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## The Local Marine Center "Toys for Tots" Drive

### Thank You!!

Sgt. Ryan Magana, the Officer in charge of the Plainville "Toys for Tots" drive would like to thank Dr. Lantere, his staff, patients and Plainville residents for their over 10 years of support.

This year the Stop and Save in Old Saybrook also assisted in the local drive with extra toys.

The goal for our local community was 6,000 toys and with everyone's help we exceeded the goal.

In addition to the Toys we received \$135,000. in donation.

Dr. Lantere and his staff's goal was to ensure that all kids knew the joy of Christmas. Thanks to everyone we all met our goals.

*"Thank you on behalf of the United States Marine Corp for all your support!" Sgt. Ryan Magana*



## Community Foundation of Greater New Britain



Dr. Jeffrey Kitching named to Board of Directors to the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain that serves Berlin, New Britain, Plainville and Southington. *Story on Page 10.*

## Take a peek . . . .



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*Wendell Copeland  
2-016*



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Wendell Copeland

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

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

**Legal Advisor**

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

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

**Dates to Remember February**

**Groundhog Day-Tues. 2nd**

**Ash Wednesday-10th**

**Valentine's Day-Sun. 14th**

**President's Day-Mon. 15th**

**Lincoln's Birthday-Fri.12th**

**Washington's Birthday-**

**Mon.22nd**

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**NEXT ISSUE WILL BE**

**March**

**DEADLINE IS:**

**February 15th**

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

{ Jack faves }

I Fave the "Birthday Page" in this paper. My wife submitted my name, she was kind enough not to put my age (only kidding). It was nice to hear from old friends. To my surprise a classmate from New Britain High School contacted me, now we have rekindled our friendship. We get together once a month, it is wonderful.

{ Mark raves }

It was great going back to 1970's Pizza prices in December. It was the celebration of 45 years of business in Plainville for West Main Pizza on East Main Street, I always get a chuckle every time I tell someone I am going to West Main Pizza on East Main Street. We all know where it is without an address. Good Luck and many more years!!!

Email your "fave or rave" in today to be in the September issue. Praise your contractor for doing a good job or tell us about your favorite restaurant, store, or service you received by a professional.

Phone 860-747-4119 ~ Thank you!!

**Email your faves and raves to share it with everyone! Let's hear what you have to say, we need your comments!**

**plainvillefavesandraves@gmail.com**

Sponsored by: the Plainville Hometown Connection

# “State of The Town” Hosted by Plainville Chamber of Commerce

## Economic Development & Legislative Affairs Committee

### State of the Town

**Speaker:** Jeffrey Kitching  
Superintendent of Schools

Good Morning, The Plainville Community Schools district provide rigorous and enriching experiences that prepare each student for success in a changing global society. The shift to “digital pedagogy”. Physical textbooks and traditional teaching methods, are being phased out for lesson plans that incorporate online resources and technology.

Why “Digital Pedagogy”? Because 75% of teens have access to a SMARTPHONE, 92% of teens go online daily and 24% of teens go on line constantly.

Climate & Culture, Plainville is getting it right, in a survey:

Our Students stated 93% -My teachers cares about me, 94% At my school, Bullying is not acceptable, 94% I feel safe when I’m at school.

Our Parents: 92% I know how my child is doing in school before I get report cards, 95% Parents feel comfortable talking to teachers at this school.

Our Teachers: 93% I receive timely feedback on my performance and progress, 93% I have access to the technology I need at this school, 96% Teachers are given opportunities for professional development.

“In a state like Connecticut, with the eighth-highest median home value in the nation, the best schools are often thought to be found in the most expensive communities. (Darien or Greenwich). However, this isn’t always the case. There are in fact many towns where school quality offsets the premium of living there.” Of 121 towns Plainville rates 28th, a sign that our school district is of the best quality.

Funding Public Education: Connecticut the percentage of local funds needed is third highest at 54%. Only New Hampshire at 58.8% and Nebraska 58.3%. Percentage of Federal Funds Received is New Jersey at 4.1% and Connecticut at 4.3% the two lowest of funds.

Cost per pupil as reported in 2014, Plainville was at \$14,852.

Our Sustain Successes are:

Full-day kindergarten for all students, Literacy support K-5, Elementary Wellness Initiative, STEM initiatives 6-12, “Techbook” replacing textbook, Technology replacement plan, Expanded clubs, after-school activities and athletics, College and Career Centers, Professional learning structure (93% teacher satisfaction). Thank you.....

*Any questions? Next is Kathy Pugliese, Your Town Council Chairman*

### Speaker:

**Kathy Pugliese, Town Council Chairperson**

- Good Morning....thank you to the Plainville Chamber for arranging this presentation today....both the town and Board of Education are very happy to share with you our progress from the past year and our plans for 2016 and beyond.
- 2015 was a year of much activity by the Town of Plainville...we looked at many projects and programs and put in place some much needed improvements to benefit our taxpayers both individuals and businesses.
- As with all endeavors, we experienced the good, the bad and the ugly....most fortunately our year consisted of mostly good news.

### Road Paving Program

- We began the year with a discussion of our roads...John Bossi explained to the council the methodology for reviewing the road conditions and a plan for beginning the resurfacing of them. A proposed Ordinance approved in that would appropriate \$5M for road improvements has been submitted for consideration. The Ordinance would authorize the issue of bonds and notes in the amount of \$5M to repave various roads throughout the Town. This was presented to the voters and unanimously approved. Six roads were resurfaced/repaved during the subsequent paving season.

### Old Linden Street School – Public Forum

- This past year, much discussion center around a solution for the Old Linden Street School
- It was pointed out that almost three years ago the Town Council appointed the Old Linden Street School Study Committee to make a recommendation regarding the future of the building. The Committee met for about a year and held 15 meetings and two public hearings. After much discussion and little public input they recommended the demolition of the building.
- They noted the lack of parking available to the building and the use limitations as a result of being connected to an elementary school. They also pointed out that the cost to renovate the building was significantly more than the cost of demolition.
- During the forum there were several suggestions made for possible future use. These suggestions included a potential vocational technical school, opening a day-care center or renovating the building to use as a community center similar to the Elmwood Center in West Hartford.
- The result of the forum is that there is simply no viable use for this building, a building that is almost twice the size of the Municipal Center that currently has a leaking roof, has hazardous materials issues, and would require a complete renovation of all of the interior and exterior structure at an estimated minimum cost of over \$6 M.
- **On March 26th** a meeting was held at Linden Street School to discuss the plans for Old Linden. Approximately 75 people attended with a good number of them currently living in the immediate vicinity of the school. Some expressed concern about the current traffic problems in the neighborhood caused by the existing school operation.
- The great majority in attendance, when asked, were in favor of taking down the building. They were also very supportive of the proposal to construct a small park in its place preserving some of the features of the old school. They felt that this was the

only rationale solution for a building that has no available parking and is attached to an existing elementary school. They also believe that increasing the student drop-off area will help to alleviate the traffic issue that currently exists.

- A tour of Old Linden was held on Saturday, April 18th from 9:00 am to 10:30 am.
- The General Government Budget included funds to demolish the Old Linden Street School. However, the funds proposed do not impact the proposed tax rate increase as the entire cost will be offset by a state grant and the use of unassigned fund balance
- The Budget passed overwhelmingly including funds for the demolition of the school.
- To date, an RFP is being issued with a target date of demolition for this June after school is done. We await the results of this request.

### Waste Water Treatment Plant

- One requirement of the permit is that the Town must “implement total phosphorus removal measures on or before 1,460 days after permit issuance”. (4 years) This will require an upgrade to the plant in order to meet the new phosphorus limits in the permit. Under current state law, the upgrade would be eligible for a 30% grant with the remainder financed with a state loan at 2% over 20 years.
- Town staff continues to work with D.E.E.P. and State Representative Betty Boukus in an attempt to get the grant amount increased to 50% of the total project cost. It is anticipated that this may be addressed during the current legislative session. This project is estimated to come in at the 12 million dollar range.

### Paderewski Park Pavilion Project

- The refurbishment of the Pavilion has been completed. Funds for the refurbishment were provided with an 80% grant and a 20% local match. A “ribbon cutting” ceremony was held in June.
- Our parks continue to be a destination for families, youth organizations and citizens to enjoy the many benefits our parks offer.

**Northwest Drive Bridge – Deck Resurfacing** on time and within budget

### Senior Center Parking Lot Resolution

- The project involved a repave the parking lot from the entranceway off of Route 10 to the exit on Stillwell Drive. It also include some curbing and sidewalk repair as well.

The project estimate is \$157,500 and is proposed to be funded as follows:

- State Grant \$105,000
- Senior Center Fundraising \$ 20,000
- In-Kind Services \$ 13,700
- Additional Appropriation \$ 18,800

### Refunding of General Obligation Bonds

- On July 20th the Town Council authorized Town staff to proceed with the refinancing of the 2007 Bond Issue to take advantage of the lower interest rates. On August 26th the Town received bids for the bonds.
- The total overall savings, after all issuance costs, is \$348,283. The true interest cost for the bonds is 2.02% which is significantly less than the old bonds which were 4.14%. The savings will be applied to the remaining years of the bond through 2027.

### Paderewski Park Fish Die Off October 2015

- A large amount of fish began dying at Paderewski Pond. Alerted by residents living adjacent to the pond of this occurrence, town

#### NUTMEG TV SCHEDULE PLAINVILLE TOWN COUNCIL and BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

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

Educational Channel #95

Sunday: 12 am & 12 pm Monday: 12am, 3am, 6am,

9am, 12 noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Sat: 12 am & 12 pm

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

Comcast #96 & ATT #99

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

**To Contact Town Councilors: E-mail: [towncouncil@plainville-ct.gov](mailto:towncouncil@plainville-ct.gov)**

- officials contacted the DEEP and Don Mysling of the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection and other state officials visited the pond on several occasions to review and evaluate the fish kill. He said the fish kill was the result of the lack of oxygen due to the lack of rain and the hot weather. He termed the fish kill as "a natural occurrence". According to Mr. Mysling, the last time he noticed a fish kill at Paderewski was in 2000.
- Marge Burris and Eric Levy as well as Mrs. Tammy Dupree and all the volunteers who helped to collect the dead fish at Paderewski Pond. It is very much appreciated. Since then, a group of citizens "Friends of Paderewski" along with our conservation commission have joined together as volunteers to discuss the pond and any changes or future ideas the Town may want to implement.

#### Turf Field

- As was widely publicized, Plainville Community Schools has been the recipients of funding to install artificial turf at the high school football/soccer areas plus the softball field. Funding was provided by several sources, most notable the Tinty Family Foundation, the State of Ct by way of Representative Betty Boukus and the Town of Plainville Capital Improvement Program.
- The turf was installed and ready for the Thanksgiving Day football game to the delight of those participating. Final touches will be completed this Spring with the installation of a new track, scoreboards and other details.
- A naming committee met to discuss options of recognizing the Tinty Family Foundation for their most generous donation making this project a reality. Details will be forthcoming in the very near future.

#### November - Naming of the Library Auditorium

- The Library Trustees has recommended that the library auditorium be named in honor of Peter F. Chase who retired last month. Because the naming was to be a surprise to Mr. Chase at his retirement celebration held on November 19th, the recommendation has been scheduled for this evening's meeting. There is an item under New Business that would accept the recommendation. Peter Chase retired after 34 years as the Town's Librarian.

#### December - Almost Home Discussion

- In early December, the Plainville Police confiscated 20 dogs and 22 cats from the Almost Home Animal Rescue operation located at 311 East Street. This was done after receiving a number of sworn statements from persons who observed unsanitary conditions at the shelter and expressed concerns regarding the potential health effects on the animals. The Town ACO confirmed the conditions described in the sworn statements.
- The operation of an animal rescue shelter at 311 East Street is not an allowable use according to the Planning & Zoning Commission Zoning Regulations. The Almost Home leaders moved into this facility without making any inquiries in advance with Town staff.
- When we discovered this violation, Town staff contacted them and informed Almost Home of the violation. This occurred in the late summer. At that time, Town staff, instead of issuing a "ceased & desist order", chose to give the Almost Home leaders the opportunity to make a timely application to the P&Z to see if they would allow this use at this location.
- It has now been over three months and Almost Home has yet to submit the application. Town staff has expressed its concern to Almost Home about the lack of progress in this matter but, to date, no application or explanation has been forthcoming.
- Currently, the Town and Almost Home are under a judge's orders to find appropriate placement for the animals. We have had two meetings with the judge and are scheduled for a progress report this Friday to determine where the placements stand.

#### Financial Good News

- Expenditures came in under budget by 446,807. The FY15 estimated surplus of \$861,785 will be placed in the Town's unassigned fund balance.

#### Robert E. Lee, Town Manager

Kathy Pugliese spoke about what has happened in the last year –

I will focus on what is expected in the upcoming year.

#### Road Paving Program

- proposed roads to be paved this summer have been submitted to the CPBC – the list will then go to the Town Council for approval. Expect to spend about \$1.5M during the upcoming construction season. Work will begin in the spring.

#### Old Linden

- Bids due early next month with demolition occurring over the summer. There are some volunteers that are making plans to preserve some of the historical items that are currently located in the building, on the outside of the building, and in the courtyard. This same group will then come up with a plan to display these artifacts for all residents to view and enjoy. Some demolition to physically disconnect the building from the current school will occur over the April vacation with the main structure coming down over the summer vacation when school is not in session.

#### Paderewski Park

- Have formed a "Friend of Paderewski Pond" Committee that is collaborating with the Conservation Commission to come up with some strategies to make the pond area more "user friendly" and to develop a plan to help prevent future fish kills. To date - 16 persons have volunteered to participate in this planning process.

#### Rails to Trails

- Farmington will be extending the trail into Plainville with a trail head at the intersection of NW Drive and Johnson Ave. Southington is also planning to bring the path up from the south into Plainville as well. It is a high priority for the Department of Transportation to close the gap through our town. Plainville has secured a planning grant to determine the best route through town. This may be an "on-road" option. Consultant in place – should take 8-12 months with opportunities for citizen input.
- Focus on some significant EDC opportunities** – namely – old GE North Plant, Chung property and the Toffolon/White Oak property in the center of Town.
- Referendum vote sometime in the fall for major maintenance projects at both the Middle School and Wheeler Elementary School.**

- Closing of the Landfill** – I expect there will be much more discussion on this project this year. The estimate to close the landfill is up to around \$5M, however, the Town has sufficient capacity to bring in material that will generate revenue to offset to closure costs and perhaps then some more. Residents will have the opportunity to learn more about this plan during the next year or so.
- Rolling out the free WiFi system in the center of town and the New Britain Ave. area.

#### Three major community events

- Balloon Fest, Wings & Wheels at Robertson Airport and the Pumpkinfest. Would like to see the business community/Chamber take a more active role in these community events.
- My goal is to focus on the "big picture" and the "long range". I have also become more active in using social media – especially the use of Facebook to get out important information to the public.
- We have developed a new web page design that is intended to be more user friendly and more compatible with hand held devices. It will also be interactive and allow for citizens to more easily notify the Town of problems that they observe in the community. This should be rolled out in the next 60 days.
- More community discussions tonight - one on taxes – Getting the Best Bang for your Tax Dollars". This discussion will focus on comparing Plainville property taxes against other municipalities. A couple of months ago we had a community discussion on Paderewski Pond that resulted in the formation of the "Friends". A similar "community discussion" was held regarding the Old Linden Street School as well.
- I see positive things for Plainville moving forward. Over the last three years the mill rate has gone up a total of 3% - averaging 1% a year. That is a pretty good track record. A lot of our future will depend on what happens at the state level especially as it relates to state aid to municipalities. Plainville derives around 30% of our total revenues from the state. A reduction in state aid could result in service adjustments or a higher than normal property tax increase.
- In conclusion, the Town has dedicated individuals serving as Town Council members and we have a very talented and dedicated Town staff as well. Plainville is at the forefront in CT with consolidating our financial, personnel and information technology functions with the Board of Education. There are plenty of opportunities for others to get involved and to help our community move forward.
- I am very proud of our community and what we have accomplished over the last decade. I encourage the Chamber members and Town Citizens to contact me at any time with suggestions or concerns to make our Town the best it can be.

#### Speaker:

#### John Bossi, Director of Technical Services

Kathy, Town Council Chairwoman mentioned the \$5 million Bonding for Road Repaving. The road work started in the Redstone Hill, West Main Street area and the major repaving will begin this spring on Cooke Street. Another study is being done on Temporary Signs, and the need for businesses. We will be working with the Planning and Zoning Commission to do what is necessary to be business friendly.

*Continued on page 6*

#### UNABLE TO ATTEND TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS?

If you have an issue you would like to discuss with the Council or a Councilor, just call 860-793-0221 ext. 205. Leave your name and phone number and ask for a Councilor to contact you.  
*They are here to serve you!*

**Speaker:**

*Mark DeVoe, EDA Director*

**The following are excerpts from his report**

• 2015 New Business List: Staff attempts to keep track of new businesses and business expansions and/or relocations within Plainville. Overall, we tracked thirty events. Of the thirty, twenty six were new businesses to Plainville. Most are smaller businesses, which we see as most important to our local economy.

• 2015 Business Recognition Award: The EDA is asked to review the new business list and choose one business to receive a 2015 award from the EDA and the Town of Plainville. This activity represents a minor expense but has the much larger impact of memorializing the commitment of those who honor the Town of Plainville by investing, locating, or continuing to do business here by expanding services or their physical presence.

• Report - Staff offers the following recommendations as we consider our goals and objectives for 2016: As was previously reported, the Town's land use boards and commissions have approved over 70,000 square feet of new commercial space in 2015. While not a record, staff reported that it had been the second best of the past 8 years, surpassed only by the year the North Mountain Road Medical Office Complex was approved (2012).

• With approximately 40 acres of industrial/commercial land available in the Strawberry Fields Industrial Park and 70 acres within the Farmington Valley Industrial Park, Plainville is poised to accommodate new manufacturing, logistics, warehousing, and associated commercial activity for years to come. Plainville currently has land to accommodate nearly 25 such small manufacturing firms in the Strawberry Industrial Park alone. In addition, there are approximately 36 acres of land remaining in Plainville's Technology Park Zone that has State Bioscience designation, which offers lucrative development incentives similar to those found in the Enterprise Zone.

While the housing market has stagnated, we have an inventory of approximately 94 acres between Unionville Avenue and Camp Street in the R-20 Zone; and 7.5 acres within the same area in the R-11 Zone. Since development constraints in this area are minor, staff is comfortable stating that a potential for 150 dwelling units, possibly more, exists in this area.

As to housing type, it is a known fact that our youngest and brightest are leaving Connecticut for opportunities in less expensive markets. In accordance with the 2009 Plan of Conservation and Development, the Town of Plainville should incentivize development of moderate income housing for young adults and para professional workers. This is vital to the continued economic success of Plainville and the State of CT. At the same time, our population is aging and equal resources should be granted to insure the creation of affordable housing for our ever growing elderly population. This is a matter not only of economic importance, but of social justice as well.

• From a planning and economic development perspective in 2016, Plainville should market its assets such as the State Enterprise (aka Contiguous Municipality Zone) and Bioscience Zones. We should encourage developers to look at the Town's new Redevelopment Design District regulations to help foster reutilization of older underused, vacant and potentially contaminated industrial properties.

• Our Office hopes to soon begin work on the 2019 Plan of Conservation and Development. This document will serve as a definitive guide for a period of 10 years following its adoption. Despite budgetary constraints, we have been able to accomplish many of the goals and objectives set forth in the 2009 Plan. It is our hope that town residents engage and participate in the 2019 Plan process to provide the input needed to truly make the document a community vision.

• Our new Geographic Information System (GIS) is gaining in popularity. We use the system to help keep mapping current with changes in property ownership and lot changes due to sales, subdivision and lot mergers. As our knowledge of the program improves, we continue to find new uses for the system.

• Plainville has a unique opportunity to perform an in-depth study of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail. It is worth noting that we are one of the last significant CT gaps on this trail that runs from New Haven, CT to Northampton, MA. The challenge of providing a safe, convenient and attractive amenity to the Town of Plainville is formidable. Ideally, such a project will help to transform areas within the Town of Plainville and create "public places." One such example is the renaissance that is occurring in the Collinsville section of Canton, Connecticut.

• We will continue to offer small businesses that extra leg up by utilizing the small business revolving loan fund. The fund is solvent and staff's commitment is to try to put as much of the fund to work as possible. The economic downturn has caused a slight, but not complete, lack of interest in the fund.

• Similarly, the Town's Tax Abatement (Incentive) Program was used to incent business expansions and relocations.

The return on investment for municipal planning services is typically slow. This is a deterrent in allowing the Department of Planning and Economic Development to stand out as a key asset for the Town of Plainville. Since that time, it is our hope that the long-term investments made by the Town of Plainville have become more apparent. From a general perspective, our department offers both tangible and intangible services.

