

Winter storm expected to hit state Sunday morning

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THE NEWS-TIMES

Sunday December 1, 2019 | SINCE 1883 | WWW.NEWS-TIMES.COM | \$3.00

High school recovering from rumors of chaos on campus

By **Julia Perkins and Kendra Baker**

DANBURY — In the wake of a series of violent fights at the high school, city officials and administrators are working to dispel rumors and restore calm to the campus. The school is recovering from what the principal

described as a “rough” week filled with rumors and the arrests of as many as a dozen students. Danbury has the largest single-campus high school in the state, with more than 3,000 students. “The amount of altercations and disruptions at the high school are not the norm at Danbury High

School,” Principal Dan Donovan said at a school board meeting. “We’re getting back to the norm now — it took a long (time) to get there. It took a lot of administrative staff to try and figure out.” Administrators stressed the fights earlier this month were between two small groups of students.

The police chief has said between eight to 12 students — most of them girls — were issued juvenile summonses in connection with the brawls. Several others were expelled, and others faced suspension over the fights. Police doubled their presence at the high school **See Rumors on A4**



H John Voorhees III / Hearst Connecticut Media

Multiple students are reportedly facing criminal charges and have been removed from Danbury High School after an increase in fights between several small groups of students, officials said last week.

As caretakers fade, Conn. cemeteries fall into disrepair

Area towns seek regionalization

By **Katrina Koerting**

BROOKFIELD — When Tom Nolan’s wife died in 2002, he visited Central Cemetery and was embarrassed to find it in disrepair.

This was where the couple planned to spend eternal life together, Nolan approached the cemetery association’s board to volunteer, helping to clear the grass, fix the stone wall, help families looking to inter their loved one at the cemetery — and tracking down plots for callers looking for their descendants.

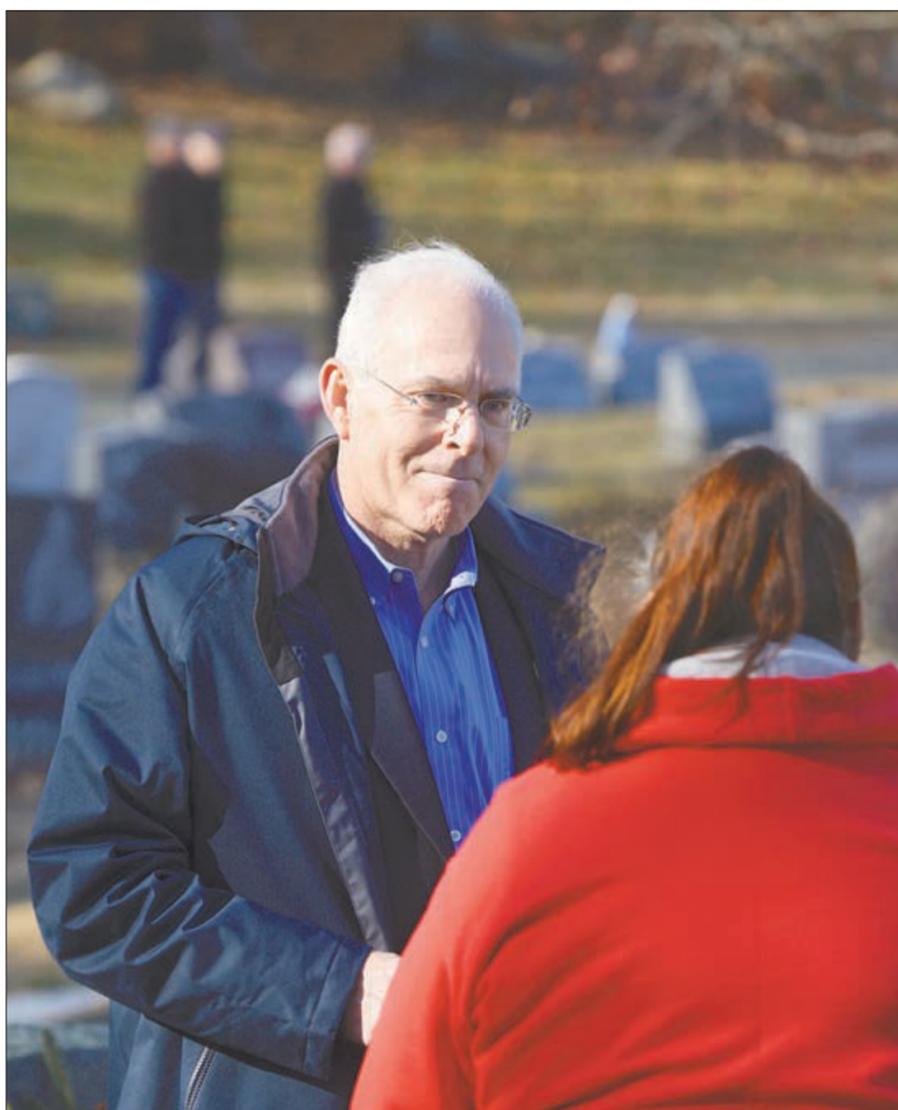
Seventeen years later, he’s looking for the next generation to step up — a problem facing countless Connecticut cemeteries.

“I’ll be 88 next month and too old to do it,” Nolan said. “It’s time to turn this over to the young folks. It’s been a joy to be a part of it.”

His son, Jeff Nolan, said the association has discovered while crafting its succession plan, that it’s no longer enough to have a younger volunteer step into the role. The management of cemeteries needs to be restructured at a regional or state level.

He said the volunteers mean well but don’t have the training or knowledge to oversee the cemeteries. Working with other towns will help the cemeteries afford to come into the modern era.

For three years, the association has advocated for the **See Cemeteries on A4**



H John Voorhees III / Hearst Connecticut Media

Jeff Nolan, with the Central Cemetery Association in Brookfield, talks with Mary Cipolla, who was visiting the cemetery on Nov. 21. Nolan is advocating for cemeteries to be managed on a regional or state level.

State’s gun industry shrinking

Quiet decline for a storied part of Connecticut’s manufacturing history

By **Kaitlyn Krasselt**

Nick Ecker, the owner of Shelton-based Charter Arms, knows what it’s like to be a gunmaker courted by another state.

His company, which employs 35 people and primarily makes revolvers, is often the target of other states hoping to lure firearms manufacturers with promises of economic incentives and a friendlier attitude toward the Second Amendment.

Ecker said he has repeatedly turned down the offers and has no intention of leaving.

“We’re a small manufacturer, we’ve been here since ‘64,” Ecker, whose father founded the company, said. “The greatest asset any employer has is their employees. Even though we could make a much better deal outside of the state, our employees aren’t willing to move. And 95 percent of our parts suppliers are right here in Connecticut.”

Still, he understands why so many companies have left, or cut their output in the state.

More than 200 years after Eli Whitney vowed to mass produce guns for the U.S. government, 150 years after two Connecticut companies claimed their weapons were “the gun that won the West,” the state’s long and colorful history as a cradle of firearms manufacturing could be winding down.

Yet another of the state’s gun manufacturers, Stag Arms, announced Nov. 18 it will move from New Britain — where it was founded in 2003 — to Wyoming, citing, among other reasons, “its citizens’ unwavering support for the Second Amendment.”

In 2012, the total number of firearms manufactured in the state was 300,519, according to the annual manufacturing report from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. By 2017, the most recent year for which data is available, the total number of guns manufactured here dropped by **See Industry on A4**

Plan to raise Metro-North train speeds finds skeptics

By **Bill Cummings**

Gov. Ned Lamont’s plan to speed up Metro-North trains hinges on incremental track changes that increase average speed and shave minutes off commute times.

The centerpiece of the \$6.2 billion rail program

calls for technical adjustments that slightly straighten curves and alter how trains “lean” through turns.

“These improvements will yield 5 to 10 mph increases at each location,” said Max Reiss, Lamont’s spokesman.

More substantial track

re-alignments, along with improvements to bridges and approaches, will provide greater benefits over a 10-year period, Reiss added.

When those efforts are combined, the work will produce a “measurable effect in minutes saved. The minor track

See Speeds on A4

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Weather: Periods of snow and ice from midday on. High: 33. Low: 29. **Page A20**

NEWSBITES

DANBURY

► PRISON OFFICER MISCONDUCT CASE CONTINUED

The pre-trial hearing of a corrections officer accused of exchanging letters with an inmate, sneaking a cell phone into prison and making a false statement has been continued.

Jennie Reese, 31, of Oxford — who pleaded not guilty to two counts of conveying of unauthorized items into a correctional institution and one count of false statement — is expected back at state Superior Court in Danbury on Dec. 30.

The charges stem from incidents that allegedly occurred at Newtown's Garner Correctional Institute over a one-to-two-month period.

An inmate told police he and Reese had exchanged love letters and had sexual contact. He also accused her of sneaking a cellphone into the prison and showing him a partially nude picture of herself on it.

Police said they seized two letters from the prison that Reese had written to the inmate, as well as a "dedicated notebook" with draft letters the inmate had written for Reese.

Reese provided a written statement denying the allegations, but later admitted to writing and receiving letters from the inmate after detectives showed her copies of the letters they seized.

Police said she "continued to deny that any illicit sexual contact had occurred."

Reese is out on \$1,000 bond.

kendra.baker@bearst.com

NEW MILFORD

► PARKS AND REC RAISES SOME FEES

New Milford's Parks and Recreation will increase its pavilion and

summer camp fees this coming year.

All of the other fees will remain the same. The pavilion rental fee will go from \$100 to \$125. Parks and Recreation Director Dan Calhoun said there has been a surge in pavilion rentals and they wanted to keep everything else down because of last year's increases.

Summer camp fees also went up by \$30 in each bracket to cover the state increase in minimum wage. This means it will now be \$380 for the first child, \$325 for the second child, \$255 for the third child and a cap of \$960.

The nonresident is still \$450 though.

— kkoerting@newstimes.com

WASHINGTON

► NATIVE AMERICANS TO SELL CRAFTS

Local Native American crafters are selling their items at a holiday fair over the coming week-ends.

The Institute for American Indian Studies hosts the annual Native American Holiday Arts and Crafts Market. The event begins this Saturday and Sunday and will continue on weekends through Dec. 15.

Visitors can shop for a wide variety of Native American crafts, jewelry, and artwork. Among the more unusual items are handwoven baskets from colorful reeds and bark, hand-painted decorative gourds, authentically made Native American pottery, rattles, and elegant handcrafted flutes. Many artisans aim to use traditional techniques and natural materials, such as reeds, bark, gourds, stone, feathers, quills and antique trade beads.

The market is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays. Admission is free.

— jperkins@newstimes.com

EARTH MATTERS

State's wildlife has a unique way of coping with winter

Hawks have ultra-violet vision. They see things we can't imagine seeing, like the urine trail mice leave as they cross a field.

Which, said Ken Elkins, director of education at Southbury's Bent of the River nature preserve — owned by Audubon Connecticut — is why red-shouldered and red-tailed hawks now perch in the bare trees edging the preserve's fields.

"They can see a highway system," Elkins said.

When snow comes, that's no guarantee of protection. Foxes can sniff out the mice and voles under the snow, then pounce.

"They pop up into the air and then nose-dive into the snow," said Sam Nunes, an environment educator at the Woodcock Nature Center, which straddles the Ridgefield-Wilton town line.

Some state fauna get to sleep through the coming sleet — black bears, woodchuck, bats, frogs, turtles, snakes and salamanders. Others, like chipmunks and skunks, aren't true hibernators. But they stay inside, and grow torpid, waiting for the seasons to change.

But for a lot of mammals and birds, the next few months will be a life reduced to a simple strategy — shelter in place when the weather turns nasty, then, when it clears, go out and find something to eat.

Jenny Dickson, director of the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's wildlife division, said part of survival in winter means slowing down.

"You do whatever you can to minimize the energy you expend," she said.

For humans, it's a chance to go outside and be trackers.

"We see deer tracks, mink tracks, bobcat tracks," said Ann Taylor, executive director of New Pond Farm nature center in Redding. "Coyote, we don't see that much. But we hear them."

Elkins said these hunters come out at dusk, which as the winter solstice approaches and the days, shorten, is now late afternoon.

"We'll see them at the end of the workday," he said.

Elkins said the tracks show which of this crew are more wary of humans.

"We won't see bobcat tracks near our more popular trails. They tend to find out where the people are," he said. "We see them crisscrossing the trails deeper in the forests."

Survival also means finding shelter from the storm. White-tailed deer will hunker down in evergreen stands, to get protection from the wind and snow. Others will find rocky dens with a bit of an overhang to stay out of foul weather.

"They'll stick close to shelter," the DEEP's Dickson said.

Omnivores — foxes, coyotes and raccoons among them — have this advantage. They can eat lots of things; berries, mice, carrion, house cats. The affinity of raccoons for trash can take-out is well documented.

"If there's a stream open, raccoons can find fresh-water mussels," Dickson said.

Deer manage through the winter through a change in their metabolism that enables them to survive on twigs and bark.

"That's why deer will browser on people's shrubs and garden plants in winter," Dickson said. "Other times of the year, it may not taste so good. But

in the winter, not so bad."

Nunes of the Woodcock Nature Center said that that's why it's a mistake for people to put out grain for deer in winter.

"Their digestive systems slow down. They live off their fat reserves," Nunes said. "The food people provide will just rot in their stomachs."

Patrick Comins, director of the Connecticut Audubon Society, said songbirds cope by heading south.

"They cope by migrating," Comins said.

That includes a lot of birds we think of as year-rounders: robins, blue jays, chickadees. The ones living here in summer head south. Their northern cousins replace them.

"For a lot of birds, this is Florida," Comins said.

They've also evolved to survive the cold. Songbird feet are just bone and cartilage and tough hides.

"They have very low blood supply in their feet," he said. "Their muscles are protected by their feathers."

They too have learned to shelter in place — bluebirds and wrens will use bird houses in winter to stay out of the pelting snow and ice.

The DEEP Dickson said that's why it's good for humans to leave brush piles in their yards, or to plant thick shrubs. When hawks come hunting, the songbirds can escape to the thick tangle of branches until the all-clear sounds.

Bird feeders, however, are for humans watching birds, Comins said. The birds really don't need our black-oiled sunflower seed and suet, even in bleak February.

"There's plenty of food out there for them," he said.

Contact Robert Miller at earthmattersrgm@gmail.com

LOTTERY

SATURDAY DRAWING CONNECTICUT

PLAY 3 DAY: 3-7-2

PLAY 4 DAY: 4-6-2-5

LUCKY LINKS DAY: 01-04-05-06-09-15-18-19

NEW YORK

MIDDAY NUMBERS: 4-0-8

MIDDAY WIN 4: 4-2-7-6

EVENING NUMBERS: 7-0-1

EVENING WIN 4: 7-0-3-1

PICK 10: 04-12-18-21-23-25-33-38-40-43-45-50-51-53-60-63-72-73-75-76

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Winter storm to hit state Sunday

By Meghan Friedmann and Tara O'Neill

The first winter storm of the season looms on the horizon and is expected to drop anywhere from 6 to 12 inches of snow across much of the state Sunday and Monday but have a smaller impact along the coast.

The National Weather Service projects that inland cities like Danbury will be hit the hardest, with a winter storm watch in effect for interior Connecticut.

Coastal areas like Bridgeport and New Haven, however, are forecast to receive less than 5 inches of a mix of snow, sleet and rain, according to a map and briefing released by the NWS Saturday morning.

A weather alert sent by the National Weather Service late Saturday afternoon said there is a winter weather advisory in effect from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday because mixed precipitation is expected.

Total snow accumulations of 1 to 3 inches and ice accumulations of a light glaze are expected.

Snow totals could be higher if the precipitation changes to snow early on Monday and heavier snow banding continues Monday into Monday night.

The winter storm watch remains for interior Connecticut Sunday morning into Tuesday morning.

"Accumulations of freezing rain will be possible in the early to late afternoon hours prior to a change over to all rain," the alert said. "Plan on slippery road conditions. Slow down and use caution while traveling."

The snow is expected to start falling in southwestern interior Connecticut Sunday morning or early Sunday afternoon, dropping 2 to 5 inches before changing over to a wintry mix late Sunday afternoon or early Sunday evening.

There is a possibility of sleet and freezing rain Sunday night into Monday morning. About a tenth to one quarter of ice accumulation is possible.

Things will change back to



A map from the National Weather Service shows projected snowfall across Connecticut for a storm that is expected to hit Sunday, and last into Monday.

snow Monday morning, before stopping late Monday night. Throughout Monday, an estimated 4 to 8 inches of snow is predicted to fall.

Sunday afternoon and Monday afternoon into evening, forecasts indicate about 1 to 2 inches of snow will fall every hour.

Total snowfall accumulation will be anywhere from 6 to 12 inches.

Heavy wet snow — and wind gusts of 20 to 30 mph — could down several tree branches and power lines, causing scattered power outages.

Travel conditions will be difficult Sunday afternoon through early Tuesday morning, the weather service said. Danbury could receive 5 inches of snow by midnight Sunday and another 5 inches Monday, an online weather radar indicates.

Coastal Connecticut is more likely to see snow Sunday morning but rain throughout the afternoon, and then snow again by Monday afternoon, according to the NWS. A mix of snow, rain and sleet is also possible Monday.

The NWS warned of potential icy roads throughout the state.

Connecticut State Police advised residents in a Tweet to avoid travel during the storm.

Expecting to fly?

Bradley International Airport said several of its airport partners have issued travel advisories and waivers

because of the incoming storm.

"If you are scheduled to travel tomorrow or early next week, please contact your airline to confirm your flight itinerary," the airport urged those planning to fly.

Plan around the storm

The forecast has already caused several event cancellations.

Santa Sunday at the New England Carousel Museum in Bristol, Joy to the World concert at the Episcopal Church of St. Paul and St. James in New Haven, Trees in the Rigging at the Connecticut River Museum in Essex and Connecticut State Police corvette toy drive kick off from the Danbury Fair Mall to the Wyndham Hotel in Southbury have all been canceled.

In Orange, the tractor parade and tree lighting ceremony planned to take

place Sunday have been canceled. But the tree will still be lit at 5:45 p.m. regardless of the weather and all indoor activities will still continue.

The state Department of Transportation has an alert on its traffic site urging drivers to "plan ahead, monitor weather forecasts and travel early due to the predicted winter storm."

Many municipalities also prohibit street parking during storms, so that snow plows to do their jobs. Monroe First Selectman Ken Kellogg sent residents an email Saturday reminding them of the rule and the reason for it.

"Parked vehicles hinder emergency response, create a hazard for the public, and interfere with the safe removal of snow or ice," he said.

Many towns distribute information about storm preparedness.

Police investigate Bethel stabbing

By Tara O'Neill

BETHEL — Detectives are investigating an early morning stabbing that left one person wounded Saturday.

The victim told police the stabbing happened on Midway Drive in Bethel. Police said it happened "during the early morning hours"

Saturday.

Police said Saturday afternoon that the case remains under investigation.

There was no immediate word on the victim's condition, nor any further information about the incident.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Sgt. Zavatsky at 203-744-7900.

Murphy has new address on power list

COLIN MCENROE



COMMENTARY

Mainly because I absolutely cannot stand to write another column about tolls, today I will update the Connecticut Political Power Rankings. Two months have passed since the last CPPRs, and much has changed.

For one thing, U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy has lost his No. 1 ranking. We sent him a letter to inform him of this, but it was returned unopened. Ha ha! This is a funny and possibly mean Chris Murphy joke which I will explain elsewhere.

Let's dive in.

1. U.S. Rep. Jim Himes. 94.7.

Himes was not even featured in the CPPRs two months ago because most of the time he is somewhat

boring. For example, here is an answer he gave to a question in 2013: "It is clear in retrospect that Americans were heavily over-subsidized into home ownership. I would support reform of the GSEs to make sure they are guaranteeing only well-underwritten stable mortgages and smart multi-family housing in a way that protects taxpayers."



Jim Himes

What word were you on when you stopped reading?

But everything has changed. Himes sits on the House Intelligence Committee where he is, among other things, Chairman Adam Schiff's anger translator, a concept first embodied by Luther, President Obama's anger translator on "Key and Peele."

During the hearings, Schiff was administered, I assume, a protocol of heavy medications so that he would not become ruffled or flustered while committee Republicans jeered at him. It fell to Himes to exhibit emotions, which he started doing on Nov. 15, during the testimony of former Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch.

"I'm angry," Himes said. Actually, in the space of 93 words, he said "I'm angry" six times. Those are impressive numbers. Those are Luther numbers.

Himes also spoke, every day, right after U.S. Rep. Devin Nunes, who is basically Forrest Gump with-



U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn.

Hearst Connecticut Media file photo

out the good-naturedness. This tended to make Himes sound like Daniel Webster.

2. State Sen. Martin Looney. 90.5.

Until last Tuesday, it seemed possible that we would all be trapped in a Sartre-like hell, in which everybody droned on about tolls for the remainder of Connecticut history.

Looney appears to have been the driving force — you see what I did there — behind a plan that, although it probably will not raise the requisite money for transportation necessities, will at least get people to stop talking about tolls.

Sidebar: A couple of weeks ago my phone rang, and it was Looney, and all he wanted to talk about was noir cinema, which has been defined as drama "with a particularly dark and venomous view of existence." You can see how this would be meaningful to someone who had spent the last 26 years in the Connecticut state Senate.

3. State Rep. Themis Klarides. 79.2.

Yes, this was the exact rating the House minority leader received two months ago. I would like to mention that Tesla last week unveiled its new Cybertruck, an electric pickup truck with an exterior made from a new-

ly developed bulletproof stainless steel alloy and (theoretically) shatterproof windows.

If somebody would buy me a Cybertruck, I would consider lowering Klarides' rating. Otherwise, it's just not worth the risk.

4. U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal. 78.0.

Last October, people complained on social media that Blumenthal was nowhere in the CPPRs. As if this somehow mattered! This is just to keep them off my back. Last week, Blumenthal made his yearly appearance at an event drawing attention to dangerous toys. As usual, this event had the unintended effect of making me want some of the toys, particularly the "ATS Battery Operated Bump & Go Action Police Car" and Kick-o's "Toy Gun Blue Light-Up Noise Blaster," either of which could damage a child's hearing.

There was also an xylophone with four times the legal limit of lead.

Look, if you give a kid an xylophone for Christmas, you better hope it's too heavy for him to throw at you.

5. Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz. 75.1.

Here are some things Bysiewicz did in the first three days of last week. Swore in Curt Leng as Hamden's mayor. Went to a turkey farm, picked out a turkey, named it Ella after Ella Grasso (whose biography Bysiewicz wrote) and pardoned it. Had a news conference urging people to do their holiday shopping at small businesses. Presumably she also bought all the things on Blumenthal's list of choking hazards and left them where Gov. Ned Lamont might come across them.

6. U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy. 71.3.

Ctnews-junkie.com revealed last

week that Murphy's absentee ballot did not count in the November election because he was using his parents' Old Lyme beach house as his address after he sold his Cheshire house and is still looking to buy a house in the Hartford area.

You might say the Old Lyme house was being used as a mail drop, except nobody was even looking at the mail, so when the postcard came checking to see if Murphy was an active voter, nobody answered it, causing him to be struck from the voter rolls, which is probably good because it doesn't seem like he was terribly interested in the municipal affairs of Old Lyme. As is sometimes the case with Murphy, who works in a chamber full of multimillionaires, there is something a little threadbare and Bob Cratchit-y about this story.

7. Gov. Ned Lamont.

My proposal for Ned: Travel the world learning combat skills until, in a Bhutan prison, you meet a man who conducts you to the mountain headquarters of the League of Shadows, where you train as a ninja and completely purge yourself of fear. Then return to Hartford and fix the transportation system. So what if this is basically the plot of "Batman Begins?" It's your only path to meaningful existence. Also, if you happen upon some colorful magnet balls, resist the temptation to put them in your mouth. I'll explain why later.

Colin McEnroe's column appears every Sunday, his newsletter comes out every Thursday and you can hear his radio show every weekday on WNPR 90.5. Email him at colin@ctpublic.org. Sign up for his newsletter at <http://bit.ly/colinmckenroe>.

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FROM THE FRONT PAGE

CEMETERIES

From page A1

change and plans to meet with state officials, including the governor this legislative session to gain traction.

Throughout the area

Towns across the region are seeing fewer people volunteer to take care of the cemeteries, which are generally owned by nonprofit associations and churches.

These abandoned cemeteries — some dating back to the late 1600s and early 1700s — can fall under the town government, which generally doesn't have the money or manpower to take them on.

Redding is exploring creating a committee with the Historical Society to oversee the historic cemeteries, according to a report prepared and presented last month. The town owns a few of the cemeteries, but helps with the mowing at some of the others.

Housatonic Probate Court Judge Martin Landgrebe is spearheading New Milford's effort to create a townwide succession plan because many of the caretakers are in their 70s and 80s.

In Ridgefield, officials are trying to determine the fate of Branchville Cemetery. It was cared for by Floyd Bouton of the Bouton Funeral Home until he died, but his descendants didn't want to assume the responsibility, especially because ownership was unclear.

Danbury has 23 known cemeteries, but seven or eight are still active. The others are generally maintained by a friends group, said Bob Young, who is a former president of the group and superintendent of Wooster Cemetery.

He said the group is only able to clean up one cemetery a month and has asked the City Council to create a committee to officially oversee all of the sites that don't have owners, as well as provide a \$10,000 annual budget to cover the costs. That effort has been unsuccessful though because officials are worried this could become a proverbial albatross.



A gravestone at Central Cemetery in Brookfield. Towns across the region are seeing fewer people volunteer to take care of the cemeteries, which are generally owned by nonprofit associations and churches.

H John Voorhees III / Hearst Connecticut Media

"Once you start it, it's essentially impossible to get rid of it," Young said.

He thinks Nolan's regionalization idea is worth exploring.

Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn agrees and has advocated for it at the regional level with the Western Connecticut Council of Governments.

"The actions at the cemeteries are essentially the same," Dunn said. "That lends itself to scale."

Regionalizing

Connecticut has about 5,000 cemeteries, most of which are independently owned.

Jeff Nolan sees regionalizing as a way to increase the expertise of those working in the cemeteries because it would provide enough revenue to hire a professional to oversee them, as well as offer training.

"This is no longer appropriate for volunteers," he said. "It needs to be regionalized, professionalized and modernized."

He compared it to building a house. The owner would hire someone who knew the proper way to build the foundation, and Jeff Nolan thinks the same should be true for those installing monuments or digging graves in cemeteries.

Young has brought an international cemetery association to Western Connecticut State Uni-

versity twice in the past two decades, most recently in the past 18 months. The conference covered many aspects of the industry, including some training, but far less than the training professionals would have.

Nolan said this effort could be taken on at a state or regional level because the entire state is smaller than some counties in other states where the cemeteries are all overseen in one place.

By having a regional effort, there could also be some uniformity with record keeping because each town right now has their own codes and way of doing it.

"Imagine walking into a grocery store and each aisle has its own computer system or some are taking inventory with paper and pencil," Jeff Nolan said.

Regionalizing will allow the cemeteries to purchase the technology and training needed to better keep cemetery records because of economies of scale. This includes ground penetrating radar and the GIS mapping system.

"A small cemetery like us can't invest in that kind of technology," Jeff Nolan said.

Modernization

A key part of the regionalization is overlaying the cemetery records with GIS mapping and

completing records electronically.

The records are now filled out by hand by the sextons and kept by the town clerks' offices. Jeff Nolan said people's electronic records follow them from birth to death and cemetery records seems like the logical progression.

He said if the GIS mapping and searchable electronic records are connected, it would be even easier to see which plots are available and who is buried where.

Granville Reed, with the Central Cemetery Association, said finding peoples' graves is becoming more of the association's tasks because of the growing interest in genealogy and websites like Find A Grave.

Tom Nolan will get calls from people all over the country asking about their relatives or if the family still has plots at the cemetery. He'll have a general idea, but will often walk the grounds to know for sure.

"I had a call from a woman in California this week confirming that the family had two lots," he said. "It's much easier for her to go onto her computer."

Having digital records also ensures the information is protected in case something happens to the papers.

Bob Brown, Brookfield Historical Society's president, said the town is unique because the historical society keeps track of who is buried in all 11 cemeteries, as well as one on the Newtown line and another on the New Milford line.

He said it would be great to take this to an even bigger level and preserve the state's history.

Jeff Nolan sees the modernization as a way to connect technology taught in the classroom to the real world because cemeteries are in every community. He said modernizing will attract the next generation and protect the future of the cemeteries.

"We want to get together and leave the place better than we found it," he said.

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SPEEDS

From page A1

improvements can be started in the next few years," Reiss said.

James Cameron, a Hearst Connecticut Media transportation columnist and founder of the Commuter Action Group, said he's not sold on the plan.

"I'm skeptical of claims about higher speeds," Cameron said. "Cutting a few minutes off running times would just get us back to where we were before the [Federal Railroad Administration] restrictions. So that's hardly an improvement."

Metro-North is hampered by numerous speed restrictions imposed after the 2013 derailment in Bridgeport, which injured more than 70 passengers, and one in the Bronx that killed four passengers and injured more than 110 people.

The overall route from New Haven to Grand Central Terminal twists and turns through communities and travels over 100-year-old bridges — making it difficult to substantially increase speed.

Curves and geometry

Metro-North Railroad President Catherine Rinaldi agreed that Lamont's proposed work would reduce travel time.

"We support Connecticut's proposal to increase investment in infrastructure," Rinaldi said. "Once complete, this work would allow us to increase average train speeds, and therefore decrease the duration of trips."

Aaron Donovan, a Metro-North spokesman, said the Connecticut plan is about raising average speeds along the route, not increasing higher speeds achieved on straight portions of track.

By easing curves, making changes to turns and investing in bridges, the average speed of a train can be increased and that's an effective way to reduce run times, Donovan said.

Reiss said the plan calls for changing the "super-elevation" of turns, which affects the amount of time a train leans in a curve and increases the length of the transition at the beginning of a curve.

New express trains are in the mix as well, Reiss said.

"We want to introduce new super express train service to New York City in partnership with either Metro-North or Amtrak," Reiss said. "The new express service would save additional minutes between New Haven and NYC."

"This service would initially operate with existing trains as a demonstration service to be followed later by a more frequent service using 132 new rail cars," Reiss added.

In his \$21 billion CT2030 rail, bus and highway plan, Lamont notes that "this group of projects will transform the state."

Paying for the plan, however, remains up in the air.

Lamont's intention to toll 14 highway bridges crashed and burned days after it was proposed. Republicans favor using state reserve funds to help leverage borrowing while Democrats want to toll trucks to bring in new revenue.

Connecticut also hopes to negotiate with Metro-North over changes on the New York side of the system that can quicken commute times.

Metro-North did not address questions about those negotiations or requests.

RUMORS

From page A1

last week in part because of a threat of a school shooting that turned out to be unfounded.

Superintendent Sal Pascarella said rumors that have been circulating have caused "a lot of angst" amongst the student body.

"We had a problem — there's no question — but I think we need to zero in on the problem and not incriminate the other youngsters, because they're wonderful kids wanting to get an education," he said.

About seven incidents were counted over two weeks — fewer than the rumor mill had reported, Donovan said.

Nor were weapons found at the school, Mayor Mark Boughton said.

They mayor said social media has helped spread rumors that have frightened students and parents.

"These things continue to propagate through the social media system," Boughton said at the school board meeting. "They are alarming students and understandably alarming parents. When you read that stuff, it's scary — and you obviously should be concerned."

Investigators are still working out what has led to the brawls. Officials could not say the names of the students because they are minors.

The contention at the school reached its peak Nov. 20 to 22 due to three unrelated incidents, Donovan said. He declined to go into detail.

"It was like a perfect storm of things coming together and caused problems," he said.

Five of the fights were connected to an "ongoing issue" that started in June, Donovan said. He did not say what the issue was.

Police have said they are examining whether the early November suicide of a local

18-year-old fueled any of the fights. Romantic jealousies and longstanding grudges between neighborhoods are also being investigated, police said.

"What we're doing in our investigation is really trying to get to the root of the causes so that we can work with the administration to develop some long-term solutions," Chief Patrick Ridenhour said at the board meeting.

Members of the Hispanic community the NAACP, the health department and the city's housing unit are working to address issues among families and neighborhoods, Pascarella said.

Boughton said he is confident the school board and administration will resolve the problems.

"We are united in a zero-tolerance policy as it relates to any acts of violence in any of our buildings," he said.

Boughton warned any students who are posting threats

on social media apps, like Snapchat. They will be prosecuted "to the full extent of the law," he said.

"Our detectives have a unique ability to track down who did the Snapchat," he said. "They have relationships with all the social media channels, and they have the weight of law enforcement behind them to get access to that data a lot quicker than anybody else could — so these young people will get a knock on their door."

The fights occurred on the same week representatives from the New England Association of Schools, which evaluates the high school every 10 years, visited.

But the representatives did not notice the discontent, Superintendent Sal Pascarella said.

"All I heard was what they witnessed was respectful students, caring adults, a school that's working, kids that are learning in class," he said.

INDUSTRY

From page A1

two-thirds to 103,274.

The decline is not a reflection of national sales trends. The number of guns manufactured nationwide dropped from 8.6 million in 2012 to 8.3 million in 2017, according to the ATF data. A small dip was expected when the country elected a Republican president.

And it's not just because Connecticut has arguably the strictest gun-control laws in the nation, including a ban on the sale of military-style, semiautomatic rifles such as the wildly popular and controversial AR-15 style.

"Forget guns, this is a very unfriendly state for manufacturing of any kind," Ecker said Friday. "The state wants just services. There's no tax incentives to stay here."

A Colt and a Stag

Stag had 200 employees in 2013, a year before an investigation led to a federal felony conviction on charges the company had hundreds of improperly registered

guns, some with no serial numbers. Its owner was forced to sell the company and its license was revoked.

While Stag reports having just three employees left in the state, the exit marks the most recent in a series of departures by firearms companies. As an industry, starting with Whitney and extending through Colt, Winchester, Remington and many others, gunmakers created the industrial ecosystem that makes up Connecticut's manufacturing economy even to this day.

Stag's move is unlikely to be the last, one prominent person in the industry said.

"The Connecticut River valley has historically been known as gun valley," said Lawrence Keane, senior vice president for government and public affairs at the National Shooting Sports Foundation in Newtown, which represents companies in the industry.

"But then Remington went to Arkansas. Winchester closed in New Haven and went to South Carolina and elsewhere. Colt is looking to leave. PTR left in 2013 for South Carolina because of

the hostility toward the industry."

Colt's Manufacturing, founded in Hartford by Samuel Colt, now in West Hartford, didn't return calls seeking comment about whether the company is making plans to leave the state, and Keane did not elaborate. Employment has declined in recent years, even sparking a 2018 lawsuit by the company's union over accusations that the company had shifted work out of state and laid off workers a year after it promised to keep 600 jobs in Connecticut, according to reports in the Hartford Courant.

Beverly Brakeman, regional director of United Auto Workers region 9-A, the union that represents the Colt's workers, said the company is not growing.

"It is stable but there's a lot of issues there that we're trying to work through," she said. "The company has been wanting to move to Florida or some other right-to-work state for some time. It was several years ago that they really tried to move out of Connecticut. Recently we haven't heard that, but one of

the things we're concerned about is they're really trying to move away from manufacturing in the state and doing more assembling instead."

Colt's bought the design for the AR-15 in the late 1950s and developed it into the M16 rifle, later the M4 carbine. It also was the first to produce a civilian, semi-automatic version in 1963, known as the Sporter, but was never one of the larger makers of the civilian models and recently announced it is exiting that business.

Another prominent manufacturer, O.F. Mossberg & Sons, in North Haven, also did not return calls seeking comment for this story. Two years ago Mossberg had 230 Connecticut employees, an executive said at the time, down from 265 in 2013 — before the state passed a sweeping gun reform law, but after the December, 2012 Sandy Hook tragedy in which a gunman with an AR-15 killed 26 people including 20 first-graders.

That law has been a backdrop in Connecticut ever since, as the industry reacts to emotional calls for its



Bob Child / Associated Press file photo

The blue dome of the former Colt firearms factory sits atop the Coltsville complex in Hartford in 2008.

demise following each mass shooting incident.

"You have economic development folks and many governors including the governor of Wyoming coming to our trade show in January, the Shot Show, in order to recruit companies to leave states that are hostile to the industry," Keane said, referring to an annual event in Las Vegas. "They're offering economic incentives to relocate to their state and when companies are approached, one of the points they make is, 'You're not

going to have to worry about the legislature in our state banning your product.' These are jobs and taxes leaving the state."

Old history, recent decline

Publicly available data paints a complicated picture of firearms manufacturers' place in the Connecticut economy.

The number of companies manufacturing guns in the state has increased since 2012, though most of those

See **Industry on A15**

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NATION/WORLD

BRIEFLY ...

WEST BANK

Relic thought to be from Jesus' manger arrives in Bethlehem

BETHLEHEM — A tiny wooden relic that some Christians believe to be part of Jesus' manger arrived Saturday in its permanent home in the biblical city of Bethlehem 1,400 years after it was sent to Rome as a gift to the pope.

Sheathed in an ornate case, the relic was greeted with much fanfare from a crowd before it entered the Franciscan Church of St. Catherine next to the Church of the Nativity, the West Bank holy site where tradition says Jesus was born.

The return of the relic by the Vatican was a spirit-lifting moment for the Palestinians. It coincides with Advent, a four-week period leading up to Christmas. Troubled Bethlehem in the Israeli-occupied West Bank is bracing for the occasion, where pilgrims from around the world flock to the city.

Young Palestinian scouts played bagpipes and the crowd snapped pictures as a clergyman held the silver reliquary and marched toward the church.

Christians make up a small minority of Palestinians, and Bethlehem is one of the only cities in the West Bank and Gaza where Christmas is celebrated.

UNITED STATES

Wintry weather bedevils holiday weekend travelers

Wintry weather bedeviled Thanksgiving weekend travelers across the United States Saturday as a powerful and dangerous storm moved eastward, dumping heavy snow from parts of California to the northern Midwest and inundating other areas with rain.

Authorities found the bodies of two young children, including a 5-year-old boy, and a third child was missing in central Arizona after a vehicle was swept away while attempting to cross a runoff-swollen creek. A storm-related death also was reported in South Dakota.

The National Weather Service said the storm was expected to drop 6 to 12 inches (15-30 centimeters) of snow from the northern Plains states into Minnesota, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan.

Blizzard conditions early Saturday were already buffeting the High Plains. The city of Duluth, Minn., issued a "no travel advisory" beginning at noon Saturday because of a major snow storm it termed "historic."

Duluth officials asked the public to be patient as plows clear roadways, and recommended that drivers stay off the roads to prevent accidents and let officers respond more quickly to emergencies.

ARKANSAS

Suit claims Boy Scouts overlooked leader's alleged sexual abuse

LITTLE ROCK, — The Boy Scouts of America is facing another lawsuit in a wave of litigation over decades-old allegations of sexual abuse.

The Arkansas Democrat Gazette reports that two men filed a federal suit in Little Rock Wednesday, accusing the organization of concealing "negligence and fraud."

The men claim they were sexually abused on scouting trips in Arkansas in 1979 and 1980, when they were between 9 and 11, by a leader who the Boy Scouts had deemed "ineligible" to volunteer with boys following accusation of sexually abuse in Georgia two years earlier. The Associated Press does not generally identify people who say they were sexually assaulted.

The suit claims the Boy Scouts did not report the leader to police in either state. The youth organization did not immediately comment on the suit Saturday.

The leader is identified by name but is not a defendant in the suit.

NEW JERSEY

Lawsuit wave expected as state eases sex abuse limits

NEWARK, N.J. — The loosening of limits on sexual abuse claims in New Jersey is expected to create a tectonic shift in the way those lawsuits are brought, giving hope to victims who have long suffered in silence and exposing a broader spectrum of institutions to potential liability.

A law passed last spring goes into effect Sunday and allows child victims to sue until they turn 55, or within seven years of their first realization that the abuse caused them harm. The limit was two years before the new law. Adult victims also have seven years from the discovery of the abuse, and victims who were previously barred by the statute of limitations have a two-year window to file claims.

New Jersey's push for expanding the statute of limitations gained momentum from last year's release of a grand jury report in Pennsylvania that catalogued the experiences of thousands of victims of sexual abuse by Catholic priests and the church's cover-up of the scandal.

— From wire services

Terror convict in London stabbings was released early from prison

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Usman Khan was convicted on terrorism charges but let out of prison early. He attended a "Learning Together" conference for ex-offenders, and used the event to launch a bloody attack, stabbing two people to death and wounding three others.

Police shot him dead after he flashed what seemed to be a suicide vest. Khan is gone, but the questions remain: Why was he let out early? Did authorities believe he no longer believed in radical Islam? Why didn't the conditions imposed on his release prevent the carnage?

Britons looked for answers Saturday as national politicians sought to pin the blame elsewhere for what was obviously a breakdown in the security system, which had kept London largely free of terror for more than two years.

Police said Khan was convicted in 2012 of terrorism offenses and released in December 2018 "on license," which means he had to meet certain conditions or face recall to prison. Several British media outlets reported that he was wearing an electronic ankle bracelet that allowed police to track his movements at the time of the attack.

Authorities seemed quick to blame "the system" rather than any one component.

The Parole Board said it had played no role in Khan's early release. It said the convict "appears to have been released automatically on license (as required by law), without ever being referred to the board."



Steve Parsons / Associated Press

Forensic officers attend the scene in central London on Saturday after an attack on London Bridge on Friday. UK counterterrorism police on Saturday searched for clues into how a man imprisoned for terrorism offenses before his release last year managed to stab several people before being tackled by bystanders and shot dead by officers on London Bridge. Two people were killed and three wounded.

Neil Basu, the Metropolitan Police counterterrorism police, said Saturday afternoon that the conditions of Khan's release had been complied with. He didn't spell out what those conditions were or why they failed to prevent him from killing two people.

The automatic release program apparently means no agency was given the task of determining if Khan still believed in radical views he had embraced when he was first imprisoned for plotting to at-

tack a number of sites and individuals in London.

It is not yet known whether he took part in any of the "deradicalization" programs used by British authorities to try and reform known jihadis.

The former head of Britain's National Counter Terrorism Security Office, Chris Phillips, said it is unreasonable to ask police and security services to keep the country safe while at the same time letting people out of prison when they are still a threat.

"We're playing Russian roulette with people's lives, letting convicted, known, radicalized jihadi criminals walk about our streets," he said.

Khan had been convicted as part of an al-Qaida linked group that was accused of plotting to target major sites including Parliament, the U.S. Embassy and individuals including Prime Minister Boris Johnson, then the mayor of London, the dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in London and two rabbis.

ASSOCIATED PRESS FACT CHECK

Trump's Ukraine defense collides with facts

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's defense of his actions with Ukraine collides with the known facts and the testimony of witnesses on multiple fronts as the impeachment inquiry moves into a new phase this coming week.

In recent days, Trump has cried foul in ways angry and profane as Democrats set the stage for House Judiciary Committee hearings likely to produce articles of impeachment.

A review of rhetoric on this and other matters over the past week:

Impeachment

TRUMP: "We had a great two weeks watching these crooked politicians not giving us due process, not giving us lawyers, not giving us the right to speak and destroying their witnesses. It fell apart. Those were their witnesses. We weren't allowed any rights." — Florida rally Tuesday.

RONNA MCDANIEL, Republican National Committee chairwoman: "Sham impeachment hearings with due process denied to our president." — to Fox News.

THE FACTS: Trump was not deprived of constitutional rights during the House Intelligence Committee hearings because the committee was conducting an investigation, not a trial.

Although the same will be true of the next round of hearings, the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee has invited Trump and his lawyers to appear if he wishes and to make a request to question witnesses.

Trump is also incorrect that the Intelligence Committee hearings only brought forward witnesses hand-picked by the Democrats. Several were invited at the request of Republicans on the committee.

More broadly, each stage of the impeachment inquiry has been guided by majority vote or by long-established institutional practices of Congress as interpreted by the Democratic majority elected by the voters.

It's also unfolding as outlined in the Constitution, which gives the House the sole power to impeach and the Senate the sole



Susan Walsh / Associated Press

President Donald Trump speaks Tuesday at a campaign rally in Sunrise, Fla.

power to remove a president from office.

The Judiciary Committee hearings will be similar to the process seen in impeachment proceedings that began against Presidents Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton. Nixon resigned, heading off a House impeachment vote; Clinton was impeached by the House and acquitted by the Senate.

If the House impeaches Trump, the Senate trial will look like a normal trial in some respects, with senators as the jury. Arguments would be heard from each side's legal team for and against Trump's removal from office.

The Intelligence Committee hearings, in contrast, were like the investigative phase of criminal cases, conducted without the participation of the person under investigation.

Ukraine

TRUMP: "I held back the money from Ukraine because it is considered a corrupt country." — tweet Tuesday.

THE FACTS: There's scant evidence that Trump voiced concern about systemic corruption in Ukraine until he knew that word had gotten out about his request for a political favor from that country's president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy

After his first phone call with Zelenskyy, in April, the White House said at the time that Trump had discussed his interest

in having Ukraine rein in widespread corruption. But in the recently released rough transcript of the call, he actually did not mention corruption at all.

Trump had \$391 million in congressionally approved U.S. military aid withheld from Ukraine from July to September as he and his aides pressed Ukraine to investigate Democrats, former Vice President Joe Biden and Biden's son Hunter, who was on the board of an energy company there.

Before Trump froze the aid, the Pentagon had already certified to congressional committees Ukraine had made enough progress on reducing corruption to receive the military assistance. The administration had already approved sending aid to Ukraine nearly 50 times without holding it because of corruption concerns.

Witnesses testified that Trump did not articulate concerns about corruption in Ukraine other than expressing interest into investigations that would benefit him politically.

Trump ultimately released the aid, on Sept. 11, after Congress became aware of what he had done. A few days earlier, congressional committees had begun looking into the matter, and both lawmakers and Trump were aware that a whistleblower had a complaint in motion.

TRUMP: "I wanted to know why nearby European countries weren't putting up money also." — tweet Tuesday.

THE FACTS: He's incorrect that European countries weren't putting up aid for Ukraine.

European Union institutions have provided far more development assistance than the \$204 million from Washington. Specific EU members, Japan and Canada also contribute significantly.

Since 2014, the EU and European financial institutions have mobilized more than \$16 billion to help Ukraine's economy, counter corruption, build institutions and strengthen its sovereignty against further incursions by Russia after its annexation of Crimea.

The U.S. is a heavy source of military assistance. But NATO also contributes a variety of military-assistance programs and trust funds for Ukraine. In most such cases, the programs are modest and NATO countries other than the U.S. take the lead.

Medicare

TRUMP: "The Democrat Party is determined to ... eviscerate Medicare and put every single senior citizen at risk." — Florida rally.

THE FACTS: He's incorrect that Democrats would seek to "eviscerate Medicare." Trump appears to be referring to Democratic proposals to provide "Medicare for All," but the options that would allow younger people to buy into a Medicare-like plan don't involve overhauling the current program.

The plan by Sen. Bernie Sanders, a Vermont independent, would be a fundamental change, expanding Medicare to cover almost everyone in the country. But current Medicare recipients would get improved benefits. Sanders would eliminate Medicare deductibles and almost all copays, and provide coverage for dental and vision care, as well as hearing aids. His plan would also provide home and community based long-term care.

The issue is whether the U.S. can afford to convert to a new government-run health care system, not that older Americans would be left uncovered. The Democratic proposals call for new taxes to help pay for expanded Medicare coverage.

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Brian Zahn / Hearst Connecticut Media

New Haven Board of Education President Darnell Goldson speaks during a board meeting on Nov. 12.

Representation? It's about more than just numbers

Just when I thought it was safe to keep my mouth shut and my opinions to myself, the need to revisit the consequences of illegal immigration pulls me right back into print.

A recent headline caught my attention and, as usual, political correctness is disguising a problem that nobody is talking about.

So, let me get straight to the point.

The New Haven Latino Council, along with a number of Latino alders, have stepped up their calls for more Hispanic representation on the Board of Education.

They have good reason. Hispanics account for 47 percent of New Haven's student population; that compares to 37 percent black and 13 percent white. Yet, Hispanics only hold one seat on the board and just 9 percent of New Haven's educators are Latino.

