed. Trump is testing the waters to see just how much he can get away with in fostering a police state using Gestapo tactics of intimidation and fear mongering.

And Trump has already signaled the next step in Federal overreach. He and the RNC are contemplating organizing up to 50,000 people to oversee voting sites, particularly focusing on Democratic areas. It's not unreasonable to believe these could include camouflage-wearing taxpayer-funded rifle-toting border patrol agents aggressively checking papers of every voter in line in the guise of “securing against voter fraud.” It has been proven in many studies and many states that voter fraud is virtually non-existent. So the purpose of these poll checkers is clearly intimidation which constituts voter fraud in its own right.

And let's not forget the thousands of polling sites that have been taken down, mostly in Blue States or states where Republicans are facing hard elections.

All of this constitutes a terrifying abuse of power. Unless the states, municipalities, Congress and the DNC step up and exert their rights and powers, we are most likely to see the Republic torn apart in November.

And let's not forget that Trump is threatening to veto any stimulus bill unless there is a substantial reduction or elimination of the Payroll Tax. This tax pays for Social Security and Medicare. So why is Trump so hell-bent on destroying these functions? I haven't a clue. And he has not articulated any reasons either. All you Trumpers out there receiving SS and Medicare, aren't you worried about losing your benefits? Why follow this idiot who wants to ruin your retirement? The only people who benefit from cutting the Payroll Tax are the corporations and the wealthy. Why don't you Trumpers see the incredible damage this will do?

Also, let's not overlook what Trump is doing with the Center for Disease Control. In any new relief bill, he wants to cut CDC funding for testing and tracing. How incredibly stupid. But of course, this is because Trump is fixated on numbers -- as if screwing around with the numbers will alter reality. The CDC no longer is the report-to agency for Covid infections. These numbers are going into some black hole in the Administration to be manipulated and probably not reported at all. Fortunately, we have Johns Hopkins who is collecting this information and reporting it honestly.

Trump has developed a supporter base by appealing to their emotions. He uses inflammatory rhetoric and promises nothing of substance. Just keeps saying what's going to happen with no specifics given. He can't even articulate his agenda for a second term. Furthermore, he can't articulate anything. The following is something Trump recently said verbatim:

“So we have many exciting things that we'll be announcing over the next eight weeks, I would say? Things that nobody has even contemplated, thought about, thought possible, and things that we're gonna [sic] get done, we have gotten done, we started in most cases. But it's gonna be a very exciting eight weeks, a, uh, eight weeks like, I prob, I think Mike, we can honestly say, nobody's ever going to see eight weeks like we're gonna have. Because we really have.

“We have, uh, we're taking on immigration, we're taking on education, we're taking on so many aspects of things that uh, people were hopelessly tied up in knots in Congress, they can't, they've been working on some of these things for 25, 30 years, it wasn't happening. But, you'll see, uh, levels of detail, and you'll see levels of thought that a lot of people believed very strongly we didn't have in this country. We're gonna get things done, we're gonna get things done that they've wanted to see done for a long, long time. So I think we'll start sometime on Tuesday? We'll be discussing our one plan on suburbia, but that's one of many, many different plans, then we're going into the immigration, the world of immigration, the world of education.”

Can any of you make any sense of this? I can't. But this is typical of his rants and empty promises appealing to emotion with no specifics or facts at all. Wake up people. We have a moron as a President.

Finally, have you seen the pic of Trump in the Oval Office with cans of Goya products showing two thumbs up? This is a blatant violation of the Hatch Act which prohibits government employees shilling commercial products. Just another crime and an impeachable act.

STEPHEN ETZEL
PUTNAM

Lord bend us

He was a 26-year-old Welsh



BEYOND
THE
PEWS
.....
JOHN
HANSON

coal miner when God called him to do something very similar to what Daniel did centuries before. I should mention that many other believers had been praying similar prayers

for years. But he was the vessel God chose to use in 1904.

His name was Evan Roberts. He was raised in a Calvinistic Methodist home. He worked in the coal mines with his father, then later worked for his uncle as a blacksmith. He was very devout and known to be a man of prayer. While studying for the ministry at Newcastle Emlyn he attended a service held by evangelist Seth Joshua and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He returned to his hometown, hoping for an opportunity to preach the gospel. His pastor did not let him preach on Sunday or at the Monday prayer meeting. So, Roberts just attended the prayer meetings and let God begin using him to minister extemporaneously. People responded to his ministry so well that he began ministering night after night, with people staying up until early in the morning.

Years of prayer had built up and, in God's time, there was an explosion of conversions, vibrant preaching and singing, and a manifestation of the Gifts of the Spirit. Over 30,000 people were said to have converted within a few month's time. Over the next year or so, it is estimated that 100,000 people made a commitment to Christ. Not only that, but five years later, 80 percent of the converts were still attending church.

The social changes in Wales were drastic. Bars were nearly empty, judges had no cases to prosecute, and policemen were laid off, for lack of work. Illegitimate births dropped 44 percent within a year. Some even claimed that since the miners cleaned up their language and stopped cursing, the horses slowed down and mining productivity declined.

