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STATE OF THE TOWN

Key Speakers:

Kathy Pugliese
Town Council Chair

Robert E. Lee
Town Manager

Jeffrey Kitching
Superintendent of Schools

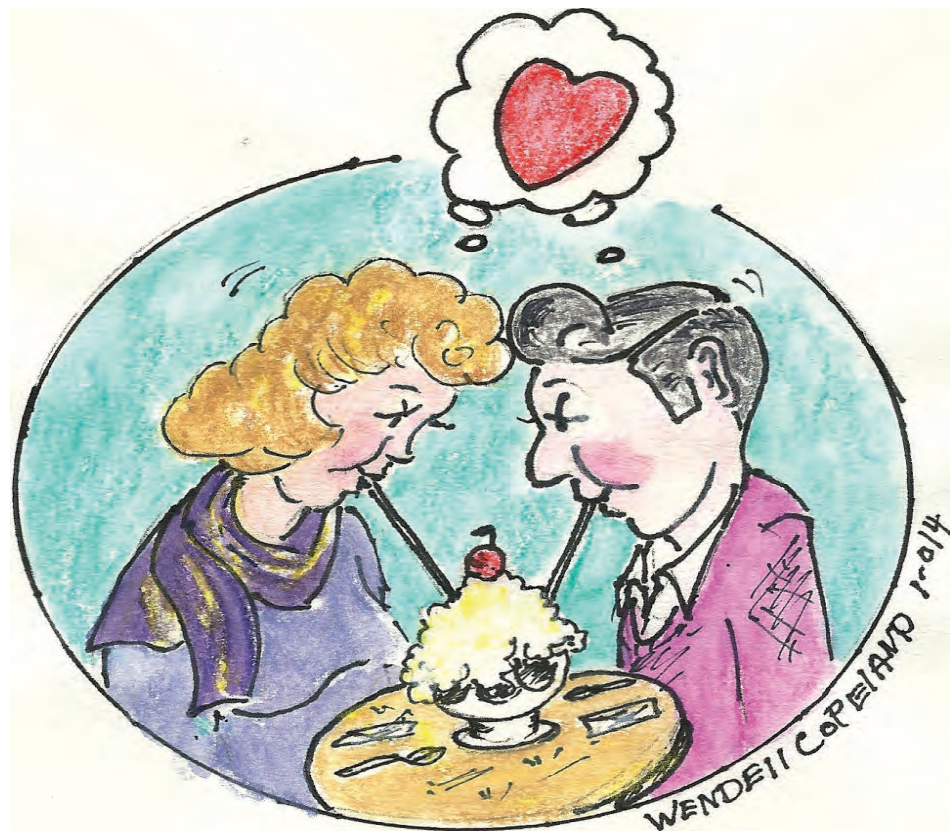
John Bossi
Director of Technical Services

Mark Devoe
Director of Planning & Economic Development

Coffee & Pastries by: Liberty Bank

Shown above are speakers who participated in the third annual **State of the Town** hosted by the Plainville Chamber of Commerce and Liberty Bank. From Left to Right: Jeffery Kitching, Superintendent of Schools, Mark DeVoe Director of Planning & Economic Development, John Bossi Director of Technical Services, Town Council Chairperson Kathy Pugliese, Town Manager Robert Lee and Chamber Economic Development Director Richard Williams.

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UBI Employees Lend a Hand

By: Lauren Spitz



Most give back to their community during the holiday season, by providing food and clothes for those less fortunate or they donate their time at the local soup kitchen. The majority of volunteers are seen during Thanksgiving and Christmas; in November and December the number of volunteers almost doubles and dips to all-time lows once the season to be jolly has ended. Our employees had this in mind when constructing a community outreach plan for the area of Hartford County. It is vital that awareness is raised about this pressing issue; volunteers are needed year round not exclusively in November and December.

Four UBI Federal Credit Union employees were eager to volunteer at The Friendship Center on January 10, 2014. In between cutting celery and assembling sandwiches both Friendship Center employees and volunteers shared stories, laughs, and a few dance moves! It is easy to give back and quite exciting. Simply contact your local soup kitchen and set up a date and time to help out! The Friendship Center is located at 241 Arch Street New Britain, Connecticut. Meals are served twice daily; each dish will be warm, tasty, and served with a smile.

Way to Go UBI Employees!!!!



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

~ ADVERTISING ~

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Postal Address

Plainville Community News, Inc.
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EMAIL: hmtnn@comcast.net

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 basis.

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NEXT ISSUE WILL BE:

MARCH 2014

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f a v e s a n d r a v e s

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

{Joanne raves} "Butternut Squash Bisque" at the 1st & Last Tavern is the best I've ever tasted! "Wish they served it every day."

{KEITH raves} Wish to thank the Hometown Connection for sponsoring the faith based movie "Christmas Candle" at the Lowes of Plainville. It certainly is a film everyone should see, don't miss it if there is ever of showing in the area again.

Email your "fave or rave" in today to be in the March 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 January 6, 2014

Capital Projects Building Committee Update

- The Committee issued a request for Proposals for architectural services for the renovation of the Middle School and Wheeler Elementary School and for some site work at the High School. Ten firms submitted proposals. The Building Committee selected four firms to interview. After the interviews were complete, the Committee voted to recommend that Kastle Boos Associates, Inc. (KBA) of New Britain be selected to perform the work.
- KBA has submitted a proposal to perform pre-referendum services for the Capital Projects Building Committee for Wheeler Elementary, Middle School of Plainville and the High School. The proposal includes an existing conditions survey of Wheeler and the Middle School. The survey will estimate the expected remaining service life of all building systems and estimate repair/replacement costs.
- KBA will also provide the Committee with a comparative analysis between a "repair" approach and a "renovate" approach to accomplishing the goals at both schools. The comparative analysis is the best means to both understand and illustrate the factors that control the state reimbursement process and the resulting bottom line cost to Plainville. A "renovate" project could provide greater reimbursement opportunities and result in a project that will last for a longer period of time.
- The proposal also includes an audit of both sites (Wheeler & Middle School) that will analyze accessibility, field structures, parking and driveways to conform to ADA requirements. These types of improvements are reimbursable for state grants.
- Their services do not include environmental testing which is most likely needed at Wheeler Elementary School.
- The Capital Projects Building Committee and Town Staff recommends that Kastle Boos Associates, Inc. be engaged to provide pre-referendum work for Plainville for Wheeler, Middle School of Plainville and the High School at a cost not to exceed \$47,000. If the additional appropriation of \$50,000 is approved this evening, it is also recommended that the Town Council add to the agenda a motion to move forward with the KBA services.

Farmington Canal Heritage Greenway Update

- A meeting was held with Southington to discuss how to proceed with the design of the Farmington Canal Trail through Plainville and parts of Southington. A state grant would pay for 80% of the cost of the design study.
- It was agreed that Plainville would serve as the "lead" town with respect to the grant. Southington and Plainville staff will be putting together an RFQ seeking design proposals and consultant qualifications. Once the proposals have been received, interviews will be held and a firm will be recommended to the Town Council to perform the work.
- It is anticipated that a recommendation will be made within 60-90 days.

Trash and Recycling Containers

- Sometime ago the Town Council set the fees for those residents who wanted to have an additional trash or recycling barrels. The fees are \$99 for an additional trash barrel and \$50 for an additional recycling barrel. The Town bills for these additional barrels every January.
- To date, 23 trash barrels and 8 recycling barrels have been distributed. One of the residents who obtained an additional barrel requested that the

Town Council reconsider their decision to charge a fee for the recycling container. Their logic was that recycling saves the Town money because there is not currently a tip fee for disposal as there is for trash. It was pointed out to the resident that there is additional cost due to the Latella contract which is based upon the number of barrels collected.

- If the Town Council decided not to charge for the additional recycling containers, revenue would be reduced by \$400 based upon the current number of secondary barrels.

Memorandum of Understanding – CT Motor Car

- CT Motor Car, currently located on Whiting Street is building a new 24,000 sq. ft. facility on Town Line Road. The estimated cost of the construction is \$1.6M. They are requesting a tax abatement to help defray the unexpected cost of extending water lines to service their new building.
- At their meeting held on November 21, 2013, the Economic Development Agency recommended that the Town Council approve a tax abatement for CT Motor Car of 40% for three years.
- CT Motor Car will also be pursuing the possibility of a State tax abatement through the Enterprise Zone Program. If they qualify for the State Enterprise Zone designation, the local tax abatement will not be required.
- There is an item under New Business regarding this recommendation.

Small Business Loan Program – LDM Manufacturing, LLC

- The Economic Development Agency is also recommending the Town Council approve a small business loan to LDM Manufacturing in the amount of \$38,000. LDM is a manufacturing firm located on Hultenius Street. They moved to Plainville in 2007 and have used the loan program in the past which they have paid back in full.
- They would use the loan to purchase two lathes that LDM requires for expansion purposes. The loan would be for 5 years with a 2% interest rate that would be secured by the owner's home in Bristol. The home has sufficient equity to secure the loan.
- The loan documents have been reviewed by the Town Attorney. There is an item under New Business regarding this recommendation.

Leaf Collection

- Leaf Collection went very smoothly this year. Many residents expressed their appreciation for the fine work that was done by the Roadways Department in collecting their leaves.
- Leaf collection occurred over 36 working days and was completed on December 6th. Approximately 12,700 cu. yds. of leaves were collected by Roadways operations and an additional 1,988 cu. yds. were brought to the landfill by contractors and 177 cu. yds. were brought to the landfill by residents.

**Watch Town Council &
Board of Education Meetings
Every Thursday ~ 6:00 PM
Saturday ~ 11:00 AM
and Sunday ~ 2:30 PM
Week following the meetings
Town Council~Channel #96
Board of Ed~Channel #95
Nutmeg TV & Mark Chase**

- The total estimated cost to collect the leaves was \$122,535.62 or approximately \$3,400 per day. I would like to thank the Roadways Department for their efficiency in collecting the leaves and the dedication that they have in performing their work day in and day out for the Town of Plainville under the able leadership of Carmen Matteo and Dominic Moschini.

Regional Planning Reorganization Update

- OPM has sent a letter notifying the Town that they are approving Plainville's request to become part of the Capital Region Council of Governments. The Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency, of which Plainville is currently a member, is being consolidated with CROCOG as part of a state mandated effort to reduce the number of regional planning agencies.
- Southington, New Britain and Berlin had decided that CROCOG was their preferred designation as well. Town staff will begin the necessary steps to complete the consolidation in a timely and efficient manner.

CCM Discount Prescription Drug Card Program Update

- Several months ago the Town Council approved Plainville's participation in the CCM Prescription Drug Card Program. This program provides a discount card that can be used at the local pharmacies to reduce the cost of prescriptions. The Town receives monthly progress reports on the program. The first report was received for the month of October.
- This report showed that the card was used 25 times by 19 individuals. The statistics show that the average savings for each prescription was \$57.50 for a total savings of \$1,437.62. This is a savings of 72% of what would have been paid if not for the CCM Discount Program.
- Town staff encourages more Plainville residents to take advantage of the discount program. If residents have any questions about the program, they should contact the Town Manager's Office.

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To Contact Town Councilors: E-mail: towncouncil@plainville-ct.gov

FREE SAND AVAILABLE

To help combat slick surfaces, the town has sand available for residential use, at no cost. There are three locations at which residents can pick up sand:

- Norton Park** in the parking lot area by Castle Apartments
- Paderewski Park** in the parking lot area by Cooke Street and
- Toffolon Elementary School** in the driveway entrance to the school

How to Donate Blood

Simply call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org 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 check-in. 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 who are 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross has been a primary supplier of lifesaving blood products in the United States for more than 50 years. The Red Cross Blood Services - Northeast Division must distribute approximately 3,000 units of blood each day just to meet the basic needs of area patients. and are in generally good health may be eligible to give blood. Please bring your Red Cross blood donor card or other form of positive ID when you come to donate.

Sunday Afternoon Hours at the Library Resume

The Plainville Public Library added Sunday afternoon hours to its schedule now through April 27. The hours are 1 – 5 p.m. The additional Sunday afternoon hours were very popular last year. On average, more than 160 people visited the library each Sunday afternoon. All the regular services will be available including internet computers, reference and children's room service and the entire collection of more than 88,000 volumes. One the most used services is just providing a quiet place with a desk and chair for study and reading.

The Library's regular winter hours started in January will be: Monday – Thursday 10 – 9 p.m. (the children's room closes at 8:00), Friday – Saturday 10 – 5 p.m. and Sundays 1-5 p.m. Please call the library at 860-793-1446 for additional information.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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The Town of Plainville Roadways Department is issuing this Notice to the residents of the Town of Plainville:

It is illegal to discharge snow from driveways, parking and sidewalk areas into the public roadways. Discharging snow into the roadway hinders cleanup operations and is a hazard to motorists. Beginning immediately, the addresses of residents who discharge snow into the public roadway will be forwarded to the Police Department for appropriate action.

Damaged Mailbox Policy:

If during snow removal operations a mailbox is damaged due to direct contact of the plow, the Town or its subcontractor is responsible for the damage. Damage caused by the snow discharged from the plow is the resident's responsibility. It is the resident's duty to make sure that your mailbox and post are made and maintained to withstand a New England winter. To report mailbox damage notify the Roadways Department at 860-793-0221, ext. 208.

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Two Locations (for your convenience):

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**Last Outdoor Pay Phone in Plainville....
We Think?!?!?!?!?**



Do you know where it is? email or call us if you know... Sorry, no prize but it would be interesting to see how many of us pay attention to our surroundings. No one called with the location of this Pay Phone.

We did receive two calls, both said there is one at Big-Y on New Britain Ave. As of press time no one found the phone pictured above. *It is no longer the last one in Plainville. Are there any more?*

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**Life with
Wanda**



Every year around the holidays you hear and more about crime and the new ways criminals find to steal what you have. This year the media warned of thieves checking out your trash after Christmas and taking note of what empty boxes you placed by the curb. They warned of boxes that once held big screen TV's, computer boxes, VCR's and game containers and cartons that once held stereo systems along with empty jewelry boxes. These empty boxes give thieves a list of thing you received for Christmas and they can go shopping while you're away or asleep. The reporter suggested you breakdown your boxes and make sure they are put in garbage bags so they do not advertise what might be there for a thief that is looking to enter and rob your home while you're asleep and make off with a real "steal." I found what I feel was a great solution. I went down to a local sporting goods store and they were very helpful in helping me fill my list of items I needed. I got a dozen empty boxes that once held an AK47 and 2 empty Glock boxes, (A Glock is a favored gun of law enforcement officers.) I also found a 12 gage shotgun box, a box from a 308 hunting rifle, a 45magnum handgun box and a number of empty ammunition boxes. For good measure I picked up a dozen paper targets and took a pencil and punched holes in the bull's-eye of each target. I placed everything at the curb along with the boxes that once held my new TV, my computer and the other gifts I received. I also placed a large sign that read;

"Come on in, the door isn't locked.

As Dirty Harry would say, Make my day!"

I would love getting some extra target practice."

"I hate housework, you make the beds, you do the dishes, and 6 months later... you have to start all over again." Joan Rivers

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STATE OF THE TOWN

Hosted by the Plainville Chamber of Commerce ~ Economic Development & Legislative Affairs Committee
 Was held Thursday, January 23rd at the PLAINVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

We are pleased to bring to you the Key Speakers presentations:

State of the Town Speakers Presentations

The Plainville Chamber of Commerce hosted a State of the Town presentation on Thursday, January 23rd at the Plainville Public Library. Welcome message was by Richard Williams, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee Key Speakers Kathy Pugliese, Town Council Chair State of the Town Address Robert E Lee, Town Manager Downtown Improvement Project John Bossi, Director of Technical Services Economic Development Mark Devoe, Director of Planning & Economic Development Jeff Kitching, Superintendent of Plainville Schools.

Town Council Chair Kathy Pugliese began by noting:

- **Kevin Toner was named Fire Chief** for the Town of Plainville. Kevin has been a firefighter over 20 years and worked his way through various leadership positions. The Town Council interviewed five candidates for the position. Most helpful with the interviewing was the fact that the Council previously conducted a survey with the members of the Fire Department and received valuable feedback demonstrating the strengths and areas for improvements within the organization.
- **Fire Suppression Ordinance** was created by

Council members along with representatives from the Fire Department. They reviewed the Fire Ordinance which had not had a thorough review in almost 30 years. It was brought it up to date and instituted some innovative processes such as expanded geographical residency requirements for membership. The new residency requirement is working well allowing non-Plainville residents to apply for membership.

- **News from the Tax Office..** The town has hired a new revenue collector Ana Legassey in October, formerly with Town of Plymouth and is focusing on delinquent accounts. This brings us to a newly adopted method for chasing delinquent taxes... the tax sale method is a quicker, less expensive, non-judicial alternative to a court-ordered foreclosure. This is done by working with a state marshal any overdue account considered for a tax sale would be one on which the town has tried for years to collect taxes but received no response despite frequent letters and other efforts to reach the owners. Must owe \$10,000 or more and before any action can be taken, the Council must approve the recommended list before the tax auction can move forward.
- **Robert's Street House Demolition** (12 of 14 homes purchased and demolished in first round). Many homes were severely damaged from flooding as a result of Storm Irene. Funding via FEMA and the State of CT and the Town of Plainville has provided a program for 100% buy out for the pre-

storm assessment for those residents who chose to participate in the program. This was a tremendous financial rescue for those homeowners. The town will retain the acreage as open space.

- **Pequabuck River Flood Study** the Town is also doing a regional with Bristol and Plymouth to determine the reason for the flooding and what measures(if any) can be taken to reduce the impact when there are major storms.
- **C-PACE program** The C-PACE program is an innovative financing model that will allow commercial, industrial and non-profit building owners across the state to access cleaner, cheaper and more reliable energy. The program requires that each Town pass a resolution before a property owner can take advantage of the benefits. The Plainville Chamber of Commerce has endorsed the Towns' participation in the program.
- **Human Resource Consolidation, IT Consolidation (sharing IT personnel)** and the future consolidation of maintenance staff. The Town and the Board of Education have embarked on a very effective process for merging departments. Previously, the Town and Board of Education consolidated the Finance Departments under one Finance Director. Following the success of that reorganization, Human Resources, and IT services are also combined. Looking forward, plans are being made to consolidate the buildings and grounds and maintenance staff personnel as well.

Robert Lee Discussed Financial Rating

Robert Lee explained our consultant from Webster Bank recently prepared some information that details the Town's credit rating overview some of the major items that credit rating entities study are:

- 1) **Management Practices**
 - 2) **Economy & Demographics**
 - Unemployment Rate, Housing Values
 - 3) **Financial Performance**
 - Fund Balance (Amount & Consistency)
 - 4) **Debt Management**
 - Debt Per Capita, Debt to Grand List
 - 5) **Long term Liabilities (Pension & OPEB)**
 Moody's analysts have rated Plainville as Aa3. We are grouped in with similar towns such as Portland and Thomaston. This rating is about midway between the very highest Aaa and the very lowest Baa3.
- Town Demographic base is diverse but many metrics are slightly below State averages

- Demographic position is in middle range of the Aa3 category – difficult to get to next level
- Tax base is diversified with the top ten taxpayers comprising about 10%
- Debt ratios are relatively high – both per capita and compared to the Grand List
- Debt amortization is relatively strong at about 80% paid-off in 10 years
- Grand List decreased about 4.6% during last
- Revaluation (lower than many communities) and average annual growth has been relatively modest
- Tax Collections are Relatively Strong
- Financial Management has been Strong with Fund Balance getting back to levels before the recession. The Fund Balance trend is going the right way. This Financial Discipline will be the Town's best chance to get a Rating Upgrade
- Pensions & OPEB– overall metrics are above average.