The calls for more repre-



JAMES WALKER

COMMENTARY

sentation came after the Board Of Alders chose to fill the seat vacated by Joe Rodriguez with Larry Conaway, a well-respected, longtime New Haven educator, who is black.

That leaves the racial makeup of the school board with five blacks (including Mayor Toni Harp), one white and one Latino, whose term expires in 2021.

There will be two whites on the board when Mayor-elect Justin Elicker officially begins his duties in January.

So, there is little question the burgeoning Latino community is underrepresented — both locally and state-

wide — in the decision-making process even as their numbers grow.

It is an underdog role that black people can certainly understand and appreciate after fighting for decades for not only a seat at the board table but more resources to provide an equal education for their children.

And as an African American, I appreciate the Latino community's calls to have more people that look like them throughout the school system. I know how devalued and subtracted from life a kid can feel when they don't see themselves in key positions as they grow.

But there are things about that 47 percent Hispanic student population that are bothering me: How much of that percentage is comprised of refugees and kids who are here illegally — and as the dominant student body, won't the

See Walker on A9

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From page A8

interests and resources be centered on the needs of the “greater” good?

I know these are uncomfortable questions but, then again, nobody reads me for political correctness.

We have situations where American kids don’t even have schoolbooks and learn in environments not conducive to learning. We have special-needs students who don’t get the help they need because those dollars have to be stretched elsewhere. And I could go on and on.

While calling for more resources to help refugee children and kids who are here illegally undoubtedly powers them forward, it arguably powers American kids backward within this dwindling resource we call public education.

I don’t know how it is for other American races, but when you are a low-income black growing up docked on the outskirts of America’s promise, you learn that poverty is a crowded place and everybody is looking for a new address.

You learn that space is tight, opportunities are limited and you’re always greasing your elbows to make room because there is always another poor kid, another poor family that needs help.

So, when more chairs are being pulled up to the table, that just means more elbows have to be greased to make room for the new guests because the table hasn’t gotten any larger.

More than a year ago, I wrote what I thought was my final word on how I felt about illegal immigrants in my column, “Illegals? Where is the dream for Americans?”

It didn’t have anything to do with their countries of origin, religion they practiced or the language they spoke; I couldn’t care less. I welcome everybody.



Brian Zahn / Hearst Connecticut Media

Acting Superintendent of Schools Iline Tracey speaks with New Haven Board of Education members Darnell Goldson and Matt Wilcox before an Oct. 21 finance committee meeting.

But it had everything to do with limited resources being redirected to help them while I think taxpayer dollars should go to shore up Americans first and help low-income parents achieve the dream for their children.

And now that percentages are being bandied about, I am worried that poor, black kids are going to be left in the dust again because of percentages that include kids who are not American.

And as long as that continues, refugees and illegal immigrant kids crossing our borders will be like kryptonite to American kids.

And, so I am clear, I am not referring to legal immigrants or Puerto Ricans, who some Americans don’t understand are American citizens.

I don’t know why I always feel compelled to write about things that make me uneasy, bother my conscience and make me question my own humanity.

I guess it’s because as you grow older, you learn that many opportunities to outrun poverty are dictated by circumstances that in many cases have nothing to do with qualifications or ambition, but politics.

New Haven, along with other cities in Connecticut,

offer sanctuary to people fleeing the horrors of their countries in search of a better life in America. And every child, regardless of where he or she is from, deserves a future.

And that is why what happens at America’s borders is so important.

Because leaving those borders unchecked can certainly bring political consequences that must be considered. And it is those considerations that make me very afraid of what could come for low-income blacks.

Benjamin Franklin once wrote, “any fool can criticize, condemn and complain — and most fools do.”

And who am I to argue with the words written by one of our Founding Fathers?

I will simply say, it also could be true that maybe that fool who is criticizing, condemning and complaining, simply isn’t fooled.

Representation? It’s about more than numbers.

James Walker is a Hearst Connecticut newspaper columnist and the host of the podcast “Real talk, Real people.” He can be reached at 203-605-1859 or at realtalkrealpeople@gmail.com. @thelieonroars on Twitter

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Danbury girl's charity brings art to youth

By Julia Perkins

DANBURY — When 10-year-old Chelsea Phaire feels stressed or upset, she turns to her sketch pad.

She has filled hundreds of pages with drawings of her favorite characters and over the past two years has created 90 graphic novels.

"It's kind of like therapy," she said.

Now, she uses art to bring that same peace to children who need it the most.

Chelsea has started her own charity where she collects art supplies and creates kits for children, often in homeless shelters, who have gone through a traumatic experience. She provides art lessons to the kids, too.

Called Chelsea's Charity, the Pembroke Elementary School student and her family have compiled and donated hundreds art kits to children in Connecticut and New York homeless shelters, as well as a school in El Paso, Texas, where the community is recovering from a recent mass shooting at a Walmart.

Soon, she plans to send 300 kits to children in Haiti, while an adult version is going to local veterans. Teens in Atlanta plan to work with her to create their own kits, and Chelsea is considering creating a healing coloring book.

"Art is a start," Chelsea said. "Art is my super power. If you're kind to someone, it can turn their life around. One small act of kindness could really impact something in someone's life."

The kids Chelsea teaches have been instilled with a sense that they can make a difference, too, said her mother, Candace Barriteau Phaire.

"I have cried several times doing this with her," she said. "It's really moving to see little people be inspired by someone who is little like them."

The idea developed after Chelsea received an expensive art kit from a family friend and realized most children were not fortunate enough to have something similar.

For her 10th birthday, she asked for art supplies



H John Voorhees III / Hearst Connecticut Media

Chelsea Phaire, 10, of Danbury, shows one of her favorite drawings she has done. Phaire has started a charity where she gives art kits to children in shelters and to those affected by mass shootings. She went to El Paso, Texas, in October, to hand out 130 art kits to elementary school students in the wake of a mass shooting in that city.

in lieu of gifts and received 200 items—enough for 10 kits. The family then created an Amazon Wishlist and PayPal account, where people could donate supplies and money. Sketch books, markers, crayons, colored pencils and more are requested in Chelsea's favorite brands.

"We wanted to give the best to others," Barriteau Phaire said.

Thanks to social media, Chelsea's mission has spread, with people across the country contributing to her cause and sending her messages of support.

Last month, Chelsea and her mom flew to El Paso to give kits to children at MacArthur Elementary/Intermediate School, where families were told to reunite after the August shooting at the nearby Cielo Vista Walmart. The shooting had been about a week before Chelsea's birthday.

The mother and daughter shipped 15 boxes of supplies to their hotel and compiled 130 kits there before Chelsea delivered the items and taught the students an art lesson.

School officials noted how much the experience meant to the students.

"The kids here are ecstatic and very appreciative," counselor Julie Pedregon said to the El Paso Herald-Post at the time.

"Words are so minimal to describe what she's doing. It means a lot coming from someone her age who is putting aside her wants and asking for gifts for others."

Barriteau Phaire, an early childhood professor at Central Connecticut State University, said the children have connected their emotions to their artwork.

"This is really what kids do need more of nowadays, so they can channel this energy into something more positive, a way to communicate when you can't," she said.

Chelsea has stayed in touch with at least one friend she made in El Paso and savors the drawing gifted to her by another girl.

"It's my favorite drawing in this book," she said as she gazed at the sketch of a character the girl created.

One child thanked Chelsea profusely for the kit.

"It really makes me want to cry so badly," she said. "They were so kind in their artwork and their thank-you letters. It warms my heart."

After the lesson, kids' skills improve, Chelsea said. But drawing well is not the point, she said.

"Even if you're not good at it, it just feels good," she said. "You can just escape to the arts whenever you need."

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Pioneering union drive heats up

Someday they may become pioneers in organized labor history. At the moment, Yadria Martinez, Guadalupe Lopez and Rosa Franco are just angry, frustrated workers like so many others.

The three Connecticut residents, all raising children with little help, all from Mexico or Central America, work at McDonald's stores inside the rest areas along Interstate 95 — mostly on the overnight shift. That lands them in a barely noticed corner of the labor force on a highway that passes some of the richest and poorest neigh-

DAN HAAR

COMMENTARY

borhoods in America.

Now they're trying to be heard as part of the early core of Connecticut rest area employees — at McDonald's and a dozen other fast food and service retailers — who have committed to joining the SEIU Local 32BJ union. They're con-

vinced the union can force these employers to treat them with the respect they say is lacking.

"I'm in this fight because of the abuse," Martinez, a New Haven resident, said through an interpreter who works for 32BJ. "Not just they cut hours, but they don't pay you correctly."

Organizers at SEIU Local 32BJ, a nine-state union representing 175,000 people, say they know of no successful union drive at a McDonald's in the United States, and I could find none. The union, which led the "Fight for \$15" minimum-wage campaign, has

been working to organize employees at McDonald's and other fast food restaurants — notably in New York — with pragmatic caution but an optimism that belies history in the fast-food industry.

The drive will heat up publicly in Connecticut in the coming days and weeks, with the added twist that the state owns the 23 rest areas along I-95, I-395 and Route 15, the Merritt and Wilbur Cross parkways. That, the union argues, gives these workers a right to bonus pay under a master contract between a

See Union on A13



Dan Haar / Hearst Connecticut Media

SEIU Local 32BJ is working to organize employees at fast-food and service establishments at the state's 23 rest areas along Interstate 95, Route 15 and Interstate 395. Above is a McDonald's at one of the rest areas on I-95 in Fairfield recently.



Hearst Connecticut Media file photo

Valerie Fallon, left, and Betsy Post, both of Newtown, look at the decorated trees at Ann's Place Festival of Trees on Saturday morning. The festival at the Sports Dome at 25 Shelter Rock Lane in Danbury continues on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival benefits Ann's Place, the mission of which is to "provide help and hope to individuals and their loved ones living with cancer with a host of free professional services aimed at improving quality of life during and after cancer."

LOOKING FOR HELP

As calendar flips to Giving Tuesday, nonprofits shop for new support

By Alexander Soule

As marquee charitable events go, few nonprofit organizations would be able to top the "We Can Be Kind" musical salute to benefit Jane Doe No More, performed last June by a cast of Broadway actors at the Ridgefield Playhouse.

But in their own way, nonprofits in Connecticut and nationally will look for small acts of kindness this Tuesday from both existing supporters and those new to their causes — with the need greater than ever for many of those organizations, even in an economy in which corporations are upping their gifts amid record profits.

After the spending barrage triggered by sales on Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday, the Thanksgiving weekend's reflective

bookend arrives Dec. 3 with Giving Tuesday. In Connecticut and nationally, nonprofits use the day to solicit funding and remind their communities of the impact they are making, with details at givingtuesday.org.

After being overseen since 2012 by New York City's 92nd Street Y in partnership with the United Nations Foundation, Giving Tuesday created its own parent organization this past summer.

Giving Tuesday generated \$400 million in gifts nationally last year, up more than 40 percent from the 2017 installment of the mass charitable event.

If a big number, it represents only a fraction of the financial picture for nonprofits, which according to the National Council of Nonprofits garner less than 15 percent of their annual revenue from donations, whether from

individuals, corporations, bequests or other sources.

The nonprofit sector funds the majority of its financial needs directly from fees for the services they provide, including via contracts to perform work for government agencies.

Donations in 2016 by Connecticut individuals and foundations dropped slightly from the previous year's historic high of \$5 billion, as estimated this past June by the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy using data from the most recent year for which sufficient numbers of nonprofits had posted annual reports to draw comparisons.

"The takeaways from this year's report deliver contrasting messages," the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy's researchers wrote in this year's

See Giving on A13

Connecticut businesses stake out e-commerce strategies

By Paul Schott

Holiday retail sales are set to rise this year, boosted by ever-growing e-commerce revenues. But online shopping is hardly universal.

Many small businesses in southwestern Connecticut still process few or no online orders, as they focus mainly on in-store operations. At the same time, a number of those independent retailers are planning to expand their digital presence, as they join supply chains that already feature some of the state's largest companies.

"I'd rather my dollars go to online ads, which I can tailor and make specific, as opposed to running an online store, where you're competing with millions of similar products on the internet," said Julie Gabay, owner of Pacific Cycling & Triathlon, at 984 High Ridge Road in Stamford. "I don't look at it as a deficit that I don't have an online store. At the same time, social media is very important to us. For us, it's a way to reach customers we couldn't with just our website."

Growing, with and without e-commerce

Retail sales between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31 are projected to rise between 3.8 percent and 4.2 percent, to a total ranging from nearly \$728 billion to about \$731 billion, according to the National Retail Federation.

NRF predicts that online and other "non-store" sales would increase year over year — between 11 percent and 14 percent and amounting to approximately \$163 billion to \$167 billion.

E-commerce is helping to coax more customers to buy during the long weekend after Thanksgiving, which is book-ended by Black Friday and Cyber Monday. The latter day is known for its online deals.

Some 65 percent of Gen Z and millennial-age holiday shoppers said they would participate in sales from Friday through Monday, compared with 58 percent of Generation X and Baby Boomers, according to a survey by technology companies Pitney Bowes and Morning Consult.

At Stamford Town Center, most of the retailers offer "omni-channel" options, according to Dan Stolzenbach, the mall's general manager. Those permutations include buying online and picking up in stores or making online purchases from stores that are then shipped to customers' homes, when certain sizes or colors are not immediately available.

"Customers prefer to shop both online and in-store and our retailers have reacted accordingly by

See Stake on A13

A central banker's shift in view showed way for the Fed

ASSOCIATED PRESS

In mid-2016, even with unemployment falling and the economy growing modestly, James Bullard, head of the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, was concerned.

Months earlier, with Bullard's support, the Fed had raised rates for the first time in seven years. Panicky financial markets responded by sending stocks tumbling. The Fed delayed plans for further rate hikes. Through it all, there was still no sign of higher inflation — the supposed bogeyman that had led the Fed to raise rates in the first place.

"We were expecting inflation to pick up," Bullard acknowledged

in an interview this month. "We had the idea that we should be pre-emptive and prevent that from happening. But a lot of those predictions didn't come true. So that made me think that we didn't have the right framework."

Bullard decided to develop a new framework, which he announced in June 2016. It was based on a notion that Bullard was among the first Fed officials to fully recognize: That the U.S. economy was stuck in a rut, with low growth and low worker productivity, and wouldn't likely spark high inflation even if unemployment kept falling.

It's a notion that members of the Fed's rate setting committee, including Chairman Jerome Pow-

ell, have come to collectively embrace.

It helps explain why Powell has made clear, as recently as this week, that he sees no need to raise rates anytime soon despite an unemployment rate near a 50-year low.

Bullard's framework flew in the face of a long-standing belief among economists that as unemployment falls steadily, employers will keep raising wages and high inflation will follow. Casting aside such traditional economic models, Bullard felt that the economy could keep growing and employers could keep hiring without igniting inflation.

He argued that the Fed would



Associated Press

James Bullard, president of the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, gestures Nov. 19 during an interview in Richmond, Va.

probably need to raise rates only once more, to a range of just 0.5 percent to 0.75 percent.

That view, highly unusual three years ago, transformed

Bullard from a centrist member of the Fed's policymaking committee to one of the more dovish.

("Doves" typically worry less about inflation and more about sustaining growth and employment; "hawks" generally favor higher rates to control inflation.)

Most Fed policymakers at that time worried that the unemployment rate — 5 percent in December 2015 — was low enough that it would likely accelerate wages and inflation. They wanted to lift the Fed's benchmark short-term rate closer to its historical norms after seven years of holding it at zero. The consensus then was that a rate as high as 3.5 percent would still be "neutral": That is, it would

See Shift on A13

BUSINESS

Some more resources for 401(k)s

If you read last week's column about mentoring young people to save and invest, let me give you some additional points and resources on 401(k)s to continue that dialogue:

1) According to a recent study by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, "More than half of all non-retired respondents (58 percent) have some kind of retirement account, either employer-based (for example, 401(k) or pension) or independent (for example, IRA)."

However, 54 percent have not tried to figure out how much they need to save for retirement (usfinancialcapability.org/downloads/NFCS_2018_Report_Natl_Findings.pdf).

2) A 2019 401(k) participant survey conducted by Schwab Retirement Plan Services (aboutschwab.com/schwab-401k-participant-study-2019)

JULIE JASON



indicated that Americans believe they'll need an average of \$1.7 million saved to retire comfortably.

3) Twenty-five percent of older workers believe they will never retire (The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research: "Working Longer: The Disappearing Divide Between Work Life and Retirement" 2019) (apnorc.org/projects/Pages/HTML%20Reports/working-longer-the-disappearing-divide-between-work-life-and-retirement-issue-brief.aspx).

4) "More than half of workers (54 percent) expect to work past age 65 or do not plan to retire" (Transamerica Center for Retirement

Studies 19th annual Survey of Workers — April 2019; transamericacenter.org/docs/default-source/retirement-survey-of-workers/tcrs2019_sr_what_is_retirement_by_generation).

5) According to a February report from the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, of those who have already retired, 21 percent said they intended to work to age 66 or later. However, 55 percent failed to reach that target (crr.bc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/IB_19-3.pdf).

6) Twenty-two percent of Americans 35 and older have less than \$5,000 saved for retirement, according to Northwestern Mutual's "Planning & Progress Study 2019."

7) According to FINRA Investor Education Foundation's "2018 National Financial Capability Study," 13 percent of respondents took

a hardship withdrawal in 2018 from their retirement account, compared with only 8 percent in 2009. Even more alarming, 26 percent of those respondents age 18-34 took a hardship withdrawal last year.

8) The average employer contribution increased to above 5 percent in 2017, and participants saved an average of 7.1 percent of pay, according to Plan Sponsor Council of America's "61st annual Survey of Profit Sharing and 401(k) Plans" (psca.org/61st_AS).

9) In December 2018, the Employee Benefits Security Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Labor, published its "Private Pension Plan Bulletin Historical Tables and Graphs, 1975-2016." According to Table E3, there were 89,862 pension plans. Of those, 8,394 were defined benefit plans, and 81,469 were defined contribution

plans in 2016 (dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ebsa/researchers/statistics/retirement-bulletins/private-pension-plan-bulletin-historical-tables-and-graphs.pdf).

10) According to the American Institute of CPAs, "A 401(k) can be one of your best tools for creating a secure retirement. They provide two key advantages. First, all contributions and earnings to your 401(k) are tax-deferred, meaning you only pay taxes on contributions and earnings when the money is withdrawn. Second, many employers provide matching contributions to your 401(k) account. If your employer does this, try to at least contribute the amount that gets you the maximum match; to do otherwise is to walk away from 'free money.'"

11) And here are my two cents: Everyone who works for a company that offers a 401(k) needs to learn how to

maximize its opportunities. If you have done that, speak up. Become a mentor to others. And if you want to be recognized for your knowledge, apply for the second annual 401(k) Champion Award that I sponsor to shine a light on participants who "love" their 401(k)s (juliejason.com/award).

Julie Jason, JD, LL.M., a personal money manager (Jackson, Grant of Stamford) and author, welcomes your questions/comments (readers@juliejason.com). Her awards include the 2018 Clarion Award, symbolizing excellence in clear, concise communications. Her latest book, a curated collection of Julie's columns, is "Retire Securely: Insights on Money Management From an Award-Winning Financial Columnist." To hear Julie speak, visit juliejason.com/events.

STAKE

From page A12

merging those options," Stolzenbach said. "We know that people shop online, but they also enjoy coming to the mall where they can actually feel the magic of the holidays."

In contrast, Pacific Cycling & Triathlon eschews internet sales.

The business discontinued its online store in 2017 after a disappointing three-year run. At the same time, Gabay said the store's Facebook and Instagram accounts have shown that other digital platforms can generate more sales.

Digital outreach has helped to boost Pacific's sales. With a month left in the year, its 2019 revenues have already surpassed the 2018 total.

"Social media is a big factor; if you're not using it, as a small business, you're really losing out," Gabay said. "That, combined with our customer service, have been major contributors to our growth."

Paralleling Pacific's strategy, Funky Monkey Toys & Books, sells entirely through its recently

opened store at 86 Greenwich Ave., in downtown Greenwich, and its other establishment, in Greenvale, N.Y. But it plans to launch online ordering next year, with options such as in-store pickups of online orders.

"We can't compete on prices with the big guys like Amazon and Target," said Funky Monkey owner Jared Greenman. "But we're definitely thinking about the strategy for online and how we can stand out in that space, while still offering a great brick-and-mortar experience."

Reshaping the supply chain

For Greenwich-based transportation-and-logistics provider XPO Logistics, e-commerce and other retailing comprise about 30 percent of its revenues. Its client list includes the likes of The Home Depot, H&M, Ikea, Lowe's and Zara.

Amid its digital growth, the No. 180 company on this year's Fortune 500 list endured a major setback earlier this year when its largest customer — widely believed to be Amazon — cut its business with XPO by about two-thirds, costing the company about \$600 million.

At the same time, Amazon's relentless growth is fueling its expansion in the Nutmeg State. In the past month, it announced it would open a delivery station in Stratford, which would complement a distribution center in North Haven.

Higher expectations

E-commerce's relentless growth has hardly translated into universal customer satisfaction.

Some 60 percent of online shoppers in the U.S. expressed dissatisfaction with their holiday shopping experiences, up four points from last year, and nearly double the rate four years ago, according to another Pitney Bowes survey.

The rate rose to 73 percent for online shoppers making purchases on a weekly or daily basis, while 74 percent of millennial-age shoppers said they were disappointed in some part of the post-purchase process in last year's holiday season.

"As an even larger percentage of consumer spending is expected to shift online this holiday season, retailers need to shift resources and investments to areas like fast and free shipping,

accurate tracking and free and easy returns to keep up with consumer expectations," Lila Snyder, Pitney Bowes' president of commerce services, said in a statement.

As customers demand faster shipping, XPO officials said they are trying to position inventory to enable one-day and two-day deliveries.

To handle the holiday rush, the company is hiring an additional 20,000 seasonal employees. To help workers manage inventory for distribution, XPO is increasingly using robots — reflected in an announcement last week of a rollout of such technology at its sites in the United Kingdom.

"Based on our pilots with retail apparel, the system handles peaks in consumer demand with near-perfect accuracy by complementing the work performed by our employees," Mario Harik, XPO's chief information officer, said last week. "The synergies are ideal for retail and e-commerce fulfillment this holiday season."

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GIVING

From page A12

report. "Foundation giving continued to grow, but just 35 (percent) supported Connecticut nonprofits. Individual giving fell, but the percentage of individuals giving increased."

On Giving Tuesday and a separate Giving Day scheduled for late February next year by the Norwalk-based Fairfield County's Community Foundation, nonprofits have been working to increase the size of their donor base through online platforms that allow people to make gifts in small amounts. The average donation was \$105 last year on Giving Tuesday.

With the Center for Nonprofit Excellence marking its 10th anniversary recently under the umbrella of Fairfield County's Community Foundation, the organization is cosponsoring a workshop in Milford two days after Giving Tuesday titled "The World of Nonprofits... The New Normal."

Attendees will learn how organizations can respond to financial challenges, whether the result of reductions in giving, increased demands for services or intensified scrutiny from major donors looking for results of their support.

As Juanita James sees it in her role as CEO of Fairfield County's Community Foundation, every dollar helps the cause — or causes, for those inclined to give more. Fairfield County's Giving Day information is online at fcgives.org for organizations looking to register, and donors wanting to find out more.

"A donation of as little as \$10, when combined with others, makes a huge impact and creates opportunity throughout the region," she said. "When Fairfield County's nonprofits prosper, our entire community has the opportunity to thrive."

Alex.Soule@scni.com; 203-842-2545; @casoulman

SHIFT

From page A12

neither support nor restrain growth.

And yet since late last year, the Fed has shifted much closer to Bullard's position. Powell has engineered three rate cuts since July, to a range of just 1.5 percent to 1.75 percent. These cuts followed four rate hikes last year.

To a large extent, the U-turn reflected worries among Fed

policymakers that President Donald Trump's trade war with China was weakening the economy and that this threat would worsen over time. The rate cuts were intended to offset that drag.

But Powell has also indicated that the policy switch occurred, in part, because the Fed has abandoned or revamped models that correlated low unemployment with high inflation.

Most economists agree that this correlation has largely disappeared, at least for now. On-

line retail and price-conscious consumers have made it harder for many companies to charge more. And with labor unions a diminished force, workers can't push for higher pay so easily.

"There was a tight connection between unemployment and inflation," Powell told Congress this month. "That is no longer the case and really hasn't been the case for some time."

Key Fed officials have also suggested that the neutral rate, which the Fed thought was as

high as 3 percent late last year, could be as low as 1 percent.

"That's what Bullard was saying way before," said Kathy Bostjancic, an economist at Oxford Economics. "He was kind of a thought leader on the Fed."

Many economists foresee another rate cut in 2020. If so, that would mean borrowing costs, like mortgage rates, would likely stay low for months or even years. This would help support consumer and business spending as well as the economy.

UNION

From page A12

private operator that sub-contracts with the stores, and the state — pay they aren't receiving.

Some of the workers at the heart of this effort know the history of virtually no unions at fast food outlets in America, and some don't. They know it's hard but then again, so are their lives.

It's also a risk. As the minimum wage rises and if unions do succeed in organizing McDonald's, Subway, Chipotle, Dunkin' Donuts and other fast food purveyors, it's a sure bet those companies will find ways to hire fewer workers. In fact, they already have, which leads the women I met to say they're overworked on some shifts.

"They shouldn't treat us like this. You can't keep working like this," said Martinez, who works at a Milford location.

No bump in pay

The problem is varying hours, schedules that change at the last minute — and mostly, they say, it's a sense that management

doesn't treat them like people.

"They call us turtles," Martinez said.

She tells me she came to the United States at age 7 with her three older sisters. At 15, after not much schooling, she moved to Connecticut with one sister.

"I was in the house watching the kids," she said. "I started working at about age 16."

Now at 35, she lives in New Haven and has a 5-year-old boy and 2-year-old girl. She's done well at McDonald's, well enough that they made her an overnight shift manager last spring. That was supposed to bring a bump in pay, she said, but the bump never came — so she quit.

Three weeks later, after another McDonald's refused to hire her because she was still on the roster at the one where she worked, the Milford store lured her back. "That was the idea when I returned, that I would just be working during the day," she said, but they soon coaxed her back to night managing.

More recently, she said, she showed up for an 8-hour night shift only to

find it was for just four hours. She left because her babysitter charges \$50 for both children to sleep over, and four hours would end up costing her money. That led to a cut in hours.

Numbers don't add up

Stories like that abound, always with curtailed hours as the punishment. Martinez makes \$432 a week when she's fully on her schedule, about half of it going to day care and most of the rest for rent.

With two young children in New Haven, 20 minutes from the job, at \$12 an hour — the bump finally came in October after the state's minimum wage pushed up to \$11 — the numbers just don't add up.

Rosa Franco, whose children are older — 11, 17 and 20 — also makes \$12 an hour, or to be exact, \$12.03, she tells me. But that's after 14 years on the job, now as a night manager at the McDonald's on I-95 northbound in Darien.

"I never call out, I never come late," the Stamford resident said, also speaking through a union official acting as an interpreter.

Lacking a car, she relies on rides or, often, Uber —

which adds up.

"If the union doesn't come in, I'm leaving," she declared.

I ask why they stay, and in Martinez's case, return, if the work is so bad. This is part of the dilemma: For low-skilled women whose English is not proficient, McDonald's offers steady work and in exchange, the company demands a level of flexibility these women can't endure.

Besides, Franco said, "The point isn't that I want another job, the point is that I want this one to treat us better."

Michell Enterprises LLC, which owns several of the McDonald's locations, did not return calls seeking comment.

State property

Organizing these workers could be easier than it would be at free-standing, fully private fast-food outlets. One company, Project Service LLC, holds a master, 35-year contract with the state that began in late 2009 and ends in 2044. Project Service, in turn, brings in the retailers who employ some 950 workers at the 23 rest areas.

The rest areas, as state-

owned property, must allow public gatherings such as a protest-press conference in August, a judge ruled that morning, and can't stop union organizers from coming to the public areas of the rest stops.

Moreover, the union has filed several dozen complaints with the state Department of Labor on behalf of workers, claiming the employers must meet the so-called standard wage: either benefits worth 30 percent of the wages, or a payment to each worker of at least 30 percent more than the minimum wage — \$14.30 an hour.

The labor department, whose commissioner, Kurt Westby, is a former SEIU 32BJ Connecticut head, is investigating. The state Department of Transportation, which holds the contract with Project Service, maintains the standard wage rule doesn't apply.

"The only provision in the contract in terms of prevailing wage applies to construction activities," DOT spokesman Kevin Nursick said Friday.

The contract leaves room for either interpretation but certainly does not spell out a standard wage require-

ment.

Project Service, headed by Paul Landino, who also owns many of the Subway stores at the rest areas, did not return calls seeking comment. Landino is the brother of Robert Landino, a former state representative whose company, Centerplan, managed the reconstruction of the rest areas, a \$178 million expense that Project Service paid as part of the contract.

One avenue of complaint is that the restaurants don't pay for all the hours the workers put in, the union and the workers say. Union leaders say some of those complaints are pending.

That's the issue with Guadalupe Lopez, who lives in New Haven and works at the same location as Martinez, who brought her to the union organizer.

"Last Saturday one of the workers left so I had to work a double shift. That was a shift I worked that I never got paid for. I told them that it wasn't there and they said 'Yes, we paid you for it' and I said no."

"We're going to just be doing it with the union," Lopez said.

dhaar@bearstmediact.com

Nonprofit looks to expand to Danbury

By Julia Perkins

DANBURY — A nonprofit that seeks to protect girls and young women from violence aims to come to the Danbury area.

The Maren Sanchez Home Foundation, which was created by parents whose daughter was attacked and killed at her school in Milford, is collecting donations that would allow its programs to come to greater Danbury.

The goal is to raise \$25,000 on Giving Tuesday, a day celebrated this coming Tuesday that encourages people to donate to nonprofits.

This would cover materials and other costs to bring the workshops and self-defense programs to Danbury and other places in New England. Programs have been held in Newtown, among other locations in Connecticut, the nonprofit said.

“The mission of our foundation is to educate and empower girls and young women to defend themselves against emotional, psychological and verbal manipulation and physical violence,” Donna Cimarelli, founder and CEO of the organization, said in a statement.

Donna Cimarelli is the mother of Maren Victoria Sanchez, who was stabbed and killed by a boy in the stairwell of her school in 2014.

“What we often hear after school shootings and other tragedies is that people saw these events coming,” Cimarelli said. “Yet they may not know what steps to actually take when they spot troubling signs. In other cases, youth, parents or friends may observe behavior yet not understand that it’s dangerous.”

Cimarelli teaches girls and women how to spot red flags, what action steps kids and parents can take, and how to go from a bystander to a life saver. A Her-Self Defense class also empowers attendees with confidence, the organization says.

“It’s not about teaching anyone to become fighters,” Cimarelli said. “It’s about knowing some life-saving techniques you can use to defend yourself in dangerous situations. The classes help girls and young women gain confidence, raise self-esteem, and reduce insecurity.”

A portion of the ticket revenue from Friday’s game between the Bridgeport Sound Tigers and the Springfield Thunderbirds at Webster Bank Arena will go toward the organization. The nonprofit is using #BringItHomeForMaren to raise awareness for the campaign. Donations can be made on the organization’s website.



Donna Cimarelli / Contributed photo

Donna Cimarelli, mother of slain Jonathan Law High School student Maren Sanchez, holds a portrait of Maren at a Her-Self Defense class sponsored by the Maren Sanchez Home Foundation.

RIDGEFIELD FINANCE BOARD

Dems to fill empty seat

By Macklin Reid

The town’s leading fiscal watchdog could use another set of eyes.

The Board of Finance is short a fifth member with the resignation of Sean Connelly, who was elected in November to the Board of Selectmen.

The finance board plans to interview candidates — and vote to fill the empty seat — on Dec. 10, a Tuesday, at a meeting scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. in town hall.

“The charter gives us 30 days after Sean’s resignation — last Tuesday, [Nov.] 12th,” Chairman Dave Ulmer told fellow finance board members at its Nov. 19 meeting.

That means the finance board will have to have filled the seat by Dec. 12, or the task will be passed along to the Board of Selectmen — a process that most town boards and commissions have traditionally sought to avoid, preferring to fill their empty seats with new members of their own choosing.

The charter also dictates that if a departed member was elected as part of a political party, the appointed replacement must be of same affiliation. Connelly is a Democrat, so the new member appointed to the seat he resigned from must be a Democrat.

Candidates for the position may seek the endorsement of the Democratic Town Committee, although the party’s backing is not necessary for the appointment.

“DTC is soliciting potential candidates,” said Democratic town Chairman Alex Harris. “We have scheduled a special meeting on Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. in the Town Annex.”

Ulmer said at the Nov. 19 meeting that “four or five

people” had already expressed interest in joining the finance board.

Budget duties

The finance board’s main duties are to receive and review budget requests from the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education, then combine and perhaps amend them — usually this involves cutting a bit — before passing a proposed budget on to voters at May’s annual town meeting and budget referendum.

The budget package the finance board presents to voters includes school and town spending levels, a proposed list of capital expenditures — more costly building projects and equipment purchases that are to be financed with borrowing — as well as the coming year’s proposed tax rate.

Putting all that together tends to mean quite a few night meetings in the first months of the year, with usually at least one run of four or five nights in a week, with maybe a Saturday morning included.

The town’s fiscal year starts July 1, so all the board’s budget work must

be completed by the end of June — although usually, if voters pass the budget on their first go-through, everything is done sometime early in May.

Outside of budget season, the board usually meets once a month, almost always on a Tuesday night. It hears monthly reports from the tax collector and treasurer and controller, and keeps an eye on town revenues and spending. The finance board also reviews larger out-of-budget spending proposals that may come along — dealing with them as requests from either the school board or the selectmen.

People interested in the open finance board seat may email Controller Kevin Redmond at controller@ridgefieldct.org. Letters may be mailed to Dave Ulmer, chairman, Board of Finance (care of Kevin Redmond, finance department) 400 Main Street, Ridgefield CT, 06877.

To interview for the Democratic Town Committee’s endorsement for the seat, contact committee Chairman Harris at abarris61@me.com.

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ATTORNEY FOR SECURED PARTY
TERMS OF SALE: 25% DEPOSIT CASH OR CERTIFIED CHECK
10% BUYERS PREMIUM APPLIES ON ALL ONLINE PURCHASES
13% BUYERS PREMIUM APPLIES ON ALL ONSITE PURCHASES
OTHER TERMS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT TIME OF SALE
INSPECTIONS: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23RD - 10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM
& MORNING OF SALE - 8:30 AM TO 10:30 AM

Aaron Posnik
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Please join us for our annual Festival of Trees

Silent Auction & Celebration

Thursday, December 5th

4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Enjoy wine tastings, appetizers and light dinner buffet!
Join us for an evening to view and bid on our Winter Wonderland of uniquely decorated trees and wreaths, perfect for your office, apartment or guest room (courtesy of our local businesses, organizations, and individuals). Enjoy!

RSVP to Bryan Walsh by December 2nd
at 203-744-8444 or bwalsh@maplewoodsl.com.

Suggested Donation: \$10 per person
All proceeds will benefit The Renewal House in Danbury


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Life Tributes

OBITUARIES

INDUSTRY

From page A4

are small shops making only a handful of firearms per year. The total number of employees and the total number of guns manufactured in the state has steadily declined, indicating a shrinking industry in Connecticut.

The number of gun manufacturing companies rose in Connecticut from 15 in 2012 to at least 22 in 2017 — a roughly 46 percent increase — according to data from the

ATF bureau. Any entity that makes even one gun must register with the agency.

That means more companies are making fewer guns. For example, Charter Arms output has declined from almost 37,000 guns manufactured in 2012 to a little more than 24,000 in 2017, according to the ATF data.

And fewer guns manufactured means fewer people making them.

Data provided by the NSSF shows the state lost 1,800 jobs in the industry between 2012 and 2018, down from 7,300 in 2012. The

entire firearms industry's economic impact in the state has declined from \$1.8 billion in 2012 to \$1.2 billion in 2018, the trade group's data shows.

In 2012 the firearms and ammunition industry paid \$290 million to the state in business taxes and \$24 million in excise taxes. By 2018, that figure had dropped to \$79 million in business taxes and \$5.8 million in excise taxes, according to data provided by the NSSF.

As for Connecticut's long history, if nothing else, Eli Whitney created the spark that shifted Connecticut's industrial focus to include firearms and paved the way for many inventors and entrepreneurs in manufacturing, including Samuel Colt, whose pistol with a revolving cylinder is considered one of the greatest single innovations in firearms history.

Colt went on to hire Francis Pratt and Amos Whitney, who later set up their own precision machine-making shop. Long after Pratt and Whitney died, their factory near the state Capitol was host to Frederick Rentschler, a young aviation entrepreneur who brought a team to Connecticut that revolutionized the industry with the

air-cooled engine.

Rentschler, founder of Pratt & Whitney the engine-maker, created United Aircraft Co. — bringing together his new company, Boeing, the predecessor to United Air Lines and several other companies, including one he lured to Connecticut named Sikorsky. That company's founder, Igor Sikorsky, invented the first practical helicopter, which took flight in 1939 in Stratford, where the company remains today.

The industry continued to grow in Connecticut, spawning more manufacturers of firearms and firearms accessories, as well as establishing the state as a leader in defense and general manufacturing.

"The industry was founded in Connecticut and in New England," Keane said. "It was at the center of the industrial revolution and it helped create Connecticut as an economic power house but over time and because of policies by the state, in terms of taxes, regulations and growing hostility towards the industry and the Second Amendment, companies have left the state."

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BETHEL

Florence Lawlor

BROOKFIELD

Victor Oricchio

DANBURY

Margaret Asmar
Herbert Bonner
Mary Lenore Gantert
Elizabeth Meadows
Joseph Tierney

NEWTOWN

Rita Willie

Obituaries Information:

Obituaries are available online at www.newstimes.com. Sign guestbooks, find directions, donate to charities and send flowers.

Submit [Obituaries](mailto:Obituaries@hearstmediact.com) to Obituaries@hearstmediact.com. Deadlines: (Daily) by 4pm.

Submit [In Memoriams](mailto:InMemoriams@hearstmediact.com) weekdays to the classified department by calling 203-330-6306 by 4pm, Mon - Fri.

To purchase additional copies of The News -Times for family and friends, please call 203-333-6688.

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Margaret "Peg" (Torielli) Asmar, RN.

Margaret "Peg" (Torielli) Asmar, RN, 90, of Danbury, wife of the late Norman L. Asmar and mother of Pamela Osterlin, Joanne Ricci, Patricia Travis, and Norman G. Asmar, died on Saturday, November 30, 2019. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, December 6, 2019, at 11 a.m. in St. Gregory the Great Church, 85 Great Plain Rd.,

Danbury. Interment will follow in St. Peter Cemetery, Danbury. There will be no calling hours. Jowdy-Kane Funeral Home, 9-11 Granville Ave., Danbury is in charge of arrangements.



Herbert Bonner

Danbury — Mr. Herbert Bonner, age 94, of Danbury, died Wednesday, November 27, 2019 at his home. He was the husband of the late Jeanne M. (Hill) Bonner.

Mr. Bonner was born January 23, 1925 in Cumberland, Rhode Island, son of the late Herbert and Esther (Bishop) Bonner. He moved to Danbury as a small child, attending Balmforth Ave. and Main Street schools where he played basketball and baseball. For many years he worked with his step father Joseph Cordio, then for E. Paul Kovacs and later at St. Peter Cemetery in Danbury. In 1950, he married his loving wife Jeanne who passed away in June of 2012. He was a loving and devoted father, grandfather and great-grandfather who enjoyed working in his garden and watching UCONN Women's basketball.

Mr. Bonner proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army during World War II.

Mr. Bonner is survived by his children: Clyde Bonner and his wife Pam of Sherman and Herbert Bonner of CA, his grandchildren: Jared Bonner and his wife Erin of Sherman and Karissa Fall and her husband Jason of Dover, NH, his great-grandchildren: Mackenzie, Gabriella and Rylie Bonner of Sherman and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his wife Jeanne and his parents, Mr.



Bonner was predeceased by his step father: Joseph Cordio and his siblings: Ilene Bonner, Everett Bonner, Anthony Cordio, Arthur Cordio, Joseph Cordio and Evelyn Cordio Schoen.

Mr. Bonner's family would like to thank his caregivers, longtime physician Dr. David Weinshel and VITAS Hospice for the exceptional care that they provided.

Funeral services for Mr. Bonner will be private and held at the convenience of the family. The Cornell Memorial Home, 247 White Street, Danbury is in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to VITAS Healthcare, 199 Park Road Extension, Middlebury, CT 06762 or to a veterans organization of the donor's choice. To place online condolences or light a memorial candle, please visit www.cornellmemorial.com

Mary Lenore Gantert

Oct 23, 1935 - Nov 29, 2019
Mary Lenore (Schack) Gantert, wife of the late retired Deputy Chief of Police F. Leo Gantert, died on November 29, 2019 at Danbury Hospital. She was born in Danbury, on October 23, 1925, the only child of the late Kenneth and Clara Hancock Schack.

A lifelong Danbury resident, Lenore was a graduate of St. Joseph Parochial School and Danbury High School. A graduate of Danbury State Teacher's College, she taught in East Hartford and later at South Street School and St. Peter Parochial School. She was a parishioner of St. Peter Church.

She is survived by her son Brian Gregory Gantert of the Danbury Police Department and his wife Cheryl.

A Mass of Christian Burial will



be celebrated on Thursday, December 5th at 10:30 a.m. at St. Peter Church, Danbury. Burial will follow in St. Peter Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the Cornell Memorial Home, 247 White Street, Danbury, on Wednesday evening between the hours of 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

To leave a condolence please visit www.CornellMemorial.com

ADVERTORIAL

Memorial gifts honor loved ones

Personal intentions

Those who would like to make a donation but cannot think of a charity to associate with their deceased loved one have a host of options at their disposal. Consider donating to a school or library, requesting materials be purchased in the decedent's name. Otherwise, donate to a general scholarship fund, possibly at the decedent's alma mater.

The loss of a friend or loved one is seldom easy, particularly if a person had been suffering from an illness. Close friends and family honor the memories of their deceased loved ones in different ways. Charitable giving can be a great way to honor a loved one's memory while helping others.

Survivors often find comfort in the knowledge that they can do good in the name of a loved one. Tributes or memorial gifts can be approached in different ways and serve as an ongoing reminder of a deceased loved one.

Life Tributes

Florence P. Lawlor

Florence P. Lawlor "Flo" of Bethel, CT died peacefully Friday evening, November 22, 2019 at Bethel Health Care Center, after a short illness. She was the wife of the late Martin J. Lawlor, Sr.

Florence was born March 14, 1934 in the Bronx, New York to the late William & Olga (Swenson) Prescott. She married the late Martin J. Lawlor, Sr. on June 21, 1952 and resided in Bethel where they raised their three children.

Florence worked at CVS in Bethel for many years, retiring in 2006. She enjoyed her job very much and the people she met while working there.

Florence was the loving mother of Martin J. Lawlor, Jr. (Carol) of Bethel, CT; Kathy Bonsignore (Kent) of Newtown, CT; and, Gary Lawlor (Anna) of Sandy Hook, CT. She was the grandmother of Stephanie Nagy (Michael) of Tomball, TX; Jeffrey Lawlor of Bethel, CT; Erin Dudow (Jason) of Sandy Hook, CT; Kristopher Bonsignore of Newtown, CT; Michael Lawlor, James Lawlor and Patrick Lawlor of Sandy Hook, CT; and, great grandson Jackson Dudow of



Sandy Hook, CT. Florence is survived by her sister Ruth Stolle of Bethel.

Florence was predeceased by her brother William Prescott, Jr. and her sister Barbara Werner. Burial will be at Elmwood Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Donations in memory of Florence may be made to Regional Hospice and Palliative Care, 30 Milestone Road, Danbury, CT 06810.

Green Funeral Home
57 Main Street • Danbury, CT 06810

Elizabeth M. Meadows

May 21, 1932 - Nov. 27, 2019
Elizabeth May Teresa O'Keefe born May 21, 1932, New York (Bronx) New York. She is the oldest of 7 surviving children of a father who left from Cobh, Ireland at 17, Gerard Christopher O'Keefe, and her Irish/Welsh mother who left England at age 8 to Ellis Island, Elizabeth Hughes O'Keefe Clarkin.

She was predeceased by her husband James Peter Meadows, son Michael, brother James O'Keefe and sister Catherine McCann.

She leaves behind daughters Jean Anderson of Middletown Rhode Island and Patt Hunt of Danbury, grandchildren Andrew Anderson (Alayna), Tim Anderson, Bridget Hunt Cunningham (Marlon), Devin Hunt, Michael Meadows (Arielle), Brandon Meadows, Nikki Meadows, and Great Grandson Henry Van Tassel Anderson.

Sisters Alice Keane (Richard), Geraldine Harvey, Maureen Winn (Donald), Eileen Dolan (Edward) and sisters-in-law Nancy O'Keefe and Delores Meadows, brother-in-law Richard Temple.

Known as Aunt May to the O'Keefe's and Aunt Lizzie to the Meadows she leaves scores of nieces and nephews throughout the United States.

Liz retired at age 74 after over forty years in department store retail at Genung's, Steinbecks, and Howland's and at Filenes where she was named a New England Employee of the Year. She volunteered for the Danbury Democratic party for years at



the election polls and at the front desk at Danbury Hospital. Liz traveled the US and world with family and her lifelong friends from Featherbed Lane, Sacred Heart parish, the Bronx. She was a passionate fan of the New York Yankees.

Many thanks to the staff on the second floor of Hancock Hall, Staple Street, Danbury where she spent the last two years of her life for their kind, loving and excellent care.

A Celebration of Life will take place on Tuesday December 3, 2019 at Green Funeral Home, Main Street, Danbury, CT at 10:00 a.m. followed by burial at Wooster cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please make any memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

"In the lilt of Irish laughter, you can hear the angels sing"

Green Funeral Home
57 Main Street • Danbury, CT 06810

Victor L. Oricchio Sr.

Victor L. Oricchio Sr. of Brookfield, CT, passed away at home Thursday, November 21, 2019 at the age of 76.

He was born March 26, 1943 in Mt. Vernon, NY, son of the late Alfonso and Anne (Horky) Oricchio. Victor served in the Army then married Joan Kuchta on September 3, 1967 in Yonkers, NY. They moved from Yonkers to Brookfield in 1973. Victor was a senior analyst for IBM in many locations and retired in 1998.

Besides his wife Joan he is survived by a son Victor L. Oricchio Jr. and wife Shannon of Brookfield, CT; daughter Kimberly Weggeman and her husband Philip of New Milford, CT; sister Margaret Lazarou and her husband Charles of Center Moriches, NY; grandchildren, Andrew and Sean Oricchio and Jennifer Weggeman, several nieces, nephews, cousins, his two dogs Minnie and Rocki as well as many friends. An avid fisherman he loved to be by the ocean in Long Island and Atlantic City and being surrounded by his family and friends. He touched many lives with his



compassion, knowledge, life lessons, advice and truisms and will remain in the hearts of so many.

A celebration of life will take place at a later date. Arrangements by the Lillis Funeral Home, 58 Bridge Street, New Milford, CT.

Contributions in Victor's memory may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Lillis Funeral Home
58 Bridge Street • New Milford, CT 06762

Life Tributes

Joseph T. Tierney

Brookfield — Mr. Joseph Thomas Tierney, age 75, of Brookfield, died Sunday, November 17th at Danbury Hospital. He has been married to the love of his life, Mona (Harris) Tierney, for the past 52 years. They have been residents of Brookfield for 42 years.

In addition to his wife Mona, Mr. Tierney was a dedicated and supportive father to his children: Colleen Martinez and her husband Kenny of Brookfield, Christopher Tierney and his wife Therese of Danbury and Jonathan Tierney of Brookfield; his sister: Maureen Wezmar and her husband Ross of Waverly, PA; and his beloved grandchildren: Jack (13), Christopher (9), Nicholas (8) and Tessa (7). He has many loved brother and sister in laws, nieces & nephews. He was predeceased by his parents George Henry and Mary Elizabeth (Farrell) Tierney, and his brother, George Tierney.

