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Berarducci Realtors



Berarducci Realtors have been in Plainville for many years and in more than one location. Their latest move to Plainville Central Business District underscores the firm's commitment to the Town of Plainville and continued vitality of Plainville's downtown business district. While some vacancies remain in Plainville's downtown, that same vacancy rate is slowly but inexorably shrinking.

There is a great deal of pressure for traditional downtowns to keep pace with regional shopping centers/areas. Ms. Berarducci's new offices represent a great example of how local downtowns can adapt to changes of decentralization of goods and services from downtown business districts to fragmented retail/commercial hubs.

Their new location is 36 Whiting Street pictured above are the Berarducci staff extreme left Mark DeVoe, EDA Director, extreme right Town Manager Robert Lee and members of the Plainville Chamber of Commerce.

Connect.....

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15 Hillscrest Road resident Joshua Brunelle a senior at Bristol Technical Education Center is busy with the Annual decorations of his family home for the Christmas holiday. This year Neil Baker a neighbor is helping Joshua with the assistance of Mikayia Termini.

On Saturday, December 6th at 6:00 pm the neighborhood will join in the Christmas spirit with the lighting of the decorations.

The public is invited to join in the festivities, refreshments will be available. "Merry Christmas to all from The Brunelle Family"

Merry Christmas from Plainville's Santa







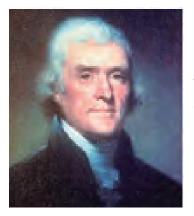
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Thomas Jefferson's Corner: Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.

~ Thomas Jefferson





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27 Sherman Street

Plainville, CT 06062

Deadline for submission is the 15th of every month.

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Tabloid Size Paper (11 x 17). Printed ten times a year.

Each issue is mailed FREE to every Plainville

household & business. Circulation is 9,500.

NEXT ISSUE WILL BE

February

DEADLINE IS:

January 15th

Merry Christmas &

Happy New Year

From Our Entire

Volunteer Staff!

PLAINVILLE COMMUNITY NEWS, INC.

Helen Bergenty President VP/Publisher Jeannette Hinkson Jeanne Shugrue Sec/Treasurer

PLAINVILLE HOMETOWN CONNECTION

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Sally Miller, Short Stories Linda Coveney, Healthy Behaviors

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Bill Brayne serves All Plainville Schools with the delivery of "The Hometown Connection"

Do you have a family member or friend in the Armed Service? Did you know that they could receive the **Hometown Connection FREE each month?**

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~ ADVERTISING ~

To place your advertisement contact us:

TEL: (860) 747-4119 FAX: (860)747-0042 **SUBMISSIONS:**

Postal Address Plainville Community News, Inc.

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OUR WEBSITE: Complete Paper

www.plainvilleshometownconnection.com All contributions, news items and advertisements may be dropped off in the box at 27 Sherman Street or sent to the above email address.

Legal Advisor

Attorney Thomas A. Wurz 132 East Street, Plainville, CT

This paper is published monthly as a service to the citizens of Plainville, Connecticut by Plainville Community News, Inc. It is a non-profit, 501C, all volunteer group of residents who are interested in informing our citizens of community activities and local news. All positive contributions are welcome and will be printed subject to the approval of the staff on a space available

DISCLAIMER: All articles published are "The Opinion" of the person or persons submitting same and not of the Plainville Hometown Connection, the Plainville Community News, Inc., its staff or advertisers. Liability regarding accuracy of all paid advertising is the responsibility of the persons, business, corporation, LLC or individual who submits said advertisement.

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Plainville, CT 06062

Welcome! If you want to add a lot of "PEP" to your life & are interested in joining our ALL VOLUNTEER staff, join us on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. to tour the office & attend the staff meeting

Call: 860-747-4119

for more information or "Just Stop In"

Dates to Remember

December 25th-Christmas December 31st- New Year's Eve January 1st- New Year's Day



Gnazzo's

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P-l-a-i-n-v-i-l-l-e faves and raves

Here are some of your favorite places, people or things around town to rave about this month!

{Gerry raves}

The "All you can eat" Breakfast's on the 2nd Sunday of the month are great at Our Lady of Mercy Parish Center. It truly is All You Can Eat plus the fellowship makes it a pleasure to meet new people.

{Joan Faves}

Mike's Auto Center's staff takes care of my car. I stopped in last week to make sure my tires are O.K. for the winter. They checked the oil, washer fluid for the windows and many other things I never thought needed to be checked. I really have peace of mind when I leave Mike's.

Email your "fave or rave" in today to be in the February issue. Praise your contractor for doing a good job or tell us about your favorite restaurant, store, or service you received by a professional. Phone 860-747-4119 ~ Thank you!!

Email your faves and raves to share it with everyone! Let's hear what you have to say, we need your comments! plainvillefavesandraves@gmail.com

Sponsored by: the Plainville Hometown Connection

Robert E. Lee, Town Manager's Report to Town Council

Town Council Meeting November 17, 2014 (Excerpts of the report)

Online Dog Licensing Proposal

- During the last meeting the Town Council discussed a proposal to purchase software that would allow residents to renew their dog licenses online. The first year fee for service, installation, software and maintenance is \$1,140 with an annual hosting fee of \$300 thereafter.
- So far this year 1,734 dogs have been registered in Plainville. Last year 1,976 dogs were registered and 1,946 dogs were registered two years ago. Dog licensing begins in June of each year.
- There is an item under New Business should the Town Council wish to go forward with the proposal at this time.

Old Linden Street School Discussion

On November 4th the question of whether to appropriate \$2.64M to tear down Old Linden Street School was defeated 2,132 for and 3,410 against. Town staff will await direction from the Town Council regarding the next steps with respect to the abandoned building.

Electronic Vehicle Charging Station Grant Application

- The Department of Energy & Environmental Protection is committed to encouraging consumers' use of electric vehicles by supporting the development of EV infrastructure in Connecticut. They recently announced a program where grants would be provided to install publicly-accessible EV charging stations throughout the State.
- Under the grant, the units must be operational and available to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- The cost to install the EV stations can range from \$4,000 to \$10,000 depending on location and the grants can pay from 50% to 100% of the installation.
- Town staff is preparing a grant application which is due tomorrow. If we are successful in obtaining a grant, the Town Council can then decide whether or not to proceed forward with the installation.

Probate Court Relocation

- In July it was reported to the Town Council that the regional Probate Court that includes Bristol, Plymouth and Plainville is looking to relocate from the Bristol City Hall to Beal's Senior Community Center on Stafford Avenue. By state statute, the towns comprising each probate district "shall provide court facilities meeting the minimum standards required" by law. The current offices located in the Bristol City Hall do not meet the standard.
- Bristol has engaged Kastle Boos Architects to draft up a cost estimate to convert several empty rooms at the Senior Center for the Probate Court. The estimate to renovate this section of the building, construct some additional parking and to purchase fire proof cabinets is \$637,100. Cost is allocated to each community based upon their percentage of the total grand list among the three municipalities. Plainville's percentage currently stands at 22.5%. Bristol is responsible for 67% and Plymouth 10.5%.
- Based upon the current estimate, Plainville's share would amount to \$143,348.
- The City of Bristol is proposing to fund the construction of the project and then bill Plainville & Plymouth after the renovations are completed and the final costs determined. They are looking to move forward with the project

- early next year which would put Plainville's share as part of next year's budget.
- At this time, the City of Bristol is looking for both Plymouth and Plainville to support the proposed project and to include monies in the FY16 budget to reimburse them for our share.
- If desired, Town staff could arrange a tour of the current facilities and the proposed renovation of the new facilities at the Beal's Senior Community Center.

Leaf Collection Update

Leaf collection by the Roadways Department is proceeding very smoothly so far this year. To date slightly more than half the number of leaves have been collected. The goal is to finish the program sometime during the first week of December.

Fire Department Survey

- In 2012, the Town Council surveyed the members of the Plainville Fire Department on a variety of issues including: Operation and Work Conditions; Communication; Workplace Expectations; the Organization and Support From Department. There was also opportunities for the membership to provide comments in each of these categories as well.
- Thirty nine members responded to the survey. At that time, the Town Council told the Volunteers that a follow-up survey would be done to see if conditions had changed.
- It has been two years since the initial survey and it is recommended that the Town Council consider the follow-up survey. I would suggest that the Fire Chief and the Assistant Town Manager draft a follow-up survey that can be reviewed by the Town Council at the December 1st meeting.

Financial Dashboard

Due to this meeting occurring earlier than normal, the financial dashboard will not be available until later this week. It will be posted online at that time.

Paderewski Park Pavilion

- Recreation Director Colin Regan recommending that the Town Council award the contract to renovate the Paderewski Park Pavilion to Millennium Builders of Rocky Hill in the Amount of \$45,255.10. The price was determined through the Capital Region of Government Program entitled "EZIQC".
- The funding for the renovation will come from a remaining monies left in the splash pad state grant (\$38,495) and an existing CIP Park Improvement allocation (\$6,760). The Park & Recreation Advisory Board reviewed the renovation plans at their November 13th meeting and was in agreement with the proposal.
- There is an item under New Business that would award the renovation of the Paderewski Park Pavilion to Millennium Builders of Rocky Hill in the amount of \$45,255.10. If approved, the work would begin shortly with a completion date scheduled for early next spring

UNABLE TO ATTEND TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS?

If you have an issue you would like to discuss with the Council or a Councilor, just call 860-793-0221 ext. 205. Leave your name and phone number and

ask for a Councilor to contact you.

They are here to serve you!

TOWN OF PLAINVILLE **HAPPENINGS**

by Shirley Osle

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING November 17, 2014

- The Tax and Assessing Office reports that the first installment for sewer bills is due now until December 1, 2014 and will be considered delinquent on December 2, 2014. They are working on the motor vehicle supplemental bills which are going out in January 2015.
- Recreation Department Blue Dolphins age group swim team has approximately 100 swimmers registered (ages 4 and up) to compete in a Yankee Swim League. The first meet of the season was Bristol and was an extremely competitive and well run swim meet.
- The Fire Marshal currently has 17 smoke detectors and 20 carbon monoxide detectors left in inventory. There is no charge for the 10 year battery powered detection equipment. Please contact him at Town Hall if you need any of these early detection devices.
- **At WPC** the primary clarifier project has been completed and the unit is back on line. They believe they have identified some savings in the sludge disposal methods which will allow for additional repairs to take place without having to raise the budget. We recently completed the installation of cameras looking into their SBR units which will allow them to see if any support lines holding the mixers in place have snapped, as well as monitor their aeration patterns to see if any air lines at the bottom of the tanks have become broken.
- The State of CT recently approved several areas of Bioscience Zone in Plainville, including the area of Technology Park in proximity to the new Cancer Center. Two additional areas include a portion of Strawberry Fields and several properties off Northwest Drive. The Bioscience Zone is synonymous with the Enterprise Zone, but for medical bioscience firms in lieu of manufacturing firms. Eligible firms locating in these areas can be approved by the State of CT for real property tax abatements of up to 80% for five years on real property improvements. Existing improvements and raw land are not eligible to receive this benefit. Under the terms of the program, The State of CT reimburses the Town of Plainville for 40% of the tax abatement.
- In addition to bioscience firms, The Town of Plainville is empowered by statute to offer other incentives for other end users as well, however, no State reimbursement is available in this case.
- The Family Resource Center is looking for volunteers who would like to join the planning committee for the 2nd Annual Family Fest. Our 1st one was held 5/31/2014 and was extremely successful and we are very excited to make this an annual event. The success of the event was the effort of many different members of the community coming together to celebrate families. Family Fest includes activities and entertainment for families while providing local businesses, organizations, and clubs the opportunity to highlight what they are about while providing children with free activities. Please contact Betty Mayer at Plainville Early Learning Center 860-747-3321 or Donna Cavallaro at Plainville Family Resource Network 860-793-6304.
- The Plainville Food Pantry has a fundraiser on November 28 at the VFW starting at 7pm starring John Morgan at a cost of \$25.00.

Continued on next page



Continued from page 4

- The annual PHS Bonfire was held on Wednesday, November 26 at Norton Park.
- The Plainville Senior Center held a free memory screenings on Wednesday. Memory screenings last ten minutes and consists of a series of questions and simple tasks to assess memory. Although they cannot diagnose illness, they are able to indicate whether or not a follow up full medical exam is necessary. Call the Senior Center to sign-up. The Plainville Senior Center is looking for volunteers to help run our Center Café on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. If you are looking for a fun volunteer opportunity and have food service, cash handling, or dishwashing experience call the Senior Center.
- Come down to the Senior Center to see a wide variety of artwork now through December 8. The Exhibit features the work of members that were selected to display their art in the 7th Annual Senior Juried Art Show at Pomperaug Woods in Southbury in September.
- Flu shots are available at the Senior Center for all members, call to set up an appointment.
- The Snappy Seniors have their monthly meeting on Thursdays. This month's meeting will begin with the Fundamentals of Photography Course, followed by updates on trips, displays and more. It's not too late to join, yearly dues are \$10.00. Please bring any photos you have so all can enjoy them, and your camera to follow along with the instructional video.
- Stop by the Senior Center's Social Worker Stephanie Soucy's office on November 24th to talk about questions concerning Medicare, Medicaid, housing options, Alzheimer's help, caregiving, or homecare.
- If you are a grandparent or relative who is raising a grandchild, niece or nephew, come to the Senior Center on Tuesdays to join their monthly discussion. Call the Senior Center to sign-up, 860-747-5728.
- An AARP Smart Driver Course will be held at the Plainville Senior Center, 200 East Street, on Tuesday, December 16 from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. This course covers the effects of aging and medication on driving, local hazards, accident prevention measures and more. Upon completion of the course, an insurance company must give a discount of at least 5% on auto insurance. The cost for the class is \$15.00 for AARP members, providing a membership number and \$20.00 for other attendees. Call the Senior Center to Sign-up.

Economic Agency Report By Mark Devoe

We offer the following as an update to current economic conditions/activities:

- 1. ED 11/14#009 Lawrence DeSimone LDM Manufacturing, LLC – \$5,500.00 Small Business Loan – 20 Hultenius Street Unit S – LDM has applied once again for funding to upgrade a small piece of machinery.
- 2. EDA Trust Fund Efforts to publicize the existence of the fund did pay off. One was the result of a more extensive interview with town staff.
- 3. Mangiafico's Bakery (Salon and Spa) Interior construction is nearing completion. The salon has advertised for needed employees and the parking lot has been resurfaced.
- 4. 311-349 New Britain Avenue A slight delay in demolition due to a contractor licensing issue. That issue has since been rectified and the structures are again being demolished.
- 5. Phoenix Soil Phoenix Soil continues its efforts to complete construction of their plant. It is hoped that the plant will be fully operational by January
- 6. 10 New Britain Avenue As previously reported, there has been some recent interest in this site. Recall that staff gave a tour of the Town. We have been told that negotiations continue, but are still unaware of the outcome. We can report that the interested party is a manufacturer and would bring 125 jobs to the Town of Plainville.
- Hospital of Central Connecticut Cancer Center and Medical Office Buildings - As was reported previously, the medical offices are ahead of schedule while the Cancer Center on the New Britain side of the campus will likely open on or before schedule.
- 8. Proposed Zoning Text Amendments
 - Redevelopment Design District:
 - Handicap Accessible Residential Dwellings:
 - Whiting Street Zone Change:
- 9. Family Dollar While work continues on this facility, this writer is not entirely convinced that the project can be completed in time for paving before the asphalt plants close down this December.
- 10. 75 Northwest Drive Fluid Control Solutions is now operational and has successfully turned a vacant, otherwise deteriorating manufacturing facility into a clean, state of the art business.
- 11. 50 Farmington Valley Drive We previously reported that Walker Crane applied for a 17,120 square foot facility to be added on to the rear of their existing structure. It is not known if construction will start this season, but Mr. Roy is anxious to complete the addition to accommodate his clients' need for storage.

SAVE THE DATE

22nd Christmas Tree Lighting Program Thursday, December 4th $\sim 5:00$ P.M. **Plainville Fire House**

Sponsored by: The Plainville Chamber of Commerce, Plainville Fire Company & Plainville Downtown Merchants Questions: Call Plainville Chamber of Commerce at 860-747-6867 or Email at plvchamber@snet.net

Transfer Station

Dominick Moschini, Superintendent of Roadways

The Transfer Station on Granger Lane last day is December 6th Hours of operation 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

~ SATURDAY'S ONLY ~

Plainville residents must show identification. There is a fee for disposal. If you have any questions, please call Public Works at 860-793-0221 ext 208 from

8:00AM to 4:00 PM Monday thru Wednesday Thursday 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM and Friday, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Law Offices of **Bruce Morris**

19 Farmstead Lane **Plainville, CT 06062-1411**

Phone (860) 747-5549 Fax: (860) 747-5540

email: lobm1@comcast.net

12. GE Lagoon Remediation, Woodland Street, rear – This project is currently under review before the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission. If approved by the Wetlands Commission after a December 3, 2104 public hearing, the PZC may act as early as December 9, 2014. The project would then go to the State DEEP and the Army Corps of Engineers for final approvals. The project is one of a few undertaken by GE to rectify contamination issues in Plainville.

Library Winter Sunday Afternoon Hours Start in January

Starting on Sunday, January 5, the Plainville Public Library will be open in the afternoon from 1 to 5 p.m. All the regular library services will be available during the Sunday afternoon hours including public internet access, book and video borrowing and programming. The Library will be open on Sunday afternoons from January through the end of April. The Sunday afternoon hours have always been popular will library users. The regular library hours starting in January will be Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 – 5 p.m. Call the library at 860-793-1446 for details.

FROM:

Dominick Moschini, Supt. of Roadways **SUBJECT:**

Leaf Collection/Transfer Station

The final leaf collection is underway and residents are asked for their continued cooperation by raking their leaves to the curbside as soon as possible. Only leaves will be collected. Please remove all large sticks and debris. Bagged leaves are not acceptable. Residents may bring leaves to the Transfer Station located at Granger Lane The Transfer Station will be closed for the winter months until early next spring. The last day the Transfer Station will be opened will be Saturday, December 6th.

If you have any questions, please call the Department of Physical Servicers at

860-793-0221 ext. 208

between 8:00am - 4:00 pm

Monday thru Wednesday, Thursday, 8:00am – 7:00pm and Friday, 8:00 am To Noon.