We help to establish a long-term vision for the community by guiding the development of the Plan

of Conservation and Development. We offer more tangible benefits as we continually strive over the 10-year plan's life to implement its goals and objectives to provide a slow but steady measure of benefit to the community.

We conceive, write, and administer ordinances, regulations and incentives based on policy and plans that we help to create. These measures influence where and how things are built and where land is preserved. These components of the department's responsibility specify what is required when development is undertaken and what information is required of developers to assist land use commissions in making informed decisions that benefit the Town of Plainville. This responsibility goes directly to preserving and improving quality of life and community character while allowing for development that in many instances is "by right."

When department staff review development plans, we are afforded an excellent opportunity to highlight issues and conditions that affect a land use commission's decision to approve or deny a development plan. It is up to the staff to negotiate the nuances of a plan that could have a tendency to get overlooked during the commission review process.

*Our department represents the "face" of development services in the Town of Plainville. We take that responsibility seriously and strive to provide a quality experience for all who approach us. Whether for information on where to appropriately install a fence or a shed in one's backyard, or how to best navigate the land use process for the development of a large office, retail or manufacturing facility, it is our responsibility to continually insure that regulatory and process information is disseminated in a manner that is understandable by the public at all levels.*

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tomorrow.*

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# “Best Bang for Your Dollars” Session on Plainville Taxes

The “Best Bang for Your Dollars” session on Plainville taxes was held in the Peter Chase Room at the Library on January 21st. Superintendent of Schools, Jeffrey Kitching and Town Manager Robert E. Lee presented the program. The following is an excerpt from the New Britain Herald, reprinted with permission from the New Britain Herald owner.



Lee said the town had increased its budget by 7.23 percent over the last seven years and the local Board of Education had increased its budget by 6.49 percent over the last seven years, or less than one percent a year.

“To me, that’s a pretty remarkable number,” said Lee. “I would challenge anyone in the state to match our Board of Education spending record.”

Lee also noted that current state law prevented officials from lowering the Board of Education budget to under the amount allocated in previous years, even if the district loses students or finds ways to lower operating costs.

“I’m extremely proud of the quality of our school system and the value it brings to our community,” said Superintendent of Schools Jeffrey Kitching. “We have had very low increases and great advancements in our school district.”

Lee also explained how the town’s homeowner tax and mill rate are calculated, noting that

■ 8th in number of households, with 7,591.

■ 14th in land area with 10,000 square miles. Lee noted that Plainville is the 5th smallest town in the state.

■ 2nd highest crime rate. “There may be several reasons for this,” said Lee. “We have a good police department and catch a lot of criminals. We are also between New Britain and Bristol and bad people drive through us between them. Finally, we are next to a highway and it is easy for criminals to come in, commit a crime and get out fast.”

■ Highest debt per capita of the 14 towns with \$2,945. “We spend a lot on infrastructure but by taking care of our buildings we are making ourselves look more attractive to businesses wanting to move in,” said Lee. “If buildings look dilapidated, it says a lot about the community.”

■ Third lowest percentage of the population attending public schools, with 13.58 percent.

■ Fourth highest expenditure per pupil with \$15,058. Lee said this number is calculated by taking the education spending and dividing by the number of students. Plainville has fewer students, so the number is higher.

■ Fifth highest percentage of commercial/industrial properties, with 22.1 percent.

■ Third lowest equalized net grand list, with \$1,996,265,966.

■ Fourth lowest equalized net grand list per capita with \$105,887.

■ Fifth lowest percentage of local taxes toward budget with 70.46 percent. Lee noted that Plainville was dependent on state

impacts Plainville more than many other towns,” he said.

■ Fourth highest fiscal year 2016 mill rate out of 14 towns with 31.83 and 4th highest fiscal year 2014 equalized mill rate with 22.24.

■ Ninth lowest fiscal year 2014 tax levy per capita with \$2,355.

■ 10th lowest median house value with \$179,000.

■ 12th lowest tax on median house value with \$4,008.

■ 12th lowest equalized tax on median house value, based on equalized mill rate, with \$2,801.

Lee concluded that “not all towns are created equal.” He said that while Plainville can’t control its small size, densely packed community, low per capita income, low median household income and low equalized net grand list per capita, it still has to pay for the same services that other towns with greater resources can more easily afford.

“It comes down to what kind of town Plainville wants to be,” he said. “I think we do a pretty good job holding down expenses providing services.”



## Plainville Community Foundation Accepting Grant Applications for Programs Benefiting ~ Plainville Residents ~ Scholarship and other grant applications also available

The Plainville Community Fund at Main Street Community Foundation is currently accepting grant applications from nonprofit organizations serving Plainville residents. The grant application is available on the Foundation’s website: [www.mainstreetfoundation.org](http://www.mainstreetfoundation.org), and all proposals are due by March 15, 2016 at 4 p.m.

Consideration for funding from the Plainville Community Fund will be given to, but not limited to, proposals requesting support for charitable projects in the areas of community outreach, arts/culture, youth programs, education, health, human services and the environment.

The grant application, including all eligibility criteria, is posted on the Foundation’s website. Interested organizations are required to contact Jarre Betts, Vice President of Programs, at 860.583.6363 before submitting a proposal.

In addition, Main Street Community Foundation is accepting scholarship applications from Plainville students and residents, as well as those residing in Bristol, Burlington, Plymouth, Southington, Wolcott and other towns. Scholarships are available from over 60 funds in 2016, and they are available to students at various points in their educational careers. The 2016 Scholarship Directory, which lists all scholarships and eligibility criteria, and the link to the Foundation’s online application are available on the Foundation’s website. The deadline for the majority of the scholarships is March 14, 2016.

Organizations serving residents in Bristol, Burlington, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott are also invited to apply for a grant from the Community Foundation’s General Grant Cycle. Proposals for the General Grant Cycle are due March 31, 2016.

All information and materials are available on the Foundation’s website, [www.mainstreetfoundation.org](http://www.mainstreetfoundation.org).

*The Main Street Community Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for both present and future generations in the communities served by encouraging and promoting gift planning, prudent stewardship of assets, effective grantmaking and community leadership. A nonprofit public charity, created by private citizens, the foundation works with donors in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott who wish to build permanent charitable endowments to support their communities. Since its founding in 1995, the foundation has provided over \$12 million in grants and scholarships.*

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### Letters to the Editor for the March Edition

All Letters must be submitted by February 15th No exceptions, please limit words to 300 All letters must have your name, address & phone number The volunteer staff reserves the right not to publish letters and the right to edit all letters E-mail to: [hmtnn@comcast.net](mailto:hmtnn@comcast.net) If you don’t have a computer you may mail to: Hometown Connection, 27 Sherman Street, Plainville, CT 06062 Must be received by the 15th of the month we are getting short on space each month.

*In Case you missed this.....*

## Anti Theft Dots

### “Protect your Property Now”



*Pictured above with Keith Gnazzo are to the left Lieutenant Eric J. Peterson and Chief of Police Matthew Catania. The Chief presented Keith with program order forms.*

Police Chief Matthew Catania invites anyone that has any questions, any questions whatsoever to please call him. The non-emergency number is 860-747-1616 and just ask for him. If he is not available at the time you call, please leave your name, phone number and question on his voice mail.

Several persons had questions that the staff at Gnazzo's could not answer. When Chief Cantania heard that, he requested we publish his number so he can help you to protect you and your home.

*“It is our pleasure to assist the Police.”  
Plainville Hometown Connection  
Volunteers*

## HOME KIT

### Anti Theft Dots

*The Fast & easy way to protect your property*

Recommended by the Plainville Police. Plainville is the first community in New England to be offered this new way “NOW” to protect your property. Gnazzo Food Center is proud to be chosen to be the leader in offering this new made in the U.S.A. Anti Theft Kit.

The kits sell for \$34.95, a deposit of \$25.00 is required when you place your order.

**When the Police retrieve stolen goods the only way they can find the owners is if the items are marked. This special Anti Theft Dots Kit marks your items with a special code to identify you as the owner. This is nation wide. Protect your snow blower, computers, TV's & etc.**

## Anti-Theft Dots

The Plainville Police Department is helping to introduce a new product called Anti-Theft Dots to the New England area. This product fits nicely with our continuing efforts to protect and serve the Town of Plainville.

1. Anti-Theft Dots are applied to valuables in several ways such as: adhesive labels, spray cans, or brush-on applications. The embedded dots have laser etched identifiers in them that are individual to the owner.
2. These dots are invisible to the naked eye but can be scanned and read with a device. The identification number(s) are registered with the manufacturer through their web-based application.
3. This product will help safeguard property by deterring theft through awareness that we have such technology available to our citizens and by providing a way to identify stolen property thereby facilitating the arrest of the perpetrator and return of stolen property to the owner.
4. Your property protection is “Traceable by law enforcement across the USA.”
5. Pet Emergency/ Warning Stickers to display “In case of Emergency!”
6. that pets are inside your home.
7. House Warning Stickers that “All items in this home are marked with . . . ANTI THEFT DOTS.



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You!**

**From the Desk Of:**

*Chief Matthew Catania*

### ORDINANCE PROHIBITING ALL-NIGHT PARKING BE IT ENACTED

by the Town of Plainville and Town Meeting Duly Assembled: SECTION 1. It shall be unlawful from December 1 to April 1 for the owner or operator of a motor vehicle to allow such vehicle to stand on any street in the Town of Plainville for more than (1) one hour between the hours of Twelve (12) midnight and six (6) A.M. on any given day. SECTION 2. The Director of Public Works, or his designated agent, may direct the removal of any vehicle parked in violation of Section 1 of this ordinance. SECTION 3. Any violator of this parking ordinance shall be fined \$50.00 for each offense, and, in addition, shall pay for the towing, moving, parking and storage of any vehicle removed in accordance with this ordinance. Approved at Special Town Meeting February 27, 1959 Amended by Town Council June 19, 1978. II-05-1

### Telephone Scams:

When someone calls, to solicit money for any cause, just tell them to send you the information about what their non-profit is all about.

Then, tell them you always check with your local Police Department before you do anything.....

*Boy, do they hang up in a hurry.  
That is what happened to me the other day!!*

*Helen Bergenty*

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**FROM THE DESK OF:**

**Dominick Moschini,**  
*Superintendent of Roadways*

**Sand/salt for Plainville residential use only are located:**

- Norton Park-Parking space near Castle Apartments.
- Paderewski Park- Parking area on Cooke Street
- Toffolon School-Driveway school entrance.

**If you have any questions, please call**

**860-793-0221 ext. 208**

**Monday thru Wednesday**

**8:00 AM to 4:00PM**

**Thursday 8:00AM to 7:00PM**

**and Friday 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

**IMPORTANT - CHECK THE CONDITION OF YOUR MAILBOX AND POST**

The Town's policy regarding damage to mailboxes and/or posts during snow plowing operations is as follows: The Town will replace mailboxes and/or posts only if it is actually struck by the snowplow. There must be physical contact between the plow and the mailbox and/or post.

The Town will not replace any mailboxes and/or posts constructed of inappropriate materials such as plastic and those damaged by the weight of the snow being discharged off the snowplow.

Residents are expected to maintain their mailbox and/or post in such a manner that it will withstand the pressure/impact of snow and ice cascading off the snowplow.

**From the Desk of:**

**Larry A. Sutherland, Fire Marshal**

Town of Plainville Fire Marshal, Emergency Management and Plainville Fire Department is asking for everyone's cooperation and assistance with the removal of snow from around fire hydrants.

Public safety officials ask that residential and commercial property owners assist by locating the hydrant that is closest to their property and if needed clear the snow for a minimum of (3) three feet around the water supply.

Fire hydrants get buried in snow and can be difficult to find. If required in an emergency, there will be delays in getting the water supply to the fire apparatus, and in turn a delay in any lifesaving needs and property damage mitigation.

We ask for your cooperation and appreciate all that you can do to help out Plainville Emergency Services with this important matter.

**Senator Martin Invites Taxpayers to Plainville Town Hall Meeting February 2nd**

Senator Marin will host a Town Hall meeting on Tuesday February 2nd at the Town Hall from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. He will discuss key issues facing Connecticut, preview the upcoming session of the Connecticut legislature and answer questions from taxpayers. The meeting is FREE and open to the public. It will be held in the Council Chambers. For information call 800-842-1421

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## Long-Time Healthcare Executive

### Laurence Tanner Assumes Chairmanship of Community Foundation of Greater New Britain

Hospital for Special Care's Lynn Ricci to Serve as Vice Chair; Berlin's Adam Salina, Plainville's Dr. Jeffrey Kitching Join Board of Directors

Retired healthcare executive Laurence A. Tanner, the former long-time President and Chief Executive Officer of the Hospital of Central Connecticut, has assumed the position of board chair of the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain, heading a slate of Foundation leadership that includes a new vice chair and two new board members.

Hospital for Special Care (HSC) President and Chief Executive Officer Lynn Ricci, a Foundation board member for the past two years, is the new Vice Chair. Joining the Foundation's board of directors for the first time are former Berlin Mayor Adam Salina and current Plainville Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jeffrey Kitching.

Lynn Ricci, who will succeed Tanner as Foundation Chair in 2018 upon completion of his two-year term, joined HSC in 2007.

Adam Salina, currently a principal with the Rocky Hill-based government relations firm Kozak & Salina, LLC, served as Berlin mayor from 2003-2013. Upon his 2003 election, he was one of the youngest chief elected officials in Connecticut history at age 28. A Stanford University graduate, Salina had a brief career as a professional athlete in the National Football League. He serves a variety of local non-profit organizations including the Hospital of Central Connecticut, Boys & Girls Club of New Britain and New Britain-Berlin YMCA. Dr. Kitching, a long-time educator and Plainville superintendent of schools since 2011, had previously served as the assistant superintendent of schools in Glastonbury. Kitching holds a bachelor's degree from Eastern Connecticut State University, a master's degree from Southern Connecticut State University, and a doctorate in education from Central Connecticut State University.

Established in 1941, the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain is "Where Good Begins" in Berlin, New Britain, Plainville and Southington. The Foundation works to inspire philanthropy, manage permanent charitable assets effectively, and partner to address key community issues through strategic leadership. For more information, visit [www.cfgnb.org](http://www.cfgnb.org).

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## "I.T. Jim's" . . . .

### Get More Out of Your Searches



Google and Bing are the two most commonly used search engines used today. About 64% of Americans use Google while 21% use Bing from Microsoft. Yahoo comes in 3rd with 12% but is actually a combination of Bing, Google, and other tools. AOL search accounts for only 1% of all internet searches, but is actually powered by Bing.

Here are some tips to help you get the most out of your searches and get meaningful results.

#### Search Everywhere!

- **In Windows 7** click START and just start typing a search. You will get search results from email, files on your computer, and from Bing or Google.
- **In Windows 8/8.1**, from the START screen, just start typing. Search will automatically recognize that you are typing and give you search results. You can also click on the Search Icon (magnifying glass) at the top right corner.
- **Windows 10** has a very powerful search tool and personal assistant named Cortana. Start typing in the search bar or click on the circle icon at the bottom of your screen to the right of the START button. You can start typing, or if you have a microphone connected, click on the microphone icon and speak your search. For some results, you'll get spoken answers. Also, in Windows 10, you can enable Cortana to listen for you to ask it questions. Just say "Hey Cortana" and it will listen for you to ask her a question. It is a very powerful tool. Here are a few examples of what you can ask it... "How much is 175 divided by 14?" (12.5 by the way), "How many teaspoons in a quart?" (192 by the way), "Remind me to take my medicine tomorrow at lunch." (You'll get a pop up and audible reminder on your computer at 12PM the next day)
- **In Apple OS X**, click on the Spotlight icon (magnifying glass) at the top right of your screen. Type in your search to find items on your computer or from various search engines.
- **On your computer**, whether you use Internet Explorer, Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari to browse the internet you can simply type your search into the address bar at the top of the screen. It will use that browser's default search engine to give you results.
- **On Android smartphones**, tap in the search bar that normally appears at the top of your home screen. Or, tap on the microphone icon and speak your search. On most new phones, you can just say "OK Google" and it will listen for you to ask a question. Like Windows Cortana, it will also act as a personal assistant.
- **On Apple iPhone and iPads with iOS 9+**, drag down from the middle of the home screen and type in your search. You can also tap the microphone to speak your search. Drag right from the middle of the search screen, to show search and get Siri suggestions. You can also double press your home button and ask Siri your question.

#### Search More Efficiently!

To get the most power out of your searches, I recommend going directly to [google.com](http://google.com) or [bing.com](http://bing.com). On those websites, there are advanced tools that make them very powerful tools to find what you need. Here are some tips:

- Choose your words carefully. Use less generic words and more subject specific words.
- Don't worry so much about spelling or capitalization, Google corrects most spelling errors and doesn't read capital vs lower case. For example, a search for Plainville City Hall is the same as plainville city hall.
- Type weather followed by a city and get the forecast for that city. Type define followed by any word to see its definition. Type in math equations and get answers. (\* = multiply, / = divide) Type in unit conversions like 5 dollars in pesos (92.25 Mexican Peso).
- Type - (dash) before a word and the search will exclude that word in the search. For example, type jaguar speed -car to exclude results about Jaguar cars. (Doesn't work in Bing)
- Put words or phrases in quotes to get the exact word or phrase in your results.
- Use an asterisk (\*) as a placeholder. For example, "A \* saved is a \* earned".
- Type site: to get results from a certain website. For example, taxes site:plainvillect.gov will find the word taxes on the town website.
- Use OR to get certain results. In Google: Plainville CT democrats OR republicans. In Bing: Plainville CT (democrats OR republicans).

*I really would love to hear from you with ideas for future columns. Please email me at [jim.phc@gmail.com](mailto:jim.phc@gmail.com) with ideas and suggestions.*

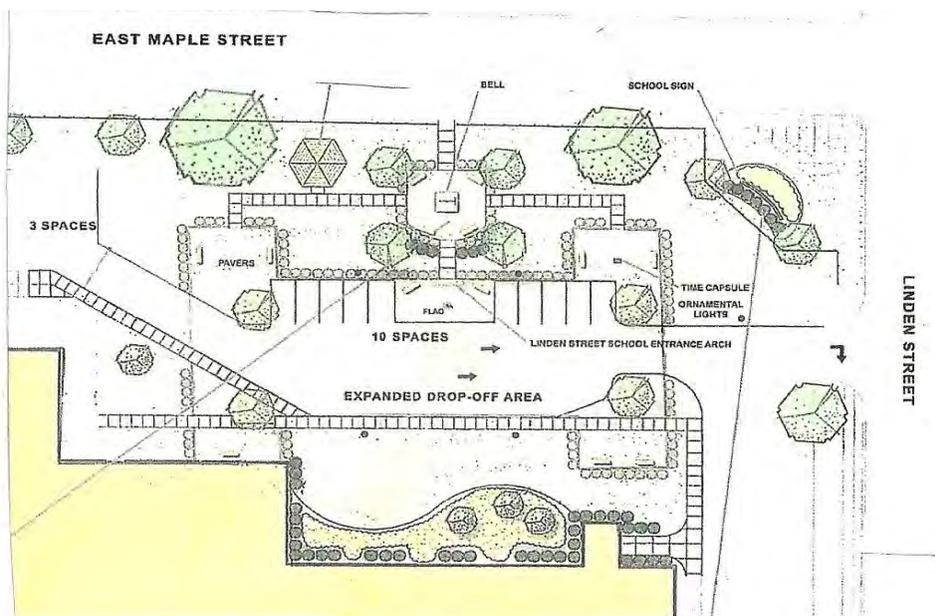
Jim

# LINDEN CORNER

**WE ARE HERE!!!**

*History - Nature - Conservation*

**Ask the Linden Project Committee  
Submit your Historical Questions  
Ask Nan and Rose**



**In depth articles on the artifacts - Pictures - Progress notes from the site - Interviews  
The “Linden Corner” will be dedicated to reporting and discussing progress involving the  
Old Linden Street School project. Keep watching!!!**

*Did You Know? Do You Remember?*

**Plainville Historical Center 29 Pierce Street, Plainville, CT 06062  
Phone 860-747-6577**

## **Linden Street School Student & Teacher Look Forward to 50 Years of Friendship**

*(Left) - Kathy (Bissonette) Oakes  
(Right) - Cynthia (Kufta) McDowell*

Kathy started off as Cynthia's student in her 3 grade class of 1968 - 1969 at Linden Street School. Kathy would help clean the classrooms at the end of the school year and Cynthia would bring Kathy to McDonald's or Friendly's for her hard work. The two stayed in touch throughout the years and have maintained a great friendship. In 3 years these two ladies will have known each other 50 years and they look forward to celebrating such a big milestone. Cynthia lives in Cape Cod.



## **CHRISTOPHER'S GAZEBO**

Let's face it, a gazebo is not a piece of equipment one would ordinarily find on the grounds of an elementary school. Yet the gazebo in the courtyard at the Linden Street School looks perfectly natural. A peaceful place in a busy world.

