

# 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 a retired 65 year old. My wife and I live in Wallingford the same house where we raised our 3 children Our kids grown kids have families of their own and live in San Francisco, Hanover, Mass and Fairfield, Ct.

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

Our (my wife and I) day has changed in that we are now spending no time on entertainment with friends and more time exercising with my wife. We wake up and plan the day that revolves around biking, kayaking, walking etc for 2 - 3 hours/day .schedule our time together. The yard has also never looked better.

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

We have kept our circle small - initially just the 2 of us - but after a couple weeks, we expanded it to include our children and grandchildren. We knew babysitting would continue to be on our docket.

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

My biggest issue has been trying to stay away from friends and away from my volunteer work at the local food pantry (Masters Manna)

## **How have you stayed busy?**

I have spent more time with activities exercise, yard work, babysitting, and finishing books that I've started. I've also become a Netflix advocate.

## **Have there been any positives to this situation?**

My yard looks great - and I've dropped a few pounds,

## **What local Wallingford places/businesses do you miss most?**

High School sports/activities has been tough to do without.

## **How have you stayed social while social distancing?**

We've had a few zoom meetings with my family and face time with our kids/grandkids.

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

We're going to get on a plane.

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

We have been very fortunate that our immediate family is part of our inner circle so we've been able to see them in person. We've kept in touch via Zoom for our distanced family.

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

We plan on attending the 350th ball in 2021 (wouldn't that be the 351st?). Memories of the 325th was the Memorial Day parade and the public schools "Read across America" float. This was organized by my wife where all 50 states were divided among the elementary schools who then created posters with the name of the state with pertinent facts were displayed. It was quite a sight to see this brigade of kids walking and pulling wagons down Main Street.

**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?**

I'll be taking my 7 grandkids - maybe in shifts - to the library as soon as its open.