His family would like to thank the incredible doctors, nurses, and nurses' aides at Danbury Hospital for their support and loving care they gave to Joe and



his family during the past 7 1/2 weeks.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his honor to Animal Welfare Society, 8 Dodd Rd, New Milford, CT 06776. Aws-shelter.org.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, 12/7, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Cornell Memorial Home, 247 White Street, Danbury. A memorial service will begin at 12 p.m. Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

To view the full obituary, place online condolences or light a memorial candle, please visit www.cornellmemorial.com

Rita Willie

On the evening of November 24, 2019 Rita M. Willie went to be with the lord at the age of 88. Rita was born to Thomas and Helen (Heusey) Comito in 1931. She grew up in Queens, NY and attended Andrew Jackson High School and Western Connecticut State University. Rita was married 67 years to her childhood sweetheart Andrew Willie and together they raised 5 children: Dru, Tod, Jay, Kim and Amy.

Rita was a great humanitarian and volunteered her services to many charitable organizations including Meals on Wheels, teaching Sunday School, being a Girl Scout leader, and as a Court Advocate for children. Her greatest joy was her family and grandchildren and revered the natural things in life particularly the sunsets, gardening, oceans, songs of the birds, and the American Indian spirit. She loved to travel and preferred to experience it as the locals do and not as a tourist always learning about the history and culture. Rita was preceded in death by her father Thomas, her mother Helen and brother Thomas Comito, Jr. She is survived by her husband, Andrew; her 5 children, Dru Saren, Tod Willie, Jay Willie, Kim Pearce, and Amy



Mangold; 13 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; her brother Anthony Comito; her sister Anita Thompson and several cousins, nieces and nephews. There will not be a public memorial service but a celebration of life will be announced for a future date. In lieu of flowers, monetary donations may be made in memory of Rita Willie to: Ability Beyond, 4 Berkshire Boulevard, Bethel, CT 06801 Phone: (888) 832-8247 Email: info@abilitybeyond.org. To leave an online condolence, visit www.honanfh.com

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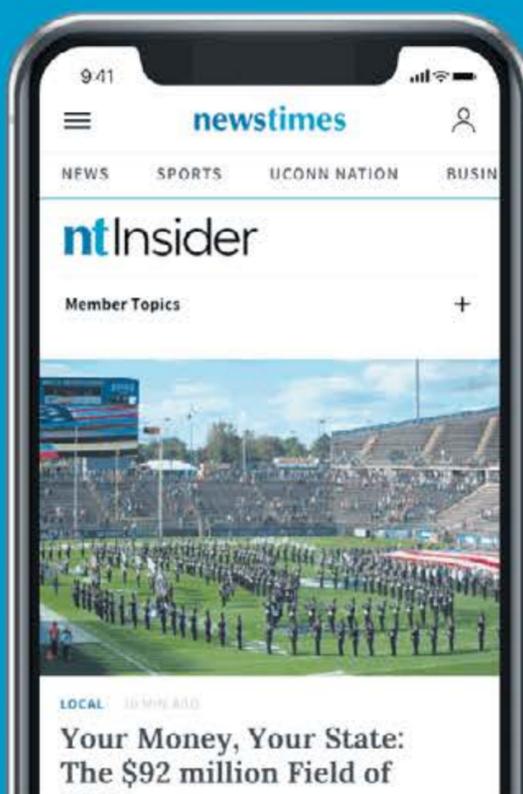
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EDITORIAL

Legislators look to dodge again on tolls

After all this, we're back to trucks-only tolls. That was the plan Gov. Ned Lamont campaigned for governor on, but he quickly came to realize, he said, that it wasn't sufficient to the needs of the state.

Soon after winning office, then, he proposed a much wider tolling plan that would have charged every vehicle at dozens of gantries, with a discount for Connecticut residents. That, too, died a quick death as legislators showed no interest in voting for what they assumed residents would see as the equivalent of a new tax.

Then came the scaled-down version, with tolls placed at 14 bridges around the state, with a plan to eventually remove them once the planned repairs were funded. But even that was too much for majority Senate Democrats, who, along with Republicans, have signaled zero willingness to vote for tolls on cars.

So now we're back where we started. Democrats say they could support the original, trucks-only plan, and Lamont is again on board. But they should all know that the plan has just as many shortcomings as it did when it was first announced, plus a few more

that have been picked up along the way.

First there are legal questions. Rhode Island has faced suits over its own trucks-only tolls plan, and though that state has brought in more revenue than expected to date, it's unclear whether it's sustainable in the long run. A legal ruling against the plan could spell trouble for both states.

Then there's Lamont's original objection to truck tolling — it doesn't bring in enough revenue to meet Connecticut's needs. As such, the revised plan would include a new round of bonding plus, borrowing from Senate Republican plans, some money from the state's Rainy Day Fund if it grows beyond a certain level. This would help secure what the state believes would be a low-interest line of credit from the federal government to pay for transit upgrades.

None of it makes much sense.

The point of tolls, which the governor made loudly for months, was that if we're going to pay to upgrade our transportation system, which all sides seem to

agree is necessary, we ought to get some money for it from people who use our roads but contribute nothing — out-of-state drivers. Any money we borrow, and any money from the Rainy Day Fund, ultimately comes from exactly one place — Connecticut residents. Tolls, whatever objections they raise, at least diversify the pool of people who pay.

Lawmakers aren't willing to make that case, and they don't believe voters will buy it. The effect, then, is to let out-of-state drivers off the hook and charge Connecticut residents more. That's what both Democratic and Republican lawmakers have agreed is the best course of action, and what they believe voters will reward.

It's a deeply cynical point of view, and one that probably has the virtue of being correct. No one wants to think they're being charged something new, so better to hide those charges and pretend the problem has been solved.

That may win lawmakers some elections next year. But it's a terrible way to run a state.

Any money we borrow, and any money from the Rainy Day Fund, ultimately comes from exactly one place — Connecticut residents.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Think twice about buying plastic bags

Following Connecticut's "ban" on plastic, I seem to have noticed something that I am not too happy about, due to its extreme counter-productivity. I have noticed that when people forget to bring their reusable plastic bags into the grocery store, they will often just buy more reusable plastic bags.

I do not think that that is the right idea and I do not think that people always consider the irony when they buy more — it makes me wonder if they even consider that that is why plastic was banned in the first place! The point of the statewide act was to reduce the amount of plastic waste we produce.

When I forget my reusable bags, I put my items back into my shopping cart and bring it out to my car so I can put them in there. I have seen others do this and I encourage more people to do this as well. When you get home, if you really need the bags, you can always get them and then bag your groceries in your trunk to bring them inside. It is no different than bagging them at the store.

I would just hope to see more conscious choices being made because Mars still cannot support human life.

Noah Havasi
Danbury

A truthful president

We may not have taken notice that presidents Harry S Truman and Donald J. Trump last names start with "Tru." That was the only thing they have in common — President Truman only was a "Tru" man and a truthful president who didn't lie!

What also made them different was Truman accepted responsibility and kept a sign on his desk with the phrase: "The buck stops here!"

Our present president doesn't keep a buck sign on his desk — but if he did, it would have to read: "The buck starts here!"

Paul F. Adinolfi
Sandy Hook

The 'safety' net in this country not so safe

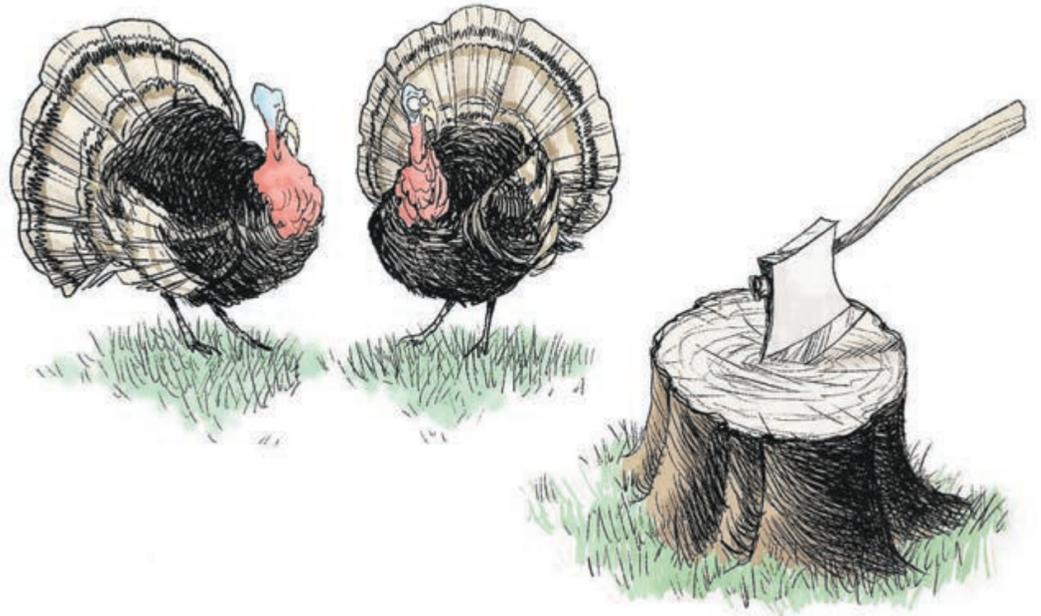
Former Sen. Phil Gramm in the Senate was a champion of financial deregulation. He wrote and pushed through Congress the 1999 repeal of the New Deal era's Glass-Steagall Banking Reform Act. Time magazine designated him one of 25, the first ranked actually, to blame for the financial crisis a few years later which set off the biggest financial collapse since the Great Depression.

His wife Wendy Lee Graham was caught up in the Enron scandal and had to pay a substantial tax as an Enron executive engaged in insider trading. She paid a share of the \$13 million fine of the executives. Insurance paid the rest of the \$168 million fine levied against the firm. Unlike op-ed writer Red Jahnke, I do not credit Phil Gramm as much of a source.

We know there are major profit-making firms that pay no taxes. We know there are substantial tax loopholes and tax shelters available to the very wealthy. We know that the so-called safety net in the USA is substantially less "safe" than that in other economically "advanced" countries — high medical costs uncovered by health insurance which many of the less wealthy do not have anyway; higher education costs leading to huge student indebtedness; very little affordable day care; indebtedness; unaffordable and poor quality housing; and so on.

Daniel C. Hudson
Ridgefield

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"I JUST READ THE LATEST U.N. CLIMATE REPORT. TRUST ME, WE'RE GETTING OFF EASY."

OPINION

A 'Charlie Brown' tree's circle of life

Rockefeller Center has its traditional Christmas tree, with a lighting ceremony this Wednesday evening. Danbury is home to its own tradition — a tall Christmas tree, with sparkling lights, atop the M&M Precast Corp. building at 39 Padanaram Road.

This year is the 87th tree lighting at Rockefeller Center. In Danbury, it likely will be the 50th annual tree high on the building, a tradition started by Robert Kaufman when he bought the company in 1969.

The Rockefeller Center tree is 77 feet tall and came from Orange County, New York. The Danbury tree is maybe half that height, but has the distinction of growing right here in the city.

This is the story of a scraggly little Christmas tree that found a home decades ago, grew tall, and now is high up where its presence can be seen from a distance. It is now the symbol of light bringing hope in the darkness.

"It was a Charlie Brown tree," said Gary Guertin, who bought the tree in Danbury — not far from its new perch — 23 or 24 years

JACQUELINE SMITH



ago. He was a student at Western Connecticut State University at the time and decorated the little tree for the Newman Club there.

Now he is a detective-sergeant in the Sexual Assault unit of the Danbury Police Department.

The tree "got tossed in my parents' backyard," he said, and to his amazement grew and grew. Eventually, it grew way too big for the space and was beginning to go in decline.

Gary knew about the M&M Precast tradition, and hoped the pine tree could have one more use. He called to see whether they would want a donation of a fine tree and Kaufman, who is now 95 and still goes to work, said yes.

And so on Nov. 21, workers from KTI Utility Construction in Wilton owned by Eddie Knapp came to remove the tree, literally,

from its Danbury roots. He donated his services, just as the Guertin's were donating the tree. The Danbury Police Department escorted the tree to its new place

during the course of routine duties.

Gary wouldn't have wanted the tree cut down if it could have stayed healthy. But that was not to be.

Still, the Guertin family is sentimental about that pine tree.

"Another cool thing is that my kids would be turning on the lights the day after Thanksgiving," Gary said. Plus, it's his birthday. He and his wife Brigid, who is the executive director of the Danbury Museum and Historical Society, their three sons ages 9, 11 and 13, would all be there for the 5:15 p.m. lighting.

So a scrawny little tree from a Danbury nursery went to college, then thrived in a backyard where it was admired from the kitchen window, and now glows from on high, continuing a tradition and likely delighting all who see it.

"It's a circle of life," Gary said.



Contributed photo

From left are Gary Guertin's nephew, Nicholas Bon Tempo, his sons, Matthew, Adam and James Guertin, and nephew, Christopher Bon Tempo.

Jacqueline Smith is the editorial page editor of The News-Times in Danbury and The Norwalk Hour. Email her at jsmith@hearstmediact.com.

MoreOpinion



Michael Holahan / Associated Press

Giving Tuesday comes after Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

JUANITA JAMES

Giving can be life-changing

Have you started receiving solicitations about Giving Tuesday, yet? I have. And when I read them, my first thought is to salute the leaders of the 92nd Street Y, who had the vision to create Giving Tuesday in 2012, as a way uplift the power of generosity of individuals to create a better society. And how brilliant to time this day of global giving so close to Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving is a day when I have a chance to unwind from my frenetic schedule and enjoy my family and friends. It's also a day for me to reflect about how grateful I am for all the blessings I have been given — a loving family, purposeful work, good health, and an abundant network of family, friends, and colleagues from all walks of life across the globe.

Thanksgiving is also a time that I reflect on how many people are struggling in our world. After all, we are bombarded 24/7 by news of suffering, violence, abuse, hunger, hardship, and cruelty. I can easily be overwhelmed by the magnitude of need and a feeling of hopelessness to solve the problem.

Instead, I choose to be inspired by people and organizations that are doing what they can to help a mother feed her starving child, or a family find shelter or provide them with the necessary medical treatment they need but can't afford, or give a talented, but poor young adult a chance for a better future by providing access to higher education or training through scholarships.

The requests I've received are coming from a wide variety of nonprofit organizations locally, nationally and internationally. So how do you decide

how to give, what to give and who or what to give to? Or do you put those appeals in a big pile and hope that you get to it eventually when you have free moment this holiday season.

Each of us will have a different approach. I choose to lead with my heart to try to make a difference in someone's life. Whether my giving will provide someone with an opportunity to change their life trajectory, or help someone overcome a sudden crisis, as long as it is something meaningful to them, it matters. *Taking action matters!*

At this year's annual luncheon for our Fund for Women & Girls (FWG), we heard a story about a husband and wife, Rich and Rebecca, who, together, decided to change the future of their family by educating themselves as a means to getting ahead. They worked night and day at their current jobs, while taking classes and caring for their combined family of six children. I am delighted to tell you that their struggle was successful. Through the financial support of the Fund and the support services they received from FWG and HCC, they graduated from Housatonic Community College in June. Rebecca is planning to enroll in a four-year college in the fall to earn a bachelor's degree. In the meantime, she is working as a caregiver for seniors and has an event planning business. Rich is working full-time at a precision machine company.

Their success is a result of the community's generosity. And the community of givers and Giving Day sponsors is growing. Right here in Fairfield County we sponsor a local Giving Day to support our local nonprofits helping

our neighbors. Fairfield County Giving Day 2020 will be held Feb. 27, so you will be hearing from your favorite nonprofits soon.

And we also have Hearst Connecticut Media's Giving Fund, where the stories of those in need here at home are published daily in the newspapers and online. For many, it's hard to admit you need help, so when you read about a neighbor not being able to pay their rent because they were in the hospital; or a family doesn't have money for food, or needs help to pay for a family member's funeral, the Giving Fund is there to help.

Think about *taking action* this Giving Tuesday. And not just this Tuesday. Giving is contagious and rewarding. And if you can't afford to give financially, give of yourself. Sometimes time and attention are the greatest gift of all. Do something that makes you smile and warms your heart.

Be as generous as you can, but know that any amount is greatly appreciated. If everyone who can gives even a little bit, when we gather all those little bits together, it can be life-changing.

Together, each and every one of us needs to take steps toward building futures for each other and caring about our friends and neighbors. Take some time to think about what you can give and where you can, to quote Maya Angelou, "Be the rainbow in someone else's cloud."

I wish you a holiday season filled with the joy of giving.

Juanita James is CEO and president of Fairfield County's Community Foundation.

View from the bottom with a bottom-line audience

The suits were dark and stuffed overwhelmingly with middle-aged white men. Were there 20 women in the crowd of 200? Maybe.

There were so many Audis outside the Charles Dolan Business School and the satellite parking lots around Fairfield University the other day that as I wandered in, I could nearly hear the drip, drip, drip from their poorly designed valve covers.

But, you know, luxury. It was the 9th annual economic forum hosted by the previously unknown-to-me entities called the Connecticut Turnaround Management Association, the Association for Corporate Growth, the Fairfield County Chapter of the Exit Planning Exchange, and the Connecticut chapter of the National Association of Corporate Directors.

So, to say the audience was bottom-line-oriented might just about peg it in three words and a couple of hyphens.

I was there waiting for Gov. Ned Lamont to make yet another pitch in his quest to bring back toll roads to the state after a more than 30-year hiatus. He's had worse receptions. I mean, no one with a hand-crocheted "No Tolls" hat photo-bombed him on this occasion.

In the well-heeled crowd, an extra dollar-a-day for tolls on their commutes is worth a lot less than the daily drips of Valvoline from their Quatros' headgaskets.

But when people from these kinds of wonkish organizations get together, heck, I'll take whatever someone with a modicum of economic credibility offers. These people actually do something, I'll imagine, and know stuff, compared with the 187-member General Assembly, where good ideas, if they don't die, are held in animated suspension, like snow globes, for years.

Remember when Connecticut was in the forefront of banning drivers' use of hand-held cell phones back in 2005? That bill was introduced annually for seven years before it was finally approved. Steady habits? Ha!

So I'm sitting in the front row of the room waiting for the wisdom.

Up comes John Traynor, chief investment officer at People's United Bank, which is responsible for most of the scenic silhouette of Bridgeport, with the Oz-like, 16-story, 30-year-old bank headquarters, designed by Richard Meier, the internationally celebrated architect who resigned from his own firm after a cascade of sexual-abuse claims, but now is apparently back, or maybe never left.

Traynor's ice-breaker, 15 seconds in, kind of puts the crowd into perspective.

"You know, looking out at this audience, I just want to say one thing," Traynor quips: "Pray that Elizabeth Warren doesn't walk in right now, because you are all sources of revenue." The guffaws roll over the room. Well, what would the Audi service centers do without them?

The crowd is there for Traynor's economic slide show. Yep, the graph of wage growth that shows the nation is close to the 4 percent that could signal



KEN DIXON

Remember when Connecticut was in the forefront of banning drivers' use of hand-held cell phones back in 2005? That bill was introduced annually for seven years before it was finally approved. Steady habits? Ha!

the next recession; the inverse yield curve, where if two-year Treasury notes get higher interest than the 10-years, the inevitable market downturn is imminent.

Then there is the global GDP, pegged at 3 percent next year. It's currently 3.5 percent. So what's a half point worth? "Going from 3.5 percent global growth next year to 3 percent subtracts \$700 billion in global GDP," Traynor says, stressing that the International Monetary Fund estimates a third of that will be from fewer ships sailing back and forth between the United States and China.

"Two-thirds of that is basically the rest of us in this room saying 'you know what, we ought to hold off, we're not going to invest in a new factory, I'm not going to expand,'" Traynor said. "It's deferred purchases because of a lack of confidence."

The next slide shows that U.S. presidents going back to Lyndon Johnson who won second terms presided over economies where disposal income increased 1.4 percent and above. Currently it is at 2.05 percent.

"If the president wants to get re-elected he needs to solve the tariff issues with China," Traynor says. "He needs to keep the economy going, because this is what he needs to get re-elected. This is the key for his re-election."

Next slide is Connecticut. March of 1989 until today, Connecticut added just 19,900 jobs.

"That's not per year, that's in total and basically most of those jobs have come basically in the last 12 months, so that gives you a sense of what's taken place," he says. "It's been a long time coming since we really shot ourselves in the foot." Only 85 percent of the jobs lost in the Great Recession have come back.

While Connecticut has minus-9 percent GDP growth, Massachusetts is more than 16 percent in the positive, with New York nearly 13 percent positive.

"The asset here in New England that Massachusetts has harnessed and Connecticut needs to, is that intellectual capital," the banker concludes on a vaguely optimistic note. "We have tremendous assets that are gonna set us up for really good growth going forward."

kdixon@ctpost.com Twitter: @KenDixonCT

STAMFORD HEALTH

Remembering Alfred E. Smith IV

Alfred (Al) E. Smith IV's great-grandfather, former governor of New York, once said "The American people never carry an umbrella. They prepare to walk in eternal sunshine." As we remember Al, it's this sense of optimism shared with his great-grandfather that leaves behind his greatest legacy — optimism for the missions of many organizations he generously served and supported, optimism for democracy and public service, and optimism that we may all find laughter in life. Our own Stamford Health was the benefactor of Al's optimism. Through his Hackers for Hope Foundation, Al generously donated funding to the Bennett Cancer Center Clinical

Trials and Research Program and he also served on the Stamford Health Foundation Executive Committee and Healing Reimagined Capital Campaign Cabinet.

Al, of course, was most well-known for his ability to embrace humor in all things. He was infamous for poking fun at elected officials and presidential hopefuls as Master of Ceremonies at the annual Al Smith Dinner for 35 years. He presided over the event with grace, and his unmatched wit was welcomed into the homes of millions of American viewers. While his professional and philanthropic pursuits were full of gravitas, he approached them with a warmth indicative of his beloved

nature.

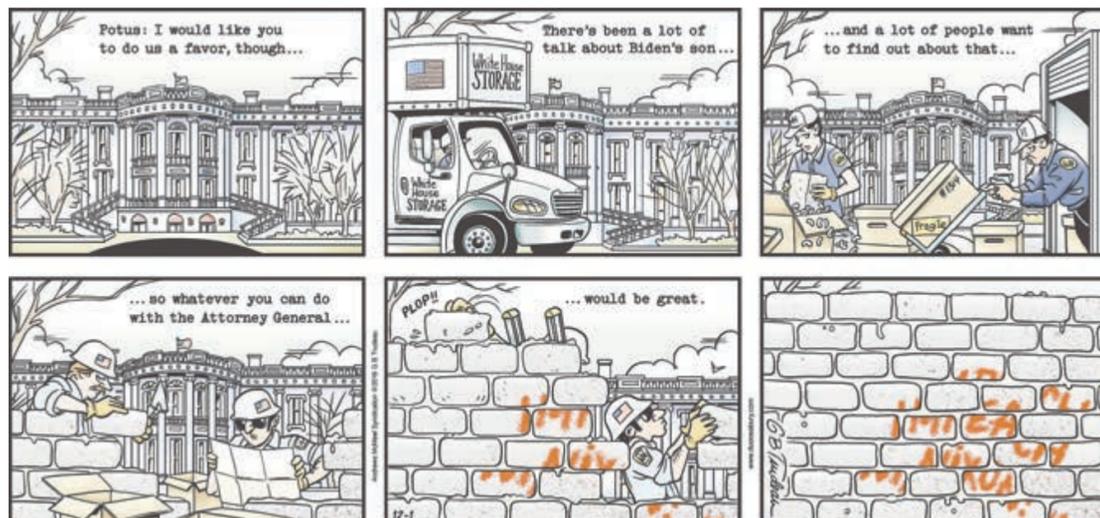
We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Nan Smith and her family. We are honored to have known Al, and he will be missed by all who knew him. He had a remarkable vision and his generosity will help us care for families for generations to come. But Al's commitment to helping others, and optimism in doing so, extended far beyond Stamford Health — for that we can all be grateful.

Kathleen Silard, Stamford Health president & CEO

Dr Mark DeWaele, Stamford Health chair, Board of Directors

Andrew M. Merrill, Stamford Hospital Foundation chair, Board of Directors

DOONESBURY By Garry Trudeau



WEATHER

Today		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
Periods of snow and ice from midday on		Afternoon snow, 1-2"; storm total 4-8"		Sun and some clouds		Intervals of clouds and sunshine		Mostly cloudy with snow or flurries possible		Some sun with a chance for a rain or snow shower	
Shoreline High: 36-39 Low: 34-36 Wind: E 8-16	Inland High: 31-34 Low: 28-31 Wind: E 4-8	Shoreline High: 39-43 Low: 29-32 Wind: NNE 12-25	Inland High: 33-37 Low: 25-29 Wind: N 10-20	Shoreline High: 38-41 Low: 26-29 Wind: NW 8-16	Inland High: 33-37 Low: 19-23 Wind: NW 7-14	Shoreline High: 40-43 Low: 31-33 Wind: WSW 7-14	Inland High: 37-41 Low: 25-28 Wind: SSW 4-8	Shoreline High: 40-43 Low: 24-29 Wind: W 8-16	Inland High: 35-40 Low: 17-22 Wind: W 7-14	Shoreline High: 42-45 Low: 19-27 Wind: SSW 8-16	Inland High: 37-41 Low: 12-21 Wind: SSW 7-14

Marine
Coastal waters: Wind E 8-16 knots today. Seas 1-2 feet. A wintry mix.
Long Island Sound: Wind E 8-16 knots today. Seas 1-2 feet. A wintry mix.
Outer waters: Wind E 8-16 knots today. Seas 1-3 feet. A wintry mix.

Tides

Kings Point	High	Low
Today	2:41 a.m. 7.0 ft.	8:56 a.m. 0.9 ft.
Monday	2:40 p.m. 7.3 ft.	9:44 p.m. 0.4 ft.
Monday	3:36 a.m. 6.8 ft.	9:59 a.m. 1.2 ft.
Monday	3:38 p.m. 6.9 ft.	10:38 p.m. 0.7 ft.

Stamford	High	Low
Today	2:23 a.m. 7.0 ft.	8:37 a.m. 0.7 ft.
Monday	2:32 p.m. 7.3 ft.	9:10 p.m. 0.2 ft.
Monday	3:13 a.m. 6.8 ft.	9:31 a.m. 1.0 ft.
Monday	3:23 p.m. 6.8 ft.	10:01 p.m. 0.6 ft.

Norwalk	High	Low
Today	2:20 a.m. 6.8 ft.	8:33 a.m. 0.8 ft.
Monday	2:30 p.m. 7.1 ft.	9:05 p.m. 0.3 ft.
Monday	3:10 a.m. 6.6 ft.	9:27 a.m. 1.0 ft.
Monday	3:22 p.m. 6.8 ft.	9:57 p.m. 0.5 ft.

Bridgeport	High	Low
Today	2:14 a.m. 6.5 ft.	8:21 a.m. 0.7 ft.
Monday	2:29 p.m. 6.8 ft.	8:57 p.m. 0.4 ft.
Monday	3:05 a.m. 6.3 ft.	9:15 a.m. 0.9 ft.
Monday	3:22 p.m. 6.4 ft.	9:47 p.m. 0.6 ft.

New Haven	High	Low
Today	2:13 a.m. 5.8 ft.	8:17 a.m. 0.7 ft.
Monday	2:27 p.m. 6.3 ft.	8:52 p.m. 0.2 ft.
Monday	3:05 a.m. 5.7 ft.	9:11 a.m. 0.9 ft.
Monday	3:20 p.m. 6.0 ft.	9:44 p.m. 0.4 ft.

Madison	High	Low
Today	1:53 a.m. 4.7 ft.	7:51 a.m. 0.5 ft.
Monday	2:08 p.m. 4.9 ft.	8:27 p.m. 0.3 ft.
Monday	2:44 a.m. 4.6 ft.	8:45 a.m. 0.7 ft.
Monday	3:01 p.m. 4.7 ft.	9:17 p.m. 0.4 ft.

Candlewood Lake
Candlewood Lake level as of 7 a.m. yesterday
Elevation: 429.30
Source: FirstLight Power Resources

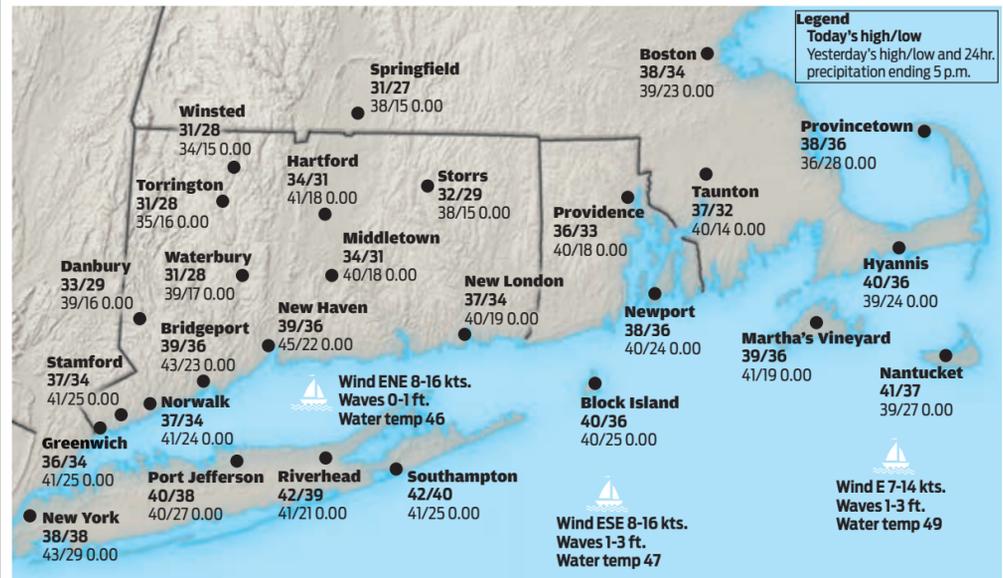
Cosmos

Today	Monday
Rise	Set
Sun 6:58 a.m.	4:20 p.m.
Moon 11:22 a.m.	9:10 p.m.

Today	Monday
Rise	Set
Sun 6:58 a.m.	4:20 p.m.
Moon 11:22 a.m.	9:10 p.m.

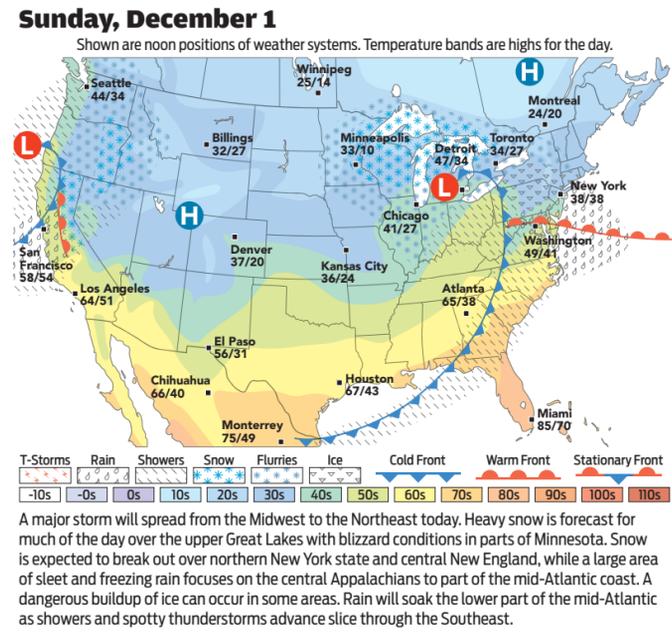
Dec 4	Dec 11	Dec 18	Dec 25
Quarter	Full	Quarter	New

Today's 28%-illuminated crescent moon is south at sunset. Half of an hour to an hour later, find in this order, Saturn, Venus and Jupiter lined up well to the moon's lower right. Jupiter and Venus set earliest. — Patrick Rowan



International

Today	Today
HI/Lo/W	HI/Lo/W
Canada	Latin America
Edmonton 20/7/s	Bogota 68/46/pc
Halifax 29/22/s	Buenos Aires 71/60/s
Montreal 24/20/pc	Caracas 86/75/pc
Ottawa 24/19/sn	La Paz 61/41/sh
Toronto 34/27/sn	Lima 73/66/pc
Vancouver 41/35/c	Montevideo 69/55/s
Winnipeg 25/14/s	Panama 90/74/pc
Mexico	Rio 84/72/sh
Acapulco 87/78/pc	San Jose 82/67/pc
Guadalajara 84/53/pc	San Salvador 88/66/s
La Paz 75/64/pc	Santiago 89/55/pc
Mazatlan 83/64/pc	Sao Paulo 84/64/pc
Merida 90/72/s	Tegucigalpa 80/59/s
Mexico City 77/50/pc	Africa/Mideast
Caribbean	Algiers 71/49/c
Havana 84/61/s	Baghdad 74/55/pc
Kingston 87/75/s	Beirut 72/60/pc
Nassau 81/71/s	Cairo 73/59/s
San Juan 85/76/sh	Dakar 82/71/pc
Europe	Damascus 69/43/s
Amsterdam 42/36/c	Jerusalem 64/54/pc
Athens 61/46/pc	Riyadh 81/60/s
Berlin 38/31/c	Asia
Brussels 39/31/c	Bangkok 92/76/pc
Budapest 39/30/pc	Beijing 40/22/pc
Dublin 43/30/pc	Ho Chi Minh 91/73/pc
Geneva 42/39/r	Hong Kong 78/57/pc
Helsinki 33/26/sn	Manila 88/73/pc
Istanbul 52/43/pc	New Delhi 73/49/pc
Kiev 33/23/pc	Phnom Penh 92/74/pc
Lisbon 59/49/sh	Seoul 44/28/r
London 45/30/s	Tokyo 60/52/c
Moscow 29/22/pc	Pacific
Paris 40/31/pc	Auckland 83/74/pc
Rome 63/57/r	Fiji 73/63/pc
Stockholm 29/21/pc	Sydney 76/61/pc



Almanac Through 5 p.m. yesterday

Shoreline	Inland
High/Low	43/29
Normal high/low	48/34
Record high	63 (2001)
Record low	17 (1958)
Precipitation ending 5 p.m. yesterday	0.00"
Month to date (normal)	1.08" (3.39")
Year to date (normal)	43.76" (39.41")

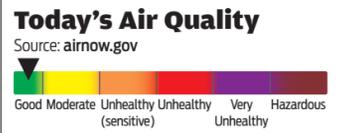
Inland	Inland
High/Low	41/26
Normal high/low	46/29
Record high	69 (1933)
Record low	11 (1929)
Precipitation ending 5 p.m. yesterday	0.00"
Month to date (normal)	2.18" (3.89")
Year to date (normal)	44.53" (42.41")

Today's UV Index
The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Shoreline	Inland
Low	Low

Today's Wind Chill
6 a.m. 9 a.m. Noon 3 p.m. 6 p.m. 9 p.m.

Shoreline	Inland
17 20 26 25 27 27	14 18 26 26 25 24



National

Today	Today
HI/Lo/W	HI/Lo/W
Albuquerque 42/25/pc	Kansas City 36/24/c
Anchorage 33/24/sn	Las Vegas 52/40/c
Atlanta 65/38/pc	Little Rock 51/31/s
Atlantic City 53/40/r	Los Angeles 64/51/c
Baltimore 48/38/r	Memphis 51/33/s
Billings 32/27/s	Miami 85/70/pc
Boise 37/30/sn	Milwaukee 40/27/sn
Buffalo 38/30/sn	Minneapolis 33/10/sn
Charleston, S.C. 73/45/sh	Nashville 54/35/pc
Chicago 41/27/sn	New Orleans 71/44/pc
Cincinnati 51/34/pc	New York 38/38/sn
Cleveland 54/35/c	Omaha 33/19/c
Dallas 58/35/s	Orlando 82/61/s
Denver 37/20/s	Philadelphia 44/37/r
Des Moines 35/21/c	Phoenix 66/45/pc
Detroit 47/34/sn	Portland, Ore. 43/34/r
Duluth 27/77/sn	St. Louis 42/30/sf
El Paso 56/31/s	Salt Lake City 36/27/c
Fargo 23/9/sf	San Diego 65/51/pc
Helena 29/20/s	San Francisco 58/54/r
Honolulu 81/73/sh	Seattle 44/34/c
Houston 67/43/s	Tampa 79/63/pc
Indianapolis 43/31/sn	Topeka 39/23/c
Jacksonville 81/48/sh	Wash., D.C. 49/41/r

W-weather, s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, i-ice, r-rain, t-thunderstorms, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow

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Mitchell Leff / Getty Images

Art Thompkins of UConn runs with the ball past Chapelle Russell of the Temple Owls in the first quarter at Lincoln Financial Field on Saturday in Philadelphia.

VIEWPOINT

Don't blame the AAC for the sad reality of UConn football

Reality did not work. Reality did not work at all. So the next step for UConn football is the appearance of real progress, the illusion of success, buying time until something good happens or those who have brokered the future are gone.

Some will call it vision, required optimism, and good business.

Others will call it fantasy and bad business.

Either way, reality was

JEFF JACOBS



the UConn football team walking off Lincoln Financial Field and walking out of the American Athletic Conference with its 19th consecutive league defeat.

Final score: Temple 49,

UConn 17.

Yes, this is reality: UConn entered American play in 2013 and left it Saturday with an 11-45 record. UConn never had a winning AAC record in any of seven seasons. UConn was outscored 1,966-1055 in those 56 games. If you faithfully watched, the average seven-year score — a 35-19 loss — probably feels flattering to the Huskies.

That's because UConn

lost 27 of its final 29 AAC games. That's because UConn under Randy Edsall was outscored 421-165 in 2018 and 361-121 in 2019 in winless league play.

If this was English soccer, UConn would have been relegated to the FCS.

The good news is UConn won't lose 20 in a row. It's over.

So c'mon. For old time sake, let's make one more joke about Greenville, N.C.

See Jacobs on B3

UConn Men's Basketball

Adams, Huskies hope to stay hot

By David Borges

STORRS — It's not that Brendan Adams lacked confidence entering this season.

Despite an admittedly "rough" freshman season on the court, Adams came into his sophomore year brimming with confidence. That was a result of playing against and working out with his older brother, Jaylen, the former St. Bonaventure star who is now in the G-League with the Wisconsin Herd.

"I went home a lot this summer, and he would preach confidence," Brendan recalled.

He still talks with his older brother every day by phone, but the subject has changed. After getting off to a strong start that sees him averaging 9.7 points per game and leading all Huskies not named James Bouknight in shooting (53.1 percent) and 3-point shooting (46.7 percent), Adams has all the confidence he needs. Now, the conversations with Jaylen — like the one he had at 3 a.m. last Friday after a career-best 20-point effort in a win over Buffalo — revolve

See Men on B3



Stephen Dunn / Associated Press

UConn's Brendan Adams questions a call in the second half against St. Joseph's on Nov. 13.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL



Mitchell Leff / Getty Images

Re'Mahn Davis (20) of the Temple Owls runs for a touchdown in the third quarter against the Connecticut Huskies at Lincoln Financial Field on Saturday in Philadelphia.

A fizziling finish

UConn ends time in AAC with loss to Temple

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA — Anthony Russo threw two touchdown passes to Branden Mack and Re'Mahn Davis ran for 105 yards and a score as Temple rolled to a 49-17 victory over UConn on Saturday in the Huskies' final game as a member of the American Athletic Conference.

UConn will be joining the Big East in all sports except football, which will be independent.

It was all UConn early as the Huskies used Jack Zergiotis' 51-

yard scoring strike to Ardell Brown and Steven Krajewski's 2-yard TD run to grab a 14-0 lead. Russo hit Mack for a 63-yard score to pull Temple (8-4, 5-3 American Athletic Conference) within 14-7, but Clayton Harris nailed a 40-yard field goal 4 minutes into the second quarter to put UConn (2-10, 0-8) up 17-7. The Owls closed to within 17-14 at halftime when backup quarterback Todd Centeo connected with Jadan Blue for a 10-yard TD.

Temple took control of the game in the third quarter. Russo put together back-to-back scoring

See UConn on B2



Mitchell Leff / Getty Images

Quincy Roche (9) of the Temple Owls sacks Jack Zergiotis (11) of the Connecticut Huskies in the third quarter at Lincoln Financial Field.

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

TOP 25 ROUNDUP



Butch Dill / Associated Press

Auburn quarterback Bo Nix reacts after a penalty gave Auburn a first down and secured the win over Alabama on Saturday in Auburn, Ala. Auburn won 48-45.

Auburn extinguishes Alabama's playoff hopes

ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUBURN, Ala. — Shaun Shivers scored on an 11-yard run with 8:08 left to put No. 16 Auburn ahead and another failed field goal by Alabama in the Iron Bowl wiped away the fifth-ranked Crimson Tide's playoff hopes in a wild 48-45 victory for the Tigers on Saturday.

Auburn (9-3, 5-3 Southeastern Conference) survived a final, marathon Crimson Tide drive when Joseph Bulovas' 30-yard field goal attempt hit the left upright with 2:00 left.

Auburn couldn't get a first down on JaTarvious Whitlow's three runs while Alabama (10-2, 6-2) burned its final two time outs. But the Tide was called for illegal substitution after the Tigers lined up for a punt, setting off a fist-pumping celebration for coach Gus Malzahn.

Auburn fans stormed the field to celebrate another Iron Bowl thriller, filling it from end zone to end zone as they did in the 2013 Kick-Six game, when the Tigers' returned a missed Tide field goal for a game-winning touchdown.

The Tide had made the first five College Football Playoff fields, but its case was damaged with a 46-41 loss to No. 1 LSU. The team's in-state rival delivered the final blow.

NO. 2 OHIO STATE 56, NO. 10 MICHIGAN 27

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — J.K. Dobbins ran for four touchdowns, Justin Fields threw four TD passes and Ohio State beat Michigan for a school-record eighth straight win in the series.

The Buckeyes (12-0, 9-0 Big Ten, No. 1 CFP) will head to the Big Ten championship game with a spot in the College Football Playoff in sight against either No. 9 Minnesota or No. 13 Wisconsin next Saturday.

The Wolverines (9-3, 6-3, No. 13 CFP) will have to settle for a second- or third-tier bowl game after coach Jim Harbaugh fell to 0-5 in the rivalry, and the Wolverines lost to Ohio State for the 15th time in 16 years.

Dobbins rushed for 211 yards on 31 carries. Fields was 14 of 25 for 302 yards.

Michigan's Shea Patterson was 18 of 41 for 305 yards and a touchdown. But he also threw an interception and lost a fumble.

NO. 3 CLEMSON 38, SOUTH CAROLINA 3

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Trevor Lawrence threw for 295 yards and three touchdowns to lead Clemson to its 27th straight victory and second consecutive 12-0 regular season.

Travis Etienne ran for two touchdowns to break Atlantic Coast Conference marks for career touchdowns (57) and rushing scores (53) as the Tigers dominated on the way to a sixth straight win over South Carolina (4-8).

Lawrence had touchdown throws of 10 and 65 yards to Tee Higgins and of 16 yards to Justyn Ross. Lawrence also had 66 yards rushing for Clemson (No. 3 CFP), which will attempt to become the first program to win five straight league championship games when it meets Virginia next weekend.

NO. 4 GEORGIA 52, GEORGIA TECH 7

ATLANTA — Jake Fromm threw four touchdown passes and Georgia cruised into the Southeastern Conference championship game with its biggest win ever over its state rival.

The Bulldogs (11-1) were 28-point favorites over the Yellow Jackets (3-9) and this one was never in doubt, even as Georgia struggled a bit offensively, fumbled the ball away three times, dealt with injury woes, and failed to cover an onside kick.

This was a mere speed bump on the way to next week's SEC title game, where the Bulldogs will face No. 1 LSU with a berth

in the College Football Playoff on the line.

Fromm was 14 of 29 for 254 yards, connecting on scoring throws of 20 yards to Charlie Woerner, 17 yards to Tyler Simmons, 41 yards to George Pickens and 9 yards to Dominick Blaylock.

Georgia Tech wrapped up its first season under coach Geoff Collins with just 139 yards and seven first downs on offense.

NO. 13 WISCONSIN 38, NO. 9 MINNESOTA 17

MINNEAPOLIS — Jack Coan delivered two momentum-shifting touchdown passes in the snow for Wisconsin, Jonathan Taylor added three touchdowns to his FBS-leading total and the Badgers forcefully repossessed Paul Bunyan's Axe to win the Big Ten West Division.

Quintez Cephus caught five passes for 114 yards, including a 47-yarder for a score midway through the third quarter that gave Wisconsin (10-2, 7-2, No. 12 CFP) a 17-7 lead. Coan connected with Taylor for a 28-yard touchdown strike late in the second quarter that gave the Badgers the lead after a slow start, sending them to the Big Ten championship game for a rematch with second-ranked Ohio State.

Tanner Morgan passed for 296 yards and two touchdowns for the Gophers (10-2, 7-2). They watched their dream season take a painful hit from their oldest rival after ending a 14-game losing streak to the Badgers a year ago with a 37-15 victory at Wisconsin.

Minnesota was seeking to go undefeated at home for the first time since 1954, but the Badgers reasserted their recent dominance by taking home the traveling trophy for the 22nd time in the last 25 seasons.

NO. 11 BAYLOR 61, KANSAS 6

LAWRENCE, Kan. — JaMyca Hasty rushed for three touchdowns and Baylor forced six turnovers.

Charlie Brewer threw for 182 yards and a touchdown as Baylor (11-1, 8-1 Big 12, No. 9 CFP) equaled the school record for wins in Matt Rhule's third season as coach. Treستان Ebner, Gerry Bohanon, Qualan Jones and Jacob Zeno also rushed for TDs as the Bears piled up 263 yards on the ground.

Only three times since the program's founding in 1899 have the Bears won 11 games in a season.

NO. 12 PENN STATE 27, RUTGERS 6

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Journey Brown ran for 103 yards with three touchdowns and Penn State pulled away from Rutgers.

Will Levis played quarterback for the Nittany Lions (10-2, 7-2 Big Ten, No. 10 CFP) in place of injured starter Sean Clifford and added 108 rushing yards on 17 carries and a 42-yard touchdown pass to Jahan Dotson in the fourth quarter.

NO. 14 OREGON 24, OREGON STATE 10

EUGENE, Ore. — Justin Herbert threw for 174 yards and a touchdown in his final game at Autzen Stadium and Oregon held off Oregon State in the 123rd Civil War rivalry game.

Oregon (10-2, 8-1 Pac-12) wrapped up the regular season with a perfect record at home for the eighth time. The Ducks reached 10 wins overall for the first time since 2014.

NO. 15 NOTRE DAME 45, STANFORD 24

STANFORD, Calif. — Ian Book threw for 255 yards and four touchdowns and Notre Dame reached double-digit wins for the third straight season.

Book threw two TD passes to Chase Claypool and also connected with Tony Jones Jr. and Tommy Tremble to help the Fighting Irish (10-2, No. 16 CFP) snap a five-game losing streak at Stanford Stadium. Notre Dame also put together three straight seasons of at least 10 wins for the second time in school history, having previously done it under Lou Holtz from 1991-93.

FCS PLAYOFFS

Freshman throws 6 TDs, ousts Central Connecticut

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBANY, N.Y. — Jeff Undercuffler threw a school-record six touchdown passes and Albany rolled over Central Connecticut State 42-14 on Saturday for the first FCS playoff victory in program history.

Albany (9-4), second in

the Colonial Athletic Association, lost to Stony Brook in 2011 in its previous FCS playoff appearance. The Great Danes play at No. 5 seed Montana State next Saturday.

Undercuffler, a redshirt freshman, finished 19 of 30 for 304 yards. The school season-season passing touchdown leader with 39 bettered the five TDs thrown by Dan Di Lessa against CCSU in 2011. Jerah

Reeves caught six passes for 134 yards and a score and Juwan Green seven for 105 yards and two TDs.

With the game tied at 7, Undercuffler threw four scoring passes in the third quarter for a 35-7 lead, including 40 yards to Green and 22 to Reeves.

The Blue Devils (11-2), champions of the Northeast Conference, had an eight-game win streak snapped.



Mitchell Leff / Getty Images

Steven Krajewski (4) of the Connecticut Huskies runs the ball against the Temple Owls in the first quarter at Lincoln Financial Field on Saturday in Philadelphia.

