

A FREE PUBLICATION

TRENDY

20 Pine Street, Woodsville, NH 03785
Phone: 603-747-2887



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TIMES

Email: Gary@TrendyTimes.com
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JANUARY 19, 2021 VOLUME 12, NUMBER 8

The United States of America Bill of Rights

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed.

Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be

violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public

trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Amendment VII

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel



and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

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Peacham Library Winter Coffee House Goes Virtual!

PEACHAM, VERMONT: The Peacham Library will host its annual Coffee House live music series with performances each month from January through April, this year online. The Coffee House series brings community together around live music and camaraderie to warm our winter evenings. Although we can't gather together in-person, performances will be hosted virtually, giving viewers the option to tune in via Zoom or Facebook livestream at 7pm the following Saturdays: January 9th, February 6th, March 6th, and April 3rd.

The virtual Coffee House will feature performances by local acts Fifth Business, Deb n' Dean, Jonathan "Doc" Kaplan & Carol Hausner, and Pipe & Slippers, and a guest appearance by Vermont's own Pete's Posse. Community members are in-

ited to join in during a virtual open mic at the end of each show, performing from their homes via Zoom. All performances are free, although a suggested donation of \$5 (links to be provided during the performance) is encouraged to support the performers.

PERFORMANCE LINEUP:

Saturday, February 6th, at 7pm - Deb 'n Dean

Saturday, March 6th, at 7pm - Fifth Business

Saturday, April 3rd at 7pm - Double header! Jonathan "Doc" Kaplan & Carol Hausner, plus Pete's Posse

All performances take place virtually, with two options to view:

- Tune in via the Peacham Library's Facebook profile page www.facebook.com/peachamlibrary to watch a livestream at the

time of each event. Note: a Facebook account is not required to view this event on the library's public page.

- View on Zoom. Advance registration is required. Find Zoom registration links for each event on the library's webpage www.peachamlibrary.org or on Facebook. Call 802-535-3682 for more information.

To sign up to perform in the open mic, advance registration via Zoom is required. After registration, email peachamlibrary@gmail.com to indicate which date you wish to perform. Open mic performers will receive a Zoom how-to document to maximize audio quality, and a limited number of USB microphones are available to check out from the Peacham Library. email circ@peachamlibrary.org to reserve.)



ABOVE: Fifth Business BELOW: Jonathan "Doc" Kaplan & Carol Hausner, plus Pete's Posse



Did You Know?

Did you know the Haverhill Parks & Recreation Commission is determined to keep as many programs running for as long as possible? Sherri Sargent, Director of the Recreation Department, has continued to manage the day-to-day classes and events and, although, some programs were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the goal remained for us to operate for as long as we could do so safely.

Did you know The Parks and Recreation Department is now located at the Clifford Memorial Building (CMB) in Woodsville? Yes, the CMB was formerly the National Guard Armory on South Court Street (Armory Lane).

Did you know your Recreation Commission consists of volunteers from your community? Your current members are Jennifer West, Sandi Pierce, Mona Sanville, Dawn Burleson and ex officio Selectboard Member Steve Robbins. We meet the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:00 PM at the CMB.

Did you know the Parks and Recreation department offers Monday through Friday ZOOM exercise classes? If you have a computer and enjoy stretching you would love this class. No experience necessary. You need to log on to the Town of Haverhill website, find the calendar at the bottom of the home page, and click on the ZOOM link.

Did you know the CMB is open Monday through Friday from 11-12:00 PM for walking? This program is open to everyone and anyone who needs a flat, dry and warm setting to get some exercise. If needed, bring your canes, walking sticks and rollators/walkers. This is also a good time to visit with your friends and neighbors too! Did you know that 22 laps around the inside of the facility is approximately 1 mile?

Did you know we offer Pickleball 3 times per week? Monday and Fridays 9:00 AM and Wednesday evenings 6-7:30 PM. This is a mixed group which varies daily. We put on some fun music and have a ball! If you are not sure about Pickleball come and watch! This program is for families too! If you have older children

who might like the game of Pickleball bring them along with you!

Did you know that we continue to offer the Acoustic Music Jams? This musical event is for those who appreciate 'old school' country music. Volunteer musicians come to play for your enjoyment. Jim and Ruth Strout continue to be our volunteer liaisons for this event which is held at the CMB. We offer the jams twice-a-month and the schedule is on the website calendar, newspapers and on WYKR radio. Chairs are available!

Did you know we also offer an in-person, social distance movement and stretch class Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1-2:00 PM? Another class offered for those who want a face-to-face, social distant workout.

Did you know we are offering social distant in-person movies on the big screen at the CMB? Our December movie was HOME ALONE and was enjoyed by many. We will be offering movies once per month and invite you to bring your children, a blanket or chair to sit on and come enjoy the show!

Depression, anxiety and sleep problems? With the pandemic, it is perfectly normal to feel anxious and a bit overwhelmed. Did you know how important it is keeping



your physical and mental strength during this time? Undertaking physical activity, keeping to routines or creating new ones, and engaging in activities which give a sense of achievement are all important. It is a time to reach out to your friends, family and neighbors and keep in contact with those you care about. Check in, encourage participation and communicate often! Take advantage of the large space we have at the Clifford Memorial Building and the classes we offer. With strict guidelines, our doors will remain open so encourage your friends to join you and keep moving!

Did you know that in the time of COVID-19 anyone in the CMB building needs to sign in, keep their distance, use hand sanitizer, wear a mask? Safety is our priority and we are not able to keep our facility open unless we do so safely!

Did you know the many ways to get ahold of the Parks & Recreation Department? Calling 603-787-6096 extension 7, email rec@haverhill-nh.com, contact us on Facebook under Sherri Sargent (Haverhill Recreation) and by cell phone 603-728-7133.

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All workshops will be of-

fered on Zoom. Please register for one workshop, or the whole series by sending an email to the Coös County Conservation District Manager at: da.cccd@gmail.com. Our workshop series starts with High Tunnels 101 on January 20, 2021 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Additional topics include: Site Selection and Construction on February 3, 2021, NRCS High Tunnel Program and Coös CCCD Tool Rental Program on February 17, 2021, High Tunnel Management on March 3, 2021 and Winter Growing and Challenges on March 17, 2021. Recorded workshops will be available on the NH Association of Conservation Districts website: www.nhacd.net.



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Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times January 19, 2021 Volume 12 Number 8



The Drive-In Session

It was cold, it was blustery, and certainly not ideal for visiting a "drive-in," but during this time of COVID, we have come to realize that "normal" as once known is absent or MIA. On January 6, the NH House including support staff and elected officials drove south to a University of New Hampshire parking lot to hold our first session of the year. This wasn't like the drive-in that I remember visiting 50 years ago when I enjoyed several night time adventures in Fairlee, Vermont. This drive-in had no movie. From 9:30am to approximately 3:30pm, elected representative sat in our cars facing an elevated podium where the Speaker of the House conducted our first session of the year. New Hampshire legislators sat in our parked cars listening to speeches broadcast on a FM radio frequency while using hand held devices to register each vote, either up or down. In all my years while serving in local and state government, I never imagined such a

sight or event. When members had a desire to speak to a pending issue, House staff rushed across the lot in golf carts with microphones attached to long poles to stick into the passenger window. Occasionally, someone's hand held device used to register a vote would show no connectivity, and with that the House Clerk advised us to "put on our hazard lights and help will arrive." Unbelievable, but it worked!

In addition to participating in this "drive-in democracy" event, I appreciated the kind words the new Speaker offered all attending upon his being declared the next Speaker of the House for years 2021 and 2022. Against a chilling and wind-blown parking lot, Speaker Packard said "this body will move forward and do what is good for the people of New Hampshire." His speech was genuine, and reflected his love for our state. "We will address and conquer COVID, and we will attend to the first order of business

and in doing so, NH will have a balanced budget and will not include a sales or income tax. We will continue to encourage small and large business and lower business taxes." That message alone is pro-business, will create jobs, and supports our New Hampshire Advantage. When concluding his remarks and thanking all for their support, he took a larger, wooden gavel and struck it on the edge of the podium and moved to the next order of business. That large wooden gavel is the same gavel his father had used 30 years ago when he was President of the NH Senate. Speaker Packard dedicated this event to his father, his wife of 52 years, and to "his brother," Speaker Dick Hinch. This was indeed, a very special day.

The NH legislature is off and running. Remote committee orientation sessions occur this week and first House bills will be heard the week of January 18. The Senate will begin bill hearings the week of January 11, 2021. The education committee will have over 70 bills ranging from: educational choice, education funding, career and technical education, building aid and more.