This move of God was so exceptional that people began travelling from all over the world to Wales to see what was taking place. The Welsh revival had a direct influence on what would become the Asuza St. Revival in America. This revival was the beginning of the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement which has changed the Christian community.

Looking back at how it all started, some have pointed to a prayer that Roberts prayed as that young Bible student. Keep in mind that Roberts was devout, and God had stirred his faith in several ways. For example, he told several people that he had experienced visitations from the Holy Spirit where he saw “all Wales being lifted up to Heaven.” On another occasion he asked his roommate, who would later be his brother-in-law, if he believed that God could give them 100,000 souls. That lead to the now famous three-word prayer that he began to pray: “Lord bend us.” Those three words describe introspective prayer perfectly.

Can we sincerely pray those three words “Lord bend us?” Do we care enough about what he is doing to change what we are doing? Can we be introspective enough to let Him take things out of our hearts that don't align with what He is doing? If so, we can expect amazing results, even though we are in the middle of a world-wide pandemic.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson CT, where people are still praying “God bend us.” For more resources please visit www.ActsII.org.

The traits of a good investor – taking charge of your finances

The COVID-19 pandemic has had many effects on the whole world, but how has it changed your financial habits? Many people are finding they are spending less and saving more, but what is the next step? Maybe COVID has inspired you to set new goals, or changed the goals you might have already had. You can utilize investing as a way to grow your money, work toward achieving your financial life goals, and set yourself up for retirement. As we continue the conversation throughout July of mid-year planning, consider how you can take your finances to the next level.

Despite your level of investing experience, there are certain investor traits that can prove advantageous for anyone. Traits such as patience, willingness to confront and deal with mistakes, and recognizing when help is needed can benefit portfolio returns, particularly for a long-term investor. Even risk aversion, sometimes a problem for those who are concerned about their investing abilities, can be an advantage if it's applied wisely. Overall, understanding and expanding upon your own knowledge, risk tolerance, and patience can help you become a successful investor – and we're here to help you along the way.

Feel you aren't as knowledgeable as you should be about investing?

Chances are you're in good company. Plenty of people know less than they should but aren't willing to recognize or admit it; as a result, their portfolios suffer. Recognizing what you don't know can be an asset. Being willing to ask questions and understand some basics will serve you better than sticking your head in the sand.

Also, being a good investor doesn't mean you need to do all the work yourself. A financial professional can help you set a strategy, select specific investments, monitor performance, and make adjustments as circumstances dictate. There is no assurance that working with a financial professional will improve investment results.

If you're afraid to make decisions because you don't know a mutual fund from an exchange-traded fund, now is the time to begin exploring and learning! Your retirement plan at work might provide educational materials or assistance, and there are plenty of books, magazines, and websites that can help. Don't be afraid to talk to friends who may have similar questions, but do your own research,



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ADVISER

too. Take baby steps and learn as you go. You don't have to do everything at once; even a small step is better than none.

Finally, recognize that you're not alone. Others may have the same doubts as you about their investing abilities.

Are you risk averse in the right way?

When people feel unsure about their investing skills, they sometimes take the path of least resistance and invest very conservatively. In some cases, this can be helpful. For example, avoiding big risky bets that can single-handedly drag down a portfolio can sometimes lead to better risk-adjusted performance. However, this trait can also be a double-edged sword if you're investing far more conservatively than is appropriate for your goals and circumstances, either out of fear of making a mistake or from not being aware of how risks can be managed. Being unaware of how inflation can affect investment returns or how to balance various types of risks can

leave you vulnerable to a shortfall in your retirement savings or other financial goals.

All investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal, and there can be no guarantee that any investment strategy will be successful. But perhaps the biggest risk of all is not taking the steps needed to try to secure your financial future.

One strategy to mitigate risk is to set aside a cash cushion of three to six months' worth of expenses aside. This way, if your investments take a dip, you have a backup plan to make necessary purchases and payments in the meantime.

Can you be patient?

A portfolio is — or should be — a means to an end, not a competitive sport. It's a way to pursue your financial goals, rather than a measure of self-worth or a vehicle for bragging about how you “beat the market.”

Patience can also help you withstand market volatility. Many investors see a dip in the market and want to sell. However, having patience and confidence in the market can help you in the long-term. History is a good indicator of market performance and turnaround after an event like we are experiencing now. While this pandemic is different from other historical

events we have experienced in recent history, the financial markets have maintained resiliency throughout other world events that have caused volatile markets.

Since 1950, when you look at all 13 bear market events, you see that for those who stayed in the markets saw during these significant downturns were rewarded with a return one, three, and five years later. While past performance is not a guarantee of future results, the historical returns of the markets shown here prove resiliency from past events.