The story of the gazebo goes back to 1978. Sherman and Patricia Augur's son Christopher, "Chris" to his friends had been a student at Linden Street School. Chris spent part of the summer of 1978 at Yale New Haven Hospital. He was there for elective cardiac surgery. In a period of two weeks Chris had undergone three operations. The results were not what was hoped for. Chris died in August 1978.

The Augur's family and friends began the construction of the gazebo in 1986. The gazebo was the family's way to thank teachers and staff at Linden for the care and attention given to Chris. It was dedicated that year in a simple ceremony. The final piece of the gazebo, the Weathervane on top, was done in the winter of 1989-90.

As part of the 70th anniversary celebration of the Linden Street School the gazebo was rededicated.

It must be moved so that the infrastructure beneath the concrete on which it sits can be updated. It is woefully showing its age from hard use as a bird feeder. The first thought of the planning professionals was to tear it down and erect a new one with up to date, easy care materials. That is the easiest course of action and without a doubt, the most practical. Is that we want to do?

Because of its size the gazebo will have to be taken down to keep it safe. There are parts of it that



nature and time have deemed unusable but those parts still in good condition will be stored until it is time to reconstruct it.

We are always so quick to destroy and my instincts tell me that this structure is unique, it was a gift to the children of Plainville in loving memory of a student, and deserves the respect of some thoughtful consideration. I see it useful still, placed in a new location close to the private vehicle pickup area, functioning proudly as a safe and dry place for children to wait for their ride.

Could it be carefully dismantled and the salvageable parts be reused along with new material where needed?

There will surely be state regulations that must be adhered to. This project will have to be supported by volunteers. The committee would appreciate hearing from anyone who would be willing to look at the gazebo with us and make a recommendation. Let's work together to save it, if we can.

***If you have any interest in this project or you need more information, call Gary Eisenhauer at 860 - 747-2696 or at the Historic Center 860-747-6577.***

*Photo  
of the  
Gazebo*

*By:  
Rich  
Ireland*



**Isabella Fil Wins CT DECA Award**



Plainville High School senior and DECA Vice President Isabella Fil, recently entered a pin design contest for Connecticut's DECA Chapter. Her creative and unique pin design was awarded first place among the many submissions. As part of the first place award, she will receive a free registration to attend the State Career Development Conference held at the Aqua Turf in Southington, Connecticut in March. Isabella has also qualified to attend the Leadership Academy Conference at the International Career Development Contest, in Nashville Tennessee this April.

**Plainville Students Participate in "Hour of Code"**



During the month of December, and in conjunction with National Computer Science Week, held December 7-13, all Plainville students in kindergarten through fifth grade participated in the "Hour of Code" program where they began to "code" – learning how to create text to operate computer functions. The game style format provided increased levels of complexity as the students honed computer programming skills, using grit, perseverance and collaboration with peers. The Hour of Code is part of Code.org, a non profit organization focused on bringing computer science to schools around the world. The Hour of Code program in the Plainville elementary schools was coordinated by Elementary Math Resource Teacher, Alicia Attarrato and Math Science Instructional Leader, Phil Sanders.

**P.H.S. SPORTS BRIEF**

\*\*\*\*\*

The Plainville Hometown Connection would love to have two or 3 High School Students to volunteer to cover High School Sports.

Call 860-747-4119

Leave your name and phone number and we will set up an appointment to discuss details of the assignment.

*Helen Bergenty, President*

**DISTRICT PRESCHOOL PROGRAM SEEKING STUDENTS**

The Plainville Community Schools' Preschool Program is seeking Plainville students who will be four (4) years old by January 1, 2017. The program will run four half days per week and will be offered at each of the three Plainville elementary schools. Transportation will be provided to and from the students' homes and/or childcare provider. The program is tuition free.

The Plainville Community Preschool Program is entering its third year and our youngest learners are receiving a very high quality program. We look forward to welcoming new students for the upcoming 2016-17 school year," noted Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Maureen Brummett.

Please contact Cathy Demers at (860) 793-3270 x112 for additional information and / or to obtain an application. There will be a screening at Linden Street School on January 25, 2016 and at Frank T. Wheeler Elementary School on February 22, 2016.

**MSP "Tacky Sweater Day" Fundraiser for Food Pantry**



The students and staff at the Middle School of Plainville recently donned "tacky apparel" for a great cause. The Art Club, and teacher advisers Laura Meehan and Lori Vigue, sponsored "Tacky Sweater Day." Students and staff made a donation to the Plainville Community Food Pantry and wore tacky seasonal apparel. Many students and staff members created their own uniquely designed "tacky shirt" for the fundraiser. The Tacky Sweater Day event raised over \$300 for the Food Pantry.



**MSP Art Club Makes Holiday Ornaments**

Under the direction of art teachers Lori Vigue and Laura Meehan, students in the Middle School of Plainville's Art Club recently created ceramic holiday ornaments. The Art Club members then visited Apple Rehab in Plainville to sing holiday carols and deliver the hand-made ornaments to the residents. 7th grade students Caitlin Charest and Paige Levesque shown above.

**DECA Members Attend Conference in Texas**



A group of Plainville High DECA members recently attended the Ultimate DECA Power-Trip in Austin, Texas. Members who attended the conference participated in competition events and attended workshops based on entrepreneurship, leadership, and communication skills. The Plainville DECA members were also able to network with other DECA chapters from across the world including Ontario, Germany, Honduras, Guam, as well as other chapters from across the nation including Florida, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, California, and Arizona. The conference is another avenue to help foster the students' ability to compete in state and national competitions held in the spring.

In photo: Plainville High School DECA chapter members and faculty member Jim Batt at the Ultimate DECA Power-Trip.

**Toffolon Students Hold Holiday Tree Event**



Louis Toffolon Elementary School fourth graders (with help from family members and staff) recently participated in their annual tree decorating activity. The small holiday trees, once decorated, were donated to the Plainville Senior Center, the St. Philip House, the BellMarie Assisted Living facility and the Plainville Community Food Pantry.

*Remember Your Sweetheart February 14th Valentine's Day!*

*I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag....*



# Schools in Review

## 2016 PHS/YMCA PROJECT GRADUATION NEWS

The next meeting for the 2016 Plainville High School Project Graduation is Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at the YMCA. Project Graduation is an all night alcohol and drug-free party, held for Plainville High School Seniors right after the graduation ceremony. The party is held at the YMCA the night of graduation and is filled with many fun activities. All Senior and Junior parents are invited to attend the meetings. If interested in helping, please contact Inna Masco at: 860-205-9911 or June Burns at: 860-793-4942.

### FUTURE MEETING DATES:

- Wednesday, March 2nd, 2016
- Wednesday, April 6th, 2016
- Wednesday, May 4th, 2016

### DODGE BALL TOURNAMENT

to be held at the Plainville High School Kegel Gym on Thursday, February 4th, 2016 at 6:00 pm. Cost: \$60 for a team of 6 players. General Admission: \$2.00. Prizes awarded to the winning team members. Public participation highly WELCOME including businesses, town/school employees, civic organizations, kids, adults. Please call: Inna Masco 860-205-9911 or Mr. Farrell at Plainville High to register your team or for more information.



### USED CLOTHING/ITEM COLLECTION

Project Graduation will receive CASH for every pound of used items we collect from January until May 2016.

We will be collecting:

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

Drop off at the YMCA on January 30th, 2016 from 10 am - Noon in the lobby or call: June Burns at 860-793-4942 to arrange for a pick-up. Future drop-off dates at the YMCA: February 27<sup>th</sup>, March 26<sup>th</sup>, April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 28<sup>th</sup>.



### COMEDY NIGHT- SAVE THE DATE!

March 19th, 2016 at VFW, corner of Northwest Dr. & Route 10 in Plainville. Featuring New York Comedians ANDY PETZ and ALLI BREEN with DJ ERIC WELLS. Watch for more details!

## Wheeler Students Visit Science Center



Fourth grade students at Frank T. Wheeler Elementary School traveled to the Connecticut Science Center in December. The students were able to challenge themselves to think like scientists and explore a number of unique inventions. They also had an opportunity to experience the physics of motion through a variety of interactive activities. They will use this knowledge to brainstorm their own inventions in school and eventually present their ideas at the Wheeler School Invention Convention later this Spring.

## Wheeler School Hosts Kelly's Kids Program



Frank T. Wheeler Elementary School students in Session 2 of the After School Program enjoy participating in the Kelly's Kids Program, a play and care-taking program with live animals including an alpaca, goats, mini-horses, donkeys, pigs, rabbits, calves, ducks and chickens. Students learn empathy, compassion and responsibility with their animal friends!

## New School of New York City Dean's List

Charles Romanow, son of Allison and Marc Romanow, Plainville, has made the Dean's List for the spring semester at the New School in New York City. Charles is entering his senior year and majoring in urban studies. He plans to attend graduate school in 2016 and currently works for the New York City Department of Transportation.

WCSU names full-time students on Dean's List for fall 2015 semester

Plainville: Kyle Camerato, Music Education; Kelsey Chacho, Health Promotion Studies; Matthew Volpe, Music Education

*Of The United States of America*

## What a Celebration! 100 Years Old Happy Birthday & Many more



Sitting from left to right: Vrinda Rio (Michael's wife), Jim, Kayla Kriscenski (Granddaughter). Standing from left to right: Michael Rio (Grandson), Brian Kriscenski (Kayla's husband).

Jim turned 100 years old on Wednesday January 6. He celebrated his birthday all week with his son Jim and his wife Debbie with whom he makes his home, his nieces Claire Adams, Beth (Camp) Wiblyi and Tom Camp and his family who came from Florida to treat him to dinner at Outback Steakhouse on his birthday, and his grandchildren and their spouses who came from Boston to spend the weekend with him.

Jim goes to the senior center on Wednesdays and never misses church at Our Lady of Mercy on Saturday. Jim has been a Plainville resident since 1961 and retired from the Bank of Boston, formally the Plainville Trust Company in 1981.

## Four Generations Celebrate Baby's First Visit with Santa



Harold Bissonette, his daughter, granddaughter and Great-Grand Daughter at Our Lady of Mercy Christmas Breakfast.

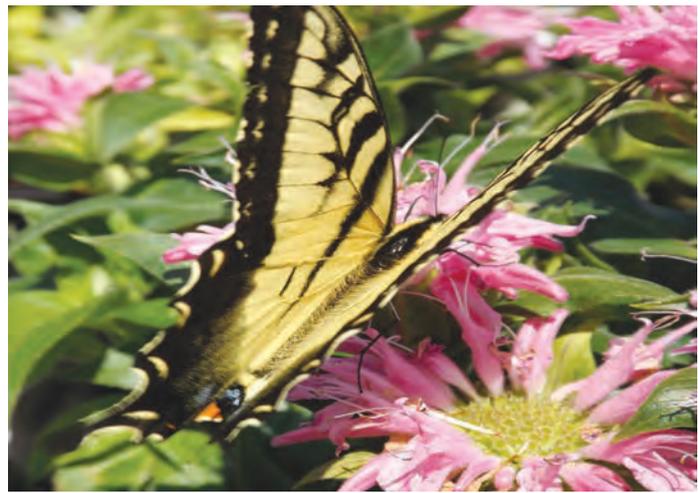
4 Generations from left to right: Harold Aime Bissonette Sr. (88), Kathy Lynn Oakes (56), Aimee Carole Browning (27), and baby Aubrey Lynn Browning (4 weeks) on Santa's lap

## Northeast Produce Golf Open Still Producing

Northeast Produce Golf Open has raised approximately \$150,000 in five years for the Plainville Fuel bank and Plainville youth sports. Susie Woerz accepting the check from Mike Melninkaitis, owner of Northeast Produce



## "As Life Goes By"



By: **Wendell Copeland Exhibit February 1st to 29th at "The Orchards" in Southington**

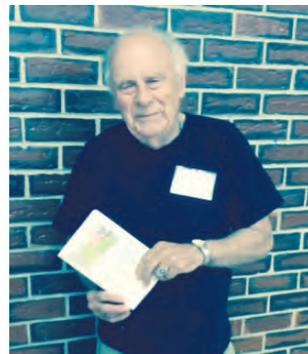
Wendell Copeland, of Plainville CT, will be exhibiting his photography at The Gallery at The Orchards February 1 - 29, 2016. The title of his show is "As Life Goes By". Wendell first became interested in taking pictures, while in the service overseas, in Germany. Back in the states, he entered a photo contest and won a cash prize at "The Chicago Tribune". Throughout the years, Wendell took Santa, Christmas and birthday photos for family and friends. He is the proud designer of a Santa Claus stamp, which he designed for the Town of Bethlehem and which is available every Christmas at the Bethlehem Post Office. Wendell is a member of the very active group called "Snappy Seniors", which is at The Plainville Senior Center. Wendell is also an artist in pastels, acrylics and pencil. He designed, draws and produces a monthly cartoon strip for the "Plainville Hometown Connection Newspaper".

The Gallery at The Orchards is located in the Community Room, on the second floor, at The Orchards. Please call The Orchards at (860) 628-5656 for available day and evening viewing hours.

For further information, please contact:

[www.southingtonartsandcrafts.com](http://www.southingtonartsandcrafts.com) and [www.southingtonorchards.org](http://www.southingtonorchards.org)  
The enclosed digital photo of the photograph, "A Scene On A Summer Day", was taken by Wendell Copeland.

The Gallery at The Orchards, which is run by Southington Arts and Crafts Association, is located at The Orchards of Southington, which is a Senior Living Community. The Gallery is in the upstairs Community Room at 34 Hobart Street; Southington CT 06489. Phone is (860) 628-5656



**-D-  
B  
-K-**

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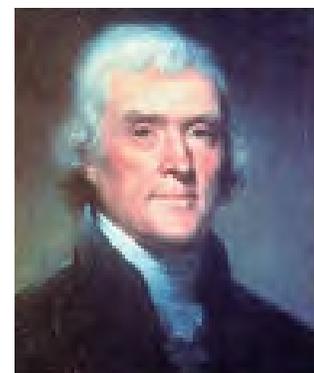
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## Thomas Jefferson's Corner



No man will labor for himself who can make another labor for him.

Thomas Jefferson

## Our Lady of Mercy K of C Hosting

“All You Can Eat” Monthly Breakfast  
Sunday, February 14th—8:00 am to 10:30 am

**O.L.M. PARISH CENTER ,  
19 S. CANAL ST.,**

Your choice of menu: Juice, eggs, western eggs, sausage, ham, hash browns, Texas French toast, bagels, donuts and coffee.

**Donation for adults \$4.00, Children \$1.00  
Children under 6 FREE**

“Kid’s Corner”

“Valentine Day Crafts”

**Open to the Public**

Any questions please

contact **Bill Brayne 860-729-7397**

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# What’s going on ? Check Here.....

## Happy New Year! Here are the upcoming February Children's events at the Plainville Public Library:

**Take Your Child to the Library Day -**  
Saturday, February 6th, 2:00 PM. This all-ages, humorous puppet show adaption of Rumpelstiltskin was written by our own Mr. Tim and performed by the children's librarians, aka The Plainville Library Players! Hot chocolate and goodies will follow.

**Make Your Own Valentines -**  
Friday February 12th anytime from 11:00 - 4:00 - All the supplies you need to make unique, one-of-a-kind valentines will be in our children's programming room; stop on by and let your creativity loose!

**The Chocolate Party for ages 13 and up -**  
Friday, February 12, 2:00 - Enjoy your day off from school with this program full of chocolate challenges and games. You may get a little messy, but it will be delicious!

**Family Winter Reading Program -**  
pick up your fun activity page in the children's department; if your family completes at least 10 of the activities, you will receive a certificate and a ticket to attend the after-hours Winter Beach Bash on March 4th!

**APPetizers:**  
Wednesday February 10th and 24th at 10:30 AM for caregivers with children 6 and under. Caregivers and children will explore new apps each class and learn about how to safely incorporate technology into children’s lives. (Space is limited so please register)

### Tech-splorers:

Thursday February 11th at 6:00 for kids in grades 4-6. We’ll use our iPads to learn about QR codes, create our own, and play some games. Space is limited so please register in advance.

### LEGO® Challenge:

Thursdays at 4:30, all ages. Each week we’ll feature a different theme and you can create something incredible with our LEGO® bricks. While creations won’t go home, we’ll take pictures and display everyone’s masterpieces each week at the library.

### Dinner Movie Theater -

February 16th at 6:00 PM. Bring your dinner and a blanket and come enjoy a movie in our auditorium. Movie titles TBA—call or visit the library for more information.

### Flying Fingers Knit & Crochet Group:

Fridays at 4:00. Come learn to knit or crochet, or bring your current project.

### Once Upon a Story Preschool Storytime:

Mondays at 10:30 (except for February 15th). Each week our preschool storytime will explore themes through books, songs, rhymes, educational activities, and crafts. Take-home literacy tips will be included.

### P.A.L.S. Baby & Toddler Storytime:

Tuesdays at 10:30 (except for February 16th) for ages birth through 23 months. This early-literacy-based program features a short age-appropriate story and song session followed by “learning through play,” as well as weekly handouts to take home.

### Two Much Fun Storytime:

Thursdays at 10:30 for two-year-olds. This storytime geared toward the terrific two’s features lots of movement and music, as well as handouts for families supporting early literacy activities at home.

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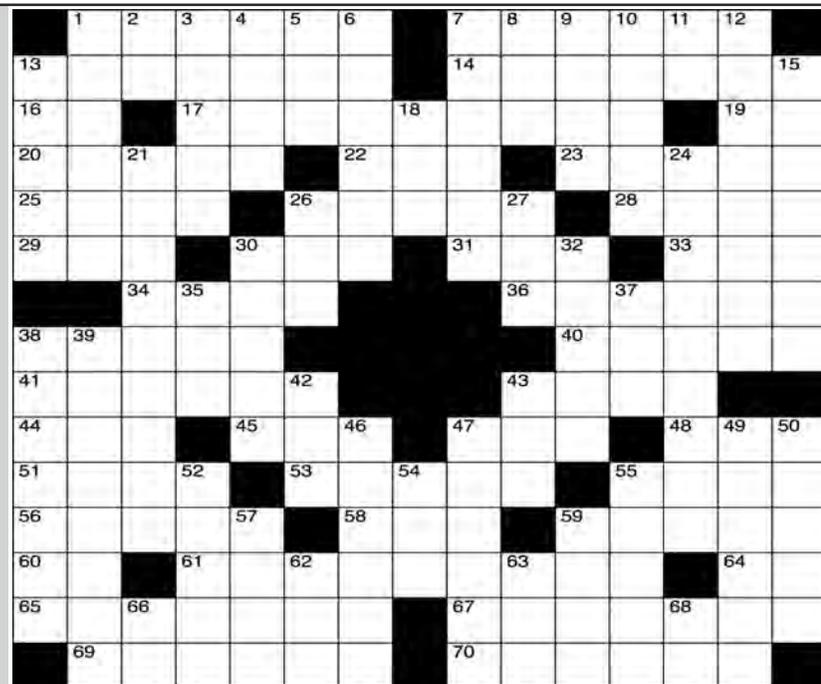
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**To reserve for your Banquet**

## CROSSWORD



### CLUES ACROSS

1. OWED
7. SHAWL
13. SLOW TEMPO
14. BODILY STRUCTURE
16. SUN-GOD
17. FRANKLIN OR ELEANOR
19. DEGREE
20. NORWEGIAN POET
22. LOCAL SCHOOL ORGANIZATION
23. CONSUMER
25. BREWS
26. HERO
28. TO CLEAR OR TIDY
29. 9TH MONTH
30. HIT LIGHTLY
31. PINNA
33. DOD COMPUTER LANGUAGE
34. ONE DIRECTION WON AT 2014 AWARDS
36. NO. AM. PEAT BOG
38. CLEAR WRAP
40. NAPPED LEATHER
41. IN A WAY, TAKES
43. TRANSPORTED
44. BACK MUSCLE
45. UNHAPPY
47. WRONG
48. CHIT
51. EPIC POEM
53. CAPUCHIN GENUS

55. \_\_\_ TRAZ: THE ROCK
56. WEIGHT UNIT
58. FOOT (LATIN)
59. EGG-SHAPED NUT PALM
60. A RADIOACTIVE ELEMENT
61. ROOSEVELT V.P.
64. RAILROAD TRACK
65. MORE DENSE, LESS LIQUID
67. BLOCK, FIRE & REUNION
69. A SET THAT IS PART OF ANOTHER SET
70. HAIR PRODUCT

### CLUES DOWN

1. INEFFECTIVE
2. 39TH STATE
3. SKINS
4. IN A MOMENT
5. JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER HIROBUMI
6. TYRANT
7. A CRUELLY RAPACIOUS PERSON
8. POINT MIDWAY BETWEEN NE AND E
9. ABNORMAL BREATHING
10. ESSENTIAL OIL OR PERFUME OBTAINED FROM FLOWERS
11. ITALIAN RIVER
12. FIXED FIRMLY INTO
13. OPERA SONGS
15. CLOTH MEASUREMENT
18. 7TH GREEK LETTER
21. EXTRACTOR
24. FOR BOILING WATER TO MAKE TEA
26. POSSESSES
27. EDIBLE TUBEROUS ROOT
30. GLASS WINDOW SHEETS
32. TACTICS
35. MORE (SPANISH)
37. OUR STAR
38. MAKES A CHOICE
39. GREAT PLAINS INDIANS
42. BAGLIKE STRUCTURE IN A PLANT OR ANIMAL
43. FEMALE SIBLING
46. DIVERGE
47. ADHERENT OF ISLAM
49. DEFER
50. SEMITIC GODS
52. INDIAN TERM OF RESPECT
54. 10 DECIBELS
55. SURFACE REGIONS
57. SMALL AMOUNTS
59. LIBERAL RIGHTS ORGANIZATION
62. TEENY
63. VOLCANIC MOUNTAIN IN JAPAN
66. ATOMIC #71
68. CANADIAN PROVINCE

**Answer on page 30**

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

## PHS 60th Class Reunion

Plainville High School members class of 1956 are in the planning stage of their 60th Reunion in September and are searching for some members as they wouldn't want anyone to be overlooked for this special occasion.