Respectfully submitted,
Rep Rick Ladd
Chair, House Education

Special Announcement from WHS Principal Mr. Chase.

At their January 11th meeting, the Haverhill Cooperative School Board voted to open Woodsville High School four days per week for face-to-face instruction for all students, with a fifth day being a day of remote instruction. Beginning on January 25th, all students will be in school for face-to-face instruction on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and will have a remote learning day on Wednesdays. All safety protocols will continue to be enforced including mask wearing, hand washing, and as much social distancing as possible.

We believe that this is to the benefit of our students' educational programming, however parents not wanting their student to participate in face-to-face instruction in this configuration will need to enroll them in the VLACS program or withdraw them to home school. Please notify the school as soon as possible should you wish for your student's attendance status to change. Thank you any questions can be directed to me through the main office at 747-2781 or echase@au23.org. Thank you.
Eric W. Chase, Principal

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HAVERHILL CANDIDATES' PLATFORMS

Thursday, January 28
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Saturday, March 6
1:00 - 3:00 PM
Clifford Memorial Building
Route 135, South Court St.,
Woodsville

BOTH PLATFORMS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE ON ZOOM

These Platforms are being held to allow all Candidates for Haverhill Town Offices a chance to answer questions from voters about current issues, future plans or whatever.

In order to be on the 2021 Haverhill Ballot a Candidate must sign up between Wednesday, January 20 and Friday, January 29. Write in candidates can still run for office.

Positions to be voted on during balloting on: Saturday, March 13, 2021 include:

- One Selectboard Seat (3 year term) Current member is: Darwin Clogston
- Town Clerk (2 year term) Currently held by Christine Hebert
- 2 Cemetery Commissioners (3 year term)
Currently held by Howard Thayer & Matthew Taylor
- Trustee of Trust Funds (3 year term) Currently held by Kristi Garafalo
- Three At Large School Board Seats (Three Year Terms)
Currently held by Sabrina Brown, Dylan Farr & Chuck Fenn
- School Moderator (1 year term) Currently held by Jay Holden

This Platform is Sponsored by Trendy Times as a Public Service.
For more information contact Gary @ 747-2887 or email Gary@TrendyTimes.com
Thanks to the Haverhill Town Administration Staff for Assistance with Zoom presentation.

BEFORE YOU VOTE BE INFORMED

No More

by Joe Benning
State Senator (and former
Minority Leader)
Caledonia District

Today I saw a picture of a busload of Vermonters on their way to Washington, D.C. They were Donald Trump supporters who remain convinced that his election was stolen. I want to believe that all of them on that bus were heading down for a peaceful protest. But after witnessing several different news reports, and listening to the speeches of President Trump, Donald Trump, Jr., and Rudy Giuliani urging them to go to the Capital, I have to wonder whether anyone in that group got duped into joining the assault of that beautiful and historic building.

I'd be interested to know because, as someone who has spent years trying to convince Vermonters that conservative and constitutional principles have merit, that message will be made all the more difficult to deliver if it is associated with those extremists who also call themselves Republicans.

Please don't embarrass us by saying these extremists were ANTIFA. Don't try to deflect by saying BLM or liberals started it or are just as bad. These thugs were Republicans devoted completely to Donald Trump. They are not "Patriots." They are not "real Americans." They are anarchists who believe in mob rule, plain and simple.

Many of them were egged on by a Donald Trump tweet today that alleged Vice-President Mike Pence would be shirking his constitutional responsibilities if he didn't reject elector certificates. Not only is the potential precedent of such a claim a direct threat to every election in the future, it has absolutely no founda-

tion whatsoever in the one simple sentence (Article II, §1) in the Constitution that specifically directs the President of the Senate (Mike Pence) to open "all certificates." The President, in other words, was directing Pence to take an unconstitutional action.

I will credit Mike Pence for recognizing the Constitution does not allow him to reject elector certificates and its language limited him to a ceremonial role. But the extremists latched onto the President's false tweet to bash in the Capital doors in an action that has resulted in a woman's death.

It is further troubling that these same extremists continue to believe the President's tweets over all the legal and factual arguments that counter them. Sixty courts at all federal and state levels, Senate Majority Leader (Republican) Mitch McConnell, the President's own Attorney General William Barr, and Republican Secretaries of State and State Attorneys General in all the states being contested have all concluded this election was not "stolen" and has never produced clear, unambiguous evidence of widespread fraud.

Yet some continue to cling to individual instances of alleged fraud and thus call for overturning the votes of millions of fellow Americans. They will accept nothing less than re-election of the candidate who lost BOTH the majority and electoral college vote counts. And as I type this, the citadel of liberty and freedom, our nation's capital, is shut down. I cannot imagine the glee now emanating from governments in Iran, Russia and China.

Enough is enough. Even Twitter has finally shut down the President's tweet account. Republicans like Mike Pence, who courageously upheld the Constitution over

the President's public insults, need to find our voices. This is not the Republican party we are witnessing, but make no mistake it will be labeled so by those who seek scapegoats.

I have another picture of a group on a bus trip going to Washington, D.C. to visit the Capital. A young 8th grade boy is seen at the top of the photo, peering over the seats of his sleeping classmates. On his visit to the nation's capital he was left with a wonderful idea of what America is supposed to be about. His class picture was taken on the very steps that Trump extremists invaded this afternoon. Today, fifty years later, he officially stepped down as Minority Leader of the Vermont State Senate. He will continue to espouse the Republican principles embodied in the VTGOP party platform as a State Senator, but he can no longer tolerate extremists posing as Republicans. He also prays other Republicans who believe in those principles will stand with him to reject the chaos and anarchy these extremists represent.

Scott Borthwick
Manager

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27**
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430 Railroad Street. St. Johnsbury

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19
HAVERHILL SELECT BOARD MEETING
6:00 PM Virtual Meeting
Clifford Memorial Building, Woodsville

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20
NORTH COUNTRY HIGH TUNNEL SERIES
6:00 - 7:30 PM
See Article on Page 3

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21
VFW POST #5245 MONTHLY MEETING
7:00 PM
VFW Hall, North Haverhill

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28
HAVERHILL CANDIDATE PLATFORM
6:00 PM
Clifford Memorial Building, Woodsville
See Ad on Page 4

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Ross-Wood Post #20, Woodsville
See ad on Page 8 and Article on Page 16

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31
ACOUSTIC MUSIC JAM
12:00 NOON - 3:00 PM See Ad on Page 4
Clifford Memorial Building, Woodsville

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7
WELLS RIVER ACTION PROGRAM
ANNUAL MEETING
1:00 PM via Zoom
See Ad on Page 6

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8
ROSS-WOOD UNIT #20 AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY MONTHLY MEETING
6:00 PM
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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10
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**Deadline is the Thursday before
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NH's Emerald Ash Borer Management Recommendations Continue Despite Federal Regulation Changes

The N.H. Division of Forests and Lands, in partnership with the N.H. Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food has announced that the state's standards for transporting and using ash logs and firewood within New Hampshire remain in effect. This announcement comes on the heels of the end of federal ash quarantine regulations that were enacted to help combat the spread of Emerald Ash Borer.

Beginning Jan. 14, 2021, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will no longer regulate the interstate movement of emerald ash borer and will focus on supporting biological controls as its primary management tool for slowing the spread of EAB infestations. Previously, federal domestic quarantines had been in place that regulated the movement of ash products both within states and across state lines.

Although the federal EAB regulatory program is ending, some states will continue to regulate transportation of ash products into their state. Those transporting ash logs, firewood or ash products from New Hampshire to another state can check with individual states in advance to comply with local regulations, or contact the N.H. Division of Plant Industry for assistance.

It is important to note that this change in federal regulation does not change the best management practices already implemented in New Hampshire. These include:

- Transporting ash logs only after Sept. 1 and having them processed by June 1
- Shipping ash logs only to mills willing to debark them immediately
- Confirming logs are likely not infested before transporting them
- Moving ash firewood only if it has been heat treated to certification standards (140 degrees for 60 minutes)
- Not transporting ash firewood more than five miles or seasoning it at its place of origin for at least 12 months
- Delivering ash firewood after Sept. 1 and burning it by June 1

Limiting the transportation of potentially infested ash logs and firewood, combined with the cooperative program to combat EAB propagation through biological control, offers a two-pronged approach to managing statewide forest health.

EAB was first detected in Concord, N.H. in 2013; infestations have been found in all counties in the state except Coös. Once infested with EAB, ash trees die within three to five years.

A non-native insect, EAB lacks predators to keep it in check and ash trees lack resistance to the beetle attack. Long distance spread is primarily through the transportation of ash logs and firewood.