Anyone can invest

If COVID has sparked better savings habits, you're tired of making sourdough bread, or you just have time to think about the retirement account that isn't going to create itself, mid-year is a good time to consider taking a few baby steps toward achieving your financial life goals. Everyone has goals, and we want to help you achieve them. Whether you're insecure about your financial literacy, need to practice your patience, or need some guidance about appropriate risk for your time horizon, give us a call at 860-928-2341 or email us at info@whzwealth.com so we can help you Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well.TM Equipping yourself to pursue your

financial life goals is time well invested. For more information, resources, and financial planning strategies, visit our Web site, www.whzwealth.com/resources!

Before investing in a mutual fund or exchange-traded fund, carefully consider its investment objective, risks, fees, and expenses, which can be found in the prospectus available from the fund. Read it carefully before investing.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A history lesson

To the Editor:

I'd like to know what BLM is doing to help benefit their people? What is their plan to stop the violence in the streets and the killings of blacks by blacks? I feel that these are more than legitimate questions. I asked this on Facebook, and though I did not receive an answer; I was called a racist! Ah, the “r” word. And speaking of Facebook, my reply to a picture of a bunch of white looters was; “white trash sacks of garbage.” That response was cited as “hate speech” and resulted in a stint in facebook jail. Gee, and I thought I was telling it like it is. Recently, a 15 year old black girl was attacked by a mob of black youths and robbed of her sneakers. A group of black punks beat up and robbed a white restaurant manager in South Carolina. Also, four black teens attacked a pregnant black teen woman and kicked her child in the head, but what's worse is that you hear about shootings and this type of violence on an almost daily basis. Paint all the murals you want, raise all the awareness that you want, put signs on your lawn, but when will something be done to stop these senseless acts? Al Sharpton (a true tax cheat), wearing a dress shirt and tie, helped paint “black lives matter” on a street (another photo-op?), but I've never heard of him doing anything to condemn the violence, or donating any of his money toward the cause. I'd like to think (and hope) that the 220 million dollars donated from George Soros will be put to the proper use. Personally, I'd trust an unknown panhandler in the street before I'd put any faith in Soros, his actions or his motives. I agree that black lives matter, but so do blue lives, brown lives, white lives (and whatever other color I failed to mention) - and if you want to use the “r” word on me for saying that, or for anything else I've said in this letter - I could care

less! Kudos by the way to the “Back the Blue” rally that was recently held in Killingly.

Now for a history lesson. Do you know who the «red shirts» (or the redshirts) were? The red shirts were a southern based white supremacist group that originated in 1875, and operated in the last years of, and after the end of the reconstruction era. The red shirts were democrats (does that surprise you?) and a group linked to, but better organized than the KKK, who opposed civil rights for black Americans. While sometimes engaging in violent acts of terrorism, they used intimidation and force against “freedmen” (blacks), republicans and non-democratic voters. Two of the more prominent figures involved with the red shirts were Wade Hampton (one of the largest slave owners in the southeast, and a former Governor of South Carolina and United States Senator) and Benjamin Tillman (also a former Governor of South Carolina and United States Senator) who coincidentally both have statues on the State House grounds. (More information about these men, and the history of the red shirts, can be found at Wikipedia.) I find it odd, though, that nobody (to my knowledge anyhow) has targeted those statues, but the ignorant, misguided miscreants have gone after those of Abraham Lincoln, U.S. Grant and the Virgin Mary. (And by the way, the desecrated statue of the Virgin Mary was in Boston, Mass., which was a monument to the veterans of World War II. So, whats going to be next, ban the wearing of red shirts? And, if ever I hear any of these democratic politicians suggest that we pay reparations for slavery, I'm going to ask if their check is in the mail.

ED DeLUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

A Cumby's that stands apart

To the Editor:

I love our local Cumby's in Putnam. It's truly a unique place, even when compared to other Cumby's. The staff have an infectious pleasantness and sincere enthusiasm in their greetings to absolutely anyone who enters the store. Their welcomes and continued good natured interactions with customers permeates a vibe throughout the store and one feels immediately uplifted, especially in the morning. Don't get me wrong, I initially went for their coffee (great!), but most everything else in the store is a fast food

nightmare of delicious but unhealthy comfort snacks, and I could easily make my coffee at home. It's the staff and the environment I go for, the camaraderie they've developed with all the customers reminding me of the theme from “Cheers” (“where everyone knows your name”). It's a great start to the day and I truly hope the staff there know how valuable they are. To start a day like that is priceless and healthy. They should sincerely put themselves up there with health service providers, what they provide is that valuable.

The other factor is their small size.

It offers an intimacy akin to a warm living space that the larger Cumby's miss and are much more antiseptic. I was afraid during the remodeling they would lose that intimacy but they haven't missed a beat. The talk of the town during that renovation was when they were going to reopen. The anticipation was great and offered a welcome respite and distraction from our national anxieties.

I didn't think they could get better, but their COVID response proved me wrong. This was a situation where their small intimacy could prove trou-

state taxes and fees.