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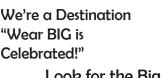
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PROPERTY TRANSFERS IN PLAINVILLE

33 Cody Ave.: Gregory W. and Robin M. Keating of Plainville to David and Brook L. Caron, \$212,000 on 08/26/2014

68 Cooke St., Lot 42: Bart Mazur of Plainville to Margaret Lockard, \$22,000 on 08/25/2014

55 Diamond Ave.: Donna M. Fowler of Plainville to Anne S. Kunda. \$137,500 on 08/28/2014

27 E Broad St.: USA VA of Plainville to Michael Noto, \$110,000 on 08/25/2014

15 Fleetwood Drive: Shannon N. Scharr of Plainville to Peter J. and Corey L. Koeller, \$220,000 on 08/29/2014

62 Jefferson St.: Kristen L. and Charles A. Mahan of Plainville to Michael C. Quagliaroli, \$192,000 on 08/27/2014

135 Ledge Road: Marion Oliver-Cross of Plainville to Daniel Levine and Sarah Spielman, \$222,000 on 08/29/2014

12 Mckernan Druve: TWM Development LLC of Plainville to Geanna Plourde, \$172,500 on 08/26/2014

8 Sawmill Lan, Unit 8: JNS Development LLC of Plainville to Kacy S. and Sareta K. Fletcher, \$409,551 on 08/29/2014

19 Woodland St.: Gworek Thomas J Est and Ronald Conti of Plainville to CCO Enterprises LLC, \$176,000 on 08/29/2014

48 Carol Drive, Unit 48: FHLM of Plainville to Beata and Krzysztof Plachta, \$82,500 on 09/11/2014

97 Dallas Ave., Unit B4: Karen A. Barnes of Plainville to Anna Gawel, \$154,000 on 09/12/2014

11 Jude Road: JPMC Specialty Mortgage of Plainville to Wellington Collins Prop, \$117,600 on

120 Ledge Road: Nora M. and Frederick W. Johnson of Plainville to Oak Land Developers LLC, \$130,000 on 09/11/2014

239 Farmington Ave: Sharon C. Devoe of Plainville to Mark S. and Nancy E. Devoe, \$215,000 on 09/22/2014

81 Trumbull Ave.: Nationstar Mortgage LLC of Plainville to Sean Willard and Stacey Mills, \$156,750 on 09/22/2014

7 Bradley St.: Lepage Homes Inc of Plainville to 4H Investments LLC, \$266,000 on 09/29/2014

4 Bruce Ave.: Valerie G. Swanson of

Plainville to Jason Fontaine, \$165,000 on 5 Jude Road: Paul G. Cullis of Plainville to

Diane Kemp and Terri Segarra, \$200,000 on 10/03/2014

114 S. Washington St., Unit 9: Kenneth R. and Pauline R. Kezer of Plainville to Anthony P. and Regina Farynairz, \$68,000 on 09/30/2014

C. Odell of Plainville to Janice M. Kane, \$235,588 on 10/23/2014

of Plainville to Ankur Jhaveri, \$169,050 on 10/20/2014

190 Tomlinson Ave., Unit 8g: .Jeffrev Lachance of Plainville to Talia N? Mitchell, \$148,000 on 10/21/2014

124 Trumbull Ave.: Murphy Edna B Est and Marliss M. Pavano of Plainville to John E. Kisluk, \$80,000 on 10/20/2014

48 Woodside Lane: Barbara O. Simone of Plainville to Jonathan Haynes, \$233,000 on 10/20/2014

44 Bel Aire Drive: Charles A. and Catherine C. Reagan of Plainville to Leonard and Susan Tartamella, \$227,000 on 10/07/2014

48 Hillside Ave.: Avanti Enterprises LLC of Plainville to Jillian M. Szymanski, \$158,000 on 10/06/2014

River Street: JSL Investments LLC of Plainville to Jeff Vocatura, \$289,900 on 10/06/2014

46 Shuttlemeadow Road: Sheila M. Jackson of Plainville to Licette and Luis Saez, \$150,000 on 10/06/2014

7 Bradley St., Unit 22: Lepage Homes Inc of Plainville to Debbi Jo Germano, \$259,205 on

Meadow Gardens Condo: FNMA of Plainville to Marzena Skrzynska-Kossuth, \$100,000 on 10/15/2014

89 Pickney Ave.: David J. and Elizabeth 18 Hillscrest Road: William and Mary M. Duellette of Plainville to Joseph A. Abate, \$270,000 on 10/15/2014

178 Rockwell Ave.: Robert D. Lang and Nancy 21 Seneca Road: HSBC Bank USA NA Tr M. Buden of Plainville to Erik R. and Amanda R. Khzouz, \$156,000 on 10/14/2014

> 61 Birch Tree Road: James D. and Cara L. Parsons of Plainville to Katarzyna Sztajnic-Kordek, \$139,000 on 10/27/2014

25 Lincoln St.: Nancy and Mark S. Devoe of Plainville to Brian S. Roper, \$189,900 on

16 Meriline Ave.: USA HUD of Plainville to Shelby T. Odonnell and Carol Dixon, \$85,000 on 10/27/2014

129 Milford Street Ext., Unit 6b: Jamie R.

Emerson of Plainville to Jacqueline Bleau, \$58,500 on 10/29/2014 100 Northampton Lane, Unit D29: Kristin K.

Boyles of Plainville to Irene Gorski, \$116,000 on 10/31/2014

50 Pierce St., Unit 29: Salgado Richard Est and Peter M. Salgado of Plainville to Jeffrey T. Hart, \$122,000 on 10/31/2014

50 Pierce St.: Debra A. Hawley of Plainville to Holyst Real Estate LLC, \$82,000 on 10/30/2014

20 Usher Ave.: James H. and Desiree L. Dupree of Plainville to Vincent S. Veloccia, \$245,000 on 10/28/2014

Give the gift of life this holiday season

FARMINGTON, Conn. — This holiday season, the American Red Cross encourages individuals to give something that means something - a blood or platelet donation. This simple, potentially lifesaving act can give patients in need another holiday season with family and

"The need for blood is constant during the winter months, but donations can slow – especially around the holidays,' said Jeff Meyer, CEO of the Red Cross Connecticut and Massachusetts Blood Services Region. "Long holiday weekends, like Thanksgiving, pose an extra challenge when many donors are traveling to be with family and friends. Therefore, we encourage people to make an appointment to donate blood and help ensure a sufficient supply for patients

Donors of all blood types, particularly O negative, A negative and B negative, and platelet donors are urged to schedule an appointment. To encourage donations around Thanksgiving, presenting blood and platelet donors from Nov. 26 through Nov. 30 will receive a Red Cross potholder stuffed with unique recipes from celebrity chefs Mario Batali, Rocco DiSpirito, Alex Guarnaschelli and Mike Isabella, while supplies last.

Eligible donors can learn more and schedule an appointment to give blood using the Blood Donor App, by visiting redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

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E-mail: McMahonAgency@aol.com

Farmington

11/26/2014: 9:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m., American Red Cross Farmington Blood Donation Center,

209 Farmington Avenue

11/29/2014: 6:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., American Red Cross Farmington Blood Donation Center,

209 Farmington Avenue

Newington

11/26/2014: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Hartford Hospital Newington Campus, 181 Patricia M Genova Drive

Southington

11/28/2014: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Church of LDS, 760 Meriden/ Waterbury Turnpike

How to donate blood

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at checkin. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental consent in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

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PLAINVILLE HISTORIC SITE



Are you aware this picture is considered an historic landmark in Plainville? Does it look familiar to you? It is located on East Main Street and is listed officially as an **Underground Railroad Stop.** Originally it displayed a metal plaque that identified the former site of the John Norton house, home of an active Civil War era abolitionist family that offered safe refuge to black slaves making their way from the South to freedom in Canada along the Underground Railroad. The location is part of the Freedom Trail, a self guided driving tour that includes numerous sites of African American historical significance*.

The metal plaque is gone. Do we wait for the rest of the landmark to disappear? Plainville's track record for preserving its past is deplorable.

*Central CT Tourism

FROM MY BALCONY

By Jeannette Hinkson

As the sign said, "How's it working for you?" Elections are over and nothing can be done until the next time the people are able to vote, although I am afraid, like lambs to the slaughter, they will follow the Judas goat to the end. There should be a penalty for lying or deceiving the people. We find those that crafted Obamacare now tell us they lied, crafted the laws so as to get it passed and that the American voters are stupid. Well, Mr. Gruber, who got six million dollars of taxpayer money to make the people believe Obamacare was going to be great, didn't lie about one thing when he said the American voters are stupid, I feel they are! During the last election, right here in Connecticut, politicians told the people the state was in great shape and now we hear we have to cut back because we need the money. The ink isn't dry on the ballots and the **money is gone.** WHERE? Commuters won't be the only ones going for a ride on the new Malloy bus way from New Britain to Hartford. I am afraid the voters will be taken for a bigger ride in years to come. Perhaps some of the politicians that work in Hartford can ride the bus!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



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"Ask the Brayne"....

Q. Why are they ripping up the field at Trumbull Park?

A. The work on the Ball Fields at Trumbull Park was completed recently to create a softball field and Little League field. Other work being done in that area now is for a parking lot for the Marine Center, they are also doing work in the building.

Q. Why do people walk in the road at Norton Park? Cars have to sway into the wrong lane, so as not to hit them. The new walking path has just been installed this past summer. Is it against the law for people to walk in the road?

A. According to Sec.14-300c. Traffic control and highway safety, "No pedestrian shall walk along and upon a roadway where a sidewalk adjacent to such raodway is provided and the use thereof is practicable."

To submit questions: Call 860-747-4119, E-mail hmtnn@aol.com, write to Hometown Connection, 27 Sherman St, Plainville, CT 06062 or drop them at the office. Deadline for submitting questions is the 15th of each month. Thank you for the above questions. Keep them coming!!

To the person that knows all the answers please let me know who you are, in case I need help! Still waiting!

"Merry Christmas & Happy New Year"
Thanks, Bill Brayne





Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs!

Dear Editor, Friends and Neighbors:

The Plainville Community Food Pantry would like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated community for your continued support. Your generosity remains the driving force that allows us to assist our less fortunate neighbors.

Those in need have access to the numerous programs the Pantry has to offer such as crisis intervention, referral services, clothing, food subsidies, and emergency energy assistance. Most importantly, they receive the encouragement during these difficult times that allows them to continue to move forward towards a brighter future.

The current uncertain economic times have impacted individuals and families across the nation, including our own community. At the Food Pantry, we have seen people who were once donors becoming clients themselves. Despite this, and the increasing demands being placed on our programs and resources overall, we have been able to continue operating at the high standards set by our organization.

This season, with the support of our great community, we look forward to continuing our mission of helping families regain their stability, confidence and financial independence.

On behalf of those who have been positively affected by your generosity, we would like to express our appreciation for all that you do. We hope that we can count on your support this year as our programs, services and client base continues to expand.

We would like to extend best wishes to our community and wish you all a safe and happy holiday season. ...when your neighbor is in need...we know you care...

Plainville Community Food Pantry

December 2014 Bulletin "Board" Highlights from the November Board of Education meeting:

- CL&P presented a check for \$750 to distribute to all 5 schools in recognition of the Bright Ideas Grant and Clean Energy Communities Home Energy Solutions.
- 2. Emily Duda and Gabriel Yawin were recognized as Commended Students in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program. Kasey Mahan, out of over 500 DECA students, was 1 of 5 students who received an award for exhibiting strong leadership skills. Congratulations to all three students!
- 3. The Superintendent's report included an update on the Synthetic Turf Project, planned activities for Veterans Day and an Election Day/Professional Development update.
- 4. The Board approved a new five-year contract with Dattco, Inc. The contract calls for less than a 3% increase for each of the five years. Thank you to Ed Hoyt for all of his hard work.

That's the news for now......

Happy Thanksgiving,

Merry Christmas and

Happy New Year to you all!

Andrea Saunders Chair of B of E NUTMEG TV SCHEDULE
PLAINVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
and BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEETINGS

*****Board of Education*****

Educational Channel #95

Sunday: 12 am & 12 pm

Monday: 12am, 3am, 6am, 9am, 12 noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm

Saturday: 12 am & 12 pm

****Town Council: Government Channel****

Comcast #96 & ATT #99

Sunday: 12am & 6pm

Thursday: noon, 3am, 6am, 9am, 12 noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm;

Saturday: 9am

Citizen Forum 1/2 hour before

Town Council meetings

The Plainville Community Food Pantry is in need of winter coats, hats and gloves. Our biggest shortages are in the area of men's, older boy's and girl's. Also, The Pantry is in need of the following food items: pasta sauce, hot and cold cereals, soup, canned fruits and vegetables, rice and stews. Any donation is appreciated. Thanks, Scott Unnever, Warehouse Manager



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Life With Wanda

The cold, wind, snow and ice are all things we have become used to if you live in New England, but one thing no one likes is the falling leaves. Oh, they look great as the colors change and they are still on the trees raking, piling, bagging and vacuuming gets harder and harder as you get older. If you can get them to the curb the town workers will come and pick them up, but sometime we get snow before the workers get to our house and the snowplows move them down the street in front of the neighbors. Sounds good but the plows usually find some from the other neighbor's yard to bring to us. After the storm the snow melts and the wind blows, the leaves end up all over the lawns again. My mother had a great saying for most things, including colds, flu or any other happening she couldn't control. Her answer was: "It came by itself, it will go away by itself," and it usually did, and so won't the leaves. It is time for everyone to start thinking of what we are going to get for family and friends for Christmas. Everyone seems to have everything so the gift card or a check always seems to fit, but watch out as some of the gift cards charge a fee, or don't give the full value. Grocery store gift cards are the best, as young families can have a weeks' worth of groceries for the whole family. Don't forget the Ben Gay for the person that had to rake the leaves.

I would like to wish all my followers a Happy Holiday season and a prosperous New Year. Wanda





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Nation's largest Verizon Premium Wireless Retailer's "Stop the Hunger" program hosts fund drives for 300 local food banks to help combat food insecurity

PLAINVILLE, CONN. - The Cellular Connection, the largest Verizon Premium Wireless Retailer in the U.S., announces today that 300 of its stores will be donating and volunteering at local food banks through its "Stop the Hunger" initiative this holiday season in a joint effort with its customers.

From today until Friday, Dec. 12, participating TCC stores across the U.S. are encouraging local families to bring in canned and boxed food, which will be delivered to the community's food bank. The participating store in Plainville is located at 14 Farmington Ave.

In addition to the food drive, each participating store will donate funds and employees will volunteer at local food banks until the end of December.

"Stop the Hunger' is the newest initiative under TCC's 'Culture of Good' movement, which empowers our employees to make a positive, charitable impact in their communities," said Scott Moorehead, president and CEO of TCC. "It's how our company gives back to every community where we do business. We're honored to have the ability to help families and children in need this holiday season by donating to and volunteering at local food banks throughout the U.S."

In 2013, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) reported that 17.5 million of U.S. households were food insecure. With 1 in 5 children struggling with hunger at some point in their lives, TCC is doing its part to ensure that as many children as possible do not have to battle hunger issues this holiday season. With the "Culture of Good" in its second year, TCC continues to advance its

corporate social responsibility efforts. Most recently, TCC's summer "Culture of Good" efforts resulted in the donation of 300 college scholarships to children and 100,000 backpacks to deserving students. To learn more about TCC, visit www.ecellularconnection.com. Consumers can

also find more information about the company at http://www.facebook.com/tcctalk and www.twitter.com/tcctalk.

Supporters of the program are encouraged to use hashtag #cultureofgood on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter to help spread the word.

Learn more about TCC's "Culture of Good" by visiting www.cultureofgood.com.

Letters to the Editor for the February

All Letters must be submitted by January 15th No exceptions, please limit words to 150. All letters must be e-mailed to:

hmtnn@comcast.net

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PLAINVILLE'S HOMETOWN CONNECTION

PLAINVILLE HIGH SCHOOL **QUARTER 1 HONOR ROLL GRADE 12**

GOLD

Stefany Barbagallo, Nadea Beretta, Amy Couch, Emily Duda, Sarah Grosse, Patrycja Majewski, Christopher Maschio, Cedric Santiago Pabon, Gabriel Yawin

SILVER

Sarah Abdelsame, Courtney Allen, Gabrielle Amato, Jenna Arens, Nurcan Aykit, Agata Baltyn, Nicole Basile, Kyle Beloin, Rachel Bonas, Shannon Bonas, Shyanne Bradley, Carly Brunelle, Olivia Burns, Dante Correa, Anna Couturier, Alexi Cruz, Dominic Cwalinski, Megan Dalena, Michael dePascale, Isabella Donahue, Khalid Effendi, Brittany Ferro, Emilia Filipkowska, Christian Foster, Anne Goldsnider, Luke Guarda, Jace Humphrey, Adam Hushin, Aaron James, Rachel Lancaster, Nicole Lembo, Samuel Lindgren, Julia Lizotte, Kasey Mahan, Jacob Masco, Therian May, Dustin Mroczek, Deja Nolan, Jonathan Oliveira, Justin Plourde, Phoenix Pothitay, Andrew Quealy, Mckenna Rita, Nicholas Rodriguez, Deja Samuel, Jacob San Juan, Connor Savage, Rochye Simmons, Matthew Talley, Christopher Theriault, William Tuxbury, Ashley Wolak, Kayla Young, Nicholas Zaleski

BRONZE

Omar Abdelsame, Bailey Anderson, Celine Jade Bangloy, Kelsey Baton, Austin Blake, Julius Brown, Joshua Buchalter, Meagan Cameron, Nina Capozzi, Victoria Carroll, Colin Cassidy, Jacob Dallas, Baley Dashukewich, Danielle Day, Jaeden Ferrara, Jessica Hernandez, Caitlyn Hogan, Michael Izdebski, Sebastian Jurzyk, Christopher Kallianiotis, Damira Kandic, Alex Kane, Alexus LaBelle, Quentin Lux, Alissa Maldonado, Andrew Marsh, Hannah Marsh, Dyllan Martin, Almedina Mehmedovic, Emir Mehovic, Marc Milo, Michael Munson, Syed Naqvi, Taryn Oates, Kyle Pelletier, Robert Pezzulo, Derek Purdy, Justin Robinson, Ryan Sifuentes, Tyler Sperry, Madison St. John, Autumn Swift, Antonio Torres, Rachel Warner, David Was, Sebastian Werpachowski, Brendan West, Bryan Wojcik

PLAINVILLE HIGH SCHOOL **QUARTER 1 HONOR ROLL GRADE 11**

Kathryn Beloin, Tyrah Green, Adrian Kulak,

GOLD

Myranda LaPira, Kristen Whalen SILVER Lauren Acey, Spencer Barbagallo, Emily Bienasz, Ke-Andre Blue, Martha Boltromiejuk, Nina

Catanzaro, Joseph Chacho, Julianna Christy, Tyler Czuprinski, Gina D'Amico, Hana Effendi, Isabella Fil, Annie Florance, Ryan Gorham, Blake Guarda, Emma Heslin, Jalinne Iriarte, Erin Kane, Brianna Lagassey, Lauren Lederman, Jonathan Lindgren, Stephanie Martino, Jacob Nilson, Edward Peshka, Amanda Peters, Kristina Petit, Zachary Restelli, Madison Richardson, Kaylee Roux, Sarah Santana, Joshua Santiago, Kyle Schilke, Ryan Sgroi, Jalees Sherwani, Kaitlyn Simard, Jacob Vicinus, Sarah Warner, Katlyn Wolfahrt, Lauren Yorski, Sarah Yorski **BRONZE**