Ash trees are an important part of New Hampshire's forest landscape and a valuable timber species of our forest products economy.

For more information about EAB, including identification tips, caring for ash trees and how to report an ash tree that may be infested, visit nhbugs.org.

Part of the N.H. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, the Division of Forests and Lands protects and promotes the value provided by trees, forests and natural communities. For more information about the Division of Forests and Lands and the work of its Forest Health Program visit nh.gov/nhdf or call 603-464-3016.

The mission of the N.H. Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food is to support and promote agriculture and serve consumers and business for the benefit of the public health, environment and economy. For more information, visit agriculture.nh.gov.

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WRAP ANNUAL MEETING
February 7, 2021 @ 1:00 pm**

**Elections of Board Members
Brief Annual Reports
Guest Speaker to be Announced**

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The Bluebells of Echo Mountain

by Maggie Anderson

Friends sent us the first photographs of our home in Otis as soon as the fires had been stopped, the ashes cooled, and the authorities deemed it safe for residents to drive in hoping for miracles as they approached their driveways.

Some found their miracles, sadly often butted up to the debris of their neighbors' burned out homes. Others, we among them, lost everything.

Seeing our little house for the first time was so overwhelming I couldn't even get out of the car that first day. The second day we drove up to our driveway and got out for a closer look.

It was a surreal landscape of twisted metal, crumbling concrete walkways, and scorched trees. Against all odds I found a bowl sitting on its hand-thrown legs, its beautiful hand painted flowers erased save the white outlines meant to steer the painter in the right direction.

I bought the bowl in one of the little shops in Lincoln City and took it out to Otis where I set it in the kitchen window so it would be the first thing we saw each time we drove up to the house and the first thing to catch my eye every morning when I went to put the coffee on.

The fire swept down Echo Mountain with such force when it hit the side of our house the bowl was launched out of the window and tossed 20 feet away where it sat itself down in what was left of the lawn, waiting I suppose for our return. I am still trying to decide whether or not to have it repainted.

The other survivors on our little slice of paradise are the tiny bluebells that, as near as I can tell, are botanical cockroaches; they simply cannot be crushed, they multiply like rabbits and, like a new puppy scolded for chewing up the remote, they keep coming back.

Right now Otis needs some of that resilience.

Letter to the Editor:

Insurrectionist-in-Chief Attacks America

To The Editor:

A whole nation of us knew this was coming but not all of us handled it in the same way. There were three basic groups.

The first group of us recognized the incitements to violence from President Trump, his dismissal of the rule of order, his lack of character and his furtherance of white grievance politics. We believed him when he told us by his actions, "I'm all about myself, I sow chaos and division because it benefits me". Poet and prophet Maya Angelou told us years ago to believe someone when they tell us who they are. This first group believed Trump when he told us who he was, and we historically impeached him twice in his one term, the second time for inciting an insurrection. Many

Robert,

It now does not matter who I, you, or anyone else voted for in the election of 2020. The votes were cast and counted. In some instances counted more than once. In the end winners were declared and have now, or shortly will, take office. With some new, and many returning citizens in those seats, our government will go forward. Perhaps it will take a different direction. But I like that to steering something like the Titanic. It takes a long time to change

months ago, I wrote that there was "something smell-bad wrong" with Trump. There still is.

The second group heard and saw everything the first group did - Trump's attempted dismantling of our institutions - but did not believe him. They said he was "just joking, being sarcastic, just making fun, doing it his way". The further he eroded the normalization of our democratic republic, the more they enabled him.

And the third group heard and saw everything the first two groups did, and they did not care. They were just as much authoritarians as Trump is, and had lots of axes to grind. mainly imagined from far-right wing conspiracy theories. This large loud group was willing to turn into a screaming mob, at Trump's invitation, and

break into our nation's house of laws, looking for Vice-President Pence to "hang" and for Speaker Pelosi to capture or kill. Several deaths resulted from that attack including the murder of at least one Capitol Policeman.

Teddy Roosevelt once said true patriots swear allegiance to their country, not the president. Kings want the allegiance sworn to them, so do tyrants, dictators, autocrats.

And in case you've not looked up "insurrection" lately, it means rebellion, revolt, uprising, revolution, sedition, anarchy, fighting in the streets. Insurrection is an act or instance of revolting against civil authority or established government. And millions of us voted for him twice. Was that you?

Robert Roudebush
North Haverhill, NH

course, even when you can see an iceberg dead ahead. What happens next will only be told by historians years from now.

The other piece of your letter I would like to respond to is the allegiance you mention. Anyone who has been elected to an office, as well as anyone who has served in the military, does indeed pledge allegiance to the country, not the holder of any office. I should also note that we often repeat a Pledge of Allegiance to the

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NOTICE

HAVERHILL COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Annual Election of Officers will be held at
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North Haverhill, NH

March 13, 2021
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

The following officers will be voted upon:

Moderator

for a term of one year

3 School Board Members

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Candidates for the above may file
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Leadership Transition at The Colonial Theatre

A New Year, a New Executive Director, a New Chapter. "Strange, isn't it? Each man's life touches so many other lives." (Clarence the Angel, "It's a Wonderful Life")

In 1946, almost seventy-four years ago to the day, the New York Times reviewed Frank Capra's film "It's a Wonderful Life", describing it as a "quaint and engaging modern parable on virtue being its own reward" with a "whole slew of cozy small-town characters who have gone through a lot". One need look no further than 2050 Main Street in Bethlehem, New Hampshire—the home of The Colonial Theatre—for the real-life story of our own pioneering man of great optimism, persistence and dedication to his community. That man is Stephen Dignazio, who has been bringing people together at The Colonial for twenty years, enriching our lives with live music, thought-provoking and entertaining films, and the opportunity to soak up Bethlehem's past in a historically significant venue.

Stephen stepped up to preserve The Colonial as a venue for film and performance with the establishment of the Friends of The Colonial in 2000. The Friends saved this venerable historic venue—literally resurrecting the marquee when it collapsed to the sidewalk in 2001—with a mission of contributing to the local economy while inspiring the community through support of the arts. Over the next two decades, Stephen would lead several successful fundraising campaigns, culminating in the completion of the Capital Campaign for the Next Century in 2018 which put the future of the theatre on solid financial footing.

Over the years Stephen has expanded The Colonial's geographic reach through innovative programming that includes independent film, exceptional live performances and film festivals. Although the pandemic of 2020 presented unexpected challenges, The Colonial has persevered with a program of on-line film offerings and socially-distanced film showings.

Throughout this period of uncertainty and live performance cancellations, the theatre has stayed true to its mission to nurture the heritage and prosperity of the communities it serves through relevant arts and cultural programming.

As Dignazio explained, "Like most venues, it has been a very challenging year for The Colonial, more challenging however has been the effect that the pandemic has had on the other Bethlehem businesses that depend on The Colonial's 12 thousand+ visitors we bring to Main Street each year."

Having successfully overseen the theatre during this period of uncertainty, Stephen stepped down as Executive Director, effective January 1, 2021. Concurrently, Stephen handed over the reins to Christine Kelly, who served as Assistant Director for Advancement and Marketing since April 2019. In announcing this important leadership transition the Board acknowledges both Stephen's deep commitment to the theatre and the community, as well as Christine's many valuable contributions. "The Board is grateful to Stephen for the two decades that he has dedicated to physically restoring The Colonial and to expanding our artistic offerings. Stephen exhibits all of the qualities that define true leadership. At the same time, we are excited that Christine has accepted the position of Executive Director. She possesses the experience, skills and self-assurance that will help carry The Colonial into the next decade. The Board looks forward to working closely with Christine to ensure the continued growth and financial health of this community institution." said Tami Nason, Board President.

Prior to joining The Colonial, Christine held positions with organizations large and small, including Development Director at the Oliver Wolcott Library in Litchfield, Connecticut, Digital Marketing Supervisor and Coordinator for Major Donor Communications KQED in San Francisco, and Data Analytics Manager Co57 Systems in Boston, Massachu-

sets. She has experience with a myriad of digital marketing platforms that has served The Colonial well over the past two years. Christine has also pursued a diverse personal development path including hiking the Pacific Crest Trail and working as a Refugee Resource Coordinator in Siracusa, Sicily.

"Christine was hired for marketing and fundraising" Dignazio said "and she has exceeded our expectations in every regard. She is a skilled and thoughtful communicator, a proactive goal setter, an accomplished social media, database and IT technician, and a pleasure to work with. In addition, following The Colonial's most successful year ever, Christine faced a particularly uncertain time due to the pandemic which has often required a nimble approach to an unprecedented situation. She has never balked at pivoting away from her original job description or taking on new responsibilities. She is a welcome addition to The Colonial and to our community. I couldn't be more pleased with the



Colonial outgoing and incoming Executive Directors: Stephen Dignazio (left), Christine Kelly (right).