Dan not only knows how to bring people together to get things done, but he also has been doing just that for many years. Dan knows that when we work together, not just despite our differences but also because of our different experiences, ideas, skills, and beliefs, we can achieve a lot of good things that stand the test of time. These troubling times do indeed demand a leader who shows up and shows us how to unite and to work toward common purposes as communities. We need this more than ever before. Dan Champagne is our State Senator doing this.

Dan Champagne continues to provide a positive and proactive way of doing things for your families, friends, and neighbors throughout the 35th Senate District. He continues to focus on issues important to you.

Dan is a friend of mine. I have seen him hard at work. As an elected official myself in Woodstock (Chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission), I appreciate and know the hard work required, the necessary understanding of issues, the inclusive working with people, and the dedicated effort to see things to completion (big and small things). I share Dan's work ethic and principles. Those who know Dan agree. If you have not yet met him, then when you do, you will agree as well.

Let's support Dan Champagne for re-election as our State Senator for Ashford, Chaplin, Coventry, Eastford, Ellington, Hampton, Pomfret, Stafford, Tolland, Union, and Woodstock. Let's re-elect Dan Champagne for a better and just future for all of us.

JEFFREY A. GORDON, M.D.
WOODSTOCK

OBITUARIES

Denise A. (Despin) Rurka, 64

Winchester, NH/Oxford, MA – Denise Ann (Despin) Rurka formerly of Oxford passed peacefully in the comfort of her home on Wednesday, July 1, 2020 surrounded by family.

She is survived by her husband, Michael of Winchester they would have celebrated their 45th Anniversary in August; a son Christopher (Heather) of NH; a daughter Louisa (Paul Martineau) of MA; four grandchildren: Jakob Rurka, Katelyn Rurka, Aurora Frenier, Emiliee Martineau.

She leaves five sisters: Lena Deter of TN, Donna Nalewajk and Debra Light both of CT, Diane Kenney of FL and Melissa Saad of MA a brother Stephen Despin of FL, her in-laws, many nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, cousins and many “adopted children” from town.

She was predeceased by her parents Edgar S. and Anita B. (Deschenes) Despin.

Born on May 15, 1956 she was raised in Oxford, MA and attended the Oxford Public Schools. Moving to New Hampshire in 1975 Denise began watching the neighborhood’s children until her children began school, she started working in the special education department at Winchester Elementary School, as both a paraprofessional and one-on-one aide. She then worked at Monadnock HS and Hinsdale. She then opened her own home daycare later working at the Winchester Learning Center.

After her children completed their college educations, Denise went back

to school and graduated with her Bachelor’s Degree in Early Education and was completing her Master’s Degree when she became ill.

Known in town as Momma Rurka her love for children went beyond the classroom and many of her students and her children’s friends grew up knowing her as a 2nd mother. Always available to talk to, confide in or just being there. Enjoying this role so much she co-led a Brownie Girl Scout Troop in Winchester for many years.

Besides the love of teaching and working with children, she loved to spend time with her family. Many weekends you would find her having sleepovers with her grandchildren, out with her sisters scrapbooking or watching her son and grandson race dirt bikes at the local track. She enjoyed family vacations including Virginia Beach, Myrtle Beach, Gatlinburg, TN, Cape Cod, camping, and her favorite, Florida especially Disney World and Universal Studios.

There are no calling hours or formal services. Denise always lived her life to the fullest and in order for others to do so in lieu of flowers the family requests you send donations in her memory to: American Cancer Society, PO Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123 or Home Healthcare Hospice, 312 Marlboro St. Keene, NH 03431.

All services are under the care of the Cheshire Family Funeral Home and Crematories, 46 South Winchester St., Swanzey, NY 03446 (www.cheshirefamilyfh.com)

Helen Van Nieuwenhuyze (nee Belhumeur)



Beloved third child of Rhode Island band leader and State Senator Arthur (Artie Bell) Belhumeur and his wife Jeanne (St Pierre) Belhumeur, Helen died peacefully at home on July 19,

2020 surrounded by her six loving children and her devoted husband of 64 years, William R. Van Nieuwenhuyze. Born at home in Central Falls, RI. Helen attended high school at St Xavier’s Academy in Providence, RI. She became an accomplished pianist, earning a full scholarship at 17 to continue her music studies at Anna Maria College in Paxton, MA. After marrying the love of her life, she moved to Thompson, CT and raised six children while finishing her studies, eventually establishing a successful teaching practice that included more than 400 students throughout N.E.C.T. As an organist she was sought after for weddings, masses and funerals, playing the organ for 43 years at Sacred Heart Church on West Thompson Rd and St. Joseph’s Church in N. Grosvenordale. She was a piano accompanist and music director for many plays, concerts and events throughout the Thompson school system, and participated chorally in the Diocesan Choir at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich CT - performing at the National Cathedral in Washington D.C. under the direction of the Los Angeles Master Chorale Director, Paul Salamunovich as one of only two singers from CT - and by invitation in musicals at Pomfret School.