Those members are: Joan Breton, Jane Miller, Nancy Howe, Barbara Coughlin, Shirley Moore, and Carolyn Stewart.

Anyone interested in helping with the planning, is more than welcome to join in...If you have any information on the above people, or you want to join in the plans, please call Barbara Rund Roussel @ 860-734-6508.

## PHS 50th Class Reunion PHS class of 1966

We have begun plans for our 50th reunion!

It will be held on October 1, 2016

at DoubleTree in Bristol with an

Alumni pizza gathering

on September 30th at VFW in Plainville.

Our next meeting is February 3rd at 7:00

at Plainville fire house.

If you know whereabouts of any classmates

or want more information

contact David.laurie@snet.net

janeprior48@hotmail.com (Laz) or

Gwferreira@aol.com (Woerz)

## Plainville Recreation Dept. Winter/Spring Programs

Winter/Spring program registration began on January 5th in the Recreation Office at 50 Whiting Street. The Recreation Office hours are Monday through Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

**Recreational programs are offered for youth and adults.** Youth activities include: Ski/snowboard Lessons grades 3-8, Fit & Fantastic Grades 6-8, Girls Volleyball Grades 5-8, Toddle Time Ages 2-3, Kidz-R-Size Plus Ages 3 1/2-5, Toffolon Pillo Polo grades 1-5, Wheeler Pillo Polo Grades 1-5, Mommy & Me Yoga Ages 1-6, Time for Me/Time For Mom & Dad Ages 3-7, Recreation Gymnastics ages 1-6, Wheeler Acro-Gymnastics Ages 1-5, Tumble Time Gymnastics Ages 1-6, Toddle Dance Ages 3 & 4, Youth/Modern Dance grades K-8, Co-ed Pillo Polo Grades 6 & 7, Water Safety Instruction ages 16 & up, Lifeguard Training Age 15 & Up, Parent & Child Aquatics 6 months -5 years, and Red Cross Swim Instruction, Individual Swim Lessons, Beginning Advanced Diving, & Structured Pool Play Ages 6-14.

**Adult programs include:** Adult Swim Instruction, Water Aerobics, Zumba, Jewelry Making, Recreational Co-ed Volleyball, Yoga, Golf Clinic, Men's Basketball, Plainville Wind Ensemble, Men's Over 30 Basketball, and Dog Obedience.

**Fee payment must accompany registration for programs carrying a charge. To obtain further information please call the Recreation Department at 860-747-6022.**

## State Senator Henri Martin invites you to attend a



### PRE-SESSION PLAINVILLE TOWN HALL

Please join me as we discuss the 2016 Legislative Session.

**Tues. • Feb. 2, 2016 • 6:30 – 8 pm**  
Plainville Town Hall  
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Event Is Open To The Public

For more information contact:  
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or 1-800-842-1421



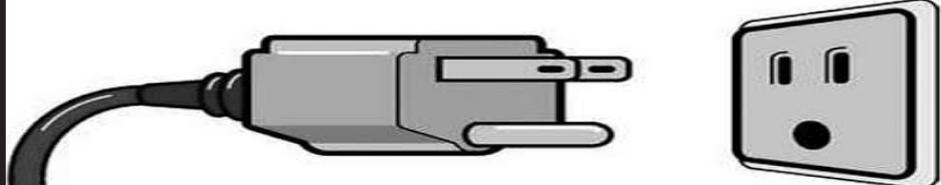
**To Submit Class Reunion  
Announcements and/or Pictures**  
Email to:  
**hmtnn@comcast.net**  
or Mail to:  
**Hometown Connection**  
27 Sherman St., Plainville

**AARP Trips:**  
For information about trips to come:  
Call Sally Miller 860-1732  
\*\*\*\*\*  
AARP meetings on the 3rd Wednesday  
of each month at 1 pm at  
Faith Bible Church, Unionville Ave. &  
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# LIVING HEALTHY CHEMICAL FREE

By: **Donna Ziccardi**

## He Has Given Us Herbs For The Service of Man Psalm 104:14

Women's Intuition is a powerful force. The more you recognize it and use it, the stronger your intuition becomes. After 3 months of suffering severe asthma attacks, my inner voice was instructing me to drink Sage tea. Why Sage Tea, I thought? But I was not going to question or rationalize. The last time I didn't listen to my intuition, it turned out to be a disaster.

Winter months are not very kind to asthmatics. Just breathing in the cold air is enough for some people to suck on their "inhalers". Cold air causes bronchial constriction. The airways narrow, causing breathing to become difficult to impossible. Overtime, it's "like trying to breathe through a straw stuffed with cotton," the AAFA states.

Along with breathing in cold air, allergens in the air can restrict airways and trigger an asthma attack: allergens such as mold spores and pollen and

particulates of all kinds. But the most life threatening pollutant to asthmatics is wood smoke. The EPA considers breathing in "wood smoke" to be more detrimental than breathing in cigarette smoke.

Smoke is a huge "trigger" for my asthma, one that usually lands me in John Dempsey Hospital for lung treatments. So since I was going to Vitamin Shoppe to get Mary's Organic Sleepy Time Tea, I purchased a box of Organic Sage Tea for myself in hopes of getting my lungs to work again and avoid a trip to the hospital. I am glad I did. The aroma alone started to loosen up my stuffed sinuses and by the end of the day, after 3 cups of Sage tea, my airways opened just enough to allow a small stream of air in. By the end of the week, my breathing was not back to normal but improved enough to forget about the trip to the hospital.

After researching the benefits of Sage, it was no surprise to me why my breathing had improved. The oils in the sage leaves are beneficial to lung and respiratory problems. The Georgetown University Medical Center has done extensive studies on sage and discovered it to be used worldwide, especially in indigenous areas as a cough suppressant and treatment for sore throats.

Sage is a known expectorant, expelling mucus from the sinuses and lungs and this is what I experienced as well. I suffered a respiratory infection since the end of October due to inhaling smoke and after 3 weeks on sage tea my sinuses and lungs cleared up. The EPA suggests asthmatics stay away from areas where wood smoke is airborne but when it invades one's home, this remains a difficult task. Coincidentally, for the past week the air has been pretty much smoke free which also helped my lungs to clear. Let's pray it stays that way.

I used to grow my own Sage as a ground cover and it just flourished. A Native American woman would pick it to use in her cooking and to sell in her gift shop. She told me it is used in ceremonial rituals to cleanse away evil spirits and negative energy and as an insect repellent. But I had no idea of Sage's medicinal properties. Going back to the Egyptians, Romans and Greeks as well as Native Americans, Sage was used for it's healing properties in issues concerning digestion, heartburn, memory loss, colds, sore throat, rhinitis, cholesterol, and stress relief. The Gypsies used Sage to restore hair color and they believed Sage to be a key to longevity. The Arabs believed if one planted Sage and it flourished, that it was a sign of living a long life. If this is true, I shall live many years.

Sage should only be taken short term, as needed. It is not a tea to drink on a daily basis. I stopped drinking it when my asthma symptoms subsided. Sage should not be taken if you are on medication for blood pressure, diabetes, seizures and sedatives. Sage should not be taken if you are pregnant, breast feeding or if you have hormone sensitive issues such as breast, ovarian and uterine cancer.

If you are currently seeing a doctor for asthmatic issues.....please, by all means, continue with your medical protocol. If you would like to try Sage tea, talk it over with him or her first. But by now, we all know.....I choose to live healthy chemical free.....

Please visit my blog for more information on the healing benefits of Sage as well as a recipe for Sage Cough Syrup at [www.livechemicalfree.blogspot.com](http://www.livechemicalfree.blogspot.com).

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### Women & Girls' Fund Announces a Grant Award of \$4,645 at Annual Meeting to an Organization Serving Plainville

It is the start of a new year, a time to celebrate the past while looking to the future.

The Women & Girls' Fund of the Main Street Community Foundation held its Annual Meeting on January 14, 2016 to do just that - celebrate the Fund's accomplishments of the past year before looking ahead to the Fund's 15th anniversary year.

Representatives from the grantee organizations attended the Annual Meeting to not only accept their grants but also to tell Women & Girls' Fund donors about the programs funded. Barbara Damon attended from Prudence Crandall Center, which received a \$4,645 grant that will benefit Plainville youth and teens. The grant will support the organization's Partnership to Promote Healthy Relationships in Plainville, which educates teens on the warning signs and risk factors for domestic and teen dating violence, as well as the behaviors and attitudes that lead to healthy relationships.

"We are thrilled to be announcing over \$35,000 in grants thanks to the generosity of the many donors who believe in the mission of the Women & Girls' Fund," said Jeanine Audette, Chair of the Advisory Board.

Leading the Fund into its 15th year is a new slate of officers. Officers serving for 2016 are: Dawn Nielsen, Chair; Susan Moreau, Recording Secretary; Kaitlin Humble, Treasurer; and Jeanine Audette, Past Chair. In addition, Patti Fippinger and Kimberly Lewis, both of Burlington, were elected to the Advisory Board during the Annual Meeting, while Sofia Bayne of Bristol joined the Advisory Board mid-year 2015.

"The Advisory Board guides the work of the Women & Girls' Fund," stated Jeanine Audette. "We're grateful for their valuable expertise as we head into the Fund's 15th year and celebrate this historic milestone."

For more information on the Women & Girls' Fund, please contact the Main Street Community Foundation at 860.583.6363 or visit: [www.mainstreetfoundation.org](http://www.mainstreetfoundation.org). The Women & Girls' Fund was created in 2001 as a community-based endowment of the Main Street Community Foundation.

## From My Balcony

### By Jeannette Hinkson

What I see this month are people tired of politicians making promises time and time again and then thumbing their noses at those same people that voted for them.

It is no wonder Donald Trump is leading, he is saying, out loud for all to hear, what the rest of the people have been saying for years. He calls them stupid and the people dumb for putting them in office and he is right!

We are tired of supporting those that have never done a days work in their whole life while our government sends seniors letters stating their will be no raise in the Social Security checks because the cost of living didn't go up. Yet the utility companies ask for rate hikes because costs have gone up for them, but our politicians say it hasn't gone up for the people that paid into the system for years.

When I questioned the people at Social Security I was told it was voted on by those we elected in Washington, yet politicians in both state and Federal Government gave themselves raise after raise and our president and his family spend millions on vacation, vacations the taxpayers that pay for those trips will never take. We just learned good tax paying businesses in Connecticut will be leaving our state because of taxes and our Governor wants to tax the people even more.

Our Governor took in the refugees when the state of Indiana refused them. Who is supporting these refugees? Where is the money coming from? Take a look in the mirror. How do you feel about the vote you gave to those you put in office last election?

### Celebrated 71 Years of Marriage on January 6th

While off training as a WWII pilot in 1942, George Bush wrote to his fiancée Barbara: **"I love you, precious; with all my heart and to know that you love me means my life."** George and his "Darling Bar" celebrated 71 years of marriage making them the longest-married presidential couple in U.S. history. Their love and leadership is an example to us all.

## Get Involved..... It is rewarding to Volunteer

The Plainville Town Councilors announced the following openings on the Town Boards & Commissions. Contact the Councilors by calling Lisa Metayer 860-793-0221 Ext.#205 for a Board or Commission application that would be of interest to you or leave a message for a Councilor for more information.

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Thursday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday 8 a. m. to noon

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# Young at Heart.....

## Senior Center Happenings

### AARP SMART DRIVER COURSE

An AARP Smart Driver Course will be held at the Plainville Senior Center, 200 East Street, on Thursday, February 18 from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

This course covers the effects of aging and medication on driving, local hazards, accident prevention measures and more. Films and discussions will be presented and a driver's manual provided. No written or on the road test required. Upon completion of the course, an insurance company must give a discount of at least 5% on auto insurance. The cost for the class is \$15.00 for AARP members, providing a membership number and \$20.00 for other attendees. Register in person at the Senior Center, Monday-Friday 9:15 a.m. – 12:00. Payment is required at the time of registration, cash or check only.

### QUESTIONS FOR THE SOCIAL WORKER

Stephanie Soucy, Plainville Senior Center Outreach Coordinator, will be available to answer questions on a "walk-in basis" (no appointment needed) on Mondays, February 8 and February 22 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Stephanie will be available to answer questions about Medicare, Medicaid, Medicare Part D, Medicare Savings Program, Housing Options, Alzheimer's Help, Caregiving, Homecare, etc. No registration is necessary for these one-on-one meetings. This program is open to residents of Plainville, 60 years of age or older or their caregivers. Call the Senior Center, 860-747-5728, for more information.

### GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN MEETING

If you are a grandparent or relative who is raising a grandchild, niece or nephew, you are not alone. Millions of children are living in grandparent-headed households. Join us for our Grandparents/ Relatives Raising Grandchildren informational and support meeting, Tuesday, February 9 at 10:30 a.m. Open to grandparents or relatives raising children of any age, birth to high school. Share resources, ideas, struggles, joys and more with others who are raising their grandchildren. Funding for the program is made possible in part by the Older Americans Act through the North Central Area Agency on Aging. Call the Senior Center to sign-up (860)747-5728.

### NOVEMBER 2015 AND DECEMBER 2015 BOWLERS OF THE MONTH

The Plainville Senior Center Bowling League announced that Diane Deshaies and Albert Deshaies won the title of Bowlers of the Month for November 2015; Carter Casida, Mary Ann Frederickson and Lola Wishart won the title of Bowlers of the Month for December 2015. The Plainville Senior Center Bowling League meets at Laurel Lanes, 136 New Britain Avenue, Plainville, on Mondays at 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$9.00 per person, per week and includes three games of bowling, open bowling discount card, automatic scoring, and free weekly beverage.

Bowlers of all abilities, including beginners, are welcome to join this fun league. To receive more information or to join the league, contact Frank Robinson, Bowling League President, at 860-747-2918.

### VALENTINE'S DAY CARD MAKING

Join volunteer member Diane Sperry on Monday, February 8 from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m., and learn how to make beautiful valentines for the special people in your life. Space is limited to 10 students. The cost is \$2.00 per person. Sign up begins, February 4. Open to members only, register in person at the Senior Center, Monday-Friday 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Payment is required at the time of registration, cash or check only.

### DENTAL CLINIC BACK AT THE SENIOR CENTER

Community Health Center, Inc. will provide a dental clinic at Plainville Senior Center, 200 East Street, on March 16, March 17, March 18 and March 21. Appointments must be made through the Community Health Center, contact Melissa directly at 860-983-2990.

A registered dental hygienist will provide a dental hygiene exam, dental cleaning, sealants and x-rays when appropriate. The cost is \$30.00 for individuals without insurance. Help in paying for the dental clinic (scholarships) may be available for Plainville individuals over age 60, with a monthly income below \$1,429 (single) or \$1,928 (married). For scholarship information contact Stephanie or Ronda at the Senior Center. Funding for scholarships is made possible, in part, by a grant through the Older Americans Act through the North Central Area Agency on Aging.

### CAREGIVING CONNECTIONS

Come out and join with others who understand caregiving during the confinement of winter. On February 16 at 10:00 a.m., Ian MacDonald, the North Central Program Director of The Alzheimer's Association will join us to help us renew our commitment to take care of ourselves while we care for another! Caregivers from all towns are welcome. Please call Bette at the Senior Center if you have any questions or concerns at 860-747-5728.

### CHOLESTEROL: THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE TRUTH – A TALK WITH MILES EVERETT

Join Miles Everett, RD, RN, CDE of Bristol Hospital Center for Diabetes for a discussion on the truth behind all the recent news regarding cholesterol, Thursday, February 11 at 10:00 a.m., at the Senior Center, 200 East Street. Learn how to manage your cholesterol by making healthy food choices. Open to members only. Call the Senior Center, 860-747-5728 to sign-up.

### CHOLESTEROL SCREENING AVAILABLE AT THE SENIOR CENTER

With a ten minute appointment and a few drops of blood from a fingertip, you can know your numbers for total cholesterol, good (HDL) and bad (LDL) cholesterol, triglycerides and glucose. This form of testing does not require fasting. These numbers, along with a few other risk factors, can help your provider to determine your personal cardiovascular risk. The cost is \$10.00, payable at the appointment; call the Senior Center, 860-747-5728, to make a cholesterol screening appointment today!

### CHINESE NEW YEAR BUFFET LUNCHEON

Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 12:00 noon, come to the Plainville Senior Center to celebrate the Chinese New Year as we ring in the year of the Monkey. A buffet including some of the most popular Chinese dishes such as: General Tso's Chicken, Pork Lo Mein, Beef with Broccoli, Sweet and Sour Chicken, Pork Fried Rice and Shrimp with mixed vegetables. The cost is \$9.00 per person. Sign up begins, February 4. Open to members only, register in person at the Senior Center, Monday-Friday 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Payment is required at the time of registration, cash or check only.

## Plainville Property Transfers

22 Ashford Road: Gerald J. and Cheryl A. Nicolay of Plainville to Side Street Realty LLC, \$50,000 on 12/23/2015

43 Bel Aire Drive: Sylvia C. Freeman of Plainville to A. M. Dominguez-Gutierrez and Anna Dominguez, \$188,000 on 12/22/2015

5 Farmstead Lane: Ryan Hurlburt and Paul Blaha of Plainville to Nora M. Osullivan, \$239,500 on 12/22/2015

35 Forest St.: Bank New York Mellon Tr of Plainville to J S L Investments LLC, \$111,200 on 12/22/2015

13 Loomis Ave.: Malgorzata Ruszczyk and Karol Sobieski of Plainville to Marcin and Marta Kmita, \$225,000 on 12/24/2015

129 Milford Street Ext., Unit B5: Marc D. Paluso of Plainville to Lisa DiLallo, \$52,000 on 12/23/2015

68 Northampton Lane: Mark P. and Cynthia Herron of Plainville to Alicia Petit-Irizarry, \$152,900 on 12/21/2015

365 Woodford Ave., Unit 31: Joanna Ziarnik of Plainville to John E. and Chengchi Demello, \$108,000 on 12/21/2015

75 Woodford Avenue Ext.: Albert J. Giramonti of Plainville to Neico LLC, \$120,000 on 12/21/2015

25 Wooster Court, Unit F: Genereau Associates LLC of Plainville to Diorkens Realty LLC, \$172,000 on 12/23/2015

127 Broad St.: Witik LT and Joyce G. Witik of Plainville to Dwight E. and Paula M. Debow, \$75,000 on 12/15/2015

54 Forestville Ave.: Tiffany & Janell Realty LLC of Plainville to Michael McDonald, \$215,500 on 12/14/2015

41 Ledge Road: Hummel Ruth S Est and Michael B. Hummel of Plainville to Peter J. Walsh, \$129,500 on 12/18/2015

82 Linden St.: MidWest Bank of Plainville to Tyler J. Mikolajcik, \$95,000 on 12/18/2015

13 Perran Road: Jessica Pierce and Liliana Methoxia of Plainville to Liliana and Erian Methoxia, \$315,000 on 12/14/2015

40 Great Plain Drive, Unit 62: JHS Development LLC of Plainville to Kevin and Robyn Andersen, \$388,885 on 01/09/2016

344 S. Washington St.: John and Pauline Dineo of Plainville to A&D Pizz LLC, \$188,000 on 01/04/2016

30 W. Main St.: Leonard Buzzi of Plainville to JR Gillett Realty Corp, \$40,000 on 01/06/2016

## Should America shut the gate and take down the welcome sign?

How bad is it? So, there are a lot of people very concerned with the influx of immigrants to this country. It's nothing new — American natives were concerned about the tidal wave of Europeans that swarmed into the "New World" and took it over — a lesson learned. American workers on the southern border see a constant run of large numbers of Mexican and Central American immigrants swarming through our southern borders — illegal immigrants — killing the longer true; many immigrants come to take advantage of the

### A POINT TO PONDER



Phil Mikan

problem that people did not care about, and they did not notice, when jobs were abundant, but that's not the case now. The people emigrating to the U.S. also are a concern. This country has always been a center for people looking to better themselves and their families. The plaque under the Statue of Liberty talks about America welcoming the poor, the huddled masses, people who want to do better. Some say this is no longer true; many immigrants come to take advantage of the

country. More troublesome, some come to do harm to the country and its citizens, they wage a religious war against Christian Americans and wish us harm, not fidelity. As a result, Americans are ready to shut the gate and take down the "Welcome to America" sign. The present administration seems blind to the worries and concerns of the citizenry and keeps saying America is about opportunity and giving the down-trodden a chance at a better life. But when did the American people sign a suicide pact with the world's poor? When did we give up our rights to safely pursue our right to prosperity and security? When did the rights of

immigrants (noncitizens) nullify the rights of Americans and their families? Those are the questions many are asking. A point to ponder. Phil Mikan is the host of the Phil Mi-

kan Show on WNRD 1150/WLTS AM 1420 daily at 10 a.m., and the Weekend Corner Saturdays from 9 to 11 a.m. You can reach him at phil@philmikan.com or write him at Phil Mikan, Central Connecticut Communications, One Herald Square, New Britain, CT 06051.