Andrew Autunno, Anthony Autunno, Alexandra Bernier, Jayde Bernier, Ashley Bialko, David Bryja, Alex Cal, Dustin Chasse, Annie Clement, Daniel Costantini, Zackary Cswercko, Nicholas Cyr, Paige Darcy, Nicole Davis, Alexis Estevez, Kylee Feltman-Wright, Kellsey Freeman, Michael Gibilisco, Alex Girard, Michelle Grenier, Jacob Guimond, Isabella Hebert, Yanitza Hernandez, D'Nasia Holley, Deidra James, Jarred Karal, Avery Keller, Emily Kerfoot, Gabriel Lacaille, Kristina Lamson, Milan Lauray, Peter Lawson, Mackenzie Litke, Yamilex Lopez, Shatsada Lovan, Mariah McCarty, Sydney McGough, Riley Michalic, Rhianna Miller, Ethan Millette, Mark Muller, Benjamin Murak, Melissa Neal, Nicole Pabisiak, Nicole Plourde, Carter Poetzsch, Bethany Pye, Jarod Romankiw, Jamilex Rosado-Rivera, Mikal Salmon, Maryan Sargizian, Andrew Schumann, Gregory Sileo, Ericka Solomon, Jacob Somers, Timothy Sullivan, Victoria Tanguay, Elizabeth Tata, Mikayla Termini, Anthony Thibault, Cheyenne Utley, Kayla Warchol, Madison Ware, Brian Witkowski, Dominika Woch, Natalia Zajaczkowski, Aleksander Zelasko

PLAINVILLE HIGH SCHOOL **QUARTER 1 HONOR ROLL GRADE 10**

GOLD

Dwight Burns, Jared Demmons, Audrey Gediman, Jessica Gorski, Caterina LaBella, Brandon Mello, Natalie Michaud, Victoria Plourde, Grant Sarra, Katie Schmidt, Angela Zheng

SILVER

Emily Amato, Alexander Autunno, Aliyah Biron, Erin Brochu, Angelina Calderoni, Alexa Collin, Haven Della Vecchia, Abigail Depner, Alexis Diorio, Nathan Doyle, Oluwaseyi Fabiyi, Aleksandra Fiedorowicz, Joseph Gohar, Shane Hartunian, Ethan Hushin, Damari Jackson, Jordan Jones, Christian MacDonald, Ashley Martin, Christiana Melninkaitis, Amanda Michaud, Paige Miller, Tyler Oakes, Jonathan Olson, Jose Ortiz, Alexis Ouellette, Nichole Page, Isabella Pugliese, Kamil Radziszewski, Tyler Rizzo, Ashley Roy, Robert Ryan, Lorenzo Samperi, Hayde Santos, Melisa Selimovic, Andrew Skawinski, John Sliwka, Kyle Smith, Dominika Szok, Lauren Tanner, Mark Valeri, Jessica Vye, Lian-Wei Yuan

BRONZE

Somer Abdelsame, Cameron Aivaz, Paul Anderson, Zain Awan, Isaiah Bandle, David Bielawski, Jared Boucher, Kiya Broughton, Kaitlyn Butler, Adam

Centurelli, Christopher Centurelli, Camden Clifford, Taylor Earley, Caitlin Erb, Xavier Fawcett, Emily Finkelstein, Olivia Gibilisco, Robert Goldsnider, Kloe Hidri, Jacob Irizarry, Rebekah Knapp, Erin Kordik, Alexander LaBella, Ashley LaPira, Matthew Linnhoff, Marc Liquindoli, Melissa Lux, Samuel Lynes, Shalina Mancarella, Kyle Marquez, Jessica Masco, Taleah McCrorey, Ashley Miceli, Lillianaliz Morales, David Mouangvienkham, Robert Munson, Keith Nicholson, Corey Nickson, Autumn Parkinson, Joshua Pellerin, Bethany Pelletier, Joseph Pelletier, Kyli Petillo, Trina Robinson, Alyssa Rocco, Adnan Sadiku, Olyvia Sciaraffa, Breanna Sheedy, Bryan Skarb, Alexa St. Jean, Luc St. Pierre, Mateo Stender, Jonathan Tattersall, Gina Temple, Jacob Theriault, Elyssa Tomczyk, Levi Tompkins, Aminah Tsonga, Jessica Varrato, Emma Watson, Realite Williams, Larenz Young, Samantha Zaleski, Ashley Zapatka, Arianna Ziccardi

PLAINVILLE HIGH SCHOOL **QUARTER 1 HONOR ROLL** GRADE 9

GOLD

Justin Ciotto, Nicholas Costantini, Alyssa Fontaine, Mark Gniadek, John Kennedy, Abigail Leander, Hannah Lennon, Nathan Michalek, Dominika Mis, Sara Pierscinski, Khilolakhon Shukhratiy, Emma Snowden, Elisabeth Tanguay, Elona Tanski, Emanuel Yawin

SILVER Siana Arduini, Isabella Bantz, Hannah Barger, Abbas Bell, Phoebe Bell, Parker Bernier, Tyler Berry, Matthew Bialko, Eda Bickici, Jordan Bishop, Caitlin Bradley, Sierra Burgess, Hannah Charest, Nora Clement, Nathan Collado, Rachel Collin, William Cronkhite, Ashley Dias, Hailee Dufour, Christopher Elliotte, Henrique Freitas, Meghan Guimond, Jacob Hillburn, Alana Hussey, Karla Juarez, Andrew Jusino, Ethan Keen, Donny Kongkiat, Taylor LaPira, Aryanna Lebron, Christina Lopez, Michelle McDonald, Dylan Morrell, Jeremy Myska, Zoe Nguyen, Madison Peck, Amiyah Peters, Grayson Podoloff, Gavin Ranno, Luke San Juan, Serena Simard, Jessica Skawinski, Madelyn St. Jean, Caroline St. Pierre, Spencer Steeves, Anna Stehle, Liana Testa, Ryan Vazquez, Desiree Wesolowski, Tara Young, Hannah Zelasko

BRONZE

Bryan Buckley, Taylor Cavaliere, Evan Dube, Pace Ferro, Stephen Feulner, Tyra Fletcher, Hector Franqui, Antonio Garcia, Julian Gomez, Andrew Johnson, Da'kquie Jones, Agata Kuczynko, Aerial Lindsay, Cody Marquis, Collin Martin, Andranik Melkonyan, Raymond Moskus, Jacob Newton, Daniel Olechniej, Zachary Petosa, Jeremy Raymond, Wyatt Rita, Alexander Rosado, Samantha Sirois, Venus Syammorn, Gabrielle Tisdale, Krystina Torres, Kelly Tuczapski, Matthew Violette, Edgar Wynkoop

To list a notice on "WHAT'S GOING ON" Pages

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Students Receive Superintendent's Award



Twelve Plainville students received the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents' (CAPSS) Superintendent / Student Recognition Award and Certificate of Excellence at the 27th annual Superintendent's Award Presentation held on Thursday, November 6th, during a luncheon at J. Timothy's Restaurant.

Plainville Schools Receive CABE Award



Plainville Board of Education members shown above receiving award from CABE.

PHS Hosts College Fair



Plainville High School hosted a college fair for students on October 24 featuring more than 115 colleges and universities represented.

College Funding Workshop

The School Counseling Department of Plainville High School will be hosting its annual College Funding Workshop on Wednesday, December 3rd at 6:30 PM in the high school auditorium (snow date will be Wednesday, December 10th at 6:30PM). The workshop offers a unique experience to learn more about the opportunities available to help fund the growing cost of college tuition. In addition to an overview of the need-based aid system, the presentation will center on various methods available to approach the college funding process including: the merit aid system, the importance of filling out the FAFSA, cash-flow management, and tax incentives. John F. Pearson, CPA, Barnum Financial Group's Center for College Planning will facilitate the workshop. Parents and guardians of high school and middle school students are invited.

Plainville Schools Receive Clean Energy Award



Parent teacher organizations in Plainville Community Schools recently received a donation thanks to a program spearheaded by Plainville's Clean Energy Taskforce. As part of the group's work to earn points for Plainville as a "Clean Energy Community Partner" they promoted a program for residents to get "home energy solutions" audits on their homes or businesses. For every audit performed at a Plainville residence or business, a donation of \$25 was made to Plainville parent teacher organizations. At the November 10th Plainville Board of Education meeting, a check for \$750 was presented to the school district on behalf of the schools' parent teacher organizations.

Toffolon Halloween Treats for Troops

Louis Toffolon Elementary School's Student Council members recently sponsored a "Treats for Troops" service project. Students and their families donated a portion of their Halloween candt to send to troops overseas, who will share the collection with children near their base. A total of 14,149 pieces of candy (340 pounds) were collected.





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I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag....



Veteran's Day in Our Schools



2015 PHS/YMCA PROJECT GRADUATION



Project Graduation is an All-Night drug and alcohol-free graduation party held in partnership with the Plainville YMCA to provide a safe, fun-filled night for the Senior Class. The Party is full of activities prizes and tons of food & is held every year as a way to congratulate the seniors for their years of hard work!

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& 10% of your Purchase Supports Project Graduation

Holiday shopping for stocking stuffers, holiday decor, games, giftwrap & more, shop at five Below. Present the flyer at check out. Contact Anne Grosse 860-747-3759 for five Below flyers.

Winter Bash- Hosted by PHS/YMCA Project Graduation Food/Spirits/DJ/Raffles - Featuring Chef Vito Bonanno

Saturday, January 17-6:30PM-12:00AM- UFW -Plainville Contact: Emily Munson 860-416-6099 for Tickets

Taste Books: Purchase a 2014 / 2015 Taste Book to get great deals or dining and activities in Hartford County. New this year, \$60.00 in Big Y Taste Books make great holiday Gifts. Contact: Myra Coupons. Cameron 860-919-9252

Thanks for Your Support!

Meetings Wednesday's - 7:00PM @ YMCA: 1/7/15, 2/4/15

Sixth Annual Hood® Sportsmanship Scholarship® Program Announced

\$5,000 Scholarship Awarded to 18 New England High School Student-Athletes; \$450,000 has been awarded over past five years

Hood®, New England's leading dairy processor, today announced it will once again award 18 \$5,000 Hood Sportsmanship Scholarships® to high school seniors who demonstrate integrity and sportsmanship on and off the field. Three high school seniors in each of the six New England states - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont - will be awarded a \$5,000 college scholarship for a total of \$90,000.

Entries will be accepted online at Hood.com now through March 6th, 2015. Students will be asked to complete the application form and write a short essay explaining how they display sportsmanship and integrity on and off the field. Voting will be open to the public March 23rd through April 24th, 2015, at Hood.com to determine the 10 finalists from each state who will then be interviewed by a panel of judges.

The final 18 winners – 3 from each New England state – will be notified in May and be invited to attend an awards banquet, where Gord Kluzak will speak about the importance of sportsmanship.

For more information, and rules and regulations, please visit Hood.com.

f The United States of America.

Semi-Surprise 90th Birthday Party

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2014

Pop Corn Anyone?



Cub Scout Pack 76 Toffolon School wish to Thank Keith and Ken Gnazzo, owners of Gnazzo's Food Center for allowing them to set up in their lobby. This is an ongoing Fund Raiser for the Troop, Cub Scout Cooper Theriault-Dinielli is assisted by his mother Kim Dinielli.

Dorothy Nelson Stephenson was honored on November 8th the party was held at the Plainville United Methodist Church. Pictured with Dorothy are left to right: Andie and Scott Davies, her Grandson and his wife, her Daughter, Laurie Davies, Guest of Honor Dorothy, Daughter, Beth Stevenson and Granddaughter, Carol Stevenson.

The many guests were relatives, fellow church members, Woman's Club members, friends from the many organizations Dorothy is still a member.

Plainville Historical Society ~ Pumpkin Carving Contest



The Plainville Historical Society recently held a pumpkin carving contest to benefit the Plainville Food Pantry. We would like to thank Gnazzo's who donated the pumpkins used in this contest. Each pumpkin demonstrated both the artistic talent and imagination of its creator. We certainly have talented students. Celine Jude Bangloy; Brittany Ferro; Madison Liistro; Cedric Santiago-Rivera; Maryan Sargizian; Jessica Varrato; Sarah Warner; and Sarah Yorski. We would also like to thank Mr. Mario Pires, a Plainville High art teacher for his help.

Each pumpkin was assigned a number. According to the ballots cast by those who came to view the entries. First place #1 carved by Maryan Sargizian; Second place#5 carved by Sarah Yorski; Tie for Third place between #4 carved by Jessica Varrato and #6 carved by Celine Jude Bangloy.

Hometown Religious Directory New pages are #28 & #29 Start the New Year by visiting the church of your choice!

FOR SALE BY OWNERPlainville Home ~ Central Location



Completely remodeled L-Ranch for sale on quiet, central location. Home includes 2 bedroom - potential for 4 bedrooms. 1 1/2 baths, kitchen updated with porcelein tile in kitchen and baths. Level lot, with fenced in yard. This home has plenty of storage inside including an outside shed. Bonus for those swimmers - 15'x30' oval above ground pool. 200+ square feet of patio in back yard. This must see house has newer mechanicals and roof - in move in condition. Asking price \$164,900 - call for a visit 860-205-0479.

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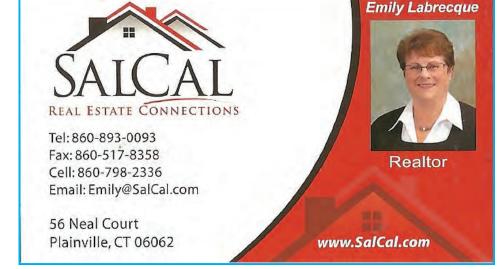
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(Next to Praline's and Macri School of Music) 860.793.0355

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Breakfast With Santa "All You Can Eat"

O.L.M. PARISH CENTER

19 S. CANAL STREET

Sunday, December 14th

8 am to 10:30 am **Bring Your Camera for**

Pictures with Santa Donation \$4.00 adults

> Children \$1.00 **Under 6 FREE**

Kids Corner~Santa's Workshop

"There are no strangers in Plainville, only friends you have yet to meet"

~ Open to the Public ~

What's going on? Check Here.....

The Plainville **United Methodist Church** is holding their **Annual Sleigh Bells Craft Fair** on Saturday, December 6 th from 9 am to 3 pm. Refreshments and lunch will be available If you have any questions please contact the church

Woman's Club of Plainville

Bus Trip ~ Wrentham Premium Outlet Saturday, December 6, 2014

\$35.00 Per Person

8:00 a.m. bus leaves from Library 4:30 p.m. bus leaves from Wrentham Mall Send check by Nov. 21st to: Linda Roche, P.O. Box 295 Plainville, CT 06062

*Make Check Payable to Woman's Club of Plainville

CPOA of Plainville

(Citizens & Property Owners Association) CPOA is a local voice on all town issues.

We meet the first Tuesday of every month at the Plainville Public Library downstairs, at 7 P.M.. The next meeting is Tuesday December 2nd.

ildrens Christmas Choir Church of Our Saviour Episcopal Church

office at 860-747-2328.

"See You at the Fair"

is forming a Children's Chorus to perform the music of the Christmas season. We anticipate that the kids will provide music for the annual Christmas Pageant at COS. In addition, if we can get it organized, the kids will go caroling for seniors and other shutins living in the Plainville area.

Kids of all ages are invited to participate (pre-K to ??), rehearsals are planned for Tuesday evenings (5:30 pm 6:30pm) at Church of Our Saviour (115) West Main Street in Plainville). Prior singing experience is not required, just the desire to sing familiar music of the Christmas season.

<u>Interested singers may contact the Church (860-747-3109) or contact Foster White (860-747-6907).</u> We look forward to welcoming all interested kids at our open rehearsals.

MOHEGAN CASINO TRIP TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014 Trip associated with AARP Chapter 4146

\$21 per person

Leaving OUR LADY OF MERCY Parking lot IN PLAINVILLE at 8:00 a.m. Leaving MOHEGAN Casino at 4:00 p.m.

For reservation, contact Sally Miller 860-747-1732

Current casino promotional package will be given (No monies will be collected on bus- all seats are to be paid for prior to trip)

Pagliacci's Restaurant

Homemade Italian Specialties & American Cuisine

333 East Street Route 10-Plainville 860-793-9241

Open 11 am-10 pm Mon-Sat Sunday 12 pm-9 pm

~We Offer GLUTEN FREE Pasta & Pizza~

~Party Trays To Go For Any Occasion ~ In addition to our Home Made Pastas & Sauces -We offer a wide variety of Black Angus Steaks, Pork, Veal, Fresh Fish and Vegetarian Dishes Like us on Facebook for Great Offers ~ Visit our Menu & Daily Specials at:www.pagliaccisrestaurant.com

Gift Certificates Available **New Banquet Room For Special Parties**

Call 860-793-9241 To reserve for your Banquet

16 22 26 60 61 63 CLUES ACROSS 20. INTERPRET

- 1. TIME UNIT (ABBR.)
- 4. SEMILIQUID INFANT FOOD 7. PACIFIC STANDARD TIME
- 10. UNITARY
- **11. BREW** 12. LANGUAGE OF LAOS
- 13. HIGHER UP 15. TOUPEE
- 16. A LOVE AFFAIR 19. EXAGGERATED
- EMOTIONAL PLAY
- 21. HADITH
- 22. USED TO ONE'S ADVANTAGE
- 23. ANCIENT PERSIAN
- **GOVERNORS**
- 25. SURRENDER POSSESSION 26. CARBAMIDE
- 27. CAN'T MOVE
- __ INSTITUTE, SANTA
- BARBARA
- 34. HELPS LITTLE FIRMS
- 35. CONSUMED
- 36. PLURAL OF INDEX

- 41. OF THE AFRICAN DESERT
- 45. PART IN A PLAY
- 46. FAMOUS BRITISH
- SCHOOL 47. PARAGON OF CHIVALRY 50. GIVEN

- 55. DAILY TV DRAMA 57. LINE USED TO HAUL UP
- LEECHES 58. PRODUCT OF HUMAN
- **CREATIVITY** 59. EQUIP WITH WEAPONS
- **AGAIN** 60. CAR MECHANICS GROUP
- BO MARTIAL ARTS EXERCISE 62. COMPUTER KEY FOR
- CANCELLING 63. OUTCOME
- 64 DOCTOR OF FDUCATION
- 65. ETHIOPIA (ABBR.)

CLUES DOWN

- 1. SLANG FOR MONEY 2. ITEMIZED BILL 3. PINE LEAVES
- 4. PROCESSIONS
- 5. MEDICAL ASTRINGENT

- 6. WINGED HORSE

- 7. WALL & CEILING COATING
- 8. JAPANESE WARRIOR

18. BRITISH ASTRONOMY

- 9. CHINESE MAHOGANY
- **GENUS** 13. DOCTORS' GROUP
- 14. AM. SOPRANO ___ SILL 17. ATOMIC #105 SYMBOL
- 44. REVERSE DACTYL 47. DRINKING ESTABLISH-MENT 48. SHOWER MONTH (ABBR.)