Superintendent Kitching Proud of Plainville's Accomplishments

Superintendent Jeffrey Kitching outlined some of the many accomplishments Plainville Schools have recently completed during his State of the Town address.

- Full Day Kindergarten for all students
- Recognized for positive climate and culture
- New math program K-8
- BYOD devices/Chromebooks
- Annual technology replacement program
- Veteran's Day recognition in school calendar
- Emergency management plans and safety upgrades
- Technology support staff collaborate with Town staff
- Revised budgeting process and successful Town budget votes
- Expanded clubs, activities and athletics at PHS and Middle School
- Energy -Education (Cynergistics)
- Restructured HR/Payroll with Town staff
- Additional security at PHS and residency monitor
- Instrumental music in Grade 4
- Additional Health Education at Middle School
- Student success plans grades 6-12
- College and career readiness center
- Revised Board strategic plan, mission and goals



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Chamber Economic Development Director Richard Williams opened the program with a welcome and invited people to enjoy pastry & coffee courtesy of the Liberty Bank.

John Bossi, Director of Technical Services spoke of projects in the works and the completion of the Stillwell Drive bridge.

Mark DeVoe, Director of Planning & Economic Development announced the expansion of Walker Trucking and the available commercial properties in Plainville for future businesses to locate in town.

Continuing the tradition of journalistic integrity

By: **ROBERT STORACE, STAFF WRITER**

NEW BRITAIN – Mainstays in central Connecticut, the New Britain Herald and The Bristol Press have been the go-to source for news in the region for more than 140 years.

Both papers have been owned by families and newspaper chains over the years, from the Vance family to the Journal Register Company.

Continuing that tradition of journalistic integrity is former Newsday executive Michael E. Schroeder, who purchased the two papers from Journal Register five years ago this week.

Schroeder - who has 34 years of experience in various facets of journalism in jobs ranging from copy editor to graphics editor, production director, general manager and publisher – can often be seen in the newsroom talking to reporters and editors about stories and upcoming projects.

A California native, the 55-year-old Schroeder worked for Newsday for 15 years. He has also held positions at InfoWorld and amNewYork, and was publisher and chief operating officer of 365 Media USA, which published the free commuter daily, BostonNOW.

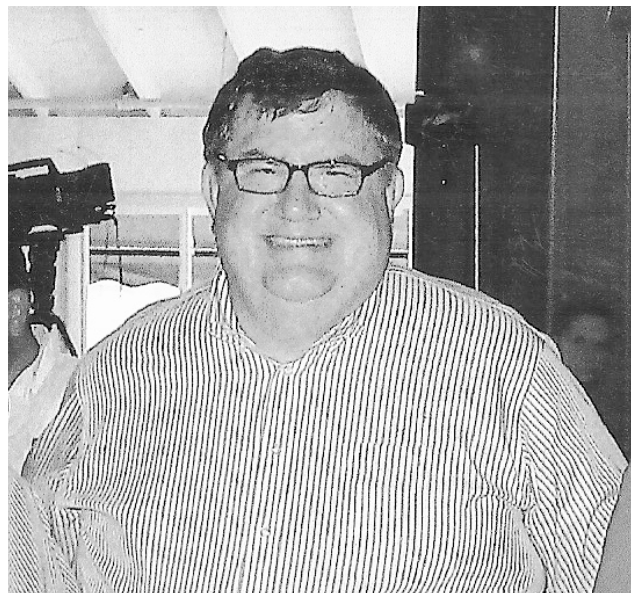
Schroeder, editor and publisher of the Herald and Press, is passionate about newspapers, what they stand for, and what they can do for a community.

In a recent interview, Schroeder, who lives in New Britain, said the mission of the Herald and Press “is underneath our masthead every day” — “It takes a newspaper to build a community.”

“We saw a community that needed building and we came here to build it,” said Schroeder, who is active in numerous organizations in both New Britain and Bristol.

Newspapers, Schroeder said, are important to communities such as New Britain and Bristol because “it’s not so much the paper and ink, it’s the content that fills those pages. There is no other media that covers local events like a newspaper. They have always been the go-to place for everyone else — TV, radio, cable and now, the Internet. Most of them use reporting that starts out with newspaper reporting.” Schroeder lived in Bristol for the first two years after he purchased the papers two weeks before they were to be closed by the financially ailing JRC. He has lived in New Britain for the past three years.

Schroeder said it’s important for him to live in the community his papers cover because “I don’t think you can experience a town, and say you are a part of a town, unless you live there. You get a feeling when



**Michael Schroeder, Editor and Publisher
The Herald and Bristol Press**

you live here that you can’t get otherwise.” Schroeder recently sat down to discuss changes in journalism, among other topics.

Robert Storace: You’ve been involved in different capacities in journalism for a long time. How does owning daily newspapers compare and differ from your other ventures?

Michael Schroeder: The most important thing is owning two small newspapers, because here you have to do everything. Fortunately, my wife (Janet) is here to help me with a lot of the financial and human resources kind of things. But coming in the door I had to know a lot about everything in running the paper. It was having to deal with a new environment. I did not know that New Britain existed before I owned the paper and that is a difficult situation. But the people in both New Britain and Bristol were both accepting. I had to leave it to (former New Britain mayor) Tim Stewart and (former Bristol mayor) Art Ward to convince me of that when I first came in. I still remember the day I walked in the snow from the old Herald building to City Hall and we sat down and talked only three days after we came up with this idea. That was really the deciding factor. I’ve worked for newspapers that were half-billion-dollar companies and had circulation of over a half-million, but you need to work a lot harder and you have to work a lot smarter here.

Storace: What changes do you see in newspapers — specifically the Herald and Press — in the next five to 10 years?

Schroeder: The bottom line is we have to follow the modes of communication that society moves to, and the major moves these days is to the Internet, digital and mobile. You already see us in all of those areas; you will see us there more and more intensely in the future. That does not take away from our commitment to print.

Storace: You are a member of the board of directors of a number of organizations ranging from the Greater New Britain Chamber of Commerce to the Friendship Center, Polonia Business Association and New Britain Symphony, and work closely with the Older Members Organization of the Boys and Girls Club and the Bristol Historical Society. Why is it so important for you to be involved in both communities? Schroeder: You’ve got to know what you are covering, what you are writing editorials about and stories you are writing in the paper to be able to give guidance to the staff about what they should be doing. I am fortunate enough in that I can talk to reporters about what they are covering, knowing that I have some knowledge of what the subject matter is. That helps the finished product. I can also edit stories, and I can make them richer because I am entrenched here.

Storace: Bristol and New Britain are both very politically active communities. What are the biggest differences — if there are any — in politics and government in those communities as compared to other communities you’ve worked in across the country?

Schroeder: I think there is a real intensity about taxes here. If there is one issue that makes or breaks a current or prospective politician, it will be how they stand, handle and build a record on taxes. It’s killed more than one campaign, and it’s the one issue on which voters will react.



Mainstream media accused of missing the big stuff

The mainstream media has proven that they *do* know how to look for facts and information — when a story comes up that they want to run with. That means if it’s about someone they want to destroy or neutralize, as they say in spy movies. That means Republicans who have a chance to move up on the national political stage or Democrats who are concerned for the people of America and not just the people of the Democratic Party, or their corporate clients.

A POINT TO PONDER



Phil Mikan

So they can report on something other than the latest Hollywood “star story” and cat “rescued” from a tree story.

The story has got to be approved, and then the dogs of news war are unleashed, and the scene is truly unbelievable. The smallest details are exposed, scrutinized, analyzed and ritualized.

Nothing is left to the viewer to have to try and figure out; it’s all done for them. Traffic tickets, employees’ sins and all kinds of innuendos and insinua-

tions about bad things that were probably doing — like really bad stuff.

That’s if they want to and if it will advance the agenda of the Democratic Party and the corporate players and payers. Or if it is the story of two nuts that explode bombs during a major public event. Then, all bets are off.

Where is the coverage of the left on a Democratic president who from all indications has been given a complete pass from either scrutiny or investigation? My question is, How come? Did you know that Michelle Obama turned 50? Now, that’s news

worth getting. A point to ponder.

Phil Mikan is the host of the Phil 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 or write him at Phil Mikan, Central Connecticut Communications, One Herald Square, New Britain, CT 06051.

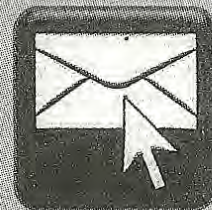
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Limit letters to 300 words

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Fax: (860) 223-8171



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Ask the Brayne

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

When checking my E-mail, Phone Messages and Mail to my surprise not one question for my February Issue.

To submit questions: Call 860-747-4119, E-mail hmtnn@comcast.net, or write to Hometown Connection, 27 Sherman Street, Plainville, CT 06062 or drop them at the office. Deadline for submitting questions and/or articles is the 15th of each month. Thank you for all the past questions. Please, keep them coming!! I know I can't get fired because I am one of the volunteers but I enjoy your questions. I also learn from them, you make me do the research and I love that.

Thanks, Bill Brayne!

IT'S THE LAW SHOULD BE OUR HABIT

It's a New Year – a time that most of us make resolutions to improve who we are and our impact on society. The Solid Waste and Recycling Commission hopes that you and your family will make the three R's part of your resolutions. Just like any change we make in life, if we do something often and long enough it becomes a habit. The State of Connecticut believes that recycling is important enough that it has been a law now for several years and should be a habit. All residents and businesses are mandated to recycle designated recyclable items. The Solid Waste and Recycling Commission would like to remind you that the following items are recyclable in your one stream pick-up:

Tin foil (must be clean)

Paper (copier paper, newspapers, magazines and junk mail)

Cardboard – Don't forget about those cereal boxes and other paper packaging

Glass and metal food containers

Plastics (1 through 7) – Yogurt cups, frozen meal containers, juice and sports drink containers, etc. Please, however, do not put plastic grocery/store bags in the one stream – those can be returned back to the store.

Styrofoam – if it has the recycle logo on it.

If you are already avid recyclers like the Commission members, then keep up the good work! You can now take it to the next level by: buy re-usable grocery/produce bags, making a compost pile or making/buying a rain barrel. The Commission wishes you a prosperous and green year!

Do you have a question or topic you would like us to discuss? The Commission meets on the second Thursday of every month at Town Hall and is open to guests. Trivia: What percentage of trash is made up of discarded packaging wastes? 30-40%!

(www.cornell.edu)

Jennifer Zakrzewski for

The Plainville Recycling & Solid Waste Commission (Richard Ireland, Jr., Rebecca Ireland, George Fensick, III, Marie Cassidy, Wayne Fish, and Kathleen Cole)

AAA Speaks Out: Don't Get Frozen Out by Cold Weather

Welcome to January in Connecticut. We all know that our state's weather is notoriously fickle, but it's a pretty safe bet that we will encounter some frigid temperatures in the weeks ahead. In fact, if you review the records at Bradley International Airport, Jan. 13 has historically been the coldest day of the year. With that in mind, AAA Insurance is offering up some advice on how to protect your home from the bone-chilling cold.

One of the biggest cold-weather menaces is frozen and burst pipes. Pipes can freeze due to sudden drops in temperature, poor insulation, or thermostats set too low.

“Both plastic and copper pipes can burst, and recovering from frozen pipes is no as simple as calling a plumber,” said Tom Beidleman, Vice President of Insurance for AAA. “A 1/8-inch crack in a pipe can spew up to 250 gallons of water a day, causing flooding, serious structural damage, and the potential for mold.”

Preventative Steps – What You Can Do Now

- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl spaces and attic.
- Seal leaks around pipes that allow cold air inside. Look for air leaks around electrical wiring, dryer vents and pipes; use caulk or insulation to keep the cold out.
- Disconnect garden hoses. If possible, use an indoor valve to shut off and drain water from pipes leading to outside faucets. This reduces the chance of freezing in pipes just inside the house.
- If a deep freeze is expected, let warm water drip overnight, preferably from a faucet on an outside wall. Just a trickle may keep your pipes from freezing.
- Keep your thermostat set at the same temperature day and night. You might be in the habit of turning down the heat when you're asleep, but further drops in temperature – more common overnight – could catch you off guard and freeze your pipes.
- Open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to uninsulated pipes under sinks and to appliances near exterior walls.

If Your Pipes Freeze

- If you turn on your faucets and nothing comes out, leave the faucets turned on and call a plumber.
- Do not use electrical appliances in areas of standing water.
- Never try to thaw a pipe with a torch or other open flame. It could cause a fire.
- You may be able to thaw a frozen pipe with warm air from a hair dryer. Start by warming the pipe as close to the faucet as possible, working toward the coldest section of pipe.
- If your water pipes have already burst, turn off the water at the main shutoff valve in the house. Leave the water faucets turned on. Make sure everyone in your family knows where the water shutoff valve is and how to open and close it.

“Prevention is key to protecting your home during winter. That includes making sure you have adequate home insurance,” said Beidleman.

Insurance policies and what they cover can vary greatly. If you have questions about your coverage, contact your insurance carrier. AAA Insurance customers can call 1-855-732-0145 for policy questions.

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.

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TOWN COUNCIL'S JANUARY 21ST MEETING CANCELLED BECAUSE OF THE STORM.

NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD 7 PM AT THE MUNICIPAL CENTER.

Get involved, come witness your Town Officials at work.

They are all volunteers and are working for you.

“To make and keep Plainville the best place to live”

Why do they put Braille on the drive-through bank machines? Good questions for the Brayne. Maybe he will find out!

PLAINVILLE HIGH SCHOOL PREPARE SENIORS FOR FUTURE.....

By: Ashley Nalewajek, Plainville High Reporter

During the financial aid night that took place at Plainville High School, a guest speaker came in to speak to students and parents about the different types of aid given, and to go over the FAFSA form that all students must complete. Each university that the student has applied to is required to have a net price calculator, where the student and a parent answer various questions regarding income and a potential estimate price is given by the school on how much it would cost after all forms of financial aid are taken into consideration. The different types of scholarships that students may be eligible for include: merit, academic, athletic, leadership/ community service and arts. It was suggested that students apply for local and regional scholarships before they apply for state and national scholarships because the number of competing students will be much lower. Students can receive subsidized (when the government pays the interest while the student is in college) and unsubsidized loans (the student/parent pays the loans while the student is in college). There are multiple options for paying off student loans. By filling out the FAFSA form, students can also choose whether or not they want to be considered for work study. The form also branches to other loans including the Perkins Loan, and the PLUS Loan which is a loan that parents take out. The way the amount of financial aid is calculated, is by taking the total cost of the university per year and subtracting the total family contribution, the end result would be how much money the student needs. Not all students will have to complete the CSS Profile, it is a financial for mostly private schools. The CSS Profile determines the amount of money that a school gives to the student.

TEENS FOR JEANS SCHOLARSHIP

A Teens for Jeans drive was held at Plainville High School through January 16th. Jeans were donated to this campaign that collects jeans and gives them to homeless teenagers.

It was organized by Katie Bernier, the organization pools names of the participating students and puts them in a draw for a scholarship.

Community Foundation Accepting Grant and Scholarship Applications PLAINVILLE COMMUNITY FUND and GENERAL GRANT CYCLE

Main Street Community Foundation is currently accepting grant applications from area nonprofit organizations through its competitive General Grant Cycle and the Plainville Community Fund while scholarship applications are being accepted from local students. All applications are available on the Foundation's website, www.mainstreetfoundation.org.

Nonprofit organizations serving Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and/or Wolcott may be eligible to apply for grants through the Foundation's competitive General Grant Cycle. Funding consideration will be given to, but not limited to, proposals requesting support for charitable projects in the areas of education, health, human services, sports field maintenance, animal welfare, environment and arts and culture. Proposals for the General Grant Cycle are due April 4, 2014.

In addition, Plainville Community Fund is seeking grant applications from nonprofit organizations that serve Plainville residents in a variety of areas. Proposals for the Plainville Community Fund are due March 14, 2014.

Applications and eligibility criteria for the General Grant Cycle and the Plainville Community Fund are posted on the Foundation's website, and interested organizations are required to contact Jarre Betts, Director of Programs & Community Relations, at 860.583.6363 before submitting a proposal.

The Foundation is also accepting applications for scholarships from local residents who wish to pursue their educational dreams. These scholarship funds target many diverse areas of study and are available to students at various points in their educational careers. The 2014 Scholarship Directory, which lists all scholarships and eligibility criteria, and the Foundation's Common Application are available on the Foundation's website. The deadline for the majority of the scholarships is March 31, 2014, although there are a few exceptions that are noted in the Directory.

Included in the 60 scholarships offered this year are four new scholarships. The Main Street Community Foundation Scholarship Fund will provide a scholarship to a graduating senior or graduate of any of the high schools located in the Foundation's service area.

All information and materials are available on the Foundation's website, www.mainstreetfoundation.org.

The Main Street Community Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for both present and future generations in the communities served by encouraging and promoting gift planning, prudent stewardship of assets, effective grantmaking and community leadership. A nonprofit public charity, created by private citizens, the foundation works with donors in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott who wish to build permanent charitable endowments to support their communities.

Crowley Auto Group Sponsored Connecticut Technical High School Students Competed to Represent Connecticut at the Finals of National Automotive Technology Competition

Students from four (4) Connecticut Technical High Schools competed at Crowley Ford in Plainville on Thursday January 30, 2014 for the opportunity to represent our state as 'Team Connecticut' in 2014 National Automotive Technology Competition to be held at the New York International Auto Show in Manhattan on April 22 & 23, 2014. This Semi-final competition is called the 2014 CARA Automotive Technology Challenge (The Challenge). Both The Challenge and 'Team Connecticut' are sponsored by the Connecticut Automotive Retailers Association (CARA).

The national competition, the auto industry's largest school-to-work initiative, pits the nation's best high school automotive vocational education students against one another for the title of 'America's Top Technician'. Prizes and scholarships totaling more than \$3 million will be awarded to the participants.

Over the past 20 years the National Automotive Technology Competition has established itself as a leader in automotive education. It gives students the opportunity to develop their skills in a fun, competitive, and rewarding environment.

How the Challenge Works

Every automotive high school senior in each of the Connecticut Technical High Schools takes a written exam developed by ASE (The National Association for Automotive Service Excellence). ASE is the nationally recognized Automotive Industry certification program covering all manufacturers.

The top two scoring students from each school become that school's team and the top four teams are invited to participate in the Challenge that was held at Crowley Ford. Students will be evaluated on electrical diagnosis and theory, hands-on vehicle repair, tire and wheel technology, braking systems, precision measurement and interview skills. The Challenge encompasses many of the areas the team will experience at the National Automotive Technology Competition (NATC) held in New York City. This year teams that competed in the Challenge on January 30, 2014 at Crowley Ford are:

Norwich THS (Technical High School), Norwich, students Thomas Thompson and Andrew Beaudoin, instructor Peter Civitello

Kaynor THS, Waterbury, students Michael Palmerie and Brandon Priest, instructor Dave Emmons

Wilcox THS, Meriden, students Jonathan Mercado and Matthew Ruff, instructor Alex Andrzejewski

Platt THS, Milford, students Alec Bergemann and Santiago Serna, Instructor Kirk Stankiewicz

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CARA is a statewide trade association representing over 250 franchised new car and truck dealerships primarily engaged in the retail sale of new and used motor vehicles. Association members employ approximately 13,000 persons in Connecticut.