Helen is survived by her husband, William R. Van Nieuwenhuyze of N. Grosvenordale CT; her daughters, Lynn Davis and husband Louis of Scottsdale AZ / N. Grosvenordale CT, Linda Van Nieuwenhuyze of Phoenix AZ, Debra and husband Joe Petrick of Henniker NH, Wendy Van Kirk of Shelton CT, Jennifer and husband Gary Gomes of Dudley MA, and son William S. Van Nieuwenhuyze of

Meriden, CT.

Her 15 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren, Hillary Davis of Scottsdale, AZ, Alex Davis of Pittsburgh, PA, Beatrice DeSabatino of Bridgeport, CT, Andrew DeSabatino of Phoenix, AZ, Chris and Courtney Petrick; and great grandson Talis and great granddaughter Nessa of Windham, ME, William and Colleen Petrick and great granddaughter Ryan of Randolph, NJ, Joe and Kim Petrick of Henniker, NH, Charlie Petrick of Louisville, KY, Lindsay Van Kirk and Nate Graham and great granddaughter Flora Louise of Hastings on Hudson, NY, Aubrey Van Kirk of Shelton, CT, Ronald and Taylor Kong of North Haven, CT, William Van Nieuwenhuyze of Meriden, CT, Laratee Van Nieuwenhuyze of Meriden, CT, Kaelin Andersen of N. Grosvenordale, CT, and Quinn and Rebecca Andersen of Dover, DE.

Helen was predeceased by her parents and cherished older sister Georgette, and is survived by her sister Lorraine Belhumeur-Eramo and husband Richard Eramo of N. Providence, RI, her brother Robert and wife Kathy Belhumeur of Smithfield, RI, her brother-in-law and sister-in-law Robert and Marilyn Van Nieuwenhuyze of Smithfield, RI, brother-in-law John Taupier of S. Yarmouth, MA, her best friend Dottie and husband Merrill Seney, and many more cousins, nieces, nephews and friends than can’t be recognized here.

Relatives and friends are invited to a visitation for Helen from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with a prayer service at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 23, 2020 in the Valade Funeral Home & Crematory, 23 Main St., North Grosvenordale. The family has asked that all Covid-19 social distancing precautions be observed during the visitation. Donations in her name can be made to the Alzheimer’s Association of CT or to the Anna Maria Fund at Anna Maria College in Paxton, MA. For memorial guestbook, please visit www.GilmanandValade.com.

John E. Hibbard, 84

John E. Hibbard, 84, of Hebron, beloved husband of the late Bernice S. Hibbard passed away on Sunday, July 12, 2020 at Marlborough Health & Rehabilitation Center after a life well lived. Born in Woodstock on March 27, 1936, he was the devoted son of the late John E. & Sigrid (Nyholm) Hibbard.

John had a lifetime love for the outdoors. A 1958 graduate of UCONN, with a degree in silviculture, John became known as a passionate advocate and steward of the Connecticut landscape. After his compulsory military service and several years working in Florida for the USDA, John became Executive Director (Secretary) of the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, where he lobbied the state legislature for passage of the Landowner Liability Law, served on state task forces for farmland preservation and dairy industry preservation, and was involved in creating Connecticut’s Forest Practices act, as well as Connecticut’s Environment 2000 plan. For his lifetime of service, John was presented with an Environmental Merit Award of Lifetime Achievement by the EPA, and recognized with proclamations by both the Town of Hebron and State of Connecticut.

Upon moving to Hebron in 1966, John expanded his life of public service, becoming active in Hebron politics, serving on a number of boards and committees including stints as Town

Moderator, as a member of the Charter Commission and as Chair of both the Boards of Selectmen and Finance.

In his private life, John was devoted to his family in Woodstock. He spent many weekends of his adult life doing chores like chopping wood and maintaining Christmas trees fields for his father and his father’s siblings. When Bernice became ill with MS, for sixteen years he turned his focus to her care. He loved to riding his tractor and tending to his vegetable garden, sharing its bounty far and wide. John was a good man, a man of quiet faith who would help anyone in need.

John will be forever loved and remembered by his daughter, Beth Hibbard of Vernon and his friend and neighbor, Ron Fitch of Hebron. In addition to Bernice, John was predeceased his sister Ann Redman, his uncle, Raymond Hibbard, and his aunts, Mary & F. Veronica Hibbard.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the CT Forest & Park Association www.ctwoodlands.org/donate or the Gilead Congregational Church 672 Gilead St. Hebron, CT 06248. To leave online condolences, please visit the Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home website at www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

John “JB” Benoit, 70

WEBSTER, MA- John Benoit, 70, of 11 Black Point Road, died Monday, July 13, 2020, surrounded by his loving family at UMASS Memorial Medical Center. Born June 27, 1950 in Webster, he was the son of the late Ernest Benoit, Sr. and Lois (Baxendale) Benoit.