24. SOMETHING CURVED IN

27. THE 23RD GREEK LETTER

32. SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

28. AIRBORNE (ABBR.

29. RADIOACTIVITY UNIT

SHAPE

31. GOLF SCORE

38. TREATED WITH

COMPANY

42. AT THE PEAK

40. SENSORY

INDULGENCE

LILLY, DRUG

41. CALMED BY DRUGS

43. ESTEEMED RECIPIENT

33. 1/100 YEN 37. A CITIZEN OF IRAN

- 49. RENTAL CONTRACT 51 FDUCATE
- 52. MAKE A MISTAKE 53. OBSTRUCT WATER
- 56. TOWARD THE MOUTH
- Answer on page 38

What is going on? Check Here.....

Festive Family Fun Day
Sunday, December 14th
2-5 pm

Plainville Historical Society

29 Pierce Street
An afternoon of Fun for the Family.
Crafts, Games, Valentine the Clown
with face painting & balloon animals,
also there

will be prizes and refreshments.
For more information call the Historic
Center at (860) 747-6577.

Admission is a non-perishable item for the Plainville Food Pantry.

Christmas Open House at Library

By Peter Chase

Library Director Christmas music, stories, a fire in the fireplace and refreshments will greet visitors to the library on Thursday, December 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Plainville Library Open House. Coinciding with the holiday lighting in the Plainville Business district, the Open House at the Library is a long tradition sponsored by the Library and the Friends of the Library.

Volunteers from the Friends will be reading stories to children by the fireside in the 1931 section of the library from 6 to 7 p.m. The flute section of the Plainville Wind Ensemble will provide a concert of holiday and other festive music from 7 to 8 p.m. In addition, the Friends will be serving holiday treats to visitors. Everyone coming out to see the outdoor tree lighting is welcome to visit the library afterwards to enjoy the hospitality.

Winter Sunday Afternoon Hours at Library Start in January

Start III January

Starting on Sunday, January 5, the Plainville Public Library will be open in the afternoon from 1 to 5 p.m. All the regular library services will be available during the Sunday afternoon hours including public internet access, book and video borrowing and programming. The Library will be open on Sunday afternoons from January through the end of April. The Sunday afternoon hours have always been popular will library users. The regular library hours starting in January will be Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 – 5 p.m. Call the library at 860-793-1446 for details.

Faith Bible Church

168 Unionville Ave. at Northwest Drive will hold its

5th Annual Christmas Tree Sale

beginning the weekend after Thanksgiving Trees range in size from 4-10°

price starts at \$25.00 and up
The schedule is as follows:
Monday through Friday:

4 pm - 9 pm;

Saturday: 9 am – 9 pm; Sunday: 1 pm to 6 pm.

This Year, "if you purchase a tree, we will enter you in a chance to win 100 gallons of oil," said Rev. Caron. The oil is donated by American oil & Heating, LLC. Gary Antigiovanni said "Many people are hurting this season, and I would be glad to help them out." The winner will be drawn when we run out of trees, or on Christmas Eve, whichever one comes first.

"Our hardy, durable trees, which come from Canada, are full of sap and will last the Christmas season. We guarantee our trees against dead dried up trees." So, come down, purchase a tree at a great price, and hopefully, you will be the winner of 100 gallons of oil for this winter season. For information, please call the church office at 860-747-5209 or email at fbc@snet.net. Thank you and Merry Christmas. **Pastor Jim**

Rev. Dr. Jim Caron
Pastor of Faith Bible Church
168 Unionville Ave @
Northwest Drive, Plainville

Breakfast with Santa

Plainville Fire Company

Sunday, December 7th

7:00 am - Noon

77 West Main street

Full Family Breakfast open to all ages
Meet & Greet Santa in his

Winter Wonderland

Children Lists Encouraged
Take picture of your Children with Santa

Donation: \$8.00 Adults 6-12 years \$5.00

Under 5-FREE

Season's Greetings!
Women's Club of Plainville

Christmas Party December 2, 2014

Our Annual Christmas Party will be held at Zingarella's Pizzeria & Italian Ristorante in Plantsville at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be buffet style which will include appetizers, buffet choices, salad, vegetables, potato, coffee and tea.

\$34.00 per person

Appetizers: Meatballs and Zingarella Stromboli Entrees: Chicken Marsala and Penne ala Vodka Plus: salad, vegetables, potato, coffee and tea \$10.00 Grab Bag

If you wish to participate, please bring in a grab bag. Bring or send me a picture of yourself at a young age. Please put your name on the back and it will be returned to you after the party. Rides will be provided if you do not want to drive.

Happy Holidays!

Please make out your check to Woman's Club of Plainville and mail it to:

Joan Macri
71 Luciano Dr., Southington, CT 06489
Directions to Zingarella's: 83 W. Main
Street, head west on I-84. Take exit 30, at the
end of the exit, take a left. Go straight and
Zingarella's will be on the left.

The Woman's Club of Plainville, Inc.

HOLIDAY WREATH SALE

12" Fresh Evergreen Wreath with Red Bow \$10.00 each

Order Deadline: December 3, 2014
PLEASE bring orders to the
Dec 2nd party or mail to: Lynn Szach,
43 Hillside Ave., Plainville, CT 06062
PICK-UP ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th
at 43 Hillside Ave. Town

Shopping for a Good Cause! Hello Family & Friends!

The Woman's Club of Plainville is raising funds for **Manes & Motions.** We're offering up a great variety of items to earn your support.

Visit our secure www.efundraising.com/Group

Forty percent of every purchase made by you, your family, and your friends goes to our State Project, Manes & Motions Therapeutic Riding Center, a not-for-profit organization.

This cause benefits children and adults (including veterans) living with physical, emotional, behavioral, psychological or cognitive disabilities.

If you're unable to shop now, you can still help by sharing this URL via Facebook and Twitter.

The Woman's Club of Plainville thanks you in advance for your help. Happy shopping!

Elmo Aiudi

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~ Young at Heart ~ **Senior Center News**

OF SADNESS. MANY FACES **DEPRESSION & ANXIETY SEMINAR**

The Plainville Senior Center, 200 East Street will be holding a seminar on recognizing the symptoms of sadness, depression & anxiety in yourself and others around you on Thursday, December 11 at 9:30 a.m. Learn how to distinguish between situational sadness and clinical depression, how to develop healthy coping strategies, when and how to seek help and more. Presented by Jennifer Glick, CT Dept. of Mental Health & Addiction services, Direct Older Adult Program and CT NASW 2014 Social Worker of the Year, this eye opening seminar is full of helpful information that should not be missed. This free seminar is open to the public. Call the Senior Center to sign-up before December 9th, 860-747-5728.

CLOSING ART RECEPTION EXHIBIT

The Plainville Senior Center, 200 East Street, will be holding a closing art reception on Monday, December 8 at 11:30 a.m. Don't miss the last chance to see beautiful works of art made by some of our talented Senior Center members that were featured in the 7th Annual "Art of Experience" Senior Juried Art Show at Pomperaug Woods in Southbury. Refreshments will be served.

HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG

Come to the Senior Center, 200 East Street, on Wednesday, December 17 at 11:00 a.m. to hear the musical styling's of the Toffolon Elementary School Choir. This choir, made up of 60 students range from grade 2 to grade 5 and practice once a week before school. They will be traveling around the area on

December 17 and are excited to make a stop at the Center and spread their holiday cheer. Call the Senior Center, 860-747-5728 to sign-up for this free, open to the public event.

GRANDPARENTS RAISING **GRANDCHILDREN MEETING**

If you are a grandparent or relative who is raising a grandchild, niece or nephew, you are not alone. Millions of children are living in grandparentheaded households. Join us for our Grandparents/ Relatives Raising Grandchildren informational and support meeting, on Tuesday, December 16th at 10:30 a.m. Open to grandparents or relatives raising children of any age, birth to high school. Share resources, ideas, struggles, joys and more with others who are raising their grandchildren. Funding for the program is made possible in part by the Older Americans Act through the North Central Area Agency on Aging. Call the Senior Center to sign-up (860)747-5728.

HOLIDAY PROTEIN

Get strong for the holidays and New Year by learning about the proper protein nutrition your body needs, on Thursday, December 18 at 10:00 a.m. at the Senior Center, 200 East Street. Join Miles Everett, RN and Diabetes Educator from Bristol Hospital to learn easy and effective ways to get more protein into your daily diets and prevent muscle loss, weakness and frailty as we age. This program is free and open to the public, call the Senior Center to sign-up, 860-747-5728.

AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE

An AARP Smart Driver Course will be held at the Plainville Senior Center, 200 East Street, on Tuesday, December 16 from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

This course covers the effects of aging and medication on driving, local hazards, accident prevention measures and more. Films and discussions will be presented and a driver's manual provided. No written or on the road test required. Upon completion of the course, an insurance company must give a discount of at least 5% on auto insurance.

The cost for the class is \$15.00 for AARP members, providing a membership number and \$20.00 for other attendees. Register in person at the Senior Center, Monday-Friday 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Payment is required at the time of registration, cash or check only.

QUESTIONS FOR THE SOCIAL WORKER

Stephanie Soucy, Plainville Senior Center Outreach Coordinator, will be available to answer questions on a "walk-in basis" (no appointment needed) on Mondays, December 1 & December 15, from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Stephanie will be available to answer questions about Medicare, Medicaid, Medicare Part D, Medicare Savings Program, Housing Options, Alzheimer's Help, Caregiving, Homecare, etc. No registration is necessary for these one-on-one meetings. This program is open to residents of Plainville, 60 years of age or older or their caregivers. Call the Senior Center, 860-747-5728, for more information.

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

The Plainville Senior Center holds a delicious homemade traditional Christmas dinner for Center members who would otherwise be alone on the holiday. Volunteers are available to drive those who need a ride to the Center. Plainville residents who are homebound may call the Center and have the dinner delivered. To register for the dinner, volunteer at the dinner or volunteer to deliver dinners, please call the Senior Center, 860-747-5782, before December 22. At the time of registration, let us know if a ride will be needed or if the dinner should be delivered. There is no charge for the dinner, but donations are greatly appreciated. Call the Senior Center to sign-up

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays & Happy New Year.. From the entire Staff and Volunteers of the Plainville Senior Center



Euro Homecare cordially invites you to our **Annual Christmas Party DECEMBER 4, 2014** 5:30pm - 7:30pm Aziago's, 166 Queen Street, Southington Please come and celebrate Christmas with us!!! **Appetizers and Polish martinis** will be served Please RSVP by December 1st to: elizabeth@eurohomecare.net

860-793-9944 **EURO HOMECARE LLC** 17 Pierce St. Plainville, CT 06062

CUSTOM EMBROIDER 333 East Street Plainville, CT 06062 Next to Pagliacci's Info@embworks.com 800-681-0805 860-747-9802 Call us for all your custom apparel & promotional products needs! Family Reunions, Class Reunions Team Shirts, Hats, Towels & Etc. "You name it & we will get it!!!"

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106 East Street (Rt. #10), Plainville, CT

SCRATH and PECK By LEESHA

Hi, my name is Max. I was born in Kentucky and abandoned. I am a black Scots Terrier. I live in Plainville with my wonderful Mom and Dad in a forever home. I had another sister, Chloe, who died at the beginning of



summer. I was lonely. So, along came Emma who hails from Texas where the folks value big dogs over small ones. We are all rescue dogs and oh so lucky! I was born in a "puppy mill" but not sold, so my future was bleak. Shortly after coming to my new home, I became very sick. My Mom and Dad did not give up on me. They went to great lengths to find a kind and caring veterinarian who made me well. When Emma joined our home she wasn't ill, but she had been mistreated and was very shy and fearful of people, especially men. Happily, with lots of love and affection she is responding to all in a sweet way.

Now, true stories about a few other rescued pets who have found forever homes where they are loved and cared for:

Streak is a greyhound who was bred to race. Unfortunately, he did not live up to his name on the track and was destined to die except for the intervention of his forever family. He is still too fast for anyone in the neighborhood to keep up with him, but loves to run around the yard and run back where he knows he will get a good scratch and praise.

Buttercup is a Manchester Terrier adopted from a pound after her much loved brother, another adopted mutt, died after a long and happy life. The people at the pound assured her new family that she was healthy. OOPS! She had heart worms. They could have sent her back. They did not. She is now recovered and on proper medication; she is a delightful companion.

Orville came in a burlap sack into a bar in Newport, VA. With a number of his litter mates. The "red neck" that carried them in said he was going to dump them in the river if some one didn't take them off his hands. Two kind sailors stationed there took one each. At least he tried, I only hope that the others were also saved. That is how Orvie came to live in Plainville for sixteen good years.

Max (same name, different dog) is a 120 pound chocolate lab who thinks he is a lap dog. His previous person thought that a shock collar was good training. With lots of love and attention he is still not polite at all times, but all too affectionate sometimes. He does not perceive a 115 pound old woman can be over come by his sheer strength and enthusiasm.

Madison, Emily, and Lulu were living in a crate in a car with their person. It was October and about to get really cold. She was unable to find a place to live that accepted pets. She searched and found a warm and safe "temporary" home for the cats until they could be together again. That has not happened, although she does call sometimes to check on their welfare.

As it turned out Madison had some serious medical issues which have now been resolved at some serious expense which required two teeth to be removed and an infection treated, also the fact that comment to the contrary she had not been spayed. Emily is a hermit. After sixteen months in a good home she prefers to dwell in small dark spaces only venturing out for a meal and a good petting. Lulu is a gypsy. If a door is opened only a tiny bit for a second she is through it! Being an intelligent cat she always makes her way home for dinner. We wonder, did living in a crate make one feel secure and the other want to be a free roaming being?

Gilligan was found half starved and frozen by a river. In spite of a warm home and a comfortable bed she chose to live outside. When her time came, she died as she had lived in her favorite outdoor shelter.

These are the tales of only a few rescued pets who have been lucky enough to find forever homes. There are so many out there that need our help. If you want a pet, please, consider looking into shelters or pounds. Above all else, remember that we are all God's creatures with loving natures and that we will return your love and concern for us with unconditional loyalty and gratitude. Care for us as you would any other member of your family, and you will be rewarded on Earth as you will be in Heaven.



223 So. Washington Street (near Norton Park and Plainville/Southington Line)

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"Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!!



TEA PARTY PATRIOTS

"If you want the rainbow, you have to put up with the rain!"

This is not sour grapes; by the time you read this, the election results are finalized. There were sweeping changes, not too much in the State of CT, although 120 of the 169 towns in CT voted for the Republican candidate. Mostly, the big and medium cities went for more taxes and Malloy. The division really is the towns vs. cities.

Regardless of your political thinking, most people are glad it's over. Now, the dust settles. The liberals, who profess to be anguished about other people's suffering, can be so weirdly complacent regarding wasteful, misdirected, and above all, ineffective government programs created to relieve the suffering. Liberals will be satisfied, or try to add more to more.

This November election could be what the Republican Party does, or what the people want.

Agenda 21: What is Agenda 21?

Most people have never heard of Agenda 21. If they have heard of it, they likely believe it to be a vague United Nations program that will never see the light of day, or they believe it is imagined by conspiracy theorists. Yet, the principles contained in Agenda 21 are at the heart of many of our federal programs since the late 1990's. They reach every corner of the United States and impact millions of Americans who don't even realize the document exists. Watch out for the term **Sustainable American**.

(The Patriot October 2014 Volume5, Edition 12)

"When a well packaged web of lies has been sold gradually to the masses over generations, the truth will seem utterly preposterous, and its speaker a raving lunatic." (Dresden James)

"Allah hath purchased of the believers their person and their goods for theirs in return is the garden of Paradise they fight in His cause, and stay and are slain a promise binding on Him in truth". (Our 'an9:111)

"Muhammad is Allah's Apostle. Those who follow him are ruthless to the unbelievers, but merciful to one another." (Qur'an 48:29)

The Immigration Problem: What are the Health Risks coming from South America and Mexico to here? Will Obama again promise to ignore laws and Congress to legalize illegal aliens?

"A revolutionary organizer must shake up the prevailing patterns of their lives -- agitate, create disenchantment, and discontent with current values." (By Saul Alinsky ... One of Obama's first advisors)

WAKE UP AMERICA!

(NOTE: The Tea Party Group will resume their roadside rally again in the Spring. Please join us if you can. In the meantime keep up the "good fight"!)

How to create a social state by $Saul\ Alinsky$

There are 8 levels of control that must be obtained before you are able to create a social state. The first is the most important:

- 1) Healthcare Control healthcare and you control the people.
- 2) **Poverty** Increase the poverty level as high as possible; poor people are easier to control and will not fight back if you are providing everything for them to live.
- 3) **Debt -** Increase the debt to an unsustainable level. That way you are able to increase taxes, and this will produce more poverty.
- 4) Gun Control Remove the ability to defend themselves from the Government. That way you are able to create a police state.
- 5) Welfare Take control of every aspect of their lives (Food, Housing, and
- **6) Education -** Take control of what people read and listen to take control of what children learn in school.
- 7) **Religion -** Remove the belief in the God from Government and schools.
- 8) Class Warfare Divide the people into the wealthy and the poor. This will cause more discontent, and it will be easier to take (Tax) from the wealthy for the support of the poor.

Does any of this sound like what is happening to the United States?

Tag Sale Signs on Light Poles: Remove your signs after your Tag Sale, please help keep Plainville clean. Your Tag Sale Ad is Free Call: 860-747-4119 Ask for Janice

Living Healthy Chemical Free By: Donna Ziccardi Gross

The STINKING Truth About Air Fresheners

If you have been watching television this week you may have noticed a happy commercial with John Mayer playing the piano and singing the praises of Glade Sparkling Spruce Air Freshener. Don't fall for it. No where in this product will you find Spruce or any other evidence of Pine....but you will be breathing in a carcinogenic chemical soup that will put your family and pets at risk for breathing problems, reproductive issues, birth defects, allergies and studies show the ingredients in air fresheners can cause cancer. Air fresheners trigger migraine headaches and flu like symptoms. People with asthma have ended up in the emergency room after exposure to chemical air fresheners. And people are reporting air fresheners responsible for the deaths of their pet birds.

So why do people use them? Somewhere along the way, television ads have convinced the public that their homes smell worse than the city dump and the answer to this problem can be found in products like Glade and Fabreze. Just go over to that cat smelling couch and spray the heck out of it with Fabreze and the smell is gone. NO! The smell is not gone. Air fresheners do not make the smells in your house go away. What they do is change the way your nose perceives smells and odors. A chemical in these products called p-dichlorobenzene deadens the nerve cells in your nose by coating your nostril with a film. Oh, and while we are on the subject, I would like to add that the CDC classifies p-dichlorobenzene as a possible occupational carcinogen. It also has been reported to cause asthma, allergy attacks, eye irritation, liver disease, kidney malfunction, gastro intestinal problems and skin rashes. And really..... is your house THAT smelly? I really do not think so. I think big business wants to brain wash you into purchasing their products.

Another hazardous chemical in air fresheners are

phthalates, which is a neurotoxin and is responsible for birth defects and neurological abnormalities in fetuses and small children. The NRDC's testing of products that did not label phthalates as an ingredient showed that 86% of these so called "all natural and unscented" products did contain phthalates. When people use air fresheners, phthalates are released into the air where they are inhaled and land on your skin to be absorbed into your blood stream. Once they are in your bloodstream they can alter hormone levels and cause other health problems.