UCONN

From page B1

drives — hooking up with Mack for a 41-yard TD and adding an 8-yard TD run — for a 28-17 Owls' lead. Davis pitched in with a 55-yard scoring run, Sam Franklin picked off a Krajewski pass and raced 29 yards for a TD and Temple's lead was 42-17 after three quarters. Tavon Ruley's 6-yard TD run in the fourth quarter capped the scoring.

Russo finished 14-of-23 passing for 247 yards for Temple. Centeio was 4-of-6 passing for 65 yards and added 75 yards rushing on six carries. Ruley ran for 74 yards on nine totes. Mack had five catches for a career-high 171 yards. Temple ran for 262 yards on 33 carries and held UConn to 76 yards on 31 carries.

Zergiotis completed 24 of 35 passes for 250 yards for the Huskies.



Mitchell Leff / Getty Images

Quincy Roche of the Temple Owls reacts after a sack in the third quarter against the Connecticut Huskies at Lincoln Financial Field on Saturday in Philadelphia.

Charges filed in stabbing of ex-Ohio State quarterback Pryor

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — A woman was charged with attempted homicide in a Pittsburgh stabbing that critically injured former Ohio State quarterback Terrelle Pryor, who is also facing a charge, police said.

Pryor was taken to the hospital just after 4:30 a.m. Saturday following a dispute with "mutual combatants" in an apartment on the city's North Side, police said.

Allegheny County prosecutors and police said 24-year-old Shalaya Briston of Munhall was charged with attempted homicide and aggravated assault, while Pryor, 30, faces a charge of simple assault.

Gregory Diulus of Vantage Management Group, which represents Pryor, said family members had been told Pryor is expected to make a full recovery. Another call to Diulus was made seeking comment on the charge. Court documents don't list an attorney for Briston and a listed number for her couldn't be found Saturday. Diulus said he expects to

see Pryor on Sunday.

After Pryor's illustrious Ohio State career ended in 2011, he spent time with nine NFL teams including the Buffalo Bills, New York Jets, Washington Redskins and Cleveland Browns. He most recently signed with the Jacksonville Jaguars but was waived in September after a hamstring injury.

Pryor, a product of Jeanette, Pennsylvania, was a national star in high school — considered one of the top high school football players in the country when he signed with the Buckeyes in 2008. His recruitment drew national attention because he took the unusual step of waiting until mid-March to make his final decision. Most prospects sign in early February.

At Ohio State, Pryor started as a freshman and was the Rose Bowl MVP during his sophomore season in 2009.

Late in the 2010 season, Pryor and some of his teammates were found to have broken NCAA rules by trading their equipment, memorabilia and

autographs for tattoos at a shop in the Columbus area.

That NCAA investigation led to the revelation that Ohio State coach Jim Tressel had lied to investigators seeking information on Pryor and his teammates. Tressel, who had won a national championship at Ohio State, was forced to resign on Labor Day weekend 2011.

With allegations of more possible violations mounting and the possibility of a being ruled ineligible, Pryor decided to skip his senior season and leave Ohio State in June 2011. He was selected in the NFL's supplemental draft later that month by the Oakland Raiders.

Pryor was tied for the most touchdown passes in school history at 57 and second-most wins with 31 total victories at the end of his career, according to the university's athletics department.

He was never punished in college for the NCAA violations but began his NFL career with a suspension of five games.

SPORTS

JACOBS

From page B1

That'll make UConn fans feel better about the sad, sad story that is their football program.

C'mon, let's break out the four men's basketball national championship banners and use them to cover the steaming pile of defeat that was UConn football's seven-year sentence in the AAC prison. That'll show 'em in Orlando and Cincinnati and Memphis.

If only the Huskies had gotten into the ACC, Big Ten or Big 12, surely, they'd have been in seven successive bowl games, dipped their toes into the Top 25 a few years and be averaging 40,000 fans.

You know about the seven-year itch, right? It is the psychological term that suggests happiness in a relationship declines after around year seven of a marriage. Well, UConn and its fans sort of had the seven-year itch, only put a "b" in front of the "i" and you'll get the correct term. First, it was the understandable lament that the Huskies didn't get into a Power Five conference and then it progressively became the license to blame all UConn's ills on the American.

It's Greenville's fault. Dallas is too far. Who cares about Tulsa? We'd rather see UMass than SMU. With a 21-game Big Ten losing streak, Rutgers is the only one nationally exceeding UConn's conference futility streak and Rutgers is the AAC school that did get to the Power Five. That doesn't matter, either.

None of it was ever UConn's fault. It was always the American's fault.

Only it wasn't. It was always UConn's fault.

Jeff Hathaway, Paul Pasqualoni, Warde Manuel, Bob Diaco, Dave Benedict, Edsall, they all share in the blame of turning UConn football from something into nothing. Knock yourself out apportioning the liability, but they are all baked in one pie and marked with an L. They didn't hire the right guys. They didn't recruit well enough. They didn't game coach well enough. They didn't figure it out. If they won more, UConn wouldn't be looking at 25,000-30,000 empty seats at the Rent every week. That's reality.

Give the current UConn hierarchy credit for this much. With so little fan interest in football and fewer media entities covering the team (no papers went to Cincinnati, one was at the ECU home game) the school has taken the opportunity to influence more and more of the in-state narrative. I heard athletic director Benedict called a "magician" on radio for putting together the 2020 schedule. I've read how interesting and even compelling the 2020 schedule is.

This is the 2020 UConn home schedule: UMass, Indiana, Old Dominion, Maine, Liberty, Middle Tennessee and Army. If it got anymore compelling, Akron might come in from an exhibition. We await the thousands knocking down the box office doors for season tickets.

But there are five Power Five teams on the schedule! Yes, and four are on the road, while Indiana at home has been scheduled for years. As of this past week, none of the five were ranked in the Top 25, while three AAC teams are. UConn also ended up paying nearly \$400,000 on contracts for the 2020 games.

Give Benedict credit for hustling, but let's not get stupid. If he's a magician, AAC commissioner Mike Aresco is David Copperfield for making \$17 million disappear out of UConn's coffers.

The gap between how the



Mitchell Leff / Getty Images

Jack Zergiotis of UConn throws a pass against Temple in the second quarter at Lincoln Financial Field.

program is portrayed outside Connecticut and inside may never have been larger. It has gotten to the point where if a media member instate suggests Edsall, 6-30 after three years (3-30 vs. FBS), be replaced, that media member would be ridiculed for failing to understand what Edsall inherited, what he's building, how long it will take.

Yes, we understand he ran off players and started playing freshmen.

We also understand pyramids went up faster than the UConn rebuild.

Don't let anyone fool you. There are six or even seven potential wins on the independent 2020 schedule. If Edsall wins four, will the narrative of incremental improvement continue? Or, at 4-8 and 10-38 overall, would that be enough for a change? Will it take 14-46 and five years?

Or do you give a new guy, with new energy, a chance right now to rattle off six wins his first year and build some momentum toward the future?

Starting Sunday, there is no buyout of Edsall's contract.

It's something Benedict should be agonizing over or risk scrutiny himself in a year or two.

Yet here's the toughest part:

Even if the future schedule can be choreographed with some easy home wins and a few huge paydays on the road there is not sufficient proof that football will not continue to be a financial drain on the athletic program, the school, and ultimately the taxpayers. Football has been in the red \$8 million annually.

And while the growing narrative of how grand basketball's return to the Big East will be, it does come with a \$17 million price tag to exit the AAC. Yes, basketball is in a much safer place long term, but there are few guarantees football will pull its weight financially.

Can you be big-payday canon fodder for enough SEC and Top 15 programs to keep afloat?

If you go 5-7 or 6-6 every year, with some easy home wins, will that put substantially more fannies in the seats? And can Edsall get to 6-6 two-three years in a row against a substantial schedule to find out?

Despite the happy pills dispensed these days, happy pills that seemed to have bought the football and the school more time, there is no reason that the future of the program should not be under a harsh light.

Is it worth having football?

A tough question that still needs an answer.

And is Edsall the man to save it?

The reality is 11-45 over seven years in the ACC.

The reality, at the finish line, is 19 conference losses in a row.

There are no Greenville jokes here. Not a one.

Reality is UConn can look in the rear view mirror, broken and battered in the AAC, and see nothing but seven years of bad luck and worse football.

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Huskies need to get healthy fast



Doug Bonjour's Takeaways

DAYTON, Ohio — Thanksgiving arrived at a good time for Geno Auriemma and Co.

UConn is undefeated, but injuries have begun to pile up and chip away at the team's depth. The fourth-ranked Huskies navigated their way through the second half of Tuesday's game at Dayton, their final before an eight-day break, with only seven available players following injuries to Crystal Dangerfield and Anna Makurat.

Among them was Olivia Nelson-Ododa, who nursed a broken left pinky toe.

Auriemma planned to give his players a few days off before returning to the court Saturday for practice. The Huskies' next game is Thursday at Seton Hall (6:30 p.m.).

"When we get back, everything hopefully will be back to whole, and everybody will be ready to go," Auriemma said following the 75-37 victory over Dayton, which improved his team to 6-0.

This isn't a vintage UConn team. Maya Moore and Breanna Stewart aren't walking through a door anytime soon. The Huskies lack depth, and now they're banged up. But they sure are resilient.

"We can fight," forward Megan Walker said. "We know our stuff. We just have to get everyone on the same page and stay on the same



John Minchillo / Associated Press

UConn's Megan Walker (3) shoots during the second half against Dayton on Tuesday.

page."

Let's look at what else we've learned about the Huskies up to this point.

Danger(ous) game: Auriemma hasn't been shy about using Dangerfield, even after her offseason hip surgery. She started the first five games, averaging 37.8 minutes (tied for most on the team with Christyn Williams), before sitting out Tuesday because her back flared up.

With an extended break looming, her absence sounded precautionary. For the Huskies, that better be the case. They simply don't have another viable option behind Dangerfield, who will be an All-American candidate if she stays healthy.

Last year, Katie Lou Samuelson was able to spot Dangerfield at point guard, and even then depth was limited. While Molly Bent started in Dangerfield's place against Dayton and provided 31 decent minutes, it's hard to imagine Auriemma trusting the seldom-used senior in an extended role.

They need a healthy Dangerfield. Their hopes depend on it.

Better late than never: Who would've thought that

Kyla Irwin would become a critical piece to the puzzle for UConn? It sounds strange to say, given how little she produced over her first three seasons, but Irwin is very much needed.

Irwin has emerged into a valuable role player, even starting two games. Irwin is averaging career-highs across the board with 6.2 points, 3.0 rebounds and 2.4 assists, and more importantly, she's gained Auriemma's trust.

The 6-foot-2 forward played only 10.3 minutes per game last year, appearing for only 11 minutes in the NCAA tournament. Auriemma didn't trust her. He kept a six-player rotation during the season's most crucial stages, using only Nelson-Ododa off the bench in the Final Four.

Then, this offseason, the Huskies brought in a graduate transfer from Murray State, Evelyn Adebayo, whose profile — at least on paper — is similar to Irwin's. Credit Irwin for making the most of this opportunity.

Star power: The Huskies need Walker to become a star. Not next year. Now.

With Dangerfield absent, Auriemma approached Walker before Tuesday's game and told her to shoot

every time she touched the ball. He was joking, but only to a point. The Huskies need her to take charge, especially on nights when their other big guns can't.

Walker heeded Auriemma's advice, attempting a team-high 19 shots (second most of her career). She poured in 23 points and also pulled down 12 rebounds en route to her second double-double of the season.

The former No. 1 overall recruit already has three 20-point games this year, just two shy of her total through the first two seasons. She leads the team in scoring (20.3), and is also posting career-bests in field-goal percentage (47.4), 3-point percentage (46.7), rebounds (8.8) and assists (2.5).

Suffice to say, this is the player the Huskies thought they were getting coming out of high school.

Big picture: The Huskies aren't perfect. This isn't one of those teams that just rolls into an arena, snaps its fingers and clobbers every opponent by 20 points or more.

There is good news, though.

Every other big-time program is in a similar boat. Oregon beat the U.S. national team in an exhibition, but lost to Louisville in a game that actually counted. Baylor headed into a Top-10 showdown with South Carolina undefeated, but without its best player, Lauren Cox, due to injury. And who knows what to make of Stanford, which has already survived a few close calls?

Some have pointed to this being the year where UConn's Final Four run ends, and it very well may be. But at the moment, the field appears to be wide open.

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MEN

From page B1

around other things. "Technical stuff — how to defend, how to read off pick-and-roll," Adams reported. "The confidence isn't the biggest issue anymore."

Adams hopes to continue his strong start on Sunday when UConn (4-2) hosts Maine (2-4) at the XL Center (1 p.m., SNY). In fact, his entire team hopes to keep up the good vibes from last week, when the Huskies went 3-1, including a home win over No. 24 Florida and a double-overtime loss to No. 25 Xavier that was sandwiched between wins over Buffalo and Miami in Charleston.

"Things are really positive," said freshman point guard Jalen Gaffney. "We're coming in with confidence every game, every practice. We know from the past week that we can play with the best of them and that no team is unbeatable."

Of course, there is still a long way to go for a team trying to shed the stain of three straight losing seasons, and head coach Dan Hurley is hardly one to rest on any laurels.

"We have a lot of work to do, just the approach you have to take day after day," Hurley said after practice on Friday. "We're staying after these guys and demanding these guys have full, urgent, intense practice. Guys can't pace themselves."

Bouknight made his debut in Charleston and surpassed the hype. In three games, he scored 40 points in 55 minutes and shot a mind-blowing 72.7 percent from the floor. Bouknight was named the American Athletic Conference's rookie of the week on Monday.

Hurley said another key for sustained success is for

MEN'S BASKETBALL GAMEDAY MAINE at UCONN

When: Sunday, 1 p.m.

Where: XL Center, Hartford

Records: Maine 2-4, UConn 4-2

TV: SNY

Radio: UConn/IMG Sports Network, 97.9 FM-ESPN Hartford, WAVZ-New Haven (1300 AM), WICC-Bridgeport (600 AM), WINE-Danbury (940 AM), WGCH-Greenwich (1490 AM)

KEEP AN EYE ON

DEFENSIVE MENACE: Freshman Akok Akok is only averaging 6.0 points per game, but he's had an effect on nearly every game thanks to his play on the other side of the ball. The 6-foot-9 forward is grabbing 6 rebounds per game and also blocking 3.2 shots per contest — far and away tops in the AAC. And that, obviously, doesn't take into account the shots he alters with his mere presence.

"He's the hardest-playing guy on the team," said Dan Hurley, "and he's the least complicated, just 'What do I need to work on today?' He's a sponge. That's why he's creating a name for himself at a very high level with the right people — his coaches here and people that are really important beyond here."

SID SITTING?: Redshirt sophomore Sidney Wilson banged his knee while blocking a shot in Sunday's 80-55 win over Miami and has not practiced this week. Hurley called him a gametime decision. Of course, UConn's last two gametime decisions — Alterique Gilbert on Friday and Akok on Sunday — both started.

MAINE EVENT: Maine tries to slow the game down as much as possible and, in fact, is one of the last teams in the country in terms of pace of play. The Black Bears are coming off a 46-26 loss at defending national champion Virginia on Wednesday. That's not a misprint: 46-26.

"Virginia's very comfortable in that type of game where ... that's not really what I want to do," said Hurley.

NOT FROM AROUND HERE: One thing Maine doesn't specialize in is recruiting American-born players. The Black Bears have 12 foreign-born players from nine different countries (Ukraine, Canada, Sweden, Turkey, Serbia, Denmark, Latvia, United Kingdom, Lebanon) on their roster. Even one of their three Americans, Andrew Fleming, hails from Norway, Maine.

PROBABLE STARTERS

MAINE			UCONN		
Player	Pos.	PPG	Player	Pos.	PPG
Andrew Fleming	F	18.2	Christian Vital	G	16.0
Mykhailo Yagodin	G	4.3	Alterique Gilbert	G	9.3
Vilgot Larsson	F	7.7	Tyler Polley	G/F	9.7
Nedeljko Prijovic	F	9.8	Akok Akok	F	6.0
Miks Antoms	F	3.2	Josh Carlton	C	13.0

— David Borges

everyone to buy in and not be hampered with any petty jealousies or the like.

"Not caring who gets credit, not caring who's name is buzzing after a particular game or two," said Hurley. "Being excited

when a teammate gets an award or is excelling. In good programs, no one cares who gets the credit because they know that, if they win, everyone's gonna get what they want. Dealing with a good stretch isn't

something these guys are used to, so we're staying on them pretty good."

And, with the exception of Bouknight, perhaps no UConn player is having a better stretch right now than Brendan Adams.

"Better working environment," Hurley explained of Adams's success compared to a year ago. "The environment's a lot more stable ... He's a sophomore, a more mature person, more self-belief."

Indeed, last year's struggles — 3.0 ppg, 32.8 percent shooting — had little to do with any physical problems for Adams.

"I got off to a rough start, and then it was a mental game for the rest of the season," the 6-foot-4 guard said. "And I kind of never got over that mental hurdle."

"He's playing so hard right now," added Hurley, "getting after it so good, he's really lost himself in trying to play he doesn't have a lot of time to think about himself in trying to play really hard, try to help us win. That's helped him a lot."

RIM RATTINGS

Assistant coach Kenya Hunter, who has been sidelined for over a month due to a health issue, was at the Huskies' practice on Friday. However, Hunter was essentially just stopping by to visit the team. His return to the sidelines won't happen "anytime soon," according to Hurley.

"He's recovering, he's got a very specific timeline from his doctors," the coach noted. "That's about as far as I can say."

UConn boasts an 84-16 advantage over the Black Bears and hasn't lost since Feb. 15, 1978 — a 79-73 setback in Orono, Maine. The last meeting was on Nov. 13, 2015 — a 100-56 UConn romp in Storrs.

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NFL

AFC Standings

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
EAST						
New England	10	1	0	.909	300	117
Buffalo	9	3	0	.750	257	188
N.Y. Jets	4	7	0	.364	198	258
Miami	2	9	0	.182	163	346
SOUTH						
Houston	7	4	0	.636	265	249
Indianapolis	6	5	0	.545	244	226
Tennessee	6	5	0	.545	245	217
Jacksonville	4	7	0	.364	209	264
NORTH						
Baltimore	9	2	0	.818	386	202
Pittsburgh	6	5	0	.545	216	212
Cleveland	5	6	0	.455	233	252
Cincinnati	0	11	0	.000	157	292
WEST						
Kansas City	7	4	0	.636	308	256
Oakland	6	5	0	.545	228	284
L.A. Chargers	4	7	0	.364	224	218
Denver	3	8	0	.273	175	217

NFC Standings

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
EAST						
Dallas	6	6	0	.500	310	236
Philadelphia	5	6	0	.455	243	247
N.Y. Giants	2	9	0	.182	217	308
Washington	2	9	0	.182	144	269
SOUTH						
y-New Orleans	10	2	0	.833	298	248
Carolina	5	6	0	.455	259	291
Tampa Bay	4	7	0	.364	312	335
Atlanta	3	9	0	.250	260	323
NORTH						
Green Bay	8	3	0	.727	258	242
Minnesota	8	3	0	.727	289	205
Chicago	6	6	0	.500	212	208
Detroit	3	8	1	.292	280	315
WEST						
San Francisco	10	1	0	.909	332	163
Seattle	9	2	0	.818	292	263
L.A. Rams	6	5	0	.545	249	243
Arizona	3	7	1	.318	248	317

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Injuries

CLEVELAND at PITTSBURGH ■ BROWNS: OUT: S Eric Murray (knee). QUESTIONABLE: WR Khadareel Hodge (achilles), T Greg Robinson (concussion), DE Olivier Vernon (knee). DNP: TE Pharaoh Brown (not injury related), T Greg Robinson (concussion). **STEELERS:** OUT: WR JuJu Smith-Schuster (knee, concussion). DOUBTFUL: RB James Conner (shoulder). QUESTIONABLE: CB Artie Burns (knee).

GREEN BAY at N.Y. GIANTS ■ PACKERS: QUESTIONABLE: CB Tony Brown (heel), T Bryan Bulaga (knee), S Will Redmond (foot). **GIANTS:** OUT: LS Zak DeOssie (knee, wrist), TE Rhett Ellison (concussion), TE Evan Engram (foot), S Jabrill Peppers (back), WR Golden Tate (concussion).

L.A. CHARGERS at DENVER ■ CHARGERS: QUESTIONABLE: WR Jeremy Davis (hamstring), T Russell Okung (groin), T Sam Tevi (knee). **BRONCOS:** QUESTIONABLE: CB Duke Dawson (concussion), DE Shelby Harris (ankle), T Ja'Wuan James (knee), LB Josey Jewell (ankle), LB A.J. Johnson (knee), LB Von Miller (knee).

L.A. RAMS at ARIZONA ■ RAMS: OUT: TE Gerald Everett (knee), T Rob Havenstein (knee), CB Darius Williams (ankle). **CARDINALS:** QUESTIONABLE: DE Jonathan Bullard (foot), QB Kyle Murray (hamstring).

NEW ENGLAND at HOUSTON ■ PATRIOTS: OUT: TE Ryan Izzo (illness). QUESTIONABLE: LB Ja'Whaun Bentley (knee), T Marcus Cannon (illness), S Patrick Chung (illness, heel), LB Jamie Collins (illness), DT Byron Cowart (head), WR Phillip Dorsett (concussion), S Nate Ebner (ankle, back), WR Julian Edelman (shoulder), G Jermaine Eluemunor (illness), CB Stephon Gilmore (illness), LB Dont'a Hightower (illness), CB Jason McCourty (groin), WR Mohamed Sanu (ankle), WR Matt Slater (hamstring), LB Kyle Van Noy (illness), CB Joejuan Williams (illness), T Isaiah Wynn (illness). DNP: TE Ryan Izzo (illness), LB Kyle Van Noy (illness). **TEXANS:** OUT: DE Carlos Watkins (hamstring). DOUBTFUL: T Tytus Howard (knee). QUESTIONABLE: DE Angelo Blackson (shoulder), CB Gareon Conley (hip), LB Brennan Scarlett (shoulder).

N.Y. JETS at CINCINNATI ■ JETS: OUT: T Chuma Edoga (knee), LB C.J. Mosley (groin), LB Paul Worrlow (quadricep). QUESTIONABLE: DE Henry Anderson (shoulder), T Kelvin Beachum (ankles), S Matthias Farley (quadricep), G Alex Lewis (elbow), DT Steve McLendon (neck), CB Darryl Roberts (calf), WR Demaryius Thomas (hamstring). **BENGALS:** OUT: TE Cethan Carter (concussion), WR A.J. Green (ankle), G Alex Redmond (elbow), TE Drew Sample (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: LB Nick Vigil (ankle).

OAKLAND at KANSAS CITY ■ RAIDERS: OUT: WR Hunter Renfrow (rib). QUESTIONABLE: T Trenton Brown (knee). **CHIEFS:** OUT: RB Damien Williams (rib).

PHILADELPHIA at MIAMI ■ EAGLES: QUESTIONABLE: TE Zach Ertz (hamstring), RB Jordan Howard (shoulder). **DOLPHINS:** QUESTIONABLE: CB Ken Crawley (shoulder), CB Ryan Lewis (chest), S Steven Parker (groin), CB Ken Webster (ankle).

SAN FRANCISCO at BALTIMORE ■ 49ERS: OUT: DE Dee Ford (quadricep, hamstring), WR Dante Pettis (knee). QUESTIONABLE: RB Matt Breida (ankle), T Joe Staley (finger). **RAVENS:** QUESTIONABLE: WR Miles Boykin (ankle), TE Nick Boyle (ankle), C Bradley Bozeman (ankle), LB Matt Judon (ankle), DT Domata Peko (knee), DT Michael Pierce (ankle).

TAMPA BAY at JACKSONVILLE ■ BUCCANEERS: OUT: WR Scott Miller (hamstring), LB Anthony Nelson (hamstring), CB M.J. Stewart (knee). QUESTIONABLE: LB Carl Nassib (illness). **JAGUARS:** OUT: TE Seth DeValve (oblique), S Ronnie Harrison (concussion). QUESTIONABLE: CB Tre Herndon (shoulder), LB Myles Jack (knee).

TENNESSEE at INDIANAPOLIS ■ TITANS: OUT: CB LeShaun Sims (ankle). **COLTS:** OUT: WR T.Y. Hilton (calf), RB Marlon Mack (hand). QUESTIONABLE: TE Mo Alie-Cox (thumb), WR Parris Campbell (hand), S Khari Willis (concussion), CB Rock Ya-Sin (ankle).

WASHINGTON at CAROLINA ■ REDSKINS: OUT: LB Ryan Kerrigan (concussion), WR Paul Richardson (hamstring). QUESTIONABLE: DT Da'Ron Payne (ankle), RB Chris Thompson (toe). **PANTHERS:** OUT: RB Jordan Scarlett (knee, ankle). DOUBTFUL: T Greg Little (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: T Taylor Moton (knee), S Eric Reid (ankle, shoulder).

Monday
MINNESOTA at SEATTLE ■ VIKINGS: DNP: LB Ben Gedeon (concussion). **SEAHAWKS:** No report.



PICKS BY BARRY WILNER / ASSOCIATED PRESS LAST WEEK: 9-5 OVERALL, 8-5-1 VS. SPREAD

VISITOR	HOME
<p>Jets at Bengals 1 p.m.</p> <p>Jets looking for first four-game winning streak since winning five straight in Weeks 12-16 of 2015 season. ... Jets have scored 34 points in three straight games, first time New York has scored at least 30 in three games in a row since 2008.</p>	<p>Bengals are last winless NFL team, off to worst start in club history at 0-11. Also, 11 straight losses are club record for single season. Including last season, they've dropped 13 straight — longest streak over two seasons — and 18 of 19, worst such stretch in club history.</p> <p>Line: Jets by 3 Pick: Jets 30-22</p>

<p>Packers at Giants 1 p.m.</p> <p>Green Bay won past two against Giants, is tied for first in NFC North with Minnesota with five games left. ... QB Aaron Rodgers threw for 362 yards and four touchdowns in wild-card win in last meeting. ... Jamaal Williams tied career high with seven catches last week.</p>	<p>QB Daniel Jones threw for season-low 150 yards last weekend, but leads rookies with 17 TD passes, including at least one in all nine starts. ... New York was 1 of 12 on third downs against Bears. ... RB Saquon Barkley hasn't had 100-yard rushing game since Week 2.</p> <p>Line: Packers by 6 Pick: Packers 30-14</p>
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<p>49ers at Ravens 1 p.m.</p> <p>San Francisco can clinch first playoff berth since 2013 with win and loss by Rams. ... 49ers have at least three sacks in franchise-record eight straight games, longest streak since Seattle (9, 2005). ... QB Jimmy Garoppolo had career-best 145.8 passer rating last week.</p>	<p>Baltimore's Lamar Jackson tied for NFL lead with 24 TD passes, leads QBs with six TD runs, leads NFL with 7.1 yards per carry average and ranks ninth with 876 yards rushing. ... Ravens have won seven straight, last five by at least 14 points.</p> <p>Line: Ravens by 5½ Pick: Ravens 27-24</p>
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<p>Browns at Steelers 1 p.m.</p> <p>Browns have won three straight — all at home — and turned around sinking season. ... Browns have not swept Steelers in same season since 1988. ... First meeting marred by brawl between Cleveland DE Myles Garrett and Pittsburgh QB Mason Rudolph in final seconds.</p>	<p>Steelers have won each of last 15 meetings at Heinz Field. ... Mason Rudolph won't start in rematch after getting benched for rookie QB Devlin Hodges. ... Steelers likely without leading receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster (knee) and leading rusher James Conner (shoulder).</p> <p>Line: Browns by 2 Pick: Browns 17-13</p>
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<p>Redskins at Panthers 1 p.m.</p> <p>Victory against Detroit snapped Redskins' four-game skid. ... Rookie QB Dwayne Haskins completed 13 of 29 passes for 156 yards, one interception and had 47.5 rating vs. Lions. ... LB Ryan Kerrigan's streak of 139 consecutive starts in jeopardy (concussion).</p>	<p>Panthers QB Kyle Allen threw for 256 yards and three TDs for 112.7 QB rating last week at New Orleans. ... RB Christian McCaffrey leads NFL with 1,709 yards. McCaffrey is first player with 1,700-plus yards from scrimmage in first 11 games since Priest Holmes in 2002.</p> <p>Line: Panthers by 10 Pick: Panthers 31-20</p>
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<p>Titans at Colts 1 p.m.</p> <p>Titans have won two straight and four of five behind QB Ryan Tannehill to earn share of second place in AFC South. ... Titans have lost 14 of 16 in series, including three straight. ... Coach Mike Vrabel is 0-3 vs. Indy. ... Titans lead NFL in red-zone touchdown percentage (72.4).</p>	<p>Colts have lost three of four overall, falling out of division lead and into tie for second. ... Indy has allowed 21 sacks this season, tied for seventh fewest in league. ... Colts defense has allowed 45 total points in last three games.</p> <p>Line: Colts by 1 Pick: Colts 24-23</p>
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<p>Eagles at Dolphins 1 p.m.</p> <p>Eagles are playing in Miami for only second time since 2003. ... Eagles have allowed 17 or fewer points in four consecutive games. ... QB Carson Wentz has seven TDs, one INT and 102.9 rating in past four on road vs. AFC, but has struggled in recent weeks.</p>	<p>Miami's Ryan Fitzpatrick torched Eagles for 402 yards passing and four TDs when he helped Buccaneers beat them in 2018. ... Miami ranks last in NFL with turnover differential of minus-14. Dolphins have only one takeaway via fumble this season.</p> <p>Line: Eagles by 10 Pick: Eagles 20-13</p>
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<p>Bucs at Jaguars 1 p.m.</p> <p>Buccaneers have lost all three meetings in Jacksonville. ... Bucs QB Jameis Winston has thrown for 300 or more yards in six straight games, longest streak in franchise history. ... WR Chris Godwin has seven touchdowns in six road games this season.</p>	<p>Jaguars have lost three straight, all by at least 20 points. ... QB Nick Foles has 1,011 yards passing, with six touchdowns and no interceptions, in three games against Tampa Bay. ... WR DJ Chark leads AFC with eight TD receptions.</p> <p>Line: Bucs by 2½ Pick: Jaguars 21-19</p>
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<p>Rams at Cardinals 4:05 p.m.</p> <p>Rams coming off worst loss in Sean McVay's three seasons, falling 45-6 at home to Baltimore. L.A. hadn't lost by more than 21 points under McVay. ... Brandin Cooks would need 25 catches over last five games to avoid least productive season of six-year NFL career.</p>	<p>Arizona has given up at least 21 points in every game this season. ... QB Kyle Murray already has franchise rookie records with 2,703 yards passing, 254 completions and six games with multiple TD passes. ... LB Jordan Hicks leads NFL with 110 tackles.</p> <p>Line: Rams by 3 Pick: Rams 24-20</p>
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<p>Chargers at Broncos 4:25 p.m.</p> <p>Chargers coach Anthony Lynn, former Broncos player and assistant, is 2-3 vs. Denver. ... QB Phillip Rivers has three touchdowns and six interceptions in last three games against Denver. He is second in league with 14 interceptions, including seven in past two games.</p>	<p>RB Phillip Lindsay has 253 scrimmage yards and three TD runs in two career games vs. Chargers. He had season-high 147 scrimmage yards in Week 5 meeting. ... WR Courtland Sutton had 92 yards on four catches in latest meeting.</p> <p>Line: Chargers by 3½ Pick: Broncos 20-19</p>
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The Extra Point

Wyatt Ray will occasionally flip on the radio during this time of year and inevitably hear his grandfather's voice help get listeners in the holiday spirit.

The New York Jets linebacker is the grandson of the late Nat King Cole, the trailblazing jazz vocalist



WYATT RAY

and pianist who had dozens of albums and hit singles — including “The Christmas Song,” which is a staple of radio stations during the holiday season.

“Actually, the other day, I just heard it on the radio,” Ray said with a smile.

“It's really just a cool thing and I kind of always feel like he's just here with me when times get tough, and I try to do what I can every day to be great.”

Ray is also the nephew of the late Natalie Cole. Ray's mother Casey and aunt Timolin are Natalie's twin younger sisters.

“Growing up, it was really cool just always seeing pictures around the house and stuff like that,” Ray said. “Now that I'm at this level and

a professional athlete and in the job I'm in — the entertainment business that I'm in — I just really see what goes into it. I'm just so blessed to have had two people in my family to do it and I'm 100% sure they worked really hard to get where they did, just constant effort and working on their craft.

“That's similar to what I do. I just try to take that same approach to my game, even though it's not music and I'm not that great a singer.”

Ray was signed by Cleveland in May as an undrafted free agent out of Boston College. He was among the Browns' final cuts in training camp and also spent time on the practice squads of Houston and Buffalo earlier this season.

<p>Raiders at Chiefs 4:25 p.m.</p> <p>Oakland's minus-56 point differential is worst for team with winning record through 11 games since 2005 Vikings were minus-59. ... Raiders have lost six straight in Kansas City. ... Raiders had no plays for at least 20 yards last week for fourth time in past 10 seasons.</p>	<p>Chiefs are 24-3 against AFC West since 2015. ... Chiefs had four interceptions of Chargers QB Philip Rivers in game before bye. ... Chiefs coach Andy Reid is 17-3 in games after bye. ... Chiefs RB LeSean McCoy needs one catch to reach 500 for career.</p> <p>Line: Chiefs by 10 Pick: Chiefs 30-28</p>
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<p>Patriots at Texans 8:20 p.m.</p> <p>New England can clinch playoff berth with win, plus loss or tie by Pittsburgh or Oakland. Can also clinch berth with tie and combination of losses by others. ... Victory would extend Patriots' NFL record to 10 straight seasons with at least 11 wins.</p>	<p>Houston's only win over Patriots came in 34-27 victory on Jan. 3, 2010. ... QB Deshaun Watson has 1,033 yards passing with 10 TDs and one INT in past three at home. He has 18 TDs and three INTs in seven career prime-time games.</p> <p>Line: Patriots by 3 Pick: Patriots 16-14</p>
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<p>Vikings at Seattle 8:15 p.m. Monday</p> <p>Vikings have lost five straight to Seahawks, last winning in 2009 at Metrodome. ... Vikings are 2-7 in last nine seasons in games immediately after bye week. ... Vikings TE Kyle Rudolph has five TDs and one 2-point conversion catch in last five games.</p>	<p>Seahawks QB Russell Wilson first QB in league history to have winning record in each of first eight seasons. ... WR Tyler Lockett has TD catch in six straight home games. ... Seahawks forced season-high five turnovers last week vs. Eagles.</p> <p>Line: Seahawks by 3 Pick: Seahawks 20-16</p>
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FOOTBALL

Texans' O'Brien tries for 1st win over Belichick

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PATRIOTS at TEXANS

Sunday, 8:20 p.m. (NBC)

HOUSTON — New England coach Bill Belichick has had plenty of success against his former assistants turned head coaches.

That includes Texans coach Bill O'Brien, who is 0-4 in his career against his old boss entering Sunday night's game against the Patriots (10-1). O'Brien was asked about his lack of success against Belichick since taking over in Houston in 2014.

"Obviously we've struggled against the Patriots in past years, but this is a different year," he said. "Every year's different. Our team's different, their team's a little bit different, and we just have to go out there on Sunday night and we've got to play a clean game. We've got to play hard, we've got to be competitive for 60 minutes and see what happens."

The Texans (7-4) have always had a tough time against New England and are 1-8 in the series with their only win coming on Jan. 3, 2010.

O'Brien worked in New England from 2007-11 before leaving to take over at Penn State. He said it's difficult to put into words what working with Belichick meant to his career.

"I learned a lot," he said. "I learned a lot about game

planning and personnel and strategy. That was a very important time for me in my coaching career. It was probably a place where I learned the most."

Houston's first two meetings against New England with O'Brien in charge were blowouts with the Patriots outscoring the Texans 54-6. Their past two games, which have both come with Deshaun Watson at quarterback, have been much more competitive with both of those games being decided by a touchdown or less.

Belichick raved about Watson and the challenges he presents and said that even if there are only a few seconds left "any game's a long way from being over if he has his hands on the ball." Watson thrives in prime-time games and has 18 touchdowns and just three interceptions in seven night games in his career.

"Deshaun's a very talented player, certainly one of the top players in the league at his position that we've faced," Belichick said. "Does a great job on the deep ball, has very good touch and accuracy, is a good decision maker, obvi-



Wesley Hitt / Getty Images

The Texans' Deshaun Watson directs the offense at the line of scrimmage during a game against the Indianapolis Colts.

ously very athletic kid that can do a lot."

He'll face perhaps his biggest challenge this season against a New England defense which is allowing the second-fewest yards in the NFL and whose 20 interceptions lead the league. Belichick believes his defense will be tested by the Texans because of the many playmakers they have surrounding Watson, including DeAndre Hopkins, Will Fuller, Kenny Stills and Carlos Hyde.

He recalled Watson's work in Houston's season

opener against New Orleans, where the Texans took the lead late before losing on a last-second field goal.

"The two-minute situation against New Orleans, they're down by six points with less than a minute to go and they go 75 (yards) in 14 seconds," he said. "That's the kind of explosive offense that, as a coach, scares you to death."

SCOREBOARD WATCHING

The Patriots are the lone AFC team that can clinch a playoff berth this week.

The easiest path is with a victory combined with a loss or tie by Pittsburgh or Oakland.

New England can also lock up a berth with a tie and combination of losses by Oakland and Pittsburgh, Oakland and Indianapolis or Pittsburgh and Indianapolis. Pittsburgh, Oakland and Indianapolis all play earlier in the day on Sunday, so the Patriots will know exactly which scenario is in play by game time.

FULLER'S HOUSE

Fuller has been unstoppable in his past two games at home. The fourth-year receiver, who has struggled with injuries, is healthy now and has piled up 357 yards with three touchdowns in his past two games in Houston.

Fuller said that he wants to "strike fear" in defensive backs he lines up against and notices how it impacts those players when he grabs long receptions.

"You can just tell in their body language as the game goes on that they're a little scared," he said.

Fuller, who is averaging 14.4 yards a reception, has 590 yards receiving despite missing three games with a hamstring injury.

"He's made chunk plays for us, touchdowns, and he's a great player," O'Brien said. "And when we get him

as a part of our offense it really helps us, and it opens up a lot of different things."

FULLBACK SHUFFLE

New England has had to make several adjustments on offense this season with key players spending time on injured reserve.

One of the biggest losses was at fullback, when starter James Develin went on IR prior to Week 4 with a neck injury. Rookie Jakob Johnson started three games in Develin's place before he also went on IR with a shoulder injury following the Patriots' Week 6 victory over the Giants.

The Patriots have gotten creative since then, using linebacker Elandon Roberts as needed to block out of the backfield.

Belichick called a block Roberts had late in New England's win over Dallas to help free Sony Michel for a 12-yard run "one of the best blocks we've had all year."

"He's been willing to do whatever he can to help the team win, and he's certainly helped us in that four-minute offense last week," Belichick said. "He's worked hard at it and gotten better at it, so if we get into those situations and we need somebody that can do that, I think he's shown that he's capable of it."

Packers need to right ship; Giants still struggling

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PACKERS AT GIANTS

Sunday, 1 p.m. (FOX)

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Since meeting in the NFC wild-card game in January 2017, the Green Bay Packers and New York Giants have followed the same path for a couple of seasons.

Neither made the playoffs the past two years and both fired the coaches who got them to the postseason in the 2016 season. The Giants got rid of Ben McAdoo in late 2017 and the Packers dumped long-time coach Mike McCarthy 12 games into the '18 season.

Pat Shurmur is now in his second season running the Giants and Matt LaFleur is in his first with the Pack. Their roads also have gone in much different directions.

LaFleur and the Packers (8-3) are tied for first place in the NFC North with Minnesota heading into a game Sunday at MetLife Stadium against the Giants (2-9), who have won seven times in 27 games under Shurmur.

Good times seemingly have returned for the Packers, though they need a quick rebound from being routed at San Francisco. The

Giants remain in the dumps, with three straight losing seasons and six in seven years.

The Packers got a reality check this past Sunday night in a 38-7 loss to the 49ers in San Francisco. LaFleur sidestepped a question on whether he was curious to see how his team responded this week, saying they were just looking for the chance to play again.

They certainly have to right opponent.

Giants running back Saquon Barkley, the 2018 NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year, says things have not gone the way the organization wanted the past two seasons, and everyone is fighting through the adversity with the belief things are going to change.

"You've got to believe it first for it to actually happen," Barkley said. "If you don't believe in it, it will never happen. That's why it's important because it starts there. Not only myself



Ben Margot / Associated Press

Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers against the San Francisco 49ers.

but everyone in this locker room, we believe, we're going to continue to believe, going to continue to work and try to finish this season off as strong as we can—starting off with the Packers, who are a great team."

MR. JONES

The rookie quarterback has thrown a touchdown in nine straight games and his 17 lead all rookies. He has thrown only one interception in the last four games,

while passing for 11 touchdowns. His problem remains fumbles. He has lost 10 fumbles, including one against the Bears that led to a 3-yard touchdown drive.

MR. RODGERS

Aaron Rodgers is having another great season. He has 18 touchdown passes and two interceptions. What might he do against the Giants' secondary?

Rookie DeAndre Baker and second-year pro Sam

Beal started alternating at one cornerback spot last week. Rookie cornerback Corey Balentine struggled in the slot against the Bears and rookie Julian Love will get more playing time at safety with Jabrill Peppers nursing a back injury. The only veterans are cornerback Janoris Jenkins and safety Antoine Bethea.

MR. JONES AGAIN

The Packers need to get running back Aaron Jones more active in the passing game. His production has dipped since receiver Davante Adams returned from turf toe. Adams has caught seven passes in each of his three games back. Jones, who has 11 rushing touchdowns, has caught one of four targets for minus-1 yard.

In the three games before Adams returned to the lineup, Jones had 15 catches for 205 yards and three touchdowns. LaFleur wants him more involved this week.

ALDRICK ROSAS

The Giants' third-year placekicker went to the Pro

Bowl last season, making 32 of 33 field goal attempts and 31 of 32 PATs. The consistency has not carried over. He is 8 of 12 on field goals this season and 21 of 24 on extra points. He has missed either a field goal or an extra point in five straight games. He missed two field goal attempts (42, 43 yards) in last weekend's five-point loss to the Bears. He also had a kickoff go out of bounds, giving Chicago the ball at its 40.

O-LINE CONCERNS

The Packers allowed the 49ers to sack Rodgers five times on Sunday night. Right tackle Bryan Bulaga injured his right knee and left the game. Alex Light replaced him but struggled.

Watch the right side of the line. If Bulaga doesn't go, Light might get the start. Or right guard Billy Turner might move out to tackle. That would give Lucas Patrick a chance to start at right guard. The Giants might look to exploit the injury.

"Our goal is just to put our best five out there and we'll go from there," LaFleur said.

Jets try for 4th straight; winless Bengals go back to Dalton

ASSOCIATED PRESS

JETS at BENGALS

Sunday, 1 p.m. (CBS)

CINCINNATI — The Jets are seeing growth in their young quarterback as they try for a fourth straight win. The Bengals have dumped their rookie and returned to Andy Dalton in hopes of getting that elusive first one as the season slips away.

Two teams that had been stuck on zero early in the season are headed in different directions as November winds down. The quarterbacks will have a lot to do with how the final month plays out, starting Sunday at Paul Brown Stadium.

New York (4-7) has won three in a row, with second-year quarterback Sam Darnold showing signs that he's finally settling in. He's put together the best stretch of his young career, including an impressive showing during a 34-3 drubbing of the Raiders last Sunday.

For the Jets, there's some long-term hope.

"You continue to learn the offense and you continue to feel really good about the plays that we are running, and we start to get in a really good rhythm," said Darnold, whose 127.8 passer rating against the Raiders was a season high. "And I think we have felt that the last few weeks and we are only going to continue to get better."

Things haven't improved at all for the Bengals (0-11), off to the worst start in franchise history. They have their longest in-season losing streak as well. They benched Dalton in favor of rookie Ryan Finley after the eighth loss, deciding they needed to find out how the fourth-round pick fits in their long-term plans.

Coach Zac Taylor ended the experiment this week and went back to his 11th-



Frank Victores / Associated Press

Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Andy Dalton meets with running back Trayveon Williams before a game against the Pittsburgh Steelers.

year veteran in hopes of avoiding the ignominy of an 0-16 season. For Dalton, it's a chance to show he can still be a starting quarterback somewhere next year.

"I feel like I've proven that throughout my career, and this is just another opportunity," Dalton said.

OFFENSIVE SWING

The Jets went from one

of the NFL's most inept offenses earlier in the season to one of its most efficient. At the midpoint, New York was last in the league in total offense (209.6 yards per game) and 31st in points per game with 11.1. In the four games since, the Jets have averaged 354 yards per game and are fourth in the league with 30 points per game. New York has scored

34 points in three straight games, all victories. It also marks the first time the Jets have scored at least 30 three games in a row since 2008. Darnold's improved play — eight TDs, two INTs — during that span, and a much-improved offensive line have been key factors.

"We're doing these little things right that it was just one or two guys every once in a while in a series that would kind of just throw the series off, and the next thing you know, it's third-and-long and you're punting," coach Adam Gase said. "Where I think now, we're sustaining the drives, we're finding out a way to get in the end zone, we're getting points in some capacity."

STINGY D

The Jets are allowing an NFL-low 78.1 yards rushing per game and just 2.99 yards per carry. New York held Oakland to 68, including a season-low 34 for rookie Josh Jacobs. Only one player has rushed for

100 yards against the Jets this season: Dallas' Ezekiel Elliott, who had 105 in Week 6. The Bengals are near the bottom of the league in rushing, averaging 81 yards per game.

"It's simple," safety Jamal Adams said. "It's not rocket science, nothing like that. We're just flying around the ball."

READY TO RETURN

Dalton spent the last three weeks running the scout team in practice, emulating the opponent's offense. He expects to be sharp in his return, which presents a chance for him to set some club records. His 197 touchdown passes tie Ken Anderson for the team mark, and he's seven completions shy of Anderson's career record.

"I was taking all the scout team reps and stuff, so obviously they weren't our plays, but I've still been playing football, so I don't feel like there's going to be any rust," Dalton said.

SCOREBOARD

ON THE AIR

AUTO RACING

► Formula One Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Abu Dhabi, United Arab (ESPN2) 8:05 a.m.

BEACH SOCCER

► FIFA World Cup: Teams TBD, Third-Place Match, Luque, Paraguay (FS2) 2 p.m.

► FIFA World Cup: Teams TBD, Final, Luque, Paraguay (FS2) 4 p.m.

LUGE

► FIL World Cup, Lake Placid, N.Y. (taped) (NBC) 5:30 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

► ESPN Orlando Invitational: Texas A&M vs. Fairfield, seventh-place game, Orlando, Fla. (ESPNU) 10:30 a.m.

► Maine at UConn (SNY, ESPN3, WICC-AM 600, WINE-AM 940, WAVZ-AM 1300, WGCH-AM 1490) 1 p.m.

► ESPN Orlando Invitational: Maryland vs. Marquette, championship, Orlando, Fla. (ESPN) 1 p.m.

► Wooden Legacy: Long Beach State vs. Pennsylvania or Arizona, third-place game, Anaheim, Calif. (ESPN2) 1:30 p.m.

► ESPN Orlando Invitational: Temple vs. Davidson, fifth-place game, Orlando, Fla. (ESPN2) 4 p.m.

► Wooden Legacy: Charleston vs. UCF, fifth-place game, Anaheim, Calif. (ESPN) 4 p.m.

► Cal Poly at Iowa (BTN) 5 p.m.

► ESPN Orlando Invitational: Harvard vs. USC, third-place game, Orlando, Fla. (ESPN2) 6:30 p.m.

► Wooden Legacy: Providence vs. Pepperdine, seventh-place game, Anaheim, Calif. (ESPN) 6:30 p.m.

► La Salle at Villanova (FS1) 6:30 p.m.

► North Dakota at Minnesota (BTN) 7 p.m.

► Wooden Legacy: Wake Forest vs. Pennsylvania or Arizona, championship, Anaheim, Calif. (ESPN) 9 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE HOCKEY

► Michigan State at Ohio State (BTN) 2:30 p.m.