John grew up on the lake in Webster and was a veteran of the United States Army. He worked for Southbridge Public Schools as a custodian for over 20 years. John loved spending time at the beach. He was an avid sailor and was a longtime member of the Webster Lake Sailing Association. John’s greatest joy in life was spending time with his children and grandchildren who will miss him greatly. He will be remembered for his unique sense of humor and his famous chocolate chip cookies.

John is survived by his children, Eric Benoit and his wife Melanie of

Woodstock Valley, CT; and Valerie Imre of Dayville, CT; his brother, Ernest Benoit, Jr. and his wife Arlene of Webster, MA; his grandchildren, Jazmin Benoit, Katrina Imre and Alex Imre; and several special nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his siblings, Rona Lussier, Ronald Benoit, Gary Benoit, and Debra Saad.

Funeral arrangements for John are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory. Memorial donations may be made to Webster Lake Sailing Association, 4 Bates Point Rd, Webster, MA 01570. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com



Robert L. Hunter, 85

BROOKLYN, CT- Robert L. Hunter age 85 passed away Sunday, July 5, 2020 at the Westview Health Care Center, Dayville, CT. He leaves his loving soul mate Marlene Hansen of Brooklyn, CT, his sisters Marlene Wilson and her husband Roger of Willington, CT, Marjorie Auger and her husband Maurice of Putnam, CT, grandchild, Andrew Fredette and his wife Rachel of Thompson, CT. Robert had a daughter who predeceased him, Arlene Fredette of Moosup, CT and a brother Kenneth Hunter of Brooklyn, CT. Robert also leaves many nieces and nephews.

He was born in Danielson, CT son of the late Arthur Hunter and Beatrice (Colwell) Hunter Green and lived in Brooklyn most of his life. He was a chicken farmer for many years and

also owned Brooklyn Scrap Metal.

He was a former assistant fire chief for the Mortlake Fire Dept. and a member for nearly 60 years. He was very involved at the Brooklyn Fair grounds for many years. He enjoyed boating, hunting, fishing and time spent with family. He wore many hats and did many things in the community.

There are no calling hours, a memorial service will be held at a later date. Please omit flowers, donations may be made in his memory to the Mortlake Fire Dept., Brooklyn, CT. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Tracee Lee Gebo



Tracee Lee Gebo passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, June 11th Tracee was born in Putnam, CT on June 24, 1972. Tracee’s father passed away on October 31, 2012.

Tracee enjoyed making her own little garden outside.

She also enjoyed taking short walks and playing with her nephews when they were little.

Tracee leaves behind her mother, Cheryl Gebo, he brother, Scott Gebo and a few aunts, cousins and friends.

Tracee will be forever missed. Sleep well my little angel. We ask that you think of Tracee every time that you look up to the sky. There are no services.

Send all obituary notices to
Villager Newspapers,
PO Box 90, Southbridge,
MA 01550, or by e-mail to
obits@stonebridgepress.news



PANTRY

continued from page A1

out the support of our community. We have already received generous contributions from UNFI who donated more than 22 cases of natural health supplements and personal care products, and the East Woodstock Congregational Church who held a food drive to collect items specific to the Cupboard Wish List.”

“UNFI wholeheartedly supports giving back to the community,” said Diana Donovan, inventory control supervisor, UNFI. “Day Kimball Hospital’s food pantry program aligns with our commitment of helping individuals in our community stay well. We are pleased to be able to help make a difference in the lives of those who are battling cancer in Northeast Connecticut.”

Caitlyn’s Cupboard is now accepting shelf-stable food and financial contri-

butions including grocery store gift card donations. For more information about Caitlyn’s Cupboard or to make a food or monetary donation to the pantry, contact Day Kimball Healthcare’s Development Office at (860) 928-7141.

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

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Resources for research

Although the Killingly Historical Center is closed to the public for research, if you are doing genealogical or historical research on Killingly, there are a number of resources available online. Those who have been researching a while are probably familiar with these, but I'll provide a quick summary for newer researchers.

Ellen D. Larned writes about the town and area from its early settlement to the 1830's and early 1840's and includes names of many early families in her History of Windham County, Connecticut (2 vol). Richard Bayles has edited a lengthy work of the same title. It covers events into the 1890's and is especially good for summaries of the history of 19th century mills and churches. It includes brief genealogical sketches. Allen B. Lincoln's A Modern History of Windham County, Connecticut takes the story to about 1920. Pliny LeRoy Harwood's History of Eastern Connecticut, 3 volumes, was published in 1931-1932. The Commemorative Biographical Record of Tolland and Windham Counties, published by Beers (circa 1903) includes detailed genealogical sketches. Miles of Millstreams, by Margaret M. Weaver and Geraldine & Raymond Wood, is a brief chronological history of Killingly published at the time of the Bicentennial. It is not available online, but copies appear on the Amazon site. The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records to about 1850, the Hale Cemetery Collection, and the findagrave

website all are helpful online sources for local genealogical research.

The Killingly Public Library has online subscriptions to Ancestry and American Ancestors (New England Historic Genealogical Society) if you would like to access census records. APPOINTMENTS ARE NECESSARY TO USE KILLINGLY LIBRARY'S COMPUTERS. Facemasks are required.

