

Letters to the Library

Describe yourself in a sentence or two, for example your age and occupation (or, if you do not have one, what you like to do). What is your household like?

I am 54. I work for UConn Health in Information Technology. I live right in the center of Wallingford in a very old house for 27 years.

What is your day to day routine like now? What has changed? What has not changed?

I get up and have coffee in less than 60 seconds. Years ago I had to make a whole pot and it took 5 minutes. I watch the news on my phone now and not the TV. I get ready for my work day which is at my home. I don't have to drive to an office anymore. My computer does not need to be plugged into a network jack in the wall, it's wireless network now for the internet. We always cook dinner at home and eat as a family.

What precautions have you taken against the virus? How have you prepared? Were there any difficulties (shortages, high prices etc.)?

We all are vaccinated and wears mask out in public. We wash our hands far more often than we did before. We spend more time at home as a family. We rarely go out to dinner and if we do we sit outside which is really nice. Some items aren't always in stock at the store, so you wait. We went from taking so long to get stuff we ordered online to come to have it come so quick. Now we have to wait even longer than before. One of the big issues now is the labor shortage and it's effect everywhere we go.

What have been the biggest challenges for you during this time?

Seeing less of family and friends and participating in regular activities. So many things were cancelled and postponed. Some things that do go on we don't want to go because there are too many people. The hardest part is selfish people who don't wear a mask and protect others and themselves.

How have you stayed busy?

Yes we have stayed busy. We found lots of new activities to do and creative ways to see family and friends. We don't watch anymore TV than we did before which is great. We have more outdoor activities.

Have there been any positives to this situation?

Yes I think it has made people figure out what's most important. Family and friends is number one on the list. It has made folks slow down and look at their daily lives and adjust their priorities.

What local Wallingford places/businesses do you miss most?

Town activities for sure. Celebrate Wallingford and the Holiday stroll. Special functions at area restaurants. We still go to our favorite restaurants but sit outside.

How have you stayed social while social distancing?

More phone calls and snail mail. We started sending cards to friends and family and written letters the old fashioned way. We also get together with friends outside on our front porch.

What is the first thing you are doing when things go back to normal?

Live life and feel safer really. Be able to travel more for sure and get back to our routine events we attend like the Big E.

How did you celebrate the Holidays? Did you see family in person, digitally, or not at all?

We still gathered as a family as we are a small group. We all were very safe.

How will you be celebrating Wallingford's 350th Jubilee? If you were here for the 325th Jubilee, do you have any memories you would like to share?

I will be marching with my old drum corp, the Yalesville Junior Ancients. A local Fife and Drum Corp. We marched in the 325th and everyone came and we all marched together. It was a lot of fun. I will also March with the Troop 1 Boy Scouts.

What do you miss most about the Wallingford Public Library? What is the first thing you will be doing when you can come back into the building?

We have been going right along. We miss many of their programs. They are slowly coming back. The library is such a treasure to Wallingford. We are lucky to be able to walk to the library.

Photo:



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