Board's decision to elevate her to the Executive Director position. The Colonial is in good hands."

Reflecting on this leadership transition Kelly says "I wonder if 20 years ago, as a historic theatre sat in desperate need of repair, anyone could have anticipated that The Colonial would become a premier presenting venue, drawing Grammy award-winning artists from around the world to Bethlehem, NH. I suppose Stephen did."

"Stephen has been an exceptional leader for The Colonial Theatre and our community. By reviving The Colonial, he created a home for relevant arts and cultural programming in the North

Country. In turn, The Colonial has become a driving force of economic and cultural growth locally and fosters pride of place in our community." Kelly added "I am honored to take on the role of Executive Director and I am grateful for the opportunity to continue and expand The Colonial's legacy in our community."

As for Stephen's plans, he will not be disappearing from our midst. He will remain in a part-time capacity, at the right hand of Christine, to focus on programming for the 2021 season, much of which gets secured and placed on the calendar well before The Colonial opens its doors for the season.

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ACT Switching To Hoosier Tires Beginning at Community Bank N.A. 150

Waterbury, VT – The American-Canadian Tour (ACT) will be sporting some new shoes in 2021. ACT announced today that its officially sanctioned series and tracks are switching to Hoosier tires starting with the Community Bank N.A. 150 at Thunder Road on Sunday, May 2.

ACT Late Models will run a new 8-inch tire specially designed and built for the division. The tire is the result of extensive testing by Hoosier and ACT that focused on reliability and overall performance. ACT has worked directly with Rob Summers, the owner of Hoosier Tire East, throughout the testing process.

The tires cost \$130 each, the same price as the 8-inch American Racer tire the class had been using. ACT and its affiliate tracks have been using American Racer as a Late Model tire supplier since the start of the 2014 season.

“We think this is the start of a great partnership,” ACT managing partner Cris Michaud said. “Rob Summers has been a pleasure to work with. He understood exactly what we were looking for in a tire and has worked tirelessly to create a tire that fit those requirements. We believe this switch will be a benefit to our teams and help produce great racing for the fans. We’re looking forward to seeing how they react at Thunder Road’s opening weekend on May 1 and 2.”

The Late Models will remain on the current American Racer tire for the Twin 125s at North Carolina’s

Hickory Speedway on April 2 and 3 and the Northeast Classic at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on April 17. This allows racers to start the season on a tire they’re more familiar with and lets ACT use up its current tire inventory. Beginning with the Community Bank N.A. 150 on May 2, the ACT Late Model Tour, Thunder Road, and White Mountain Motorsports Park will begin using the specially-built Hoosier ACT Late Model tire.

The ACT Flying Tigers that compete at Vermont’s Thunder Road and New Hampshire’s White Mountain Motorsports Park are also getting a tire makeover. In 2021, they will compete on a 7-inch Hoosier tire that is nearly identical in performance and price to the current American Racer tire. The Thunder Road Street Stocks will run a 14-inch diameter Hoosier tire.

Hoosier Racing Tire was founded by Bob Newton in 1957. Over the years, they have designed and provided tires for numerous series, from regional Late Models to the NASCAR Cup Series. Hoosier tires can be found in stock car racing, dirt track racing, rally racing, drag racing, and many other disciplines. They are headquartered in Lakeville, IN and were purchased by Continental Tire in 2016.

Hoosier Tire East was formed in 1982 by the late Bob Summers, whose son Rob now runs the company. They are based in Manchester, CT and distribute tires to a variety of tracks and touring series through-



*Peacham Pond boat launch in the winter. Peacham VT
Usually the rocks are underneath the water.*

Photo by Cyndi Wellman. Contact her at cnb.pics07@gmail.com



The Maplewood/Irving Oil Late Models will switch to a Hoosier tire this year that has been specially designed and built for the ACT Late Model class. (Alan Ward photo)

out the Northeastern United States.

For more information, contact the ACT offices at (802) 244-6963, media@acttour.com, or visit www.acttour.com. You can also get updates on Facebook and Twitter at @ACT-Tour. To learn more about Hoosier Racing Tires and Hoosier Tire East, visit www.hoosiertire.com or www.hoosiertireeast.com.

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Volume 12 Number 8
January 19, 2021

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Letter to the Editor:

To The Editor:

After the events of Jan. 6, 2021—the attempted insurrection of the U.S. government by the violent takeover and trashing of the capitol building by fascist followers of Donald Trump, who were openly incited to such violent actions that morning by him and his son, Donald Jr., his lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, Republican Senators Mo Brooks and Josh Hawley, and who were goaded by them and many other Republican members of Congress (Sen. Ted Cruz and others, Reps Jim Jordan, Devin Nunes and hundreds more, Chief of Staff Mark Meadows and Mitch McConnell) for the past two months since the presidential election by encouraging the belief in Trump's lies about the election having been won by him—do you still think that the editor of a newspaper has no editorial responsibility in terms of allowing a letter writer to re-

peat such dangerous lies and anti-democratic conspiracy theories?

As was done by your letter writer, Nick De Mayo (who parrots Trump's illiterate writing style as well as his lies), whose first sentence began with the dangerous conspiracy theory being disseminated by Trump and his Republican co-conspirators and right-wing domestic terrorist groups that "there is still some debate over the legality of the 2020 Election." De Mayo is pathetic and ignorant and a deluded follower of the Trump personality cult, as are the thousands of Trump followers who stormed the capitol two days ago. The Trump followers and enablers who are not deluded fools, such as Cruz and Hawley and the other Republicans in Congress, Steve Bannon, Roger Stone, and many Wall Street Billionaires, are simply cynical, greedy, and

immoral.

Just because De Mayo believes the lies he repeats does not justify your printing them without directly challenging them by pointing out the factual falseness of his beliefs. Those thousands of deluded Trump followers believe his lies that the presidential election "was stolen" from him and that they are patriotic citizen soldiers following his orders to overthrow the government and install him back in office on Jan. 20th. Any ethical journalist has a duty to not encourage such false beliefs and possible violent consequences of such mass delusion, which is why certain television news organizations, such as Fox with its shameful promoters of Trump's lies and delusions like Sean Hannity, Tucker Carlson, Laura Ingraham, are a disgrace.

Alice Morrison
Newbury, VT

Alice,

If you were not satisfied with my response to your last letter, than I am afraid you will not be any more satisfied this time.

I strongly believe in this country and especially the rights that we all have. One such right is the freedom of Speech. Another is the Freedom of the Press. In both cases I believe that as editor of this publication I am well within those

rights to publish not only Mr De Mayo's letter, but also yours. After all the two have differing opinions of what is happening in the world and therefore you both have the right to say as much. I see it my job to offer a means of having those opinions spoken (or written) and allow our readers to make up their own minds as to what to believe or what is a falsehood.

Gary Scruton, Editor

Letter to the Editor: The aristocrats of America abide in Congress!

To the Editor,

In British society, an aristocrat is one who has a high social rank, esp one with a title. An aristocrat is part of a small, privileged class.

Gee, the members of the US Congress, by these characteristics, can be considered an aristocracy. Aristocrats tend to enjoy both social and economic prestige as well as political power.

Let's look at the perks of being a US Congressman/woman/Senator.

According to the Congressional Research Service, April 11, 2018, the compensation for most Senators, Representatives, Delegates and the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico is \$174,000.00. The Speaker of the House receives a salary of \$223,500.00 while the President pro tempore and the majority and minority leaders of the House and Senate receive a salary of \$193,400.00. In total, based upon the number of

US Congressmen/women Senators in Congress (535, in total) the overall salary is over \$94 Million a year, not counting health and life insurance provisions, and other retirement provisions. Also, not included, are the MRA's (Members' Representational Allowances) allotted to each Congressman/woman/Senator. Health and life insurance provisions for members of Congress are unique.

Representatives and Senators are allowed to earn 15% of their annual rate of basic pay for "outside earned income."

Additionally, a US Congressman/woman /Senator receives free airport parking; free on-site gym; up to 239 days off; health-care subsidies under Obama care; a better retirement plan; free flights; death benefits = to their annual salary.

We are not "all in this together"! Nick De Mayo
Sugar Hill, NH

Nick,

There are some who have mentioned term limits for Congressmen/women and Senators in the past. That idea continues to be circulated. Perhaps it is time to look once again at putting these elected officials in the same position that our Presidents have been for some time. A certain number of terms, and then it is time to go back home and join the work force.