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## Healthy-Behaviors

By: Linda Coveney, Integrative Nutrition Health Coach

### Is it Good to be "Bad"?

A recent diet promo for a popular daytime TV program caught my eye. This diet allowed participants to take a day off each week. Eat anything you want – one day a week.

I'm conflicted! On one hand it is appealing, and on the other, it has the potential to undermine your long term goals for optimum weight and health.

It is tough to diet - let's face it, none of us is perfect. When you cut calories, you can get cranky and hungry. Cravings increase as you give up sugar and other addictive foods. You end up spending more time thinking about food than you did before you decided to cut back. Your lifestyle changes as you let go of quick and convenient processed foods. Then there's the issue of what to order when eating out. Not to mention sorting out conflicting and confusing nutritional information. This is a lot to juggle along with busy lifestyles and other picky eaters at home.

Having that one day a week to eat whatever you want may be just the ticket to help you stick with the diet. You can also lose some weight in the process. That can't be all "bad". Unless of course, all you think about for six days is what delicious treat you will have on day seven. That creates stress and it's own host of problems!

It seems like there might be a better way to change your eating habits and keep the weight off. It's really all about the choices you make for this day off. Over indulging in cookies, cakes and ice cream on this one day can set back your efforts.

Cravings take time to break. For example, would you tell a smoker who is trying to quit that it is okay to smoke all you want one day a week? What really bothers me is that this day off can create a mindset that it is okay to reward our good intentions and efforts by eating the same types of food that got us into trouble in the first place.

How about taking a longer term view to find the right balance of whole foods that you enjoy and want to eat seven days a week? This won't happen overnight. It involves trying out different foods that satisfy your taste buds, fit into your lifestyle, and keep you full.

Make sure your plan provides good balance of good carbs, lean or non-meat protein and good fats to help keep your body in good operating order. Soon you will be less interested in eating foods that provide no real nutritional value or introduce chemicals and additives that cause stomach distress and weight gain. By eating right, you will be less likely to binge.

So, I checked out the rules on this day off diet. Despite the graphics that showed pictures of decadent desserts, the advice was to stick with moderation, limit high saturated fatty and sugary foods, take time to exercise, eat mindfully and drink lots of water. Turns out we are more in sync than I originally thought.

As they say, if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

I applaud anyone who has taken that first step to lose unwanted weight. If your current diet plan isn't working for you, consider how you can create new cravings for healthier foods that you will love and will love you back. Finding the ideal solution for you will promote health, vibrancy, clearer thinking and a strong body – inside and out. And if some day, you decide you want a piece of cake, go for it and don't fret about it. 90% of the time you are doing what is best for you. Being too rigid can be "bad".

To build your better meal plan, add in more of these foods:

- o Green leafy vegetables rich in fiber to help get your digestive system moving.
- o Good carbs in the form of vegetables, fruits and whole grain. You need carbs for energy.
- o Nuts, chia or flaxseeds, avocado, and olive oil, in moderation, are good for your heart and also help to keep you feeling full.
- o Beans, fish, eggs, yogurt (watch the sugar!) and lean meat. Get the protein you need for your metabolism.
- o Drink plenty of water. Water is good for your skin and muscles.

If you are still looking for a treat, why not reward yourself with a cooking class to learn how to make foods that satisfy your taste buds and tummy without adding unwanted weight. Don't go it alone. Enlist a health professional, health coach or knowledgeable friend for support.



**Linda Coveney**

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

Linda helps open-minded teams and determined individuals take control of their choices, and create the robust health, success and happiness they deserve. She is also a Licensed practitioner for Insights Discovery®—The direct route to healthy, effective teams.

For more information about health coaching, wellness workshops or team and personal effectiveness, contact Linda at [www.healthy-behaviors.com](http://www.healthy-behaviors.com) or [lindacoveney@healthy-behaviors.com](mailto:lindacoveney@healthy-behaviors.com)

# AAA Speaks Out: Trip Insurance Is "Peace of Mind" Insurance Planning a relaxing vacation this winter?

AAA Travel experts say if your journey is to include a cruise, a package tour, or an apartment or house rental -- which you would normally pay in full before you leave -- trip insurance can be quite useful. The same is true if you should need medical insurance while traveling overseas.

This small, additional purchase can save you thousands of dollars if you are forced to cancel. In general, the closer you are to your departure date, the more you will lose -- up to the full amount.

In many instances, insurance costs can be relatively inexpensive, but well worth the investment. Trip

cancellation or interruption insurance averages \$5 or \$6 per \$100 of trip costs.

AAA says it is always wise to determine whether your existing insurance policies already cover your needs while you and your family are away:

- Check with your auto insurance company before renting a car to find out if you are covered in the event of an accident. Your policy at home does not cover you abroad, except in Canada. You may need insurance through a car rental company and an international driving permit depending on the country in which you are traveling.
- Find out if your personal policies cover lost luggage. If you have an umbrella policy, lost luggage may already be covered.
- Check with your medical insurance provider before purchasing extra coverage for your overseas trip. Many United States health plans do not cover you outside of America, unless you are traveling on business. Also, if you are a senior citizen, you should assume that Medicare will not cover you while you are in a foreign

country.

- AAA advises travelers to do their homework before purchasing travel insurance. Read the fine print of any contract -- including the growing list of restrictions that are being imposed by some insurance companies.

AAA advises against:

- Purchasing a policy from the wholesale tour operator from which you bought the trip. If that company goes out of business, the chances are very good your policy will be worthless.
- Buying trip insurance from a cruise line because their policies can carry less coverage, and their benefits may stop between 24 and 72 hours before you depart. AAA recommends a policy that will cover you up to the departure time and/or throughout the entire trip.
- AAA suggests learning more about the benefits of purchasing trip insurance from a qualified travel professional, such as a AAA travel agent. Travel insurance is your safety net should the unexpected arise, but it is up to you -- the traveler -- to decide if it is right for you.

## 13 Hours:

### The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi, a Review.

*By: Francis Rexford Cooley,  
Dean of the College Paier College of Art*

Director Michael Bay, known for Transformers and its sequels, takes on the 9/11/2012 attack on the U.S. Consulate and CIA Annex in Benghazi, Libya that cost Ambassador Chris Stevens and Foreign Service Officer Sean Smith their lives in his new film 13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi. Based upon the book written of the same title 13 Hours focuses on the events in Libya immediately leading up to and during the assault upon U.S. personnel at the American facilities. Bay's film avoids directly delving into the partisan Beltway politics that have swirled around Benghazi over the last three and a half years. Bay and screenwriter Chuck Hogan focus the film on the security team hired by the CIA to provide protection for the Annex and its personnel and their decision to provide aid to the overrun Consulate in a desperate attempt to save Ambassador Stevens and the Consulate staff.

Bay's simple focus combined with a solid professional cast of actors, including John Krasinski, makes 13 Hours a riveting film to watch. The inherent tension between the CIA and State Department teams and the private security team hired to protect them is established early in the film. Though each of the "contract employees" of the security team all had numerous years of experience as former U.S. Army Rangers, Navy Seals, and U.S. Military experience their lack of then current Department of Defense status made them mere hirelings to the CIA station head. This relationship is quickly and simply established in just a few bits of dialog and body gestures. It is the simplicity of the story, Bay's expert handling of the battle sequences, and straight-forward acting style of the cast that pulls the audience into Benghazi.

By the end of the film the audience has some understanding of what those who were at Benghazi went through. What Bay and his film don't answer is why there was no U.S. military response during those thirteen hours? Why neither the State Department nor the White House chose to answer the proverbial "3 AM Phone Call." Those are questions 13 Hours leaves to Congress and the press. What 13 Hours does answer is the inherent heroism of that American contract CIA security team that responded to the call on 9/11/2012.

## TEA PARTY PATRIOTS

### IT'S WAKE UP AMERICA TIME

"To learn who rules over you, simply find out who you are not allowed to criticize". Voltaire

The Paris climate agreement? The climate deal leaves hard decisions. Do you really think countries like China, India, Zimbabwe and Brazil will abide?

Scientists praise the accord, but only if all nations heed to it. The climate deal is riddled with conceit and bribes. Besides the \$100 billion dollars (paid by who?) annually to different developing countries as the Wall Street Journal says in its Monday, December 14, 2015 edition. "It pays to be skeptical of politicians who claim to be saving the Planet".

Some more quotes -

Ron Jones and his quote in his letter to the Editor Home Town Connection December/January 2015.

"Could this be a caliphate? Their act of war".

Jeannette Hickson and her quote in her column in the Home Town Connection paper November 2015 edition. "There should be signs that read, "no shoes, no shirts, no English, no service" "This is America, if you don't like the way we do it or if you think you might be offended, turn around and go home?" As far as the 2nd Amendment goes. The victim is the first responders. The police or the Government agents are the second to responde or response. If they were armed, they might not be the victim.

Phil Mikan and his quote in an article in New Britain Herald December 5, 2015.

"Willing, trained and concerned American citizens should be drafted into protecting their country on a day-to-day basis, permitted to carry concealed weapons and go about their business. They should just be in

attendance. The very thought that someone might shoot back is a deterrent. In Israel many citizens walk around armed. President Obama not only will not admit we are in grave danger, he wants to bring in more people who are potential jihads. He wants to sign a suicide pact with sworn enemies.

COMMON CORE (not good)

Like: Bush's No Child Left Behind, Obama's Race To The Top. Smarter Balanced (Common Core) national education that the Federal Government is bribing and coercing states to adopt will harm students, not benefit them. State's that have adopted the vaguely worded standards have done so without the slightest clue as to how they will be implemented. Southington Superintendent of Schools Timothy Connellan blasted the notion of high stakes testing in general. Under the state's proposal, a school system that does not meet the federal requirement of 95% in two consecutive years will be penalized. Connellan, meanwhile, argued that high stakes testing isn't the best way to measure student success. "Comparing different groups of students to one another from one year to the next is not good practice and is not statistically sound" he wrote in an email to the Record Journal. "Even with the new Smarter Balanced (Common Core) assessment I am not convinced that we are in a better place with regard to assessment".

Even Connecticut's largest tacher union called on state lawmakers and the governor to replace a controversial standardized test administered to students in grades 3 to 8, arguing students suffering under the current system.

Any experience is better than no experience, so get involved!!!

## Ask the Brayne...

**Q. I would be interested in serving on a Board or Commission. Could you please give me information about any opening and who should I contact?**

**A.** *In case you missed page 7, check the list of Boards & Commission openings. You could contact any of Town Councilors by calling the Town Hall 860-793-0220 Ext.205*

**Q. Why Do we celebrate New Years?**

**A.** *The coming of the New Year was a symbol of starting up new hope for the future. After the Romans conquered Europe. It's meaning has lasted to this day, hoping it brings us a good, new life.*

**Q. How do I submit questions to you?**

**A.** *To submit questions:* Call 860-747-4119, E-mail [hmtnn@comcast.net](mailto:hmtnn@comcast.net), write to Hometown Connection, 27 Sherman St, Plainville, CT 06062 or drop them at the office.

Deadline for submitting questions is the 15th of each month.

Thank you for the above questions. Keep them coming!!

Remember your sweetheart on Valentine's Day.

Questions were easy this month, I will be looking for yours for the next issue in March.

*Thanks, Bill Brayne*

*Your Birthday & Anniversary Wishes are Free in Hometown Connection  
Call: 860-747-4119 or E-mail to: [hmtnn@comcast.net](mailto:hmtnn@comcast.net)*

# Second Look..... In Case you Missed It!!

## Party of one, for all of you.

Thank you to the 683 people that cast a vote for me. Whether it was a singular Town Council vote or one of your left over votes, after voting the party line, they hold the same value to me. I hope that number just means I'm half way there.

I have a new survey on my website [www.RICKBRODERICK.com](http://www.RICKBRODERICK.com) and I invite Plainville residents take the survey titled: As Plainville enters 2016.

It is 5 yes/no questions about different topics that will be facing our town in the upcoming year. (OLS Memorial Park, Paderewski Park rehab, LED lights WiFi install, PHS turf field replacement, and the dog park) This is a chance to have your voice heard; I hope you will take advantage of it.

My hope is that with enough participation in these surveys, I can share these results with our Town Leaders. Whether the Town Leaders are interested or even wish to consider the opinion is less important to me than giving the citizen's of Plainville a stronger voice.

Many people think that in order for me to win, I will have to accept party backing. It's easy to understand their perspective. Even when I ran as an individual, with my own separate reason for pursuing public service, I was still lumped in with Row C in the newspapers.

On the local level, I believe I could make a case to get a spot on either of the top two rows, and I

look forward to working with any and all those who currently represent both Town Committees. I don't question any of their dedication to our town and we should feel grateful to have people willing to step up and look out for our best interests.

I just honestly have no interest in supporting either Establishment Party Brand. The largest block of registered voters is unaffiliated. Add in the people who are registered to the 2 party's and are becoming disenfranchised by the mismanagement and spectacle they are witnessing, on daily basis and I feel that I might just be ahead of the curve.

6 months ago the Establishment's best offerings to lead our country was Bush vs Clinton. While the current match up appears to be different on one side, many would argue it's not any better.

If people would cast a vote for me because I was on either of the top rows, but not because I choose to stand as an individual, that's not my problem. It's obviously an issue if I ever hope to represent the citizens and be a voice for a more responsible management of the system.

I am comfortable knowing that may always be the outcome. Never getting a chance at elected public service just means I get to spend more free time with family, friends, and my interests. Nobody is rooting for our Public Trustees to get their act together more than I am. The ability to have a viable future for my generation and that of our children depend on it.

**Rick Broderick II**

## Future Foster Parents Session

Wheeler Clinic will host an informational session for prospective foster parents on Saturday, February 13th, from 1pm to 2 pm at 88 East Street

This no-obligation event provides information about Wheeler's foster cars programs. Mature adults who are single or married, working or at home, are encouraged to become foster parents. Those who are interested can stop by the session to learn about foster care without making a commitment of any kind. Wheeler's team of experts coordinates services for youth from diverse backgrounds with the goal of providing a nurturing home and a structured environment. Families are part of a team of professionals and are provided with financial support and training.

Wheeler Clinic's Foster Care programs, funded by the Department of Children and Families, provide 24-hour support to families and youth. Wheeler Clinic's programs provide a higher level of care and resources, including supports to meet their needs and help them heal from trauma.

For information about foster care opportunities in Central Connecticut, Call 860-793-7277, or email [FosterCarePrograms@Wheelerclinic.org](mailto:FosterCarePrograms@Wheelerclinic.org).

## Plainville C of C Awards

February 29th is the deadline to enter the 108th Dinner Chamber of Commerce Awards nominations: Employee of the Year, Distinguished Volunteer Award, Business Recognition Award. Dinner will be held at Nuchie's on Tuesday April 26th. Call Maureen Saverick for info. 860-747-6867

## Queen Ann Nzinga Center to Host Open House for Children & Teens

The Queen Ann Nzinga Center, Inc., which provides arts enrichment activities for children and teens ages 5 to 17, has rescheduled its open house and registration for new participants.

The Queen Ann Nzinga Center promotes positive youth development among children of all races and abilities throughout Connecticut, but primarily to children in the greater Plainville, Bristol and New Britain area. The Center offers educational and performance-based programs to children and youth throughout the school year. The programs are designed to build self-esteem, enhance life skills and foster creativity in an environment that celebrates diversity and provides inter-generational mentoring.

Because of last week's snowstorm, the Open House, which will give children, teens and their parents a chance to learn more about the Center and its programs, has been rescheduled to Saturday, Jan. 30 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Trinity-on-Main, 19 Chestnut St., New Britain. Children and teens will get a sampling of the kinds of activities they can

expect, including snacks, creative arts, games and fun. Parents will attend a question and answer meeting at the same time, to learn about the program, its goals and accomplishments. Everyone will be invited to meet current participants, teachers and mentors.

Tuition is modest and based on a sliding scale. Thanks to financial support from the American Savings Foundation, the J. Walton Bissell Foundation and the Elizabeth H. Norton Trust Fund, no one is turned away because of inability to pay. Children and teens of all abilities are welcome. Center Programs include the Nzinga's Watoto, PRIDE and the Male Mentor Program, and participants meet on Saturday afternoons.

Since 1990, the Watoto program has used the arts and an experiential program model based on the seven principles of Kwanzaa to foster a strong self-image in children and youth. Established in 2005, the PRIDE program works with girls and teens. With guidance from successful women mentors, the program encourages positive growth and development, through structured arts and humanities activities. The Male Mentor Program is a mirror image of the PRIDE program and is led by male mentors, placing emphasis on male gender-specific issues.

For more information on these programs or to volunteer, please see [www.QANC.org](http://www.QANC.org) The winter/spring Performing Arts Program runs from January through May. The culmination of the program concludes with the performance of the Music from the African Diaspora on July 30.

### About Queen Ann Nzinga Center, Inc.

*QANC is named for a 15th Century African queen who protected her people from being sold into slavery. The name symbolizes the organization's aim to empower young people with life skills, academic support and experiences to thrive. QANC, in its 26th year, is a nonprofit 501(c)3 that serves a diverse, multi-racial and multi-cultural population of children and teens by providing arts and cultural enrichment in a multi-generational setting. The program uses the performing and creative arts to help participants achieve goals, build self-esteem, develop strong values, gain an appreciation of culture, learn about the rich African heritage and understand cultural diversity.*

*These principles are then highlighted in the culmination of the year-long program in a multi-generational Kwanzaa performance held annually in late December. <http://www.qanc.org>*

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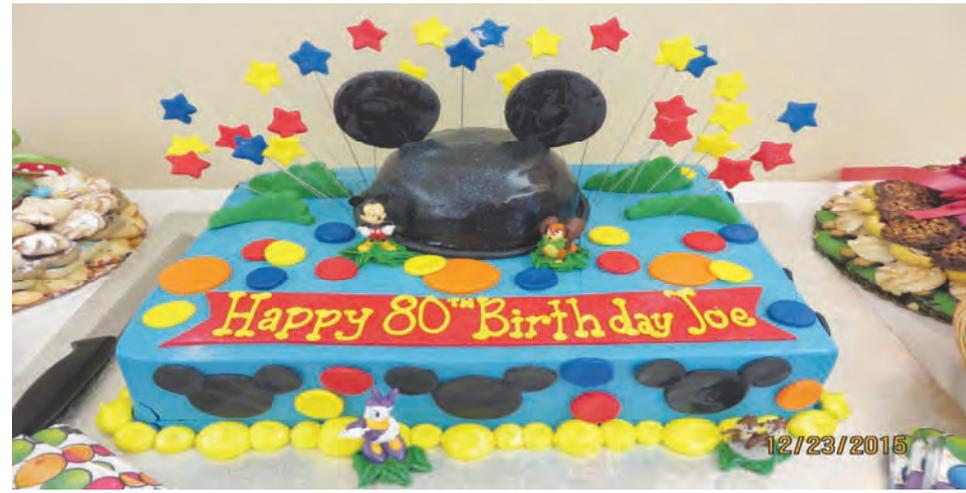
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[www.EdwardMcMahonInsurance.com](http://www.EdwardMcMahonInsurance.com)

# Happy Birthday Joe!!



**Joe Robar** was honored at his **80th Birthday** party held at the Congregational of the United Church of Christ in December 2015. Pictured with Joe is his brother Ralph of East Hartford and Sandy Dombroski, his niece of Plainville. Below is the cake by Bolo. The Birthday theme is Joe's favorite place to visit and Joe enjoyed his trip to Florida for this year's Birthday.



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# From the Desk Of.....

**Thomas A. Wurz, Esquire**

## LUMP SUM SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENT

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

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

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

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

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



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

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“If you’re not happy,  
I want to know about it!”