Another ingredient of concern is Parabens, which have now been linked to breast cancer. They also cause neurological and gastrointestinal problems, infertility and they lower your immune system.

Formaldehyde is a chemical used to embalm dead people. I really do not think we should be breathing it in since we are not dead yet. Side effects of this toxic poison are wheezing, coughing, throat irritation, burning skin and eyes, nausea and stomach distress. The EPA has classified formaldehyde as a possible human carcinogen for over 20 years.

Here's an eye opener, petrochemicals used in the manufacturing of pesticides are also found in air fresheners causing breathing problems, chronic fatigue, headaches, suppressed thyroid functions, weight gain and neurological dysfunction.

And your air freshener offers your family the benefits of benzene along with it serious side effects. It is a carcinogen that has been linked to leukemia and other blood cancers, anemia, low white blood count, low platelet count which can lead to internal bleeding.

There are so many safe and natural ways of making your own air fresheners. My favorite is Pure Vanilla. I get a small decorative dish, put a few drops of vanilla on some cotton balls, place the cotton balls in the dish and there you go. Safe and inexpensive. And vanilla does "neutralize" odors. Sometimes I boil a small amount of water in a pan with a few drops of vanilla and the house smells like fresh backed cookies. You can also make your own air freshener with cinnamon sticks, fresh lemons, limes and oranges. Get creative and have fun....but above all else, live healthy chemical free.......

Please visit my blog www.livechemicalfree. blogspot.com. All opinions and comments are welcome.

WHAT TO DO WITH OLD LINDEN STREET SCHOOL? by Bob Doolittle

It seems like the voters of Plainville came out and overwhelmingly voted to save the building for another useful purpose. Before the vote there was plenty of notice to keep it or demolish it. The state would pay over half the cost. That sure was clear enough. Mr. Saunders doesn't see it that way. He thinks that we did not understand what we were voting for, so I

am pretty sure that he wants another vote. Do we, as

voters, get a second chance to vote if we don't like the

outcome of an election?

The Town Council had a committee look at the school and basically said that the building is structurally sound, but needed renovation and up-grading to meet code so let's just tear it down. That was their opinion, not mine. A developer did come forward expressing interest but needed more time. The Council said we still had to put it on the ballot. Has anyone approached him after the vote to see if he is still in-

terested? Let's do a little past history. Well, over 50 years ago the Henry Trumbull mansion was offered to the town to be used as an official building. That never happened. It was eventually demolished, and CVS Pharmacy is now there. There was also the site proposed for a Howard Johnson's hotel and restaurant. The town turned down the hotel but the restaurant was erected which later became the Ground Round. and is now Walgreen Pharmacy. ESPN showed interest in moving to Plainville. Walmart wanted to come to Camp Street. Both were denied, and Bristol is enjoying their tax dollars. Money from the Norton Trust was given for the purpose of establishing a small hospital/clinic. That never happened either, although funds from the trust are being put to use locally. Boy! Various Town Councils have made some really great choices.

All of my friends who I see almost daily, understood the question and voted to save the school. It was not about money. When an election comes along, I vote. Some of my friends ask who or what I voted for. I tell them I voted for who or what will do me the least amount of harm and generally add...too bad we don't have a third choice. We have candidate A and candidate B. The third choice should be none of the above, try again.

So voters of Plainville, if and when Mr. Saunders gets his way, <u>come out and vote;</u> show him we did understand!

If you don't have a sense of humor, you probably don't have any sense at all.



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Healthy-Behaviors

By: Linda Coveney, Certified Health Coach, AADP

Leave it!

My vocabulary has changed significantly over the last 4.5 years. Stay, Leave It, Sit, and Come pretty much sums it up. All because of this adorable Springer Spaniel, Cooper, who has me wound tightly around his rather large paws.

It is now 2015 and I'm betting the majority of you are thinking about how you can make this year better than the last. With this in mind, I wonder what your "Stay and Leave it" is. "Stay" pretty much keeps you in a steady space. It's comfortable and while it's not always

"Stay" pretty much keeps you in a steady space. It's comfortable and while it's not always easy, it's what you know. This can be a job, a relationship or habits that may be serving or not serving you well.

For me, my past included staying many years at my jobs – a good citizen, taking care to meet my goals and working hard to achieve results. But, like so many of my corporate colleagues, this "stay" translated to working 60-hour weeks, gaining weight and putting my own interests last. Finally, tired of not feeling good and fearful that I would grow old without the vitality to experience life fully, I declared, "Leave it!"

What powered me to move forward was a change in eating habits. Staying away from

sugar and processed foods resulted in increased energy and weight loss. My mood lifted and I found new ways to incorporate more greens, fruits and vegetables into my meal planning.

Evolution by seeing the changes that eating healthy can make I want to help others to do

Fueled by seeing the changes that eating healthy can make, I want to help others to do the same. To get your started, I'm sharing 5 Stay and 5 Leave It tips that you may want to incorporate for your New Year, New You!

- 1 Active. Move often. Enroll in a fitness or yoga class, take a walk or just make sure you get up from your chair every 90 minutes for a stretch or walk.
- 2 Hydrated. A rule of thumb is ½ your weight in ounces of water. Add a lemon for flavor. 3 Satisfied. Healthy Fats are important for energy. Healthy fats such as avocados, nuts
- and wild salmon will keep you full and reduce cravings.

 4 Positive. If you are on a journey to health, remind yourself everyday of one thing you
- 4 Positive. If you are on a journey to health, remind yourself everyday of one thing you did or realized you could be doing differently. Don't fret over any perceived setbacks. Just keep moving forward.
- 5 Away from junk foods. Most are high in trans fats and high fructose corn syrup, which will raise bad (LDL) cholesterol and trigger spikes in insulin our body's major fat storage hormone.

Leave:

- 1 Behind negative people. They can leave you feeling stressed and exhausted. Limit your time with the people in your life who drain you.
- 2 Processed foods in the grocery stores. According to Michael Pollen, Food Author, "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants". Check the ingredient list and avoid foods with a long list of unpronounceable words.
- 3 Yourself open to change other lifestyle behaviors. More home cooking is a good place to start.
- 4 Eating at your desk or your car. Incorporate mindful eating chew and enjoy your delicious healthy diet at a table, sitting on a chair.
- 5 Your car in a parking spot as far away as the building entrance as possible. Every step counts.

You may also want to take some "sit" time and get very clear about your objectives. What do you want to accomplish? What are you willing to commit to achieve this? What are some obstacles you might encounter? How will you keep yourself motivated? Who else will benefit by the changes you will make?

Take a first step towards your goal. Don't give up. Build in short term milestones to keep you on track. I'm rooting for you and can provide some support with your new Healthy-Rehaviors

So, while we are on the topic of changing behaviors to increase our own energy and vitality, I would like to end with a Pet Peeve of mine. This one gets in the way of the energetic image of our hometown, Plainville. I would have to say, "Leave it" a lot less often if people would stop throwing trash on our sidewalks. It's unsightly and leaves an impression of a society that lacks pride in their environment. It's disheartening what you see when you walk, especially with a dog, who wants to explore everything. Not only is it unsightly, it is dangerous to our canine companions. I once watched someone eating chicken wings and dropping them as he walked along. Finding chicken wing bones on the side of the road may seem like hitting the lottery to Cooper, but it can have deadly consequences. Hopefully 2015 will be the year that these offenders will take responsibility for putting garbage in the receptacles for where they were intended. It's a simple act. All it takes is to be mindful about what you are doing, the impact on the way our streets look and the potential hazards to our pets.

So in this case "Don't Leave it, Take it with you".

Thanks. Happy New Year!



Linda Coveney - Integrative Nutrition Health Coach | Insights® Discovery Expert | Speaker | Become your most vital self at work and home!

Linda helps open-minded teams and determined individuals peel away fruitless habits, take control of their choices, and create the robust health, success and happiness they deserve. As a Certified Health Coach, Linda loves mentoring professional women and men who are ready to rediscover the vibrant joy that accompanies flourishing health.

Linda is also a Licensed practitioner for Insights
Discovery®—The direct route to healthy, effective teams.

For more information about health coaching, wellness workshops or team and personal effectiveness, contact Linda at www.healthy-behaviors.com or lindacoveney@healthy-behaviors.com



"I.T. Jim's" **2014 Mini**

Here we are again. Another holiday season. Time to be thankful for our blessings and family. Time to celebrate our faith and

Holiday Shopping Guide

share gifts with family. If you would like to share gifts of technology, here are some tips and suggestions.

Tablets: So many to choose from. Here are just a few of my favorites.

- Dell Venue 7 Starting at \$160 Great small Android tablet, great battery,
- Google Nexus 9 Starting at \$399 Best Android tablet with an amazing 8.9"
- Apple iPad Air 2 Starting at \$499 Quality and Ease of Use. Fast, light, and sharp
- Microsoft Surface Pro 3 Starting at \$799 Full Windows tablet, Laptop power,

Laptops: Too many to recommend here. But, here are a few things to look for when buying one.

- Intel processor- Look for "Haswell" based processor. i3, i5, or i7
- At least 4 Gigabytes of RAM. 8GB or more is the sweet spot.
- Add speed and improve data safety with a Solid State Drive (SSD).
- On the move? Look for 11-13" screen, thin, light.
- Average use? 15.4" is the sweet spot.
- Desktop Replacement? 17" screen will work well. Heavier.
- Windows 8.1 is better with a touch screen. Look for a laptop with one.
- Look for "convertibles", "hybrids", or "2in1s" if you want the features of a laptop
- Don't spend less than \$400 for Windows laptops.
- The sweet spot is \$500-750. Best balance of quality and value.
- Premium price point starts at \$800

A great inexpensive alternative to Windows and Apple laptops is the Google Chromebook. Acer, Samsung, and HP make Chromebooks starting at \$229. Chromebooks are basically internet browsers in a laptop. If you need only to use the internet and access email, this laptop is perfect for you.

Smartphones: My favorites from each platform (Android, Windows, and Apple iOS) Android:

- Motorola Moto X (2014) Customizable, Available on all major carriers.
- HTC One M8 Solid feel, Available on all major carriers.
- Google Nexus 6 Pure Android experience, Available on all major carriers. Windows:

- Nokia Lumia 1520 Best Camera, AT&T. HTC One M8 with Windows - Comfortable feel, Available on Verizon, T-Mobile,
- AT&T.

Apple iOS:

- iPhone 6 4.7" Display, Latest and greatest, available on all major carriers.
- iPhone 6 Plus 5.5" Display, Colorful options, available on all major carriers.
- iPhone 5s 4" Display, Bargain price, available on all major carriers.

Gaming Consoles: Reviews suggest the newly released Xbox One and Playstation 4 are a little buggy. Some may want to wait a while to buy. Xbox One - Latest and greatest xBox. Great all around living room entertainment

- center. Starting at \$349.
- Playstation 4 Latest and greatest Playstation. Great gaming system with entertainment features. Starting at \$399.
- xBox 360 and Playstation 3 are still available, still relevant, and games are still being made for it. Great bargain options starting at \$199.

Other ideas for tech gifts:

- Gift cards for music, TV, movie fans at iTunes or Google Play Store.
- A gift subscription to music services like Google Play Music, Spotify, rdio, MOG, or Rhapsody gives them access to libraries with millions of songs.
- Need a gift for a college student? Try a four year subscription to Microsoft Office 365 University. \$79.99 gives them the latest version of Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Publisher, 1 Terabyte of storage on Onedrive, 60 Skype-tophone minutes per month and more.
- Consider a gift subscription to a video streaming service like Netflix (1, 2, 3, 6, or 12 month packs) or get additional benefits of an Amazon Prime gift subscription. Not only does Prime give you a large library of TV shows and movies, but you get free 2 day shipping on millions of items and access to over 350,000 Kindle books to borrow for free. It's a great deal for \$79 per year.
- Roku 3 Under \$100 gives access to hundreds of free and pay streaming video
- Google Chromecast \$35 HDMI device that allows you to send video and music from apps on your Android Phone or iPhone to your TV.
- Bluetooth Speaker For smartphone and tablet users to listen to music. Good ones start at about \$50.

I really would love to hear from you with ideas for future columns. Please email me at jim. phc@gmail.com with ideas and suggestions. I wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and Blessings in the New Year!

Happy Holidays to All!!

Winter Solstice~ Celebrate the Sun's return! After the winter solstice, the nights grow shorter and the days grow longer.

A SKEWED VIEW

from the desk of: RICK DREZEK

Whenever in the proximity of an unsavory character, one given to purloining anything that wasn't nailed down, I recall an old timer saying, "hide the silverware honey, he's back". On occasion his reference was to a neighbor of questionable integrity, a brother-in-law who just got out of prison or just some panhandling bum. If our questionable cast of characters were as easily dealt with as above, things may not be so bad here in Connecticut. But, how the heck does one hide the silverware from Damn the Dollars Dandy Dannel Malloy, and his band of henchmen. Simple answer, YOU DON"T. They have super powers. Most likely, they could smell a dollar easier than a cadaver dog could alert you to the dearly departed, and further, they can separate you from that dollar faster than three day old Chinese food will find its way through your intestinal tract.

According to recent articles in the Hartford Courant, our Governor cut \$47.8 Million from a \$20 Billion dollar budget.....WOW, that's an incredible one half of one percent. Although the Governor has the ability to trim up to 5% he makes his veiled attempt to be fiscally conservative and hopes the tax payers will jump for joy. The Bonding Commission broke their own rules bonding some \$267 million to pay for dozens of new capital projects. According to the Courant, Connecticut is now \$167 million over their self-imposed \$1.8 billion annual cap. The State is broke, (and it is out of money too). Are these people in Hartford nuts or do they just not know how to balance their income and spending. If anyone thinks this economy is getting better any time soon I got some fine beach front property for you in Nebraska, complete with palm trees. Who is going to pay for this? We're piling debt on the backs of our Children and Grandchildren that they have no hope of ever covering. It seems as though every bright young person who graduates from college is out of here, and the older people with a few bucks in their saving account are getting as scarce as WWll veterans.

So, to sum it all up, we're screwed, I can only hope that we come to our senses someday, and change the players who make all this happen before its too late.

AAA Speaks Out:

How to Go on Ice and Snow

The cold-weather months are here again and you've prepared your vehicle for winter. You have new tires, the fluids have been topped off, your battery and charging system have been tested and you've even invested in a new ice scraper. You're good to go, right? Well, not quite. You have the hardware to tackle driving in the ice and snow, but have you brushed up on your winter driving skills? Even if you've driven in Connecticut winters since you got your license, a review of some basic techniques is a good idea.

Do Not Use Cruise Control and Avoid Tailgating

Normal following distances of three to four seconds for dry pavement should be increased to eight to 10 seconds when driving on slippery surfaces. This extra time will allow for extra braking distance should a sudden stop become necessary. If driving on a four-lane highway, stay in the clearest lane; avoid changing lanes and driving over built-up snow. Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface; not using cruise control will allow you to respond instantly when you lift your foot off the accelerator.

Know When to Brake and When to Steer

Some driving situations require abrupt action to avoid a crash and in winter conditions the decision to steer or brake can have very different outcomes. When traveling over 25 MPH, AAA recommends steering over braking to avoid a collision in wintery conditions, as less distance is required to steer around an object than to brake to a stop. In slick conditions, sudden braking can lead to loss of vehicle control.

However, sometimes steering is not an option. Braking on slippery surfaces requires you to look further head and increased following and stopping distances. Plan stopping distances as early as possible and always look 20-30 seconds ahead of your vehicle to ensure you have time and space to stop safely.

Stay in Control Through a Skid

Even careful drivers can experience skids. When a vehicle begins to skid, it's important to not panic and follow these basic steps:

- Continue to look and steer in the direction the car needs to go.
- Avoid slamming on the brakes as this will further upset the vehicle's balance and make it harder to control.

Drive Distraction Free

It is also important when driving in winter conditions to drive distraction-free and in the right frame of mind. The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found that looking away from the road for just two seconds doubles your risk of being in a crash. AAA recommends if you are with a passenger, enlist the passenger's help to carry out activities that would otherwise distract you from driving safely.

Help When You Need It

If you do run into trouble driving this winter, AAA membership provides peace of mind that comes from knowing the nation's largest motor club will come to the rescue. Check the expiration date on your AAA card to ensure your membership is valid. Motorists can renew or join by visiting AAA.com, calling 1-800-JOIN-AAA, or visiting any local AAA

AAA provides travel, insurance, financial, and automotive-related services to 54 million people nationwide and is located locally at 17 Farmington Avenue in Plainville. For more information about AAA, members and non-members can go online to AAA.com or call 860-236-3261.



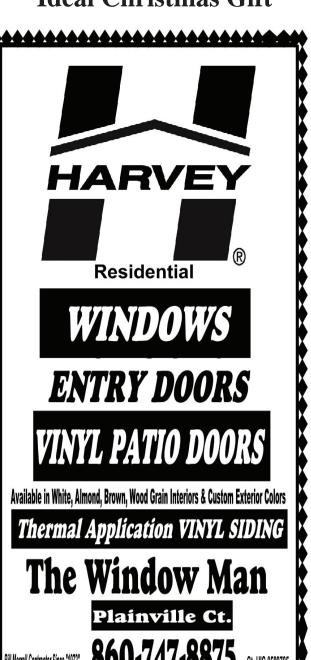
Left - RightL: Eugene Grant, Assistant Manager, C.J. Catchillar, District Director California, Kevin Bowers, Manager.

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"Ideal Christmas Gift"



Linden Street School ByMary Ziccardi

I grew up on a farm in the White Oak section of town, long before it was Tomasso.

When I was 5 years old on September 1, my mother walked with me to Linden Street School for my first day of Kindergarten. We didn't have school buses.

In those days there were few houses in the neighborhood and Alex and I worked on the farm and were together

When I walked into the large Kindergarten with my mother it was filled with noisy children playing and parents talking to the teacher.

I never saw so many children in one place and I was afraid to stay. After a while my mother said she was "going now" and I said, "me too".

The teacher realized I was shy, took me by the hand and said I needed to stay and took me to the table and gave me large wooden beads to string on a shoe lace. I sat at the table and strung those beads as if my life depended upon it.

I watched the other children playing and running around and I thought they were rude and disobedient because my parents taught me to be quiet and respectful.

When noon time came and school was out, I walked all the way to my house, never having done that before. There was little traffic as cars were not plentiful and the roads were narrow. Woodford Avenue was a narrow, two lane road with the trolley running on the tracks above.

After that I walked back and forth to school each day. My brother walked with two other boys and didn't want his sister around. But I walked very closely behind

I didn't remember much about First and Second Grade, but I remember third grade because my teacher was pretty and liked me. Her name was Miss Benedict.

My Fourth Grade teacher was Miss Fallon. We didn't know it then, but she came right out of Teacher's College and it was her first job teaching and she was very strict. One day she caught me chewing gum and took me to the nurse's office and put some ugly tasting salve on my tongue to teach me a lesson. It made me dislike her but I never chewed gum in her class again.