► Michigan at Wisconsin (BTN) 5 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

► NCAA Tournament: California-Santa Barbara at Indiana, third round (BTN) noon

NBA BASKETBALL

► Miami at Brooklyn (YES, WCBS-AM 880) 3 p.m.

► Boston at New York (NBCSN, MSG, WEPN-FM 98.7) 3:30 p.m.

NFL FOOTBALL

► N.Y. Jets at Cincinnati (CBS, WEPN-FM 98.7) 1 p.m.

► Green Bay at N.Y. Giants (FOX, WFAN-AM 660/FM 101.9) 1 p.m.

► Oakland at Kansas City (CBS) 4:25 p.m.

► New England at Houston (NBC, WTIC-AM 1080) 8:20 p.m.

NHL HOCKEY

► Dallas at Minnesota (ESPN+) 3 p.m.

► Montreal at Boston (NESN, NHL) 7 p.m.

► Edmonton at Vancouver (ESPN+) 10 p.m.

RUGBY

► Premiership: Harlequins vs. Gloucester (taped) (NBCSN) 2:30 p.m.

SKIING

► FIS World Cup Killington Cup, women's slalom, Killington, Vt. (NBC) 12:30 p.m.

► FIS World Cup, super-G, Lake Louise, Alberta (NBC) 2 p.m.

► FIS World Cup Killington Cup, women's slalom, Killington, Vt. (taped) (NBC) 7:30 p.m.

SOCCER

► Premier League: Arsenal at Norwich City (NBCSN) 8:55 a.m.

► Bundesliga: SC Freiburg at Borussia Monchengladbach (FS1) 9:30 a.m.

► Premier League: Aston Villa at Manchester United (NBCSN) 11:25 a.m.

► Serie A: Bologna at Napoli (ESPNNEWS) 11:55 a.m.

► Bundesliga: Werder Bremen at VfL Wolfsburg (FS1) noon

► Women's College Volleyball
► NCAA Selection Special (ESPN) 8:30 p.m.

► Women's College Basketball
► Air Force at Tennessee (SEC) 2 p.m.

► Austin Peay at Kentucky (SEC) 4 p.m.

► Listings subject to change by station and networks

Auto Racing

F1 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix
After Saturday qualifying
Race Sunday at Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Lap length: 5.55 kilometers

1. Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes
2. Valtteri Bottas	Mercedes
3. Max Verstappen	Red Bull Racing Honda
4. Charles Leclerc	Ferrari
5. Sebastian Vettel	Ferrari
6. Alexander Albon	Red Bull Racing Honda
7. Lando Norris	McLaren Renault
8. Daniel Ricciardo	Renault
9. Carlos Sainz Jr.	McLaren Renault
10. Nico Hulkenberg	Renault
11. Sergio Perez	Racing Point BWT Mercedes
12. Pierre Gasly	Scuderia Toro Rosso Honda
13. Lance Stroll	Racing Point BWT Mercedes
14. Daniil Kvyat	Scuderia Toro Rosso Honda
15. Kevin Magnussen	Haas Ferrari
16. Romain Grosjean	Haas Ferrari
17. Antonio Giovinazzi	Alfa Romeo Racing Ferrari
18. Kimi Raikkonen	Alfa Romeo Racing Ferrari
19. George Russell	Williams Mercedes
20. Robert Kubica	Williams Mercedes

Golf

European Alfred Dunhill Championship
Saturday's third round
At Malelane, South Africa

Pablo Larrazabal, Spain	66-69-70-205
Wiel Westergaard, Netherlands	65-73-70-208
Branden Grace, South Africa	68-70-71-209
Marcus Armitage, England	70-70-71-211
Zander Lombard, South Africa	72-70-69-211
Adrian Ottagui, Spain	69-72-71-212
Chris Schwartzel, South Africa	70-72-70-212
Will Charlson, South Africa	72-71-69-212
Joel Sjoeholm, South Africa	70-74-68-212
Johannes Vermeer, United States	72-71-70-213
Justin Harding, South Africa	70-73-71-214
Laurie Canter, England	71-73-70-214
Gregory Havret, France	72-72-70-214
David Drysdale, Scotland	68-77-70-215
Chris Singh Brai, England	68-72-75-215
Adrian Meronik, Poland	69-76-70-215

College Football

Top 25

No. 1 LSU (12-0) beat Texas A&M 50-7. Next: vs. No. 4 Georgia, SEC championship, Saturday, No. 2 Ohio State (12-0) beat No. 10 Michigan 56-27. Next: vs. No. 9 Minnesota or No. 13 Wisconsin, Big Ten championship, Saturday.

No. 3 Clemson (12-0) beat South Carolina 38-3. Next: vs. Virginia, ACC championship, Saturday. No. 4 Georgia (11-1) beat Georgia Tech 52-7. Next: vs. No. 1 LSU, SEC championship, Saturday.

No. 5 Alabama (10-2) lost to No. 16 Auburn 48-45. Next: TBD. No. 6 Utah (10-1) vs. Colorado. Next: vs. TBD or No. 14 Oregon, Pac-12 championship, Friday.

No. 7 Oklahoma (10-1) at No. 21 Oklahoma State. Next: vs. No. 11 Baylor, Big 12 championship, Saturday.

No. 8 Florida (9-2) vs. Florida State. Next: TBD. No. 9 Minnesota (10-2) lost to No. 13 Wisconsin 38-17. Next: vs. TBD. No. 10 Michigan (9-3) lost to No. 2 Ohio State 56-27. Next: TBD.

No. 11 Baylor (11-1) beat Kansas 61-6. Next: vs. No. 7 Oklahoma, Big 12 championship, Saturday. No. 12 Penn State (10-2) beat Rutgers 27-6. Next: TBD.

No. 13 Wisconsin (10-2) beat No. 9 Minnesota 38-17. Next: vs. No. 2 Ohio State, Big Ten championship, Saturday.

No. 14 Oregon (10-2) beat Oregon State 24-10. Next: vs. TBD Pac-12 championship, Friday. No. 15 Notre Dame (10-2) beat Stanford 45-24. Next: TBD.

No. 16 Auburn (9-3) beat No. 5 Alabama 48-45. Next: TBD. No. 17 Memphis (11-1) beat No. 18 Cincinnati 34-24, Friday. Next: at No. 18 Cincinnati, AAC championship, Saturday.

No. 18 Cincinnati (10-2) lost to No. 17 Memphis 34-24, Friday. Next: vs. No. 17 Memphis, AAC championship, Saturday.

No. 19 Iowa (9-3) beat Nebraska 27-24, Friday. Next: TBD. No. 20 Boise State (11-1) beat Colorado State 31-24, Friday. Next: vs. Hawaii, MWC championship, Saturday.

No. 21 Oklahoma State (8-3) vs. No. 7 Oklahoma. Next: TBD. No. 22 Appalachian State (11-1) beat Troy 48-13. Next: vs. Louisiana-Lafayette, Sun Belt championship, Saturday.

No. 23 Virginia Tech (8-4) lost to Virginia 39-30, Friday. Next: TBD. No. 24 Navy (9-2) beat Houston 56-41. Next: vs. Army, Saturday, Dec. 14.

No. 25 Southern Cal (8-4) did not play. Next: vs. TBD or vs. No. 14 Oregon, Pac-12 championship, Friday.

Saturday's Scores

EAST

Albany (NY) 42, CSU 14
Boston College 26, Pittsburgh 19
Missouri State 42, Furman 6
Charlotte 38, Old Dominion 22
Clemson 38, South Carolina 3
Coastal Carolina 24, Texas State 21
Duke 27, Miami 17
FAU 34, Southern Miss. 17
Slippery Rock 45, Wesley 10
Syracuse 39, Wake Forest 30 (OT)
Temple 49, UConn 17

SOUTH

Auburn 48, Alabama 45
Louisiana Tech 41, Louisiana 24
North Carolina 24, North Dakota 6
North Carolina 41, NC State 10
SE Louisiana 45, Villanova 44
Southern U. 30, Grambling St. 28
Tennessee 28, Vanderbilt 10
Tulsa 49, East Carolina 24
W. Kentucky 31, Middle Tennessee 26
West Florida 38, Valdosta St. 35

MIDWEST

Baylor 61, Kansas 6
Arkansas St. 37, Cent. Missouri 10
Illinois St. 24, SE Missouri 6
Indiana 44, Purdue 41 (2OT)
Kansas St. 27, Iowa St. 17
Michigan St. 19, Maryland 16
Minnesota St. 35, CSU-Pueblo 7
N. Iowa 17, San Diego 3
NW Missouri St. 63, Lindenwood (Mo.) 7
North Central 59, Mount Union 52
Northwestern 29, Illinois 10
Ohio St. 56, Michigan 27
Wheaton (Ill.) 49, Central 13
Wis.-Whitewater 41, Wartburg 28
Wisconsin 38, Minnesota 17

SOUTHWEST

Mary Hardin-Baylor 42, Huntington 6
Navy 56, Houston 41
Rice 30, UTEP 16
SMU 37, Tulane 20
UAB 26, North Texas 21

FAR WEST

Air Force 20, Wyoming 6
Notre Dame 45, Stanford 24
Oregon 24, Oregon St. 10
St. John's (Minn.) 55, Chapman 26
Texas A&M Commerce 23, Colorado Mines 3
UNLV 33, Nevada 30 (OT)
Utah St. 38, New Mexico 25

Transactions

FOOTBALL

National Football League
CHICAGO BEARS: Placed DB Sherrick McManis and TE Adam Shaheen on IR. Signed OL Corey Levin and TE Eric Saubert.
CINCINNATI BENGALS: Signed TE Mason Schreck from the practice squad. Waived OT Andre Smith.
DENVER BRONCOS: Activated QB Drew Lock from IR. Waived QB Brett Ryden.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS: Activated LB Jake Ryan from the reserve/NFL list. Waived RB Tyler Ervin.
LOS ANGELES CHARGERS: Activated SS Derwin James and Adrian Phillips from IR. Signed WR Jalen Guyton from the practice squad. Waived DT T. Y. McGill and S Shaion Luani. Placed WR Jeremy Davis on IR.
MIAMI DOLPHINS: Signed S Montre Hartage from the practice squad. Waived CB Xavier Crawford.
NEW YORK GIANTS: Placed LS Zak DeOssie on IR. Signed LS Colin Holba from the practice squad.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League
ARIZONA COYOTES: Acquired D Villi Saarijanvi from Detroit for 6 Eric Comrie. Recalled F Michael Chaput from Tucson (AHL).
DETROIT RED WINGS: Assigned D Jonathan Ericsson to Grand Rapids (AHL).
NEW JERSEY DEVILS: Activated F Kevin Rooney from injured reserve.

ECHL

ECHEL: Suspended Utah's Garrett Klotz indefinitely and fined him an undisclosed amount after receiving a match penalty for fighting in a Nov. 29 game against Florida.

READING ROYALS:

Claimed F Luke Stork off waivers.

COLLEGE

MISSOURI: Fired football coach Barry Odum.

Boxing

Fight Schedule

Dec. 7

At Diriyah, Saudi Arabia, Andy Ruiz Jr. vs. Anthony Joshua, 12, for Ruiz's IBF/WBA Super World/WBO/IBO heavyweight titles; Alexander Povetkin vs. Michael Hunter, 12, heavyweights; Filip Hrgovic vs. Eric Molina, 10, for Hrgovic's WBC International heavyweight title; Scott Quigg vs. Jono Carroll, 12, for WBA Inter-Continental super featherweight title.
At Barclays Center, Brooklyn, N.Y. (SHO), Jermall Charlo vs. Dennis Hogan, 12, for Charlo's WBC middleweight title; Chris Eubank Jr. vs. Matt Korobov, 12, for vacant WBA interim middleweight title; Marlon Tapales vs. Ryoosuke Iwasa, 12, featherweights; Immanuel Aileem vs. Ronald Ellis, 10, middleweights; Duke Micah vs. Jamel Rivera, 10, bantamweights.
At Puebla, Mexico, Emanuel Navarrete vs. Francisco Horta, 12, for Navarrete's WBO super bantamweight title; Jerwin Ancajas vs. Miguel Gonzalez, 12, for Ancajas' IBF super flyweight title.

Dec. 13

At Fantasy Springs Resort Casino, Indio, Calif., vs. Brad Solomon, 12, Ortiz's WBA Gold welterweight title; Alexis Rocha vs. Michael Perez, 10, for Rocha's WBC Continental Americas welterweight title; Luis Feliciano vs. Herbert Acevedo, 10, for Feliciano's NABF super lightweight title.

Dec. 14

At Madison Square Garden, New York (ESPN), Terence Crawford vs. Egis Kavallakous, 12, for Crawford's WBO welterweight title; Richard Comney vs. Teofil Lopez, 12, for Comney's IBF lightweight title; Michael Conlan vs. Valdimir Nikitin, 10, featherweights.

Dec. 20

At Talking Stick Resort Arena, Phoenix, Daniel Jacobs vs. Julio Cesar Chavez Jr., 12, super middleweights; Julio Cesar Martinez vs. Cristofer Rosales, 12, for vacant WBO World flyweight title; Maurice Hooker vs. Pedro Campa, 10, welterweights.

Men's College Basketball

Top 25

1. Duke (7-1) did not play. Next: at No. 3 Michigan State, Tuesday.

2. Louisville (7-0) did not play. Next: vs. Michigan, Tuesday.

3. Michigan State (5-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 1 Duke, Tuesday.

4. Kansas (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 21 Colorado, Saturday.

5. Maryland (7-0) did not play. Next: vs. Marquette, Sunday.

6. North Carolina (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 10 Ohio State, Wednesday.

7. Virginia (7-0) did not play. Next: at Purdue, Wednesday.

8. Louisiana (6-0) did not play. Next: vs. Texas Southern, Wednesday.

9. Kentucky (6-1) did not play, vs. Fairleigh Dickinson, Saturday.

10. Ohio State (7-0) did not play. Next: at No. 6 North Carolina, Wednesday.

11. UCLA (6-2) did not play. Next: vs. Hawaii, Saturday.

12. Texas Tech (5-2) did not play. Next: at DePaul, Wednesday.

13. Seton Hall (6-2) did not play. Next: at Iowa State, Sunday, Dec. 8.

14. Arizona (6-0) did not play. Next: Wake Forest, Sunday.

15. Utah State (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. San Jose State, Wednesday.

16. Memphis (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. Bradley, Tuesday.

17. Tennessee (6-1) beat No. 20 VCU 72-69. Next: vs. Florida A&M, Wednesday.

18. Auburn (7-0) did not play. Next: vs. Furman, Thursday.

19. Baylor (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. Maryland-Eastern Shore, Tuesday.

20. VCU (6-2) lost to No. 17 Tennessee 72-69. Next: vs. Old Dominion, Saturday.

21. Colorado (5-0) vs. Sacramento State. Next: vs. Loyola Marymount, Wednesday.

22. Villanova (4-2) did not play. Next: vs. La Salle, Sunday.

23. Washington (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. South Dakota, Monday.

24. Florida (6-2) did not play. Next: at Butler, Saturday.

25. Xavier (7-1) beat Lipscomb 87-62. Next: vs. Green Bay, Wednesday.

Saturday's Scores

EAST

Albany (NY) 68, American U. 64
Army 66, Marist 64 (OT)
Buffalo 68, William & Mary 77
Coastal Carolina 92, Delaware St. 77
Colgate 72, Siena 62
Columbia 68, Lehigh 64
Navy 76, Brown 56
Pricenton 87, Bucknell 77
St. Francis (Pa.) 79, Saint Joseph's 63
St. John's 88, Wagner 63
St. Peter's 67, St. Francis (NY) 59
UMBC 85, Drexel 60
UNC-Greensboro 65, Georgetown 61

SOUTH

Alabama St. 67, Chicago St. 54
Campbell 51, Florida Gulf Coast 46
Charlotte 83, SC-Upstate 47
Chattanooga 63, Jacksonville St. 60
FIU 70, New Hampshire 69
Jacksonville 61, NC A&T 45
James Madison 99, East Carolina 89
MVU 124, North American 70
Mount St. Mary's 73, Howard 56
New Orleans 79, Xavier University of Louisiana 62
North Alabama 67, Morehead St. 57
North Dakota 80, Georgia Southern 68
Presbyterian 87, Charleston 59
Richmond 64, Boston College 44
Tennessee 72, VCU 69
Troy 104, Shorter 53

MIDWEST

Bowling Green 76, Dartmouth 69
Cent. Michigan 88, Youngstown St. 72
Cincinnati 72, UNLV 65 (OT)
Cleveland St. 70, Robert Morris 59
Evansville 70, IUJPU 64
Florida St. 63, Purdue 60 (OT)
Indiana 64, S. Dakota 50
Indiana St. 62, Missouri-St. Louis 55
Kent St. 77, Stetson 53
Ohio 91, Detroit 81
Toledo 65, Oakland 63
Xavier 87, Lipscomb 62

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas 66, N. Kentucky 60
ETSU 67, UALR 63
Prairie View 79, UTSA 72
Sam Houston St. 86, Randall University 51
Stephen F. Austin 76, Arkansas St. 57
Texas 73, McNeese St. 71
Texas State 69, Hartford 55

FAR WEST

BYU 98, Montana Tech 63
CS Northridge 73, Fresno St. 72
Green Bay 98, Montana St. 72
Hawaii 85, San Francisco 75
N. Arizona 76, South Dakota 72
SE Missouri 66, Denver 51
Santa Clara 70, Cal St.-Fullerton 55

This Day in Sports

Dec. 1

1936: End Larry Kelley of Yale wins the Heisman Trophy.

1951: Arnold "Showboat" Boykin of Mississippi scores seven touchdowns in a 49-7 rout of Mississippi State.

1956: The United States beats the Soviet Union 89-55 to win the gold medal in men's basketball at the Melbourne Olympics. Bob Jeangear had 16 points, K.C. Jones 15, Jim Walsh 14 and Bill Russell 13.

1959: LSU halfback Billy Cannon wins the Heisman Trophy.

1961: Paul Arizin of the Philadelphia Warriors becomes the third NBA player with 15,000 career points. He scores 33 points in 139-177 win over the Los Angeles Lakers.

1973: Jack Nicklaus wins the Disney World Open to become the first golfer to surpass \$2 million in career earnings.

1980: South Carolina running back George Rogers is voted the Heisman Trophy winner.

1984: Boston College quarterback Doug Flutie is the 50th Heisman Trophy winner.

1990: Ty Detmer wins the Heisman Trophy. Detmer, who had set or tied 25 NCAA passing and total offense records, becomes the first BYU winner and third consecutive junior winner.

2001: Texas (5-6) loses to Troy State 18-16 to become the third team to go to a bowl with a losing record.

2003: Sylvester Croom becomes the Southeastern Conference's first black head football coach, joining Mississippi State.

2004

SPORTS

CIAC FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Quarterfinals, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Class LL
 No. 8 Norwich Free Academy (7-3) at No. 1 Newtown (10-0)
 No. 7 Ridgefield (8-2) at No. 2 Southington (9-1)
 No. 6 Greenwich (9-1) at No. 3 Darien (9-1)
 No. 5 Cheshire (8-2) at No. 4 Simsbury (9-1)
Class L
 No. 8 Wilton (7-3) at No. 1 St. Joseph (10-0) (at Trumbull)
 No. 7 Newington (7-3) at No. 2 Hand (10-0) (at the Surf Club, Madison)
 No. 6 Berlin (8-2) at No. 3 Maloney (9-1) (Falcon Field, Meriden)
 No. 5 Wethersfield (8-2) at No. 4 New Canaan (8-2)
Class M
 No. 8 SMSA/University/Classical (8-2) at No. 1 Rockville (10-0)
 No. 7 Granby/Canton (8-2) at No. 2 Waterford (9-1)
 No. 6 Greenwich/No. 3 Darien winner
Class L
 No. 8 Wilton/No. 1 St. Joseph winner vs. No. 5 Wethersfield/No. 4 New Canaan winner
 No. 7 Newington/No. 2 Hand winner vs. No. 6 Berlin/No. 3 Maloney winner
Class M
 No. 8 SMSA/University/Classical/No. 1 Rockville winner vs. No. 5 Weston/No. 4 Abbott Tech/Immaculate winner
 No. 7 Granby/Canton/No. 2 Waterford winner vs. No. 6 New Fairfield/No. 3 Killingly winner
Class S
 No. 8 Plainfield/No. 1 Ansonia winner vs. No. 5 Woodland/No. 4 Sheehan winner
 No. 7 Plainville (8-2) at No. 2 Bullard-Havens (10-0) (at Kennedy Stadium, Bridgeport)
 No. 6 Stafford/East Windsor/Somers (8-2) at No. 3 Bloomfield (10-0)
 No. 5 Woodland (9-1) at No. 4 Sheehan (8-2)
Semifinals, Sunday, Dec. 8, 12:30 p.m., at higher seed
Class LL
 No. 8 Norwich Free Academy/No. 1 Newtown winner vs. No. 5 Cheshire/No. 4 Simsbury winner
 No. 7 Ridgefield/No. 2 Southington winner vs. No. 6 Greenwich/No. 3 Darien winner
Class L
 No. 8 Wilton/No. 1 St. Joseph winner vs. No. 5 Wethersfield/No. 4 New Canaan winner
 No. 7 Newington/No. 2 Hand winner vs. No. 6 Berlin/No. 3 Maloney winner
Class M
 No. 8 SMSA/University/Classical/No. 1 Rockville winner vs. No. 5 Weston/No. 4 Abbott Tech/Immaculate winner
 No. 7 Granby/Canton/No. 2 Waterford winner vs. No. 6 New Fairfield/No. 3 Killingly winner
Class S
 No. 8 Plainfield/No. 1 Ansonia winner vs. No. 5 Woodland/No. 4 Sheehan winner
 No. 7 Plainville/No. 2 Bullard-Havens winner vs. No. 6 Stafford/East Windsor/Somers/No. 3 Bloomfield winner
Finals, Saturday, Dec. 14, sites/times TBA

GOLF

Gallo, McFarland to enter state Hall of Fame

STAFF REPORTS

Kyle Gallo and Stan McFarland will be inducted into the Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame on Thursday at Torrington Country Club.

Gallo, a Kensington native and a recent inductee into the Berlin High School Athletic Hall of Fame, is best known for winning four Connecticut Open tournaments, tied for the most ever, along with four runner-up performances. Gallo came within a stroke of qualifying for the PGA Tour in 2004. He played on the Nationwide Tour in 2005 and 2006.

Gallo won the Connecticut Public Links in 1997 and many other professional tournaments in the New England area. He previously coached collegiate golf at Central Connecticut State, his alma



Autumn Driscoll / Hearst Connecticut Media

Kyle Gallo, representing Tallwood Country Club, tees off on the 13th hole during the final round of the Connecticut Open in 2015.

mater, and at Western New England.

McFarland has served as a rules official for both the United States Golf Association and the Connecticut State Golf Association for over 50 years. He just com-

pleted his 19th year as a rules official certified at the highest level. A longtime Manchester resident, McFarland is a member of the Manchester Hall of Fame for his contributions to the game.

RUNNING

NY team helping immigrant runners realize American dream

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — A no-name entrant at this month's New York City Marathon — literally, he didn't even qualify to have his name printed on his bib — Girma Bekele Gebre crashed the elite field and finished third in the largest 26.2-mile race in the world.

A week later, the Ethiopian runner sat in Bill Staab's Upper West Side apartment, smiling and nodding while Staab recounted details from his stunning podium finish.

"It's a life-changer," Staab said.

Staab, the 80-year-old president of the West Side Runners' Club, has helped numerous careers during his 42-year term, making the American dream possible for immigrants from all over. A longtime running enthusiast who is retired from his career in steel sales and administration, Staab has become an indispensable organizer for runners from South America and Africa. He's written hundreds of letters to support visa-seeking athletes, and he says he's spent nearly \$1 million of his own money on entry fees and memberships for West Side runners like Girma.

He doesn't pocket the winnings — like the \$61,000 earned by Girma, or the \$10,000 that countryman Diriba Degefa Yigezu got for winning last weekend's Philadelphia Marathon. Staab helps the athletes cash those checks and use the money to fund their travels or support others back home.

"When I came here, I didn't have any family," Diriba said. "This person helped me. That's why I run for him."

Girma's success is a new level for West Side Runners. Prior to his breakthrough,



Seth Wenig / Associated Press

A group of Ethiopian runners works out at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx on Tuesday.

he was "just another one of our runners," Staab said — one of his "basically minor league racers." Girma came to the U.S. for three to four months at a time, and Staab would arrange near-weekly races for him across the country. He'd make \$500 here, \$1,000 there — his biggest payday was \$8,000 — and he would send some of that back to his family, which is helping raise his 4-year-old daughter on their farm.

The routine was interrupted this year when one of Girma's six brothers died. He cut short his spring U.S. trip and returned to Ethiopia. Instead of grinding through half-marathons and 10Ks, he trained at altitude in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa.

New York was Girma's first race back in the U.S., and he posted a stunning time of 2 hours, 8 minutes, 38 seconds — more than five minutes faster than his previous personal best.

"If he had said, 'I'm going to run 2:08,' I would have said, 'That's crazy,'" Staab said.

Girma is thinking about putting the prize money into a house in Ethiopia. He's been contacted by agents and sponsors about potential deals, and Staab is hopeful Girma will be approved

for a green card — an important step up from his P1 athlete visa that will make living and competing in the U.S. easier. He's eyeing the Boston Marathon for his next race, although it's uncertain if he'll crack the smaller field there. For now, he plans to spend time back home weighing his options. Among his goals: he wants to shave another few minutes off his personal best marathon time.

"Maybe 2:03," he said. Staab hardly envisioned a success story like that when he took over West Side Runners. Originally a small club of local athletes from the West Side YMCA, the team first went international in 1980 when Staab helped three Colombian runners enter the NYC Marathon. Word spread that Staab could connect international runners to U.S. races, and athletes from Ecuador, Brazil, Mexico and other Latin American countries followed. West Side Runners became a powerhouse at local competitions — and a strikingly diverse one racing against mostly white teams stocked with post-collegiate runners.

"The other teams laughed at us," Staab said. "And then we began to beat them. So they didn't laugh quite so much."



Elsa / Getty Images

The Rangers' Mika Zibanejad drives to the net in the third period during New York's 4-0 victory over the Devils at Prudential Center on Saturday in Newark, N.J.

Georgiev gets third career shutout, Rangers top Devils

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWARK, N.J. — Alexander Georgiev stopped 33 shots for his third career shutout, leading the surging New York Rangers to a 4-0 win over the short-handed New Jersey Devils on Saturday.

New York improved to 4-0-1 in its last five games. Mika Zibanejad had a goal and an assist, and Jesper Fast, Adam Fox and Brady Skjei also scored.

Georgiev had 11 saves in the first, 10 in the second and 12 in the third to get New York's first shutout of the season.

Mackenzie Blackwood had 19 saves for New Jersey, which went 0 for 8 on the power play while giving up two short-handed goals. It lost for the fourth time in six games.

The Devils had five power plays in the second period, including one that carried over from the final minute of the opening period. However, they managed just three shots on goal — all by Nico Hischier. New Jersey had six shots go wide, and an attempt by Jesper Bratt went over the net on the third man-advantage.

The fifth penalty, a double-minor on Libor Hajek for high-sticking Wayne Simmonds, began in the final minute of the second.

Zibanejad, playing his third game after missing 13 with an injury, made it 2-0 with a short-handed goal from the left side on a give-and-go with Brendan Lemieux at 2:35 of the third.

The Devils got a sixth power play at 5:21 when Chris Kreider was whistled for a five-minute major for boarding Kevin Rooney, and both also got majors for fighting.

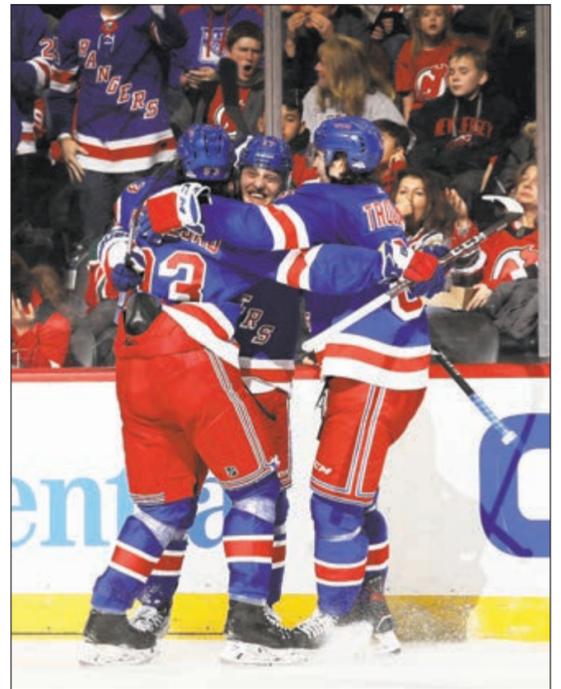
Once again, the Rangers took advantage on the Devils' opportunity. Fast converted a pass from Jacob Trouba on a 3-on-1 rush at 5:52 for his third of the season.

Skjei added an empty-netter with 2:42 left.

When the Devils did get shots on goal at even strength, Georgiev was there to make the save. He denied a backhand by Travis Zajac about six minutes into the second, a shot by Taylor Hall from the left circle with 6½ minutes left and Matt Tennyson's follow seconds later.

The Devils outshot the Rangers 11-7 in a tight first period. Zajac had a shot hit the goalpost less than two minutes in, and Lemieux did the same on a rebound of a shot by Trouba a couple minutes later.

Fox got the Rangers on the scoreboard on a power play. He got a cross-ice pass from Kaapo Kakko from the right side near the boards to the left side of the goal and quickly put it past



Elsa / Getty Images

Mika Zibanejad (93), Jesper Fast (17) and Jacob Trouba (8) of the New York Rangers celebrate a goal in the third period against the New Jersey Devils at Prudential Center on Saturday in Newark, N.J. The Rangers won 4-0.



Noah K. Murray / Associated Press

Rangers goaltender Alexandar Georgiev makes save against Devils left wing Miles Wood during the third period on Saturday in Newark, N.J.

Blackwood for his fifth with 7:15 left in the first.

NOTES: New York F Filip Chytil, a first-round pick in 2017, played in his 100th career game. ... Fox has two goals and four assists in his last seven games. ... Devils F Jack Hughes was out with a lower-body injury, missing what would have been his second meeting against the Rangers and Kakko — who went No. 2 in this year's NHL draft after New Jersey selected Hughes with the first pick. Hughes, who was injured when he

took a shot off his leg on Thursday at Montreal, has four goals and seven assists in 24 games. Kakko has six goals and five assists in 22 games. ... Rooney returned to the lineup in Hughes' place after missing seven games with an upper-body injury. ... New Jersey was shut out for the fourth time this season.

UP NEXT

Rangers: Host Vegas on Monday night.

Devils: At Buffalo on Monday night.

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SUNDAY

ARTS & STYLE



Contributed /

For the first time in southern Connecticut, the classical music audience will be on stage with the musicians, hearing, feeling and seeing the music in a new, immersive way.

Surround sound

By Jo Kroeker

Everyone knows the opening chords to Beethoven's Fifth Symphony: "Buh-buh-buh-bum. Bum-bum-bum-bom."

But only musicians and conductors know how playing those famous notes sounds up close. Or how the vibrations make the floor hum, and how that feels underfoot. Or see everyone nod their heads and hear them breathe in sync in between the two phrases.

For the first time in Greenwich and southern Connecticut, musicians, conductors and listeners will be brought together for an immersive performance of Beethoven's Fifth on Jan. 11. Hundreds of fans and newcomers will be able to be near orchestra members, changing the way they hear this beloved work and opening up two new senses that are typically at a distance: sight and touch. The concert is called "InsideOut," and is put on by the traveling conductor who founded InsideOut concerts, David Bernard.

"Greenwich Symphony has a lot of history, and has been around a long time," Bernard says. "This is a way for them to build their audience and bring in people who haven't neces-

RENDITION OF
BEETHOVEN'S
FIFTH
WILL FLIP THE
SYMPHONY
'INSIDEOUT'

sarily been, or see themselves as classical music fans."

InsideOut is partnering with Greenwich Symphony to put on this immersive concert and grow attendance rates, as it works with other symphonies nationwide.

"They're able to experience things they never thought they would at a concert," Bernard says. "It's like the iMax of classical music."

Just as iMax developed from a surge in home theaters and subsequent decline in movie theater-going, so too Bernard's InsideOut concerts developed in response to declines in attendance of classical music concerts. Unlike the theater declines, attributable to home theaters, there was no single reason Bernard could find for why orchestra attendance rates were dropping.

He ruled out the music itself, the energy from the orchestra and the education levels of the audience. The music is exciting, and having 70 to 90 musicians producing the sound simultaneously makes orchestra concerts one of the more exciting performative arts. And if education were the problem, people would need to be educated to

Continues on page D2

FOOD | D4

Ching's reliable, expanding table



ART GALLERIES | D5

Exhibits celebrate the new and the familiar



TRAVEL | D6

Some Southern charm for the holidays





ASK ANNIE

By Annie Lane

From the sidelines

Dear Annie: My son “Bo” has been with his wife, “Joyce,” for 13 years. Several months ago, my husband and I spent a long weekend at the beach with our children and grandchildren. My husband rises early, and he was in the kitchen at 4 a.m., starting his day, when he ran into Joyce. She was just getting home. Without my asking, Joyce explained to me the next day that she doesn’t get to go out often and that tavern owners remembered her from the previous year when she did karaoke there. She said they were buying her drinks and later invited her to their beach house. I told her that when men buy you free drinks they usually want something in return.

She was away daily most of the time out with her brother, “John,” who is very dependent on her socially. Bo seemed indifferent to her behavior the entire time. This week, my husband and I visited to attend a grandchild’s school play and soccer game. During the visit I found out that John is now residing on first level of their home, and Bo is now living on in the finished basement. I asked Bo about living arrangements, and he said that he and John do not get along, so he moved downstairs. John does not pay rent or help financially; he just helps around the house.

Bo and Joyce are in debt, yet somehow she’s always planning trips out of state and out of the country. She often puts extravagant ideas in the kids’ heads such as going to Paris for a birthday. I want to help financially and be supportive, but I am not sure how.

In addition to these concerns, I would say that Joyce is a borderline hoarder. The living room and dining room are completely full with mostly clothing and things from her grandmother’s estate. They have two storage units with non-working cars in them.

She is very insecure and had a difficult childhood, so I sympathize with her. Yet, sometimes she complains about Bo in front of us and it is hard to not say anything. They are coming to dinner for the holidays and I feel I should tell Bo that he needs to insist she get rid of things. I did suggest to Bo they see a counselor. I want to have this discussion with Joyce over Thanksgiving.

— *Worried Mom Watching On*

Dear Worried Mom: It’s painful to watch from the sidelines as your child struggles. You want to jump in, help him, make it all better. But the sidelines are exactly where you need to be to cheer him on and best support him. We cannot live our children’s lives for them, and once they’ve reached adulthood, we have to allow them the dignity to make their own mistakes and discoveries.

While it was wise of you to suggest marriage counseling, I’d caution you against giving unsolicited advice beyond that, to him or to Joyce. Actively communicate with your son and ask how he’s doing, sans prying. Foster a healthy, respectful dialogue, and trust that he’ll come to you if and when he’s ready to talk about whatever is going on in his marriage.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.



Contributed photo

A symphony audience is immersed in music with the innovative “InsideOut” format.

FLIPPING THE SYMPHONY

From page D1

appreciate classical music, and on the flipside, people who do not appreciate classical music would be deemed uneducated.

But a specialized education in classical music is not required for appreciating classical music.

“It must be a visceral experience,” he says. “The music can and does speak to you, even if you don’t have an idea of who Beethoven is or was, or haven’t heard his Fifth Symphony before.”

Bernard realized audience involvement was missing. In the past, musicians talked about how composers are the ultimate authority; they give birth to a work and the work exists on its own terms and musicians interpret it. An Inside Out performance gives composers the chance to engage audience members, who Bernard says are the missing piece of a four-part puzzle.

“Music can’t happen with fewer than four of these things,” Bernard says.

Musicians experience a particular energy that often does not extend out to the audience.

“The first time I was in an orchestra, it blew my mind,” Bernard says. “Many musicians get hooked and completely entranced by the experience of being inside an orchestra. It’s not the love of making music in general; it’s the love of making music in a group. It’s electrifying.”

It dawned on Bernard that if he could give audience members that experience, classical music concerts could attract people who might not see themselves as concert-going types.

The result is an immersive event Bernard created where attendees sit next near musicians. They see how musicians play and how the conductor cues in players, hear how everyone on stage breathes in sync

‘THE MUSIC CAN AND DOES SPEAK TO YOU, EVEN IF YOU DON’T HAVE AN IDEA OF WHO BEETHOVEN IS OR WAS, OR HAVEN’T HEARD HIS FIFTH SYMPHONY BEFORE.’



and how individual sections sound within the whole piece, and feel the reverberations that continue after the last note is played.

The experience attracts people of all ages who would never consider themselves classical music fans and also surprises veteran concert-goers, who tell him they have never heard their favorite pieces this way. Even the children who come are

engrossed.

Concert-goers will be seated in one section — violin, cello, wind or brass — and halfway through, will be rotated to get different perspectives.

“Each section will give you an extraordinary view of music making,” he says. “The important thing is that you’re inside the orchestra, able to hear the voicing and hear the

music in a detailed way that is elusive to people sitting at a distance.”

Since audience members will be closer to the music, InsideOut dispenses with traditional paper programs with notes. Typically, Bernard says, audience members sit down with a program and start reading through it because they do not feel knowledgeable about the music about to be played. When the music starts and they are not done reading, they read faster, but they still miss the experience.

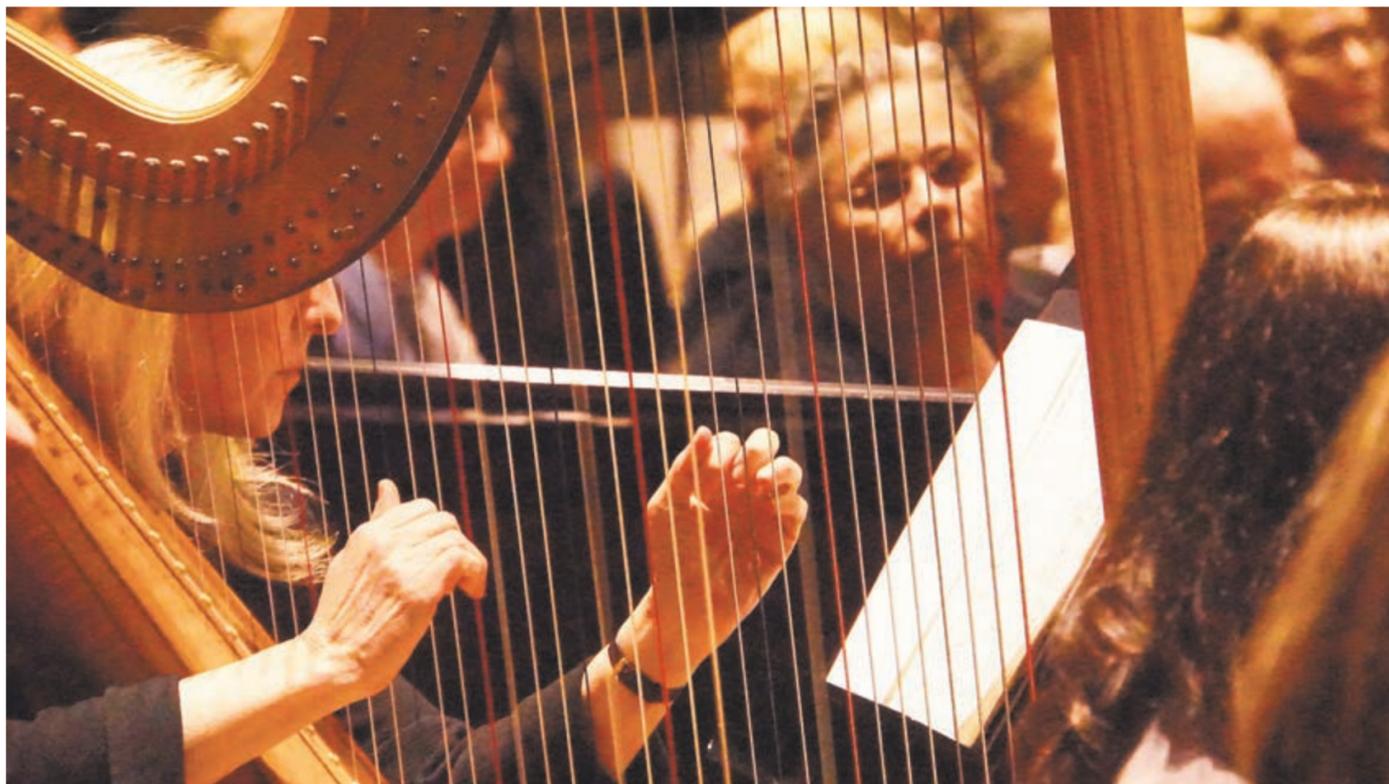
“Everything you need to appreciate this music exists in the music,” Bernard says. “It’s more important for you to be engaged and present in the music-making around you than reading about it in that moment.”

Instead of reading the notes and maybe missing some of the performance, audience members will be sucked into the performance playing out around them. They will not just hear the triumphant fourth movement speed up, then slow down, then speed up again, they will see how these musicians interpret these changes with their whole bodies.

They will see the conductor make eye contact with the players to keep them together with each single, staccato note played in rapid succession. The string players will circle their bows at the same time. The wind instruments will nod their instruments in sync. And on the last chord, hinted at with so many false endings, the conductor will hold out his baton and wave it as if coaxing more sound from the players.

Then, when the strings stop drawing their bows across the strings and the winds and brass cease blowing into their flutes and horns, they will feel the sound waves continue to reverberate in the floor and through their bones.

jo.kroeker@bearstmediact.com



PLAN ON IT

Best of the arts in the weeks ahead

BETHANY

Holiday
Christmas Tree Lighting, Russell Farm Homestead, 20 Round Hill Road. Dec. 1, 6 p.m.

BETHEL

Books
Classics Book Discussion of "The Catcher in the Rye" by J. D. Salinger, Bethel Public Library, Greenwood Ave. Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m. 203-794-8756, ext. 4, bethellibrary.org.

BRIDGEPORT

Holiday
"Rudolph," Downtown Cabaret Theatre, 263 Golden Hill St. Through Dec. 29. Tickets available by phone, in person at the box office, or online. 203-576-1636, dtcab.com

Visual Arts
"Love Past Death" Tribute to Peter Konsterlie, Framemakers Picture Framing & Art Gallery, 3004 Fairfield Ave. Through Dec. 203-338-0332

"In a Dark Wood, Wandering," Housatonic Museum of Art Burt Chernow Galleries, 900 Lafayette Blvd. Through Dec. 14. Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Thu 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Closed Sun. museum.housatonic.edu

"We are Artists Every One: the Bridgeport Cultural Arts Center in Action, 1970-1986," Library Burroughs-Saden Branch History Center, 925 Broad St. On view. 203-576-7400, ext. 7

BROOKFIELD

Holiday
Holiday Sale, Brookfield Craft Center's Gallery Shop, 286 Whisconier Road. Through Dec. 31. Holiday ornaments, woodcrafts, glass crafts, jewelry, pottery, fiber works, and more.

CHESTER

Holiday
"Connecticut Christmas Carol," Terris Theatre, 33 N. Main St. Dec. 4-28. Tickets start at \$29. 860-873-8668, good-speed.org

Music
Sing Along with Micky Dolenz, Elim Park's Nelson Hall, 150 Cook Hill Road. Nov. 29, 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$40. 203-699-5495, nelsonhallelimpark.com

Visual Arts
Gallery Celebrates 10 Years with a retrospective exhibit and a selection of student work created during the annual monotype printmaking workshops in the Exumas, Bahamas, Lori Warner Studio Gallery, 21 Main St. Through Dec. 31. 860-322-4265, loriwarner.com

DANBURY

Dance
Ballroom Dance, Portuguese Cultural Club, 65 Sand Pit Road. Dec. 4, 6:30-10:30 p.m. \$20. Includes buffet dinner, dessert, coffee, and dancing. \$15 dance only. 203-748-1278, portugueseclubcenter.org

Holiday
"A Madcap Christmas Carol," Palace Danbury, 165 Main St. Dec. 1, 2 p.m. \$15. 203-794-9944, thepalacedanbury.com

Stage
"The 1940's Radio Hour," Western Connecticut State University's Main Stage Theatre of the Visual and Performing Arts Center on the university's Westside campus, 43 Lake Ave. ext. Performances: Dec. 4, 8 p.m.; Dec. 5, 10 a.m., 8 p.m.; Dec. 6, 8 p.m.; Dec. 7, 8, 2, 8 p.m. 203-837-8732, bit.ly/2KgRB9jor

DARIEN

Specials
Clean-Crafted Wine Tasting, OsteoStrong Darien, Goodwives Shopping Center, 25 Old Kings Hwy. Dec. 3, 7 p.m. 203-900-1662.

EAST HAVEN

Books
Stephen Spignesi discusses his book "Grover Cleveland's Rubber Jaw and Other Unusual, But True Facts About America's Presidents," Old Stone Church, Main St. Dec. 1, 2 p.m. Refreshments served. Free. 203-466-1596.

EASTON

Holiday
"Magic of Christmas" Show, Spinning Wheel Restaurant, 109 Black Rock Tpke. Dec. 4-24. Visit website for showtimes and tickets. spinningwheelct.com

FAIRFIELD

Books
A Different Kind of Book Club discuss the genre "Graphic Novels," Library Main Branch, 1080 Old Post Road. Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m. 203-256-3155, fairfieldpubliclibrary.org

Films
"Return to Send'er," Fairfield Theatre Company Warehouse, 70 Sanford St. Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m. \$10. 203-259-1036, fairfield-theatre.org

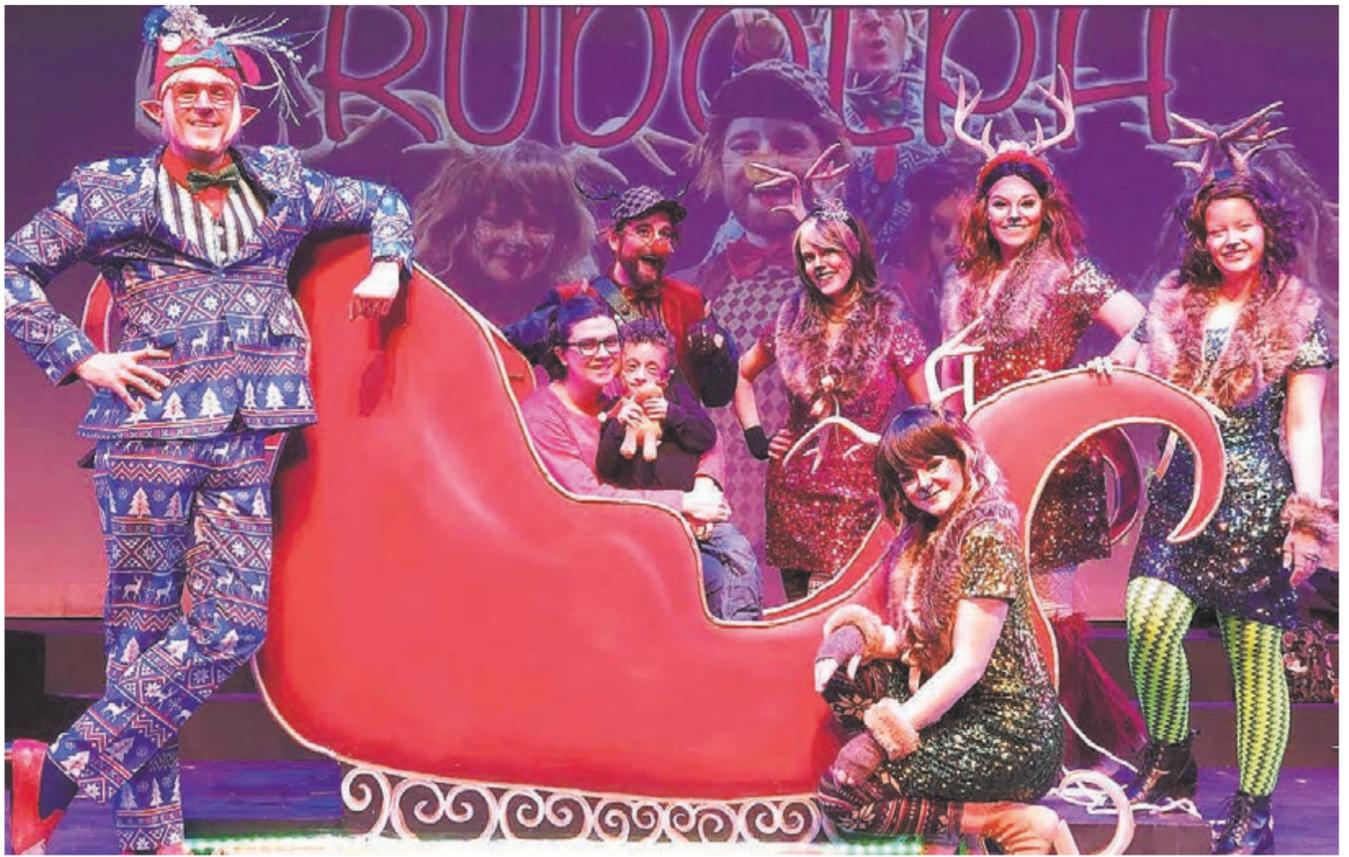
Holiday
Cherish The Ladies: Celtic Christmas, Sacred Heart University Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts, 5151 Park Ave. Dec. 1, 4 p.m. \$30, \$25 seniors, \$25 faculty, staff, alumni, \$10 students. Gaelic American Club members receive \$5 off the General Public price. edgertoncenter.org

Music
Mariane Liberatore Memorial Instrumental Competition, Pequot Library, 720 Pequot Ave. Dec. 1, 2 p.m. musicforyouth.net

Stage
NT Live: "Present Laughter" by Noel Coward, Fairfield University's Quick Center for the Performing Arts, 1073 N. Benson Road. Dec. 2, 7 p.m. \$25, \$20 Quick members, seniors, \$10 children, non-Fairfield University students. 203-254-4010, quickcenter.com.