The National Automotive Technology Competition was founded by the Greater New York Automobile Dealers Association, held at the New York International Auto Show. It is an industry-wide school-to-work initiative supported by nearly every major automaker, technical institutions, OEM suppliers, automotive parts and supplies companies, individual dealers and dealer associations across the country.

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- CONTEMPTS

Attorney Mastrianni and a small group of a local attorneys have recently been trained in the Collaborative Divorce process, which allows couples to settle their marital issues with compassion, dignity and minimal court involvement.

Attorney Michael W. Mastrianni has over 25 years of experience and is a member of the following:

- ▶ Central CT Collaborative Family Law Group
- ▶ International Academy of Collaborative Professionals
- ▶ Connecticut Bar Association Family Law Section

LEARN ABOUT ACCESS HEALTH CT

Did you know that Connecticut has a new health insurance marketplace? It's called Access Health CT. Open enrollment for Access Health CT began October 1, 2013 and goes until March 31, 2014. Access Health CT brings the benefits of Health Care Reform directly to the people making it easier for individuals, families and small businesses to get health care coverage. Stephanie Soucy, Assister presented a program recently at the library. If you have any questions you can reach her at 860-436-0008

This article brought to you in the interest of better....

Dental Health

by: David R. Edelson, D.M.D.



WHAT IS LASER DENTISTRY?

What is a laser and how does it work?

A laser is an instrument that produces a very narrow, intense beam of light energy. When laser light comes in contact with tissue, it causes a reaction. The light produced by the laser can remove or shape tissue.

Are lasers used in dentistry?

Yes, lasers have been used in dentistry since 1990. Lasers can be used as a safe and effective treatment for a wide range of dental procedures and are often used in conjunction with other dental instruments.

How are lasers used in dentistry?

Dental lasers can be used to:

- reduce the discomfort of canker and cold sores.
- expose partially erupted wisdom teeth.
- remove muscle attachments that limit proper movement.
- manage gum tissue during impressions for crowns or other procedures.
- remove overgrown tissues caused by certain medications.
- perform biopsy procedures.
- remove inflamed gum tissues and aid in the treatment of gum disease.
- remove or reshape gum and bone tissues during crown lengthening procedures.
- help treat infections in root canals.
- speed up tooth whitening procedures.

What are the benefits of using dental lasers?

There are several advantages. Dentists may not need to use a drill or administer anesthesia in some procedures, allowing the patient to enjoy a more relaxed dental experience. Laser procedures can be more precise. Also, lasers can reduce symptoms and healing times associated with traditional therapies; reduce the amount of bacteria in both diseased gum tissue and in tooth cavities; and control bleeding during surgery.

Are dental lasers safe?

If the dental laser is used according to accepted practices by a trained practitioner, then it is at least as safe as other dental instruments. However, just as you wear sunglasses to protect your eyes from prolonged exposure to the sun, when your dentist performs a laser procedure, you will be asked to wear special eyeglasses to protect your eyes from the laser.

How can I be sure my dentist is properly trained to use a laser?

Ask your dentist questions about the extent of his or her laser education and training. Make sure that your dentist has participated in educational courses and received training by the manufacturer. Many dental schools, dental associations, and the Academy of Laser Dentistry (ALD) offer dental laser education. The ALD is the profession's independent source for current dental laser education and credentialing.

How will I know if treatment with a dental laser is an option for me?

Ask your dentist. Although the laser is a very useful dental instrument, it is not appropriate for every dental procedure.



"GOD'S GROCERY STORE"



Greetings and Happy New Year from the Plainville Seventh-day Adventist Community Services and Food Distribution Center, aka "God's Grocery Store. All of us want to say thank you for helping us continue through another year. Last year we received 640,000 lbs of goods from Foodshare and we are serving up to 400-500 families a week now. At thanksgiving time we were able to assist Foodshare in collecting over 700 turkeys at their annual turkey drive in Hartford. We were happy to distribute over 400 turkeys and chicken to our clients along with all the fixings.

At Christmas we were able to give toys out to over 300 children, thank you Northeast Utilities. I want to say thanks to all our volunteers for such dedication and hard work. You are greatly appreciated. A special thanks goes out to everyone who contributed additional goods to us, Louise at Bagels Plus, Dr. Higgins, Gnazzos, Our Lady of Mercy, Walmart, Shoprite and any others. We can't say thank you enough. Despite some changes in Foodshare we are still dedicated to continuing our work as long as the Lord continues to bless us and provide us with the means necessary to do so.

One of the means we need is a Fork Lift, if anyone has a spare one we would love to have it.

Dr. Gary R. Maglio, Optometrist



"Come See Our Extensive Eyeglass Selection. Our Office Manager, Lisa Perrotti, would be Happy to Help You with All Your Eyecare and Insurance Needs!!!!"



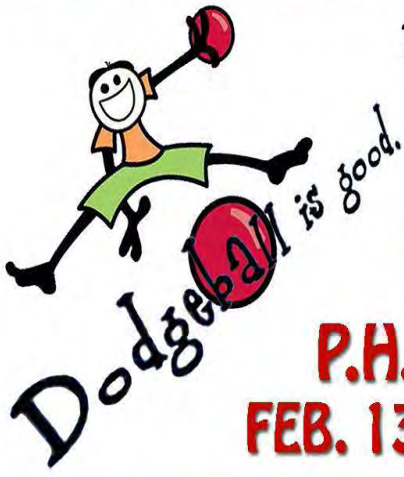
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DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT!



to benefit  the **Project Graduation**

P.H.S. KEGEL GYM
FEB. 13th, 2014 @ 6:00 pm

Teams will be made up of 6 players
\$10 Entry Fee per Player

Cash or checks made out to:
YMCA Project Graduation

Non-Participant Admission Fee: \$2.00

Team Name: _____
 Players Names: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____
 Team Contact _____
 & Phone Number _____ - _____ - _____

Mail Check and Registration to: **DAWN ANGELILLO 860-637-6640**
 43 Lena Avenue, Plainville, CT 06062
 or Drop Off to: **MR. FARRELL @ Plainville High School**

2014 PHS/YMCA PROJECT GRADUATION NEWS

The next meeting for the 2014 Plainville High School Project Graduation is **Wednesday, February 5th, 2014, 7:00 p.m. at the YMCA**. Project Graduation is an all night alcohol and drug-free party, held for Plainville High School Seniors right after the graduation ceremony. The party is held at the YMCA the night of graduation and is filled with many fun activities. All Senior and Junior parents are invited to attend the meetings. If interested in helping, please contact **Dawn Angelillo at: 860-637-6640**.

FUTURE MEETING DATES:
Wednesday, March 5th, 2014
Wednesday, April 2nd, 2014
Wednesday, May 7th, 2014

DODGE BALL TOURNAMENT



to be held at the Plainville High School Keggel Gym on **Thursday, February 13th, 2014 at 6:00 pm**. Cost: \$60 for a team of 6 players. General Admission: \$2.00. Prizes awarded to the winning team members. Public participation highly **WELCOME** including businesses, town/school employees, civic organizations, kids, adults. Please call: **Dawn Angelillo 860-637-6640** to register your team or for more information.

USED CLOTHING/ITEM COLLECTION

Project Graduation will receive **CASH** for every pound of used items we collect from **January** until **May 2014**.

We will be collecting:

- **Wearable & Usable Clothing** (men's, women's, children's)
- **Shoes, Belts, Handbags**
- **Linens** (bedding, curtains, towels)



Drop off at the YMCA on **February 22nd, 2014 from 10 am – Noon** in the lobby or call: **Dawn Angelillo at: 860-637-6640** to arrange for a pick-up. Future drop-off dates at the YMCA: **March 29th, April 26th, May TBD**.



COMEDIAN NIGHT



March 22nd, 2013 at VFW, corner of Northwest Dr. & Route 10 in Plainville. **Tickets are \$15.00 in advance / \$20 at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm, show starts at 8:00 pm.** There will be a 50/50 raffle and DJ entertainment. BYOB/Snacks. For more information or to purchase tickets contact: **Doreen Corriveau at: 860-250-4443**.



SUPPORT YMCA PROJECT GRADUATION

EMPTY THOSE CLOSETS, DRAWERS ...

Used Clothing Collection

We are collecting:

- * **Wearable & Usable Clothing** (men's, women's, children)
- * **Shoes, Belts, Handbags**
- * **Linens** (bedding, curtains, towels)

DROP OFF:
Wheeler YMCA

Date: Feb. 22nd
Time: 10:00 am to Noon

Please put all donations into tightly tied plastic bags-thanks!

PHS Class of 2014
YMCA PROJECT GRADUATION
WILL RECEIVE \$\$\$\$ FOR EVERY POUND WE COLLECT!!

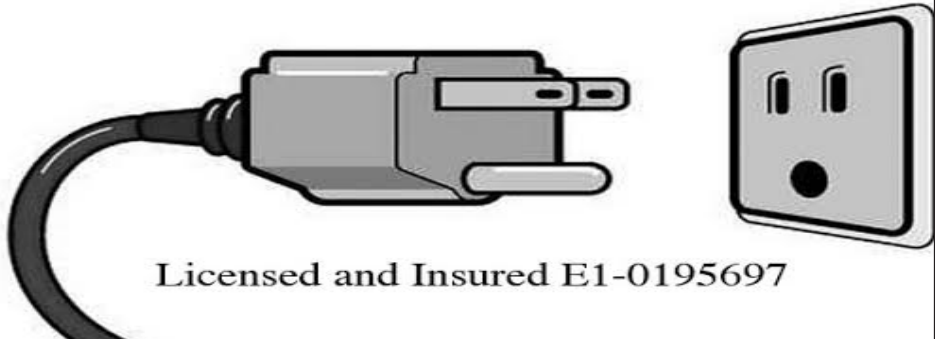
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I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag...



Schools in Review

PHS Students Give Back



Students in Mark Chase's Transportation classes at Plainville High School have successfully completed another batch of bicycles that have been refurbished to "like new" condition. These broken down and unclaimed bikes are provided to the Transportation classes by the Plainville Police Department and from residents in town. The goal is to inspect, repair and refurbish each bike to a safe and useable condition. Once the bikes are finished, they are then donated to the Plainville Community Pantry and back to residents in town.

Middle School Students Sponsor Coat Drive



The Middle School of Plainville's Student Council, with the leadership of faculty member Demetrius. Karapanos, and the school's Parent Teacher Club, worked together to collect 97 coats to donate to the Salvation Army as part of the Coats for Connecticut project - a partnership between Best Cleaners, the Salvation Army and other Connecticut organizations.

Soldiers Recieve Care Packages from Toffolon Students

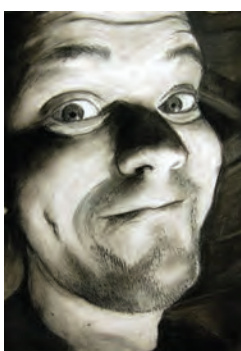


As part of the Plainville school district's Veteran's Day celebrations, students and staff members at the Louis Toffolon Elementary School contributed to a care package shipped to a battalion of American soldiers stationed in Afghanistan. The care package project, coordinate by staff member Heather Fagan, contained letters thanking the soldiers for their service and wishing them a safe return. Many items were also donated by students and staff members for the care package including snacks, magazines, soups, hot chocolate, puzzles, and more!



Plainville High School Students Receive Recognition

Three Plainville High School students recently received 2014 Connecticut Regional Scholastic Art Awards. Maggie Myszka was awarded an Honorable Mention for her charcoal drawing "Portrait of a Friend", Sarah Voisine was awarded a Gold Key for her charcoal drawing "Branches" and Devon Zirpolo was awarded an Honorable Mention for her untitled ceramic sculpture.



Portrait of a Friend by Maggie Myszka



Branches by Sarah Voisine



Ceramic Sculture by Devon Zirpolo

MSP Students Participate in Anti-Bullying Conference

Students from the Middle School of Plainville's Ally Student Group recently served as presenters at the "Changing School Climate Reducing Bullying Conference" in Hamden, Connecticut. The Middle School's Dean of Students Tom Laudadio, attended the conference with the students group which included Jessica Royce, Nick Costantini, Tanairy Barton, and Emily Savage. As part of the program, the Plainville students shared their experiences at the Middle School with the Bystander to Ally Program, and discussed the many ways the Middle School of Plainville challenges name-calling and bullying behaviors.

Toffolon 4th Grade Students Create Christmas Trees ~ Deliver to Plainville Senior Center

Toffolon Fourth Grade teacher, Diane Lebel (bottom left) and her students, created Christmas trees for the recent holiday season and delivered them to the Plainville Senior Center. Shown below are students (center) working on their project. Lower right photo displays trees as table decorations and students performing in a holiday concert for the Seniors at the Center.



of The United States of America.

~ Ralph Holmstrom ~ Celebrates 100 Years



Ralph Holmstrom was born in New Britain February 28, 1914 and married Louise Herrman in June, 1941. They had three daughters Kathy Hickey of Plainville, donna Brown of south Windsor and Jane Holmstrom of Plainville. He was a member or the New Britain Fire Department, retiring in September 1969.

Louise and Ralph moved to Plainville in September 1992. They enjoyed spending winters in Florida and summers in Maine, making Plainville their home base. Ralph is a member of Unity Lodge of New Britain and Frederick Franklin Lodge of Plainville and the Sphinx Temple in Newington. He has been active in the Masonic Community for 70 years. Ralph now has three grandchildren and seven great grand children.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY Jack & Marie Cassidy



55 YEARS

HISTORIC WEDDING PRESENTATION TRUMBULL-COOLIDGE ROYAL WEDDING IN 1929

On January 18th, the Plainville Historical Society presented a wonderful slide show of the President Coolidge's son John's wedding to our Governor Trumbull's daughter, Florence, narrated by Nancy Eberhardt. Aside from the formal wedding pictures of the bride and groom, their wedding party and their parents, there were a number of informal pictures of Plainville residents and children peering into the church windows for a glimpse of the very private marriage ceremony. This was not an easy presentation to make since in 1929 all photos were in black and white and usually not of the best quality. Mrs. Coolidge's wedding dress, donated by Florence herself to the Historical Society, was on display, as well as Mr. Coolidge's top hat and cane. There was even an original piece of their wedding cake, wrapped in monogrammed paper. (Delicious refreshments were served) R. Lalama



There was even an original piece of their wedding cake, wrapped in monogrammed paper. (Delicious refreshments were served) R. Lalama

Community Fund Grants



The Plainville Community Fund is pleased to announce the grant recipients for the 2013 fall grant cycle. The recipients are:

- Linden Street School**, to support the student initiated environmental committee to purchase earth boxes and supplies to grow vegetables;
 - New Britain Symphony**, to support the Annual Young Peoples Concert for fifth graders from Plainville;
 - Town of Plainville**, to support the resurfacing of the walking track at Norton Park and The Plainville Schools, to support the purchase of materials for Family Math Night at the 3 Plainville elementary schools.
- The Plainville Community Fund was created to establish a source of funding for charitable organizations and project to enhance the lives of Plainville residents now and in years to come.

Business After Hours



Business-After-Hours Networking Event held recently at the Farmington Bank. An interactive event centered around business planning to establish goals, action items and metrics for a profitable 2014. It was an opportunity to meet staff and chat with other business professionals from the area.

Pictured from Right to Left:
Brian Kerrigan, Attorney dedicated to advising businesses to help them grow and run efficiently, Solidea Pitruzzello, Branch Manager New Britain Ave., Thomas Kaminski, Assistant Branch Manager New Britain Office, and Katherine Bogdan, Account Executive at Capital Bankcard.



AARP # 4 1 4 6

The AARP Chapter #4146 January meeting held at the Plainville library with speakers from the North Central Area Agency on Aging. The presentation by Carol Walsh, Senior Medicare Patrol Coordinator for the agency was about Medicare Fraud. For information call 1-800-447-8477-for suspected Medicare Fraud or 860-724-6443 Ext. 271 Your local S. M. P.

Photo L to R are Carol Walsh, S.M.P. Coordinator, Jim Stuart, AARP President and Deiclra Lester, Volunteer for Medicare Patrol.

Photo and article by Wendell Copeland

The Time is Now~

To File For Homeowners Benefits

Elderly and Disabled Homeowners are reminded by Town Assessor Jane Dickman Buden that it is time to file for benefits for homeowners for the 2013 Grand List Year.

Income limits for homeowners are; for a Single Person, not to exceed \$34,100 and for a Married Couple, not to exceed \$41,600.

The Town of Plainville is currently sponsoring a local option elderly program. Income requirements of this program are \$41,400 for a single person and \$46,700 for a married couple. Applicants must meet all other requirements of the State program.

Qualifications for the above benefits are:

Applicants must have been 65 years old prior to December 31, 2013 or have a 100 percent disability rating from the Social Security Administration or be the widow/widower age 50 or over of a previously approved applicant.

Persons filing must provide a copy of their 2013 income tax return or if not required to file a return, must supply copies of their sources of income and the amounts. Proof of Social Security benefits (1099) collected for 2013 is also needed.

The Town of Plainville also has a local option tax freeze program. Applicants must be 70 years of age or older and must meet certain income and asset requirements. Anyone interested in finding out more about this program should contact the Assessor's Office.

Applications for additional Veterans are also being taken. The Veteran must meet the above qualifications (with the exception of age) as well as have his/her DD214 on file with the Town Clerk by October 1st. Veteran must meet the ninety day qualifications for wartime as set fourth in Connecticut General Statute 27-103. *Continue on Page 17*

We Offer a Fitness Based Cancer Survivor Program at the Wheeler Regional Family YMCA!

This program is offer without cost to participants and includes 3 free months YMCA Family Membership. The YMCA provides trained instructors, the facility and equipment.

LIVESTRONG at the YMCA focuses on you-the whole person not the disease. The free 12 week program meets twice a week for 90 minutes (Tu and Thurs 11:30-1pm or 4-5:30pm), using traditional exercise methods to ease you back into fitness and help you maintain a healthy weight. You'll focus on:

- Building muscle mass and strength
- Increasing flexibility and endurance
- Improving confidence and self-esteem

Plus, learn about wellness, stress reduction techniques and how to continue healthful habits after the program has ended.

Just as important, LIVESTRONG at the YMCA encourages a warm spirit of community-a safe comfortable place for you to build companionship with others affected by cancer and share stories and inspiration.

Taking it at your own pace!

No one experiences cancer in the same way. Participants come to the program with different physical challenges and lifestyle goals. LIVESTRONG at the YMCA provides you with individual attention and an approach to recovery that targets the areas you need to rebuild. There's no competition here-physical activities are tailored to match your abilities.

Our program is starting Tues 2/4 to Thurs 4/24 11:30-1pm or 4-5:30pm.

For more information please contact me at eileen.cyr@ghymca.org Eileen Cyr Wellness Coordinator Wheeler Regional Family YMCA 149 Farmington Avenue | P: 860.793.9631 x133 | F: 860.793.2092 |

Scratch & Peck by Leesha

Another busy month has passed since our last edition.

ON THE STREET WHERE YOU LIVE

How many of you know the origin of your street's name? This is not a quiz.

For a small town Plainville does not have a single street which retains its name from border to border.