I loved my Fifth Grade teacher, Miss Aborn. She wore beautiful dresses and beads and bracelets and rings. In those days, women teachers were all single. Occasionally one would marry and have to leave school and we all talked about it. It wasn't until WWII when

teachers were allowed to marry.

Many of the women teachers were old and single. I remember Miss Lane, my Eight Grade math teacher. She was tiny, always wore her hair in a bun. Old fashioned, but neat clothes and she wore gold rimmed spectacles and she would squint. She had been named "Squint" many years before. We really learned math in her class. And it was some years later that I realized she was my favorite teacher.

After Eight Grade, we went to the High School across the field. It became the Junior High School and now it is a beautiful office building. I will never forget my years at Linden Street School. Mr. Woodmansee was the principal and I behaved because I heard that if you went to the Office he would "spank" you with a yard

In the Seventh and Eight Grades, we "passed around rooms". We felt so grown up.I remember the flag pole in the middle of the sidewalk, entering Kindergarten. I had a crush on Bobby Hummel and I waited at the flag pole when his father drove him to school each day. Bobby sat on his father's lap and steered the truck. He ran right past me into the building and never noticed me. He married Ruth Hummel and I didn't do so bad when I married my "Louie". One day soon I will walk through the halls of my old school. I will visit the Kindergarten and the nurse's room and the principal's

I wonder if it will seem so spacious to me now!

Dear Editor,

I send to my supporters, campaign volunteers and my family a heartfelt THANK YOU for your belief and hard work during this past election. Although the results did not translate to a victory, our quest goes on with even greater conviction than ever. Undertaking such an enormous challenge is only possible with the selfless contribution of time, energy and financial support by many. I will continue my work on the Town Council and pledge to keep an eye on the Legislature in Hartford...we must not let our mission falter - too much is at stake for our families and our community.

Respectfully, Kathy Pugliese

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Making Christmas Memories



By: Sally Miller

There seems to be no time these days for the family getting together to prepare for Christmas. Almost all items are purchased instead of being

made for decorating the tree and the prices are HIGH The shopping network is selling artificial trees for \$175.00. We used to go to a field and cut down our tree. We chose a day after the snow had fallen and we bundled up with anticipation of running among the wonderland of snow covered trees to pick out the prettiest one. Once we were home, we were introduced to the wonderful smell of pine and/or balsam defrosting by the fire as we sipped hot cocoa with whipped cream. The cream would tickle our noses and we would laugh at each other's mustache. The smells of hot cocoa, the defrosting of the tree and the smell of oranges with cloves stuck in them on the back of the stove took us into a fairyland. I remember the days of popping corn, the sneaking handfuls as we waited for popcorn to cool. The aroma filled the air. Once cooled, we would thread a needle and string the popcorn. We would gently place the wonderfully white puffy strings on our tree. They lay gracefully against the stark green color of the wonderfully fragrant tree. The next batch of popcorn was saved for beautiful golden popcorn balls. The syrupy caramel buttery flavor swirled around us and engulfed the house with that wonderful smell as it cooked on the stove. We would butter our hands and grab handfuls of very warm caramelized popcorn. We would roll the golden warm mixture in our hands until popcorn balls were formed. There was a contest to see who made the perfect ball. The balls were placed in waxed paper and tied with string. They were hung on the tree and the excitement of waiting until we could eat them was almost unbearable. A platter of wrapped popcorn balls was placed on a platter for guests. We then turned to stacks of red and green construction paper. We would cut the paper in strips and paste then into a round circle that made a ring. We hooked the rings together and make ropes of beautiful rings to place on the tree.

Later that day, we would begin making Christmas cookies. There was Santa, angels, reindeer and decorated bells. Our hands were sticky and the kitchen was warm with compassion, holiday spirit, and musical giggles as Christmas carols were sung. It seemed to be what Christmas was all about. We hung the cookies on the bottom of the tree and adults did the top. When friends came over, they would be able to pick a cookie and/or a popcorn ball to take home. After the holiday, the tree was thrown out with the left over cookies and popcorn still on them and the birds then enjoyed their holiday treat. We smiled as we all fell asleep thinking about our creations and listening to Christmas Carols playing on the 8-track. We slept with a blanket of wonderful smells covering us and we dreamt of Christmas.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

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Thank You to The Staff of Loureiro



I want to express my appreciation to the Loureiro Engineering Associates, Inc. for community service "Project Day" at the VFW post 574 on October 25th. The post was very lucky to be chosen for their community service project this year. They have a lot of dedicated and talented employees to support their program. It was very well organized by the help of Bob Heslin and Keith Levesque for organizing their staff for the projects that were completed in one day. I just want to thank you personally for a job well done, Thank You. Bob Beveridge, Post Commander of #574. Plus

an extra special thanks to: Manafort Brothers, Forestville Lumber Company, Washington Concrtet Company Eagle Fence and Guard Rail and Winter Berry Nursery.





one fifty central

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Holidays and Frantic aren't necessarily synonymous -- Anne Wilson Schaet Doing the Holiday season sanely is part of my healing process.

I have that opportunity this season. Ho ho!

row penings



The Crowley Auto Group recently raised \$70,000 to donate to the JDRF, at the 18th Annual Crowley JDRF Golf Tournament. The tournament took place at Tunxis Plantation Country Club in Farmington, CT.

Local businesses sponsor the tournament and provide items for raffle. Everyone at Crowley would like to thank the sponsors, volunteers and players who once again helped make our tournament a success.

"We are getting SO close to ONE MILLION dollars", Ken Crowley said. Jon Muskrat, Executive Director for the North Central CT/Western MA Chapter of JDRF attended the Crowley Golf Tournament. "The money this tournament has raised in the past 18 years for type 1 diabetes research is amazing. Over \$900,000 raised is something to be very proud of – that money has gone to research that has dramatically improved the lives of those living with this disease and has helped bring us closer to a cure," Muskrat said. Companies that would like to join the Crowley Auto Group in fighting Juvenile Diabetes may contact Ken Crowley or Steve Miller at 860-589-4444. Corporate sponsorships are available. Seen in this photo – Jon Muskrat (Ex. Director for the North Central/Western MA JDRF), Ken Crowley (President of Crowley Auto Group), Mike Hultman and Mark Crowley of Crowley Auto Group and Steve Miller (Executive Vice President Crowley Auto Group)

Internet Sales Inquiries: 888-293-9551

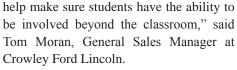
Drive for UR School Program By Crowley

Crowley Ford Lincoln brought Ford Motor Company's Drive 4 Ur School program to the Plainville community in an effort to raise up to \$6,000 for Plainville High School this pas



Saturday, November 8th. For every person who took the wheel and testdrove a new Ford vehicle at Plainville High School Crowley Ford Lincoln and Ford Motor Company will donate \$20 to Plainville High School. These funds will help support Senior Class activities, the PHS FIRST Robotics Competition Team, and their Interact Club.

"We know funding school programs is hard to come by, and we want to do our part to



Since the start of Ford's Drive 4 UR School program in 2007, more then \$20 million in donations have been generated for high schools nationwide. Close to 150 people test drove vehicles to support

Crowley would like to thank those who test drove and look forward to another season of fundraisers in the spring.





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Pictured in photo left at their new East Street office are Mark Gervais. Jackie Screen, Monica Casey, in the back row left to right are Gary Domonicque, Jr., Mark Gervais, Jr. and Mike Gervais. Not in picture are mechanics Dan Cavaleski, Paul Boutote and Bob Knight, driver on the road as usual. Murphy the mascot checks out the staff

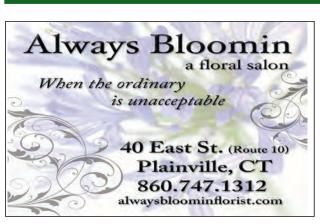


On Thanksgiving, in 1960, Marcel, Raymond and Jacques Gervais opened the first Gervais Bros., Inc. location. Staying located in this great town of Plainville, they grew their business. Two generations and 54 years later, the business is still growing. Now Mark, Raymond's son, owns the business and his sons, Mark Jr. and Michael, (the next "brothers") are working here as well. Marcel's daughter Jackie, works here as well. She is the General Manager and Bookkeeper. We have relocated our office to the East Street side of our building. We repair light and heavy duty vehicles, equipment hauling, towing and we now specialize in Ford diesel motor repairs. We wish all a very happy and safe holiday season. Call 860-747-7659 for 24 hour towing, recovery and road service.



Owner Mark Gervais shown above at Whiting Street location

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Our Office or Your Home





This article brought to you in the interest of better



It's a common myth that senior citizens are destined to lose their teeth, reports the Academy of General Dentistry (AGD). There is no reason seniors cannot keep their teeth for a lifetime, since tooth loss is simply the result of an oral disease – not the aging process.

The elderly, who make up the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population, are healthier and have kept more of their natural teeth than prior generations. But there's still room for improvement. Many seniors do not visit a

and they think oral hygiene doesn't matter.



last a lifetime.

Seniors often take long absences from seeing the dentist due to health issues. Sometimes they stop caring as much because they're not out in the public very much,

dentist even once a year – one of the key preventive strategies in ensuring that teeth

Family members should encourage seniors who are disabled or have trouble getting around seeking dental care. Seniors planning to enter a nursing home should inquire about on-site dental care.

Regular dental visits are especially important for older people since many suffer from dry mouth, which slows down the flow of saliva. Saliva plays a major role in preventing tooth decay by rinsing away food particles and neutralizing harmful acids. Dry mouth often comes with old age, but can also be caused by medications like antihistamines, decongestants, antidepressants and diuretics. Dry mouth can often be treated by a dentist.

Along with regular dental visits, seniors should floss daily and brush twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste. They should also ask their dentist about fluoride rinses and gels, since studies show that seniors who brush regularly with fluoride toothpaste or use a fluoride rinse or gel regularly have fewer cavities. Seniors are most likely to get cavities where old fillings have chipped or where root surfaces are left unprotected by receding gums.

Other suggestions for keeping teeth for a lifetime: snack in moderation and avoid snacks with sugars and starches, and alert the dentist to any change in medication.

Following these preventive measures should help prevent seniors from having to wear dentures. But even seniors with no teeth still need to visit the dentist regularly, since many aspects of oral health, such as adjusting ill-fitting dentures and oral cancer screenings can be handled at routine dental visits.





From the Desk Of...... Thomas A. Wurz, Esquire

LUMP SUM SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENT

One of the more unknown benefits of Social Security is the possible lump-sum payment upon the death of a spouse. Certainly, the passing of a spouse is never an easy emotional and/or financial time. The lump-sum payment that I am referring to is only a minimal aid to help with final expenses. This payment does not relate to monthly Social Security allotments. It is a one-time payment.

A surviving spouse or child may receive a special lump-sum death payment of \$255 if they meet certain requirements. Generally, the lump-sum is paid to the surviving spouse who was living in the same household with the worker when he or she died. If they were living apart, the surviving spouse can still receive the lump-sum if, during the month the worker died, he or she was already receiving benefits on the worker's record or became eligible for benefits upon the worker's death. The surviving spouse's eligibility would pertain to their claim for SSI, SSD, or retirement benefits.

If there's no eligible surviving spouse, the lump-sum can be paid to the worker's child (or children) if, during the month the worker died, the child was already receiving benefits on the worker's record or became eligible for benefits upon the worker's death. This would again be determined as to the eligibility of the child (or children) through application to SSA.

In terms of timing, an eligible surviving spouse or child who is not currently receiving benefits, must apply for this payment within two years of the date of death. Again, this only concerns this one-time lump-sum payment of \$255. There are other survivor benefits that mainly pertain to using the deceased work history to increase monthly benefits.

Social Security is a complex government program that most everyone ends up paying into. Hopefully, this article helps for those who qualify for this payment. Because whether you are in need of this payment or not, you should view it as money that was already paid forward. This is not just a hand-out.



Attorney Thomas A. Wurz is an associate of his father Attorney Theodore J. Wurz, LLC in the law office of Attorney Richard Witt at 132 East Street. Attorney Wurz is a graduate of Avon Old Farms School in 2001, Providence College in May 2005 on the Dean's list and Juris Doctor Program at Western New England College School of Lawin May 2009. He was admitted to the Connecticut Bar and U.S. Federal Court in 2010. His activities and interests are Secretary of Sports Entertainment Law Club at WNEC and is a Special Olympics Volunteer.

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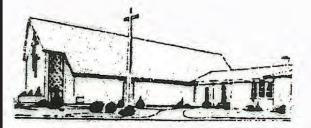
Jesus came to this earth nearly 2000 years ago. For what purpose? Listen to Jesus Himself in Luke 19:10 "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." He also said in Matthew 20:20 "Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." Jesus came the first time as the meek and mild carpenter of Nazareth to be crucified upon the cross for sinners such as you and me. Have you experienced His saving grace? Have you come to trust in the meek and mild carpenter of Nazareth?

Christmas is a time to remember Jesus of Nazareth.

But did you know that this Jesus of Nazareth who was born in a stable, crucified upon Calvary's cross and rose again is coming again? Indeed He is but not as the meek and mild carpenter of Nazareth. He is coming again as King of kings and Lord of lords. He is coming a second time in judgment. Listen to these words in Revelation 19:11 "And I saw heaven opened and, behold, a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war." But seven years prior to this verse being fulfilled the rapture of the Church will take place in which all true believers in Jesus Christ will be instantaneously taken to heaven for seven years while God pours out His wrath upon the world of the ungodly outlined in Revelation chapters 6-19. Are you ready for His second coming? If not, time is running Out.

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Dec. 14Th – breakfast with santa,

8 – 10:30Am, parish center

Confessions – 12.20 Noon, 12.22 7Pm, 12.23 4Pm Christmas eve masses – 4pm, 10pm

Christmas day masses – 8:30am, 10:30am

Dec. 28Th – christmas concert, the new england chamber choir and instrumental ensemble in

church, 4pm

Jan 1st – holy day –solemnity of mary, the holy mother of god, masses 8:30am, 10:30am

Jan 11th – olm breakfast, 8 – 10:30am, parish center Jan 17th – jolt (teen youth group) – bottle drive 9 – 11am, parish center

Available for purchase – harlem globetrotters dicounted tickets, \$20/person, xl center, feb. 21St, 7pm, call parish office at 860.747.6825 For info. Deadline to order tickets is january 23, 2015.

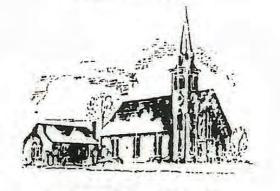
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Every Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour: 11:15 a.m. The Sacrament of Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each month THE PLAINVILLE THRIFT SHOP Phone 747-2418

Open Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

Holy Trinity Anglican Church 18 East Main Street

> Sunday Worship ~ 9 AM Followed by Sunday School Youngsters 12 and under

> > **Mid-week Service** Wed. 9:30 AM **Adult Bible Study**

Wednesday Evening 7 PM Led by Rev. Stephen Brewer on

"Covenants of the Bible"

860-747-1426 Rev. Donald Helmandollar, Rector

Website www.holytrinityanglican.net **EMAIL:**

<u>HolyTrinity@Anglican Church.comcastbiz.net</u> God Bless and Welcome to Join Us!

Holy Trinity Church welcomes its new Rector, Fr. James K. French and his wife Ginny! We will also be hosting an Advent Bible Study on Wednesday evenings at 7 PM, featuring teachings from our CANA (Convocation of Anglicans in North America) Bishop Julian Dobbs. Our Christmas Eve Service will be at 6 PM, December 24th.

Fr. French will continue our Mid-week Eucharistic Service on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., and Sunday worship at 9 a.m. Our Prayer & Healing Service is offered the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. All

NEW COVENANT APOSTOLIC CHURCH

139 New Britain Avenue P.O. Box 551 Plainville, CT 06062 Suffragan Bishop- George M. Green, Pastor Elder Joseph Green, Associate Minister

Phone 860-747-3128 Church Residence & FAX 860-224-9409 ~ SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP~

SUNDAY: Sunday School @ 10:45 a.m.

Morning Worship @ 12:00 Noon

TUESDAY: Prayer & Deliverance-7:00pm Bible Class @ 7:45 p.m. THURSDAYS: 1st Evangelistic Service 2nd Pastor's Care~ 3rd Missionary Service 4th Men's Ministry~5th Youth Service

MONTHLY SERVICES

1st Sunday – Fellowship Day 2nd Sunday - Family and Friend's Day 3rd Sunday – Building Fund Day 4th Sunday – Pastor's Care Day 5th Sunday - Communion & Youth Day We welcome everyone to our services.

REDEEMER'S A.M.C. ZION CHURCH

110 Whiting Street, Plainville, CT 06062 Rev. Elvin Clayton, Pastor

Phone: 860-747-1808 **WORSHIP SERVICES**

Sunday School 9:00-9:40 a.m. Praise & Worship 9:45-10:00 a.m. Church Service 10:00 a.m. **BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesday 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m **BOARD MEETINGS**

Senior Ushers (1st Sat before 1st Sun) 11:00 a.m. Gladys Floyd Missionary Society

(2nd Sun after service) Deaconess Board (3rd Sun) Lay Council (1st & 3rd Sat)

9:30 a.m. Christian Education (3rd Tues) 7:00 p.m. 9:30 a.m. Men's Meeting (2nd/4th Sat) PEP (Every Sat) 1:00-4:00 p.m. Trustee/Steward (2nd Sat of Aug., Oct., Dec., Feb. & Apr. at 9:30 a.m. and 2nd Mon. of

Sept., Nov., Jan., Mar. & May 16 **CHOIR PRACTICE**

Senior (Sat before 1st Sun) Jubilee (Sat before 2nd/4th Sun) Mass/Youth choirs

(Mon. after 1st/2nd Sun)

7:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

5:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m.

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Thomas Benson - Pastor~ Helmut Getto — Associate Pastor

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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GEORGE FENSICK RICHARD CASE JEAN WOOLVERTON GENE WOOLVERTON **DOLLY CHAMBERLIN**

TINA WISHART

10TH JOE PLOURDE 11TH PEG LEE

12TH JIM HINES STELLA LAURIE

18 TH THERESA TIERPACK

ANN BROW

19TH LAURA TIERPACK SAL SANTACROCE

21ST FILOMENA D'ONOFRIO

25TH RICHARD ORSI

REBECCA IRELAND

26TH JOHN GASPARINI 27TH BRENT DAVENPORT

BETH GASPARINI FRANK BOUTWELL

CATHERINE BADOLATO 28TH ROBERT NEIDERMYER

30TH JANET MASTRIANNI TERRIE PEDROLINI

31ST OLGA STEPREY

JANUARY BIRTHDAY

3RD MARIA WYNKOPP

4TH SCOTT SAUNDERS

5TH NORM ORTNER 6TH MIKE BACZEK

8TH PAUL SPIELMAN

JO ROSINSKI

CONRAD OUELLETTE

JESSE GNAZZO

9TH RUTH OLSON

10TH JOEL EDMAN

14TH DARLENE BENSON

FRANK CAVALIERE

18TH HELEN MARINELLI 19TH ED STAGIS

20TH MARIE CASSIDY

22ND PAULINE CASE

24TH ROBERTA LALAMA

25TH PETER WOOD

LARRY SUTHERLAND **DOMINIC PEDROLINI**

28TH JOHN KISLUK

29TH EVELYN CASE

30TH ROBERT A. MICHALIK

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Deadline 15TH OF EACH MONTH

"THANK YOU"

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or Mail to:

Hometown Connection 27 Sherman St., Plainville

TASTE BUZZ.....