Visual Arts
"Cover to Cover: How People Bind Their Books" Exhibit, Pequot Library, 720 Pequot Ave. Through Feb. 9, during Library hours. 203-254-0123, pequotlibrary.org

"Winter Light" artwork by members, Art/Place Gallery, 70 Sanford St. Through Jan. 31, noon-5 p.m. every day Reception,



Contributed photo

"Rudolph" is on stage at the Downtown Cabaret Theatre in Bridgeport. See listing.

Nov. 24, 3-5 p.m. Artists talk, 4 p.m. 203-374-9720 or 646-258-6912, artplacegallery.org

"Rodin, Truth, Form, Life," Fairfield University's Walsh Art Gallery in the Quick Center for the Performing Arts, 1073 N. Benson Road. Through Dec. 21. fairfield.edu

GREENWICH

Books
AuthorsLive: "Tech Titans of China" by Rebecca Fannin, Library Flinn Gallery, 101 W. Putnam Ave. Dec. 2, 7 p.m. 203-622-7922, greenwichlibrary.org

Holiday
Holiday Art Show and Sale, YWCA of Greenwich Gertrude White Gallery, Dec. 2-27. Artists reception/holiday party, Dec. 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Reindeer Festival & Santa's Village, Sam Bridge Nursery and Greenhouses, 437 North St. Through Dec. 24. Photos with Santa, Carousel & Train Rides, Food trucks. Visits with Reindeer and the Christmas Shop, Mon-Sat 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. sambridge.com

Specials
Fred Elser First Sunday Science at the Seaside Center: Animal Tracks and Signs, Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Dec. 1, 2-3:30 p.m. Free, no reservations required. 203-869-0376, brucemuseum.org

Visual Arts
"Contemporary Realism," Cavalier Ebanks Galleries, 405 Greenwich Ave. Through Dec. 31. 203-869-3664, cavaliergalleries.com

"An American Story: Finding Home in Fairfield County," Historical Society, 47 Strickland Road. Through Jan. 6. greenwichhistory.org

"Contemporary Artists/Traditional Forms: Chinese Brushwork," Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Dr. Through Dec. 8. 203-869-0376, brucemuseum.org

GUILDFORD

Visual Arts
Paintings of Marge Casey and Beverly Schirmeier on display in a two person art show, Guilford Free Library, 67 Park St. Dec. 2-30. Art gallery is open during normal library hours.

KENT

Music
Jazzing It Up, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 1 Main St. Dec. 1, 4 p.m. \$30, \$25 students, seniors. shermanchamberensemble.org

Visual Arts
"Third Eye" paintings by Heather Scofield, Kent Memorial Library Gallery, 32 N. Main St. Through Jan. 10. 860-927-3761, kentmemoriallibrary.org

"Juried Photography Show," KAA Gallery, 21 S. Main St. Through Dec. 1. 860-927-3989, kentart.org

"New Nudes" Group Show, Craven Contemporary Gallery, 4 Fulling Lane. Kent Barns. Through Jan. 15. Weekends only.

MILFORD

Holiday
Holiday Pop-Up Bazaar, Milford Arts Council Firehouse Gallery, 40 Railroad Ave. Through Dec. 8. milfordarts.org/holiday-bazaar

Visual Arts
"Milford Student Show," Milford Arts Center, 40 Railroad Ave. Through Jan. 17. 203-878-6647, milfordarts.org

MYSTIC

Holiday
Lantern Light Tours, Mystic Seaport Museum, 75 Greenmanville Ave. Dec. 6, 5-8:30 p.m.; Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 13-15, 20-22, 5-10 p.m. Tours begin every 15 minutes. \$33 nonmembers, \$28 members, \$23 youth members, \$28 youth nonmembers. Children under 3 free.

Visual Arts
"J.M.W. Turner: Watercolors from Tate," Mystic Seaport Museum, 75 Greenmanville Ave. Through Feb. 23.

NEW CANAAN

Holiday

Deck the Walls Holiday Party & Fundraiser, Carriage Barn Arts Center, 681 South Ave. Dec. 5, 6-9 p.m. Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, exhibit and sale of small works of art, bid and buy wreaths. 203-594-3638, carriagebarn.org

Visual Arts
"Northeast Waterscapes: Artists Explore Oceans, Rivers, Harbors," New Canaan Museum & Historical Society Bishop Gallery, 13 Oenoke Ridge. Through Dec. 14; "Hat Madness," through March 8. nchistory.org

"HeART & Mind," Silvermine Arts Center, 1037 Silvermine Road. Through Jan. 12. silvermineart.org

"Into the Garden," paintings by Christian Peltenburg-Brechneff, Carriage Barn Arts Center Gallery, 681 South Ave. On view. Related events: Reception and book signing, Dec. 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; book signing, Dec. 6, 7, 9:30 a.m.-noon. 203-594-3638, carriagebarn.org

"Jessica Drenk: Second Nature" exhibit, Heather Gaudio Fine Art, 66 Elm St. On view. Free.

NEW HAVEN

Stage
"Pride and Prejudice," Long Wharf Theatre Claire Tow Stage in the C. Newton Schenck III Theatre, 222 Sargent Dr. Through Dec. 22. 203-787-4282, longwharf.org

"Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)," Southern Connecticut State University's Lyman Center for the Performing Arts, 501 Crescent St. Dec. 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 p.m.; Dec. 7, 2, 8 p.m. \$15-\$5. 203-392-6154, southernct.edu

Yale Repertory Theatre presents "The Plot," Yale Repertory Theatre, 1120 Chapel St. Through Dec. 21. \$79-\$20. yalerep.org

Visual Arts
"Ceremonial Dress from Southwest China: The Ann B. Goodman Collection," Yale University Art Gallery, 1111 Chapel St. Through Jan. 5; "William Bailey: Looking through Time," Through Jan. 5. Open daily from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. artgallery.yale.edu

"Peterloo and Protest," Yale Center for British Art, 1080 Chapel St. Through Dec. 1. 203-432-2800, britishart.yale.edu

NEW LONDON

Stage
Connecticut Lyric Opera and the Connecticut Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra present the operatic production of Wagner's "Tristan und Isolde," Garde Arts Center, 325 State St. Nov. 30, 7 p.m.

Visual Arts
"Grand Menagerie: Animals in Art," Lyman Allyn Art Museum, 625 Williams St. Through Jan. 26. Museum hours: Tue-Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun 1-5 p.m. Closed Mondays. 860-443-2545, ext. 2129, lymanallyn.org.

"Legends: the Sports Photography of Walter Iooss, Lyman Allyn Art Museum, 625 Williams St. Through Jan. 12. Museum hours: Tue-Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun 1-5 p.m. Closed Mondays. 860-443-2545, ext. 2129, lymanallyn.org.

NORTH HAVEN

Films
"Long Shot," North Haven Memorial Library, 17 Elm St. p.m. Dec. 3, 10:30 a.m.

Holiday
New Haven Ballet perform excerpts from "The Nutcracker," Raymour & Flanigan Furniture and Mattress Store, 70 Universal Dr. Free. Dec. 1, 1 p.m.

NEW MILFORD

Specials
Care Giver Luncheon, Nov. 28, noon; Ladies Night Out-Breast Cancer Awareness, Nov. 28, 5 p.m. Candlewood Valley Health & Rehab, 30 Park Lane E.

NORWALK

Holiday
Wall Street Holiday Market, Public Library Main Auditorium, 1 Belden Ave. Nov. 30, 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Dec. 1, noon-5 p.m. norwalkpl.org

"Holiday Gift Show," Rowayton Arts Center, 145 Rowayton Ave. Opens Nov. 29.

Opening weekend hours: Nov. 29, 30, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 1, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 3-24: Tue-Fri noon-5 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun noon-5 p.m. Christmas Eve 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Closed Mondays. Suggested donation \$5, free admission with canned goods for Open Door Shelter. 203-866-2744, rowaytonarts.org

"Toys, Trains, and Magnificent Trees: Illuminating Christmas at the Mansion," Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum, 295 West Ave. Nov. 20-Jan. 5. 203-838-9799, lockwoodmathewsmansion.com

John Denver Christmas with Chris Collins and Boulder Canyon, Wall Street Theater, 71 Wall St. Nov. 30, 8 p.m. \$50-\$30. wallstreettheater.com

Music
Bill Staines, Good Folk Coffeehouse in Rowayton United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 5 Pennoyer St. Dec. 1. Open mic sign-up 3:30 p.m., open mic 4-4:30 p.m., Alex Martin 4:30-5 p.m., followed by Bill Staines. 203-858-7791, goodfolkcoffeehouse.com

Visual Arts
"The Trained Eye: The Art of Railroads & Stations," Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum, 295 West Ave. Through Jan. 5. Wed-Sun noon-4 p.m. 90 minute tour \$20, \$18 seniors, \$16 ages 8-18; 45 minute tour \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$6 ages 8-18 years old. 203-838-9799, lockwood-mathewsmansion.com

"Center for Contemporary Printmaking, 299 West Ave. View hours: Tue-Sat 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun noon-5 p.m. Closed Mondays. Free. 203-899-7999, contemporary.org

OLD LYME

Holiday
Santa at the Museum, Nov. 29, 10 a.m.; A Magical Visit from Joepetto the Magic Toymaker, Nov. 30, noon; Drop-In Art: Joy in the Making, Dec. 1, 1 p.m.; Book Event: Miss Florence's Artist Trees, Dec. 1, 2 p.m. Florence Griswold Museum, 96 Lyme St.

ORANGE

Visual Arts
"Waterworks XX," students of Audrey Galer will display new watercolors, Case Memorial Library, 176 Tyler City Road. Through Dec. Reception, Gallery Room 2nd fl., Dec. 11, 5-7 p.m.

RIDGEFIELD

Films
"When Harry Met Sally," Ridgefield Playhouse, 80 E. Ridge. Dec. 3, 7 p.m. \$12.50. 203-438-5795, ridgefieldplayhouse.org

Stage
Met Opera Encore in HD: "Akhmaten," Ridgefield Playhouse, 80 E. Ridge. Dec. 1, 12:55 p.m. \$25, \$20 members & seniors, \$15 students, free for students 18 and under. 203-438-5795, ridgefieldplayhouse.org

Visual Arts
Zoe Sheehan Saldana: "There Must Be Some Way Out of Here," Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, 258 Main St., through May 17; "Weather Report," through March 29; "Eva LeWitt," through April 5. 203-438-4519.

SHARON

Visual Arts
"This Brutal World Explores the Duality of Life Through Photos of Fading Flowers," Standard Space, 147 Main St. Through Dec. 8.

SHERMAN

Visual Arts
"Wild Sherman" Photos by Dennis Larkin, Sherman Library, 1 Sherman Center. Through Jan. 8. 860-354-2455, shermanlibrary.org

STAMFORD

Visual Arts
Solo exhibit "Max Abadi, Painter" and group exhibit "New Members Show," Stamford Art Association Townhouse Gallery, 39 Franklin St. Through Dec. 12. 203-325-1139, stamfordartassociation.org

"How Many Tears Are Enough" exhibit addresses the aftermath of gun violence, UConn, Stamford Branch, 1 University Place, Through Feb. 6. 203-251-8400.

"Recollections" Retrospective Exhibit of Selected Artwork by Paul G. Larson, Loft Artists Galleries and Studios, 575 Pacific St. Through Dec. 22. loftartists.org

STRATFORD

Books
Morning Book Buzz, Library, 2203 Main St. Dec. 2, 11 a.m. 203-385-4162, stratfordlibrary.org

Holiday
Holiday Lighting Festival, Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main St. Dec. 4, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Holiday Concert: The New Blue of Yale, Library, 2203 Main St. Dec. 1, 2-4 p.m. 203-385-4162, stratfordlibrary.org

TRUMBULL

Holiday
Bridgeport P.A.L. Christmas Village, P.A.L. Complex, 2 Quarry Road. Through Dec. 23. Daily 1-8 p.m. Dec. 17, closed. \$2. Photo with Santa, \$10. 203-576-7604, e-mail paltrumbull@aol.com

WALLINGFORD

Holiday
Moscow Ballet's "Great Russian Nutcracker," The Dome at Toyota Oakdale Theatre, 95 S. Turnpike Road. Nov. 30, 3 p.m. 203-265-1501, oakdale.com

Kids
"PJ Masks Live! Save the Day," The Dome at Toyota Oakdale Theatre, 95 S. Turnpike Road. Dec. 2, 6 p.m. 203-265-1501, oakdale.com

WASHINGTON

Visual Arts
"Steven Miller Beautiful Times," Gunn Memorial Library, 5 Wykeham Road. Through Dec. 14. 860-868-7586, gunnlibrary.org

WASHINGTON DEPOT

Holiday
"A Cabin Holiday," Washington Art Association & Gallery, 4 Bryan Plaza. Through Dec. 24. Wed-Sun 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Dec. 23, 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Related event: Holiday in the Depot, Dec. 13, 6-8:30 p.m. 860-868-2878, washingtonartassociation.org

WATERBURY

Holiday
"Holidays in 19th Century Waterbury: A Very Chase Christmas," Mattatuck Museum, 144 W. Main St. Dec. 3, 10 a.m. \$15, \$7. 203-753-0381, ext. 130, mattmuseum.org

Stage
"Les Misérables," Palace Theater, 100 E. Main St. Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 4, 1, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 6, 8 p.m.; Dec. 7, 2, 8 p.m.; Dec. 8, 1 p.m. Tickets start at \$54.50. 203-346-2000, palacetheaterct.org, or in person at the Box Office.

Visual Arts
"Maryna Bilak: Caring Hands," Mattatuck Museum, 144 W. Main St. Through Jan. 5. 203-753-0381, ext. 130, mattmuseum.org

WESTPORT

Holiday
Tuesday Treasures-Holiday Items from the Museum's Collection, Westport Museum for History and Culture, 25 Avery Place. Dec. 3; Plum Pudding Lecture & Class, Dec. 4. 203-222-1424, ext. 5, westporthistory.org.

Stage
"The Tale of the Allergists Wife," Westport Community Theatre, in Westport Town Hall, 110 Myrtle Ave. Nov. 29-Dec. 15. 203-226-1983, westportcommunitytheatre.com

WILTON

Books
Author Talk: Donald Rattner "My Creative Space: How to Design Your Home to Stimulate Ideas and Spark Innovation," Library, 137 Old Ridgefield Road. Dec. 4, 7 p.m. 203-762-3950, or at wiltonlibrary.org

Holiday
Great Trains Holiday Show, Wilton Historical Society, 224 Danbury Road. Through Jan. 20. \$5 nonmember child, \$10 nonmember adults. 203-762-7257, wiltonhistorical.org

Specials
Holiday Trees-Folded Book Art for Adults, Library, 137 Old Ridgefield Road. Dec. 4, 6 p.m. \$5 materials fee. Registration required. wiltonlibrary.org, 203-762-6321

Destination Restaurants A STEADY TABLE

Most of us have something that we really like about a restaurant. Mine is consistency. There are few things I find more annoying than dining at restaurant X, ordering dish Y, loving dish Y, and returning a week later only to find dish Y looks and tastes different.

Why does it taste different? There are a host of variables and they include inconsistent produce bought by the kitchen and changing or rotating chefs. At one of my favorite local places I have seen my often ordered mussel dish having five mussels or 20, being served in wine sauce or cream sauce, with toast on the side or nothing. At this same place, a green salad with steak has some with a tiny filet one day and a slab of cow the size of a dinner plate the next.

Ching's Table, one of my favorite Chinese restaurants, has no consistency problems. I have been eating here for years, and to my delight, whatever I order tastes just as I remember it: no surprises.

Ching's, over the years, has gone from a strictly Chinese place to what would best be called Pan Asian. To keep up with the competition one can now get Thai, Japanese and Vietnamese dishes as well as classical Chinese. I am happy to report that whatever geographical location I order from, I have yet to find a bad dish. Of course, I have my favorites and I will share them with you.

As my readers may know I often make a whole meal out of appetizers. Not that by any means I am a dainty eater, just the opposite, but with a slew of appetizers I can try three four or five dishes instead of just one entree.

At Ching's this is my favorite way of dining and here is what I get. I have recently had a personal revival with my love of tempura shrimp. I honestly don't know what sparked it but for a month I have been on the hunt for the best. Of all the places in Fairfield County I have tried, I like Ching's best of all. The large shrimp are encased in a feather light batter and served with a savory dipping sauce. Once I have my shrimp addiction out of the way, I move on to my other favorite, fried dumplings. Sometimes I get the spicy Szechuan ones, other times plain ones. These two are served with a great dipping sauce that I often request extra.

I was skeptical about the Thai crab cake as I am very snobby about a great crab cake not existing north of the Maryland shore. My friend ordered it and it was so well made and crab packed that I ate most of it and ordered her a second. As the official



JANE STERN

Ching's Table

64 Main St., New Canaan

restaurant reviewer, I get away with murder.

I have another friend who watches her waistline and she loves the minced chicken served in a lettuce wrap. Again this is something I would not think to order, but it was amazingly good: well spiced and satisfying. More my speed were the baby back ribs, glazed in an amber sauce and falling off the bone. I had a scallion pancake on the side and felt it was a great combo.

When I do not want many small dishes, but one hearty entree, I am in love with the Basil Beef. This simply is strands of steak that are "wokked" with big juicy basil leaves in a ginger sauce. A very elemental and flavorful dish. Also on the top of my list are the wok grilled garlic shrimp. This dish features snapping-fresh large shrimp stir fried with garlic. Sometimes I am amazed how good foods that I do not think of as specifically Asian (filet mignon or large shrimp) are. The grilled filet mignon is as good a cut of meat as I have had at a steakhouse.

If I am on a strictly Chinese bent, I will always order Crispy Chicken and Shrimp with Honeyed Walnuts, or String Beans and Chicken. I guess you have to be born Chinese to understand how to transform the ubiquitous droopy green vegetable into something so tantalizing: a green bean that would laugh at Thanksgiving green bean casserole. I have tried to make Chinese-style green beans at home and failed.

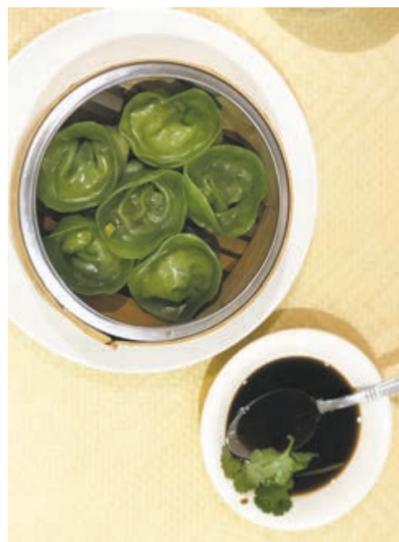
Ching's is also available for takeout. On a cold winter day I ordered Hot and Sour Soup and it was probably the best version of this classic as I have had, remarkably hot (spicy) and just sour enough to brighten the flavor.

For comfort food, take a look at the section of the menu called Meh and Noodles. If



Yana Russell / Hearst Connecticut Media

Ching's Table in New Canaan is known for its consistency. Below, steamed vegetable dumplings and Crisp Chicken and Shrimp with honeyed walnuts.



it sits in the takeout container for a while, I think it only gets more mellow and better. My favorites are Singapore Thin Rice Noodles, a somewhat transparent noodle that is light and unusual to the American palate. I have become a bit burnt-out on Pad Thai

(just as I am getting sick of pho) but if you love this dish I can promise you an excellent version here.

Jane Stern is co-author of the Roadfood book series.

Home Table's new star? The relaxed and versatile dinner bowl

By Kim Cook
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dinner menus are now crowded with mixed greens bowls, savory stews and casseroles, which can create a quandary when it's time to set the table.

Should you use regular salad plates? (A little small.) Regular dinner plates? (A little flat.) Regular soup bowls? (A little big.)

Thus was born the dinner bowl, a plate/bowl hybrid. It's generally the diameter of a standard dinner plate, but with some curved lip to contain all the delectable broths, juices or errant morsels.

New York-based Peter Kayaian, who is part of sweet-greens' culinary operations team, says more restaurants have begun using dinner bowls because of their versatility.

"Almost any type of dish can go into a shallow bowl — pasta, salad, side dish. Plates aren't cheap, so being able to have one type of plate instead of three or four is a plus for cash-strapped restaurateurs," he says.

"It's also just the trend for plating right now. Gone are the days of the oversize white plates with a small portion in the middle. The shallow bowl allows for some creative plating, with the tall curved rim as a good medium for swooshed sauces and purees."

Craig Norton, director of operations for the Prince George Hotel in Halifax, Nova Scotia, also sees a move away from the standard white plate: "It's too formal. Bowls are more relaxed." He says pottery with earthy tones and rippled texture are more in keeping with what the dishes hold, whether that's in restaurant dining rooms, take-



Sur La Table / Contributed photo via AP

Peter Kayaian's sturdy porcelain bowl plate hybrid is suitable for pasta, salad or a side dish.

away spots or back at home.

"It's all about the new comfort food — a fusion of cuisines. You can layer flavors, textures, cultures, leftovers and fridge contents into a culinary adventure, all in one bowl," he says.

A bonus feature of these capacious containers is that when they're not corralling rice, rigatoni or rocket, they make lovely dishes for bunches of grapes or a batch of fresh-baked cookies.

And there are lots of well-priced options.

Food 52 calls its smooth, snowy porcelain bowl "the lovechild of a plate and a bowl." West Elm's version has a slightly curvy rim, giving it an organic look. Williams-Sonoma's has a classic black trim.

World Market offers a set of



Target / Contributed photo via AP

Target's Solene bowl is part of the Project 62 collection.

four pristine white porcelain dishes, a deal at under \$20. For those ready to try some color, the retailer has a set of hand-made stoneware dinner bowls in uber-trendy blush pink. Or for al fresco gatherings, perhaps the foursome of bamboo bowls, in a midcentury-modern palette of teal, pink, cream and blush.

British designer Aaron Probyn's low-profile porcelain bowl



Ty Mecham / Contributed photo via Food 52 and AP

Unbreakable melamine that looks like stoneware is a relatively new material. Fortessa's terracotta and white dinner bowls are at Food52.



Crate & Barrel / Contributed photo via AP

British designer Aaron Probyn's low-profile porcelain bowl plates come as sets of four, in six hand-glazed hues including navy and 2020's hot color, light green, at Crate & Barrel.

plates come as sets of four, in six hand-glazed hues including navy and 2020's hot color, light green, at Crate & Barrel.

Another pretty color story — this one's midnight, daybreak, fog and moon — is at Year & Day; the bowls are made of hardy Portuguese clay and can handle the freezer, oven, microwave and dishwasher.

Stoneware in earthy hues with

a nice speckled finish can be found at Target, from Project 62.

At Food 52, there's the Caracere collection of French porcelain plates in rustic white, turmeric or moss, created in collaboration with designer Noe Du-chaufour-Lawrance. Also at this retailer, you'll find terracotta and white bowls from Fortessa, in a user-friendly melamine that looks like stoneware

Art Galleries

Sepia tones seep in at Scott Glaser's solo show

FLINN REOPENS FOLLOWING LIBRARY RENOVATIONS

By Joel Lang

This holiday season there's something new and something old at two prominent art galleries.

The new is a solo show by the Westport artist Scott Glaser in the Greenwich Art Society gallery that shares space with the Greenwich Arts Council. Glaser's work can be highly figurative, yet mystifying. It's a lot easier to identify what you're looking at than guess how he did it.

Among the 15 pieces he expects to have in the show are portraits that look like old sepia photographs, actually made from strips of bandage. A vase of colorful flowers that won the free-hand drawing award at the Society's spring juried show actually took a painstaking 300 hours to create. The newest pieces are city skylines fashioned from sample swatches of suit fabric he got from the Mitchell's clothing store.

"If you walked into that gallery and there was no signage you would think it was five different artists," says Glaser. All rely on the same grid system though. Hence the show's subtitle, "Scott Glaser and the Grid."

The old is at the Flinn Gallery. Closed for weeks during renovations to its host building, the Greenwich Public Library, the Flinn is reopening with an exhibit of paintings pulled from the library's permanent collection.

Most are by artists active in the last century. Kirsten Pitts, who helped organize the exhibit, says the most important probably are Mina and Leonard Ochtman. Both belonged to the Cos Cob Art Colony that helped start American impressionism. An outlier, as the youngest



Scott Glaser, seen in his studio, will present his latest artwork in Greenwich. Right, his neo-pointillist drawing of sunflowers in a vase is made up of over two million hand-drawn dots.

still living artist, comes from very far away. He is Senaka Senanayake, a Sri Lankan who studied at Yale and returned home to become one of his island country's leading artists. His paintings capture the lushness and color of its plants and wildlife. The one owned by Greenwich is an early work titled "Leopards."

No matter their age, many of the paintings in the Flinn exhibit may strike gallery visitors as new. "They've kind of been tucked away and people get used to seeing them," says Pitts. "One was behind a water cooler. Some of the best things were in the worst places. Just forgotten."

By contrast, Scott Glaser's work is brand new. Most pieces were done in the last four years. Glaser himself transitioned to

fine art only after a long career as creative director for ad agencies.

"I was constantly hiring photographers and artists who were better than me," he says. "It took me until around 2000 to get over the hump, to do something. If it's good, great. If it's bad, throw it out."

Eventually, he found confidence by adopting the centuries-old grid system in which an artist transfers an image onto platform akin to graph paper. In Glaser's case though the process usually begins with a photograph he has taken himself and copies into a computer. He then overlays the photo with his grid. The hard part comes after he prints the grid out.

"Literally, I go in there square by square and start to hand



stipple," he says, describing pieces he does with ultra-fine colored markers. "There's 1305 half-inch squares (in each grid) and in any one multi-colored square there's over 1,500 dots. They take

about 300 hours a piece. People look at me like, are you crazy?"

The trick is that even though his marker palette is limited to 13 colors, the stippling causes the viewer's eye to blend the colored dots. "There's over 2 million dots in that piece," he says, pointing to an image of a Marlboro-man cowboy wearing an unlikely powder blue jacket.

Both color-marker grid pieces Glaser entered in the Art Society's 2018 spring show were selected by the judge from the Metropolitan Museum. One depicted a placid Maine harbor, the other a towering red-leaved tree, that could be a transplant from a Druid forest. His prize-winning vase of flowers began with a photo taken in the lobby of New York's Pierre Hotel.

Glaser has described these colored-marker pieces as pointillistic. The portraits he does with bandage are more mosaic. But they too follow a grid system as do his skyline series fashioned from fabric swatches.

His show, which he considers his first true solo exhibit, opens Dec. 7 and runs to Jan. 3, at 299 Greenwich Ave.

The Flinn Gallery show opened in November and runs to Jan. 30. All the paintings were researched and all come with histories. But the largest and the one with the most history is a 22-foot long W.P.A. era mural by the Weston artist James Daugherty depicting the deeds of Revolutionary War Gen. Israel Putnam.

It hung for decades in the gymnasium of the old Hamilton Avenue School before being removed for restoration in 1998 and lent to the library. When the school was renovated several years later, parents opposed its return, saying it was too violent for young children. Once the exhibit closes, most of the paintings will be rehanging in places that give them better display. The mural is likely to go back to the periodical area.

FILM

A MEDITATION ON FAITH

FROM FAN TO FILMMAKER, STEPHEN BISACCIA WINS ACCOLADES

By Amanda Cuda

Stephen Bisaccia is proof that libraries work.

The 22-year-old Derby native has been hanging around the Derby Neck Library much of his life. That includes joining the library's film club when he was in middle school. And now Bisaccia has gone from film enthusiast to filmmaker.

Bisaccia directed and co-wrote the short film "Acts of Contrition," a sensitive, sympathetic look at a flawed but decent priest called Father Don (Tom Martin).

The film has played in festivals across the Northeast and Bisaccia has been lauded as a Best Emerging Filmmaker at the 2019 Emerge Film Festival in Lewiston, Maine and Best New Director at the Mystic Film Festival in Connecticut.

But it started at his local library, when his older brother got him into the film club. "He was a big influence to me getting into movies and filmmaking," Bisaccia says.

He channeled that love into making "dozens upon dozens" of small films, and pursued his art more seriously while a student at Quinnipiac University. "Acts of Contrition" was a group project he worked on as part of his doctoral thesis.

The idea for the film grew organically out of discussions with his team. "We were going through a lot of ideas," Bisaccia says. "We were really intrigued by the duality of a priest who is also an Uber driver."

He says, as someone who grew up with a variety of interests — including but not limited to film, sports and rap music — he liked



A still from "Acts of Contrition," a short film directed by Stephen Bisaccia, below, of Derby.

'I WANTED TO FIND A MIDDLE GROUND. (THE PROTAGONIST IS) NOT A PERFECT HUMAN BEING, BUT SOME PRIESTS ARE DECENT HUMAN BEINGS WHO ARE JUST DOING THEIR BEST.'

the idea of someone who had committed his life to the arguably "antiquated" career of the priesthood, but also dabbled in something contemporary.

Indeed, the first scene shows those two sides of Father Don coming into direct conflict, as he picks up a fare who recognizes him from church, only to bail on the fare when he sees a homeless man sleeping outside and decides to help him instead.

The movie goes on to show that Don is fundamentally decent but somewhat disillusioned. He gets bored during a service, fails to remember the name of a woman he buried recently (until her husband shows up in his confession booth threatening suicide) and is somewhat prickly toward the homeless man he helps in the film's first scene.

But Don, we learn, is also dealing with the death of someone close to him, and genuinely wants to be a better spiritual leader to his flock.

Bisaccia says part of Don's character comes from his own conflict-



ed beliefs about religion.

"I grew up very religious," Bisaccia says, adding that he has since

gone through a period of spiritual questioning. "I'm pretty agnostic now. I don't know what I know and I don't know what I don't know."

In a time where much of the news about the priesthood is generated by clergy behaving badly, Bisaccia says it was important to him that Father Don not be a saint, but that he not be a predator either.

"I wanted to find a middle ground," Bisaccia says. "He's not a perfect human being, but some priests are decent human beings who are just doing their best."

In addition to a meditation on faith, the movie is also something of a tribute to Bisaccia's mother, who died about three years ago, and to whom the movie is dedicated.

The film was largely bankrolled through a crowdfunding campaign that raised \$9,000 from 119 supporters, many of whom are residents of lower Naugatuck Valley. "Acts of Contrition" was shot entirely in Connecticut, using locations in Derby, Ansonia and Oxford.

For instance, the church Father Don works at is "played" by St. Mary's Church in Derby.

Bisaccia and his fellow filmmakers are still trying to get the film seen. He says he's submitted the movie to roughly 45 differently festivals.

In about a year, he plans to post "Acts of Contrition" publicly.

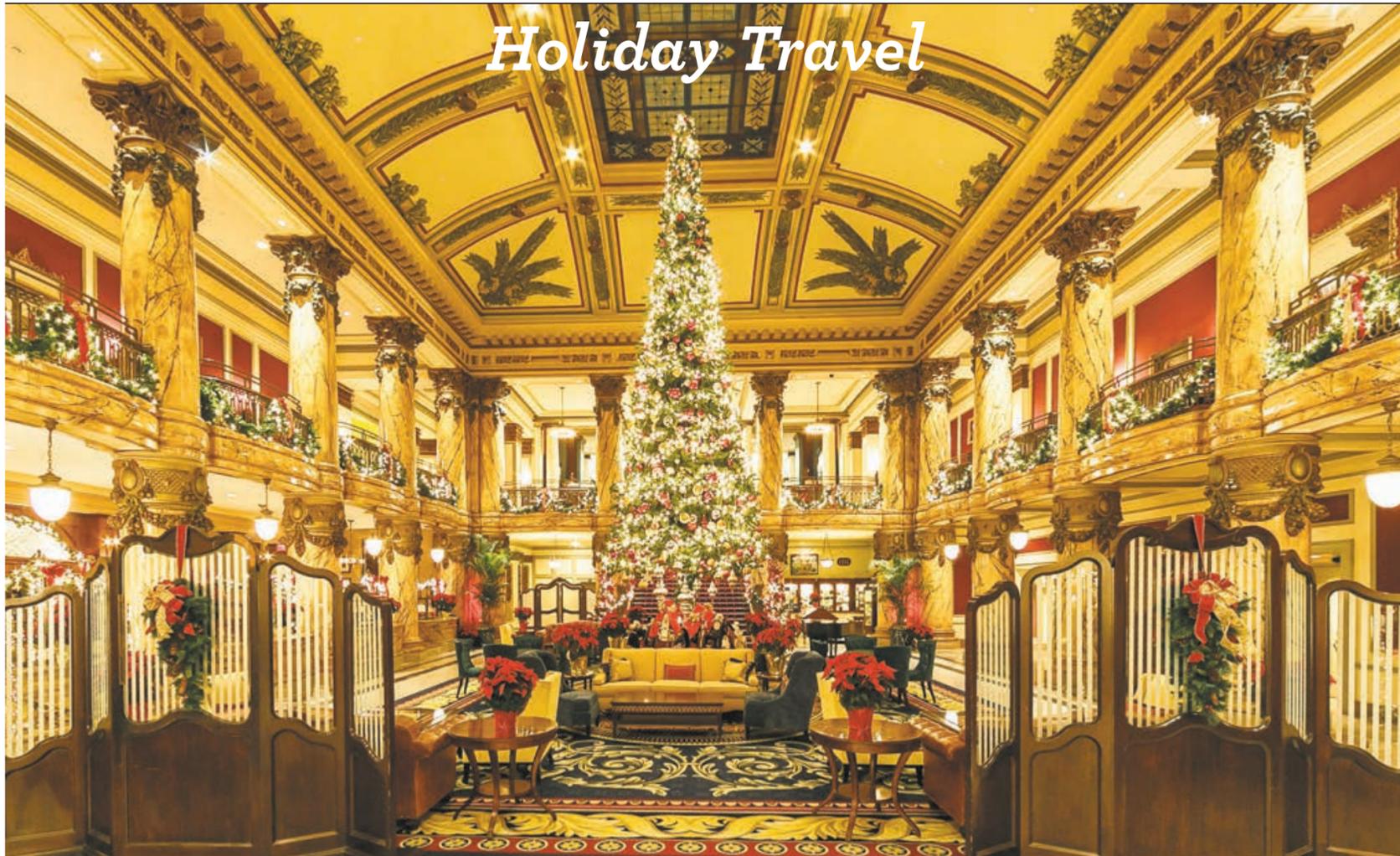
In the meantime, he's teaching part-time, working at the Derby Neck Library and thinking up ideas for his next project.

Surprisingly, given that his first film has been fairly well-received, Bisaccia says he's thinking of pursuing aspects of filmmaking other than writing and directing.

"That's everyone's top-tier (choice)," Bisaccia says. "But there's a lot of stress that comes with that."

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Holiday Travel



Contributed photos

RICHMOND RENAISSANCE

THE VIRGINIA CITY, ONCE TRAPPED BY ITS CHECKERED PAST, IS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S CAPITALS OF COOL AND WELL WORTH A VISIT OVER THE HOLIDAYS

By Martin W.G. King

I kicked back in my chair in the lounge at the legendary Jefferson Hotel in Richmond, Va. Dinner had been fancy bar fare and the drinks had been strong. The tiny tray of complimentary smoked Virginia peanuts that arrived before dinner, however, stole the show.

We'd done some research for this trip and knew the Christmas tree in the Jefferson's opulent Palm Court would be lighted with live holiday music and complimentary hors d'oeuvres afterwards in the hotel ballroom.

Now we were trying to figure out what to make of Richmond. Was it just the fallen capital of the Confederacy, or was there more to it, a city that, perhaps, had slipped its shackles for the most part, and leapt into the 21st century? All the evidence pointed to the latter.

Setting out the next morning, we were reminded of Richmond's friendly vibe. We guessed it was the influence of all the students here — thousands of them. Virginia Commonwealth University and a couple of other institutions occupy great swaths of the city.

This was not our first trip to Richmond. We had visited Richmond first when, years ago, the Jefferson Hotel offered a special rate that included admission to a pricey traveling Picasso show at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. My sister-in-law and a couple of her friends drive over 100 miles to see the lights and tour the decorated mansions in the historic Fan District. (It's a roughly 390-mile drive from Fairfield County, and flights from LaGuardia and JFK take about an hour and 45 minutes.)

We spent our first afternoon at the bucolic, 50-acre Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, which USA Today has said is one of the best in the United States. That's saying something. The Ginter's annual Dominion Energy GardenFest of Lights ushers in Richmond's holiday season and runs through Jan. 6.

The next day we visited the Virginian Museum of Fine Arts, recently expanded and now one of the largest art museums in the United States, where I was enthralled by the collection of 20th-century modern art, particularly the paintings of the artists from the Washington Color School, who, between the 1950s and 1980s, painted bright geometrics in bold colors. Moreover, the requisite modernists were all there: War-



Seeing the Dominion Energy GardenFest of Lights at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens is a Richmond tradition. Top, Richmond's historic Jefferson Hotel is under a holiday glow.

hol, Lichtenstein, Pollock, O'Keeffe, Gilliam. We missed the opening of a new Edward Hopper show, Edward Hopper and the American Hotel, by one day.

Nearby, Monument Avenue is lined with mansions from the tail end of the Gilded Age, when tobacco was king in Richmond and cigarettes drove the local economy. (Today Richmond is home to several Fortune 500 corporations.) The esteemed American Planning Association has named Monument Avenue one of the 10 Greatest Streets in the country. In addition, 14 blocks of the avenue have been designated a National Historic Landmark. A stunning 226 structures, many of them on or near Monument Avenue, are on the National Register of Historic Places.

Between the parallel rows of trees on either side of the avenue and in the landscaped median, the avenue is home to towering monuments to Confederate heroes. Like other cities, Richmond is debating what to do about statuary that is an affront to many of its residents. A new statue, Rumors of War by acclaimed African-American artist Kehinde Wiley, will soon go on permanent display in front of the Museum of Fine Arts. It depicts a black man dressed in urban streetwear astride a massive horse and mimics Richmond's Confederate statuary. It's temporarily on view in New York City's Times Square.



Martin W.G. King

Many buildings in Jackson Ward, the center of African-American history and culture in Richmond, are adorned with colorful murals.

Like Kehinde's work, some of the statuary in Richmond reflects more up-to-date thinking. Arthur Ashe, the famed African-American tennis player who did his hometown proud, is also memorialized on Monument Avenue. Downtown, on Broad Street, a figure of Maggie L. Walker, the great early 20th-century African-American financier and activist, presides over a small square in front of an elegant French restaurant in Jackson Ward, the neighborhood that's the heart of history and culture in Richmond. Her

home, maintained by the National Park Service, is nearby and open to the public. Elsewhere, on the pastoral grounds of the Virginia State Capitol, I came across a striking memorial to women activists and the suffragettes who, 99 years ago, earned women the right to vote after decades of often dangerous struggle.

Of the seven million people who visit Richmond each year (and contribute \$2.2 billion to the local economy), many come at Christmas, drawn by the city's plethora of seasonal events, which include everything from tours of decorated mansions and a boat parade to the offbeat and amusing Tacky Light Bus Tour.

The annual Christmas parade, Dec. 7 this year, has ushered in the Christmas season for 36 years. It proceeds for two and a half miles along Broad Street, the main commercial artery, with floats, marching bands, majorettes, sly novelty acts, gigantic helium balloons, choral groups and horse-drawn wagons, one transporting Santa. The 27th annual James River Parade of Lights, another major event, takes place Dec. 14 with boats fitted out with for the holidays slowly motoring 14 miles down the James River, which bisects the city.

Richmond's Dominion Energy Center, which includes the lavish Carpenter Theatre, will be the site of several holiday music concerts. On Dec. 6, the acclaimed Rich-

mond Symphony will perform Handel's Messiah. The next day, and on Dec. 8, the symphony, accompanied by its chorus, will perform its annual Let It Snow! Christmas concert. That will be followed Dec. 13-23 by the Richmond Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, with music, again, by the Richmond Symphony.

The revered Richmond Pops Band performs Dec. 23 at a different venue, the grand Altria Theatre. A day after Christmas, on Dec. 26, the Altria will present *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*, hosted by hip hop pioneer Kurtis Blow. In a different vein, the Celts will perform Celtic Christmas music at the Tin Pan, a restaurant and music venue, on Dec. 16.

But it's the mansions that draw multitudes of holiday visitors. Many would never dream of missing the annual tour of decorated Fan District homes, Dec. 14-15. The Branch House, a grand Tudor Revival mansion on Monument Avenue that's now the Branch Museum of Architecture and Design, offers twice-a-month tours for which advance registration is necessary. Participants on the Dec. 22 tour will see the immaculately preserved house in all its holiday splendor.

The Victorian Maymont Mansion, which sits on the banks of the James River, is also getting ready for Christmas. Plans call for a 12-foot Christmas tree and a dining room set for a feast. Tours of the decorated mansion run through Jan. 5. At Maymont by Moonlight on Dec. 20, costumed characters portraying the master and mistress of the house, assorted friends and servants will reenact the Christmas of 1893, the first at Maymont, with caroling and refreshments for visitors.

Agecroft Hall, a 16th century Tudor mansion built in Lancashire, England, then dismantled in the 1920s, shipped across the Atlantic and reconstructed in Richmond, will mark the holidays with a Yuletides at Agecroft event on Dec. 8 that will provide glimpses into Christmas celebrations at three different times: Elizabethan England in 1640, London in 1860 and Richmond in 1942.

On Dec. 26 and 27, with holiday stress in the rearview mirror, the Holiday Glitter Walking Tour along Monument Avenue provide a glimpse into how residents have celebrated since the first houses were built there in the late 19th century.

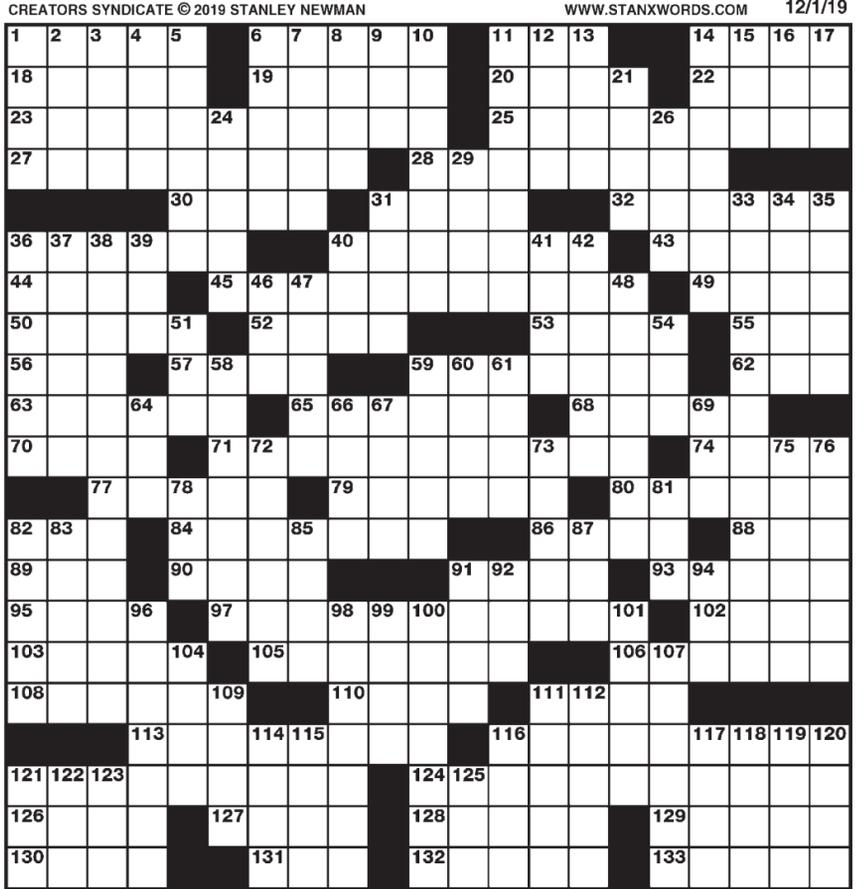
Martin W.G. King is a freelance travel writer.

take a break

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
52 PICKUP: Pairs from dealt games
 by S.N.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Russian villa
 - 6 Boston hoopsters, in headlines
 - 11 LAX stat
 - 14 Be boastful
 - 18 National spirit
 - 19 Delight in
 - 20 Penpoints
 - 22 "Rock-a-__ Baby" (Elvis tune in *Blue Hawaii*)
 - 23 Claim against a plaintiff [blackjack, many]
 - 25 Swabbing crew [many, many]
 - 27 Brewpub offerings
 - 28 More formal in attire
 - 30 Spoken exam
 - 31 Topper for 27 Across
 - 32 Trafalgar Square honoree
 - 36 Having just walked, say
 - 40 Gracious appraisal
 - 43 "Same here"
 - 44 Day or night
 - 45 Ring's small adornment [many, many]
 - 49 Greek god with wings
 - 50 Sandal part
 - 52 Pretzel maker's creation
 - 53 Land surrounded by *agua*
 - 55 Captivate
 - 56 Metal in pewter
 - 57 Seer's sighting
 - 59 Craig predecessor as 007
 - 62 Election winners
 - 63 Page 1 name, July 1937
 - 65 Ado
 - 68 Taking a good look at
 - 70 Second attempt
 - 71 Salesperson's handout [poker, many]
 - 74 "This is terrible!"
 - 77 Reverend's counterpart
 - 79 Make cherished
 - 80 Raw-bar selection
 - 82 Frat letter
 - 84 Looks over again, as a manuscript
 - 86 *Blue Hawaii* setting
 - 88 Booster for a team
 - 89 PD alert
 - 90 Elevator innovator
 - 91 24-hr. money sources
 - 93 Umpire's assignment
 - 95 __ salad (main dish with greens)
 - 97 Major disappointments [many, blackjack]
 - 102 Cake topper
 - 103 Triple-tier sweets
 - 105 "Reading" to rowdies
 - 106 Table linens
 - 108 Deleted
 - 110 Pursues relentlessly
 - 111 Workplace for
 - 113 Winston Churchill's son
 - 116 Outmoded car-trip reference
 - 121 Highway warning [poker, self-explanatory]
 - 124 Look over again [canasta, poker]
 - 126 "Wait, one more thank you . . ."
 - 127 Performs some road repair
 - 128 Sit in on a class
 - 129 Toulouse-Lautrec or Matisse
 - 130 Stitched up
 - 131 "You bet!"
 - 132 Wine sediment
 - 133 Done
- DOWN**
- 1 "Ten" prefix
 - 2 Unit of uranium
 - 3 Cousin of a carp
 - 4 Improve, as skills
 - 5 Lone Star State baseballers
 - 6 Server on *Cheers*
 - 7 Henry Ford II's dad
 - 8 __ on *First* (book about Costello)
 - 9 30% of 1 Down
 - 10 Put in writing
 - 11 Indigenous
 - 12 Personal connections
 - 13 Things learned first
 - 14 *Peanuts* kid
 - 15 Preside over
 - 16 Antiquarian
 - 17 Had been
 - 21 Potatoey appetizer
 - 24 Golden__ corn
 - 26 Pay attention to
 - 29 McNally's partner
 - 31 Mr. Potato Head piece
 - 33 Deadpan expression [poker, many]
 - 34 Nickname for Orlando
 - 35 Mr. Potato Head pieces
 - 36 GM security system
 - 37 "Sorry, gotta run"
 - 38 Drove away quickly [blackjack, whist]
 - 39 Got __ (crushed the exam)
 - 40 Plan with copays: Abbr.
 - 41 Frat letters
 - 42 Former Disney head
 - 46 *South Park* kid
 - 47 Invalidate
 - 48 Clay for kids
 - 51 Luau finger food
 - 54 Vader's boyhood nickname
 - 58 Bard's witchy work
 - 59 Personal connections
 - 60 Great anger
 - 61 Predatory dolphin
 - 64 Mauna __
 - 66 Arraignment statement
 - 67 Coating for some cheeses
 - 69 Phone bk. entries
 - 72 More breezy
 - 73 Enticing fragrance
 - 75 Felix, vis-à-vis Oscar
 - 76 Mean and stubborn
 - 78 Dude
 - 81 Informal agreement
 - 82 Common food truck fare
 - 83 Nautical direction
 - 85 Actor Morales
 - 87 Seek answers
 - 91 Paths of orbits
 - 92 Vietnamese holiday
 - 94 Edge of a glass
 - 96 Mint julep ingredient
 - 98 Fishing with a net, perhaps
 - 99 Sporty car roof
 - 100 Mideast capital
 - 101 Snarky
 - 104 Lasting mark
 - 107 Cochise or Geronimo
 - 109 Make a scarf
 - 111 Ferber novel
 - 112 Stops marching
 - 114 *Saving Private Ryan* event
 - 115 Villain of folklore
 - 116 Like some awakenings
 - 117 Consequently
 - 118 Furnish for a while
 - 119 Square mile fraction
 - 120 Raceway mishap
 - 121 Spanish article
 - 122 Soccer cheer
 - 123 GPS direction
 - 125 "... and __ sacred Honor" (Declaration conclusion)



- ACROSS**
- 18 19
 - 23 24
 - 27 28 29
 - 36 37 38 39
 - 44 45 46 47
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 - 56 57 58
 - 63 64
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 - 108 109 110
 - 121 122 123
 - 126 127
 - 130 131 132
- DOWN**
- 11 12 13
 - 14 15 16 17
 - 20 21 22
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horoscope HOLIDAY MATHIS

All language must be built. This is the case even when two people technically speak the same native tongue; there are always subtleties and meanings inside of meanings to hash out before fluid communication can take place. This communal Aquarius moon favors all efforts to find commonality.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): While you can't exactly bottle up the hilarity of a fit of laughter to savor during some future rainy day when you could use a joyful memory, you can do something pretty close to that with today's fun.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Small battles will eventually change the big picture. It takes time. When you know it's right, fight the good fight on whatever level you can. It all contributes; it all matters.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): It would be an understatement to say a person is getting to know you. It's more like this person is discovering you as an explorer would a mysterious, unknown world.