Volunteers will continue to answer genealogical requests during this Pandemic. Research forms and information about fees for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society may be found at the website at the end of this article.

This week I thought I'd check the July 29, 1965 Windham County Transcript to see what made the headlines. If you were in the area at the time, you might recall the Killingly High School building on Westfield Avenue was under construction. The work had not been without difficulties. "Metal Workers Strike at New High School Over; Delays Schedule. J. Edgar Moe, chairman of the building committee of the new Killingly High School, has announced to the Transcript that the more than 25-day strike of the sheet metal workers union, which has retarded the completion of the new school, is now ended. It was feared, Mr. Moe said, that strike might prevent the contractor from completely finishing the school for the fall term as was originally planned... Now with the strike settled, Mr.



KILLINGLY AT 300

• • • • •

MARGARET WEAVER

Moe indicated that the classrooms, administrative offices, and most of the other rooms, with the possible exception of the auditorium and gymnasium, will be available for the September term as scheduled, depending however, on how soon the men get back to work...One year approximately has passed since the ground was first broken for the \$3 million dollar building on Westfield Avenue, which will, upon completion, will be able to house 1,200 students, with a maximum capacity of several hundred above that figure." If you were a student who was headed to this new high school in 1965, it would be wonderful to have your memories. Please share them by emailing me or sending a letter to the Killingly Historical Center (addresses below).

"American Festival Slated to Place Accent on Youth. ..Slated for Saturday, August 7 (1965) on the grounds of the Danielson Federal Savings and Loan Association, according to Marge Gaffney, fine arts consultant for the association. This newest venture in the Danielson Federal's fine arts series is geared in theme to the Western Square Dance Festival program which is to take place in the evening,

she said, with dance clubs from all over New England coming into the area for what is termed 'the first and largest Western dance festival ever held in this section of Eastern Connecticut... An antique bicycle exhibit, with ten of the models in the parade loaned by the Walter Sandholms is to be one of the outstanding attractions" (WCT July 29, 1965). Please share your memories if you participated in or recall this unusual event.

That issue of the Transcript contained a photo of some of the area residents who were headed to Europe. "Members of the Immaculate Retreat League who left Tuesday for European trip during which they will visit many countries and historical spots. They also look forward to an expected audience with the Holy Father in Rome on August 8. Officials of the League are (left to right in the photo) Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Billings, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Aucoin, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ben, and Mr. & Mrs. Sylvio Billings."

Movies being advertised in that paper included Mary Poppins, starring Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke at the Quinebaug Drive-In (Quinebuag Four Corners) and The Sandpiper with Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, and Eva Marie Saint at the Parkway Drive-In on Route 12 in Plainfield. Ida Ransom reminded me that Mansfield Drive-in is still open in case you're eager for a night out. The Orpheum in Danielson was showing a double feature

of James Bond movies---Sean Connery in both Dr. No and From Russia With Love. For an alternative form of entertainment during the summer of 1965, you could have headed to Wildwood Park at Alexander's Lake on Wednesday and Sunday nights for rollerskating (WCT July 29, 1965).

Do you remember Plaid Stamps? The A & P in Danielson was giving them away. Do any of you recall redeeming them for gifts? In central Pennsylvania we had S & H Green Stamps. I know my mother used them to buy my luggage when I went away to college.

The mail for the Historical Center is being checked. Please send your membership renewals to P.O. Box 265 Danielson, CT 06239.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, July 2020. Special thanks to Ida Ransom. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday 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, Connecticut 06329.

DONATION

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received a grant of more than \$420,000 from the Connecticut State Library Board covering approximately half the cost of the project but must raise the

remaining funds.

The expansion, slated to begin in 2023, will add an L-shaped wing with four rooms to accommodate more group learning experiences and community events. The improvements include a

lounge and cafe, a conference room, activity space, and a great room for lectures and workshops. When completed, the space will accommodate groups of eight to 60 people and will host programs and events sponsored by the library and by other community organizations.

"Pomfret Public Library is a central and important part of the social and educational engagement within the community," said bankHometown President and CEO Robert J. Morton. "We're pleased to do our part to help the library meet the future needs of the community."

About bankHometown

Founded in 1889, bankHometown is headquartered in Oxford, Mass., and has \$1.0 billion in assets and 15 branches located throughout central Massachusetts and northeastern Connecticut. Through its sponsorship and charitable giving program, bankHometown and the Hometown Bank Community Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2019, the bank and foundation donated more than \$328,000 to nearly 270 organizations. Over the last four years, the program has donated more than \$1.1 million. For more information, visit bankhometown.com.

MUSEUM

continued from page A1

• Two energy efficient air conditioner. Size needed is not specific, standard window units.

AHS asks that you contact them at AspinockHistoricalSociety@gmail.com if you have items that fit the description(s) or if you would like to donate funds to purchase the items. Please do not drop off any items with-

out talking to someone from the historical society.