Christmas Cookies

1/2 cup butter 1/2 cup sugar 1 egg 1-1/2 cups sifted flour 1/4 teaspoon baking soda 1 teaspoon peppermint extract

Cream together butter and sugar until fluffy. Add egg and peppermint extract until well blended. Sift together flour and baking soda. Stir into creamed mixture. Remove 2/3 of the dough and color with red or green food coloring. Mold the dough into 1-1/2 by 10 inch roll. Squeeze top half together leaving lower half flared like a bell. Chill. Save 1/4 cup of remaining dough. On waxed paper roll out remaining dough into a 10 X 14 inch rectangle. Wrap around colored dough. Chill. Slice dough in 1/8 inch slices. Place on ungreased baking sheet. Press tiny ball of dough at bottom of each bell for the clapper. Bake 8 to 10 minutes at 375 degrees. Makes 5 dozen bells.

Submitted by Avis Flanders To submit your recipes mail to: Avis Flanders/Hometown Connection 27 Sherman Street Plainville, CT 06062 or Email hmtnn@aol.com

MY BUCKET LIST FOR 2014,15,16...

We are getting old and our tickers aren't what they used to be...so here is Our Special Bucket List for 2014,15,16....

HERE IS ALL WE WANT....

- 1. Peace on Earth for all!
- 2. Put "GOD" back in America!!!
- 3. Borders: Closed!
- **Congress: On the same retirement** & healthcare plans as everybody
- 5. Congress: Obey its own laws NOW!
- 6. Language: English only!
- 7. Culture: Constitution, and the Bill of Rights!
- 8. Drug Free: Mandatory Drug Screening before & during Welfare!
- 9. NO freebies to Non-Citizens!
- 10. Balance the budget.
- 11. Stop giving away our money to foreign countries! Charge them for our help! We need it here.
- 12. Fix the TAX CODE!

And most of all.....

13. "RESPECT OUR MILITARY AND **OUR FLAG!!"**

We the people are coming!

Americans to Hypocritical **Green Activists:** You First

By: Michael James Barton

Billionaire Democrat activist Tom Steyer is using his fortune to combat what he thinks is the greatest threat to

No, he isn't financing operations against ISIS or injecting medical aid into Africa to stop Ebola. In an effort to help congressional candidates, he's running a commercial that highlights pollution from an oil refinery owned by Charles and David Koch. Never mind the fact that Steyer had no qualms about fossil fuel back when his hedge fund was making millions in the industry.

With this effort, Steyer joins a long list of environmental activists who use profits from the fossil fuel industry to bash it. The hypocrisy matters because these activists are promoting policies that will prevent

average Americans from sharing in the benefits of the energy boom. Consider George Soros, the world's richest hedge fund manager. Soros supports environmentalist groups such as

Alliance for Climate Change, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the Union of Concerned Scientists -- all of which oppose the job creating scientific innovation known as hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking."

Logic demands Mr. Soros isn't profiting from fracking, but he recently purchased a giant stake in CONSOL Energy, a company actively involved in fracking.

Even Al Gore took a fossil-fuel payday. He recently sold his television channel to Al Jazeera Media Network, a foreign news organization heavily backed by oil money. Gore defended his decision saying that the channel was struggling and that Al-Jazeera would "give thorough coverage to the climate change issue." Weeks later, Gore released a book in which he blames

the poor state of the climate-change debate on the fact that "virtually every news and political commentary program on television is sponsored inpart by oil, coal, and gas companies."

As for Steyer, he left his \$20 billion hedge fund in 2012, promising to pull his personal holdings from "ecologically unsound" investments.

But Steyer waited until market conditions were optimal for reaping some final profits from the energy sector.

He has described his conversion to climate activism as a "personal version of a 'Paul on the Road to Damascus' moment." A more apt analogy might be to Michael Corleone from the Godfather. Just when Stever thought he was out, energy profits pulled him back in. He needed these profits so he could pump \$100 million to Democratic politicians that prevent others from making profits and creating jobs in the energy sector.

More than a few environmental groups have inconspicuously dipped their hand into the fossil-fuel till.

And Environmental groups are not above taking bribes. The Sierra Club accepted \$25 million in secret payments between 2007 and 2010 from a natural gas company for their anti-coal campaign.

Perhaps what really bothers the green movement is that unlike themselves -- the energy sector gives American consumers something they actually want.

The oil and natural gas industry is responsible for 9.8 million American jobs.

An additional 1.4 million could be added by 2030, if the federal government lifts its blockade on access to natural

It's difficult to take the green movement seriously. Over and over, the movement attacks a sector that's a vital part of the American economy. So the next time a green activist demands America pay more for energy, opt out of air conditioning, or divest from fossil fuel stocks, the American voters should simply say "You first."

Michael James Barton is the Director for Energy at ARTIS Research, and speaks around the country on energy and energy security matters. He previously served as the deputy director of Middle East policy at the Pentagon.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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The Woman's Club of Plainville in partnership with the Plainville Fire Company donated \$500.00 to the Plainville Food Pantry-Fuel Bank Presenting the Check to Susie Woerz are Laura Perun, President and Maryann Truszkowski.



Chamber After Hours.......Greater New Britain Chamber of Commerce President Timothy Stewart and the Plainvillt Chamber of Commerce held a Business after hours at the Premier Photography Studios, 260 East Street. Plainville. Jeffrey DiCosimo, owner also has a Studio in New Britain at 1626 Corbin Ave. Pictured are Tim and Jeff of course at the Plainville Studio.



Plainville High School's National Honor Society is hosting a "Can Mr. LePage" challenge to collect canned and non-perishable goods for the Plainville Community Food Pantry. Students and staff are piling cans in Principal LePage's office in hopes of completely filling the room with donations, which are being accepted through November 21st. Donation boxes have also been placed in the other schools to support this effort.

Plainville High School National Honor Society Officers:

Jacob San Juan / President Emily Duda / Vice President Patrycja Majewski / Secretary Jacob Masco / Treasurer

















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AARP Collects Toys for Tots at local Marine Center L to R are President Sally Miller, Sgt. Mack, Director of the project and Carol Perry, Vice President.



Plainville Congregational Church ***Snowflake Fair***



GE Opens New Advanced Manufacturing Lab in Connecticut

• Lab Expands On-Site Resources of New Product Introduction (NPI) Accelerator Lab, Enabling Build and Design for Manufacturability, Robotics and Automation to Support New Circuit Breaker Platform Launch

GE Uses FastWorks Methodology to Deliver GuardEon* Molded Case Circuit Breaker Platform Significantly Faster

than Typical Industry Development Time

GE Celebrates Grand Opening of Advanced Manufacturing Lab at Industrial Solutions Headquarters

On November 19, GE's Industrial Solutions business invited employees, customers and media to celebrate the grand opening of its Advanced Manufacturing Lab (AML) at its Plainville, Conn. headquarters, highlighting the company's local investment in innovative new product development and production methods.

In the AML, GE is using state-of-the-art robotics and automated manufacturing systems to design and build production lines of the future for a new molded case circuit breaker (MCCB) platform, GuardEon, to be launched in 2015.

Attendees had the opportunity to hear from Bob Gilligan, chief executive officer for Industrial Solutions, who will officially introduce the AML and the capabilities it brings to GE. Norm Sowards, general manager of GE's Power Components business unit, was also available to provide an overview of the investments GE is making in the future of its business.

Tours of the New Product Introduction (NPI) Accelerator Lab product development center that opened in May, 2013 and AML offered, allowing attendees to see firsthand how GE is revitalizing its NPI process and using advanced manufacturing methods to deliver the GuardEon MCCB platform in half the time of any previous similar product launch.

Bob Gilligan wrapped up the morning with a grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony with customers and employees which took place in the AML. All were invited to attend a celebratory lunch following the grand opening events.

Pictured at the Ribbon Cutting are: Norm Sowards, GM, Power Components, Bob Gilligan, CEO, Ba Tran, Global, Gary Arnott, N.A. Commercial Sales, Paul Singo, Technology, Leader, Industrial Solutions.

Below are excerpts from a news release:

Locating this lab in Plainville facilitates critical collaboration between the advanced manufacturing engineers and the co-located engineering design team to enhance design-for-manufacturability at the earliest stages of product development. GE's design, build, test, learn, modify and repeat rhythm with in-house human and capital resources dramatically increases options for timely proof-of-concept testing and ultimately, empowers delivery of better products for its customers much faster.

Beginning with a team of just seven engineers in 2013, GE now has more than 50 full-time, cross-functional, co-located employees in Plainville working with a singular goal — to build the best MCCB with the most advanced technologies that ensure safe and reliable power distribution for industrial, OEM and commercial customers. The team includes a combination of GE veterans from around the globe, new technical hires with deep industry domain and external industrial design experts to bring this customer-centric product to market through simpler, smarter and faster approaches.

The AML is GE's second lab opening in Plainville in just over a year. In May 2013, the company launched the NPI Accelerator Lab, featuring a collaborative workspace with a machine shop, product tear-down area and 3D printing prototype production and assembly capabilities, which enables GE engineers to design, develop and deliver new products faster than ever before. In addition, GE's High Current Test Lab offers high-voltage capabilities for on-site, quick-cycle prototype testing, ensuring products' robust design, superior performance and standards compliance from launch date.

By moving to highly automated operations, GE will fine tune its manufacturing flexibility and product reliability, helping the company to better serve its customers globally.

About GE

GE (NYSE: GE) works on things that matter. The best people and the best technologies taking on the toughest challenges. Finding solutions in energy, health and home, transportation and finance. Building, powering, moving and curing the world. Not just imagining. Doing. GE works. For more information, visit the company's website at www.ge.com.













~ Adam Richard Brocki ~



73, of Plainville, loving husband of Janina Brocki, passed away unexpectedly on Friday morning, Nov. 7, 2014.

Adam was born in Poland, son of the late Adam and Maria Brocki. He grew up in Poland, Germany and Brazil before immigrating to New Britain in the 1960's. He worked at Atlantic Tool

for 38 years and then with his sons at ACP Engineering Inc. until his retirement. He was a loving husband, married to the love of his life Janina, for 50 years. He was a devoted family man, especially to his children and grandchildren. In retirement years, he and Janina took great joy in helping raise their grandchildren. Adam was an avid sports fan and took great pleasure in attending his granddaughter's soccer games and watching games on TV with them. He enjoyed cruising and traveled all over the world and many trips to Disney World with his grandchildren. Adam had a love for the outdoors and enjoyed camping at Hammonasset State Park, fishing, boating, good food and a good joke but most importantly, spending quality time with his family especially in Old Lyme during the summer months.

He leaves behind his wife, Janina (Rapacz) Brocki and is survived by three children and their spouses: Jerry and Donna Brocki, Bogdan and Francine Brocki and Suzanne and Jeffrey Davis. In addition, he is survived by his cherished grandchildren: Alicia and Amanda Brocki, Kendall, Addison and Reagan Davis, and Gabrielle and Adam Brocki. He is also survived by his sister, Ewa Matecki and her children: Barbara Kowalewski, Felix Matecki and their families. He was predeceased by his parents and infant daughter, Cecelia Brocki. His funeral service were held at at the Burritt Hill Funeral Home, 332 Burritt Street, New Britain, followed by a Mass of Christian burial, at Sacred Heart Church. He was laid to rest in Sacred Heart Cemetery in New Britain. To share a memory with his family, please visit us at www.burritthill.com.

~ Edward Dombroski ~



91, of Plainville, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, on Thursday, November 13, 2014.



Born in Avoca, PA on December 8, 1922, Edward was one of six and the last surviving

child to the late Michael and Mary (Renock) Dombroski. Raised in

Pennsylvania, he relocated to Connecticut where he began his longtime career in manufacturing at Fafnir Bearing, and enlisted in the US Navy. Edward proudly served his country for four years during WW II. He returned to work at Fafnir upon being discharged, where he was a devoted employee for 45 years, retiring in 1980. He married the love of his life, Priscilla (Valenti), with whom he shared 67 years of marriage and raised two sons. Edward enjoyed the majority of his time away from work fishing off his boat on the lakes and ponds of Connecticut, where he embraced the quietness and tranquility. A sports enthusiast, he especially was a fan of football and the New England Patriots.

In addition to his wife, Priscilla, he leaves his sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Sherilyn of Burlington and Roland and Deborah of Bristol; his grandchildren, Nicholas, Taylor, Ashley, and Rachel; as well as several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his grandchildren, triplets Robert, Edward, and Nicole; his two sisters, and three brothers

Edward's family extends their gratitude to the nurses, aides and therapists at Apple Rehab in Plainville for the care and comfort shown to them during his last few weeks. A Mass of Christian Burial in celebration of Edward's life was held at Our Lady of Mercy Church, where military honors will be accorded. Committal services will be held privately at a later date. Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville assisted the family with arrangements.

For online expressions of sympathy, please visit: www.bailey-funeralhome.com.



OBITUARIES

~ Homer Aimee Drapeau ~



of Southington, beloved fiancé of Patricia Donnelly, with whom he made his home, joined his blessed



Lord on November 15, 2014, in the loving arms of his fiancée, Patricia.

Born in Fall River, Massachusetts on March 20, 1935, he was the son of the late Homer and Antoinett Drapeau.

Homer attended schools in Hartford as a youth. He took pride in his four years of service in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and his involvement in working within the space industry. Homer was given special recognition when the Secretary from the State of Connecticut, in 2010, personally presented him with a Korean War Veteran Public Service Award for his patriotism, sacrifice, and service to his country.

Homer leaves his loving and devoted fiancée, Patricia. In addition, he leaves his daughters, Diane Freemantle, Juanita Drew and her husband, William, and Susan Drapeau, all of Enfield; a son, Robert Drapeau of South Carolina; 6 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren; two brothers, George and Paul Drapeau; and many dear friends. He was predeceased by his wife, Sally, 2 grandchildren, and a sister.

An active member of the senior citizens centers in Enfield, South Windsor, Plainville and Southington, Homer's interests ranged from furniture making and collecting antique wood-working tools, to travelling the world with his beloved companion, Patricia. He so enjoyed their many visits to Ireland, and their travels throughout Europe, Central America, Canada, Alaska, Hawaii, and almost all of the other 50 states.

He loved all of his adventures, be it at the helm of a sailing ship leaving out of Mystic, CT., walking the ancient streets of Pompeii, Italy, climbing a Canadian glacier, or collecting his winnings at the Casino of Monte Carlo, Monaco.

Homer was a loving, kind-hearted, gentle man, who will always live in the hearts of those who love him.

Special appreciation is expressed to all the medical staff at Apple Rehab of Plainville, especially the nurses, therapists, nursing aids, and admission office staff, who were so caring towards him.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Friday, at Our Lady of Mercy Church, where military honors will be accorded. There were no calling hours. Burial will be held privately. Bailey Funeral Home, Plainville is assisting with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Homer's memory to Southington Community Services, 91 Norton St, Plantsville, CT 06479 ATTN: Janet Mellon; or to the charity of your choice. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal.

~ Jane (Williams) Goodall ~



72, of Plainville, passed away surrounded by her family, on Tuesday, November 18, 2014. She was the beloved wife and high school sweetheart of George Goodall, with whom she shared 51 years of marriage.

Born in New Britain on May 12, 1942, she was one of two children

to the late Lee and Lillian (Churchill) Williams. A lifelong resident, Jane was a 1960 graduate of Plainville High School. She married George shortly after and they settled in their hometown where they raised two sons. Jane worked for many years in the banking and mortgage lending industry, working for various local banks and eventually retiring from American Savings Bank in 1997. Both golf enthusiasts, they spent many days playing at Chippanee Golf Club where they were members for close to 30 years. Jane also had a love for gardening, enjoyed picking blueberries from her blueberry bushes, and watching birds eat from the feeders in her backyard. She will be greatly missed, leaving her family with many cherished memories.

In addition to her husband George, she leaves her sons, Todd Goodall and his wife, Pamela of South Windsor, and Brian Goodall and Ashley Medvec of Plainville; her grandchildren, Tyler, Tiffany, Courtney, Matthew, and Colin; her brother, Doug Williams and his wife, Joanne of Farmington; and many nieces and nephews.

Jane's family extends their sincere appreciation to the staff at Apple Healthcare in Plainville for taking such great care of her during her visits. They would also like to thank Erin, Elyzah and Dr. Singh from the Hospital of Central Connecticut's Intensive Care Unit for making Jane's final hours very comfortable for both her and her family.

In honor of Jane's wishes, her family will celebrate her life privately. Those who wish to pay their respects may do so through Jane's tribute page at www.bailey-funeralhome. com. In lieu of flowers, those who wish may remember Jane with a contribution to www.redcross.org the American Red Cross, 209 Farmington Ave, Farmington, CT 06032 or to the charity of their choice.

~ Edward W. Larkin, Sr. ~



devoted husband and father passed away Friday October 24, 2014.

Ed was born December 13, 1921 in New Britain and moved to Plainville in 1927. He belonged to the Plainville Methodist Church and had lived on maple Street for more than 83 years. He moved to Three Mile Bay, NY in August of 2012 to live with his son Hal

and his wife Susan. Avid New York Yankee fans, Ed and his wife Dot loved camping and camped for many, many years (All their lives) in Connecticut and the Adirondacks. After retiring from General Electric in Plainville after 41 years of service, he and Dot spent many winters in Florida, continued rooting for the Yankees and kept Adirondack camping in the spring.

Ed leaves behind his beloved wife Dorothy, two sons, Edward Jr., and his wife Cynthia and Harold and his wife Susan, seven grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

A graveside service was held in Plainville West Cemetery. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Three Mile Bay Fire Co. Ambulance Attention Ambulance P.O. Box 419 Three Mile Bay, NY 13693. The Bailey Funeral Home 48 Broad Street in Plainville has care of arrangements. For additional information or to leave words of condolence please visit www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

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OBITUARIES

~ Ina H. (Brittain) Morris ~



91 of Plainville, passed away Wednesday October 29, 2014 at Aurora Senior Living of New Britain. She was the wife of the late Norman L. Morris. Mrs. Morris was born March 22, 1923 in Wytopitlock, Maine a daughter of the late Arthur and Zelpha Belle (Sweeney) Brittain.