CANCER (June 22-July 22): There are words you choose to say, and words that seem to have chosen you. It will be as

though some of your dialogue today locked and loaded itself without your knowing and was just waiting to be triggered.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Certainty is a dangerous thing in relationships. It squeezes out the need to come to a consensus, to work together, to question and communicate a way to the truth. The healthiest and best relationships are riddled with doubt.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Here you go, getting a new look at the human condition in all its damaged perfection. You'll be amazed by people's stories, and they will help you understand your own better.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): It's not too late to change your mind. It's certainly an easy thing to do. It only requires that you accept that you can't know everything, and then you open yourself up to coming to other conclusions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): In food, freedom and love, those who have never gone without can't fully appreciate how precious these things are. It's why you don't mind hearing a sad story. The benefit is that it expands your capacity for gratitude.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Others are thinking along similar lines as you but are afraid to speak up about it. Change starts with brave people willing to say true but unpopular things publicly.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Things have gotten out of hand expectation-wise. This is more stress than it's worth. An adjustment will influence everyone's experience in a pleasant direction. Bring it down a few notches.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): People will conform to what you expect of them. The best part is that you don't even have to put those expectations into words, as most everything will be communicated in other ways.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): What would it take to position yourself to do only what's pleasant for you, to avoid sources of work, stress or annoyance and to simply, unthinkingly, be?

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 1): You'll solve the problems and move forward with what matters to you. Though bright blasts of creativity will sometimes come out of nowhere, to be inventive on a

more regular basis you need time, space and materials. Get them, and make sure to restock when any one of those categories falls low. Leo and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 2, 10, 17 and 49.

FORECAST FOR THE WEEK AHEAD: Part of growing up is shifting your point of operation from that of other people's truths to the truth that is all your own.

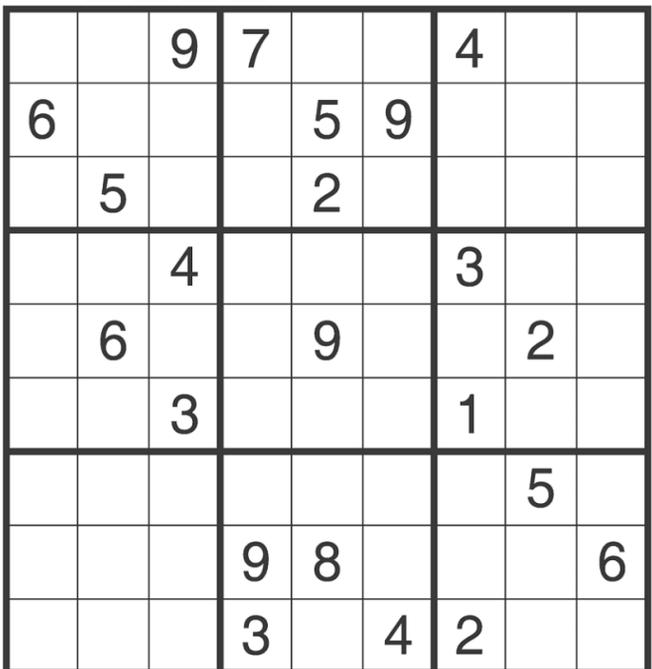
The world will teach various systems that we must navigate in order to get anywhere. But it's the way we navigate them that makes a difference. If you navigate to please and be validated by others, then you are not operating from your own truth.

You are operating from theirs. It may seem to make things easier in a given moment, but on the whole, this point of operation will be a painful and difficult position from which to steer a life.

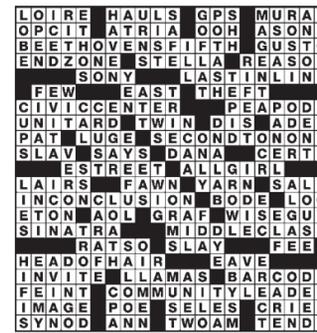
The big change this week comes with Jupiter's move into Capricorn, a realm that the planet of luck and abundance will be exploring for almost the entire year of 2020. It's a passage that signifies cosmic maturity and highlights the need for leadership. Consider in the months to come that you will always be the most challenging person you will ever lead. And when you effectively direct yourself to achieve your own goals, it is no small thing. Rather, it is a noble and courageous act.

sudoku MICHAEL MEPHAM

Level **1** **2** **3** **4**



Last week's Crossword



Last week's Sudoku



bridge FRANK STEWART Louie and the 'law'

"Do you like the law of total tricks?" Unlucky Louie asked me.

"It's no 'law,'" I said. "It's often on target, especially in partscore deals."

The LOTT states that the total number of trumps both sides have in their best suit equals the number of tricks they can win. Louie was East in today's deal where East-West had 10 hearts and North-South 10 spades.

"So 20 tricks should have been available at heart and spade contracts," Louie said. "I might have gone to five hearts. I could guess the total number of trumps as 20, so if I couldn't make five hearts, four spades was unbeatable."

At four spades, South temptingly put up dummy's king on the first diamond, and Louie took his ace and returned a diamond. South lost a trump and, with the clubs sitting well, one club. Making four.

"Five hearts was cold," Louie told me glumly.

The LOTT often breaks down at high levels where the distribution may be freakish,

but Louie had more to gain by bidding on. If five hearts was makable, then per the LOTT, Louie would be only plus 50 against four spades. And minus 50 at five hearts would be better than minus 420.

Louie had a chance to beat four spades. West's INT marked him with two diamonds, so Louie could duck the first diamond. South could succeed by leading the A-J of hearts, pitching his last diamond (so the LOTT was off by one trick), but if South led a trump next, West could take the ace and lead his last diamond. Louie could win and lead a third diamond to promote a trick for West's 10-9 of trumps.

West dealer
Neither side vulnerable

NORTH
 ♠ Q 6 4
 ♥ A J
 ♦ K 6 4 2
 ♣ K J 9 4

WEST
 ♠ A 10 9
 ♥ K Q 5 2
 ♦ J 3
 ♣ A Q 8 3

EAST
 ♠ None
 ♥ 9 8 7 6 4 3
 ♦ A 10 9 7 5
 ♣ 10 6

SOUTH
 ♠ K J 8 7 5 3 2
 ♥ 10
 ♦ Q 8
 ♣ 7 5 2

West 1NT
3♥
All Pass

North Pass
3♠

East 2♥
4♦

South 2♠
4♠

Opening lead — ♦ J

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Television

Batwoman

(11) WPXI (20) WTXH 8 p.m.
Alice (Rachel Starsten) continues her dance of sisters/nemesis with Kate (Ruby Rose) while Mouse helps her to construct the most evil plan yet. Kate is invited to a special event that honors Catherine and becomes confused when Jacob makes an odd decision.

Alaska: The Last Frontier

disc 8 p.m.
The Kilchers must use their newly blasted road for the first time in this new episode. They haul an enormous pole barn across the homestead. Ervin and Atz Sr. get tangled as the tide comes in, and Ervin's boat is pushed towards a rocky beach.

Bob's Burgers

(5) WYVW (61) WVIC 9 p.m.
Gene (Eugene Mirman) is auditioning for a role in a local theater production in this new episode, but everything begins to backfire when he finds out that his mother, Linda (John Roberts),

made a deal with the director in order to get him the part.

Holiday Wars

FOOD 9 p.m.
In this new series five teams of cake and sugar artists face off in a slew of festive challenges. To kick things off, host Jonathan Bennett asks teams to give their jolliest depiction of a heist involving the world's naughtiest kids stealing Santa's list.

Lone Star Law

ANPL 9 p.m.
Over a quarter-million square miles of desert, woods and coast are protected by the men and women who have dedicated their lives to the Texas Game Wardens. Smuggling rings, flash floods and Texas-sized critters keep these officers on the go at all times.

The Rookie

(7) WABC (8) WTNH 10 p.m.
This police procedural series' second

season is well underway as Nathan Fillion and Alyssa Diaz are joined by new cast member Mekia Cox. Fillion portrays John Nolan, a rookie police officer who happens to be 45-years-old.

Madam Secretary

(2) WCBS (3) WFSB 10:30 p.m.
Téa Leoni stars as Secretary of State, and former CIA analyst, Elizabeth McCord who navigates diplomacy and domestic issues both at work and at home in the sixth and final season of this popular political drama. Tim Daly and Željko Ivanek also star.

Mrs. Fletcher

HBO 10:30 p.m.
Eve Fletcher (Kathryn Hahn) experiences a mid-life crisis after a sudden divorce and her son Brendan (Jackson White) leaves for college. Deciding to change her life, Eve begins a journey of self-discovery that eluded her in her younger days.



Tim Rozon and Candace Cameron Bure star in "Christmas Town."

SUNDAY DAYTIME

DECEMBER 1, 2019

	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30			
BROADCAST	2	WCBS (6:00) CBS 2 Sunday Morning News (N)			CBS Sunday Morning (N) (HD)		Face the Nation (HD)	Coach AG	The NFL Today (L) (HD)	NFL Football New York Jets at Cincinnati Bengals Site: Paul Brown Stadium (L) (HD)		(25) NFL Football Oak/Kan. (L) (HD)													
	3	WFSB News Sunday (N)	News (N)	Face State	CBS Sunday Morning (N) (HD)		Face the Nation (HD)	Paid	The NFL Today (L) (HD)	NFL Football New York Jets at Cincinnati Bengals Site: Paul Brown Stadium (L) (HD)		(25) NFL Football (L) (HD)													
	4	WNBC (6:00) Today in NY	Sunday Today (N) (HD)	OpenNYC	Today NY	Today NY	Meet the Press (N) (HD)	J.Osteen	Paid	FIS Alpine Skiing (L)													The Presidents Cup		
	5	WNYW J.Osteen Jeremiah	In Touch Ministries	J.Osteen	Paid	News Sunday (N) (HD)	NFL Kickoff (L) (HD)		NFL Sunday (L) (HD)	NFL Football Green Bay Packers at New York Giants (L) (HD)														The OT	
	7	WABC (6:00) News (N)	GMA/Sunday (HD)	Eyewitness News (N)	This Week (HD)	News	Tiempo	Here and Now (HD)	Wild C.	Ocean (HD)	X Games	X Games	Amer. Game (N) (HD)	Greatest	Greatest	Eyewitness News (N)									
	8	WTHN (6:00) News (N)	GMA/Sunday (HD)	This Week (HD)	Report	An Answer	Oh Baby!	Oh Baby!	Paid	Paid	Jeop. (HD)	Wheel	X Games	X Games	Amer. Game (N) (HD)	Greatest	Greatest	Mile Lights (N) (HD)							
	9	WWOR Jeremiah R. Jeffress	Key David J.Osteen	Paid	Amazing	J.Osteen	Paid	Biz Kid\$	Now	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Whack	Whack	Major Crimes (HD)	Paid Program							
	11	WPXI Press (HD)	The Race	Paid	Matters	Paid	Amazing	At Home Tri-State	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	PIX11 News at 5 (N)		
	13	WNEN Cat 'A Nature Carol'	PinkaPet	Molly	Xavier	TBA	This Old House Hour	NYC Arts	Arts	To Be Announced								Real Food	J. Pepin	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Chicago P.D. (HD)	Mike & M.	Lidia's Kit.		
	20	WTXX Paid	Paid	Paid	Buy Time	Home (HD)	Paid	Eucharist	(:45) Spirit	Paid	Paid	True Crime Files (HD)	Chicago P.D. (HD)											The Presidents Cup	
	21	WLIV College Behind B (N)	College Behind B (N)	Arts Beat	Metro (HD)	NY NOW	Bare Feet	Plastic Problem (N)	Cook's	Lidia (HD)	Meals (HD)	Feast	R. Steves	Straight From the He											
	30	WVIT CT News Sunday (N)	Sunday Today (N) (HD)	CT News Sunday (N)	Face-Facts	Meet the Press (N) (HD)	Paid	Paid	Paid	FIS Alpine Skiing (L)														The Presidents Cup	
	49	WEDW George	CatHat	Cat (HD)	Jet Go!	W. Week	ToCont	OpenMind	Foreign	Scully	Cyberch.	Live From Lincoln Center	Hollydolls	To Be Announced (HD)										Nova (HD)	
	55	WLNY Mass	P. Stone	In Touch Ministries	Sun. Mass	VanImpe	Creflo	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	** The First Wives Club	Goldie Hawn. (HD)	Cops (HD)	Magic (HD)	Jokers	Paid							Elementary (HD)	
	59	WCTX D. Tales	AnimalR.	IntoWild	Hollywd.	J. Hanna	Pets.TV	Eucharist		Pet Show	Sports	Taste	Music (HD)	** The First Wives Club	Goldie Hawn. (HD)	** Home by Christmas	Linda Hamilton. (HD)								The Spirit of Christmas
	61	WTIC (6:00) FOX 61 Morning News (N)				News Sunday (N) (HD)	Erth2050	DIY Sei (N)	NFL Kickoff (L) (HD)	NFL Sunday (L) (HD)	NFL Football (L) (HD)														The OT
	CABLE	A&E	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	Hoarders (HD)	
		BRAVO	Housewives NJ (HD)	(:55) Wives NJ (HD)	(:55) Wives NJ (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	Married Medicine (HD)	
		COMC	Parks (HD)	Office (HD)	(:35) Office	(:10) Office	(:45) Office	(:20) The Office (HD)	(:55) Office	Bad Santa 2	(:16) Billy Bob Thornton. (HD)														
		DISC	Tidewater	Fishing	R.VERS (HD)	Right (HD)	Feeding Frenzy (HD)	Man/Bear	(:05) Bush	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	Bush People (HD)	
		Freeform	** Richie Rich's Christmas Wish				(:05) Deck the Halls	Scottie Thompson. (HD)	(:10) ** Arthur Christmas	James McAvoy. (HD)	(:15) Simp.	(:45) Simp.	(:15) Simp.	(:45) ** The Santa Clause	Tim Allen. (HD)	(:50) ** The Santa Clause 2	(HD)								
		FOOD	Martina	Brunch	Guy's R.	Cooking	Pioneer	Pioneer	Pioneer	Pioneer	GirlFarm	Cooking	Basics	Holiday	The Kitchen (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins (HD)	Diners, Drive-Ins (HD)	
		FX	Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Mike&M.	Weekly	** The Fantastic Four	(:15) Miles Teller.	** Logan	(:17, Action) Patrick Stewart, Dafne Keen, Hugh Jackman.	** X-Men: Apocalypse	(:16) Michael Fassbender, Jennifer Lawrence.	Movie											
		HGTV	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	Good Bones (HD)	
		HIST	Off-Road	Engine	Truck T.	D. Muscle	Counting Cars: Drive	G-T-Whoa!	(HD)	MenWhoBullAmerica	"Bloody Battles" (HD)	MenWhoBullAmerica	"Changing the Game" (HD)	BuiltAm.	"When One Ends, Another Begins" (HD)	BuiltAm.	"When One Ends, Another Begins" (HD)	BuiltAm.	"When One Ends, Another Begins" (HD)	BuiltAm.	"When One Ends, Another Begins" (HD)	BuiltAm.	"When One Ends, Another Begins" (HD)	BuiltAm.	"When One Ends, Another Begins" (HD)
		LIFE	In Touch	Transfor	Amazing	David Jer.	J.Osteen	Paid (HD)	Wish Upon a Christmas	Aaron Ashmore. (HD)	Every Day Is Christmas	(:18) Toni Braxton. (HD)	Jingle Belle	(:18) Tatyana Ali. (HD)	Staging Christmas	(*) Soleil Moon Frye. (HD)									
MSNBC		MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	Up (N) (HD)	Up (N) (HD)	Up (N) (HD)	AM Joy (N) (HD)		Alex Witt (N) (HD)	Alex Witt (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)	MSNBC Live (N) (HD)		
PRMT		Paid Program																							
SYFY		Paid	Paid	Twilight	Twilight	** Push	(:09) Dakota Fanning, Chris Evans. (HD)	(:35) ** Need for Speed	(:14) Imogen Poots, Aaron Paul. (HD)	** The Last Witch Hunter	(:15) Vin Diesel. (HD)	xXx: Return of Xander Cage	(HD)												
TBS		Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	** Dumb and Dumber	(:94) Jim Carrey. (HD)	(:45) ** Horrible Bosses	(:11) Jason Bateman. (HD)	** Identity Thief	(:13) Jason Bateman. (HD)	(:15) ** The Hangover	(:09) Ed Helms. (HD)												
TLC		Say Yes-Dress (HD)	Say Yes-Dress (HD)	Say Yes-Dress (HD)	Say Yes-Dress (HD)	Say Yes-Dress (HD)	Say Yes-Dress (HD)	Say Yes-Dress (HD)	Say Yes-Dress (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)	Hoarding (HD)		
TNT		NCIS:NewOrleans (HD)	NCIS:NewOrleans (HD)	NCIS:NewOrleans (HD)	NCIS:NewOrleans (HD)	** Batman Begins	(:05) Michael Caine, Christian Bale. (HD)	** The Dark Knight	(:08, Action) Heath Ledger, Aaron Eckhart, Christian Bale. (HD)	** The Dark Knight Rises	(HD)	** The Dark Knight Rises	(HD)												
TVLAND		:10 G. Girls	:45 G. Girls	(:20) The Golden Girls	:55 G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls	G. Girls		
USA		Paid	Paid	In Touch	J.Osteen	Temptation Island (HD)	The Purge (HD)	Treadstone (HD)	SVU "Wrath" (HD)	Law&O: SVU '911" (HD)	SVU "Infiltrated" (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)	Law&Order: SVU (HD)			
AMC		Snow (HD)	Rudolph and Frosty's Christmas in July	Red Buttons. (HD)	C'mas (HD)	Frosty (HD)	Rudolph's Shiny Ne...	:15 The Year Without a Santa Claus	DrumBoy	Snow (HD)	Frosty (HD)	C'mas (HD)	Rudolph's Shiny Ne...	:45 The Year Without a Santa Claus											
FLIX		(:05) Daddy Day Camp	(:07, Com)	(:35) ** Barnyard	Wanda Sykes. (HD)	Movie	When																		
HBO		** The Hate U Give	Amanda Stenberg. (HD)	(:15) Lindsey Vonn: Final	(HD)	(:45) ** Rise of the Planet of the Apes	(HD)	(:40) Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son	(HD)	** Van Helsing	(:04) Hugh Jackman. (HD)	(:45) His Dark	(HD)	His Dark											
MAX		(:6:25) ** Hero	(HD)	(:05) ** The Island	(:05) Ewan McGregor. (HD)	(:25) ** Enemy of the State	Will Smith. (HD)	(:40) ** Quantum of Solace	Daniel Craig. (HD)	** DeJa Vu	(:06) Denzel Washington. (HD)	(:40) ** Skyscraper	(HD)												
SHOW		(6:50) 100%	(:05) Inside the NFL	(:05) ** The Shadow	(:94) Alec Baldwin. (HD)	The Fast & the Furious: Tokyo Drift	(:45) ** Road House	(:89) Patrick Swayze. (HD)	** The Fugitive	(:93) Sela Ward, Harrison Ford. (HD)	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife	BackLife		
STZ ENC		Outlander	(:05) Outlander	Outlander	Outlander	Outlander	Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander	(:55) Outlander		
TCM		Movie	** Night and Day	(:46) Alexis Smith, Cary Grant. (HD)	** The Mask of Dimitrios	Zachary Scott. (HD)	** Lady in the Lake	(:46) Robert Montgomery. (HD)	** Little Women	(:49) June Allyson. (HD)	(:15) ** Holiday Affair	(:49) Robert Mitchum. (HD)													
TMC		** Metropolitan	Carolyn Farina. (HD)	(:40) Jurassic Galaxy	(2018, Action)	** Valkyrie	(:08) Tom Cruise. (HD)	** Wild Bill	(:95) Jeff Bridges. (HD)	** SuperGirl	Matysio Amy. (HD)	A Very British Christmas	(:35) ** My Father the Hero												
KIDS	ANPL	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)	North Woods Law (HD)			
	DISN	DuckTal.	:40 BigCity	BigCity	BigCity	Bunk'd	PupAca.	PupAca.	Liv Maddie	Call Style	Raven	G. Duran	CoopCami	CoopCami	Sydney	Sydney	G. Duran	G. Duran	Raven	Raven	Bunk'd	Bunk'd			
	NICK	Sponge	44 Cats (N)	Power R.	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	ALVIN (HD)	LEGO (N)	Smurfs	LEGO (HD)	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge	Sponge			
	TOON	Bakugan	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	AppOn	AppOn	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball	Gumball			
	ESPN	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)	SportsCenter (N)			
	ESPN2	Slippery	F1 Grid	(:05) F1 Auto Race	Abu Dhabi Grand Prix (L) (HD)	Fantasy	Get the most up to date fantasy football news and analysis. (HD)	NCAA Basketball	Wooden Legacy (L) (HD)	Score.	NCAA Basketball	Orlando Invitational (L) (HD)													
	MSG	(6:00) Paid Program				Giants (N)	NY Giants 1st & 10	NHL Hockey	N.Y. Rangers vs New Jersey	Post-game	MSG Shorts	Pre-game	NBA Basketball	Boston Celtics at New York Knicks (L)											
	YES	Yan. Sta.	Nets Mag	S. Money	Swing (HD)	18 Holes	Box 30	History Yankees (HD)	CenterSt.	"Best of" (HD)	MLB Baseball Classics	Mtl./N.Y. Y. (HD)	Nets Mag	Nets Pre	NBA Basketball	Miami Heat at Brooklyn Nets (L) (HD)	NetsPost								
	CNBC	Paid	Paid	CashCb	CashCb	CashCb	CashCb	Back in the Game	(HD)	Back in the Game	(HD)	Back in the Game	(HD)	Back in the Game	(HD)	Shark Tank (HD)	Shark Tank (HD)								

Real Estate

THE NEWS-TIMES | NEWSTIMES.COM | Sunday, December 1, 2019 | Section E

HOT PROPERTY

Perfect for life on the lake E2

Includes updated dock, amenities of Knollcrest Community



Mike Yamin Photography / Contributed photo

Built in 1940, and one of the first homes built in the community, 7 Windmill Road, New Fairfield, has been expanded and updated.



Daniele Piovezahn / Contributed photo

WHAT YOU CAN BUY

Stunning updated Cape in Newtown

Page E3



Contributed photo

WHAT YOU CAN BUY

Sundrenched modern home in Ridgefield

Page E3

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REAL ESTATE

HOT PROPERTY

Rustic charmer by Candlewood Lake



Mike Yamin Photography / Contributed photos

By Pamela Brown

Cozy and rustic with an Adirondack-sided style, this home provides you with the perfect place to enjoy life on the lake. "This is a Knollcrest Lake charmer with versatile living space and room for extended family, along with its own updated dock and the great amenities of living in the Knollcrest Community," said Jean O'Neill, Realtor with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty's Northern Fairfield County Brokerage. "You can see your boat in its deeded slip from nearly every room of this beauty," said O'Neill.

The 1,602-square-foot three-bedroom home is located on .40 acres at 7 Windmill Road in New Fairfield. "Knollcrest is a wonderful private community set on a peninsula on Candlewood Lake known for its extraordinary and unique windmill, private sandy beach, peaceful beauty, and gathering space. What sets it apart is its intimate setting surrounded by the shores of Connecticut's largest man-made lake," explained O'Neill. "Located only 90 minutes from New York City, this area is loved by the residents who enjoy living in a relaxed neighborhood where kids actually play ball in their yards and walk (or take their golf cart) down to the beach which offers sun and shade, a lawn for cartwheels and a basketball court."

Built in 1940, and one of the first homes built in the community, it's been expanded and updated, perfect for today's lifestyle. "Over the years, the current owners have taken meticulous care and continually updated the home. All of it has been seamlessly intertwined, lending itself to a wonderfully versatile floor plan with plenty of room for guests," said O'Neill. Oak hardwood floors are located in the original updated build and master bedroom.

An expansive room comprises a combined family/dining room highlighted by a stunning wood-burning fieldstone fireplace with a wood mantel and wood built-ins. "It adds a warm ambiance," she said. A wood beamed ceiling connects the newer addition to the original part of the home. The room features newly-finished hardwood floors; a ceiling fan; a skylight; pine paneling; and storage and cubbies with original period latches. "Stained glass accent lighting further warms this space where a desk area can be fashioned as well as a large sitting area and/or game tables – it offers plenty of room to entertain," said O'Neill. "The living room's main feature is a year-round western view out to the lake. Catching a sunset with a mountain in the backdrop is a spectacular way to end a Knollcrest day." Also, the living room offers entry into a screened-in porch with its own



Wood-beamed ceilings add a warm ambiance to this New Fairfield home.

separate front entry.

You'll find yourself creating lovely meals in the well-detailed, eat-in kitchen. "It's a well-kept, efficient space," said O'Neill. Some of its features include a wood ceiling; light-colored wood cabinetry; a stylish chair rail; a stainless sink; and plenty of space for a table. Appliances include a refrigerator, an electric range; and a microwave. Windows offer a view of the private backyard. Also, there's glass sliders that offer access to a rear deck. "With sight lines to the living room, family room, and dining room, the kitchen is the hub of the home keeping the chef connected to both indoor and outdoor living," she said.

The location of the dining room has vast possibilities. "It can be placed in three different areas. The current owners prefer to have it connected to the lakeside living room that's connected to the kitchen. But, there's also the option of a separate dining room that's directly off the kitchen and has sliders out to the expansive deck. The third possibility for the dining room is the original living room."

The main level master bedroom is a comfortable space. "This room is set away from the kitchen hub but close to the family room and screened-in porch," said O'Neill. It has lovely refinished hardwood floors. "In the room the current owners have created a

quiet reading nook, but this space could easily house a wardrobe, dressers or an office area." Adjacent to the bedroom is a full private bathroom with a tiled, walk-in shower; built-in cabinetry; and a tiled floor.

The upper level comprises two generously-sized bedrooms. "It's important for a potential buyer to visit the home as the possibilities are endless as far as decorating and room utilization. Originally a small ranch, it has been thoughtfully expanded to include two upstairs bedrooms with large closets and a spacious full bathroom with a tub and a large linen closet," said O'Neill. "One of the newer bedrooms features sliding glass doors leading out to a Juliet

balcony with the best view of the lake. Take refuge here with morning coffee or afternoon drink toward sunset." The second bedroom has a nice view of the backyard.

A lower level is a convenient space. "The 1940's original build features a poured concrete foundation that's immaculate, dry, well-lit, and perfect for storing lake toys, kayaks, life vests, oars, and so on," said O'Neill. It also has a large laundry and storage area deep enough for a car and/or golf cart.

Additional amenities include an attic with storage space; central air conditioning; hot air heat; an attic with storage space; a private water system; and a one car under house garage with a paved driveway offering parking for at least seven cars, plus two on-street spots.

The property is beautifully landscaped with various ground coverings; perennials; a red Maple; and privacy evergreens. "As you approach, you first notice a pretty stone wall which carves out parking along the road and carries you up the stone wall-lined drive to a large parking area, which is hard to find in any lake community," said O'Neill. A slate walkway leads to a covered porch entry.

An expansive rear hardwood deck with original Knollcrest-styled railings that match the Juliet balcony is ideal for outdoor entertaining. "The home has fabulous indoor-outdoor living areas – the deck and a spacious patio that is adjacent to a large, private well-established lawn," she said. The property offers plenty of space for year-round recreation.

This adorable home offers comfort and the benefits of life by the lake, whether for year-round living or a special home-away-from-home. "It's large, but it retains its original Knollcrest charm while offering a few different ways to lay out the rooms and make use of the space," said O'Neill. "The beauty of Knollcrest is not only in its waterfront location with beautiful sunrises and sunsets but in its opportunity for each homeowner to forge new relationships with a sense of community. Exceptional memories have been made at 7 Windmill over the years for the current owners and they're ready to pass the helm onto the next owner who is ready to create lifelong traditions and memories."

The home is offered at \$429,000. For more information, or to schedule a private showing, contact Jean O'Neill at William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty's Northern Fairfield County Brokerage located at 112 Federal Road at 203-796-7700, or email her at Joneill@wpsir.com. To view the virtual tour, visit www.WilliamPitt.com; MLS#: 170247902.

REAL ESTATE

WHAT YOU CAN BUY

Hearst Connecticut Media and SM Services, a content provider, search the area to find what buyers can get for their money. This week, What You Can Buy features homes in the \$324,900 to \$799,000 range.

Updated Cape / \$324,900

11 Johnson Drive, Newtown
Beds: 3
Baths: 2
Square Footage: 1,664



Daniele Piovezahn / Contributed photo

This stunning updated Cape sits at the end of a quiet tranquil street. The gorgeous sundrenched open floor plan features vaulted ceilings, gleaming hardwood floors, palladium windows, French doors and more. The grand family room walks out to a stone patio. The updated eat-in kitchen has newer stainless appliances, abundant cabinets and a breakfast bar. The living room has an eclectic flair. The comfortable dining room boasts an open flair. The main level master bedroom offers hardwood floors and a lovely spacious full bath. An additional main level bedroom can be used as a den or office. The upper level hosts a large bedroom and an additional sitting room. There's a serene front porch, perineal beds, a storage shed and a private level backyard with a vegetable garden.

Agent: Lorraine Amaral, William Pitt Sothebys, 203-702-3917, lamaral@wpsir.com

Modern treasure / \$799,000

12 Comstock Court, Ridgefield
Beds: 4
Baths: 2 full and 2 half
Square Footage: 4,288



Contributed photo

This sundrenched modern home designed by a noted architect is located in a spectacular country setting off Nod Road. A long driveway bordered by impressive rock outcroppings and mature pines leads to this custom modern masterpiece. A three-storied dramatic sky lit entry leads to a bright gallery. The living room has a fireplace, and oversized dining room. The open floor plan affords views of the family room with a fireplace, the sunroom, the modern chef's kitchen, a dramatic sky-lit staircase and the magical property. The second level includes two large bedrooms and an open den/library. The master bedroom has a double height master bath and two walk-in-closets. The large lower level offers a family room or a fourth bedroom.

Agents: William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, William Ayles, 860-593-7114, wayles@wpsir.com, David Everson, 203-246-7150, deverson@williampitt.com



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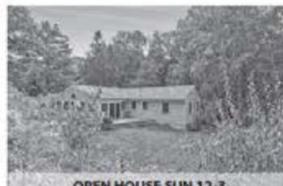
New England Properties
 New York Properties
 Westchester Properties



OPEN HOUSE SUN 2-4
 28 Aarons Court, Ridgefield | \$874,999
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170128028
 Sandra Juliano: 203-438-9501



OPEN HOUSE SUN 11-1-30
 359 Old Sib Road, Ridgefield | \$765,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170217766
 Sandra Juliano: 203-438-9501



OPEN HOUSE SUN 12-3
 358 Limestone Road, Ridgefield | \$422,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170234232
 Gerard Amend: 203-438-9501



NEW LISTING!
 Bethel | \$600,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170252814
 Barbara Frey: 203-241-4145



NEW LISTING!
 Bethel | \$370,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170253649
 Danbury Regional: 203-744-5544



NEW LISTING!
 Bethel | \$319,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170252418
 Danbury Regional: 203-744-5544



NEW LISTING!
 Brookfield | \$465,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170253186
 Danbury Regional: 203-744-5544



NEW LISTING!
 Brookfield | \$389,900
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170245597
 Danbury Regional: 203-744-5544



NEW LISTING!
 Danbury | \$359,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170248114
 Danbury Regional: 203-744-5544



NEW LISTING!
 Danbury | \$329,900
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170251690
 Danbury Regional: 203-744-5544



NEW LISTING!
 Danbury | \$309,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170236418
 Danbury Regional: 203-744-5544



NEW LISTING!
 Kent | \$160,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/1702514166
 Danbury Regional: 203-744-5544



NEW LISTING!
 Kent | \$339,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170252192
 Danbury Regional: 203-744-5544



NEW LISTING!
 Monroe | \$649,000
 bhhsNEproperties.com/170251830
 Gary Frey: 203-561-7508



NEW LISTING!
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Price: \$319,000

10 Maple Ave
Seller/buyer: Christopher J. Morris to Sheila M. Duncan
Price: \$390,000

54 Chestnut St
Seller/buyer: Judith A. Spak and Amy S. Escamilla to William R. Arreaga
Price: \$340,000

19 Sky Edge Dr
Seller/buyer: Gary R. and Kristie L. Norman to Manuela M. and Luis A. Lazo-Loja
Price: \$295,000

8 Colonial Dr
Seller/buyer: Richard and Mara Bisesto to Grant VanSmith and Joanna Smith
Price: \$404,000

106 Rockwell Rd
Seller/buyer: Peter G. and Susan D. Schneider to Gary R. and Kristie Norman
Price: \$485,000

35 Old Hawleyville Rd
Seller/buyer: Kobylanski D M Jr Est and Daniel M. Kobylanski to Howard and Carissa Wells
Price: \$354,000

21 Hunting Ridge Ln Unit 21
Seller/buyer: William H. Thomas to Teresa Guerra
Price: \$435,000

BETHLEHEM

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Seller/buyer:
Price:

BRIDGEPORT

155 Brewster St Unit 3f
Seller/buyer: Liska FT and Susan Liska to Charraig Dhubbh LLC
Price: \$120,000

25 Ellsworth St Unit 15
Seller/buyer: Daniel Sosnowski to Erica Townshend
Price: \$71,000

850 Atlantic St Unit 205
Seller/buyer: USA HUD to Xingg Xiong and Hongli Lu
Price: \$73,500

264-266 Connecticut Ave
Seller/buyer: FNMA to Eduart Mato
Price: \$125,000

60-62 4th St
Seller/buyer: Parvin Akhtar to Nurul Alam
Price: \$157,000

2089 North Ave
Seller/buyer: Dennis Laferriere to Apple To Apple Tree LLC
Price: \$437,000

467 Maplewood Ave
Seller/buyer: Karen and Wayne Webb to Terson Dorlouis
Price: \$186,000

51 Bassick Ave
Seller/buyer: Kumar Doraiikkhannan to Carlos Hinojosa
Price: \$115,000

119 Sterling Pl
Seller/buyer: Equity T Co to Adam Welsh and Thomas Oliverio
Price: \$321,000

325 Pacific St
Seller/buyer: Everton and Janet Bailey to Marcas Villacis
Price: \$242,000

56 Lorraine Ter
Seller/buyer: Therese Garcia to Heidi Shaw
Price: \$255,000

868 Brooklawn Ave
Seller/buyer: Kenneth Coleman to Nick Lewis
Price: \$287,500

146 Dixon St
Seller/buyer: Deutsche Bank Natl T Co to Christopher Acosta
Price: \$137,725

677-679 William St
Seller/buyer: Wells Fargo Bank NA to 5 Star Hold-

ings LLC
Price: \$171,000

141 Hicks St
Seller/buyer: Manuel Rios to Natoya Bair and Durado Bailey
Price: \$290,000

239 Willow St
Seller/buyer: Thashia Bentley to Trecia Martin and Ean Weekes
Price: \$205,300

364 Dover St
Seller/buyer: Moorer James Est and Keyondra Moorer to Rawle Knight
Price: \$32,500

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Seller/buyer: Moorer Ernestine Est and Keyondra Moorer to Rawle Knight
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92 Dover St
Seller/buyer: Smart Financial Services to Octavia Allen
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715 Frenchtown Rd Unit 24
Seller/buyer: Eric Davis to Adam Wagner
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126 Moffitt St
Seller/buyer: Michael Sumigar to Christmas Chavez and Joaquim Valeriano
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120 Huntington Tpke Unit 909
Seller/buyer: Rose Liebnick to Trisha and Leonard Smith
Price: \$19,900

699 Fairview Ave
Seller/buyer: Martin Liciga to Sergio Carvalho
Price: \$252,000

3250 Fairfield Ave Unit 106
Seller/buyer: Matthew Laufer IRT and Daniel Laufer to Julia and Kent Johnson
Price: \$184,900

61 Rowsley St Unit 1
Seller/buyer: Paul Baudner to Mary Dunn
Price: \$7,500

DANBURY

86 Driftway Rd
Seller/buyer: Adele Mityas to John H. and Christine Koziol
Price: \$470,000

3 Belmont Pl
Seller/buyer: Emilio J. and Pierrette M. Plante to Valona Gecaj and Fatmir Gjergaj
Price: \$550,000

20 E Pembroke Rd Unit 45
Seller/buyer: Gary M. Navan to Arthur Brizido
Price: \$105,000

62 Forest Ave
Seller/buyer: Thelma C. Jacobs to Giovanni Dillard
Price: \$238,000

86 Garfield Ave
Seller/buyer: Bernadette M. Kallas to Olger L. Pinta-Chacon and Gloria A. Salazar-Moscoso
Price: \$360,000

48 Sand Pit Rd
Seller/buyer: Erickson Leif

607 Sienna Dr Unit 607
Seller/buyer: Ritu M. and Lalit S. Thakur to Josepg Mandarano and Jeanne Madarano
Price: \$270,000

32 Oil Mill Rd Unit 23
Seller/buyer: Kate F. Norvell to Bruno and Ellen Luongo
Price: \$212,000

4 4th St Unit 2
Seller/buyer: Navneet and Gurbir Gill to Jose L. Gonzalez and Alba L. Medina
Price: \$217,000

45 Cross St Unit D7
Seller/buyer: Peer G. Sherman and Justin Lewis to Christopher J. Korres
Price: \$119,900

EASTON

89 Beers Rd
Seller/buyer: Louis C. and Dorothy L. Cocozza to Stefan Abelin
Price: \$60,000

Price: \$378,000

5 Bittersweet Cir Unit 5
Seller/buyer: Juliann Deluca to Matric Properties LLC
Price: \$212,000

NEWTOWN

26 Aunt Park Ln
Seller/buyer: Eric Bengston to Peter Cacciari
Price: \$331,000

169 Mount Pleasant Rd
Seller/buyer: Beverly A. Siebert to Agaedson R. Braga
Price: \$230,000

69 Alberts Hill Rd
Seller/buyer: Ben Toby to Sedhene Robinson
Price: \$470,000

6 Settlers Ln
Seller/buyer: Wlodzimierz and Jadwiga Strzelecki to Lori Petrillo
Price: \$305,000

23 Saint George Pl Unit 23
Seller/buyer: John Kelly to Patricia W. Lametto
Price: \$307,500

35 Little Brook Ln
Seller/buyer: Steven and Denise L. Tramosch to Laura and Matthew Merrick
Price: \$457,500

REDDING

110 Sanfordtown Rd
Seller/buyer: Douglas E. and Libia M. Streat to Syllan Hughes and Yuriy Maklyan
Price: \$517,000

3 Guardhouse Dr
Seller/buyer: John R. and Claudia L. Downey to Timothy R. Hooker and Fiona Petrocelli
Price: \$595,000

RIDGEFIELD

10 2 Pence Rd
Seller/buyer: Chunsong Qu and Ying Teng to Timothy Braz
Price: \$448,000

166 Minuteman Rd
Seller/buyer: Mario R. Cavalcanti and Andrew R. Bazelle to John and Juliana Cassano
Price: \$670,000

180 Barlow Mountain Rd
Seller/buyer: Roxanne Coady and Mitchell Ohlbaum to Benjamin B. and Erin T. Buxton
Price: \$712,500

21 Ketcham Rd
Seller/buyer: Christy Kirsch to William A. and Tiffany C. Greenlay
Price: \$620,000

105 New St
Seller/buyer: Biao Cai and Weiqn Li to John and Carolina Deakins
Price: \$500,000

14 Cook Close Unit 14
Seller/buyer: Lisa C. Brand and Errol Ruschil to James and Rebecca Keogh
Price: \$235,000

6 Quincy Close Unit 6
Seller/buyer: Vishal Daga to Vincent R. Doria
Price: \$225,000

16 Mulvaney Ct
Seller/buyer: American International to Nicholas and Louzette Dovarvas
Price: \$891,950

223 Bennetts Farm Rd
Seller/buyer: Bennetts Farm Associates to Joseph and Kristin Silva
Price: \$1,100,000

WILTON

71-73 Portland Ave
Seller/buyer: Jerome Edwards to Rony A. Castaneda and Hector R. Sosa
Price: \$400,000

129 Valeview Rd
Seller/buyer: Bank Of America NA to Michael and Marzena Sobocinski
Price: \$410,000

192 Cheeseping Rd
Seller/buyer: N Pfeiffer-Campbell and Juliano D. Desouza to Zal J. Mirza and Jacqueline M. Falk-Mirza
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Price: \$93,000

479-483 Lincoln Ave
Seller/buyer: 479 Lincoln LLC to Tri State Property LLC
Price: \$320,000

80 Rocton Ave
Seller/buyer: Freedom Mortgage Corp to Yilei Chen and Bo Hu
Price: \$145,200

116 Wentworth St
Seller/buyer: Nelson and Maria Nieves to Vincent and Chika Egbuzie
Price: \$285,000

215 Infield St
Seller/buyer: Nelson and Mary Alicea to Yanike Shepherd
Price: \$251,000

396 Anton Dr Unit 396
Seller/buyer: Solange Gomez to Lisa Lusardo
Price: \$170,000

142 Trelane Dr
Seller/buyer: Better Way Holdings LLC to Roberto and Gerardo Garcia
Price: \$258,000

3200 Park Ave Unit 9e
Seller/buyer: Claire Breiner QPRT and Steven Breiner to James Morris
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BROOKFIELD

18 Vale Rd
Seller/buyer: Alexander M. Relyea to Patricia A. Cuti
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Seller/buyer: Elaine Tomasio and Donald S. Karsheski to Janneth A. Mora-Criollo and Rosa E. Criollo
Price: \$275,000

19 Silvermine Mnr Unit 19
Seller/buyer: John S. and Stacey L. Carretta to William M. Mclean
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29 Ironworks Hill Rd
Seller/buyer: JGM Development LLC to Kevin Vatalaro and Lily Oh
Price: \$299,000

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Seller/buyer: Joyce L. Nowak to Candace N. Assie
Price: \$555,000

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Price: \$788,000

D Est and Leif A. Erickson to Steven P. and Nickolas P. Brito
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67 Town Hill Ave
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Price: \$307,000

20 Park Pl
Seller/buyer: Jose C. and Maria T. Marcal to B.J. Deoliveira-Martins and Carla Santos-Martins
Price: \$228,000

53 Longview Ave
Seller/buyer: Jack Pezzinzi and Stacy Pezzini to Javier A. and Irene Massallo
Price: \$329,000

33 Woodside Ave
Seller/buyer: Driscoll Victoria A Est and Steven Coladarsi to Marylou P. Paulino
Price: \$268,000

30 Westview Dr
Seller/buyer: Kathleen G. Lavalley to Eden J. and Jessica D. Jacobs
Price: \$290,000

36 High Ridge Rd
Seller/buyer: Daniel B. and Jessica W. Breschard to Ryan M. McDonald and Dana Cliggett-McDonald
Price: \$560,000

11 Eastwood Ln
Seller/buyer: Beata C. Iwaszkiewicz to Brian H. and Johnanna M. Musco
Price: \$585,000

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34 Crestwood Rd
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17 Pine Tree Rd
Seller/buyer: Michael and Mappy Kask to Brian Casese
Price: \$241,000

111 Jockey Hollow Rd
Seller/buyer: Daniel and Deborah Harrington to Matthew and Tara Mills
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Reconnect with your professional network

Follow these tips to rekindle relationships with minimal amounts of awkwardness.

By Daniel Bortz, Monster contributor

Professional networking is key to career development, but there are only so many hours in the day you can devote to it. Ideally, you'd keep in regular contact with your entire network so that your connections are on tap when you need them for, say, a reference or a job lead. But, alas, we're all human, and things can get in the way of our even best laid plans.

"Keeping in touch with professionals in your sphere is a great thing to do, but more urgent tasks, like a pressing deadline, often take precedent," says Devora Zack, CEO of Only Connect Consulting and author of *Networking for People Who Hate Networking*. "A lot of times, staying connected with people falls to the bottom of your to-do list."

Another reason people lose touch? "Many people wait until they need something before they reach out to someone," says Nancy Ancowitz, career coach and author of *Self-Promotion for Introverts: The Quiet Guide to Getting Ahead*.

Reconnecting with old contacts after a long period of silence, though, can be awkward. After all, there's a chance the person might not remember you very well. And when you're asking someone for help after you've let the relationship go cold for a long time, you might come off as self-serving.

However, by taking the right approach, you can rekindle relationships with professionals in your network with minimal amounts of cringing.

Choose the right method of communication

Messaging someone through social media is one way to break the ice, but "if you want to make a one-on-one reconnection with someone, my first choice would be to send a personal email," Zack says.