We have some streets with traditional names, streets named after founding families, etc. We do not have a Main Street, but East Main Street & West Main Street. We have Broad Street which really isn't very broad, East Broad Street & West Broad Street. Washington Street which is only one block long and becomes South Washington at one end and North Washington at the other, which then morphs into Unionville Avenue. That makes sense since it does go to Unionville. Farmington Ave, New Britain Ave. & Forestville Ave. all go to their destinations; however, there is no Southington or Bristol Avenues. East Street is somewhat on the east side of town, but it runs north and south. There is a North Street and a South Avenue, but they are very short. There is no West street.

Church Street is obvious. While we were still known as the great plains of Farmington, some local families founded the Congregational Church so that they did not have to go to Farmington to worship. Camp Street was similarly named for the Methodist Camp Ground that is still a vibrant, colorful piece of our history.

Plainville also has streets named after our veterans. Cassidy Drive (now known as Cassidy Commons) was named in honor of William Cassidy who died in WW II at Angio Beach Head in France at the age of 19. At that time it was built to house military personnel at the long defunct Nike Site.

Honor Heights off of Unionville Avenue is named for other Plainville veterans: Proventure, Casciello, Washburn, D'Amico, Hull, Shepard, Robidoux and Hittleman.

Our street namers were also fond of Presidents, Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Pierce, Grant, Eisenhower, Roosevelt and Cleveland. And Generals: Eisenhower, again, Pershing, Dewey, Bradley, MacArthur, Grant and Sherman. Were they named for these famous men, or for other families? I don't know, do you? And, of course, Trumbull Street for our one and only Governor.

They also liked trees: Maple, Linden, Spruce, Laurel, Walnut (which is now Robert Holcomb Way), Dogwood, Elm, Hickory, Locust, Pine, Plumtree & White Oak.

And they liked Indians, although I have never met one here. Along Metacomet we have Cree, Sachem, Pequot, Seneca and Mohawk.

Developers also loved their children. If you live on a street with a boy's or girl's name, it probably immortalizes his offspring. Too many to mention here.

Some other streets are harder to fathom, Diamond and Pearl for instance. Have any of you ever seen such a thing on your street? Some are still a mystery, although I love the names; Strong Court, Peace Court, Reliance Road & Maiden Lane.

Whiting Street, Canal Street and Towpath Lane are easy from our once glorious past.

The Nortons, Wheelers, Hamlins (who also has a pond) & Ushers also have streets named in their honor.

Legend has it that Bohemia Street was named for the Gypsies that used to pass through town and camped on these fields long before the street was paved and houses built. Many now have forgotten that Plainville used to have horse races near East Street, thus Race Avenue. Bicycle Street, did we have such an industry?

There are so many more. If I have neglected your street, or have gotten my facts wrong, I am sorry. The blame is on me not the paper you are reading.

Terrible Grief

If you receive this e-mail "It is a Scam"

Good morning,

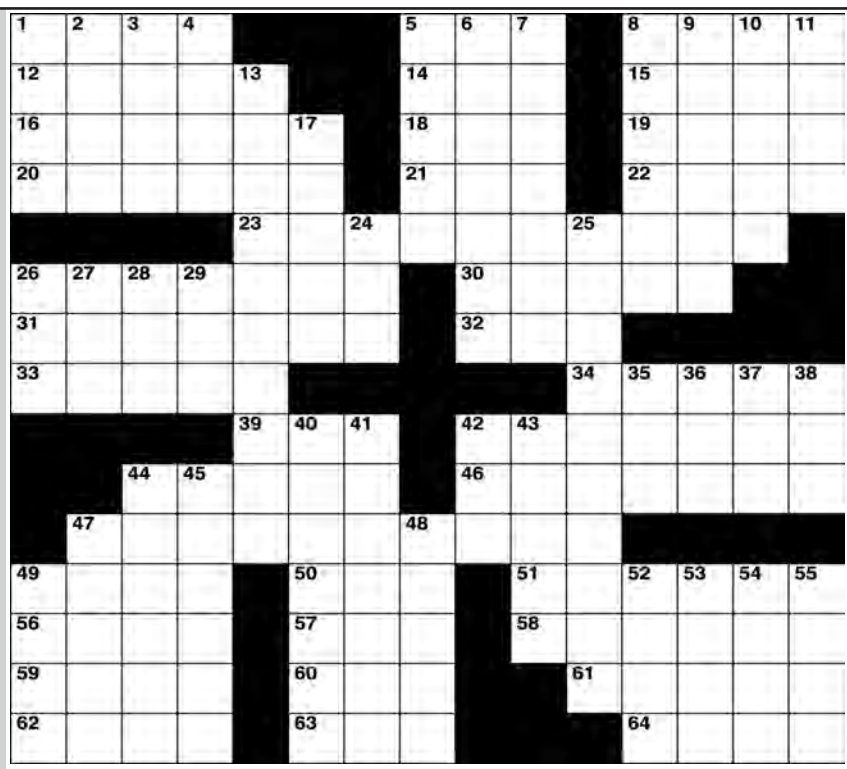
I Hope you get this on time, I made a trip to Ukraine and had my bag stolen from me with my passport and personal effects therein. The embassy has just issued me a temporary passport but i have to take care of my expenses and settle my hotel bills with the manager.

I have made contact with my bank but it would take me 3-5 working days to access funds in my account, the bad news is my flight will be leaving very soon but i am having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel manager won't let me leave until i settle the bills. I need your help financially and i promise to make the refund once i get back home, you are my last resort and hope. Please let me know if i can count on you and i need you to keep checking your email because it's the only way i can reach you.

Kind regards,
Deborah Smith-Pressley
CEO/Founder
The Garrett Pressley
Autism Resource Center
Tel: (617) 216-1767 Fax:
(617) 296-4600

*Editors Note: Printed as received with all the errors.

PROMISSOR



- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| CLUES ACROSS | 50. NURSING GROUP | 13. TERMINATOR |
| 1. HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGES | 51. WITHIN REACH | 17. DERIVE |
| 5. CATHODE-RAY TUBE | 56. TURKISH BRANDY | 24. ANGRY |
| 8. RIBOSOMAL RIBONUCLEIC ACID | 57. METAL FOOD STORAGE CONTAINER | 25. IMPRUDENT |
| 12. MARBLES PLAYING STONE | 58. BATTEN DOWN | 26. RURAL FREE DELIVERY (ABBR.) |
| 14. ZODIACAL LION | 59. ASSIST IN WRONGDOING | 27. ___ LILLY, DRUG COMPANY |
| 15. WHALE SHIP CAPTAIN | 60. OLD WORLD, NEW CASES | 28. CHEST MUSCLE (SLANG) |
| 16. HIT THE SACK | 61. RUST FUNGUS SPORE | 29. LEASE |
| 18. HOSTELRY | 62. A WAY TO WAIT | 35. POINT MIDWAY BETWEEN E AND SE |
| 19. PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN INDIA | 63. POINT MIDWAY BETWEEN S AND SE | 36. COOL DOMICILE |
| 20. FOUR | 64. ADAM AND EVE'S THIRD SON | 37. FIRST WOMAN |
| 21. MALE WORKFORCE | | 38. RADIOACTIVITY UNIT |
| 22. MARCH 15 | CLUES DOWN | 40. REVOLVES |
| 23. FOOD LIFTER | 1. HAS TWO WHEELS | 41. INCONGRUITIES |
| 26. COPY | 2. "A DEATH IN THE FAMILY" NOVELIST | 42. ___-MAGNON: EARLY EUROPEAN |
| 30. DE MILLE (DANCER) | 3. FABRIC STUFFING | 43. INDEFINITELY LONG PERIODS |
| 31. OVERCHARGED | 4. MIX IN A POT | 44. SATURATED |
| 32. CONDUCTED | 5. MOVE UP A MOUNTAIN | 45. MANNERLY |
| 33. PRONOUNCEMENTS | 6. REPLENISHMENT | 47. ABU __, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES CAPITAL |
| 34. FLEMISH NAMES OF YPRES | 7. WEIGHT OF A SHIP'S CARGO | 48. MOVE RHYTHMICALLY TO MUSIC |
| 39. DENOTES THREE | 8. FLIGHTLESS BIRDS WITH FLAT BREADSTONES | 49. CHEERLESS |
| 42. ROOT SOURCE OF TAPIOCA | 9. SCHOLARSHIP BEQUESTER | 52. 4 HIGHEST CARDS |
| 44. ANIMAL TRACK | 10. CONSUMER ADVOCATE | 53. CRITERION |
| 46. BACKED AWAY FROM | 11. OVERGARMENTS | 54. PERSON FROM U.K. (ABBR.) |
| 47. NEIGHBORHOOD | | 55. AFFIRMATIVE! (SLANG) |
| 49. PIGEON-PEA PLANT | | |

Answer on page 29

Due to earth's gravity it is impossible for mountains to be higher than 15,000 meters.

What's Going On...

Senior Center "Young at Heart"

AARP DRIVER SAFETY

An AARP Driver Safety Class will be held at the Plainville Senior Center, 200 East Street, on Thursday, February 6 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.

Course I-Computer Fundamentals

(2 Sessions) is being offered on Tuesdays, February 4 & 11 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. In Course I participants will expand on the knowledge they gained in the free beginners' course, learn about Windows, editing documents and how to save and use documents on a hard drive or flash drive. The cost for Course I is \$30.00. Sign-up began on Wednesday, January 8th for members and Wednesday, January 15th for non-members.

OPEN PAINTING GROUP

Senior Center members are welcome to join the Open Painting Group at the Plainville Senior Center on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. This is an informal group, no instructor, just for fun. No registration necessary.

POOL PLAYERS CLINIC

There will be a pool player's clinic on Mondays, 12:30-3:00 at the Plainville Senior Center. Improve your game; learn good mechanics and cube ball control.

WOMAN'S CLUB OF PLAINVILLE

Monthly Meeting

Faith Bible Church
168 Unionville Ave.

Tuesday, February 4th ~ 7 P.M.

Tea Party Plans to be Announced

Interested in Joining?

Come as our guest on Tuesday.

For more information contact

Laura 860-747-4876

Elmo Aiudi

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2 Great Events in 1 Great Day

Psychic Fair~Over 25 Vendors

Plainville Food Pantry Food Drive

Date: February 8, 2014

Snow Date: Feb. 9th

Location: Rockwells

161-B Woodford Avenue, Unit 58

Plainville, CT 06062

Donation: Food for the Plainville
Food Pantry

Concert

Time: 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Cost: \$25.00

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and Sacred Breath Class with
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Devotional Music Connecting to
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Breath and Sound

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Reverend Aristia Partiss

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"All You Can Eat" BREAKFAST

O.L.M. PARISH CENTER
19 S. CANAL STREET

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH
8:00 a.m. TO 10:30 a.m.

Donation: Adults \$4.00

Children \$1.00~Under 6 FREE

Orange Juice, Eggs, Texas Toast, Sausage,
Ham, Hash Browns, Bagels, Donuts & Coffee

"KIDS CORNER"

Children activities will be a surprise
for "Valentine's Day"

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

~ Open to the Public ~

Military Whist

The St. John Ladies Guild will hold a Military Whist on Wednesday, April 9th at 6:30PM at ST John the Evangelist Church Hall, 31 Newington Avenue, New Britain. Mark your calendars for this great event....bring your friends... refreshments provided!

Instructions on how to play this card game are given the night of the event... it's easy to learn and great fun!

For more information
please call: 860-223-2667
\$5 donation at the door

Plainville Historical Society

Upcoming Event

On Saturday, February 15th, 2:00 PM
Gail Willaims and several speakers
will present a program on the
Equal Rights Movement

For more information

call (860) 747-6477

The Historical Society is located at
29 Pierce Street
and is handicapped accessible

Board of Education Bulletin "Board" for February

December and January are slow months for the Board of Education. Most of us are getting ready for the holidays and trying to stay warm but at the same time we are preparing to start our budget deliberations at the end of January.

Highlights of the last two meetings:

1. The Wheeler School said goodbye to Cathy Frayler as she retires and welcomed new principal Andrew Batchelder. We wish both of them well in their endeavors.
2. The Board approved the 2014-2015 Budget Calendar along with the Capital Budget Plan. The calendar and the superintendent's budget presentation are available on the Plainville Community Schools website. We would like to encourage parents and the community to attend.
3. 7 PHS students were honored for their achievements on the 2013 Connecticut Academic Performance Test.
4. Mr. LePage presented his report on the state of Plainville High School along with an impressive demonstration from a few students on our Robotics Team.
5. Mr. Kitching did a presentation on the Alignment of Board Goals and Vision along with reports on the District/School Performance Index and Class Size/ Enrollment Projections.
6. The Board of Education and Central Office Staff will be getting a team together for the Project Graduation Dodge ball Competition on February 13th, 2014 at 6pm in the PHS Kegel Gym. It should be great fun so don't miss it!

That's about it for now....

See you next month!

Andrea Saunders, Chair of B.O.E.

The Time is Now...

Continued From Page 15

The Town also has a local option Veterans program. Income requirements of this program are \$41,400 for a single person and \$46,700 for a married couple. Local option benefit amount is 6000 assessment dollars.

Forms to apply for any benefit must be completed at the Assessor's Office at the Municipal Center. Please call for an appointment at 793-0221 extension 244 between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00pm, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and 9:00am and 6:00pm Thursday.

A SKEWED VIEW

from the desk of:
RICK DREZEK

Again, my memory has taken me back to the theater, particularly, the show A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM. This movie was inspired by the farces of ancient Rome and contains elements of the same such as mistaken identities, satirical comments, chaotic foolishness, gottchas, and more. As I recall this entire production turned into a circus of sorts, much like what we're seeing today in Plainville. Our Citizen's Forum now include trick questions, unsubstantiated statements, opinions that are presented as fact, rebuttals to Town Officials, reports, rearrangement of meeting agendas to suit our own needs, and a host of other BS intended to make some folks just look bad. And, for what purpose, I've yet to discover.

Is the request to have Citizen's Forum televised some way to "show up" our town leaders, and give people a soap box to rant how bad Plainville's government is? In the Oral Petitions segment of the meeting, one can speak on any topic on which the Council will be taking action. The Forum is intended so citizens can communicate their ideas and thoughts directly and personally to the Town Council. You also can write them a letter, e-mail, or call them on the phone. If you want the whole town to know, put it in the newspaper. Did I mention that anyone has the right to film these proceedings and televise them on their own if they feel so inclined?

All things considered, Plainville is a pretty dog gone good place to live; municipal services on which we all depend are delivered in a timely professional and effective manner. Does anyone have a problem with any Town department, Police, Fire, Schools, Trash, and Water, if so, let's talk about them? If the majority of the conversation is centered on televising the Forum, I think we're in pretty good shape. God knows, as does every aggravated TV watcher, we're all aggrieved with the current plethora of reality television.

In the United States of America there exists the freedom of speech. You are free to say anything profound or profane, although there are certain reasonable restrictions, such as you are not allowed to yell "Fire" in a crowded theater, so says Justice Hugo Black. You're also not allowed to incite riots or get the public all worked up in a lather that will take town staff the better part of the next week to straightened out.

I assure you, one and all, that I have no obligation, no desire, no compulsion, no interest and no intent to listen to any and every syllable, sentence, tome or verbal utterance that annoys, offends or just simply ticks me off. You just can't make me do it, even if some dog yelps while biting my butt.

AARP FOUNDATION TAX-AIDE OFFERS FREE TAX FILING SERVICES IN CONNECTICUT

STATEWIDE – As the countdown to tax day begins, Connecticut residents can count on AARP to help manage tax time stress. From February 1 through April 15, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, the nation's largest free tax assistance and preparation program, helps taxpayers with basic federal and state income tax returns.

Available to middle- and low-income taxpayers, with special attention given to those 60 and older, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides face-to-face tax assistance services at 96 sites across Connecticut, including libraries, and senior and community centers. Volunteers are trained and IRS-certified every year.

"As the U.S. Tax Code has become increasingly complicated, so has preparing individual tax returns," said AARP Connecticut volunteer Tax-Aide Coordinator, Linda Avery. "For many 50+ taxpayers who are struggling in this economy, Tax-Aide assistance can help ensure they don't overpay their taxes or have to rely on expensive, and for too many, unaffordable professional tax preparation services."

Last year, more than 550 AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers helped 30,000 Connecticut residents navigate complicated tax codes, ensure proper credits and deductions and file their federal, state and local tax returns. Over 90% of the tax returns were filed electronically, assuring that residents received their tax refunds quickly.

To find a tax-aid site near you and make an appointment, call 1-888-AARP-NOW (1-888-227-7669) or go online to www.aarp.org/taxaide. Information for Connecticut taxpayers is available at www.211ct.org/taxes or by calling 2-1-1.

What to Bring

If married, both husband and wife should be present during an income tax counseling session. Taxpayers must have available all information and documents that have been received that apply to their 2013 income taxes including:

- Proof of identity (picture or other documentation).
- All income statements that apply to the taxpayers.
- Social Security number (Social Security card or Benefit Statement-Form SSA-1099) for taxpayer and all dependents.
- Copy of last year's federal and state tax returns.
- Personal check, if available, if direct depositing tax refund, with bank checking account & routing numbers.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is offered in conjunction with the Internal Revenue Service. The AARP Foundation is an affiliated, 501(c)(3) nonpartisan, charitable organization established in 1961. To learn more, visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.

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Ryan LaQuerre C. P. A.

Michael W. Michaud C. P. A.

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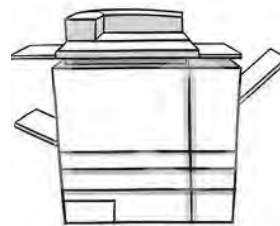
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COMING UP ON HERB TALK

By: Wendy Wilson, Herbalist

The following article are excerpts from original, for complete article go to web site:
www.aarp.org.

BRAIN WIPE

How many people are having problems with memory or cognitive thought? Is this to be expected as we grow old? Medical experts lead us to believe that forgetfulness or confusion can be normal signs of aging. Are there memory problems among our youth? Let's find out.

THE HUMAN BRAIN

Modern science used to think that we were born with all our brain cells and we didn't replace or regenerate brain cells like we do liver cells. Now, science has discovered that the brain can indeed repair, regenerate and grow new brain cells.

COMMON PRACTICE

The human brain is not high on the list of most people when it comes to health prevention. Most people will focus on other areas first such as cardio, pulmonary or digestive areas. Some things that can negatively affect our brain and are ability to recall information (aside from aging) include alcohol, smoking, drugs, head trauma, infections, Thyroid disease, stroke, stress, sleep deprivation, depression, nutritional deficiency (B-12), and diseases such as Alzheimer's.

CONNECTION TO DRUGS

Most would agree that memory or cognitive brain function is not inevitable as we grow old. There are plenty of elderly folks that have full cognitive functions and are as we say, "sharp as a tack." I had an uncle who could introduce you to everyone at a party of a few hundred people. He was good with names and rarely had any of those "senior moments." What made him different than others his age who struggled to remember their street address or phone number? The difference I think is he was not reliant on prescription drugs like so many of his peers.

Rx BRAIN WIPE

There are many prescription medications that can interfere with our memory like wiping a slate clean. I have seen this first hand on folks taking heart medicines (blood pressure and cholesterol drugs) and within a short time have difficulty with their memory. There are other drugs that also affect memory and cognitive abilities. The problem with such medications is that they tend to build-up in the patient's system causing more serious conditions such as delirium and increasing the patient's risk of accidents. . You may have a friend or family member taking Lipitor, Lescol, Mevacor, Pravachol, Crestor or Zocor who has trouble with memory. Why does this happen? These drugs reduce cholesterol which is necessary for the brain to use for connections between nerve cells, which are vital for memory and learning. Most folks don't realize that not all cholesterol is bad and the brain is an organ that contains one-quarter of the body's cholesterol. After this study the FDA in 2012 required these drugs to display a warning about Statin drugs causing memory problems.