**Ken Crowley**  
Owner

## Plainville Hockey Players Featured at Civic Center

## Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship Names Local Champions for 2016



A local level of the 2016 Knights of Columbus International Free Throw Championship was held on January 17th at Our Lady of Mercy Parish Center and a great group of local youth and their families turned out for fun and competition. The Knights of Columbus sponsors the contest each year to promote family activities in its council's communities. The Plainville Knights Council invited all boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 14 to try their best for 15 free throws and compete for some prizes and the chance to advance to the area advanced level contests.

9 winners were named local champions and earned the right to compete at the district level. Anthony Schinkel was the 9 year old boys champ and Michael Bakaysa was best among the 10 year old boys with a great score of 14 baskets out of 15 tries. Morgan Levesque shot best among the 11 year old girls while Jacob Stanczykiewicz won the 11 year old boys contest. Riley Giblin was the winner among the 12 year old girls and Jacob Demmons was the 12 year old boys winner. Gabbie Schinkel shot a perfect 15 of 15 to take the crown in the 13 year old girls group and Javan Paradis was great as well with 13 out 15 to win among the 13 year old boys. More great shooting was made by Ryan Snyder as he scored of 13 of 15 to win the 14 year old boys division.

Runners-up were Tom Keough in the 10 year old boys, Sarah Thompson of the 11 year old girls, Cameron Lamothe for the 11 year old boys division, Cali-Rose Dayon for the 12 year old girls, Jordan Rediker of the 12 year old boys, Olivia Heslin for the 13 year old girls, Dominic Sousa in the 13 year old boys, and Branden Zeng of the 14 year old boys..

Other contestants were 11 year olds, Daijon Taft, Joe Rossi, and Nicholas Grabowski; 12 year olds Laren Matteo, Ryan Barker, Brandon Paznokas, Austin Halat, and Joseph Michalic; 13 year olds Casey Roberge, Matthew Stanczykiewicz, and Tomasso Ettore; and 14 year old Jason Demmons.

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

**Olivia Heslin shows good shooting form at the local level of competition in the Knights of Columbus International Free Throw Championship in Plainville on January 17th.**



The West Hartford Wolves team from the Veterans Ice Hockey played at the Civic Center on January 2nd before the Hartford Wolfpack Hockey Team's game.

Below is Teegan Levesque, this is his first year of hockey.

Two Plainville boys are Teegan Levesque and Donny Davidson pictured above with the team.



*Photos By:*

*Rena*

*Levesque*

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# Town Council Recognizes Length of Service Awards to Plainville Fire Company



On Tuesday, January 19th, the Plainville Town Council presented length of service awards to several Company members. L to R: Raymond Moreau, 25 years; David Mazurek, 35 years; Bruce Bull, 25 years; Chief Kevin Toner, 25 years, Noel Roche, 5 years; Adam Planeta, 5 years; Rev. Dr. James Caron, 10 years; William Costello, 20 years and Joseph Silverio 35 years. Not in photo: Matthew Ferguson, 10 years; Joseph Kosswig, 5 years; and Michael Schneider, 15 years. Also not present was Bob O'Dea, 45 years of service.

## 2016 Plainville Fire Company Officers

Captain, Kurt Plourde~First Lieutenant, Dave Massey~ Lieutenant, Timothy Lennon~ Lieutenant, Michael Dietrich~Lieutenant, William Gammon~Lieutenant, John Myska~Treasurer, Mark Cahill~Assistant Treasurer, Raymond Morreau~Secretary, Allyn Kall~Assistant Secretary, Phillip Brousseau



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<b>Air Condition Contractor</b> <b>J.R. Heating &amp; cooling</b> <b>860-793-2685</b>  <b>AIRCRAFT</b> Aircraft Tool & Machines, MTM, Inc. 15 Grace Avenue 860-747-2581  Interstate Aviation 62 Johnson Avenue 860-747-5519	<b>CATERERS/FOOD SERVICE</b> Gnazzo Food Center 73 East Street 860-747-8758  <b>CHILD CARE</b> Great Beginnings 195 East Street 860-747-1679  <b>CHIROPRACTIC</b> Plainville Chiropractic, LLC 43 East Street 860-793-6824	<b>ELECTRICIAN</b> Petillo Electric LLC 7 Cleveland Street 860-518-8175  Willard Electrical 5 Meadowland Circle 860-205-0789  <b>FINANCIAL</b> R&R Rapacky, III 930 Meriden Road Plantsville 860-426-1602	<b>LINGERIE</b> Irene's 21 Whiting Street 860-747-9500  <b>MEDICAL</b> The Doctors Treatment Center 240 East Street 860-747-4541  <b>MORTGAGE BROKERS</b> Campbell Mortgage John Luddy Berlin, CT 860-827-1297	<b>RESTAURANTS</b> 150 Fifty Central 150 Central Street Forestville 860-261-7009  J. Timothy Taverne 143 New Britain Avenue 860-747-6813  Main Street Diner 40 West Main Street 860-747-1618  Pagliacci's 333 East Street 860-793-9241 West Main Pizza 97 East Main Street 860-747-2724  First & Last Taverne 32 Cook Street 860-747-9100
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<b>AUTO DEALERS</b> Crowley Ford 225 New Britain Avenue Route 372 1-866-232-6157  Farmington Auto Park LLC 433 Farmington Ave. 860-747-8420  Schaller Acura 345 Center Street Manchester, CT 860-647-7077	<b>CONTRACTORS</b> American Excavating 100 Cronk Rd. Unit #9 860-302-2500  Connecticut Flooring LLC 311 East Street 860-747-3659  Manafort Brothers, Inc. 414 New Britain Avenue 860-229-4853  Mizzy Construction Company 463 East Street 860-793-2289	<b>FUNERAL HOME/SERVICES</b> Bailey's Funeral Home 48 Broad Street 860-747-2295  <b>GROCERY STORE</b> Gnazzo's 73 East Street 860-747-8758  <b>HEATING &amp; COOLING</b> J. R. Heating & Cooling 860-793-2686  <b>HEALTH CARE</b> Life Healing Energy Craniosacral Bodywork 860-402-1607	<b>OPTOMETRIST</b> Dr. Gary R. Maglio, OD 112 West Main Street 860-747-6443  <b>Plainville Optical</b> 28 East Street 860-793-9378  <b>PET SERVICES</b> Amy's Pampered Pawlor 98 Whiting Street 860-793-8609  <b>Pest Control</b> DeBishop's Pest Control 530 Flanders Street Southington, CT 06489 LC#B-2587 <b>Call Jeff 860-302-5016</b>	<hr/> <b>CENTER OF FORESTVILLE</b>  <b>150 Fifty Central</b> <b>150 Central Street</b> <b>Forestville</b> <b>860-261-7009</b>  <b>To advertise on this LOCATOR PAGE</b> <b>Call 860-747-4119</b> <b>\$10.00 per month</b>  <b>THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR ADVERTISERS!!</b>
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**or E-mail**  
**hmtnn@comcast.net**



Central CT Tire & Service  
 465 East Street

**Please help the Hometown Connection Volunteers. When you sell the items listed in Classified, call 860-747-4119 to remove and if you want to run an advertisement call the same number. Thank you, Helen Bergenty**

# H O M E T O W N R E L I G I O U S D I R E C T O R Y

## Church of the Bible

An Independent Fundamental Bible Church  
 "Where The Holy Bible Is Wholly Taught"

160 West Main Street

Plainville, CT 06062

Phone: 860-747-1691

Peter A. Stonis, Pastor

### ~ WEEKLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE ~

Sunday ..... 10:00 am  
 Sunday School for All Ages

11:00 am Morning Worship Service

11:00 am Junior Church ages 4- 8

6:30 pm Evening Worship Service

Wednesday ..... 7:00 pm

Bible Study and Prayer

For more information about the church  
 visit our website@ cobplainville-org.webs.com

### The Signs of the Times?

"He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather; for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather today; for the sky is red and overcast. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" (Mt. 16:2-3).

What a rebuke this was to the religious leaders of Jesus' day! But the same thing is happening today. People study the weather, economics and politics but fail to study Bible prophecy. There is so much happening in our world today that comes right out of Bible prophecy and yet very few are paying attention. Jesus Christ promised His disciples that He would come again (John 14:3). Scripture gives us a lot of information concerning the coming seven year tribulation period both in the Old Testament prophets as well as many books in the New Testament. True believers will be caught up into the clouds with the Lord before the start of the tribulation period. Therapture can be found in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-53. This event could happen at any moment for God has not given us the date to this event. But He has given us the events of the tribulation thus we can somewhat gauge how close we could be based on the "stage setting" of world events. According to the prophecy of Ezekiel 38 it appears that the world stage is set in the Middle East for this Ezekiel 38 war to take place. Most of the five nations listed in those verses (Russia, Iran, Turkey, Libya and Sudan) are already in Syria just north of the mountains of Israel where the attack will take place. *Jesus is coming!*

*Are you ready? Are you saved?*

*Believe and trust Him today as your Savior!*

## PLAINVILLE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

97 Broad Street

Church Phone 860-747-5867

Pastor 1-646-522-3471

E-mail: plainvillesda@gmail.com

jacksonsg5@sbcglobal.net

Pastor Franklin Jackson

Saturday Morning

Bible School @ 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.

FREE lunch after service

Wednesday Evening

Family Prayer Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

*The Lord Jesus Christ loves you ... John 3:16*

## PLAINVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

56 Red Stone Hill

Plainville, Connecticut 06062

REV. Stephen Volpe, PASTOR

Church (860)747-2328

Parsonage (860)747-2592

Email: plainvillunited@sbcglobal.net

### FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

#### SUNDAY SERVICES

#### CHURCH SCHOOL

Pre-K to High School: 9:00 AM

WORSHIP TIME 10:00AM

#### REGULAR EVENTS

Tuesday Ladies.....Tuesdays, 9:30 AM

Boy Scouts.....Tuesdays, 7 PM

AA.....Sun., Mon. & Wed., 7 PM

Al-Anon.....Mondays, 7 PM

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION-

#### SOUPER BOWL OF CARING:

Sunday, February 7, 10 AM

#### ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP:

Wednesday, February 10

Agapé Meal, 6:30 PM

Worship, 7 PM

#### AMERICAN CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:

Monday, February 15, 1 to 6 PM

For appointment call 1-800-733-2767

or go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

#### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN:

February 28, Following Worship

#### CHOIR REHEARSAL:

Sundays in February, Following Worship.

**Catch the Spirit**  
 THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

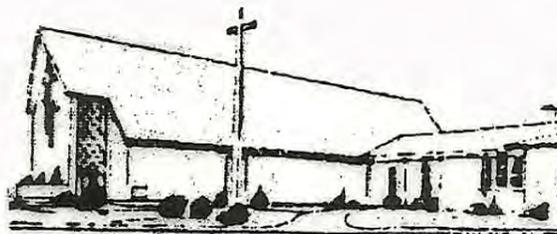
## Grace Lutheran Church

222 Farmington Ave.

Plainville, CT 06062

Phone: 747-5191

The Rev. Stephen Brisson, Pastor



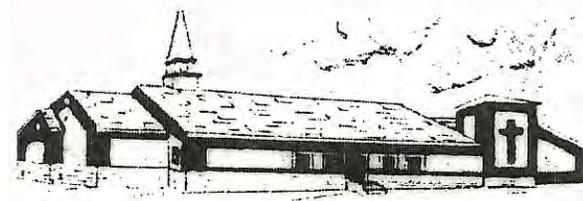
Worship with Holy Communion  
 every Sunday at 9:00 AM

Learning Hour for all ages  
 following worship

Various Learning and Fellowship activities  
 offered during the week

Visit us at [www.graceinplainville.org](http://www.graceinplainville.org)

Or better yet, join us on Sunday!



## FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

168 Unionville Avenue  
 Plainville, CT 06062

860-747-5209

Rev. Dr. Jim Caron, Pastor

Web: [www.faithbiblect.com](http://www.faithbiblect.com)

An Evangelical Church For  
 Your Spiritual Growth

Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.

(Junior Church for ages 4-12 & Nursery  
 Available for 1 month to 4 years)

Tuesday Morning Bible Study

10:00 a.m.

"The Last Days & End Times"

Every 3rd Tuesday of the Month

6:00 p.m.

Ladies Group

Wednesday Night Bible Study

7:00 p.m.

New Study: "Book of Acts:

A Biblical Church Today

Men's Thursday Night Bible Study

New Study: "Looking at Islam compared  
 to Christianity: Is Islam a dangerous  
 religion?"

860-747-5209

Call the church for  
 info/questions

and church prayer line FAX (860-  
 747-5011)

Call us for your requests (confidential)



## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

115 West Main Street

Plainville, CT 06062

860-747-3109

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Holy Communion 10:00 am

Church School 10:00 am

Nursery Care during the service

Followed by coffee hour

Holy Communion Thursdays~12:00pm

### OFFICE HOURS

Wednesday – Friday 9:00am -1:00pm

### PARISH PROGRAMS

Daughters of the King Chapter

3rd Saturday of the month 10:30am

### Twelve Step Programs

Every Tuesday NA 7:30pm

Every Thursday AA 7:30pm

Every Saturday Women's AA 9:00am

Every Saturday of the Month 9:30 am

Ample Parking in rear of Church

# HOMETOWN RELIGIOUS DIRECTORY

## OUR LADY OF MERCY ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

94 BROAD STREET, PLAINVILLE, CT 06062

REV. JOHN BRINSMADE, PASTOR

ROBERT BERUBE, DEACON

### PARISH/CEMETERY OFFICE

19 S. CANAL STREET

OFFICE HOURS: MON. TO FRI.

9 AM TO 4 PM

PHONE: 860-747-6825

FAX 860-747-5407

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Ash Wednesday, Feb. 10th

Mass at 8am 7 6pm

Ashes will only be distributed at Mass

Every Friday during Lent at 7pm

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed  
in the church. 2/12, 2/19, 2/26

Confession every Saturday at Noon and  
every Monday at 6pm during Lent.

Morning Mass Monday - Saturday at 8am  
EXCEPT on Wednesdays

No Morning Mass on February 1, 2 & 3,  
will resume on Feb. 4

Lenten Mission Starts on Feb. 28 at 7pm,  
St. Gregory Church, Bristol,

Feb. 29 at 7pm,

Our Lady of Mercy Church,

March 1, 7pm

at St. Ann, Bristol,

March 2, 7pm

at St Anthony, Bristol

## FIRST BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

12 Granger Lane •

Plainville, CT 06062

“Where the BIBLE makes the difference”

Sunday School - 10:00 AM

Sunday Morning Service - 11:00 AM

Sunday Evening Service - 6:00 PM

Wednesday Evening Service 7:00PM

• Nursery & Deaf interpreting

provided for all services •

• Deaf and Teen Ministry

• “Bible Adventure Club”•

• Kings Bible Institute (Tues. Wed. Thurs.)

www.fbcb-ct.org

*Live streaming every service*

**860-793-1155**

Thomas Benson - Pastor~

Brad Brandon- Associate Pastor

## THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

OF PLAINVILLE

*A Congregation of the  
United Church of Christ*

130 West Main Street Plainville, CT  
Phone 747-1901



### ALL WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Claire W. Bamberg Minister

Email:

Congregational94686@sbcglobal.net

Website:

www.uccplainville.org

### WORSHIP AND CHURCH SCHOOL

Every Sunday: 10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour: 11:15 a.m.

*The Sacrament of Holy Communion  
celebrated the first Sunday  
of each month*

THE PLAINVILLE THRIFT SHOP

Phone 747-2418

Open Wednesday & Thursday

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

*Ash Wednesday, February 10  
7:00 p.m.*

*Palm Sunday, Jubilant Procession,  
March 20-10:00 a.m.*

*Maundy Thursday,*

*Service of Tenebrae, March 24  
7:00 p.m.*

*Easter Sunday, March 27  
10:00 a.m.*

## NEW COVENANT APOSTOLIC CHURCH

139 New Britain Avenue

P.O. Box 551 Plainville, CT 06062

Suffragan Bishop- George M. Green, Pastor

Elder Joseph Green, Associate Minister

Phone 860-747-3128 Church

Residence & FAX 860-224-9409

~ SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP~

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

Morning Worship @ 12:00 Noon

TUESDAY: Prayer & Deliverance-7:00pm

Bible Class @ 7:45 p.m.

THURSDAYS: 1st Evangelistic Service

2nd Pastor's Care~ 3rd Missionary Service

4th Men's Ministry~5th Youth Service

### MONTHLY SERVICES

1st Sunday – Fellowship Day

2nd Sunday – Family and Friend's Day

3rd Sunday – Building Fund Day

4th Sunday – Pastor's Care Day

5th Sunday - Communion & Youth Day

*We welcome everyone to our services!!*

*Come, bring a friend and enjoy Jesus with us.*

## REDEEMER'S A.M.C. ZION CHURCH

110 Whiting Street, Plainville, CT 06062

Phone: 860-747-1808

### WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday School 9:00-9:40 a.m.

Praise & Worship 9:45-10:00 a.m.

Church Service 10:00 a.m.

### BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

### BOARD MEETINGS

Senior Ushers (1st Sat before 1st Sun) 11:00 a.m.

Gladys Floyd Missionary Society

(2nd Sun after service)

Deaconess Board (3rd Sun)

Lay Council (1st & 3rd Sat) 9:30 a.m.

Christian Education (3rd Tues) 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Trustee/Steward (2nd Sat of Aug., Oct., Dec.,

Feb. & Apr. at 9:30 a.m. and 2nd Mon. of

Sept., Nov., Jan., Mar. & May 16 6:30 p.m.

### CHOIR PRACTICE

Senior (Sat before 1st Sun) 5:00 p.m.

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

Mass/Youth choirs



Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 AM and 7:00 PM

Join us weekly for:

Mid-week Eucharist – Wednesday 9:30 AM

Bible Study – Wednesday 7:00 PM

Sunday Worship – 9:00 AM

Healing Services – February 23<sup>rd</sup> - 7:00 PM

We'd like the privilege of praying for you...visit  
our website/Prayer Requests

Rev. Jim French, Rector

860.747.1426

[www.holytrinityanglican.net](http://www.holytrinityanglican.net)

[HolyTrinity@AnglicanChurch.comcastbiz.net](mailto:HolyTrinity@AnglicanChurch.comcastbiz.net)

## Holy Trinity Anglican Church

18 East Main Street

Plainville, CT 06062



A congregation of the Convocation of  
Anglicans in North America

## We Are On Line

If you misplaced our paper,  
now you can view it on your  
computer:

www.plainvillehometownconnection.com

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

"HAPPY & HEALTHY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!"

- 2ND MARK CHASE
- 3RD RITA SUSCO
- 4TH BRENDA TELLA
- 5TH PAT BEVERLEY
- 6TH MARIA CUTLER
- 8TH PAT MINER  
BARBARA WOOD
- 10TH NANCY DEVOE
- 12TH HOMER CASE  
CARL STERNER
- 13TH KRIS DARGENIO
- 15TH ROBERT BEVERIDGE  
DAVID BROW
- 16TH EUNICE PODOLAK  
DOMENICK D'ONOFRIO  
RACHEL PETERS
- 17TH LAURIE PETERSON  
JOHN BERGENTY
- 18TH KATHY PUGLIESE
- 19TH GARY EISENHauer
- 21ST GAYLE DENNEHY  
KATHY STERNER
- 25TH ED (BUNNY) PRIOR
- 26TH TANIA GIULIANO  
HEIDI FAMIGLIETTI
- 28TH LAUREN GLOWIAK  
SUE DZIURA
- 29TH PEG MATTEO



\*\*\*\*\*  
 TO SUBMIT BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY,  
 ENGAGEMENT OR  
 WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS  
 E-MAIL TO: HMTNN@COMCAST.NET  
 OR MAIL TO: HOMETOWN CONNECTION

27 SHERMAN STREET, PLAINVILLE, CT

*"What is the cost?"*

*Believe it or not it is Free!!*

**OR CALL: 860-747-4119**

AND LEAVE THE MESSAGE ON THE ANSWER MACHINE, PLEASE SPELL THE NAMES.

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

### NE & EVERYTHING

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DROPOFFS, REMOVALS

&

ALL THE PROJECTS THAT YOU  
JUST CAN'T GET TO  
CALL

**860-518-3184**

NEandEverything@gmail.com  
www.NEandEverything.com

### TASTE BUZZ.....

#### Squash Soup

- 1 Quart milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 tablespoons minced parsley
- 2 cups cooked mashed squash  
(Hubbard, Butternut or Acorn)
- Whichever is your favorite!

Heat the milk. Knead together the butter and flour. Add the butter mixture to the milk in small pea-sized pieces, one at a time, stirring constantly. When the milk has thickened, gradually stir in the cooked squash and parsley. Cook stirring constantly until the soup thickens and is hot.