If you can't volunteer but still want to help, donations are always accepted and can be mailed to AHS, PO Box 465, Putnam, CT 06260.

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

LEGALS

TOWN OF KILLINGLY BOROUGH OF DANIELSON TAX and SEWER USE NOTICE

Taxes and Sewer use charges are due July 1, 2020. The first installment of taxes becomes delinquent on August 4, 2020. The first installment of sewer use becomes delinquent on August 1, 2020. For approved eligible deferment taxpayers the July 1, 2020 installment becomes delinquent on October 2, 2020.

All are 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.

FAILURE TO RECEIVE A BILL DOES NOT RELIEVE OR EXCUSE THE OBLIGATION OF THE TAX OR INTEREST DUE.

Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, during the posted hours, by mail, telephone, online, or in our drop box

Please visit our website for full details and online payments www.killingly.org. Dated at Killingly this 19th, day of June 2020.

Patricia Monahan CCMC Revenue Collector for the Town of Killingly
June 26, 2020
July 3, 2020
July 24, 2020
September 25, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE

The first installment of Real Estate, Personal Property, Motor Vehicle taxes and Sewer Usage bills listed on the October 1, 2019 Grand List become due and payable to the Town of Woodstock on July 1, 2020.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, **Governor Lamont's Executive Orders FS, FW, and FX will extend the no-interest grace period for all taxpayers (except escrow accounts and non-qualified landlords) to October 1, 2020.** Payments must be postmarked or in the office by **October 1,**

2020 to avoid interest charges. Interest will be charged on **October 2, 2020** on all delinquent bills at a rate of one and one-half percent per month, beginning with 6 % for October 2nd through October 31st, and ending with 18% interest for all payments made in June 2021.

All escrows and non-qualified landlords making payments on Real Estate bills have a **due date of July 1, 2020. Payments must be postmarked or in the office by August 3, 2020 to avoid interest charges.** Interest will be charged on August 4, 2020 at a rate of one and one-half percent per month or 18% annually.

There is a minimum interest charge of \$2.00 on each bill, including Sewer Usage bills.

Motor vehicle taxes not paid by **October 1, 2020** will be reported as delinquent to the Motor Vehicle Department on **October 2, 2020.**

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 are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. **Fridays will be CLOSED.** The office will be closed on Monday, July 6, 2020 in observance of Independence Day. Linda Bernardi, CCMC Woodstock Tax Collector 415 Route 169 Woodstock, CT 06281
June 26, 2020
July 3, 2020
July 24, 2020
September 25, 2020

ORIENTS HEIGHTS FIRE DISTRICT TAX NOTICE

All residents and non-residents or the Orients Heights Fire District liable to pay a property tax in the Orient Heights Fire District are notified that by virtue of a tax warrant placed in my hands, I am directed to collect a tax of .58 mills on the dollar, which was laid on the Grand List of October 1, 2019. Said tax becomes due and payable

on July 1, 2020 with 30 days to pay without interest. As soon as such tax becomes delinquent, it shall be subject to interest at the rate of one and one half percent of such tax for each month or the fraction thereof, which elapses from August 3, 2020. Minimum interest is \$2.00.

I will be accepting mail in payments only, make checks payable to Orient Heights Fire District and mail to: Orient Heights Tax Collector, 34 Bonneville St., Danielson CT 06239. A copy of each tax bill must accompany payment so proper credit may be recorded. Those wishing a receipt must enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. Cheryl Lukowski, Tax Collector
July 17, 2020
July 31, 2020

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

At the July 13, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency, the following application was approved: **05-20-10 Joshua Pratt, 9 Bassett Hill Road, (5781/50/21B), Restoring Pond and 12-13-18 Krzysztof & Katarzyna Chojnicki, 85 Loyola Road (6393/65/147) Transfer of Wetlands Permit to new owner.** Chair Mark Parker.
July 24, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Dorothy P Ducharme (20-00197) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is: c/o EDWIN C HIGGINS, BACHAND, LONGO & HIGGINS, HIGGINS 168 MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 528, PUTNAM, CT 06260
July 24, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF James M. Ward (20-00231) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District

of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, July 10, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Susan Ward, 6 Long Fellow Road, Shrewsbury, MA 01545
July 24, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Susan C. Tasko (19-00458)The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, December 6, 2019, 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:

Nicole M. Hildebrand, c/o ALLISON THERESA POIRIER (attorney for Nicole M. Hildebrand), KAHAN KERENSKY & CAPOSSELA, LLP, 45 HARTFORD TURNPIKE, PO BOX 3811, VERNON, CT 06066, (860)812-0433
July 24, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Joseph V Gibbons (20-00255) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated, July 14, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Elizabeth Gibbons c/o MICHELE ANN PALULIS, ATTORNEY MICHELE ANN PALULIS, LLC, 158 MAIN STREET, SUITE 2, P.O. BOX 616, PUTNAM, CT 06260
July 24, 2020

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