BIRTH DATE AND MEMORY

Apparently there are memory and cognitive problems with the youth. A new UK study published in the Journal of Psychopharmacology shows that the young folks using street drugs for recreation are impairing their memory.

OTC BRAIN WIPE

There are some over-the-counter (OTC) medications that also affect memory.. If you suffer from digestive problems and take stomach medications such as Pepcid, Tagamet, Axid or Zantac you could have a rapid onset of confusion or delirium because your tolerance level is different and the medicine is toxic.

OTHER MEDICATIONS

There are other prescribed medicines that will cause memory problems and confusion such as; certain antibiotics, diabetic medications, cold or allergy drugs, pain medications, sleeping aids or tranquilizers, barbiturates, systemic drugs, neurological medicines and antipsychotic drugs..

OLD OR JUST DRUGGED?

It seems to me that growing old may not be the culprit for memory loss because the elderly are usually on several prescribed medicines, which offer memory side effects. Many drugs produce a toxic build-up in the tissues and can also cause hearing problems.

KEEP MOVING

Many studies (Archives of General Psychiatry) have shown that as we age it is good for the brain to stay connected and alert with social activities and to challenge the brain with new activities and skills. This improves and protects the connections between brain cells. Regular exercise also promotes healthy neurotransmitter function with serotonin.

"The difference between Apothecary Herbs products and what you find at the store can be compared to the difference between an \$8.00 bottle of wine and a \$100.00 bottle of wine." Wendy Wilson, Herbalist

POUND OF CURE

Prevention is the best defense against having to take medications for any diseases including those which promote memory loss. That old saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is accurate. If I were on any prescription, regardless of memory loss, I would look at some natural options to get off the drug. Call now toll free to order or for a free product catalog 866-229-3663, <http://www.thepowerherbs.com>, where your healthcare options just became endless. You can email your questions to Herbalist Wendy Wilson wwilson@thepowerherbs.com.

Sources:

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psychcentral.com/news/2010/02/24/recreational-drugs-may-impair-memory/11674.html
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TEA PARTY PATRIOTS

by: Gene

You have had the month of January off. Some of you might have heard some of the following information from other sounding boards.

AMERICANS ARE BEING LED DOWN THE WRONG PATH.

There has been, and continues to be a concerted effort on the part of progressive politicians -- who are encouraged by the media - to convince the American people that their health care system is the worst in the industrialized world, that doctors are to blame for high costs and that someone taking responsibility for their own health insurance is both selfish and somehow hurts the less fortunate. People are also supposed to believe opposition to government intervention designed to pick winners and losers implies they hate the poor, or are racist.

America, there is an important question to consider! If we are so free, as we are constantly reminded that we are by the media, then why are we spied upon without provocation or cause? And, if we are so free, then why is our ability to raise objections to the manner in which we are governed being systematically eliminated?

There is a second and equally disturbing development that the government has declared that the people of this country do not have the right to challenge the government on its unconstitutional actions. This is a position which fully exposes the fact that America is no longer a democratic republic, but rather a dictatorship which serves the elite. At issue is the ACLU's right to sue the NSA for the unconstitutional and unwarranted intrusion into the private lives of all Americans by spying on their every communication and their web-surfing habits. This position, taken by the government, validates my earlier point that we have no rights and are living under a dictatorship;

The Tea Party has transformed the public dialog from a politically correct, compliant citizenry to a fierce fight for a return to limited government and our natural rights. Was it Thomas Jefferson who said the beauty of the second amendment is that it will not be needed until they try to take it?

Who is the zero in the oval office? If you like your Representatives and Senators, you can keep them.

Hey! All you progressives who lost your health insurance, how does that "Kool Air" taste now?

From paper - Dr. Thomas Sowell (*Professor of Economics*) said: "Those who want to spread the wealth" almost invariably seek to concentrate the power".

How can you deal with a person who is hell bent on destroying America! This person has the knack of shooting himself in the foot and grows a new one. Let's see how the media lap dogs bail them out in "2014" fall elections. We should not fear for our lives or our liberty, but for our souls and the causes of liberty in America (*We're/Watching*)

What have "Illuminati" and "Common Core" in common? Common-Core de emphasizes correct answers by awarding kids points for reasoning, even when they don't quite get it.

"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors". (Plato)



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LIVING HEALTHY CHEMICAL FREE Mercury Light Bulbs....Whose Bright Idea Was This Anyway?

Donna Ziccardi Gross



On January 1, 2014, our Federal Government phased out the manufacture and importation of incandescent light bulbs in favor of the money saving Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb (CFL)...but really, at what price? In my research,

I found 3 very obvious disadvantages....1) they are more expensive to buy and do not live up to their hyped performance and longevity...2) they are hazardous to your health and environment...and 3) many people are reporting their CFL bulbs exploding in their sockets, catching fire.

The light of the CFL bulbs is very dim, murky and lacks intensity. They are not recommended to be used in rooms that have heavy use, as the constant turning on and off of the CFL bulb will drastically shorten it's life span. CFL bulbs are not recommended for use on a dimmer switch as the pulsing from the dimmer will cause it to burn out quickly. Areas that tend to get humid, such as bathrooms and kitchens, are not recommended for CFLs, as moisture will interfere with the safety and dependability of the bulb. CFL bulbs should not be used in ceiling fans as the vibrations of the fan will cause the bulbs to flicker, thereby causing headaches in the occupants of the room. So as you can see, the limitations of the CFL bulbs do not live up to it's hype.

Another feature of the CFL that is a great cause of concern is the fact that it contains mercury. Mercury is a poisonous neuro toxin that accumulates in the body, especially dangerous to children and harmful to the brains of developing fetuses, interferes with digestion and is extremely hard on the kidneys.

If the CFL bulb is dropped or cracked, proper clean up is required by the DEP. You are to put on gloves immediately, do not touch broken pieces or contents with bare hands. Do not breathe in vapors, close all heating and AC systems and open all windows. Evacuate all humans and pets from the house. Do not vacuum but get sticky tape to pick up all glass and mercury dust and dispose in glass containers. Wipe down all surfaces and adequately dispose as well. Bring contents of glass container to a hazardous waste facility. Even though the DEP and EPA say the amount of mercury in a CFL bulb is not a danger, there is plenty of scientific evidence to prove otherwise.

Recently, it has been proven that CFL bulbs are a health hazard even if they are not broken. ALAB Laboratory in Berlin, Germany discovered two years ago that the bulbs emit carcinogens (phenol, naphthalene, styrene) when turned on. It was recommended they not be used near people or in unventilated areas. They also observed that an "electrical smog" is created in the room when these bulbs are left on for long periods of time....so what good are they?

In the past few years, there are a growing number of people reporting their CFL bulbs exploding right in their sockets....not only creating a hazardous mercury spill in their home but their houses are catching fire as well. For more information about the exploding CFL bulbs that are suppose to save you money, despite the above listed inconveniences and health hazards, please go to my blog...http://livechemicalfree.blogspot.com/2013/11/mercury-light-bulbswhos-bright-idea-was_15.html. Your opinions and comments are welcome.

After extensive investigation, I decided to use LED Bulbs manufactured by Cree. I found them to be efficient, safe with a pleasing spectrum of light.... and without the worry of Mercury contamination. As always, I prefer to Live Healthy Chemical Free.....

AARP Foundation Establishes Winter Relief Fund for Older Adults Suffering from the Severe Cold Weather

(Washington, D.C. and Hartford, CT) – While today's temperatures in Connecticut may have felt like Spring is in the air, the severe cold temperatures experienced already this winter have taken a toll on many older adults struggling to make ends meet. With more cold weather in the forecast across the Northeast and here in Connecticut, AARP Foundation today announced it has established a relief fund to support older adults suffering from the severe cold weather that has gripped much of the nation. AARP and its members are committed to helping those in need; so to support these emergency relief efforts AARP and AARP Foundation will match dollar-for-dollar contributions up to \$250,000, which could mean up to \$500,000 in aid. The matching program will be administered through AARP Foundation.

The extreme weather, including record-breaking low temperatures and wind chill, could lead to a crisis for many older adults unless we act now. "Many seniors who struggle with a limited income may face difficult choices in the weeks to come," said Lisa Marsh Ryerson, AARP Foundation President. For those older adults who are already living on the brink of survival, the increased heating costs and home repairs required to respond to this recent weather could push them over the edge – with months of winter still ahead.

Ryerson continued, "AARP Foundation's efforts around winter relief offer AARP members and others who are concerned, a way to contribute.

AARP Foundation will focus on states across the Northeast and Midwest and will work with the local AARP State offices to direct funds to organizations providing relief to the most in need.

An immediate response to this urgent appeal will allow AARP Foundation to expedite support to those who need it now. To donate to the relief efforts, please go to: www.aarp.org/disasterrelief.

To find out about other home heating or additional assistance available in Connecticut, please call 2-1-1.

About AARP Foundation

AARP Foundation is working to win back opportunity for struggling Americans 50+ by being a force for change on the most serious issues they face today: housing, hunger, income and isolation. By coordinating responses to these issues on all four fronts at once, and supporting them with vigorous legal advocacy, the Foundation serves the unique needs of those 50+ while working with local organizations nationwide to reach more people, strengthen communities, work more efficiently and make resources go further. AARP Foundation is AARP's affiliated charity. Learn more at www.aarpfoundation.org.

To join or learn more about the local Chapter Plainville AARP #4146

Call Jim Stuart 860-747-5168

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Healthy-Behaviors Turn up the Heat!

By: Linda Coveney, Certified Health Coach

Baby, it is cold outside! When you spend more time bundling up inside than you actually remain outside, it's clear that we are experiencing an arctic blast.

Did you know that it is just as important to keep your internal fires burning as it is to make sure your fingers and toes don't get frostbite?

Lately, I have been leading a number of detox (or cleanse) workshops. People join because they have decided that they are looking for a way to jumpstart their health to feel lighter, have more energy, or just get rid of those nagging aches and pains.

The first thing we address is turning up our digestive fire. You want your digestive system to be working like an efficient airtight wood burning stove. This will allow the food you eat to get digested and the nutrients absorbed into your bloodstream. As a result the waste will exit and not get stored as toxins. Undigested food can lead to all types of illnesses and your internal system has to work extra hard to get you back in balance. A tired, overworked system on the inside will create the same symptoms on the outside.

It is much better to turn up the heat by simple lifestyle changes so that your body is humming along, not stressed and in turn will help you stay calm, balanced and happy.

So What Can You Do?

- Drink lots of water, but not during meals. Water during meals will cool down the stomach acid, just like throwing water on a fire. Having a warm glass of water with a little salt and pepper before a meal will send a signal to get the fires ready, food is on the way.
- Spice it up. Incorporate warming spices like basil, cardamom, cinnamon, clove, fennel, ginger, mustard seed, nutmeg, oregano, pepper, and thyme into your meal preparation.
- Eat mindfully and peacefully. Change your relationship with food and the person(s) you happen to be sharing your meal with. Take a moment before eating to appreciate all the positive energy it took to grow the food you are eating and the loving hands that prepared it. Have pleasant conversations and be comfortable with a quiet slow pace. Isn't this better than eating in front of a TV and not even remembering what you had to eat? If you are eating alone, who better to appreciate than yourself? Remove all negative emotions, turn on peaceful music and don't rush.
- Never eat while having an argument.
- Stoke that fire. Prior to eating, enjoy a few raw ginger slices with sea salt. According to author Deepak Chopra, fresh ginger contains many natural enzymes that in turn improve the absorption of nutrients and digestion.

Looking for a healthy warm soup recipe this winter? Try this one adapted from the Hungry for Change recipe.....

Vegetable and Bean Soup:

1 sweet onion - medium diced, 2 celery stalks - medium diced, 3 carrots - medium diced
 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil - or enough to cover the bottom of the pot, 2 cloves garlic - finely chopped, 2 cups frozen peas or yellow squash, 2 cups green beans - cut in 1 inch pieces, 1 bell pepper - medium diced, 1 28 oz. can diced tomatoes, 4 cups of water - you can use a vegetable broth, 1 15-ounce can of cannellini beans, 1 15-ounce can of chickpeas

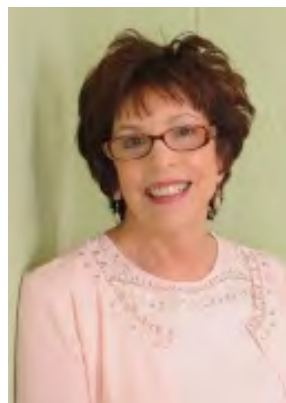
1 cup quinoa, 2 cups kale - stems removed or spinach, 1 teaspoon turmeric (or to taste)
 Pinch of cayenne pepper, Pinch of cinnamon, Salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

1. Place a large pot over medium heat and add the onions, carrots and celery. Cook for about 5 minutes or until softened.
2. Add the garlic and a pinch of cayenne pepper. Cook for about one minute or until garlic begins to color.
3. Add the frozen peas, green beans, and bell pepper, season with salt and pepper, turmeric, stir and cook for about 3 minutes.
4. Add the tomatoes and the water or broth, raise heat to high and bring to a boil.
5. Lower the heat to medium/low and allow the soup to gently boil (uncovered) for about 20 minutes.
6. Rinse your organic quinoa well and then add it uncooked to the pot, add the cinnamon and cover for 15 minutes.
7. Remove the cover, add the kale or spinach and the rinsed canned beans* (more water if needed) bring back to a gentle boil and cook for another 5 minutes or just until the greens are tender.

If you are using fresh beans, remember to soak in water for at least 4 hours to minimize gas.

Enjoy! Keep Warm and Remember to TURN UP THE HEAT!!!



Linda Coveney is an AADP Certified Health Coach who provides one-on-one coaching and group wellness programs. In February she is offering "Changing your Relationship with Sugar" and "Healthy Aging" workshops at Vital Life Center in Plainville. She will also be hosting a virtual detox program.

Her advice and articles are not meant to replace a one-on-one relationship with a qualified health care professional, and they are not intended as medical advice. You can reach her through www.healthy-behaviors.com or lindacoveney@healthy-behaviors.com

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The Swine Flu vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease it was intended to prevent.



"I.T. Jim's"

How do you back up?

Many of us have accumulated a large number of files on our computers. I have thousands of treasured photos going back over 10 years of family, friends, graduations, weddings, vacations, and other important events. I've purchased a lot of music over the years. Over 6000 songs. I have videos that were made at family events and on camping trips. I have done my taxes using computer software for over 10 years now. It would be devastating to lose all of those memories and critical information. There is no getting that stuff back if the hard drive in your computer fails.

The hard drive is the most common and frequent point of failure on a computer. If the hard drive fails and you do not have a backup, that information is likely lost forever. Backing up is the most important maintenance task for anyone that owns a computer. Sadly, it is one of the least often maintained parts of owning a computer.

It is important to have a backup plan that includes a full backup of all of your important files in at least two locations and on at least two different forms of media. Imagine a scenario in which there is a natural disaster, fire, or theft. If your only backup is in your home next to your computer or somewhere in your house, you could lose all of your files. Why multiple forms of media? Technology changes and evolves over time. In the old days, people backed up to floppy disks and zip drives. These technologies are obsolete today. Computers don't come with floppy disk drives and zip drives are no longer made. Compact disks and DVD's were also used for backing up files for a long time. People still use them. However, it has been proven that the writable compact disks and DVD's we use at home can deteriorate and become unreadable in as little as ten years after being made.

A local backup should be your first step. Depending on the amount of files you have you can either use a USB memory stick or an external hard drive. USB memory sticks range in size from 2 Gigabytes (\$5) to 128 Gigabytes (\$80). Hard drives range in size from 500 Gigabytes (\$50) to 4 Terabytes (\$169) or more.

Info: 1 Terabyte = 1000 Gigabytes; 1 Gigabyte = 1000 Megabytes; 1 Megabyte = 1000 Kilobytes.

Once you have an external hard drive or USB stick connected to your computer, you need to find a way to backup those files. Windows Vista or Windows 7 users can use the built in backup programs that come with Windows (<http://goo.gl/qJvgyK>). Click Start and type backup in the search bar. A list of backup tools will appear. Follow the instructions to start backing up your files. Windows 8 has a feature called File History. From the Start screen type file history and click on the search results to open File History settings and set your external hard drive as the location of your file history. Macbook and iMac users can use a feature called Time Machine (<http://support.apple.com/kb/ht1427>) or the Disk Utility (<http://support.apple.com/kb/ht1553>) to create a full image backup of your computer. A popular alternative to the built in software is a program called EaseUS Todo Backup. It's free and available at <http://easeus.com> and is also compatible with Windows XP.

Now that you have a local backup, it's time to look at some form of online "cloud" backup. The most popular service is Carbonite (carbonite.com). It is really simple to use and is only \$60 per year. Just download and install the small program and tell it what files and folders you want backed up. Depending on how much data you have, it can take up to a week or more to do its first backup. Once that's done, any time you add files or change a file, those changes are immediately backed up. If something happens to your computer, you can access your files from anywhere using any computer or even from an app on your smartphone. Other great backup services include BackBlaze (backblaze.com), CrashPlan (crashplan.com) and Mozy (mozy.com). Each of these services says that they offer strong security and use encryption that locks your files and gives you the only key. It's up to you whether or not you feel comfortable trusting them with your data. I trust Carbonite to back up my data.

If you have any questions or ideas for future columns, please email me at: jim.phc@gmail.com with ideas and suggestions.

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"YOUNG at HEART" Senior Center News

By: Laura Masi

CAREGIVING CONNECTIONS

Bette Smith, Plainville Senior Center Outreach Coordinator, will be hosting a Caregiving Connections Support Group on Tuesday, February 18 at 10:00 a.m. Take a mid-winter break to come and share your winter stories with friends who understand and appreciate the challenges you face with caregiving each day. Call Bette at the Senior Center, 860-747-5728, to register.

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

The Plainville Senior Center has the perfect solution for those who like to eat out at a restaurant, but do not like to eat alone. The Friends Helping Friends group is made up of single, divorced and widowed seniors. They meet for lunch at a local restaurant on the third Friday of each month at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Friday, February 21 at El Pulpo Restaurant in Southington at 11:30 a.m. Call the Senior Center for more information or to register for the lunch.

GRANDPARENTS SUPPORT GROUP

The Plainville Senior Center and Youth Services will co-host a program about the unique challenges of raising a grandchild or relative, Tuesday, February 11, at 10:30 a.m., held at the Plainville Senior Center, 200 East Street.

The grandparents' program provides caregivers an opportunity to share information and support on issues related to childrearing. To register for this free program, call the Plainville Senior Center, 747-5728, or Plainville Youth Services, 793-0221, ext 261. Funding for this program is made possible by the Older Americans Act through the North Central Area Agency on Aging.

QUESTIONS FOR A 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, February 10 and 24, 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 Plainville Senior Center Members who are residents of Plainville. Call the Senior Center, 860-747-5728, for more information.

ELECTRIC VIOLINIST CARYN LIN

Electric Violinist Caryn Lin will perform at the Senior Center on Friday, February 14 at 11:00 a.m. Caryn is a classically trained violinist who became an electric violinist and education innovator. She finds influence in everything from baroque to rock, although she thinks of her music as new age/world/classical-ish. Sign-up for this free program has begun. Call the Senior Center 860-747-5728 to register. Open to the Public.