Gary Scruton, Editor

Letter to the Editor: The aristocrats of America abide in Congress!

To the editor,

We all Remember 9-11. Where we were and who we were with. TRAGEDY!

We all said, "we must not Ever let this happen again."

Homeland Security was Created, to make sure it didn't. They told us,

"If you see Something. Say Something."

Their request worked for a while. But this time we didn't pay attention. We thought those that were creating havoc, were good people, because some were of the government, were law enforcement, established citizens, patriots, Congress, State legislature. But not all of them were "good people". We saw them on TV. Our US Capitol

was attacked and our Congress was assaulted. We knew some of them. We knew why they were there. Our POTUS Trump knew why they were there, some members of our Congress, our police, our military knew why they were there.

We still have time to make this Right. Do we want Democracy to survive or do we want it like ... what we saw on January 6, 2021. Violence, hate, No thought of the Ten Commandments or the US Constitution or the Bill of Rights, the First Amendment.

It's up to you, whether you have VP, POTUS or MD at the end of your name. Your Choice
Nancy Leclerc
North Woodstock, NH

Nancy,

I have heard many thoughts about what happened on January 6 in our nation's capitol. I watched some of it myself from the comfort of my home thanks to television coverage. Yet I still have a hard time taking it all in. Did these "patriots" really think the best way to get their way was to disrupt the counting of votes that had come from all across America? Did they believe that such a takeover would gain the desired result?

I very strongly support Freedom of Speech. But I also strongly support free elections. And one more thing, I believe in abiding by the results of the votes cast. When you win you take the seat your were running to obtain. If you lose, you acknowledge that and move on to the next election if you wish.

Gary Scruton, Editor

Letter to the Editor:

To the editor,

I for one was not surprised at what Trump tried to do, over throw our American Democracy.

This is exactly what a dictator does say. I have called him dictator from day one, simply by the way he talked and acted.

Trump was following in the footsteps of Hitler.

He also defended what other dictators said or did.

He insulted and de-

Betty,

I truly hope I do not have my head stuck in the sand, but unless or until, a person is convicted a certain level of crime they can still run for an elected office. Some states do take away voting rights from convicted felons, but that still does not mean they could not be appointed to a position by someone with that power. Of course the backlash of such an appointment may be more than can be handled either by the appointee or the person appointing. My point is that banning someone from holding a position,

graded people who didn't follow his will.

He also fired anyone who wouldn't kiss up to him. He called our free press enemy of the people.

He called our Military losers and suckers.

He not only should be removed from office, he should be removed from ever holding a Federal position, ever again.

Maybe he should consider living with Putin, in

Russia.

America does not need a Dictator, or a Traitor.

We who love our Free Country along with those who died for our Freedom do not need this horrible Dictator to live in America.

I do not understand how anyone who loves our freedom and what America stands for can support this crazy unfit Dictator.

Betty Nickles
Benton, NH

or even more, throwing them out of the country, is not an easy or normal task.

I continue to applaud our founding fathers who set up a system of Legislative, Administrative and Judicial segments of the government. This separation of power has made it almost impossible for a dictator to rein. Let's hope that the system continues to work, and that those elected continue to work within that system.

Gary Scruton, Editor

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How to Respond When Risk Tolerance Is Tested

When you begin investing, you'll generally assess your comfort with risk, as your investment choices will be guided at least partially by your risk tolerance. But once you actually experience the ups and downs of the market, this tolerance could be tested.

Risk tolerance may appear less bothersome in the abstract but seem quite different in reality. For example, you might initially think you wouldn't be fazed by short-term market downturns, no matter how severe. However, when the financial markets really decline, as happened when the COVID-19 pandemic struck last March, you might find yourself being more concerned than you thought you would be.

Before you change your investment strategy, it's important to understand the potential tradeoffs. By limiting your downside risk

by investing less aggressively, you may also limit your upside potential. You might need to change your strategy in other ways, such as saving more or working longer. That said, the tradeoff involved in reducing your downside risk may be worth taking, if it helps you cope better with wild market swings, as the best strategy may be one you can stick with through the inevitable ups and downs of the markets.

Because market fluctuations are a normal part of investing, here are some additional suggestions that may help you focus on your long-term strategy.

• *Look past the immediate event.* While the market's pandemic-driven fall was sudden, its recovery was also fairly quick. Eight months after its March meltdown, the market had regained all the lost ground and reached a new record high. During the midst of what appears to be a real threat to your investment portfolio, it can be difficult to anticipate a more favorable environment. Yet, while past performance can't guarantee future results, every historical market decline has been followed by a recovery.

• *Understand that the Dow isn't your portfolio.* When the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the other major market indexes such as the S&P 500 fall precipitously (or shoot up), it makes headlines. But the Dow and the S&P 500 only track the performance of large U.S. companies – and while their performance may be an indication of the U.S. economy, they aren't going to

track the results of your portfolio, which should ideally include a personalized mix of large-company stocks, small-company stocks, international stocks, bonds, government securities and other investments.

• *Keep your emotions out of your investment moves.* The market will fluctuate constantly – but you should always try keep your emotions in check. Excess exuberance when the market rises, or extreme despondency when the market falls, can lead you to make poor decisions. Specifically, we may buy when we feel good (when the markets are up) and sell when we feel badly (when markets are down). Your heart and your emotions may drive your financial goals – creating a comfortable retirement, sending your kids to college or leaving a legacy for your family – but when you invest for these goals, you should use your head.

Your risk tolerance is a key part of your investment strategy. But by taking the steps described above, you can gain a broader understanding of how risk fits into your overall picture – and a better understanding of yourself as an investor.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

Charlene Darling: OBITUARY

Charlene Darling, 73, of Mooresville, NC passed away peacefully on January 13, 2021. She was born July 11, 1947 to Stanley and Marie Thurston (Emerson). She was predeceased by her parents, a sister, Virginia and husband, David.

Survivors include two sons, David Hazen of NH, Charlie Hazen and fiancé, Jackie of AZ, two daughters, Janice Stone of NC, and Candice LaRock and husband, Richard of NC, two brothers, Eugene Thurston and William Thurston, eight grandchildren, one great-grandson and several nieces and nephews.

She loved to spend time with her family and friends



playing games, shopping, and just hanging out.

There will be no services, burial in Bradford, VT in the spring. Arrangements are by Hale Funeral Home in Bradford, VT.

Beverly Hodge: OBITUARY

Fairlee, VT - With great sadness we announce the loss of our beloved Mrs. Beverly Hodge. Beverly passed away on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, at home surrounded by loved ones. Beverly "Bev" Hodge, loving wife, mother, and grandmother passed away at the age of 93.

Beverly was born on May 18, 1927 in Piermont, NH to Dana and Esther Fadden. On August 4, 1951 she married Herbert Hodge and moved to Fairlee, VT. They raised two daughters Cindy and Jody.

Beverly was preceded in death by her father, Danna,

mother, Esther, and her siblings. She is survived by her husband Herbert, daughter Cindy Frazee and husband Russell Frazee, daughter Jody Hodge and partner Tim McCarthy, grandchildren Maegan Flowers, Mark Frazee, Matthew Frazee, Noah Frazee, Shaun Frazee, Nathan Frazee, and six great grandchildren. A celebration of life will be announced for late summer/early fall of 2021 with a full account of Beverly's life and accomplishments. Arrangements are by Hale Funeral Home in Bradford, VT.

Rodney K. Perry: OBITUARY

Bradford, VT – Rodney K. Perry, 72, passed away peacefully on January 9, 2021 in his home surrounded by family after a long courageous battle against cancer.

He was born April 3, 1948 in Barre, VT, the son of Kenneth G. Perry and Berdina (Tillotson) Perry. He attended Waits River Schools and was a graduate of Bradford Academy in Bradford, VT. After his schooling he worked for the Barre Granite Quarries for several years. He later retired from the New England Telephone Co.

He married Marie Huntington in 1965. They raised three children and later divorced. In 2004 he married Phyllis Hanley of Bradford, VT. Rodney and Phyllis traveled extensively visiting family and friends. He was an active member of Grace United Methodist Church in Bradford VT.

Rodney was actively involved in his community by volunteering most of his time



with church sponsored events, counseling at Camp Agape for children whose parents were incarcerated, participating in the Kairos Prison Ministry and providing patient transportation to and from DHMC appointments. He was very family orientated and always looked forward to hosting the annual family Christmas party. He was an outdoor enthusiast spending time on his land either hunting, spending time at the Sugar House or spending time with family at the beloved Camp that he built in West Top-

sham, VT. Rodney always said that camp was his favorite place because of its peaceful surroundings.

