

Volunteers give the human touch to local hospitals

More than 700 serve at L+M and Backus

By **AMANDA HUTCHINSON**
Day Staff Writer

Every Wednesday, Mary McGuinness of Niantic walks around Lawrence + Memorial Hospital in New London to see if staff members are washing their hands.

With her clipboard in hand, she quietly strolls through each unit, dipping out of the way of the hustle and bustle and marking down when the doctors and nurses tap the hand sanitizer dispenser located in front of patient rooms.

It may not be a glamorous assignment, but McGuinness is performing a vital hospital function. As a volunteer in the infection control program, she tracks staff use of hand sanitizer and other protection gear and submits the information to the state as part of a hygiene compliance program.

"I enjoy coming in," she said. "I'm in a position where I'm all over the hospital. Every floor, every unit, and I like that. If I wasn't a teacher, I would have been a nurse."

McGuinness is one of more than 700 active volunteers at L+M and The William W. Backus Hospital in Norwich who assist doctors, nurses and other staff with day-to-day tasks.

In addition to McGuinness' data work, volunteers at L+M assist in 59 departments. They push patients in wheelchairs around the hospital, staff the gift shop, give hand massages.

SEE VOLUNTEERS PAGE A3

theday.com: Go online to see a video.

DEADLY ADDICTION

An occasional series

Methadone is maintenance for opiate addicts

New London clinic quietly treating patients from all walks of life

By **KAREN FLORIN**
Day Staff Writer

New London — Every day for the past 1½ years, a 33-year-old local woman has been swallowing a dose of foul-tasting clear liquid that she says enables her to hold down a job in customer service and raise her daughter.

Krystle is one of 400 methadone patients at Hartford Dispensary, a clinic at 931 Bank St., that has quietly served opiate-dependent residents of area towns since 1992. Connecticut has 25 methadone clinics that serve about 15,000 people at any given time, according to the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The Hartford Dispensary also operates the region's other methadone clinic in Norwich.

Methadone, sometimes described as a maintenance drug for those addicted to opiates, fills the dopamine receptors in the brain that had been satisfied with heroin.

Krystle volunteered to tell her story because she said she wants people to

SEE METHADONE PAGE A6

CAMPAIGN ★ 2016

Cruz emerges as GOP alternative

Rubio wins Puerto Rico as Sanders takes Maine

By **JULIE PACE**
AP White House Correspondent

Washington — Republican leaders on Sunday grappled with the prospect that the best hope for stopping Donald Trump's march to the nomination may be Ted Cruz — the only candidate who causes as much heartburn among party elites as the billionaire businessman, if not sometimes more.

The Texas senator split contests with Trump in Saturday's voting, bolstering his argument that only he can defeat the real estate mogul. Trump and Cruz are now significantly outpacing Marco Rubio in the delegate count, further shrinking the Florida senator's already narrow path to the nomination.

If Rubio's slide continues, he would be the latest establishment candidate to fall victim to an angry, frustrated electorate that cares little about endorsements from party leaders or newspaper editorial

boards. Rubio has rolled out both at warp speed in recent weeks, but his appeal with Republican voters is not keeping pace.

Rubio did pick up a victory Sunday in Puerto Rico's primary, his second win of the 2016 cycle. Democrats, meanwhile, held caucuses Sunday in Maine. Sanders won that contest, beating rival Hillary Clinton for his eighth win of the 19 contests already held in the nomination process.

Also, Democrats were debating debate Sunday night in Flint, Mich.,

SEE CLINTON PAGE A5

DELEGATE COUNT

Democrats	
Clinton	1,129
Sanders	498
Goal is 2,383	
Republicans	
Trump	384
Cruz	300
Rubio	151
Kasich	37
Goal is 1,237	

PRAYERS FOR DORIAN



TIM MARTIN/THE DAY

Denise Sisson, second from left, of Charlestown, R.I., and Elaine Bishop, third from left, of Westerly participate Sunday in a candlelight vigil for Dorian Murray in Wilcox Park in Westerly. Dorian, a 8-year-old boy suffering from terminal cancer, gained international fame this year after saying he wanted to become famous before he died. His health has taken a turn for the worse. Story, **B1**.

Nancy Reagan's lifetime mission was backing 'Ronnie'

Influential first lady who weathered criticism dies

By **CHRISTOPHER WEBER**
and **CONNIE CASS**
Associated Press

Los Angeles — First lady Nancy Reagan swept into the White House in 1981, a swirl of designer gowns and pricey china, and was quickly dismissed as a pre-feminist throwback concerned only with fashion, decorating and entertaining. She needed a less frivolous image. And she got it.

By the time she packed up eight years later, the former movie actress was fending off accusations that she'd become a "dragon lady," wielding secret, unchecked power within Ronald Reagan's administration — and doing it based on astrology to boot.

All along she maintained that her only mission was to back her "Ron-



SCOTT STEWART, FILE/AP PHOTO

President Ronald Reagan and his wife, Nancy, wave from windows of his hospital room at the Navy Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.

nie" and strengthen his presidency.

"I'm a woman who loves her husband," she said, "and I make no apologies for looking out for his personal and political welfare."

Mrs. Reagan died Sunday at her

home in the Bel-Air section of Los Angeles of congestive heart failure. She was 94.

She was Ronald Reagan's closest adviser and fierce protector throughout his journey from Hol-

lywood actor to governor to president — and finally during his 10-year battle with Alzheimer's disease. She served as his full-time caregiver as his mind melted away, and after his death in 2004 dedicated herself to tending his legacy through his presidential library in Simi Valley, Calif.

She also championed Alzheimer's patients, raising millions of dollars for research and breaking with fellow conservative Republicans to advocate for stem cell research.

Her dignity and perseverance in these post-White House roles smoothed out public perceptions of Nancy Reagan that had been fickle as far back as her days as first lady of California.

SEE NANCY PAGE A5

theday.com: Go online to see a photo gallery of Nancy Reagan's life.

Through the Lens



Migrants walk to a registration and transit camp after entering Macedonia from Greece near the southern Macedonian town of Gevgelija. Go to **theday.com** for a gallery of the day's best wire photos.

RAY TOMLINSON, INVENTOR OF MODERN EMAIL, DIES

Ray Tomlinson, the inventor of modern email, has died.

Raytheon Co., his employer, on Sunday confirmed his death.

Email existed in a limited capacity before Tomlinson in that electronic messages could be shared amid multiple people within a limited framework. But until his invention in 1971 of the first network person-to-person email there was no way to send something to a specific person at a specific address.

Tomlinson chose the @ symbol to connect the username with the destination address and it has now become a cultural icon.

While he was a holder of numerous awards and other accolades, co-workers say he was humble and modest. And, surprisingly, not a frequent checker of email.

See B3

UNION SEEKS TO UNLINK TEST SCORES, TEACHER EVALS

Hartford — The state's largest teachers union is supporting legislation that would unlink teacher evaluations and student standardized-test results.

Officials from the Connecticut Education Association are expected to present a report today to the Education Committee outlining why using results from the Smarter Balanced Assessment test is unfair to teachers.

The link is scheduled to take effect in September.

The union contends the test wasn't designed to evaluate teachers. It also says it's unfair to teachers working in schools with high poverty rates and those who teach English language learners and special needs students.

— Associated Press

WEATHER

Today, partly sunny and cool. Breezy at times. High 48. Tuesday, sunny and pleasant. High 54. **C6**

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