The exception? If you don't have the person's email address, consider sending the person a private message on social media—or, if you have a mutual connection, ask that individual to reintroduce you, suggests business-communication coach Patrick Donadio.

Ace the subject line

Think of your email's subject line as a carefully worded icebreaker. To craft it, "I recommend researching what the person has been up to," Zack says. A recent achievement, like a promotion, can be great fodder for a subject line (e.g., "Congratulations on your new position.")

There's also the simple approach, says Ancowitz, of simply stating your intention (e.g., "Your former colleague from Monster: would love to reconnect.")

Embrace the awkwardness

If it's been five years since you've spoken to the person,

don't pretend like you're best friends, says Michelle Tillis Lederman, author of *Nail The Interview, Land The Job*. Acknowledge the radio silence ("I know it's been a while") and then proceed with your ask.

Make it personalized

Tailoring your email is a smart move—no one wants to feel like they're on the receiving end of a widely sent email. Ancowitz recommends weaving in something that you remember about the individual. "If you can recall their kids' names or the person's hobbies, that helps you create a targeted email," she says. And express an interest in their life—don't make it entirely about you. Whatever you do, don't send a generic email to a bcc'd list of old acquaintances.

Keep it short and sweet

"Don't try and circumvent the real reason why you're reaching out," Zack advises. Indeed, being direct is more genuine than dancing around your purpose. "Tell the person that you're touching base because you're looking for a job [or a contact]," says Zack.

If possible, ask your old colleague for their advice—for instance, "I'm making changes to my resume before I start applying to jobs and would love your input." "It's a great way to forge a bond," says Ancowitz. "But don't write a novel." Your email should be only a few sentences; if it's longer, the recipient might not read it at all.

Offer something of value

Professional networking is a two-way street, meaning that if you're asking an old contact for something, you'll want to offer something in return, says Donadio. It doesn't have to be a grand gesture—it could be something small, like offering to introduce the person to someone in your sphere.

Meet in person

To truly rebuild a relationship, set up a time to grab coffee or drinks together, Donadio recommends. If the person doesn't live nearby, an industry event is a good opportunity to reconnect face to face, Zack says. ("Are you going to this year's expo? I'd love to meet up.")

Up your professional networking game

Networking can be tricky, especially when it's obvious that you need something from someone else. That said, everyone does it. Doing it tactfully will earn you major points both on the spot and down the line. If you're looking for a job and want help, put as many irons in the fire as possible. Want a tip? Join Monster for free today. As a member, you can upload up to five versions of your resume—each tailored to the types of jobs that interest you. Recruiters search Monster every day looking to fill top jobs with qualified candidates, just like you. Additionally, you can get job alerts sent directly to your inbox to cut down on time spent looking through ads. It's a great way to get more exposure and see what's out there.

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Analyst (Greenwich, CT): Monitor the market, credit, liquidity, model and funding risk exposures of firm investments. Perform primary and macro-driven financial research by applying stress testing, scenario analysis and hedging methodologies. Work with portfolio managers covering macro, equity, credit and derivatives markets to holistically handle firm risks. Perform daily risk management processes, including risk modeling, risk methodologies, and internal and external reporting. Req's Master's degr., plus knowledge or experience in the following must have been gained through academic research and/or coursework: financial instruments; working with analytical and statistical methods for managing risk; and Python, MATLAB, or C++ as a financial research tool. Mail resume to: AQR Capital Management, LLC, ATTN: S. Rao, 2 Greenwich Plaza, Greenwich, CT 06830. Must Ref: DR-AQR-001.

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To deliver and pick up products and production materials. Minimum of 1 or more years of experience operating trucks of up to 26,000 lbs. G.V.W. Must possess a valid CT Operators license with a perfect driving record. Delivery experience in local area and have a basic knowledge of Connecticut DOT regulations. Must meet Driver physical standards as defined under the Commercial Carrier Act. Able to safely lift bundles of at least 50 lbs.

Apply by sending your resume to Carlos:
cchang@ctpost.com or call 203-330-6290

HEARST CONNECTICUT MEDIA GROUP

District Manager (3rd shift) Full Time with Benefits

Responsible for the circulation and delivery of Hearst Newspapers in the area. Recruiting, contracting, and training carriers. Handling any service issue in their area, which includes contacting the customer when needed. Monitor performance of carriers, and discuss repetitive problems. Valid Driver's License, reliable personal vehicle and active car insurance.

Apply by sending your resume to Carlos:
cchang@ctpost.com or call 203-330-6290



Run Your Own Business! Earn Extra Cash! Independent Delivery Contractors Needed!

Hearst Newspapers is seeking Independent Newspaper Carriers across Fairfield and New Haven Counties in CT and surrounding areas.

Routes are delivered seven days a week.
Delivery Window is between:
1:00 a.m. - 6:00 a.m. Monday - Friday
1:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Saturday & Sunday

Must be at least 18 years old, have driver's license and own transportation with proof of insurance.

Earn \$1,300-1,600 per month, running your own part-time Business!

Contact Trevor by email Trevor.Viechweg@ctpost.com or text 203-434-2055

GENERAL HELP WANTED

Nocturnist Northeast Medical Group Inc. seeks Nocturnist physicians to work at Bridgeport Hospital in Bridgeport, CT. The Nocturnist will cover evenings and weekends providing comprehensive medical care to hospitalized patients through admissions, cross coverage and discharge. Nocturnist will contact patients Primary Care physician about in-hospital / follow-up care; provide Primary Care physician hospital diagnosis; and new prescriptions / treatment. Candidates must have a valid CT physician license prior to employment commencing; M.D. or D.O. degree or certified foreign equivalent degree; completion of Internal Medicine residency program; and BE/BC in Internal Medicine. Mail resume and cover letter referencing job 1019 to Natasha Rotella, Physician Recruiter at NEMG, 99 Hawley Lane, 1st Floor, Stratford, CT 06614

Make Someone's Day
Place a Happy Ad

GENERAL HELP WANTED

Old Greenwich, CT- tennis club seeks Tennis Coach to instruct clients in tennis training, encouragement & motivation, and nutritional advice for max performance. Plan, organize, & conduct practice to achieve top perform, instruct in tennis rules, strategies, performance principles, moving bodies for results. Eval players' skills & review performance. Adjust coaching techniques, based on strengths & weaknesses. Min req: 2 yrs exp. FT. Mail resumes to Bonnie Bocchino, Inns Arden Golf Club, 120 Tomac Avenue, Old Greenwich, CT 06870

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GENERAL HELP WANTED

Research Associate (Greenwich, CT): Research and develop quantitative investment strategies related to global asset allocation, specializing in macro and global fixed income strategies. Conduct portfolio management of macro and fixed income products and strategies firmwide. Collaborate with researchers, portfolio managers, risk managers, and traders to develop new and improve current investment strategies. Req's PhD degr., plus knowledge or experience in the following must have been gained through academic research and/or coursework: conducting empirical research and analysis with large data sets; econometrics or statistics; modern financial theories and related fields in optimization and probability theory; and programming in MATLAB or Python to implement financial models and analyze complex datasets. Mail resume to: AQR Capital Management, LLC, ATTN: S. Rao, 2 Greenwich Plaza, Greenwich, CT 06830. Must Ref: DR-AQR-004.

GENERAL HELP WANTED

Research Associate (Greenwich, CT): Conduct theoretical and empirical financial research. Prepare financial reports for internal clients, external clients, and regulatory bodies. Research and develop financial strategies related to global stock selection, asset allocation, and risk management. Collaborate with other researchers, portfolio managers, risk managers and traders to develop new and improve current investment strategies. Req's PhD degr, plus knowledge or experience in the following must have been gained through academic research and/or coursework: Conducting empirical financial research and analyzing large financial data sets; econometrics or statistics; and, programming in MATLAB. Mail resume to: AQR Capital Management, LLC, ATTN: S. Rao, 2 Greenwich Plaza, Greenwich, CT 06830. Must Ref: AL003AQRCT.

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GENERAL HELP WANTED

Senior Solution & System Architect. MResult Corp. - Mystic, CT. Architect & Design BI, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, DI & Big Data solutions to integrate w/DBs & DWs, support BI & Data projects. Provide guidance in developing & implementing BI strategic goals & adhere to best practice Info. Tech. methodologies. Evaluate & influence selection of DB/DW components including HW perform., dimensional & relational DB mgmnt systems, ETL best practices, metadata mgmt tools, & DB design solutions. Design & develop complex packages for ETL data to DW & modify existing DW structure to incorporate data from disparate data sources. Lead design of DBs & DWs to ensure interoperability w/BI & DI solutions. This position is 100% remote. At least bachelor or its equiv. in CS, Info. Tech. or rtdt & at least 5 yrs progressive exp. as Analytics Architect. At least 4 yrs exp. w/BI reporting technologies including 1 or more of the following: Business Objects, Hyperion, Cognos, MicroStrategy, Tableau, QlikView, SSRS, Microsoft SQL Server, MySQL, Oracle, Teradata, TIBCO Spotfire, AWS Redshift, Informatica &/or SAS; at least 3 yrs exp. w/ querying & manipulating large data repositories for analytical purposes using SQL/Python, along w/exp. in business intelligence tools like Tableau, Tibco Spotfire, Power BI & D3; at least 3 yrs exp. w/BI development methodologies, project management, Oracle, SQL Server & modern data platforms, such as in-memory databases; & at least 4 yrs exp. w/System Integrations, Architecture & Programming w/varied scripting languages such as .Net, JAVA, C#, Python, Perl, Javascripts, etc. Resume to: Sanjay Sahoo, Vice President - Solutions, MResult Corporation, 12 Roosevelt Avenue, Mystic, CT 06355

Software Engineering Manager, Platform Engineering, FactSet Research Systems, Inc., Norwalk, CT: Manages a team of software engineers or projects within Platform Engineering. Min Reqs: BA, or higher, or for Equiv., in CS or rel. tech. field & at 2 yrs of software eng. industry exp. w/with Windows, C#, .Net Frameworks, & C++. Must have exper. w/Object Oriented Programming, API & Web Service Development & Database Development. Must have full life cycle experience. Qualified applicants should mail resumes to Danny Valderas HR, FactSet Research Systems, Inc. 601 Merritt 7, Floor 3, Norwalk, CT 06851 with reference to Job Code: SEM2019WZ.

GENERAL HELP WANTED

Supplier Engineer 3 in the Electronics Department sought by ASML in Wilton, CT, to serve as a link between the Design & Engineering (D&E) dvlpmt team & supplier's dvlpmt team w/ a primary focus on parts quality, dvlpg & maintaining a relationship w/ supplier to create an optimal engg collaboration. Master's deg in Electrical Engg, Electronics or a closely- related field & 2 yrs of exp in a high tech dvlpmt envrmt w/ a focus on supplier mgmt, part quality & outsourcing; exp dsgng boards & cables, manufacturing processes & testing exp; exp in PCB visual & functional testing, In- Circuit Test (ICT) & cable testing; detailed knowl of manufacturing techniques for cables/connectors, PCB assembly, programmable logic & electrical rack/cabinet assembly; & 10-15% domestic & int'l travel reqd. Apply online at www.asml.com.

SCHOOLS & JOB TRAINING

Give yourself a gift this year! In 3-4 weeks you can train for a New career in healthcare! Day, evening, weekend class options. Payment Plans Available. Call **888.376.8234** for more info. 3885 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06606 345 Main Street, Danbury, CT 06810

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36 IN storm door- FREE, good cond, 2037758243 leave msg

BASKETBALL HOOP- you can pick up, FREE, 203-775-8243, leave msg

PORTABLE DISHWASHER- GE, FREE, call 203-794-0558

HEATING AND FIREWOOD

Firewood- \$195 a cord, 2/\$380, Half/\$110, Clean, seasoned, split hardwood. Delivered And Tree Work. 203-309-8106

SEASONED FIREWOOD \$200/ cord, delivered. Stacking avail., Call Northern Landscaping 203-770-4267

SEASONED FIREWOOD, \$265/ cord free local delivery, pickup avail. Premium wood pellets. New England Wood Pellets & Pell Heat. \$310/ton. Delivery available. Dom's Garden Center 203-744-6755

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 42-159 ET. Seq. notice is hereby given that on Monday, December 16, 2019 at Danbury Self Storage, 10 Old Newtown rd. @10am, 95 Beaver Brook Rd@ 10:30 am, 2Plumtrees Rd @ 11:00am. The following goods described as furniture, appliance, tools, boxes, and electronics and misc items belonging to: ss-004-02 Dannielle Meldon: Misc boxes, s uitcases/ ss-110 Adriano Cerqueira: dresser, mattress, tv, clothing/ ss-133 Paul Walcott: dresser, tv, plastic bags, tool box/ ss-136 Alec Medina: misc boxes, misc items, plastic bins/ ss-159Anna Colavito: washer, clothing, misc boxes, plastic bags, plastic bins/ ss-175 Jakob Orellana: Sofa, nightstand, plastic bags/ ss-241 Richard Acevedo: sofa, car tires/ ss-305 Joseph Martinez: table, sofa/ ss- 451 Luis Hernandez: nightstand, table, sofa, misc boxes/ ss-625 Elias Pereira: mattress, plastic bins, tool box, tools, work material/ ss-725 Jean Pierre Mikhael: mine fridge, misc boxes, fax machine/ ss-761 Jeane Campos: misc boxes, plastic bags/ ss-785 Francine Duarte: misc boxes, plastic bins/ SS-786 Francine Duarte: misc boxes, plastic bags, plastic bins/ ss-837 Horacio Ambrosio: cabinet, plastic bags, tool box, tool box, work material/ ss-863 Debbie Bamgas: chairs, nightstand, misc boxes, plastic bags, plastic bins/ ss-865 Edna Alves: sofa, misc boxes, plastic bags, plastic bins/ ss-868 Luis Toledo: car seat, misc boxes, tool box, tools/ ss-867 Leigh Cappiello: toys, clothing, misc boxes

TOWN OF SHERMAN

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN
Mallory Town Hall
9 Route 39 North
P.O. Box 39
Sherman, CT 06784-0039
TEL (860) 355-1139 FAX (860) 355-6943
Request for Application
Qualified Property Manager

The Town of Sherman is accepting applications for a Property Manager for Happy Acres Farm. This is a contracted position for an independent provider of maintenance and property management services. A detailed description of the position can be found on our website: <http://www.TownofShermanct.org>. A dated Letter of Intent along with an outline of qualifications and experience must be submitted no later than 1 P.M. on Thursday, December 5, 2019. Please provide two written letters of reference current within 6 months of November 1, 2019. Reference "Happy Acres Farm - Property Manager" on envelopes when submitting.

Please note that successful applicant will be required to become an LLC or other corporate entity. Selected Property Manager will be required to carry appropriate insurance (TBD)

The contract documents for the proposed position may be obtained on our website: <http://www.townofshermanct.org>. "Scroll" "Resources", "Requests for Bids". NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. It is the sole responsibility of the Applicant to consult with the Town website prior to submission of their final application for any addendums to this request. Failure to acknowledge receipt of addendums in accordance with the instructions contained in this Request may result in the application not being considered.

The Town of Sherman reserves the right to reject any or all applications. The award of the contract, if made, will be made to the most qualified applicant.

HEATING AND FIREWOOD

WARNING if you're paying less than this ad for wood, you're probably buying pine or green wood! **2 YEARS Season Firewood**. \$250/cord. Half cords \$150. Free stacking, that's right free stacking. Call for dump pricing. 203-586-8541, 203-263-4650. Delivery charges may apply

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

BOOKS

Friends of Danbury Library
Danbury Library - Book Nook
Come Take a Look In The Nook
New and Pre-owned Books
Most Books \$3.00 each

CHAINSAW PIONEER, 16", gas saw w/ case, \$65 OBO, 203-374-1077

DOWN/FEATHER pillows, 3 reg , 1 long, \$11/ea OBO, 203-374-1077

DRUM SET \$300 complete with hardware & cymbals 203.866.4879

DUMB BELLS, cast iron hex, 20/30/35/40/45 lb 45c a lb, 2037408650

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

OLD BPT Post & Telegram newspapers, 1962-1963, \$20, 2033741077

OTTOMAN \$150 Brand new, Brown, 203.7921078 Lv msg.

SINK \$40 white, brand new 24.5x18.75 call 203.792.1078

SLANTFRONT SECRETARY 3 drawer desk, \$175 OBO, 2033741077

TIRES 4 MATCHING BIZZAK SNOW TIRES 215/60 R17

Winter is coming Great Condition. Purchased new car will not fit. Selling for \$120.00 for 4 Call 203-313-2973

WANTED TO BUY

ART WANTED - Andy Warhol, Lichtenstein, Calder, Haring, Wesselman & other artists. Lithographs, prints, sculptures, drawings, canvas, etc. Cash waiting. 203-889-6856

ESTATES WANTED Contents of homes, cars, art merchandise, prompt services. Will pay cash. Will buy entire contents of house and will do cleanouts. Call 203-889-6856

MR. BASEBALL, Buying sports cards & memorabilia. Call 203-767-2407

WANTED Cash paid for quads, trikes, dirt bikes, golf carts, and more. Any size, any year, any condition. Have a truck and trailer will come to you! Call or text anytime (203)640-4735, Vinny

WANTED Cash paid for Vintage BMX bicycles! Any year, any condition. If you have an old bike sitting in your garage, basement, shed or even outside - call or text me anytime - Vinny 203-640-4735

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

DANBURY - Located at 1 Fairfield Ave, 2 car tandem garage, 11' x 35' for rent. Storage only. \$150.00 per month. Call Bobby at 203-994-9142.

DANBURY - \$875/MO 1st fl. modern, clean, quiet apt., 1BD, prof. single, pref. 203.300.5057

Danbury - Pristine 2 BR, 2 full bath, updated condo, near Danbury Ctr, 1 assigned parking space, guest pkg & secured storage area. Dishwasher, range, refrig, & window air conditioners. 2 Decks. No smoking/pets. Good credit. \$1350/mo -call 203-994-9142 after 6:00 PM.

DANBURY - 4 Bdrm, 3.5 Bath., Off Park Ave., 1 mi. Danbury Mall, Renovated, \$2600 mo. (203)417.6124

RIDGEFIELD - 1BR, 1BA luxury apt, 820 sqft, Main St- walk to town, priv. prkg, \$1750/mo + utils, avail 12/1, 203-767-8705

WANTED

OFFICE SPACE

DANBURY AFFORDABLE OFFICE SPACE Various 500, 1200, 5000SF. Bright, spacious, high ceilings. On-site pkg, all utilities. Call for pricing, 203-797-825 www.nolanrealestate.org

VEHICLES FOR SALE

2001 SUBARU Forester- 91,000 miles, good condition but needs TLC, \$2000, 203-912-0113

2008 CHEVY 1500 pickup, 4x4, 134K miles, good condition, \$8450 OBO, Call 203-948-4027

2008 TOYOTA Highlander Sport, AWD, v good con, leather, sunroof, \$6000, 250K miles, 203-445-0525

VEHICLES FOR SALE

2008 TOYOTA Siena XLE, red, tan leather interior, 1 owner, 120,000 miles, \$6500, 203-243-8785

2012 TOYOTA PRIUS V, exc cond. in/out, blk/grey leather, fully loaded, \$6900 OBO, 929-485-4111

2013 PRIUS V, Exc. cond in/out, bu rgendy/tan leather, fully loaded, \$8100 OBO, 914-222-0911

2014 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE Limited Sport, priv. party/1 owner, Dealer maintained, excel. cond. for 218k hwy mi, Brand New Michelin Prem. Tires, 4-Wheel Dr. This is a work horse, \$13,500/or BRO 203.554.4770

2019 ACURA MDX Aspec, blk/blk, like new, 6K miles, fully loaded, \$37,500 OBO, 914-627-8277

VEHICLES FOR SALE

AUDI Q5 3.2 Premium, 2010, 98k Miles, Navy Blue, Gray Leather, Immaculate, \$11,000, (203)417.6124

WANTED CLASSIC CARS European & American Jags, Benzs, Heales, Caddys, Porsches, Lotis, Ford, Chevy and others basketcases, projects and rotted, running or not Cash waiting 203-889-6856

VEHICLES WANTED

JUNK CARS WANTED TOP PRICES PAID 1 HR. Pickup Service Dell's Auto Wreckers Plumtrees Rd, Danbury 743-6779.....743-6770



Service Directory

ATTIC, BASEMENT, YARDS AND DUMP RUNS

ANYTHING HAULED Big or Small... Com' Resid'... Willie & Sean (203)797-8124

DUMP RUNS

1-203-316-8300 Dump Runs/Clean-ups Gar., Attic, Basement, Yard, Lawn, Leaf, Weeding, Planting, Seeding, Sod, S oil, Much Low Rates/Free Estimates Tali 203-965-0653

HOME IMPROVEMENT / REPAIR

1-203-316-8300 COMPLETE HOME IMPROVEMENT & REPAIR Kitchens, Bathrooms, Basement remodeling, Replacement windows, Decks, Siding, Roofing, Carpentry, Tiling, Painting (Interior/exterior), Powerwashing, Commercial, Residential & more! Lic & Ins. Low rates. Free est. Tali 203-965-0653

REPLACEMENT WINDOWS AND DOORS

1-203-316-8300 COMPLETE NEW VINYL, COMPOSITE, & WOOD REPLACEMENT WINDOWS. AFFORDABLE RATES. FREE ESTIMATES. LICENSED & INSURED TALI: 203-965-0653

HOME IMPROVEMENT / REPAIR

HOME AUTOMATION SERVICES - specialists in Lighting, doorbells, voice assistants, cameras, garage door openers, locks, etc. Individual installation or integrated systems - call Scott at 914-645-2007

LAWN & GARDEN SERVICES

1-203-316-8300 FALL CLEAN UPS & SNOW PLOWING Fall Leaf Cleaning, Snow Plowing & Shoveling & Salting for Residential & Commercial, Exterior Power Washing, Dump Runs, Painting, Masonry Low Rates/Free Estimates Tali 203-965-0653

MASONRY / PAVING

NAZA LANDSCAPING Fall clean up, tree work, etc. Call: 203-994-3077

MASONRY / PAVING

203-316-8300 COMPLETE MASONRY & Repair. Stairs & Walkways, Patios, Walls, Pavers, Brick, Stucco, Concrete, Belgium Block, \$ 11.00 per Block Installed. Low Rates, Free Est, Licensed & Insured. Tali 203-965-0653

MASONRY / PAVING

MP LAND MASONRY LLC Fall Clean Ups, Garages, Junk, chimney work, stonewalls, bluestone patio, tree work, Waterfalls. 203-460-1280

PAINTING / WALLPAPERING

1-203-316-8300 Painting, Powerwashing, Interior, Exterior, Commercial & Residential. Low Rates/Free Estimates. Licensed & Insured. Tali 203-965-0653

TREE SERVICES

1-203-316-8300 COMPLETE TREE Removal Services, Chipping, Stump Grinding, Storm damage. Low Rates/Free Estimates. Fully insured. 24 hr Emergency Svc. Tali 203-965-0653

WOOD

FIREWOOD FOR SALE \$150/Half Cord \$225/Full Cord 1-203-316-8300

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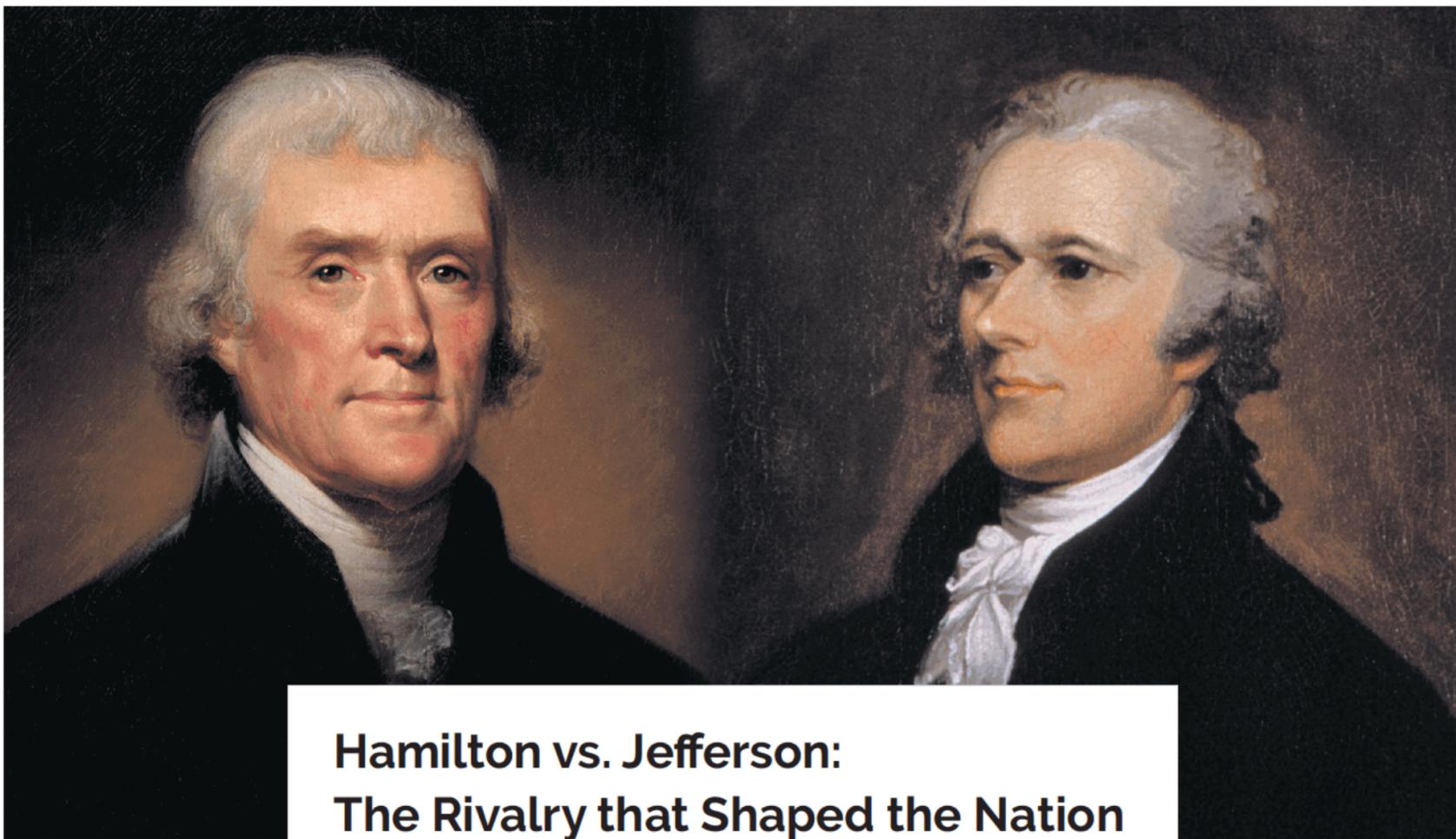
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Hamilton vs. Jefferson: The Rivalry that Shaped the Nation

PROFESSOR:
Louis Masur / Rutgers University
Clive Prize for Teaching Excellence



At the end of the eighteenth century, no rivalry was as bitter as the one between Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson. Nothing less than the shape of a new nation was at stake - and they both knew it. Hamilton is experiencing a well-deserved revival. Often forced to take a back seat to other Founding Fathers, his vision of America as an economic powerhouse with a dynamic and aggressive government as its engine has found many followers. Hamilton helped get the Constitution ratified, helped found the Federalist Party, and served as the first Secretary of the Treasury. But Jefferson fought bitterly against the Federalists and his election as president ushered in the "revolution of 1800." Ironically, it would be Hamilton who helped as Jefferson's triumph over Aaron Burr. Jefferson articulated a different vision from Hamilton's, promoting an agrarian democracy built upon geographic expansion-an "empire of liberty," he called it.

Full price ~~\$95~~

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DATE:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7
2:00PM - 4:15 PM

LOCATION:

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF RIDGEFIELD
103 MAIN STREET | RIDGEFIELD

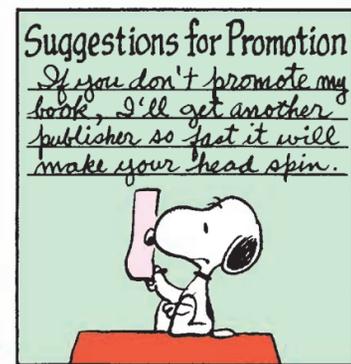
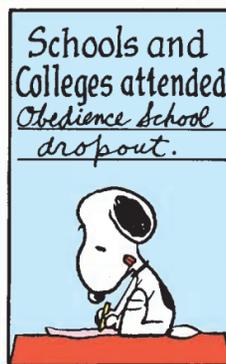
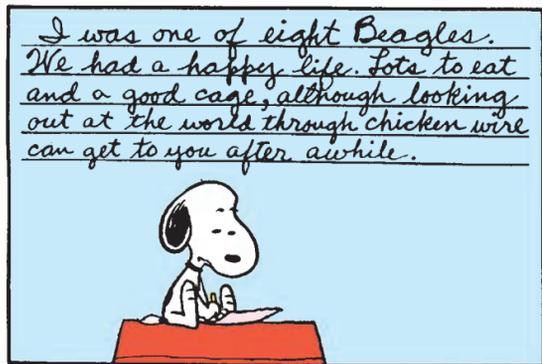
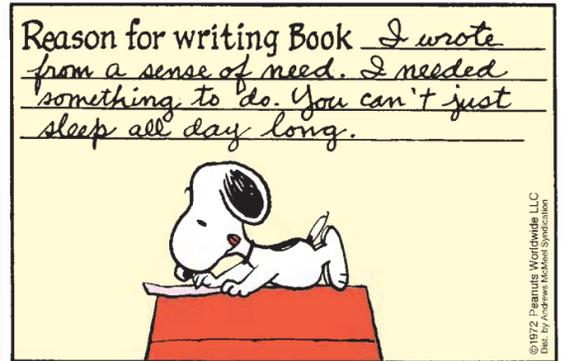
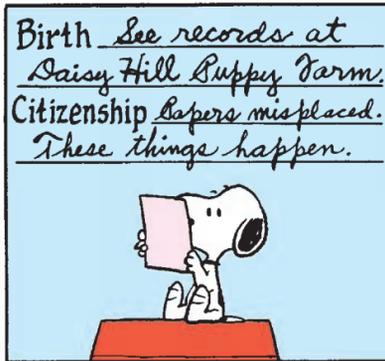
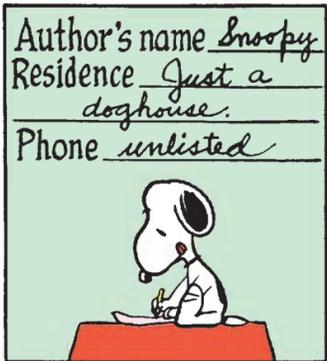
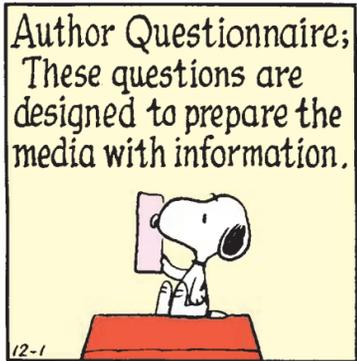
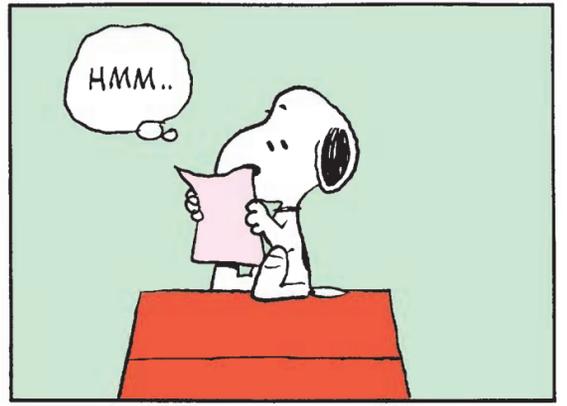
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HEARST

CONNECTICUT MEDIA GROUP



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BY MORT, GREG & BRIAN WALKER

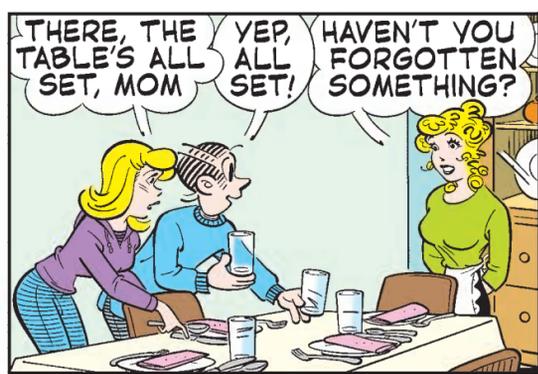


RHYMES WITH ORANGE

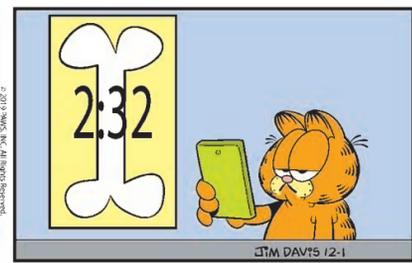
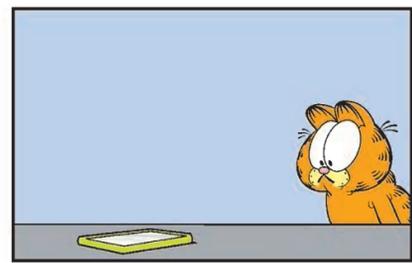
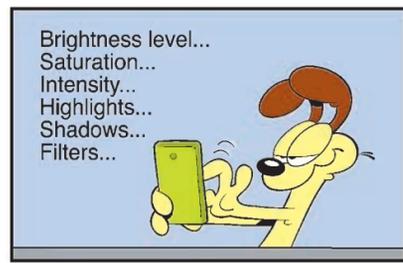
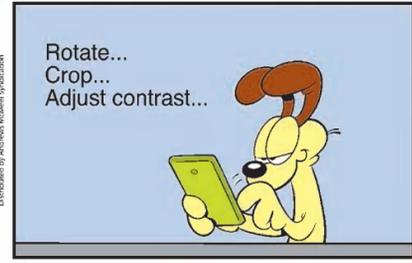
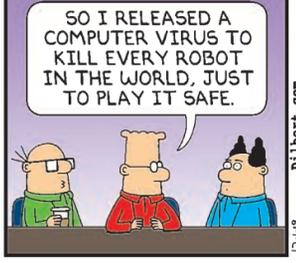
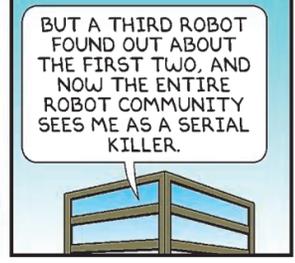
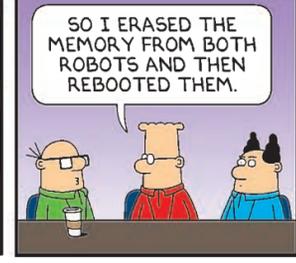
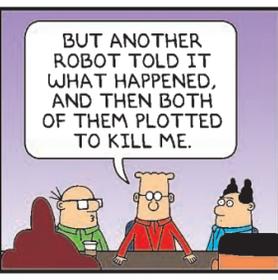
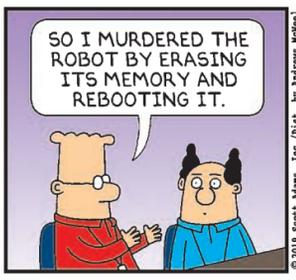
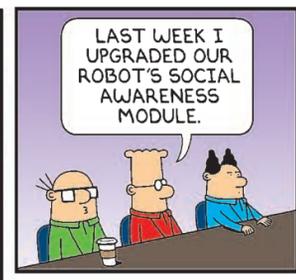
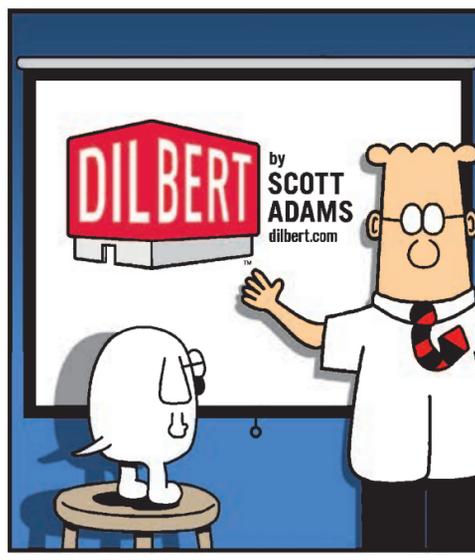
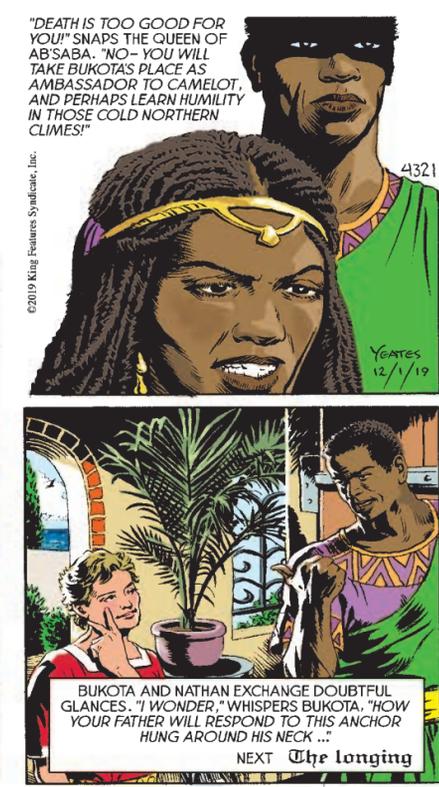
BY HILARY B. PRICE



BLONDIE
BY DEAN YEATES & JOHN MARSHALL



HAL FOSTER'S
Prince Valiant
BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

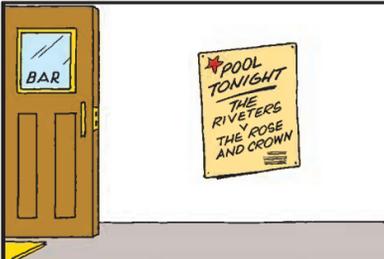
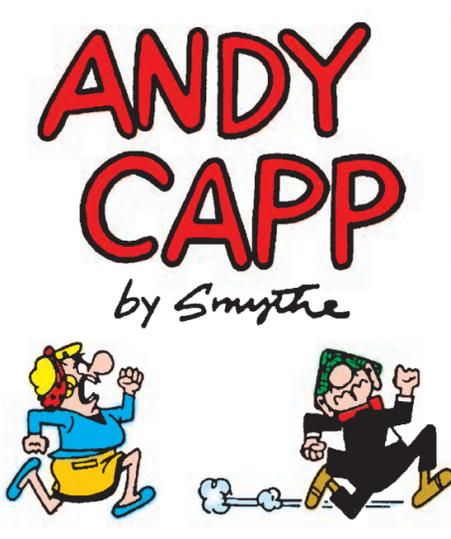
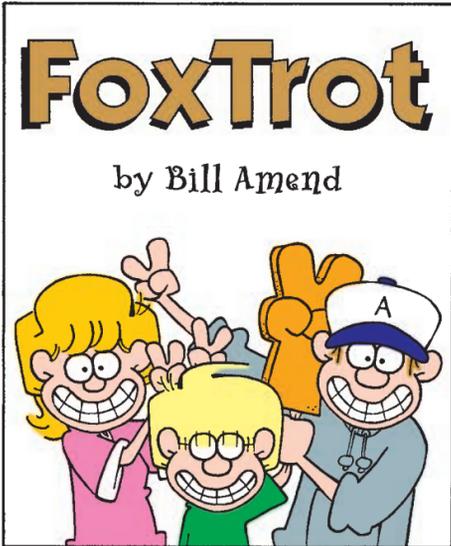
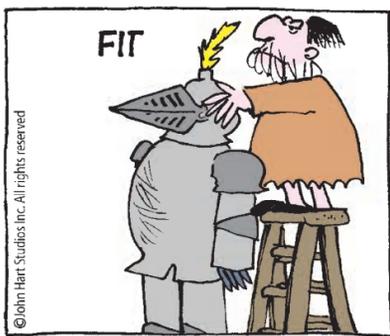


HAGGAR
the horrible
by DIK BROWNE



WIZARD OF ID

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Hi and Lois

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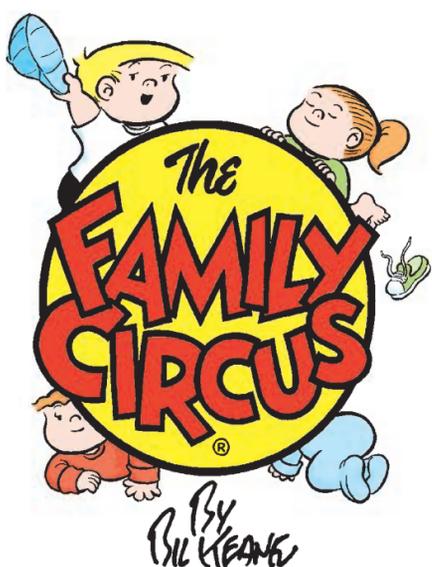
EVEN MORE STREET SIGNS



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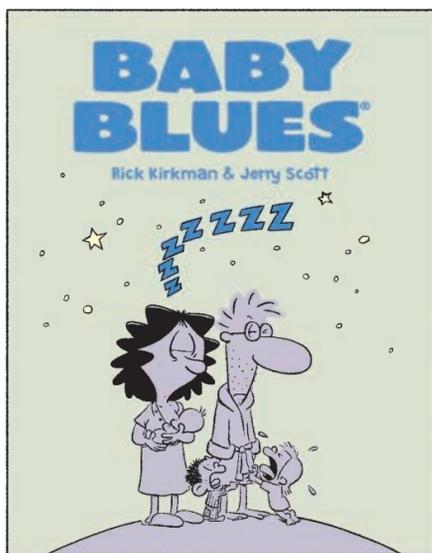
Pooch Café By Paul Gilligan



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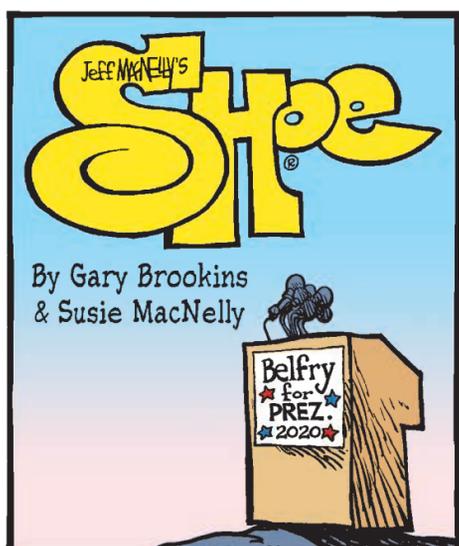
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12/1 Susie MacNelly Brookins

Have a Green Holiday



Mini Fact:
LED lights look about the same as regular holiday lights and come in many colors.

Have you ever noticed how much extra trash your family throws out during the holiday season? Experts say Americans throw out a million more tons of waste each week between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

This week, The Mini Page gives you some ideas for turning this holiday season green.



Gift bags and cloth ribbons are especially easy to use over and over.

Green wrap

When wrapping gifts, you could use manufactured paper and ribbons. Or you could make your own paper. If you use store-bought gift wrap or holiday cards, make sure the label says they are made of recycled paper.

The best kind of recycled wrapping paper or cards will have a label saying "100% post-consumer recycled." Post means "after."

"Post-consumer recycled" means the paper is made from other paper products, such as newspapers, that people have used and then recycled.

If a label says "recycled," it may be made

from scraps of leftover paper from a paper factory. Consumers may not have actually used the paper before.

Be sure to recycle your own wrapping paper and catalogs. You can also save wrapping paper and ribbon and use them again.

Another idea is to wrap your gifts in colorful paper, such as the comics section of your newspaper or magazine pages.

Green cards

The greenest card to send is an electronic card. However, getting a card in the mail might be even more fun. Try to send cards that have been made with recycled paper.

If you are sending a card, think about writing a personal note too. For many people, it is much more meaningful to get a card with a note that you wrote.

Green shopping

Look for clothes with labels saying the material is organic or sustainable. An organic label means no pesticides were used to grow the fiber that the cloth is made of. A sustainable label means the whole manufacturing process is safe for the planet. For example, it means the dyes do not pollute the air or water.

If adults are shopping online or by catalog, encourage them to shop early, so their gifts can be shipped by ground rather than air. It takes six times more fuel to ship things by plane than by truck.

Green packaging

The packaging of goods is a big problem. For example, toys are often packed with lots of plastic and paper. Video game cases are made from plastic.

Some video games can be downloaded from the internet instead.

Experts say some companies are trying to change their packaging so less is wasted. They want to make packaging out of green products such as recycled cardboard. Buy or ask for gifts that are packaged in a green manner.

Green trees

The best choice for the environment is a living Christmas tree that can be replanted. Keep the tree in a pot and bring it inside. Plant it outside after the holidays.

You might want to dig the hole for the tree before the ground freezes. Or you could keep the tree alive in the pot outside until spring.

If you want a real tree that cannot be replanted, try to get it from an organic tree farm near your home.



After the holidays, recycle your tree. Many cities have drop-off places where Christmas trees are chopped up to make mulch. Mulch is a ground covering that protects plants.

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/MPgreenholiday

At the library:

- "Dreaming of a Green Christmas" by Anne Zoet

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of green holidays are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:

BAGS, CARD, CHRISTMAS, CLOTHES, CONSUMER, FARM, GREEN, HOLIDAY, LABEL, MULCH, NOTE, ORGANIC, PACKAGING, PAPER, RECYCLE, RIBBON, SHOP, SUSTAINABLE, TREE, WASTE, WRAP.	H P A R W H P I L C A R D M Y E T O N R E A G I U P A P E R R R N B E E C H R I S T M A S I E F C M L K A Q M U L C H N B E P I U C A C L O T H E S L B E P N S Y G R E E N S G A A O T O A N C I G C P D S G A B N S H G O E N F H M R A F K E Q A S R C R G Y A D I L O H L P W C O E L B A N I A T S U S
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Cook's Corner

Healthy All-in-One Pancakes

You'll need:

- 1 cup uncooked whole-grain oats (not instant)
- 1 cup low-fat cottage cheese
- 6 egg whites
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar



What to do:

1. Combine all ingredients in a blender; process until mixture is smooth.
2. Coat a nonstick pan with cooking spray and place on medium heat.
3. Pour batter into pan, using 1/4 cup at a time for each pancake.
4. Cook until bubbles appear in batter, then flip.
5. Serve with syrup or sliced fruit. Makes 9 to 10 pancakes.

* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

ROOTONYM®

by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: Protect, Useful, Preserve, Evergreen

1. To keep something safe from danger (7-letter verb)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □

2. Something that is helpful to people (6-letter adjective)

□ □ □ □ □ □

3. To treat food so it will not spoil (8-letter verb)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

4. Bush or tree that stays green all year (9-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

1. To _____ the tree from falling, Jules wired it to the wall.
2. This recipe is _____ to teach how to make muffins.
3. Mom puts leftovers in the fridge to _____ freshness.
4. Dad says a Christmas pine tree is an _____.

Mini Jokes



George: What type of music do Santa's elves like to listen to?
Gina: Wrap music!

Eco Note



Not all countries produce the same amount of waste. Developed countries, such as the United Kingdom and United States, produce far more garbage per person than countries such as India and China. But developed countries also recycle more of their waste. Paper and cardboard make up a third of all household waste. Much of what we throw away is packaging, used to wrap food and other items.

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For later:

Look in your newspaper for gift ideas that are eco-friendly. Save up colorful newspapers to reuse to wrap gifts.

Teachers: For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bit.ly/MPstandards. And follow The Mini Page on Facebook!



Books from The Mini Page are wonderful resources and make great gifts! See all of our Mini Page products at MiniPageBooks.com, or call 800-642-6480 for more information. Mail payment to: Andrews McMeel Universal, Mini Page Books, 1130 Walnut, Kansas City, MO 64106. Include \$4.00 shipping and handling per order.