Survivors include his wife, Phyllis Hanley of Bradford, VT, two children, Dennis Perry and Lisa Perry, both of West Topsham, VT, five grandchildren, eight step-grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, a sister, Rosemary Bradley of West Topsham, VT, three step-daughters and numerous cousins. He was predeceased by a son, Norman Perry and a grandson, Cody Perry.

Funeral services will be held at the convenience of the family.

Donations in Rodney's memory may be made to the Jack Byrne Center for Palliative and Hospice Care, 154 Hitchcock Loop Road, Lebanon, NH 03766, or, the New Hope Church, in care of Linda Truss, PO Box 1027, East Corinth, VT 05040.

Arrangements are by Hale Funeral Home in Bradford, VT.

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Adam W. Smith

Norberto Pedro James Rawlings: OBITUARY

Norberto Pedro James Rawlings passed away peacefully in his sleep on January 7, 2021, after a 15-year battle with Parkinson's disease.

His entire life can be traced through his seven books of poetry, for which he is widely known and cherished in the Dominican Republic, from the capital of Santo Domingo to Consuelo, the sugar plantation in San Pedro de Macorís where he was born on February 6, 1945.

James's family is part of an English-speaking minority community descended from African slaves known pejoratively as "cocolos" who came to the Dominican Republic from the colonized islands of the British Caribbean to work in the sugar industry in the mid-19th century. The "cocolos" (a term that some suggest comes from the Dominicanization of the word "Tortola," because the largest group came from that West Indian Island) were seen as a necessary labor force, but they were neither loved nor accepted by society.

Norberto grew up in a Spanish-speaking country, but returned home every day to an English-speaking family: his father, Aubrey James, a Jamaican immigrant who worked as a chemist at the sugar mill, and his grandmother, Marion Peters, who raised him while his mother Dolores Rawlings worked in the capital.

Norberto came of age under the dictatorship of Leónidas Trujillo and as a child he touched the pistol holstered by one of Trujillo's sons, on a dare.

From a childhood of deprivation, he freed himself by reading all he could, and continued his education by capturing a grazing horse to make the seven-mile ride bareback to Colegio San Estéban, a private secondary school. His poem, "I Had No Books," evokes his early years when he slept on a rag bed and read outside under a lamppost.

He was known for his patience, willing to fish with nothing but a piece of string. His placid demeanor, soft eyes, and lopsided smile betrayed a sharp wit and almost supernatural powers of observation. This ability to detect the truth beneath the surface informed his poetry and guided his decisions in life.

In the 1960s, Norberto James moved to Santo Domingo to complete high school at the Liceo Unión Panamericana where he excelled in track and field and won the national 400-meter track race. Because his parents were foreigners, he was prohibited from participating in politics. Despite



this rule, he became very active in the revolutionary groups in his school and nearby.

Finally, at age 19, he was expelled from school for his political activities. Soon after, James' education came to an abrupt halt when civil war broke out in the Dominican Republic. His mother left the country (coming to New York) and he joined the rebel forces of the Command located in the Argentine school.

During the Civil War, James discovered for the first time that he was a poet. His Command was mostly made up of artists, with whom he fit in as a painter. When he read to the soldiers a poem that he had written, they praised it so much that he began to think about writing a book. That book materialized four years later with the title, *Sobre La Marcha* (On the March), which contains his most famous poem, "The Immigrants," a tribute and a lyrical history of the Cocolo community. Six more books of poetry would follow over the course of his lifetime.

During this time of intense political repression, James was also working at a radio station broadcasting revolutionary messages. He received a warning to leave the country and managed to escape persecution by going into exile on the pretext of studying abroad at the University of Havana. He left the Dominican Republic in secret, going underground, taking refuge in the homes of sympathizers in Paris and Madrid, before traveling to Eastern Europe to make the final trip to Cuba, where he was awarded a scholarship to study literature.

During his entire seven-year stay in Cuba, he was known by a clandestine name, Antonio Álvarez, and assumed a new identity as a Jamaican, an accent that he could manage with ease because of his father's Jamaican roots. In Cuba, he finally obtained a university education in a society he loved; he was allowed to earn the academic degree that his own society might have made difficult for him.

James returned to a changed political climate in the Dominican Republic in 1979, where he was awarded a powerful position on the National Energy Policy Commission. He didn't know anything about energy

having majored in literature, but he went to Puerto Rico to study and learn from the Puerto Ricans. He returned with a report that so impressed everyone that he was sent to a Latin American conference of energy experts in Quito, Ecuador.

James decided to settle down and start a family; he married Luz Altagracia Rodríguez and in a short time had two daughters, Malva Mariana and Ruth Esther. However, in spite of the success of his return to his homeland, he disliked the corruption that surrounded him and he decided to pursue graduate studies abroad.

In 1983 he came to the United States to complete a doctorate in Hispanic Language and Literatures at Boston University, where he met his second wife, Elizabeth Wellington. Together they formed a literary team of poet and translator, and upon receiving their doctoral degrees, they filled academic teaching positions in the Boston area. Meanwhile, Norberto continued to write and publish books of poetry.

In 1992, they had a son, Tito Wellington James, and Norberto became an American citizen in a moving ceremony in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dr. Norberto James ended his teaching career as a beloved Spanish teacher at the Boston Latin School, where his students affectionately called him "Dr. J." His generosity of spirit helped prepare and direct students with limited resources to prestigious universities such as Harvard. He also continued to give poetry readings and received numerous awards and honors both in the United States and in the Dominican Republic. His last poem was written only six months before his death; his "short verses" became the capstone of his complete works, *Poesía Completa*, Norberto James Rawlings (2020), which he lived to see published.

Norberto James is survived by his wife of 34 years, Elizabeth Wellington, his son Tito Wellington James, as well as Norberto's daughters from a previous marriage, Malva Mariana James Mangan and Ruth Esther James Rodríguez. His "lovely grandchildren" include Malva's son, Rey, and daughter Lana, and Ruth's son, Luka. Funeral arrangements are planned for late summer in Haverhill, New Hampshire.

For more information, or to offer an online message of condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com

Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is in charge of arrangements.

Nicholas J. Fortier: OBITUARY

Woodsville, NH - , 4, died suddenly on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at Cottage Hospital, Woodsville.

Nicholas was born in Littleton, NH on August 29, 2016 to Brandon L. Fortier and Savannah (Gertsch) Guimond.

An active little boy, Nicholas loved monster trucks, cars, trains, and watching races at Bear Ridge and Rumney Speedway. He liked riding back roads with his grandpa looking for deer. He also loved playing with his sisters and being with his family.

He is survived by his father, Brandon Fortier; his mother Savannah Guimond and Brady; two sisters, Sophia Fortier and Delilah Guimond; grandparents, Charles Fortier and wife Nikki, Linda Smith and husband Doug, Jeremiah Gertsch and wife Kelly, and Jessica Gertsch; and great grandparents, Marilee Shaw and husband Robert, Joseph Charette and wife Linda, Cynthia Izzo and fiancé Francis Gravelin,



Daniel Gertsch and wife Rita, Joanne Hadfield and James Hadfield; along with numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

There was a calling hour on Saturday, January 16 from 2-3 PM at Ricker Funeral Home, 1 Birch Street, Woodsville.

Masks and social distancing were required for attendance at Nicholas's calling hour.

For more information or to offer an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com

Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is in charge of arrangements.

John P. Boudreault, Sr.: OBITUARY

North Haverhill, NH- John P. Boudreault, Sr., 73, of Benton Road, passed away on Saturday, January 2, 2021 at his home surrounded by his family.

John was born on July 19, 1947 in Woodsville, NH to Patrick and Elizabeth (Gallant) Boudreault.

He was a graduate of the Haverhill Academy, Class of 1965. Following his graduation, he enlisted into the United States Air Force in 1965 and served honorably until 1969.

He was stationed at the Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines and was deployed to Vietnam.

He returned to the Woodsville area where he began his career as a plumber. He owned and operated Boudreault Plumbing and Heating.

John was a communicant of the St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church of Woodsville. He was a past member of the VFW Post # 5245, the Lion's Club, Ross Wood American Legion Post #20 of Woodsville, and a lifelong member of the Ammonoosuc Valley Fish & Game Club.

He enjoyed fishing, competitive shooting, traveling, reading topics on world history and geography. He will be remembered as a generous, jovial, and caring man.

He is predeceased by his father, Patrick Boudreault; mother, Elizabeth (Gallant) Boudreault; and a brother,



Patrick Boudreault.