She had worked as a quality control inspector at the Landers Company in New Britain. Ina and her husband Norman enjoyed wintering in Florida for many years and especially loved the beaches there. Ina crafted beautiful artwork with the seashells that she had collected over the years. She also enjoyed traveling to Ireland to visit her Sweeney family homestead, Doe Castle in County Donegal. She was very active in local politics having volunteered for many campaigns. Ina was also a published poet. One of her poems follows her obituary. She leaves her daughter, Lorna Cyr and her husband George of Bristol, her grandson, Mark Cyr and his wife Mya of Meriden, her great grandchildren, Phillip James "PJ" Cyr and Victoria Lauren "Tory" Cyr and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers, Stephen Brittain and Leslie Brittain and her sisters, Victoria MacDonald, Minnie Rollins, Emily Knights, Jeanette Doane and Agnes Roy. Family and friends may gather at the Bailey Funeral Home 48 Broad Street in Plainville on Tuesday November 4 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. A graveside service will be held on Friday November 7 at 11:00 a.m.at the Kingman Cemetery in Kingman, Maine. Ina's family asks that you kindly omit flowers and make memorial contributions in her name to the American Cancer Society 825 Brook Street Rocky Hill, CT 06767. For additional information or to leave words of condolence please visit: www.baileyfuneralhome.com.

------ WALKING SOMEDAY -

I walk in the woods to hear songs of many species of birds, singing only to us. Wild flowers nod their heads; trees give a gentle breeze to welcome us. I walk on the beach to hear the ocean's roar as its waves claim the shore and the warm sand between our toes. Shells of beautiful shapes and colors lie waiting for us to stop and choose. I take a boat ride on our river. We seldom would see another person. In the abundance of wildlife, it was our quite time. Memories flood my river, I walk alone now, you are no longer by my side. Last words of your love linger on my trail, "Go on walking and living, you will catch up to me someday. "We will walk together again. -Ina Morris

3 Tips for Retiring Out of State **Financial Consultant Says a** Little Planning Can Save Money

Retirees flock to Florida and Arizona for year-round sunshine and golf, but all things considered, they're not the best states for happy golden years, according to a new survey.

Along with average number of sunny days, factor in living, residents' sense of wel of health-care, crime and, yes, humidity, and the best destination is (surprise!) South Dakota, according to a

2014 Bankrate report.

"As this report correctly suggests, pre-retirees need to consider a lot more than snow days and tradition," says Rodger Friedman, founding partner and wealth manager at Steward Partners Global Advisory and author of "Forging Bonds of Steel," (www. forgingbondsofsteel.com/), a guide to developing an excellent working relationship with your financial

"Different states have different tax laws and other regulations that can have a major impact on your retirement funds. You need to be aware of these as you plan for where you want to live and how you want to live.

Whether you're considering one of the other top four "best states to retire" - Colorado, Utah, North Dakota and Wyoming, in that order – here are five tips for planning ahead:

New state – new income tax rules. Get to know

Press release: A new survey of 1500 US writers has discovered what is most likely to distract them from writing their novel.

The survey has been launched before Nanowrimo -November writing month – to help inspire hundreds of thousands of Americans who are preparing to write 50,000 words of a novel in 30 days.

The survey undertaken for Stop Procrastinating, the productivity application, discovered a range of domestic and life issues that distracted the most creative amongst us from fulfilling their dreams and finishing their novel.

Respondents to the survey said the following distracted them most from writing: sex; dating sites; tiredness; staying late at work; pizza and ice cream; their partner distracting them by offering them a drink, turning on the TV or chatting; pets jumping on their lap or turning off the computer; and a family argument. Digital distractions such as emails, social media and the internet were also most likely to prevent them from writing.

Some respondents even claimed envy of the success of other writers stopped them having the motivation to continue writing.

Broken down the survey still found that the internet was the biggest single distraction during the actual process of writing. 52% of writers claimed to have turned to browsing the internet for inspiration only to be lose hours reading articles or watching YouTube videos.

Most interesting is what they were viewing. Most writers didn't turn to the great works for inspiration, but were more likely to watch YouTube videos of comedy acts or cats and other animals doing funny things. 45% of those who said they were distracted by the internet from writing said they had watched a funny animal video at least once to help get them through a creative block; 15% said they were distracted by a dating site; another 5% said wouldn't admit to what they browsed.

Yet 7% of respondents claimed real life animals posed a risk to undermining their writing achievements. Cats jumping on their owners lap for affection was the biggest culprit, while others claimed their dog had pulled the lead from the computer in the middle of crafting the perfect sentence.

17% of people claimed they often ate their reward for finishing writing, such as pizza and ice cream, before they'd reached their writing goal for the day.

14% said that their partner has distracted them by suggesting watching the next episode of a box set for a 'creative break', while others came into their room with a welcoming drink and chatted for more than half an hour before leaving. 4% of respondents has said that rather than get back to writing they had had sex with their partner. One admitted this was because she thought

Familiarize yourself with the tax laws of the state you're considering for your new home. Two of the top five on Bankrate's list - South Dakota and Wyoming -- have no state income tax, along with five others: Nevada (No. 18 on the list), Texas (19), Washington (22), Florida (39), and Alaska (48.).

Also, an itemized deduction in one state may not be an itemized deduction in another. If you use the long form (1040) to file federal income taxes, hire a reputable, experienced CPA for guidance.

Look into how your new state taxes retirement income. States differ on taxing interest income from tax-free municipal bonds. Some states give tax credits; treat public and private pensions differently; or offer federal, military or blanket exclusions.

The following states are community property states: Idaho, New Mexico, Texas, California, Arizona, Wisconsin, Nevada, Louisiana, and Washington. Speaking with an estate planning attorney regarding how this issue may affect you may be money very

• If you're married, are you moving to a community property state?

There are nine community property states – those that divide all martially-acquired assets and debt 50:50 in the event of divorce. (Exceptions include an inheritance or gift received by one spouse and maintained separately in that spouse's name.) Community property states are Idaho, New Mexico, Texas, California, Arizona, Wisconsin, Nevada, Louisiana, and Washington. Speaking with an estate planning attorney regarding how this issue may affect you may be money very well spent.

Have a lawyer review your estate planning

Your existing estate planning documents should be reviewed by a lawyer in your new state of residence she was ovulating, the others said they just wanted to

22% said that they were too tired to write either from work or partying too hard. While 32% said they often couldn't write because they had stayed too late at work and didn't have time.

Will Little, creator of stopprocrastinatingapp.com, said: "Nanowrimo is a great celebration of writing, but sometimes even with the best of intentions writers become distracted.

"The grip of creativity to write is tenuous, it seems, prone to slip in the face of the slightest distraction. The smallest gestures such as a warming cup of coffee from a partner, or a cat jumping up for a stroke, or the distant sound of their favourite TV programme starting can be all it takes to have the writer running from the computer and away from the creative urge," he said.

"But often the distraction is staring them in the face. The

writer's tool, the computer, is part of an interconnected planet that exists, it seems, to distract and toy with our concentration. It can take only seconds from typing a lyrical sentence to answering an email or watching a funny animal video on YouTube, and the creative moment is lost," he said.

"Sometimes all it takes is for the writer to set down their goals - how many words they want to write and how long it will take them. Goal setting is hard wired into our brains and when we set them we are more likely to achieve our objectives.

"But sometimes writers need that extra push - to turn off the internet completely or at least filter out social media or the most distracting websites. Barring the offer of a hot drink from their partner or the sound of padded feet, they should then be set up to create their masterpiece."

About Stop Procrastinating:

Stop Procrastinating is an internet blocking and productivity application. It is compatible with Mac OS and Windows. It allows users the option to block the internet for a period of time in two ways, depending on how much self discipline they have.

Option 1 allows users to block the internet for a set amount of time, but they can get back online if they reboot their computer.

Option 2 allows users to block the internet for a set amount of time, but prevents access to the internet even if they restart their computer. They have to wait until their chosen time is up to reconnect.

Option 3 allows users to input into a black list specific websites they wish to block, such as Facebook or Twitter, and to stay connected to the internet.

Stop Procrastinating also gives users the option to write down their works goals before disconnecting from the internet. Research has shown this to be a powerful aid to motivation. It also allows users to chart their progress over time, which helps them see how much more work they are getting done.

because statutes differ on the types of documents required and the powers bestowed upon each. For example, states are all over the map regarding the validity of a power of attorney document and the powers that may or may not be conveyed.

"During their careers, their acquiring wealth years, many people live in places that have lots of jobs and the higher cost of living that goes along with that," Friedman says. "In retirement, many they want to move to a state where they can enjoy the same or an even better lifestyle with less money.

"For that, it's essential to consider not only the cost of living but the state laws that affect your accumulated wealth and income.

About Rodger Alan Friedman

Rodger Alan Friedman, author of "Forging Bonds of Steel," (www.forgingbondsofsteel.com/), advises affluent retirees and near-retirees in structuring their planning and investments for the next phase of their lives. He is a managing director, founding partner and wealth manager at Steward Partners Global Advisory in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. He has more than three decades of experience in the financial services industry, including senior positions at E.F. Hutton and Shearson Lehman.

Opinions expressed are those of Rodger Friedman and not necessarily those of RJFS or Raymond James. All opinions are as of this date and subject to change without notice.

Rodger Friedman is a Wealth Manager and offers securities through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC.

In Case You Missed These Stories!!!

The people are not running the government

Connecticut is bulletproof for insanity is to keep doing the same

the Democrats think? As with the last midterm election, our PONDER state is one of the few - I think there were five or six others — that did not choose to move out any of the sitting elected delegation. They were all re-elected. The state representatives, both in the House of Representatives and the state Senate, were pretty much status quo. No change here. I



A POINT TO

Phil Mikan

state senator from the other side, Paul Formica. He won an open seat in the East Lyme area. Being the first selectman of East Lyme, the people of that area knew his record and knew Paul, so he is now a state senator. And I think he will be a good one He is a

thing over and over and

expecting a different out-

We did get one new

forget who said it (I think it businessman, admmistrator and was Einstein): The definition of an elected fficial - a proven we are proving the definition of

commodity.

One party has controlled Connecticut state government for more years than I can remem ber. Governors come and go, but with one party controls the leg islator and the executive branch The people are not running the government; the government in running the people. That's the insanity many people in the great state of "steady habits" think is

I am not for one party over the other; I am for the safety of :hecks and balances. We as a state ire out of balance. As a citizenry your electric bill will be going up 25 percent Jan. 1? Crazy, right! A point to ponder.

Phil Mikan is the host of the Phil

insanity. Hey, did you read where Mikan Show on WMRD 1150/ WLIS AM 1420 daily at 10 a.m and the Weekend Corner Saturdays from 9 to 11 a.m. You can reach him at phil@philmikan.com.

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SPORTS

Martino graduating from game she loves

By MATT STRAUB

NEW BRITAIN - Soccer has meant the world to Alyssa Martino. She started playing the game as a young child and ended up using it, as well as her strong work ethic which took care of her body and academics, to get a college education at a school she now swears by.

Now, the Plainville native must face one of the toughest transitions a young person faces, the move from student-athlete to graduate student and eventually a professional. She played her final game for Providence College last week in the Big East women's soccer tournament, finishing a five-year run full of

wonderful ups and a dramatic down. That she finished her career on the field, however, is an example of the work ethic which has guided her this far and will help her long after she has stopped kicking around a

"My mom called me the other day after the season was over and asked if I knew what to do with my time now that no one or thing is dictating to me when to work out, when to eat, when to nap," Martino said. "Playing soccer has been all I've known since I was four and being 22 now, you realize it's been central to your life. It's been a long time."

Martino knows what she wants to do next, as she is now in graduate school at Providence to prepare to a teacher. She has always been driven, and has already learned how ready for the real world yet." to adapt once just by becoming a college soccer player.

"The most challenging thing is time management, especially being in the honors program," she said. "When you're doing something you're interested in it helps."

She was referring to learning about teaching, but she might as well have been talking about soccer. To say she was interested in the game from a young age is an understatement. She never let the game consume her, as family and school were always just as important, but Martino knew early on the game, and preparing for it, would be a huge part of her life.

When we went on a family vacation my mom knew we couldn't go somewhere that didn't have a

gym," Martino said.

By her sophomore year at Providence, the hard work had paid off. She started every one of the Friars' games that year, and did the same her junior season. The defender was getting set for her senior season when she tore her ACL in a scrimmage shortly before the season was set to begin.

Cue the work ethic and dedication. Then add motivation and watch it double.

"Immediately when it happened I knew I wasn't going to end my soccer career with an injury," Martino said. "I wanted to remember being on the field. I had to go to grad school anyway to get my masters for teaching, so it made sense to stay here (for her fifth season). I

She was ready for what it would Matt Straub can be reached take to get back on the field this at (860) 225-4601 ext. 273.

season for her fifth and final year.

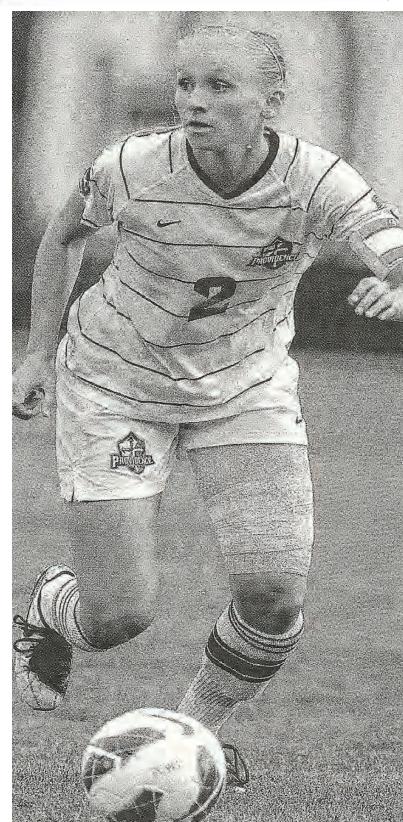
"I'm a firm believer in everything happens for a reason. It definitely did. Looking back, I can't express how grateful I am for what I learned from it," Martino said. "I set a goal and I'm going to do everything I can to achieve it. Tearing my ACL reminded me that no matter how well you have everything planned out there's going to be speed bumps around the way. It was the first time I went through anything like it and I learned a lot about myself, my teammates and people around me."

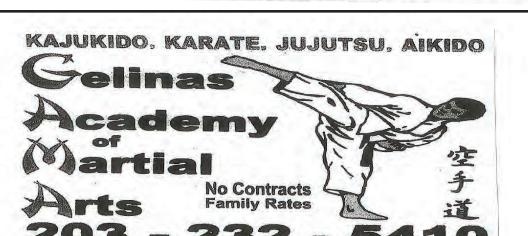
Martino heaped praise on her teammates and the support staff at Providence which helped her back, but is also proud of the way she grew up and met the challenge when called upon.

"I proved to myself I can battle this adversity. I can get back up,' she said. "I got knocked down, but it doesn't matter if you get knocked down, it's if you get back up."

After ending her soccer career on her terms, Martino thinks she's a better person for her experience. Even more important, after admitting she hasn't always been, she's now set to move on to the next chapter of her life.

She has one more year of preparation at Providence, then it's off to the real world. Having already tackled the greatest challenge of her life and with the dedication required for adulthood, Martino is ready for





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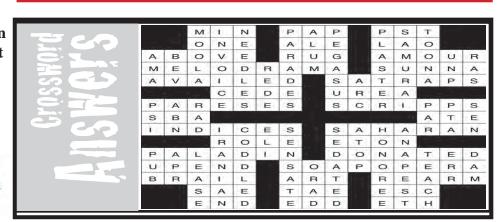
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They called me Tiny Tim because they said I was the runt of the litter and at eight weeks of age I only weighed in at 3 pounds 4 ounces. I guess that is real small for a Golden Retriever. My new family renamed me Chace after my vet Dr. Paul Chace of Advanced Veterinary Care in Farmington and perhaps it is because they have to "chase" me all the time.



Gabby is all set with newspapers.

She wishes to Thank everyone that came to her aid last month!

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Keep your Pets Safe!!!

Pet Page

Problem Cat or Good Cat (part 2)

A second relatively common problem area that we hear about with cats is failure to use the litter box. Sometimes this is a problem from the beginning with a new cat, but other times we hear about a cat that has been using the litter box but suddenly isn't. There are several areas in which the problem can start, so let's take a look at them.

Have there been any significant changes in your home? Some cats react to changes in ways that can include failure to use the litter pan. Are there enough pans in your home for the number of cats you have? The rule of thumb is one pan per cat plus one. Also, in a multi level home, it is good to have a pan on each level, particularly with older cats. Always remember that medical issues can be involved, and a thorough exam and possibly blood tests by your veterinarian may be called for.

Cats have a sense of smell that is 1000 times better than ours, so a pan that smells fine to us can be offensive to a cat. Using a litter with excellent odor control may solve the problem, especially combined with frequent scooping. If you are using a litter that is scented, the scent may be unpleasant to your cat (even if hundreds of other cats have no problem with that scent). Try an unscented litter, which may solve your problem.

The litter pan you are using may be the wrong one for your cat. First of all, is the pan big enough for your cat to use it comfortably? The pan that was fine for your kitten may not be for the adult he became! Also, if you changed litter pans, a change in style can be the cause of your problem. Some cats are not comfortable with covered litter pans. Try removing the cover and see if this makes a difference.

Also, stressed cats often show their stress by litter box problems. Try playing with your cat for at least 15 minutes every day. Be sure your cat has toys to stalk and chase when you are not there. Having enough toys to rotate them to keep your cat's interest is a very good thing. Carpeted cat condos and elevated perches with an outside view can provide good retreats for a stressed cat. Less stress means fewer problems.

Finally, be sure to thoroughly clean any areas the cat has used other than the litter box, as the residual odor will tell the cat this is now an area to use! Your local pet supply store should be able to help you find a product that is right for your needs.



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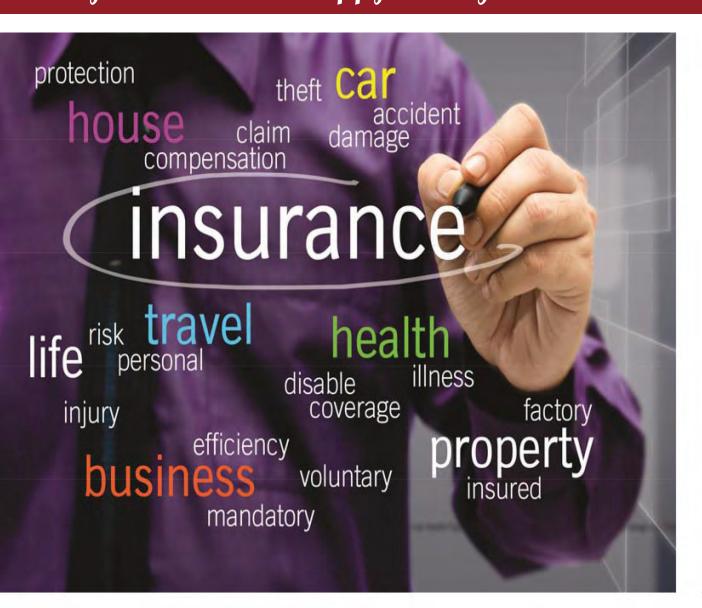
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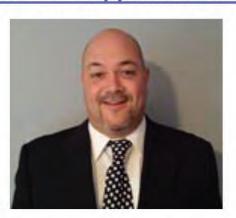


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