JOINT HEALTH CARE "LUNCH AND LEARN"

Dr. Rubins, Chief of Joint Replacement Surgery at Bristol Hospital will be discussing the latest techniques in hip and knee replacements as well as non-surgical care on Monday, February 24 at 12:00 p.m. He will also present the Direct Anterior Hip Replacement Method and provide an overview of shoulder surgeries. A light lunch will be provided by Bristol Hospital. Call the Senior Center to register, 860-747-5728. Open to the Public.

WHAT CAN LEGAL AID SERVICES DO FOR YOU?

Meet the Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Attorney Marilyn Denny to learn about the free legal services that they can provide such as Advanced Directives, Living Wills, Medicaid, Landlord/Tenant Disputes, Housing Issues, Nursing Home Issues and more. This discussion will be held at the Senior Center on Thursday, February 20 at 10:00 a.m. Call the Senior Center by February 14th to register, 860-747-5728.

*"Happy Valentine's Day~ To All
From all the "Young of Hearts"*

More "Young at Heart" News on Page: 16

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Dear Editor,

In the last edition of your paper, I was interested to read Rick Drezek's "A Skewed View" about the inappropriately named "Citizens' Forum". Ever since Councilman Wazorko spearheaded the removal of oral petitions from the Plainville Town Council's meetings, there have been many protests by the public, but no action by that council or any subsequent council to restore the petitions.

Let's get real about what has happened: during the "Citizens' Forum", citizens may petition the Council a half hour prior to the regular meeting, when Nutmeg Television will not televise and when no meeting minutes will record what they have to say. Call me crazy, but could there be a more deliberate effort to sweep the public's words under the rug?

Unlike the "dog" referred to in Rick Drezek's editorial, the restoration of oral petitions is not a "dead" issue. This year, I voted for Quinn Christopher and Patrick Kilby, candidates who expressed support for the return of the petitions into Council meetings. It does not surprise me in the least that fellow voters agreed with me and both candidates are now in office. Wake up, other members of the Town Council! You cannot claim to represent people whose words you refuse to honor.

Very truly yours, Francesca Heap

Dear Editor,

My name is Aaron DiCaprio and I grew up just around the corner from Plainville in Southington. Kyle and Angie Fasold from Nico's Lemonade Stand are good friends and suggested the residents of Plainville might be interested in a new business a close friend and I recently launched. SupportLocalStuff.com is a web-based crowd funding/fund-raising platform developed to help individuals and organizations raise money for various causes (e.g., medical procedures, car repairs, funerals, trips, weddings, team equipment/uniforms, school supplies/field trips, etc.).

It's incredibly easy to use and allows fund-raisers to create, manage and promote their own fund-raising efforts, but one of the features that really sets our platform apart is that at the same time you are raising money for your cause, we are raising money for ours. One of our co-founders, Kevin Salerno, has multiple sclerosis so a portion of our proceeds is donated to the National MS Society.

If you'd like to find out more please visit our website at www.supportlocalstuff.com or e-mail us at info@supportlocalstuff.com.

Thank you, Aaron

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~March~Ladies Night Tues. 18th~Men's Night Thurs. 20th

COURT OF HONOR

Boy Scout Troop 76 recently held a court of honor where every boy was awarded merit badges & ranks which they have been working hard on for the last 6 months. They also welcomed a new member, Billy Lauria, to their troop.



From left to right: Hunter Sarlo, Steve Sarlo (Scoutmaster), Travis Lavigne, Daniel Przybysz, T.J. Solomon, Billy Lauria, Claude Przybysz (Asst. Scoutmaster)

We welcome new members. If interested in learning more about our troop, please contact Steve Sarlo at ssarlo67@yahoo.com



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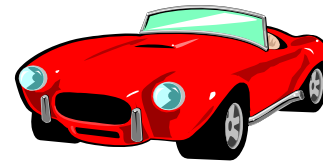
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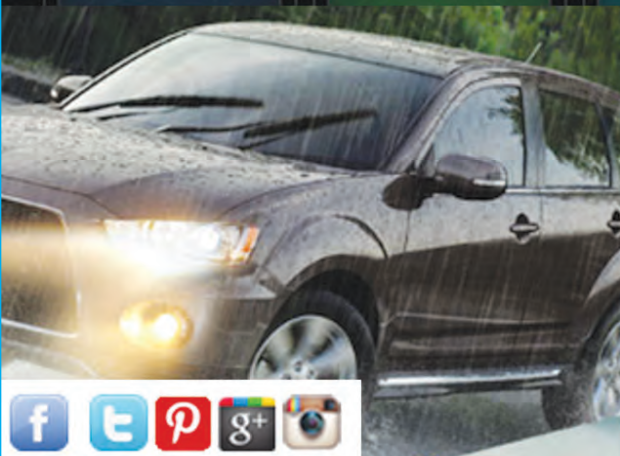
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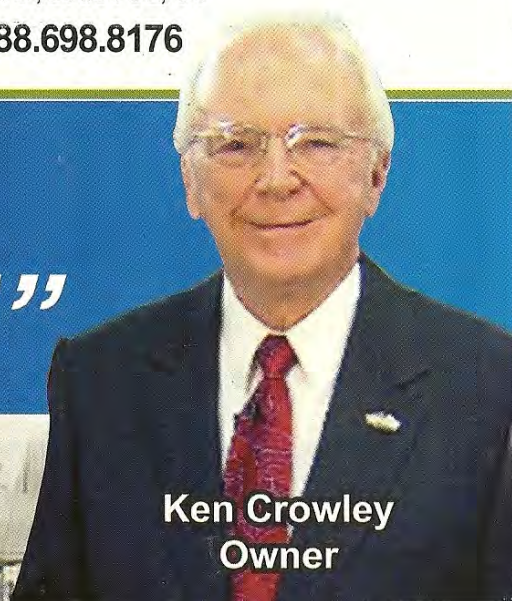
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From the Desk of
Thomas A. Wurz, Esquire

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Wintertime in Connecticut provides a great opportunity to hit the trails on a snowmobile. Before you go out and fire up the engine there are a few rules and regulations that you need to follow in order to be in compliance with Connecticut law. Let's take a look now so you can enjoy the rest of the winter on the snow.

In Connecticut all snowmobiles operated within the state must be registered unless the snowmobile is being operated on property owned or leased by the owner of the snowmobile. The registration plates must be affixed to the rear of the snowmobile during operation, just like automobiles. Also, your properly registered snowmobile must display the registration number on each side of its front section, midway between the top and bottom of the front section, in letters or numbers at least three inches high and made of reflective material. The registration must be carried on the snowmobile and be available for inspection whenever the vehicle is being operated.

What if my snowmobile has an out of state registration? In order to have a valid registration in Connecticut the out of state registration must grant similar privileges to residents of this state. Currently only Vermont grants similar privileges. Connecticut residents must have their snowmobile registered in Connecticut for use in state.

So do I need a valid driver's license to operate a snowmobile in the state of Connecticut? No, except if the snowmobile being operated is crossing a public highway (other than limited-access highway). Then, the operator must cross at a 90 degree angle, after the snowmobile is brought to a complete stop.

The state offers some great venues to ride at the following state forests: American Legion in Barkhamsted, Cockaponset in Chester & Haddam, Housatonic in Sharon, Mohawk in Cornwall, Natchaug in Eastford, Naugatuck in Beacon Falls, Nipmuck in Union, Pachaug in Voluntown, Peoples in Barkhamsted, Pootatuck in New Fairfield, and Shenipsit in Stafford.

Always remember to be safe out on the snow and ride within your limitations.

Safe riding to all and Happy New Year!



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 Law in 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.

**Check Pages 24 & 25 For
 President Day Auto Sales**

Lincoln's Birthday ~ Wednesday, February 12th

George Washington's Birthday ~ Saturday, February 22nd

President's Day Observed ~ Monday, February 17th

**Knights of Columbus Free Throw
 Championship Names
 Local Champions for 2014**

The Knights of Columbus sponsors the International Basketball Free Throw Championship each year to promote family activities in its council's communities and on Sunday afternoon January 19th there was a great group of youth and cheering families at Our Lady of Mercy Parish Center who turned out for the 2014 local level contest. All boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 14 were invited to compete for some prizes and the chance to advance to the area advanced level contests.

8 winners were named local champions and earned the right to compete at the district level. Jacob Demmons was best among the 10 year old boys and Gabrielle Schinkel was the winner among the 11 year old girls. Daniel Emmendorfer was the 11 year old boys winner. Caitlin Barker won in the 12 year old girls group and Tyler Mandeville was the victor among the 12 year old boys. Bradon Zheng shot the best of the 13 year old boys and Cheyenne Emmendorfer won the 13 year old girls category. Jared Demmons was the boys 14 year old champ.

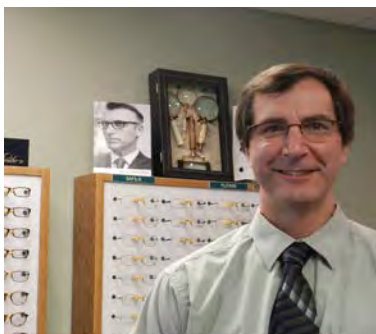
Runners-up were Alec Couture in a close contest among the 10 year old boys, Angel Wren for the 11 year old boys division, Jason Demmons for the 12 year old boys, Derek Schinkel for the 13 year old boys, and Karoline Wneta for the 13 year old girls, and Jason Franceschini for the 14 year old boys.

Other contestants were 10 year old boys, Jordan Rediker, Ryan Barker, and Kevin Rondini.

Much thanks to community sponsor J.R. Heating and Cooling who contributed towards prizes for winners and runners-up in each age group category.



Winners on local level are: Front row L to R are Daniel Emmendorfer, Tyler Mandeville, Jacob Demmons, and Bradon Zheng. Back row L to R are Jared Demmons, Caitlin Barker, Cheyenne Emmendorfer, and Gabrielle Schinkel.



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This offer of FREE ads by PALS POWERWASHING are just for you! So, this is an opportunity to sell items you no longer need and/or an opportunity to buy items that you wanted but didn't think you could afford. All other newspaper's Classified Ads are mostly for out-of-town ads. Now, you can advertise your excess items and/or shop right here in Plainville. Deadline for the ads is by the 15th of each month. Call Janice at 860-747-8126 or 860-747-4119 or email: hmtnn@comcast.net. Ads must be 25 words or less.

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Kevin Palladino, Southington CT

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Concrete Pool Cleaning



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The authority on fire, electrical, and building safety

Hot Water Washing

www.palspowerwashing.com

Wanted: Local In-Home Caregivers!

NEW Job Explosion Created by Aging Population(January 2014) – Despite the sluggish recovery from the recession and an unemployment rate that remains stubbornly stagnant, the in-home care sector is exploding, hiring locally and nationally. Providing in-home care is one of the hottest jobs in 2014. Why? More people are living longer and need more help so they can remain in their own homes rather than go to the hospital, an assisted living facility or a nursing home.

That's why SYNERGY HomeCare, a national non-medical in-home care company with offices in our area, is hiring responsible, compassionate people to serve our local booming senior population. In 2014 alone, the company expects to hire up to 19,000 in-home care caregivers nationwide, with hundreds hired right in our area. This is good news for the 1.3 million unemployed Americans whose jobless benefits recently expired and who need a job now!

Graying of America Yields Green Rewards

•The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics cites in-home care as one of the top 10 fastest growing occupations in the country.

•Job sites Career Builder and Monster list in-home care as a career to watch.

•Kiplinger's, a leading publication on finance and business, forecasts that in-home care will be one of the fastest growing careers, with an increased demand for these workers over the next few years.

"By 2020, the ranks of home health and personal care aides will have grown by more than 1.3 million. That's a 70 percent increase," says Richard Basch, President of SYNERGY HomeCare. "The in-home care industry is helping to tackle the employment challenges facing local communities and the country right now. We provide a significant number of rewarding jobs, while at the same time improving the quality of life for seniors."

BEHIND THE BOOM

In-home care job growth is tied to the explosion of elderly baby boomers who want to age in their own homes rather than go to nursing homes or assisted care facilities.

•As of January 1, 2011, each day 10,000 baby boomers turn 65.

•89 percent of baby boomers say they want to age at home

•The average 65-year-old today can expect to live another 20.4 years.

•85 percent of persons 65 years of age and over will require some form of caregiving assistance within their lifetime.

These figures will rise significantly as our population continues to "age up" appreciably over the next decade.

While the national unemployment rate has dropped from a peak of 10 percent to 7 percent, there are still 10.3 million people who are currently unemployed, nearly half of which have been without a job for more than six months, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. Opportunities in in-home care can get people back to work – not just with a job – but with a gratifying career.

TELL THIS LOCAL STORY

This story affects thousands of people in your community who need a job or need in-home care. We have an office in Bristol 860-384-6635 We will also connect you with someone from SYNERGY HomeCare to talk about the hot in-home care hiring trend.

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Roast Duck

By Mary Ziccardi

In our house my daughter always cooks the evening meal; all organic and always delicious.

Recently she was slicing a roasted, organic stuffed chicken and the conversation turned to Roast Duck. I mentioned that I never had roast duck.

While living in Pennsylvania, a local restaurant regularly had what they called, "Duck Night", and my daughter and her husband had roast duck quite often.

Several days later, while shopping at Big Y, she found fresh duck and purchased one to cook for me. It turned out to be a lengthy and expensive process.

She looked for a recipe on youtube and chose one by "the Original Naked Chief" from England, who has a great following.

Her duck was Free Range, Grass Fed and no hormone or antibiotic injections, and the same brand as "the Chef". As a matter of fact, the label stated that it was raised in England.

First she needed to buy a bottle of Port Wine, a jar of organic orange marmalade and raspberry preserves for the glaze and Duck Sauce.

Also, a bottle of Cabernet Sauvignon to drink with the Roasted Duck.

Since duck skin is very fatty, she used a sharp knife to "criss-cross" the skin to release the fat while it cooked; recommended by "the Chef".

As the duck roasted in the oven it browned nicely and when it was done she removed it to a serving platter.

It didn't look like a roasted chicken, but had an unusual shape of it's own.

After cutting the duck into serving portions, we proceeded to eat the duck and found little bones piling up on the side of our plates. It seemed the duck was more bones than meat.

It did not have the taste of a chicken or turkey and I could not determine if it had any flavor at all. The delicious roasted vegetables and wine helped to make the dinner special.

When I learned she had paid \$21.54 for the duck I knew for sure that duck was not my favorite.

It was a thoughtful gesture and I can no longer say I have never eaten Roast Duck.

EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT A CATHOLIC, THIS IS AN EYE OPENING.....

When the Catholic Church was founded, there were no hospitals. Today, one out of five people in this country receive their medical care at a Catholic hospital.

When the Catholic Church was founded, there were no schools. Today, the Catholic Church teaches 3 million students a day, in its more than 250 Catholic Colleges and Universities, in its more than 1200 Catholic High Schools and its more than 5000 Catholic grade schools.

Every day, the Catholic Church feeds, clothes, shelters and educates more people than any other organization in the world. The new Obama Health Mandate could end all this and the tax payers would have to make up the loss. Also, all Catholic adoption services would come to an end; a human disaster.

There are more than 77 million Catholics in this country. It takes an estimated 50 million Catholic votes to elect a president. I am asking all of you to go to the polls in 2014 and be united in replacing all Senators and Reps with someone who will respect the Catholic Church, all Christians, and all Religions with the exception of Islam.

Mr. President, you said, "The USA is not a Christian Nation". You are wrong! We are a Christian Nation founded on Judeo-Christian values allowing all religions in America to Worship & Practice Freely. Something Islam will never do.

Oh, by the way, on MUSLIM HERITAGE IN America

Have you ever been to a Muslim hospital?

Have you heard a Muslim orchestra?

Have you seen a Muslim band march in a parade?

Have you witnessed a Muslim charity?

Have you seen Muslims shaking hands with a Muslim Girl Scouts

Have you seen a Muslim Candy Striper?

Have you ever seen a Muslim do anything that contributes positively to the American way of life?

DON'T KEEP THIS - MAKE COPIES AND SEND SEND IT OUT TO YOUR RELATIVES, FRIENDS, BUSINESS ASSOICATES AND FELLOW PARISHIONERS. Let's circulate this to as many as possible.

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

C	A	B	S			C	R	T		R	R	N	A				
A	G	A	T	E		L	E	O		A	H	A	B				
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D	H	A	L			A	N	A		N	E	A	R	B	Y		
R	A	K	I			T	I	N		S	E	C	U	R	E		
A	B	E	T			E	E	C		T	E	L	I	A			
B	I	D	E			S	S	E		S	E	T	H				

A man in Colorado wants marijuana to be classified as a vegetable. I just have to say that's as ingenious way to get Americans to stop smoking pot.....Conan O'Brien

Flavor of Plainville

Main Street Diner is the place to meet
 For a flavorful cop of hot java,
 Fried eggs, bacon and toast
 To fulfill the day ahead.
 The fragrance coming from Bolo
 Bakery is inviting to partake in.
 Fresh donuts and danish is tempting
 To open my wallet for take out.
 Central Cafe and its brew
 To quench the palates thirst
 From a frosted mug
 Sounds good to me.
 Maybe a gift from Irene's Lingerie
 For my special lady at home.
 Will get me another kind of treat
 Which is a secret from you.
Don Liljedahl~Sept 2013

Dates to Remember in FEBRUARY

**LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY
WEDNESDAY THE 12TH**

**VALENTINE'S DAY
FRIDAY THE 14TH**

**PRESIDENTS DAY
MONDAY THE 17TH**

**WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY
SATURDAY THE 22ND**

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A BELATED DECEMBER 12TH BIRTHDAY TO ARIAH MAY DUPREY

*We want to apologize Aariah,
 your grandmother e-mailed us
 To wish you a Happy Birthday
 in our last issue and somehow
 we goofed!!*

Sorry, hope you had a wonderful day.

***** FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

"HAPPY & HEALTHY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!"

- 1ST KAREN CARON
- 2ND MARK CHASE
JOE GLADCZUK
- 3RD ELISE BERGENTY
ANTHONY "TONY" PIERGROSSI
RITA SUSCO
JOHN MURPHY
- 4TH LAURA LACOMBE
ELLA ZAKRZEWSKI
- 5TH SCOTT ASHWORTH
- 6TH MARIA CUTLER
SERGIO SCIUCCO
- 7TH SHIRLEY CAVALIERE
BILL MILLERICK
- 8TH ELAINE COCOLES
FOSTER WHITE
- 10TH NANCY DEVOE
- 11TH TOM GLADCZUK
- 12TH CARL STERNER
HOMER CASE
- 13TH KRIS DARGENIO
- 15TH DAVID BROW
ROBERT BEVERIDGE
- 16TH DOMENICK D'ONOFRIO
- 17TH JOHN BERGENTY
LAURIE PETERSON
- 18TH KATHY PUGLIESE
ELLIOTT BEVERIDGE
- 19TH MARSHA MIERZEJEWSKI
- 20TH MARIA CONTI
MARION MASTRIANNI
- 21ST KATHY STERNER
- 22ND DANNY CARRIER
- 24TH RAY CORSINI
- 25TH ED PRIOR
- 26TH PETER PROCKO
- 28TH LAUREN GLOWIAK
SUE DZIURA
RALPH HOLMSTROM (100 YEARS OLD)
- 29TH PEG MATTEO



***** HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: MARIE & JACK CASSIDY

55 YEARS

MARCEL &ELEONORE GERVIS

65 YEARS

TO SUBMIT BIRTHDAY,
 ANNIVERSARY, ENGAGEMENT OR A
 WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT
E-MAIL TO: HMTNN@COMCAST.NET
OR MAIL TO: HOMETOWN CONNECTION
 27 SHERMAN STREET, PLAINVILLE, CT

FOR BIRTHDAYS CALL: 860-747-4119
 AND LEAVE THE MESSAGE ON THE ANSWER
 MACHINE, PLEASE SPELL THE NAMES.