He is survived by his wife Dolores "Dolly" (Clark) Boudreault of North Haverhill, NH; two sons, John Boudreault, Jr. and partner Leslie Blood of North Haverhill, Alijandro Boudreault and wife Lynda of Austin, TX; a daughter, Geraldine Boudreault and husband Gordon Thompson of San Antonio, TX; four grandchildren, Gabriella, Ava, Jack and Joaquin; four sisters, Regina Strongheart of Topsham, ME, Lorraine LaFrance of Henniker, NH, Linda Boudreault and husband Ted Mortimer of Vershire, VT, and Elizabeth Atkinson and husband Kelly of Powhatan, VA; and many loving nieces, nephews and friends.

A private graveside service will be held for the family in the spring.

For more information or to offer an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com

Ricker Funeral Home & cremation Care of Woodsville is in charge of arrangements.



What About Ma?

by Kellie Quackenbush

All About History

Political events, some petty, some scandalous and some truly memorable, have been unfolding on the media for all of America to witness. In this modern era, with "Smart phones", tablets, television, radios and computers, it does not take long for people to find out about events that are news worthy. Ma was born in 1929, this gives her a unique perspective on events, she cried at seeing the Capitol being broken into on January 6, 2021, in her life she has seen worse.

"A history of violence: U.S. Capitol has seen other assaults over its 220 years," www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2021, "The Neoclassical building has been a target. In 1915, a German man planted three sticks of dynamite in the Senate reception room, in 1954, when four Puerto Rican nationalists unfurled the island's flag and unleashed a barrage of about 30 shots from the visitor's gallery of the House. Five congressmen were injured, one of them seriously. Weather Underground set off an explosive in 1971 to protest the U.S. bombing of Laos, and the May 19th Communist Movement bombed the Senate in 1983 in response to the invasion of Grenada. In 1998, a men-

tally ill man fired at a checkpoint and killed two Capitol Police officers. January 6, 2021 - a riot by extremists loyal to President Trump was not the first time the Capitol has been scarred by violence."

Being a patriot and loving the U.S.A, it was painful to watch people holding the flag of the United States of America break through a police line and use the flag to hurt the police and break windows. Seeing the lawmakers huddled under desks while a small but very brave group of people stood behind the blocked doors to face the mob, it was heart wrenching. Why would these people act this way?

"Contrary to expectations, there are actually important boundaries and limits during riots relating to 1) what goes on (and what doesn't) and 2) what (and who) becomes influential. Research and modern crowd theory suggest that these behavior limits of crowd action relate in important ways to the limits of social identification.

... the crowd's actions were governed by the individuals' shared sense of social identity as members of the (political community). This identity was partly defined by a united opposition

to (Democratic Party) "aggressors" who symbolically were seen to be attacking the community by opposing (Trump)." The psychology of riots – and why it's never just mindless violence, November 15, 2019, theconversation.com.

What can we do to feel better in a time of chaos? Write a letter -- By putting your thoughts onto paper and putting it into an envelope and mailing it away, one is giving someone else the burden of these thoughts. Who do you send the letter to? Send it to the President, the Governor or a Senator, sharing your thoughts with them will strengthen their conviction to do their job. Turn off the news, looking at the sad images day after day will create a feeling of unrest and sadness. Instead, read a book or watch a funny movie. Think about happy things.

My grandfather served in the military during World War 2, My father went to Vietnam and my uncle was at "the Bay of Pigs", I have served in the military as did my husband, we care. The break in our Country over the election and the COVID-19 virus has been terrible.

Now is the time to stop, look at what we have and what our hopes for the future are. It is time to remember that we are friends and colleagues, family and patriots. This is our U.S.A. and it is great and becomes great only when we work together for the good of ALL. It is time for peace.

Downsizing

by Elinor P. Mawson

We haven't always been collectors. Somewhere along the line, we started getting an item here and another item there, and the die was cast.

When we put our house on the market, we had been packing our things for over 3 years. We had a spare garage and I proceeded to fill it up 2 or 3 boxes at a time. We had several yard sales during this effort, but soon the garage was filled to the brim.

As it got closer to moving day, we rented a large container and filled it with our better stuff. We sent the best things to a friend's house because we didn't know where we would be living. A lot of things we really liked went to our camp for the duration. And we sent about 100 items to an auction; the boxes in the garage among them.

We felt cleansed, and went to a rental at the beach for the last year I was teaching.

After a couple of years of living in our son's garage while my husband refurbished the house we'd be living in, we moved what was left in the container into the completed home. We breathed a huge sigh; we were home for the rest of our lives.

Four years later, we had a huge loss: our camp burned to the ground. We cleaned up what was left, and rebuilt. Instead of another camp, however, we ended up with a home with all the amenities and a place to start collecting --again.

Between buying for ourselves, we bought items for an antique shop as well as for a quilt show. It was fun, and we did well in both venues. But like Murphy's law, you always have inventory left over which needed storage, and we found space in our basement for that.

Last year, between Covid and needing to move out of the antique shop, we found ourselves overloaded with "stuff". Our storage space(s) became very small and very difficult to sort through. I accumulated enough to send to an auction, and away it went.

Surprise! When I went to the basement to straighten out what was left, the space was still too small. I decided to make another contribution to the auctioneer, and unfortunately, I am still in the process of doing that. I am finding things that I wonder why they were purchased, and other things that I'm not ready to part with. A big problem is the fact that I have dozens of plastic totes that have become parted with their tops. Shelf space is sadly lacking. I have resolved to not buy any more wonderful things, but old habits die hard.

So I have a dilemma to contend with. It looks like it will be awhile before I can finally divest myself of my "stuff". My family looks at it all, and roll their eyes, hoping I can finish my job before they have to do it. I will probably have to have another yard sale.

Watch for signs!

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Four For Life

By Robert Roudebush

The little old lady sitting across the round table from me might have weighed 97 pounds if she had been wearing steel toed boots but she wasn't. Her slight frame was stooped, worn out maybe of standing straight for so many years. Her gray hair was thin, fine deep wrinkles covered her weathered face, especially round the eyes and mouth, her neck skin was crepe. No attempt at make-up. But the eye lines were laugh lines I noticed. And her eyes were young, mischievous and sparkling with things she knew but I didn't. Could be she might share some sparkles with me if she liked me well enough.

She was one of the prettiest ladies I had ever seen. I was soon to find out that she had a wicked laugh, which made her prettier.

Time was not so long ago that folks around here would go to the Horse Meadow Senior Center for a good mid-day meal and some conversation. But not right now and not for a while. My Mamita and I had initiated and participated in lots of those talks for years there, when you could sit around a table for six people, right next to one another and maybe meet folks you had never met before and get to know them a little.

I met this little old lady at one of those lunches, a Thursday it was, best meal of the week there. Never got her name.

"Yes sir young man", she said to me, putting her coffee cup down, "what's your name again? Always had trouble with names. I was married to 4 different men, I remember every one of them, remember every thing about them. What was your name again?"

"I'm Robert. You remember them all? All four. Who was the first one, what was his name?"

"Oh, I don't remember his name, doesn't matter, he was rich, he was a banker, I married him for his money."

"So money is pretty important to you?"

"Oh well Roger, it was then, not so much now. I wasn't even 20 years old that first time. He married me for my looks. I was a pretty girl then."

"How long were you married to him?"

"Bout twenty years, then he died on me finally, he was an old man when I married him, and I got married again pretty quick. I was pretty well off from the first one so I married a circus ringmaster,

he worked one of the big shows, you know the one, with all the names, traveled around the country on trains in those days"

"What was his name?"

"Oh Richard, I forget his name, I just usually called him Master, being his first name was Ring"

At this she cackled, the sound somewhere between a giggly little girl and a witch. Everybody at the table was silent, listening to her every word.

"So, how long were you married to him?"

"Well, he lasted close on about 23 years. We had us some fun, I'll tell you, he liked a good show, yes sir. Master stepped onto the wrong set of tracks one day and got run down by the hippopotamous cage car. I stayed with the circus a few years, they made me one of the clowns, then I married number three. He was a preacher, Baptist, liked to shout a lot. Prayed for me quite a bit"

"Remember his name?" I noticed now and then she'd reach into her large straw shoulder bag and pull out a delicate little silver hip flask and pour something golden into her coffee. I knew French cognac when I smelled it. The good stuff.

"No, don't recall his name either. Not good with names Randy. I just called him Pastor."

"So, two and three were master and pastor?"

"Sure, ain't that a hoot?" She cackled again and took another sip. "I was with Pastor about 20 years, seemed like 40".

