

# OBITUARIES



**EMMA M. (SELLARS)  
VAN HOUTEN**

STAMFORD, CONN. - Emma M. (Sellars) Van Houten, age 95, of Stamford, CT, passed away peacefully in her sleep Monday, November 10, 2015. A daughter to the late John Leonard and Estella Madora (Toby) Sellars, she was born November 10, 1920 in Prentiss, Maine and moved to Stamford, CT in the early 1940's where she lived until her passing.

Emma was devoted to her family, and her greatest joy was being a homemaker, and taking care of her family. She was also an avid reader, and enjoyed gardening, country music and square dancing. She was loved and will be greatly missed by her family and all who knew her.

She is survived by her children, Susan Mercer of NY, Virginia Reilly and Linda Lyons both of CT, Diana (Bruce) Redfield of NC, Samuel (Jody) Van Houten of CT, and Annette (Albert) Cocco of CT. She also leaves many loving grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husband of over 30 years, Samuel Van Houten; brothers, Clifford Sellars, Lawrence Sellars and Charles Sellars; sisters, Rena Mocariski and Ellen Christenson; step-daughters, Beatrice, Margaret, Anna, Dorothy and Shirley; and great-grandson, Jeremy Beardsley.

A graveside service for Emma will be held at 11AM on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 in Butterfield Cemetery, Rt. 170, Prentiss, ME.



**THERESA DANEAULT**

**BREWER** - Theresa Daneault, 85, died February 19, 2016, at a Brewer Health Care Facility. She was born September 26, 1930, in Orono, the daughter of Francis J. and Frances L. Bishop.

Theresa was involved with the American Legion Auxiliary for many years, holding a position of officer. After retirement she worked at Fenway Park and was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox. She also enjoyed crocheting and loved to do puzzles. Theresa made many lap robes, which she donated to the local nursing homes. One of her favorite things to do was scratch off tickets. She returned back home after 56 years to be with family. Theresa's idea of fun was going to yard sales, picnics, or spending time with her family.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her first husband, George Addison and her second husband, Maurice "Frenchie" Daneault; two brothers, Leo and Felix Bishop; one sister, Pauline Bogan.

Theresa is survived by two brothers, James Bishop of Brewer, his daughters, Donna, Kathy and Linda, and Larry Bishop of Carmel, and his children, Connie, Larry and Mary.

Special Thanks to her doctors and the staff of EMMC and CancerCare of Maine and Brewer Rehab for all their fine care of Theresa.

Services will be private for the family. She will be laid to rest at National Veterans Cemetery Bourne, Mass. Arrangements by Memorial Alternatives 205 Center St., Bangor.

## Jerome S. Bruner, influential psychologist, dies

BY MATT SCHUDEL  
THE WASHINGTON POST

Jerome S. Bruner, who was born blind and, after having his sight restored, spent the rest of his life trying to understand how the human mind perceives the world, leading to influential advances in education and the development of the field of cognitive psychology, died June 5 at his home in New York City. He was 100.

He had an aortic aneurysm several months ago, said his son, Whitley Bruner, but the exact cause of death was not known.

In the 1950s, when Bruner was at Harvard University, he was a key figure in advancing the study of psychology beyond the behaviorist theories of B.F. Skinner, which held that people tended to act logically and in accordance with well-defined rewards and punishments.

During a 70-year academic career, Bruner was a restless researcher who constantly moved from one field to another. This basis of his work was the study of cognition, or what he called "the great question of how you know anything." But he freely touched on fields as diverse as music, physics, literature, sociology and the law, drawing connections between cognitive perceptions and judicial decision-making.

"He invaded and created new areas of psychology and the social sciences at the speed other people wrote papers," Howard Gardner, a psychologist and professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, said Tuesday in an interview. "He was part of a generation of intellectual giants who roamed across the disciplinary terrain. Bruner and his colleagues gave us a language to

see how we make sense of the world."

One of Bruner's early discoveries led to the "New Look" school of psychology, in which he showed that people's perceptions of objects and events are often influenced by unseen social and cultural conditions. In one of his most famous experiments, poor children perceived the size of coins to be significantly larger than richer children did; the larger the monetary value of the coin, the bigger it was imagined to be.