You may also bring your announcements to the office,
 if we are not in, there is a drop off box on the porch.
 DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH
"THANK You"

For All The February Birthday's

PS: If you want to announce your own Birthday and/or Anniversary,

**just call.....
it pays to advertise!!!**

Our next issue is MARCH 2014

hmtnn@comcast.net

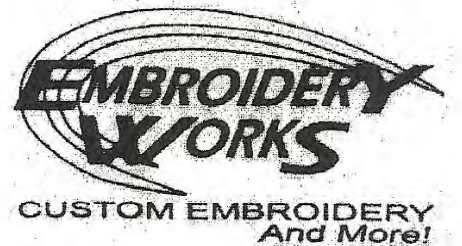
TASTE BUZZ.....

Yummy Chocolate Cake

By Sally Petit

- 1 package chocolate pudding-cooking kind - not instant
- 1 package Duncon Hines dark chocolate cake mix
- 1 large package chocolate bits
- 1 small package chopped walnuts
- make pudding adding 1/2 cup extra of milk-cool-add to cake mix.
- Mix well, pour into 9 x 13" pan. Top with chocolate bits and walnuts
- Bake at 359 degrees for 30-35 minutes

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 to join our advertising
 staff. If you like to talk
 to people, learn about
 businesses in town, what
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Learning To Share

By Sally Miller

I watched two little girls fighting over a toy at Christmas. The scene brought back memories of a Christmas years ago. My sister and I were both under 10 years old and we both had hoped for the latest doll that had come out in stores. We wanted

the Suzy Walker doll. The doll had two long braids and wore a plaid dress. We hoped we each would get one with a different color dress. This was one of the first walking dolls ever. You could hold her hand and as you moved the left hand upwards, the right leg and foot would rise to begin the walk and the same with the left hand. We wrote out our Christmas List, while giggling and whispering. We also told Santa that we wanted to thank him because we knew without a doubt that he would bring us each one of the dolls. The Suzy Walker doll was all we wanted and that seemed to be a simple request we thought as we placed cookies and milk on the table. Christmas morning, we rushed downstairs and we could hardly contain ourselves. The room smelled of pine trees, coffee and bacon. Our eyes were all a glitter in anticipation of us walking our new "Walker dolls" around the neighborhood. We began to open presents and eventually there was only one box left. The box said, To Sally and Carolyn from Santa. At that moment, we knew that we had not gotten the dolls. We held back tears and squeezed each other's hands. We half-heartedly tore open the package. We gasped! There lay in front of us, a Suzy Walker doll! I didn't understand. Why was there only one? Whose was it? Mom explained that Santa said that he had to make sure that there were enough for other children, and we should be happy that we got one to share. Years later we realized that the doll was \$50.00 at the department store and we had no idea that Mom was Santa. Fifty dollars back then was equal to \$150. My sister and I had one of our first lessons in sharing that year. She took one hand of the doll and I seized the other and we walked her all around the room. If one person tried to walk the doll, it kind of tipped but by each of us holding one of her hands, it seemed to balance her so that she walked better. I think that was a lesson in itself.

During the years as sisters, we learned to share and realized that sometimes it was more fun when we did share. When Mom died, we divided up her things between us. I would say, "I would like the cabinet", sis would say, "I would like those dishes", etc. We finally realized that there were two of her things that both of us wanted. One was an antique teddy bear and the other an antique doll that Mom had as a child. We both wanted the doll and we both wanted the teddy bear so badly that it hurt. We were sad and for a few minutes and we sat quietly looking at both items. All at once, it was as if Mom was there and reminded us of our promise to share. We thought of that Suzy Walker doll many Christmas's ago and we decided that sis would keep the doll and I would keep the bear. In honor of Mom and her lesson in sharing, we each would wrap the doll and the bear and exchange them with each other every Christmas. That way, we would each enjoy the bear or the doll for an entire year until the following Christmas.

I smiled as I wrote my sister's name on her present and silently whispered Merry Christmas Mom...thanks!

New Board of Education Member



Town Clerk Carol Skultety swears in Laurie Peterson to the Board of Education at a recent Town Council meeting.

FIRE PREVENTION POSTER CONTEST



The Fire Marshall's office conducts the contest annually during Fire Prevention Week. Fire Marshall Larry Sutherland presented awards to the contest winners at the Town Council meeting. Students that entered the contest were from the three elementary schools, Linden Street School, Wheeler School and Toffolon School.

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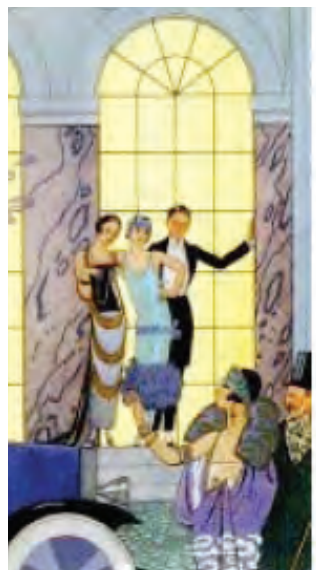
860-261-7009



*The Plainville Food Pantry
Presents*

GREAT GATSBY

18TH ANNUAL DINNER DANCE



Thank You!!!!

The Dinner Dance Committee extends heartfelt thanks to the hardworking and generous participants. This year was especially difficult for the Pantry due to the fact that the number of clients grew on a daily basis. Financial difficulty has spread, affecting all ages from newborns to senior citizens. Our goal is to ease the hardship by providing food, clothing, fuel assistance and in-house education, English as a second language and cooking classes to name a few. Once again, we would encourage you to visit the Pantry and see firsthand your generosity at work! By empowering the Pantry through your generosity, we can continue to service our clients' needs. Simple action can change the world. May it comfort you to know that by attending this event, you have made a positive impact in someone's life.

The Dinner Dance Committee



A SINCERE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT HELPED MAKE OUR 18TH ANNUAL DINNER DANCE A HUGE SUCCESS.

From Susie Woerz, the Staff, the Board of Directors, The Dance Committee, and All the Pantry Volunteers



"THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE" MOVIE TIME AT LOEWS OF PLAINVILLE



The Christmas Candle movie was brought to Connecticut by the efforts of The Hometown Connection Volunteers and the Lowes Theater of Plainville. The movie was shown throughout the country starting last November. The Plainville, CT showing was scheduled for January 2nd but because of the snow storm it was postponed until January 16th. Movie-goers from our local churches and surrounding towns said it was the best movie they had seen in years and hopes that Hollywood will learn from the audience that we need more family and faith based movies instead of the violent ones they produce.

Picture to the right: Janice Brayne, Helen Bergenty, volunteers of the PHC and Kirk Boutselis, General Manager of Lowes & Mikal Acosta, Manager.



Happy Valentine's Day!

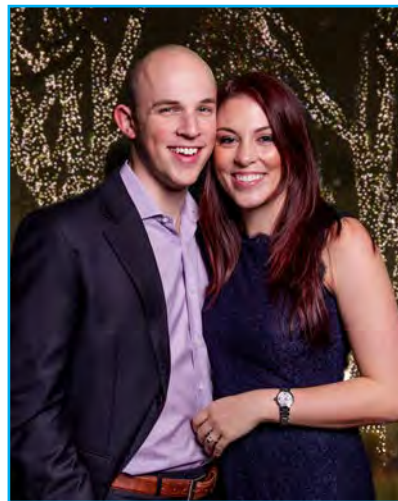


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860-747-9100
www.firstandlasttavern.com

Surprise....Engagement



John & Stacey Norton of Plainville are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Melanie to Zakary Ewen of Boston, Massachusetts. He surprised her while vacationing in Paris, France. Zakary is the son of Scott and Sandy Ewen of Terryville. Melanie is a 2008 graduate of Plainville High

School and a 2013 graduate of Northeastern University. She is now working on her master's degree at the Yale School of Public Health. Zakary is a 2011 graduate of Bentley University and is employed at Battery Ventures of Boston. He will be attending Harvard Business School in the fall. A November 2015 wedding is planned in Newport, Rhode Island.



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Special Menu
Two Dinners for \$25.00

Thursday Dinner Specials
Four Course Meals \$14.95
Ladies, buy one drink, get the other at 1/2 price

Friday and Saturday Prime Rib Special - Starting at \$18.95

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

"Sweets for your Sweet"

OPEN
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6:30AM-5:30PM

Sunday
6:30AM-2:00PM

CLOSED
Monday

OPEN
Christmas Eve Day
6:30AM-6:00PM

CLOSED
Christmas Day

OPEN
New Year's Eve
6:30AM-3:00pm

CLOSED
New Year's Day

b olo

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Plainville Historic Center Gift Shop

Norma Francini Miniature Buildings

by Roberta Lalama



The Plainville Historical Society on 29 Pierce Street in Plainville proudly invites you to visit their museum and gift shop for your shopping pleasure. This interesting gift shop features a wonderful variety of hand-painted wooden miniatures of Plainville landmarks by Norma Francini as shown above, including the Congregational and Episcopal churches, the Masonic Hall, the old railroad station, the Knitting Mill, Roger's Bakery, The Palace of Sweets, Thralls Drug Store, Mundy's Shoe Store, to name a few.

This gift shop also offers Plainville quilts, books on Plainville history, the Canal, and surrounding towns. Lovely gift baskets, moderately priced, children's toys, and post cards are also available.

An individual or family membership might be a great gift for that someone who has everything. Membership entitles you to a monthly newsletter previewing up coming programs and events and often interesting bits of history that you will not find elsewhere. Become a member and you will be included in our Annual Members Only luncheon in December. Remember, volunteers are always welcome, too.

Please plan to attend some of our up coming events, which include:

"The Equal Rights Movement" in Plainville on February 15th, and
 "More Than a Poetess", a program of Anna Grannis's work on March 18th.
 Call 860-747-6577 for latest museum hours. *Appointments available.*

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~ Party Trays To Go For Any Occasion ~

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Happy Valentine's Day

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Parking Available in rear of the building

**~ \$5.00 OFF ~
 \$25 or more**

**~ \$10.00 OFF ~
 \$50 or more**

All Champions Peyton Manning, Steve Parsons and Parsons Buick of Plainville



Someone told us that they saw Peyton Manning in Parsons showroom. So, of course we stopped to get a picture, Steve Parsons was gracious enough to stop and pose with the cut-out. Yes, it was a cut-out of Peyton but it was really Steve.

Parsons Buick is celebrating their 64th year of selling and servicing their customers and friends.

*You've got a life to live...
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OBITUARIES

~ Albert A. Camerato ~



Mr. Albert A. Camerato, 89 of Bristol, passed away Tuesday January 21, 2014 at Apple Rehab of Farmington Valley in Plainville. He was the beloved husband of 68 years to the late Josephine (Aparo) Camerato.

Mr. Camerato was born April 3, 1924 in Southington a son of the late Antonio and Anna (Carlo) Camerato. He was employed as a Milkman at Guida's Dairy retiring after 25 years of service. Mr. Camerato proudly served his country in the US Army during WWII in the 8th Armored Division, seeing action in Rhineland, The Ardennes and Central Europe. He was a member of the Bristol VFW and was an avid fisherman. He was a family orientated man who enjoyed spending time with his family Mr. Camerato was a Communicant of Saint Matthew Church.

He leaves his daughters, Joanne Pudlik and her husband Jack of Farmington and Nancy O'Toole of Plainville, his brother Tony Camerato of CT, his sisters, Angie Levandowski and her husband Henry of Plainville, Eleanor Bedell and Betty Johnson both of California, his grandsons, Robert Pudlik and his partner Rachel of Brooklyn NY and Brian Pudlik and his wife Elizabeth of West Hartford, his great grandchildren, Tyler Pudlik, John Russell Pudlik and Beatrix Pudlik, a brother-in-law, three sisters-in-law and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brothers, Louis and John Camerato.

Funeral services for Mr. Camerato were celebrated on from the Bailey Funeral Home 48 Broad Street in Plainville to Saint Matthew Church in Forestville for a Mass of Christian Burial. Military honors were accorded following Mass. Burial will be held privately. Memorial donations in Albert's name may be made to Saint Matthew Church 120 Church Avenue P.O. Box 9216 Forestville, CT 06011. For additional information or to leave words of condolence please visit: www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

~ Beverly (Petit) Joyce ~



69, of Plainville, passed away unexpectedly after a fun-filled day with her family in Florida, on Monday, January 20, 2014. She was the beloved wife of Larry F. Joyce, with whom she shared 28 joyous years.

Born in Bristol on March 19, 1944, Beverly was one of ten children to the late Harry and Ruth (Doolittle) Petit. A 1962 graduate of Bristol Eastern

High School, her family settled in Plainville where Bev worked for her family's convenience stores. She went on to do administrative work for the Meriden Foundry, before finding her very enjoyable position with the Plainville School System as their payroll specialist. She retired after 21 years in 2006, when she and Larry fulfilled their love for the beach spending winters in Florida and continuing their annual trips to Key West. A passionate reader, Beverly's other greatest joys were being surrounded by her family, entertaining them each Sunday at her home, or joining the ladies for their monthly dinners out. She enjoyed travelling, was a devoted volunteer for the Petit Family Foundation and their fundraising events, and was a spirited Seattle Seahawks fan, especially Jim Zorn. Bev was a gentle soul, who spread kindness to everyone she met. She will be greatly missed leaving her family and friends with many precious memories, her contagious laugh and radiant smile.

In addition to her husband, Larry, she leaves her son and daughter-in-law, Craig and Linda Leider; her daughter, Deanna L. Pichette; and her pride and joy, her granddaughters, Zoe Alena Leider, Katherine Brzozowy Smith, and Shannon Nicole Pichette who predeceased her in 2006. She also leaves her sister and best friend, Sharon Beaulieu and her husband, Eugene, her brothers, William Petit and his wife, Barbara and Gary Petit; her sisters-in-law, Roberta, Vicki, Claire, Marilyn, and Sally Petit; and many adored nieces and nephews, including her Goddaughter, Tammy Beaulieu Ellison. She was predeceased by her brothers, Marcus, Donald, Edward, Kenneth, Charles, and Thomas, and her Step-Mother, Theresa Petit.

Funeral services in celebration of Beverly's life were held at Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville. Burial will be held at the convenience of the family. Those who wish, may remember Beverly with contributions to the Petit Family Foundation, PO Box 310, Plainville or www.petitfamilyfoundation.org. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

~ Timothy G. Neary ~



63, of Plainville, beloved husband of Veronica (Hillson) Neary, passed away at his home on Saturday, December 7, 2013. After much strength, humility and courage in fighting leukemia for two years, Tim was surrounded by his loving

family as he left this life to be with our Lord.

Born in New Britain, he was the son of the late Daniel and Jane (Patterson) Neary. After attending schools in New Britain, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Tim proudly served his country during Vietnam, and was honorably discharged in 1968. He and Veronica shared 38 years together, settling in Plainville where they raised their two sons, and were longtime members of St. Dominic Church. Tim worked in the IT industry, most recently in technical support for Pitney Bowes. Aside from his family, especially his grandkids, Tim's pride and joy was his custom Harley that reflected his military service and love for his country. A poker enthusiast, Tim enjoyed playing golf, prior to his motorcycle riding days, and was a fan of the NY Yankees. He will be greatly missed, leaving his legacy of kindness towards everyone, great strength, love for his family, and many cherished memories.

In addition to his wife, Veronica, he leaves his sons, Brian and his wife, Amber, and Shawn and his girlfriend, Sarah Adamson; his adored grandchildren, Tabitha, Lacey, Jillian, and Luke; his brother, Kevin Neary and his wife, Sarah; sisters, Jayne Straub and Patricia Neary. He also leaves his sisters-in-law, Pauline, Ronda, and Nancy Hillson and brothers-in-law, John and Steven Hillson, along with many nieces and nephews, including his beloved Godchildren, Christopher Hillson and his wife, Tracey, and Sarah Neary Crossley and her husband, Eric. He was predeceased by his brothers, Daniel and Dennis and his sister, Denise, and his step-mother, Mary Jane (Deschaine) Neary.

Funeral services in celebration of Tim's life were held from Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Dominic Church, where Military Honors will be accorded. Burial will be held privately at the family's discretion. Tim may be remembered with contributions to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Connecticut, 321 Research Parkway, Suite 212 Meriden, CT 06450. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit: www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

~ Francis J. "Frank" Roche ~



82, of Plainville, former Chief of Police, and devoted husband and father, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Tuesday, January 7, 2014.

Born on December 11, 1931, he was one of six sons to the late Cyril and Anne (O'Reagan) Roche. Raised in Bristol, he attended St. Joseph School, and as a teenager, enlisted in the U.S. Army. He proudly served his country for four years during the Korean War, earning his high school diploma upon being discharged in 1952. Following his time in the service, he became a professional boxer with an impressive record, competing at the Bristol Arena, and earning the Boxer of the Year title. Frank married the love of his life, Mary (Casorio) in 1955, settling in Plainville where they raised their three children. He began his career at the Plainville Police Department shortly after, serving his community for 37 years. He graduated from the FBI National Academy in 1974, was promoted to Chief in 1975, and was a well liked and respected community leader for 20 years, retiring in 1995. Frank served on the Executive committee for the Police Chiefs Association, and was former President of the P.A.C., among many other civic organizations both local and statewide. An outdoors enthusiast, he enjoyed jogging, playing golf, going fishing, and very much looked forward to his annual hunting trip to Maine with the "Wide Load Association", and his daily games of cards with his close circle of friends. He leaves a lasting impact on the many lives he touched, and will forever be remembered and missed. In addition to his wife, Mary, he leaves his children, Donald and his wife, Karen of Haddam, Francis, Jr of Plainville and Lisa Membrino of Bristol; his brothers, George, Kenny, Warren, and Martin, along with many nieces, nephews and dear friends. He was predeceased by his brother, Gene.

Funeral services in celebration of Frank's life were held from Bailey Funeral Home, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Mercy Church. Committal services with Military Honors followed at St. Joseph Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, Frank may be remembered with contributions to St. Joseph School, 335 Center St., Bristol, CT 06010. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit: www.bailey-funeralhome.com.




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OBITUARIES

~ Charles Boodley ~



75, of Plainville passed Saturday January 18, 2014 at the Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain. He was the husband of Maryann Rose (Gallagher) Boodley.

Mr. Boodley was born April 26, 1938 in Southington, a son of the late Charles and Evelyn (Osden) (Boodley) Skalarsky and was a longtime Plainville resident. He attended Southington schools and proudly served his country in the US Air Force having been stationed in Alaska. Mr. Boodley was employed by the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation retiring in 1982 after many years of service.

Besides his wife he leaves, his sons, Charles Boodley and his wife Paula Butterfield-Boodley of Plainville and Andrew Boodley and his wife Tracy of Plainville, his grandchildren Nickolas Boodley, Sabrina Boodley, Michael Boodley and Mandy Boodley all of Plainville, his brother John Boodley of Southington, his sister Shirley Olsen and her husband Fillmore of Berlin and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his daughter Cindey (Boodley) White.