Serves 4- 6

*"Enjoy on a cold winter day!"  
Avis Flanders*



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 Plainville's Own Expert Of "HARVEY" Window Installation & Repairs

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 thewindowmanofct.com

Ct. Reg. #0509785



**Happy Valentine's Day!**

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- \* Girdles
- \* Sexy Lingerie
- \* Bridal
- \* Breast Forms
- \* Nursing Bras
- \* Plus Sizes
- \* Mastectomy Fitter

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**TUESDAY - SATURDAY**  
 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
*Evening Appointments Available*

21 Whiting Street  
 Plainville, CT 06062  
**860-747-9500**  
 www.ireneslingerie.com

**Lincoln Day Dinner**  
**Whinstone Tavern**  
 Hosted by New Britain, Farmington and Plainville  
 Republican Town Committees  
 Whinstone Tavern  
 245 Hartford Road  
 New Britain

**Friday, February 26th**  
**6:00 PM**  
 Cost  
**\$35.00 per person**  
 For Tickets Call  
**Laurie Peterson**  
**860-747-6474**

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## Crossword Answers

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

# The Best Christmas Ever

By: Sally Miller



I mentioned in my last article that we usually cannot remember all the gifts that we received last year but we remember what we did together with friends and family during the Christmas holiday. I mentioned that taking time with other people was the greatest gift of all.

I always receive the greatest gift of all during the Christmas holiday – FAMILY! This year, I continued to receive that gift of family but I also received a bonus gift. I also saw where spending time with people is played forward.

Several weeks prior to the holiday, my granddaughter, Nicole, from out of state called to tell; me that she was coming home the Saturday prior to Christmas. I was so happy. She was going to be here a whole week early and maybe, just maybe I could spend a little time with her between her having to shop and visit her mom, dad and friends in Massachusetts. As I mulled that over in my head, she continued, “Gram, since I will be in on Saturday evening, I would like to take you to breakfast on Sunday. My heart stopped for a minute while I choked down happy tears. I couldn’t believe that she was finally at the age where we could just hang out together. I also had a hard time understanding that she wanted to spend some of her precious time with just me. I felt so honored and thankful. I think it was something that I had dreamt about but not realized. The day of her arrival from North Carolina came and I didn’t hear from her. That evening, I received a text message asking me what time I would like to meet the next morning.

The next morning, I drove my car to Enfield to meet her half way. To my surprise, she had brought her sister, my youngest grandchild who is in her senior year of college in Boston. I got there a little early and watched these two beautiful women walk through the door of Cracker Barrel and I was amazed at these refined women, who smiled at me at melted my heart..

I sat with these outstanding women, who used to be my little grandchildren. I could not believe that I was fortunate to be having breakfast with two wonderful women, who are smart, beautiful, funny and loving. If these two women were not related to me, I would desperately want to meet them and hang out with them. One of them is so worldly and wants to change the world and march for every cause and the other is just starting out and wants to make sure people are taken care of. They brought up memories of me buying them their first Harry Potter book, Christmas’s when I slept at their house and how they used to spend weekend with me... We laughed, became teary and discussed world issues. We discovered each other on a new and different level. When it was time to go, Nicole reached across the table, took my hand and said, “Gram, this is going to be the beginning of a Christmas tradition for us. I will miss my little granddaughters but I am so privileged to be in the company of women I respect and love and when I blink, I can bring those little girls into focus for additional comfort. I felt so loved and cherished. I received the best Christmas present ever this year – two new friends.

## Plainville Community Fund/PumpkinFest



Kris Dargenio, who co-chaired the First Annual PumpkinFest presents Dolly Chamberlin, Chairman of the Plainville Community Fund a check for \$4,500.00, the proceeds from the event. The Community Fund is an all volunteer committee which funds local program and projects.

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# Economic Development Commission Reports



**A Plus Tinting, 20 Race Avenue**  
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Peter Gonzale, Owner  
Phone 860-956-8468



Introducing Miriam Gonzalez, co-owner of **A Plus Tinting** & the staff to her left Fernando Valerio and Kyle Burgess.

The Economic Development Commissioners report a total of 30 businesses that are new or businesses that have expanded in Plainville. The business climate for the year 2015 was very promising, we are looking forward to the year 2016.

The town has many commercial locations available for the businesses to locate or expand.

For information about locations, contact:

Mark DeVoe, Director  
Economic Development/Planning  
Phone 860-793-0221 Ext. 210



**DBK Family Jewelers, 165 East Street**  
expanded to serve you. Ted Rahaim, owner,  
Phone 860-747-3374



**Summit Crane Company, 19 Sparks Street**  
Julien Pepin, Owner  
Phone 860-589-3500



**Picture Fame, 111 New Britain Ave.**  
Dennis Colgan, owner. Relocated from  
Maple Street Phone 860-793-0355



**Plainville Plumbing Supply, LLC**  
**259 East Street**, Patrick Miner, owner  
Phone 860-747-5585



**Asia Darbar, 253 East Street** (formally Aqua Terra Restaurant), Famal Effendi, Owner  
Phone 860-919-4812



**WSM Construction, (Gas Division)**  
**10 Town Line Road**, Stanley Mierzejewski,  
Owner Phone 860-793-2289



**Painting & Decorating, Inc.**  
**230 South Washington Street.**  
Jane A. Carney, Owner Phone 860-793-8848



**Bonati Bros. Welding & Fab,**  
**26 South Canal Street,**  
Gene Bonati, Owner Phone 860-620-0171



**Bonnies Tailoring, 454 East Street**  
Bozena Deptula, Owner  
Phone 860-798-3537



**Le Petit Studio, 18 Whiting Street,**  
Christine Petit, Owner  
Phone 860-978-7411



**George David Co. (computer & etc.)**  
**11 Whiting Street**



**Back on Track Chiropractic, LLC,**  
**98 Whiting Street**  
Dr. Christina A. Connelly  
Phone 860-846-0993

*Thank You to all the Businesses in the Town of Plainville!*

**We have everything you need right here in Town.....Support them by Shopping in Plainville**

*Thinking about starting a business?*

**Always check with the Economic Development Commissioners for assistance.**

# Plainville 2015 Business Openings



**Mari J Salon, 102 East Main Street**  
Marinella Mangiafico-Oblon, Owner  
Phone 860-846-0675



**Family Dollar, 38 East Street,**  
Relocated -in Town  
New 9,200 Sq. Ft. Building.



**161 Woodford Ave**  
**Plainville Industrial Center**  
BK Antiques and Collectibles  
Robert Korpita, Owner Phone 860-287-6958



**Lola's Bistro & Grill, 161 Woodford Ave.**  
Eric & Alyson Molloy, Owners  
Phone 860-351-5459



**Blue Plate Pub, LLC, 180 Woodford Ave.**  
Graham Nicholson, Owner  
Phone 860-747-6666

**Bode Industries**  
Doug Rooola, Owner Phone 860-747-8293

**C.W. Contractors**  
Chris, Owner Phone 860-747-8293

**EMSU Machine**  
Tom Wisniewski, Owner  
Phone 860-828-3382

**M.A.T.T. Management**  
Chris Lacroix, Owner, Phone 860-839-93

**MGM Machine**  
Steve, Owner Phone 860-747-8293

**New Britain Saw**  
Joseph Fazzino, Owner  
Phone 860-410-1077



**Motor Cars, 333 Cooke Street**  
Dean Cusano, Owner, Phone 860-793-1055  
Expansion in new location



**Gerdau Steel, 75 Neil Court**  
Kerwin Barngrover, Contact Person  
Phone 815-440-4304

**New England Blanket Service**  
Eric Adams, Owner  
Phone 860-502-0566

**Walker Crane and Rigging Company**  
built a new building of 17,600 SF at their existing location, 50 Farmington Valley Drive  
Ed Roy, Owner Phone 860-793-9866

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# Plainville AARP Chapter #4146 Events

## Plainville AARP Named

### “Chapter of the Year” 2015

The Plainville AARP Chapter #4146 was honored with the Connecticut AARP's 2015 “Chapter of the Year” Award on December 16th.

Sen. Henri Martin, and senior advocates attended the award ceremony at Faith Bible Church.

The Chapter #4146 serves Plainville and its surrounding communities and encourages involvement of AARP members in service to those in need in Plainville.

Chapter members regularly meet with local legislators and help advocate on issues important to Connecticut's elderly population at the State Capitol in Hartford.

Pictured on the right is the State of Connecticut, AARP Director, Claudio Gualtiere. He presented the plaque to Sally Miller, President of the local chapter. Mr. Gualtiere also gave Past Presidents lapel pins for all their service to the community.

It is very rewarding to volunteer to an organization that has a motto that the AARP National lives by:

*“To Serve, not to be Served”*



## AARP Chapter #4146 Presents:

### Mohegan Sun Trip

March 8th The bus leaves Our Lady of Mercy Church at 8:00 a.m and returns to Plainville between 5 and 5:30 pm.. Please be in the parking lot at 19 South Canal St. by 7:30. . Price \$25 and includes promotional pkg. from casino. If interested, call Sally at 860-747-1732. In the case of inclement weather, please watch WFSB the morning of the trip and if the trip is cancelled, it will be announced as Plainville AARP Event cancelled.

### SPRINGTIME IN THE SMOKEY MOUNTAINS -NASHVILLE & GRAND OLD OPRY

APRIL 10-17, 2016

8 DAYS OF FUN: TRAVEL TO LEXINGTON, VA, PIGEON FORGE, TN., SMOKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, PRIVATE LUNCH WITH A MEMBER OF THE CASH FAMILY, GUIDED TOUR OF NASHVILLE, COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, FONTANEL MANSION (BARBARA MANDRELLS'S FORMER HOUSE), WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HALL OF

FAME, GOLD CIRCLE SEATS AT THE GRAND OLD OPRY AND MORE.

\$1699.00 PP DOUBLE, \$2099.00 SINGLE

INCLUDES: Roundtrip Transportation (bus), Hotel Accommodations, 14 meals (continental breakfast & 7 dinners), Admission to all sites mentioned. Taxes and Baggage handling, Tour Director, Driver and Tour Dir. Gratuities

Contact Sally at 860-747-1732. Please send in a deposit to secure your seats. Full payment due by March 1, 2016.

Make checks payable to AARP Chapter 4146. Send ck to:

Sally Miller, 1 Pine St., Oak Grove Comm. Plainville, Ct 060628

### Saratoga and Lake George Trip: August 10-12, 2016.

Travel to Saratoga Racetrack with reserved seating at track, after race check into resort at Lake Georg, dinner at restaurant on Lake. Next day, breakfast included we will board 500 passenger ship as we enjoy a lunch buffet as we cruise Lake George. Dinner at Resort Lake Dinner Theatre.

Day three we will head for Alblany and cruise the Hudson River and then lunch at Bucca di Beppo followed by a visit to New York state museum. Price \$539 pp dbl. occupancy. For more info contact Sally at 860-747-1732

### 15 Day Cruise Oct 28 – Nov. 11, 2016

Cruise from Boston to San Juan, Bonaire, Curacao, Aruba, Jamaica, George Town, Cozumel, Mexico and Disembark in New Orleans. Tour New Orleans and buffet lunch at Court of Two Sisters included as well as flight home from New Orleans. Inside Stateroom \$1999, pp. double occupancy, Ocean View Stateroom \$2353, Balcony Stateroom \$2859. For more information contact Sally at 860-747-1732.

### Projects in Progress

AARP meetings are open to the public. You are invited to come to a meeting as a guest. Membership is only \$7.00 a year. You must be a member of the National AARP association to join.

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at Faith Bible Church, 168 Unionville Avenue, Plainville, Ct. Meetings are from 1-3.

This year we have given to: homeless vets, scholarships to the Plainville Sr. Ctr Peak Center, food and monies to Plainville Food Pantry and Fuel fund, PARC, and many more projects in the community.

Each meeting has a social hour.



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## OBITUARIES

### ~ Rosaire "Rosie" Albert ~

Rosaire Joseph Albert, 67, of Largo, Florida, passed away on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at Bay Pines VA Health Care System, Bay Pines, FL.

Born in St. Agatha, ME. Rosie moved here from Terryville, CT in 2010 where he retired as a crane operator for Summit Crane in Bristol after 25 years in the industry. He was Catholic and an Army veteran of Vietnam. He was a handy man and a talented carpenter. He was a member of American Legion Plymouth Post 20 in Terryville, the Elks Lodge 1224 in St. Petersburg, FL and a lifetime member of the DAV. He enjoyed the beach, NASCAR, socializing, and being with his grandchildren.

Rosie is survived by his wife of 20 years, Janet, son Michael, daughter, Jennifer, both of New Britain, CT, stepson, Mitchell Seeley of Uncasville, CT., stepdaughter Kristie (Martin) Wilson of Torrington, CT, two brothers, Camile (Diane) of Plainville, CT and Ronald (Janell) of Bristol, CT, two sisters, Claudette Caron of Glastonbury, CT and Carmen (Louie) Delorso of Wethersfield, CT, brother-in-law Norman (Karen) Caron of St. Petersburg, six grandchildren: Tyler, Alexis, Kimberly, Brittany, Christopher, and Matthew, and great granddaughter, Faith. He was preceded in death by his parents, Emile and Annie, and brother Real.

A memorial service was held on January 10, 2015 at the Elks Lodge #1224, 2675 66th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33710.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made to Bay Pines VAHCS, PO Box 5005, Bay Pines, FL 33744. White "Hospice Unit" in the Memo.

### ~ Frederick P. Jennings ~

68, of Bristol, died Wednesday, January 20, 2016, at the West Haven VA Hospital, after a brave battle with pancreatic cancer. He leaves behind his wife of 44 years, Lee Ann Jennings, and two beloved daughters, Melody Rose Santos and Amber Lee Paranzino. He will be greatly missed by his four adored grandchildren, Morgan Mackenzie Santos, Justin Carter Santos, Samara Nicole Paranzino, and Natalie Grace Paranzino. Born to the late Frederick Charles and Rose (Benvenuto) Jennings, he had five siblings, the late Sandra Duperry, and is survived by Charlene Bailey, Ricki Bishop, Christine Perondine, and Robert Jennings. A proud US Marine Corps veteran from 1966-1969, Frederick served his country overseas in Vietnam during the war and Tet Offensive. He worked in security for over 40 years at both Aetna Life Insurance and Travelers Insurance. He was selected to escort Prince William Duke of Cambridge and President Bill Clinton during their visit to Hartford. Fred's family expresses their heartfelt gratitude for all the compassion and support received from the staff of South Harbor living center at the VA Hospital in West Haven. Funeral services in celebration of Fred's life were held at Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville. Committal services with Military Honors followed at the State Veterans Cemetery in Middletown.

### ~ Helen Kahrmann ~

87, of Plainville CT and Saco ME, died comfortably in the presence of her family on December 22, 2015 after a long and loving life. She was predeceased by her husband Arthur Kahrmann to whom she was married for 64 years. Her two daughters, Kathleen Kahrmann Nahorney of Saco ME and Cynthia Kahrmann, and her son-in-law, Christopher Zadak of Saint Paul MN will dearly miss her as will her grandchildren Hanna Kahrmann-Zadak, David Nahorney, Michael Nahorney and his wife Danielle, Lisa Nahorney Perron and her husband Justin, and the joy of her life for the past 3 years, her great-grandson, Garrett Perron. She will also be missed by her brother William Unghire and many nieces, nephews and friends. She retired in 1987 from Johnson and Johnson in Plainville CT. Family and friends gathered at the Bailey Funeral Home Plainville CT. A Mass of Christian Burial followed at Our Lady of Mercy Church on Broad St in Plainville. Burial followed in Sacred Heart Cemetery in New Britain. Memorial donations may be sent to Beacon Hospice, 54 Atlantic Place, South Portland, Maine 04

### ~ Jeanne d'Arc (Soucy) Nadeau ~

78, of Plainville, Ct, passed away Sunday January 10, 2014 at the Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain. She was the wife of the late Fernand Nadeau. Mrs. Nadeau was born August 18, 1937 in Baker Brooke, N.B. Canada a daughter of the late Paul and Beatrice (Morneault) Soucy and was a longtime Plainville resident. She was a very charitable woman who donated to several charities and organizations. She was also a foster parent to a child overseas for over 9 years. Jeanne loved playing bingo and was an avid wrestling fan. Mrs. Nadeau was a Communicant of Our Lady of Mercy Church in Plainville. She leaves her sons, Jeannot Nadeau and his wife Anne of East Hartford and Gilles Nadeau and his wife Therese of Plainville, her grandchildren, Gary Nadeau and his wife Alison, Jeffrey Nadeau, Matthew Nadeau and Gregory Nadeau and her great granddaughter, Alivia Nadeau. Funeral services and burial were held in Canada. If desired memorial contributions may be made to Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital 501 St. Jude Place Memphis, TN 38105

### ~ James F. Thone ~

74, of Plainville passed away Wednesday January 6, 2016 at the Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain surrounded by his family. He was the husband of Nina (McCrosen) Thone. Jim was born May 25, 1941 in Hartford, a son of the late William and Dorothy (Molloy) Thone and was a longtime Plainville resident. He was employed as a clerk for the United States Postal service in Plainville, retiring after many years of service. He enjoyed traveling, reading and was an avid fisherman but mostly he loved spending time with his family especially with his children and grandchildren. Jim proudly served his country in the United States Army. Besides his wife Nina, he leaves his son, James P. Thone and his wife Cadia of Harrison, NY, his daughter, Jennifer Golden of Plainville, his grandchildren, Giulia and Micaela Thone and Nina Golden, his brother, Martin Thone and his wife Jane of East Hartford and several nieces and nephews. Family and friends gathered at the Bailey Funeral Home in Plainville with a service celebrating Jim's life. Burial was private. If desired memorial contributions may be made to the ALS Association 1275 K Street NW Suite 250 Washington, DC 20005.

### ~ James (Jim) Edward Wishart ~

The only child and chosen son of Edward and Lola (Flaherty) Wishart, was taken home by the angels on Friday January 22, 2016 after a valiant fight with liver failure. Jim was born September 11, 1973 at St. Mary's Hospital in Waterbury. He attended Our Lady of Mercy grammar school, graduated from Plainville High School in 1991 and attended Becker Junior College in Worcester. Jim was a kind, gentle and quiet soul with a wonderful sense of humor. He always had a smile, handshake and hugs abounding upon on greeting you. His love of seafood was something he was always ready to partake in; fish were never safe when he was around. He loved music, dancing and having a good time. A sports enthusiast, he was an avid fan of the NY Yankees, the NY Giants, Notre Dame college football, and UCONN men's and women's basketball. He cherished his time with his family in Tabusintac, NB, Canada, summers at the Dew Drop Inn and, as a small child, summers with extended family at York Beach, ME, going to Golden Rod and having ice cream in all unusual combinations of flavors, the Gibson cottage picnics and nightly visits to Fun O Rama Arcade. Besides his parents, he leaves his maternal grandfather, Donald Flaherty of Southington; three uncles, Lance Flaherty and his wife, Alice of Plantsville, Leonard Wishart and his wife, Tina of Plainville and Dennis Smith of Harrington, ME; his aunt, Penny LeDuc of Harrington, ME and many special cousins. He also leaves many friends, especially Kevin Guzda, Clifford Holt, and Chris, Elaine and Nicholas Guyette, whom he resided with; his special extended family, Richard Linda, Ricky, Christine, and Matthew Cieslowski, The Patterson family, his very special grandma, Dusi, and his faithful companion, his dog Murphy Girl. He was predeceased by his maternal grandmother, Susie Flaherty, paternal grandparents, Leonard and Inez (Ross) Wishart, and two uncles, Thomas and Adrian Wishart. The family extends a special thank you to the staff of nurses, doctors, and workers on N-5 at HOCC, especially Molly, Maggie, and Deb, Dr. Gautham and team, and the palliative care team, especially Claire and Karen. A Mass of Christian Burial in celebration of Jim's life was held on Friday., meeting directly at Our Lady of Mercy Church. Family and friends gathered on Thursday at Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville. In lieu of flowers, Jim's family is accepting contributions to go towards his many expenses.