That study helped lead Bruner to conclude that human motivations are far more complex than previously assumed and are subject to emotions, imagination and cultural training. Two of his early books, "A Study of Thinking" (1956) and "The Process of Education" (1960), outlined his ideas and codified them in a system that

could be used in teaching.

Jerome Seymour Bruner was born Oct. 1, 1915, in New York City to Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe. He was blind from cataracts at birth, but he underwent surgery at age 2 that gave him limited vision. He wore thick glasses throughout his life.

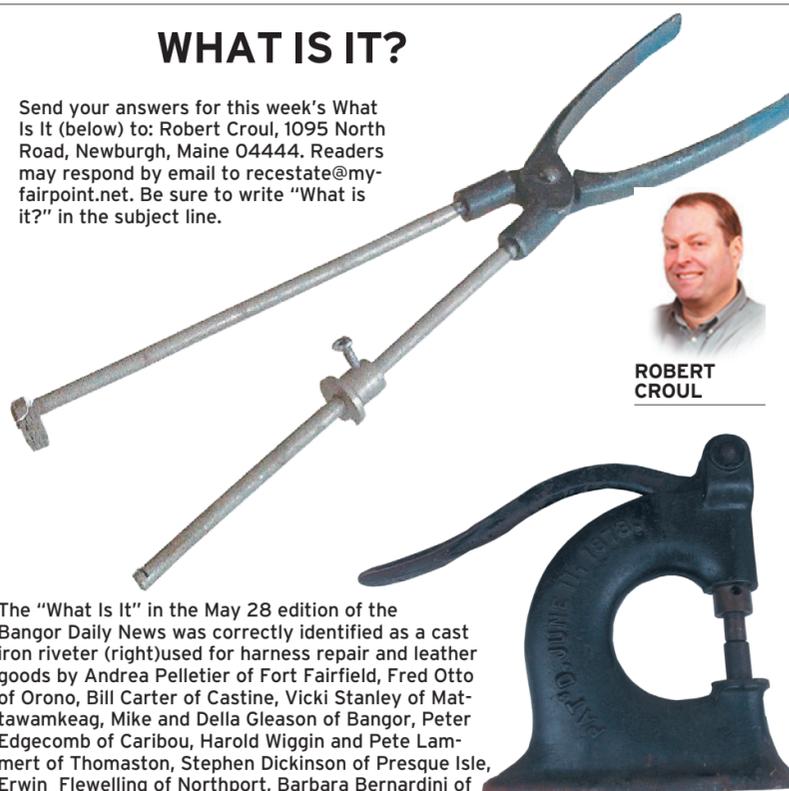
During World War II, he held jobs in military intelligence, using his training to examine propaganda. He joined the Harvard faculty in 1945, then left in 1972 to teach at the University of Oxford in England.

He returned to the United States in 1980, teaching first at the New School in New York, then joining NYU. He continued to lead occasional seminars on cognitive theories behind the law until he was 98.

His books included "On Knowing: Essays for the Left Hand" (1962) about the importance of spontaneity and intuition in thinking; "In Search of Mind: Essays in Autobiography" (1983); and, with law professor Anthony G. Amsterdam, "Minding the Law" (2000), which examines legal thinking through storytelling and language.

### WHAT IS IT?

Send your answers for this week's What Is It (below) to: Robert Croul, 1095 North Road, Newburgh, Maine 04444. Readers may respond by email to [recestate@my-fairpoint.net](mailto:recestate@my-fairpoint.net). Be sure to write "What is it?" in the subject line.



**ROBERT  
CROUL**

The "What Is It" in the May 28 edition of the Bangor Daily News was correctly identified as a cast iron riveter (right) used for harness repair and leather goods by Andrea Pelletier of Fort Fairfield, Fred Otto of Orono, Bill Carter of Castine, Vicki Stanley of Mattawamkeag, Mike and Della Gleason of Bangor, Peter Edgcomb of Caribou, Harold Wiggin and Pete Lamert of Thomaston, Stephen Dickinson of Presque Isle, Erwin Flewelling of Northport, Barbara Bernardini of Calais and Ted Bromage of Somesville.

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