Bailey Funeral Home 48 Broad Street in Plainville assisted the family with arrangements. Funeral services with burial in Plainville West Cemetery will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, Charles may be remembered with contributions to the Wounded Warrior Project 4899 Belfort Road Suite 300 Jacksonville, FL 32256. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit: www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

~ David F. Bronkie ~



61 of Sarasota, FL, formerly of Plainville, CT died Sunday, December 15, 2013. He was born in New Britain to Geraldine (Hartford) Bronkie and the late Jack N. Bronkie on October 17, 1952. David graduated from Plainville High School in 1970. He was the original owner of Collinsville Antiques prior to moving to Florida.

He loved adventure and always lived his life to the fullest. In addition to his mother, David is survived by his long time friend, Dr. Patricia Sabers of Sarasota, FL, his brother and sister in law, Scott and Lynn Bronkie of Jupiter, FL, two daughters and son in laws, Jennifer (Bronkie) and Jeffrey Mongillo of Columbia, CT, Jaime (Bronkie) and Jeffrey Petillo of Plainville, CT and four grandchildren, Addison, Rocco, Ryan and Anna. His father Jack and brother Randall predeceased him. Allen Moore Funeral Home handled arrangements. Visit legacy.com to leave a memory or send a condolence.

~ Yvonne (Violette) Masse ~



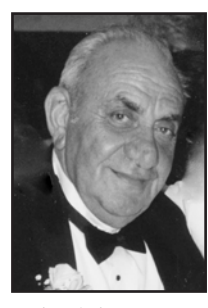
84, of Plainville, passed away surrounded by her family, on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at Apple Rehab. She is now reunited with her beloved husband, Herman, who predeceased her.

Born in Van Buren, Maine on December 1, 1928, Yvonne was one of seventeen children to the late Severin and Caroline (Cyr) Violette. Raised in the same town, she and Herman's family shared a long history together, and moved to Connecticut following their marriage where they raised their four children. Yvonne worked for Connecticut Spring for a brief time, before handling the bookkeeping for her husband's company, H & N Construction. A longtime member of Our Lady of Mercy Church, Yvonne made a hobby of making various types of crafts, and had a love for all flowers, taking great pleasure in working in her yard and her gardens. Above all, she was a devoted mother and beloved grandmother, and will be greatly missed by her adored family, leaving many cherished memories.

She is survived by her sons, Melvin and his wife, Anne-Marie, James and his wife, Joyce, and Gary Masse; her grandchildren, Dwayne, Heather, Robin, Michael, and Scott; and seven great-grandchildren. She also leaves her brother and sisters, Theresa Masse, Annie Fongemie, Stella Duplessis and Percy Violette and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son, Daniel, and her siblings, Corinne Martin, Gladis Dionne, Jeanne Levesque, Isabelle Beaupre, Gertrude Cote, Jeanette, George, Emil, Marc, Joseph, Abel and Richard Violette.

Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville assisted the family with arrangements. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 94 Broad St, Plainville. Committal services followed at St. Joseph Cemetery. Yvonne may be remembered with contributions to the American Diabetes Association, 300 Research Parkway, Meriden, CT 06450. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit Yvonne's tribute page at www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

~ Francis M. "Frank" Listro ~



89, of Plainville, beloved husband of Marjorie (Stuart) Listro, passed away on Saturday, December 21, 2013 at the Connecticut Hospice in Branford.

Born in New Britain on April 24, 1924, Frank was the son of the late Paul and Vincenza (Pagliaro) Listro. Raised in New Britain, he attended local schools, and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1943. He proudly served his country during W.W. II, and was honorably discharged in 1946. He married the love of his life, Margie, shortly after, sharing 59 years of marriage. They settled in Plainville where they raised their family, and were both longtime members of the VFW Post 574 and American Legion Post 33. He was employed at Stanley Works for over 40 years, spending most of his retirement years travelling with Margie, fulfilling his love for the ocean going boating or clamming, and enjoying his proudest role, being a grandfather.

He will be greatly missed by his beloved family, leaving them with many laughs and cherished memories.

In addition to his wife, he leaves his sons, Paul and his wife, Joanne of Southington; David and his fiancé Carmel Gondek of South Glastonbury; and Willard Rivenburg and his wife, Doris of Roundtop, NY; his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; his sister, Gwen Kelleher; and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brothers, A.J, Carl, Joe, and Ernie and his sisters, Anne and Rosemarie.

Funeral services in celebration of Frank's life were held at Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville. Committal services with military honors followed at St. Joseph Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, Frank may be remembered with contributions to VFW, 7 Northwest Dr., Plainville, CT 06062. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

~ Barbara Ruth (Willner) Martin ~

80, of Plainville, passed away on Friday, December 13, 2013 surrounded by her family. She is now reunited with her beloved husband, Stanley "Peter" Martin, who predeceased her in 2006.

Born in St. Mary's Hospital in Waterbury on November 18, 1933, Barbara was the daughter of the late Maurice and Leila (Lipkowitz) Willner. Raised in New Haven, she was a graduate of Hillhouse High School, and attended Mitchell Junior College in New London. She married her high school sweetheart, Pete, in 1955, and shared over 50 years of marriage, settling in Plainville in the early 1960's where they raised their family of three. Mrs. Martin worked as an Aide during the opening year of Toffolon Elementary School, becoming an integral part of that school before eventually leaving to work with the Connecticut State Police. She retired in 2000 after over 20 years of service, leaving from her role as Executive Assistant to the internationally renowned Forensic Scientist Dr. Henry Lee, working for him most notably during the OJ Simpson trial. Following her retirement, she focused on hobbies of quilt making and crafts, tended to her garden and collectibles, and loudly cheered on both the UConn men's and women's basketball teams, whom she and her husband had been following since the 1950s. She spent many days organizing activities and playing cards with her friends at the Plainville Senior Center. When her husband became disabled, she cared for him and for the Hospital for Special Care where he lived out his life by becoming an active and cherished volunteer. The matriarch of her family, she leaves a legacy of great strength, love and faith, along with many cherished memories.

She is survived by her children, Suzanne L. (Martin) Ray and her husband, James of Atlanta, GA, Debra L. (Martin) Whatley and her husband, Chuck Sweet of Satsuma, FL, and Peter J. Martin and his wife, Deborah of Burlington; her grandchildren, Dylan Whatley, Stephanie Murphy, Sarah and Jack Martin; her great-grandchildren, Vanessa and Lauren Whatley; and her brother, Allyn Willner of West Haven. She also leaves Duchess the cat, who recently retired to Florida under the care of her daughter.

Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville assisted the family with arrangements. Committal services were held at St. Joseph Cemetery. Barbara may be remembered with contributions to the Plainville Senior Center, 200 East St, Plainville, CT 06062. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

~ Blanche Renee (LeLoir) Simao ~



89, of Plainville, passed away with her family beside her, on Monday, December 30, 2013 at Apple Rehab.


Born on October 19, 1924, in Vitry, France, she was one of three daughters to the late Pierre and Rose (Broutin) LeLoir; and the only daughter to leave France to reside in the United States. She and Anthony married and settled in New Britain where they raised their family of four until his passing in 1970. Blanche relocated to Plainville in her later years, making frequent visits to the Plainville Senior Center where she leaves many friends. She enjoyed going for walks, crocheting, and knitting, and found the most joy in being surrounded by her family. A devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, she will be greatly missed.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Michelle and Dave Violette of Plainville; her sons, James and his wife, Glorya of New Britain, Anthony of St. Petersburg, FL, and Edward and his wife, Barbara of Summerville, SC. She was the proud Memere of James, Bianca, Anthony and Erik Simao, and Nicholas and Matthew Violette, along with her 5 great-grandchildren. She also leaves her sister in France, Renee Voyez and her husband Michele, and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sister, Pierette LeLoir.

Her family extends their appreciation to the staff at Apple Rehab for the kindness and compassionate care shown to Blanche during her stay there.

Funeral services in celebration of Blanche's life were held at Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville. Committal services followed at St. Mary Cemetery, New Britain. Blanche may be remembered with a contribution to the charity of donors choice. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

CT GOP Mourns Passing of Tom D'Amore



HARTFORD—Connecticut Republican Party Chairman Jerry Labriola, Jr. released the following statement today in response to the passing of former CT GOP Chairman Tom D'Amore.

"I had the great pleasure of working closely with Tom, who served as state party chair during my tenure as chairman of the Connecticut Young Republicans. His dignified leadership was an inspiration to me and many others.

"The value of Tom's insight and guidance was unrivaled. I consider myself fortunate to count myself among the many members of the Republican Party in Connecticut who consistently relied on his advice to help them navigate the political landscape.

"Tom D'Amore was a true gentleman who led a remarkable life of service. To me, he was not only a mentor, but a great friend. He will be sorely missed. "Our thoughts and prayers are with Tom's family and loved ones during this very difficult time."

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Sunday: 10:00 am School for All Ages
 11:00 am Morning Worship Service
 11:00 am Junior Church ages 4-8
 6:30 pm Evening Worship Service
 Wed: 7:00 pm Bible Study and Prayer

For more information about the church
 visit our website at www.cobplainville.org

A LOOK AT JESUS' BAPTISM

Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist was the start of His 3 and 1/2 years of public ministry. Jesus' baptism demonstrated two things, (1) all that Jesus did was a result of the indwelling Spirit of God in Him, and (2) He was the Son of God. Listen to the account in the Gospel of Matthew 3:16-17 "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water; and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him. And, lo, a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am wellpleased." Who was speaking? This was God the Father speaking concerning His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. When Jesus proclaimed to the religious leaders of his day that God was His Father they took up stones to stone him because they said He was claiming to be God and thus was blaspheming (John 10:29-33). It would have been blasphemous if Jesus wasn't God, but you see, He was and is God. Jesus said that "I and my Father are one" (Jn. 10:30). Jesus is God for only God can forgive sins. Only Divine blood spilt upon Calvary's Cross would be sufficient to pay for the sins of all the world.

Because Jesus is God "every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11). Have you bowed before Him and confessed that He is Lord? Have you received Him as your Savior? Time is running out! Don't put it off another day!

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SUNDAY SERVICES

CHURCH SCHOOL
 Pre-K to High School: 9:00 AM

WORSHIP TIME 10:00AM

REGULAR EVENTS

Tuesday Ladies.... Tuesdays, 9:30 AM
 Boy Scouts.....Tuesdays, 7 PM
 AA.....Sun., Mon. & Wed., 7 PM
 Al-Anon.....Mondays, 7 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION:

Sunday February 2, 10 AM

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:

Monday, February 17, 1 to 6 PM
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METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (MYF):

February 7, 21, 6:30~8 PM

CHOIR REHEARSAL:

Sundays, February 2, 9, 16, 23,
 Following Worship

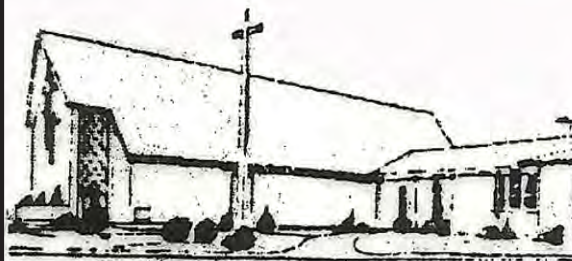


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4. Uses a Metal Cross, NOT one of rubies and diamonds.
5. His Papal Ring is Silver, NOT GOLD.
6. Uses the Same Black Pants Under the Cassock,
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TUESDAY: Prayer & Deliverance-7:00pm

Bible Class @ 7:45 p.m.

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2nd Pastor's Care~ 3rd Missionary Service

4th Men's Ministry~5th Youth Service

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3rd Sunday – Building Fund Day

4th Sunday – Pastor's Care Day

5th Sunday - Communion & Youth Day

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Church Service 10:00 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY

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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.

Men's Meeting (2nd/4th Sat) 9:30 a.m.

PEP (Every Sat) 1:00-4:00 p.m.

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Jubilee (Sat before 2nd/4th Sun) 5:00 p.m.

Mass/Youth choirs

(Mon. after 1st/2nd Sun) 7:00 p.m.

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12 Granger Lane Plainville, CT 06062

Sunday School -10:00 am

Sunday Services

11:00 am & 6:00 pm

Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

REFORMERS ~ UNANIMOUS

Friday 7:00 pm

For more information call 793-1155

(www.fbbc-ct.org)

Nutmeg TV Monday 5:00 p.m.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

115 West Main Street Plainville, CT 06062

860-747-3109

Priest: The Reverend José Martinez

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Holy Communion 10:00 am

Nursery Care during the service

Followed by coffee hour

Holy Communion in Spanish

Sunday Evening 6:00 PM

Misa en Espanol todos los domingos a las

6:00 PM

Holy Communion Thursdays~12:00pm

OFFICE HOURS

Wednesday – Friday 9:00am -1:00pm

PARISH PROGRAMS

Food For Friends

Wednesdays 3 to 6 PM

Daughters of the King Chapter

3rd Saturday of the month 9:30am

Open Mic Night

1st Wednesday of the month 7:00pm

Twelve Step Programs

Every Tuesday NA 7:30pm

Every Thursday AA 7:30pm

Every Saturday Women's AA 9:00am

Every Sunday AA & NA 7:00pm

Ample Parking in rear of Church

Hello from a Florida Flee Market



Hi, my name is Puddy Tat and this is the way I go to the flea market in Webster Florida. I really don't have an interest in anything they sell at the flea market but my owners like it and I go alone to make them happy. This is my Christmas hat but I usually have my cowboy hat on but it was the holiday season so I dressed for it. Do you believe there are people that actually put their dogs in strollers and walk them around the flea market. What is the world coming to?

Pet Page

Winter Pet Care

The cold and snow of winter bring their own special needs and challenges for our pets. While most of these are outdoor issues, one indoor issue is very important. If you use space heaters or fires of any kind, remember that pets are drawn to the heat. Make sure that they cannot get burned by close contact with the heat source, using barrier gates if needed. One family we know of uses an exercise pen around their wood stove to be sure their small dog cannot come into contact with the stove.



There are many outdoor issues in the winter. Warmth is certainly an issue, particularly for small dogs (especially those under 21 pounds) and dogs of all sizes with very short coats. Small dogs lose body heat more rapidly than larger dogs, and for short-coated dogs going out in the cold is much like our going out with only a tee shirt on. For these dogs, a warm coat to put on is much more than a fashion statement. The very young and the very old are also more likely to be affected by the cold.

Dogs with longer fur may not be as cold outside, but they are not immune to the cold. Even dogs bred to live in the Arctic, such as huskies, need shelter in below freezing temperatures. And don't forget that a well-groomed fluffy coat is warmer than a coat with packed in undercoat. A down jacket is much warmer than a felt jacket because of the trapped air!

Remember to go out with your dog in the extreme cold – when you're cold enough to want to go inside, it's time for your dog to go inside, too.

Cold, snow and ice also create problems for your dog's feet. If your dog has hairy feet, hard lumps of snow, commonly known as ice balls, can stick to the hair, making it very uncomfortable to walk. This problem can be solved by either keeping the hair under the feet trimmed short, or by wearing boots. If you want to trim your dog's underfeet, be very careful not to cut the paw pads! If you opt to use boots, you may have to get your dog used to wearing something on his feet. This can be done by first putting socks on the feet until your dog no longer shows any reaction to wearing them, then going to boots.

Icy areas often need to have an ice melter used on them. Unfortunately, salt and many other ice melters are toxic to dogs. If you are using an ice melter choose one that is not toxic; you will also want to check the label to be sure the product is safe for your type of pavement. If you walk your dog where others may have used an ice melter, either have your dog wear boots, or wash the feet when you get home.

Finally, we should all remember two other cold weather hazards. Spilled antifreeze must be cleaned up, because it is very toxic to cats and dogs. They only know they like the taste. And if you park your car outside, be sure to hit the hood or blow the horn before starting your car. In colder weather cats that go outside will often shelter under the hood of a car, and starting the engine can cause serious injury or even death to a sheltering cat.

Remember to buy a Treat for your pet on Valentine's Day

Golden Retriever Puppies

Happy Valentine's Day



Call Jeannette Hinkson 860-209-7035



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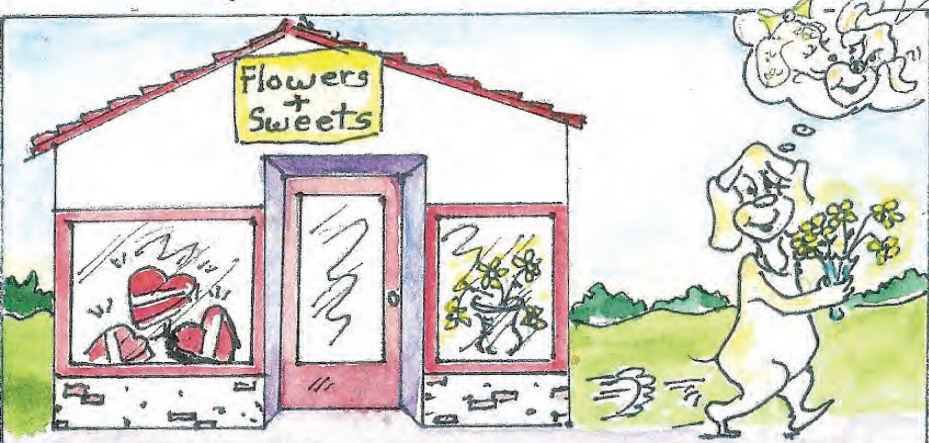


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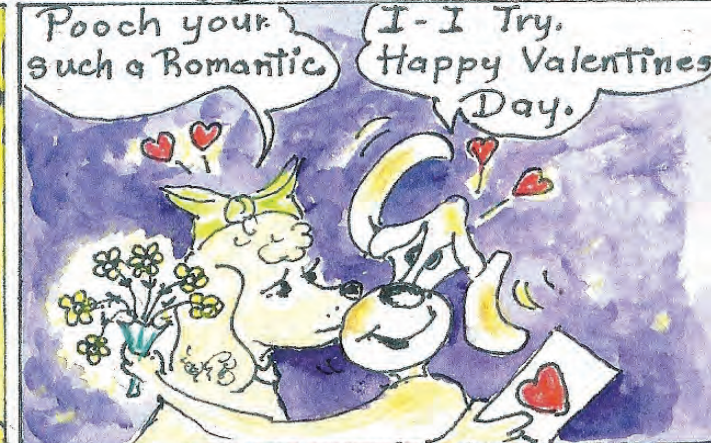
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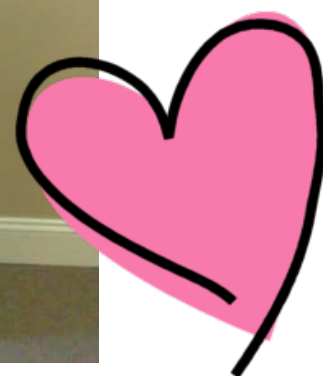
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860-747-9207 www.ctcasualty.com

“Happy Valentine’s Day”

To Our Clients &

To Our Future Clients



Twenty years have passed since we first opened the doors to our office, and we have served the community from downtown ever since. The building may have under gone numerous facelifts but our rates are still the most competitive and our service is fantastic. We would like to thank all our loyal customers for making our 20 years a success and look forward to the next 20 years.

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