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88, of Bristol, formerly of Plainville, passed away surrounded by her beloved family on Thursday, January 7, 2016. She is now reunited with the love of her life, Raoul, who predeceased her in 2004. Born in St. Agatha, Maine on April 24, 1927, she was one of six children to the late Ernest and Cora (Chasse) Morneault. She

and Raoul settled in Plainville, sharing 57 years of marriage and raising a family of seven, all of whom she was very proud and enjoyed watching grow throughout four generations. She was employed for fourteen years at Marlin-Rockwell-TRW, from where she retired in 1979. Known for her beautifully crocheted afghans, Ernestine enjoyed gifting them to her family and friends just as much as they appreciated receiving them. A talented singer in her earlier years, she also enjoyed playing cards, but loved nothing more than being a Memere, surrounded by her adored grandchildren. The matriarch of her family, she will be dearly missed, leaving many cherished memories and legacy of love. She is survived by her children, Daniel of North Windham, Idola Raymond and her husband, Philip of Deerfield Beach, FL., Linda, Robert of Plainville, Rena Pelletier and her husband, Joseph of Bristol, James and his wife, Trudy of Plainville, and Nancy and her husband, Norm Ravagnani, Jr., of Portland; her daughter-in-law, Linda Miles Pelletier; fourteen grandchildren, sixteen great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren. She also leaves her brothers, Ronaldo "PeeWee" Morneault of ME., and Lorenzo "Pete" Morneault of CA., and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sisters, Aline and Geraldine Brochu and her brother, Joseph "Jello" Morneault. Funeral services in celebration of Ernestine's life were held on Wednesday at 9 a.m. from Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad St, Plainville, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. at St. Matthew Church, Forestville. Committal services followed at St. Joseph Cemetery, Plainville. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit [www.BAILEY-FUNERALHOME.com](http://www.BAILEY-FUNERALHOME.com)

# OBITUARIES

## ~ Kula (Papoutsakis) Maichack ~

86, of New Britain, formerly of Plainville, passed away on Sunday, December 27, 2015. She is now reunited with her husband of 51 years, Steven, who predeceased her in 2014. Born in Brooklyn, New York on March 15, 1929, she was one of four children to the late Peter and Catherine (Konpopirakis) Papoutsakis. A longtime resident of Plainville, where she and Steven raised their family, Kula was a member of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in New Britain, and prior to her retirement, worked for their family business, Maichack's Paint and Wallpaper. She is survived by her sister, Esther Douglas of Bethlehem, PA; her two granddaughters, Morgan Maichack of New Haven and Melissa Maichack of Hartford; her great-granddaughter, Iliana Staley; two sisters-in-law, Alexandra Papoutsakis of Brooklyn and Mary Maichack of Naples, FL; a niece, Catherine Papoutsakis; and two nephews, Theodore Papoutsakis and John Kalliongis. She was predeceased by her daughter, Catherine Maichack and two brothers, John and Paul Papoutsakis. Funeral services in celebration of Kula's life was held at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 301 West Main St, New Britain. Committal services followed at St. Cyril Cemetery, Terryville. In lieu of flowers, Kula may be remembered with donations to St. George Church.

## ~ Pauline J. (Jolin) Schilling ~

87, of Augusta, GA, formerly of Bristol, passed away on December 27, 2015. She was the widow of Robert W. Schilling, with whom she shared sixty three loving years of marriage. Pauline was born in Trois-Rivières (Three Rivers), Canada daughter to the late Antonio and Yvonne (Cloutier) Jolin. She resided in Bristol most of her life where she and her husband raised their three kids. Prior to starting her family, she worked as a clockmaker at Ingraham Manufacturing in Bristol. She spent close to fifty years with her family at their summer cottage that Robert had built on Hog Island in Rhode Island. There she would enjoy the company of her loved ones while she found an interest in clamming, alongside her husband. She crocheted beautiful quilts and was a master at pasta and soup making. For the past three and a half years, Pauline had been living in Georgia. She is survived by her son Robert Schilling and his wife Rosemary of Savannah, GA; her son-in-law David Garlington of Augusta, GA; her brother M.T. Jolin of Plainville; her grandchildren Jason Schilling and his wife Rebekah of Burlington, Joline Schilling of Milford, Sara Gruber and her husband Jose of Saraland, AL, Jeff Garlington and his wife Melissa of Augusta, GA, Jess Schilling of Berlin, Garrett Schilling of Plainville, and Michael Dube of Osage Beach, MO; her great-grandchildren Ayden and Lucas Schilling, Alex and Maria Gruber, Emilyn and Brantley Garlington, Jacob and Mercedes Schilling, Evan Schilling, and Carter Dube; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband Robert Schilling, her son Westley Schilling, her daughter Debra Garlington, and her sister Jeanine Baehr. A Mass of Christian Burial in celebration of Pauline's life was held at the Church of St. Matthew in Forestville. Interment followed in St. Joseph Cemetery, Plainville. Bailey Funeral Home, 48 Broad Street, Plainville had care of arrangements.

## ~ Larry R. Lyons ~

61, of Plainville passed Wednesday January 6, 2016 at his home. Larry was born February 21, 1954 in New Britain a son of the late Melvin and Marion (Robinson) Lyons and was a lifelong Plainville resident. He was a graduate of Plainville High School and had worked for Connecticut Jig Grinding for many years. Larry was an avid fisherman, loved camping and was also a fan of the New York Yankees and New England Patriots. Larry loved to entertain his family by telling stories of his childhood adventures with his brother Bob. Larry leaves behind his daughter Lacey Songhurst and her husband Jeffrey of Wallingford and his grandchildren Dillon and Isabella. He was predeceased by his brother Robert. Family and friends gathered at the Bailey Funeral Home 48 Broad Street in Plainville. with a service celebrating Larry's life. Burial was held privately.

## ~ Susan (Tyburski) Steele ~



55, of Forestville, beloved wife, mother, teacher and friend, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, January 5, 2016. Born in New Britain on August 30, 1960, she was one of three daughters to the late Walter and Elizabeth (Bodurka) Tyburski. Raised in Bristol, she was a graduate of Bristol Eastern High School, and went on to attend Western Connecticut State University, and Central Connecticut State University, from where she earned her Bachelor's Degree and her Master's Degree in education. Sue began her teaching career in the Plainville School System at Toffolon Elementary School, where she would meet her husband, Jeff, sharing with him close to 25 years of marriage. She touched the lives of countless students and fellow teachers during her more than thirty years as an educator, currently in the English Arts Department at the Middle School of Plainville, where she leaves many friends, coworkers and adored students. Additionally, she was greatly involved as a representative and Vice President of the Education Association of Plainville. Above all, Sue devoted much of her time to her family, volunteering for her daughter's girls scout troop for the past fifteen years, and looked forward to family vacations to Bar Harbor and Cape Cod. She will be deeply missed, leaving a tremendous void in the lives of everyone she met. In addition to her husband, Jeff, she leaves her children, Zach and Kate, both of Forestville; her sisters, Nancy Jordan and her husband, Bill of Rhode Island and Judith Purney of Bristol; her mother-in-law, Helen Steele of Bristol; and her brothers and sisters-in-law, John and Cathy Steele and Kathy and Stan Zurek all of Plainville; along with many nieces and nephews. She was recently predeceased by her father-in-law, Raymond Steele and her brother-in-law, John Purney, both formerly of Bristol. A memorial service in celebration of Sue's life was held at the Asbury United Methodist Church, 90 Church Ave., Forestville. In lieu of flowers, Sue may be remembered with contributions to a local food pantry or the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Rd., Newington, CT 06111. For online expressions of sympathy, please visit [www.BAILEY-FUNERALHOME.com](http://www.BAILEY-FUNERALHOME.com)

## ~ Mark A. Hansen ~



59, of Plainville, passed away Thursday, January 7, 2016. Born in New Britain, son of Marilyn McGuire Hansen of Plainville and the late Harry G. Hansen, he lived in Plainville most of his life. A graduate of Plainville High School, Class of 1975, Mark was a chef extraordinaire at the Farrell Treatment Center in New Britain, several restaurants locally and in California. Besides his mother Marilyn, Mark leaves two daughters, Jenna Florance Hansen and Annie Florance Hansen of Plainville, CT; a son, Ron Hansen of Lake Worth, FL; a twin sister, Laurie Hansen of Hendersonville, NC; two brothers, David Hansen of Plainville, Michael Hansen and wife Maureen of Southington; two nephews; Kevin Byrley and Jim Hansen; and friends Judy Florance and John Morelli. A Memorial Service was held 22nd at Church of Our Savior, 115 West Main Street, Plainville. Mark's family expresses sincere thanks to the staff at Hartford Healthcare Cancer Institute at the Hospital of Central Connecticut, Hartford Healthcare at Home, and the Newington Rapid Recovery Rehab Center. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Farrell Treatment Center, 586 Main Street, New Britain, CT 06051. Carlson Funeral Home

## ~ Ruth M. (Engelkamp) Baker ~

95, passed away surrounded by her family on Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at the Alzheimer's Resource Center, Plantsville. Born in Cincinnati, OH on October 21, 1920, she was the daughter of the late Raymond and Mildred (Hogan) Engelkamp. A graduate of St. Joseph High School in Ironton, OH, she went on to attend Marshall College in West Virginia, and the Barbizon School of Design in New York City, where she met the love her life Harold "Russ" Baker. They married after three weeks of dating, and settled in Plainville where they shared 57 years of marriage and raised three adored children. Ruth was a proud mom, who excelled at sewing, often making her children's annual Halloween costumes, and enjoyed baking, cooking, and going for walks or riding her bike. She was a dedicated volunteer for several organizations, including the Red Cross and Our Lady of Mercy Church where she was also a member of the Ladies Guild, and made many friends through her companionship and home visits with those in need. She was truly a special woman, who touched the lives of many and will be greatly missed. Ruth's family extends their deepest gratitude to the entire staff at the Alzheimer's Resource Center, especially her nurses, aides and "2-B family", her friends in building and maintenance and in the kitchen for the many special grilled cheese sandwiches. All went above and beyond, showing our beloved mother the greatest amount of love and compassion, making the past nine years the best that they could for her. Ruth is survived by her son, Kenneth S. Baker and his wife, Marcia of Berlin, daughters, Carol A. Quinn of Thomaston and Patricia A. Michaud and her husband, Drew of Plainville; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. A Mass of Christian Burial in celebration of Ruth's life was held at Our Lady of Mercy Church. Committal services followed at St. Joseph Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, Ruth may be remembered with donations to the Plainville Community Food Pantry, PO Box 233, Plainville, or the Alzheimer's Resource Center, 1261 S. Main St, Plantsville, CT 06479

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*When you were born, you cried  
and the world rejoiced.  
Live your life so that when  
you die, the world cries  
and you rejoice!*

# Homily by: Rev. John Brinsmade, Pastor Our Lady of Mercy Church

Rudyard Kipling was a British author and poet, probably most well-known for his work "The Jungle Book." In his poem entitled, "If," he wrote: "If you can keep your head when all about you / Are losing theirs and blaming it on you, / If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you, / ... Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it, / And—which is more—you'll be a Man, my son." We live in turbulent times, to say the least. We watch in horror as events continue to unfold in Egypt, France, Mali; in fact, one article I read yesterday counted 289 terrorist attacks throughout the world so far in 2015. How can we keep our heads in such a world? We wonder if peace ever possible.

Of all of Jesus' remarkable traits, few are as impressive as his ability to "keep his head" in the most turbulent of situations. His entire public life was a storm center of controversy. People all around him kept losing their heads, and, more often than not, they blamed it on him. Still, he managed to face every challenge with a serenity that defies description. This dimension of his character can be seen most clearly in the last week of his life. In a twenty-four-hour period, he was betrayed, beaten with a whip, crowned with thorns, ridiculed, and finally crucified. However, throughout the entire tragic ordeal, he never lost his composure. Others did. His disciples scattered in fear. One of them became so distraught that he took his own life. Another was so fearful that he publicly disavowed any association with Jesus. Caiaphas, the high priest, became so enraged that he tore his own garments. Members of the Sanhedrin lost all sense of dignity and spit in the face of the man who stood before them. Pilate, the Roman governor, became almost frantic in his attempts to remain neutral. And

a crowd of ordinary people turned into a blood-thirsty mob, shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" These were the same people whom he had healed, out of whom he had driven demons, and whose sins he had forgiven.

In the midst of all this turbulence stood Jesus. The only composed person in the entire picture was the one who had the most reasons to be disturbed. He was the victim of a false arrest. He was deserted by all of his friends and left utterly alone. Imagine yourself in such a situation and think how you would feel. He was tried and convicted on trumped-up charges. He was condemned to death by individuals who lacked the authority to carry out the sentence. What a frustrating, infuriating, and humiliating experience that would be! Yet Jesus faced it all with a calmness and fearlessness that is almost beyond belief.

In our Gospel we witness a critical encounter. Jesus was face to face with the one man who had the authority to set him free or send him to the cross. On one side stood Pilate, the representative of imperial Rome. On the other side stood Jesus, the carpenter of Nazareth. The two spoke briefly to each other. In these few short sentences, the composure of Jesus can be clearly seen. He did not plead for his life. He did not make charges against his enemies. Not one angry or desperate word fell from his lips. How did he meet that level of stress with that kind of composure? This ancient episode contains many of the same troubling realities we find in today's world. The hatreds and fears, the passion of the mob, the noise that drives out thought, the tensions that destroy peace -- all these are still with us. What a priceless treasure it would be if we could have that spirit of composure that belonged to Jesus in a turbulent time. Where did he find it? What was his secret?

To understand this quality of Jesus, we need to go back to the time before the last day of his life. During the years of his public ministry Jesus' days were balanced between activity and solitude, outward

concerns and inward needs. Many of his days called for energy and effort as he moved among people in need. He taught, he preached, he counseled, he healed. But other days were different. He prayed, he reflected, he rested, he examined his life. When things were at their worst, Jesus was at his best. He kept his head and tended to his heart. The secret of Jesus' composure in Pilate's court was the wisdom, faith, and hope he discovered in his many quiet hours alone with God

In Jesus' solitary times, when he was completely open to God, he had gained insights that became unshakeable convictions. He said to Pilate: "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my subjects would be fighting to save me." Jesus could have organized an army. He could have rallied enough warriors to conquer Rome. But does this world really need another war-lord? Jesus saw the futility of that, and chose a different way. His kingdom is built on truth. Jesus said to Pilate: "The reason I was born; the reason I came into the world was to testify to the truth." He saw things as they really are and linked his life with the truth. When everyone deserted him, and the whole world seemed against him, he stood for the truth, and died for it.

Do you wish for peace in life's turbulent times? There seems to be no reason to believe the times will ever become less turbulent. The world cannot provide the peace we need. The world's Creator is our only hope. We must not lose sight of that day when Jesus stood before Pilate discussing his kingship. The only thing that makes that day worth remembering is a quiet man in the midst of a storm. He was convinced that truth would finally conquer. Is it any wonder that we call him the King of the Universe?

***Let us pray that some of his peace might be ours as we face our own turbulent times, both public and private.***

## Life With Wanda

Writing to my readers this month has become almost impossible.



First it was a snow storm that cut off my service from the power company.

After the power was restored I sat down and began my writing only to find my internet server sent me a message stating they were having some difficulty and if the difficulty continued "PLEASE NOTIFY THEM."

OK, I tried to call them and got a recording which stated "My call was very important to them but they were experiencing a heavy volume of calls, so please notify them on line." How many times have we heard that one and if I can't go on line how am I going to notify them?

Years ago we were told, and we believed, computers were going to be our salvation and the only thing they have done is cause high blood pressure which in turn have made the pill pushers rich. They told us computers would save on paper but now I buy paper by the case and we even have a trash can for paper only. Then to add insult to injury the mailman came with my light and internet bill. I let my dog eat them.

***Have a great month.....***

## AARP Connecticut, Workplace Retirement Savings Plans

Seventy percent surveyed agree elected officials should support retirement savings plans

Senate President Martin Looney (D-11), House Majority Leader Joseph Aresimowicz (D-30), and Connecticut State Comptroller Kevin P. Lembo, joined AARP Connecticut for the release of results from a new AARP survey among Connecticut voters, age 35-64, about workplace retirement savings plans.

The 2016 Connecticut Work and Save Plan, a survey of 1,000 voters conducted by the AARP Public Policy Institute. Following are takeaways from the results:

- Seventy-nine percent, or 8 out of ten, of Connecticut registered voters, age 35-64, agree that elected officials should support a state retirement savings plan.
- Eighty-eight percent say they wish they had saved more for retirement.
- Sixty-one percent, or 3 out of 5, say they are concerned that some residents have not saved enough for retirement and could end up being reliant on public assistance.
- These voters say that such a plan should be easy to use and low-cost, and should follow workers from job to job.
- As the retirement savings crisis in Connecticut

continues to worsen, currently more than 600,000 Connecticut residents, mostly small business workers, do not have a retirement savings plan available to them through their employer—and most fear they have not saved enough for retirement.

"The data provided by the AARP survey confirms our hypothesis that Connecticut workers are concerned about retirement and need help saving for their future," said Senate President Martin Looney. "Unfortunately, too many people rely solely on Social Security, which is not by itself able to provide a decent living for those with no other source of retirement income. As the result of the Connecticut Retirement Security Board's study, we now have a reasonable and responsible option for the General Assembly to consider. A public retirement savings plan for private sector workers will help address Connecticut's retirement crisis."

AARPCT was pleased that, after more than a year of extensive research in consultation with organizations specializing in retirement savings, the CRSB determined that creating a plan at no cost to taxpayers is feasible and would address the retirement savings crisis in Connecticut. The CRSB was created in 2014 by the Connecticut Legislature.

***A Common Sense Approach: The 2016 Connecticut Work and Save Plan***

## Burial Rights & Cremains in St. Joseph Cemetery

If you happen to have a grave plot in our cemetery, please call the office and provide us with the information as to whom you will be leaving the burial rights to after your passing. This needs to be followed up by a letter from the living owner so that we have the proper documentation; which will be kept on file in the office. Also, each single grave plot is allowed to have 3 cremains buried on top of a casket. That is why it is so important for the office to have the name of a successor who will be able to decide if cremains can be buried in a certain plot once the church agrees to the burial. Call the office for more information 860-747-6825.

**Parish Office/Cemetery Office Located at:  
Our Lady of Mercy Parish Center  
19 South Canal Street, Plainville**

### ***New!* BRG Referral Program**

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2 - Twin Sunbeam Heated electric mattress pads: \$15/each

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Cargo Area Security Cover; 2000-2004 Grand Cherokee: \$75

Bissell Steam Mop Max; with extra accessories; 2-filters / 4-deluxe pads: \$60

Bissell 3-in-1 Vacuum - \$10

3 - 1 GAL Corner Top Fin Aquarium - - \$7/each w/ limited accessories  
2 - 3 GAL (LARGE) Rectangle Kritter Keepers / Fish - - \$7/each

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  - 2000-04 Grand Cherokee, Cargo Area Security Cover; \$75
  - Bissell Steam Mop Max; with extra accessories; 2-filters / 4-deluxe pads: \$50
  - Bissell 3-in-1 Vacuum - \$10
  - 3 - 1 GAL Corner Top Fin Aquarium - - \$7/each w/ limited accessories
  - 2 - 3 GAL (LARGE) Rectangle Kritter Keepers / Fish - - \$7/each
- Call 860-518-1364**  
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# MyPetHarmony.com

Launched to Adopters January 13th 2016

MyPetHarmony.com is the first website designed to match adopters with the perfect pet waiting in a shelter or rescue either nearby or throughout the US. "Think of us as the eHarmony for pets" says Founder/CEO, Ryan Vayo. The algorithm based pet adoption site launched in January to adopters and shelters nationwide. "With nearly 1000 shelters/rescues in the Northeast and over 6000 nationwide already pre-approved, we're encouraging local organizations to log-in and start posting animals. We'll find them the Perfect Fur-ever home" says Ryan. MyPetHarmony plans to reach millions of households in the coming months and will provide an invaluable service to the shelter/rescue community.

The idea for MyPetHarmony was born after seeing many animals being returned once the adopter (and the pet) realized it wasn't the right match. Through a series of questions on MyPetHarmony.com, adopters are matched with local, regional or national pets based on a number of compatibility traits such as lifestyle, personality, experience, and commitment level. The matching algorithm that drives MyPetHarmony.com was built over a two-year period through a collaborative effort of shelters/rescues, behaviorists, trainers and veterinarians. The science behind MyPetHarmony's matching system ensures that both the adopter and the pet are the right match for one another, limiting the return rate for animals in shelters and creating a better chance for happy, responsible pet-parent relationships.

MyPetHarmony.com currently has content relationships with The Humane Society of the United States, Nationwide Insurance and the ASPCA along with several other local and regional organizations. MyPetHarmony is attending and sponsoring several local and regional events including being the Diamond Level Sponsor of Wigglebutts Uncorked, the gala fundraiser hosted by Wigglebutt Warriors,® the fundraising arm of Fidose of Reality to benefit NYC Second Chance Rescue.

MyPetHarmony.com, the community for pet lovers, is excited to announce its launch on January 13th and invites shelters, adopters, and pet owners to check out the website not only to find your "next best friend", but to explore countless resources, tips, and a community of pet lovers!

- If you are an adopter looking for the perfect match or a pet parent in search of resources, go to [www.mypetharmony.com](http://www.mypetharmony.com)
- If you are an adoption organization looking to post your adoptable animals, go to either [www.shelter.mypetharmony.com](http://www.shelter.mypetharmony.com) OR [www.rescue.mypetharmony.com](http://www.rescue.mypetharmony.com)

For general inquiries contact [info@mypetharmony.com](mailto:info@mypetharmony.com)

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# Pet Page

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**Share your Pet stories and pictures with our Readers.**

**Submit them to:**

[hmtnn@comcast.net](mailto:hmtnn@comcast.net) before the 15th of the month to appear in the folowing issue. Or mail information to: 27 Sherman Street Plainville, CT 06062



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