"So you got married one more time, right?"

"Sure did, number four, course he's dead now too and I just turned 97. Outlived 'em all. I can still drive too."

"And what did number four do for a living? I won't ask you his name."

"Oh Roger, I remember his name all right. His first name was Diggs, and his last name was Whole. Middle initial A. Mr. Diggs A. Whole. Course he was the undertaker."

"A funeral director, an undertaker, named Diggs A. Whole?"

"Ain't that another hoot. Parents had a mean sense of humor. They were in the same business, whole family was, for hundreds of years, when the first of them really did just dig the graves. All that's why I recall his name all right. Course that made me Mrs. Diggs A. Whole, and we won't even go there". Another cackle, another sip.

I choked back a hoot, let all that sink in and settle down for a minute. No one at

the table had said much of anything during the past few minutes, just engrossed in her tale but there were some big grins. "I wonder how you keep them all straight in your mind after all these years".

"Oh Randolph, that's easy" she said leaning back in her chair and cackling again. "I just remember one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go". They heard her cackle clear across the room.

When she stopped laughing her cheeks were glowing pink and she was sliding the silver flask across the table to me. No, I did not become nameless number five.

Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire Hosts Virtual Community Webinars

White River Jct., V.T. – As the pandemic continues it is important for people to feel connected and lessen the feeling of social isolation. Last fall, Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) began partnering with various community organizations to bring topics of interest to our community.

The series, Let's Talk, has already brought several webinars to the community. These webinars focused on charitable tax breaks, dementia and grief through the holidays. Throughout the year, VNH will continue to work with organizations to bring timely topics to the community. Some upcoming topics are substance misuse among seniors, heart health, changes in caring for an infant, and mindful eating on a budget. To find out about upcoming webinars visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/VNHcare/

Acceptance

Topics

Disability and Aging

by Cyndy Wellman



Overcame an obstacle! Instead of New Year's resolution

I admire those who have faced their Fears and gone beyond in life.

You might have beat Cancer. You left a Domestic atmosphere, saved an animal from being auctioned off to the slaughter/dog fight, got new glasses to see better, stopped drinking or joined a running club. Bought yourself some-

thing instead of smoking! Found a hobby or started a business or overcame an eating disorder.

We all are Warriors in some way and have made an impact on someone else's life.

What your past life and Fear cannot do is take your spirit away or cripple love and friendship. Foremost you did it for yourself. Another way of Acceptance.

I can say: Congratulate yourself and treat an animal with kindness!

book.com/VNHcare/

If you are interested in viewing past webinars please visit vnhcare.org/families-community/educational-presentations/

ABOUT VNH –Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) is a non-profit organization that has provided home health and hospice care services in Vermont and New Hampshire since 1907. The agency is dedicated to delivering outstanding home and community-based health and hospice services that enrich the lives of the people they

serve. VNH makes home visits to people of all ages and all stages of life – regardless of ability to pay – and also provides communities with education and wellness programs.

Currently, VNH serves more than 140 towns in Vermont and New Hampshire and covers 4,000 square miles. VNH caregivers provide services for more than 6,000 people each year and makes more than 150,000 home visits to people of all ages and at all stages of life. Visit www.vnhcare.org for more information.

16 **Blood Draw At American Legion in Woodsville**

The American Red Cross is excited to be teaming up with the proud members of the Woodsville American Legion to help not only bring blood drives back to the Wells River and Woodsville area but also help with the urgent need for blood.

Throughout the pandemic the Red Cross has continued to run blood drives while adhering to safety protocols and social distancing. The Red Cross continues to test all presenting donors for COVID antibodies (not that you are infected now but may have been exposed at some point).

With the new vaccines rolling out donors are welcome to donate if they have had the vaccine, we just ask that you feel well the day you are donating and know the name of the vaccine (Pfizer

or Moderna) that you received.

Walk ins are welcome but appointments are strongly encouraged to save you time. For an appointment, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or use the link provided. Thanks for your help and we look forward to seeing you at the blood drive.

The Blood Drive will be held in the upstairs meeting hall of Ross-Wood Post #20 American Legion at 4 Ammonoosuc Street in Woodsville, NH. The drawing will begin at 10:00 am and will continue until 3:00 pm. Donors are asked to use the side entrance to the staircase at the Post. For those needing a lift, one is available in the main hall. Again please come in the side entrance or ask for assistance to get to the chair lift.

Grafton County Conservation District Conservation Plant Sale

Want to do something NOW, that will benefit you and your land into the future? Grafton County Conservation District (GCCD) offers a variety of flowers, shrubs, fruit and berries attractive to landowners and wildlife during our annual Conservation Plant Sale. You can place your order today, and pick up your plants Saturday, May 1 for spring planting. Adding plants on your property is a best management practice for resource conservation. They can improve our water quality, reduce soil and wind erosion, clean the air, reduce energy costs, attract and support local wildlife, and beautify your property. Shrubs provide food and cover for wildlife and pollinators, attractive foliage, flowers and fruits. Some of the shrubs we offer include

elderberry, Nannyberry, gray dogwood, and American hazelnut. The District also sells balsam and Fraser fir, American arborvitae, American mountain ash, red mulberry, black willow, shagbark hickory and sugar maple trees. Several plant packages are also available. A variety of apples, strawberries, blueberries and raspberries are also for sale.

Many of the plants we offer are native to New Hampshire. Plants native to our area are adapted to growing in our region's soils and climate, requiring less maintenance (such as watering and fertilizing) than many introduced plants. Most of our plants are bare-root, meaning they were harvested at the plant nursery when the plants were dormant and will be ready for planting when you pick them



by **Cindy Pinheiro**
to contact **Cindy (aka Cin Pin)** write to the editor at **gary@trendytimes.com**

Spinach Dip

EDITOR'S NOTE: Once again I must report that Cindy is not feeling well. Whatever it is that is bothering her it seems to come and go and has been hard for her medical care personnel to diagnosis. So she asked me to go back in the archives and run this Spinach Dip recipe. Though the timing is off from when she ran it last it is still a good treat. I wish her the best and hope you, the readers, enjoy this recipe.

Hello hello my fellow chefs. I hope you enjoyed your 4th of July. I've been making this wonderful dip recipe for many years and hope you like this easy and fun to make Spinach Dip as much as I do. Here's what you will need for this recipe.

- Ingredients:**
- 2 packages of frozen chopped spinach
 - 1 package of Dry Vegetable soup mix Lipton or store brand. I used Lipton because I think it's spices are tastier.
 - 1 Cup of mayonnaise, 8 oz.
 - 1 Cup of sour cream 8 oz.
 - 1 small can of Water Chestnuts 8 oz.
 - 1 Round loaf not sliced bread, your choice. I found it at White Market.

Cook spinach as directed, drain in colander and press water out with a spatula to squeeze out the water.



Cool then add dry vegetable soup mix, the mayonnaise, sour cream, and mince the water chestnuts and add. Mix well. Chill in refrigerator, this softens the dry soup mix. Cut deep round circle and take out middle leaving bread mostly empty. Fill the hollowed bread with the dip. Cut the removed bread in cubes and put around stuffed spinach filled loaf.

I put Tostitos Scoops arranged around bread for variety. When cubes of bread are gone people can break pieces off the loaf. The Scoops do a good job or any cracker that you like. I had some dip left so you can add it to refill the loaf of bread or with your favorite cracker.

I Hope you enjoy this classic Spinach Dip recipe because it's Delicioso!!! Well folks, until next time, stay well and try this recipe with some wine coolers, beer, or hard lemonade. Drink responsibly. I'm signing off, Cin Pin.

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LISBON, NH - Ammonoosuc River Views - Perfect for outdoor oriented family with a lovely 2 level home. Plenty of room with 3 Bedrooms and 2 Baths. Living room with office space, den, lavish kitchen, whirlpool tub and more. \$249,500.



WOODSVILLE, NH - New to market - Adorable New Englander with 2 Bedrooms and 1 1/2 Bathrooms, over 1200 sq.ft. of living area. Renovated throughout. Newer furnace with oil fired heat. Enclosed porch to enjoy for 3 seasons, level yard and a garage. Downtown location. Walking distance to stores and bank. \$137,500.

WOODSVILLE, NH - Perfect time to Buy this Multi Family with Four apartments and Retail Space. There are 2 two bedroom apartments, 2 one bedroom apartments and good size retail space that is currently rented. Apartments are freshly painted. Steady income. Investment or live in one unit and have the rents help with some of the expenses. Down town location. \$193,000.



IF YOU ARE THINKING OF SELLING, LET'S MEET
We can provide a price opinion.

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Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times

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