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Friday, May 20, 2016

THIS WEEK'S QUOTE

"The only people who can change the world are people who want to. And not everybody does."

Hugh Macleod

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LOCAL



Elliott generates buzz with Eagle Scout project
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In search of consistency, Tantasqua softball downs Cougars
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OPINION

GET YOUR POINT ACROSS
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POLICE LOGS

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A LASTING LEGACY



Olivia Richman photo

SOUTHBRIDGE — Tradewinds Clubhouse celebrated their 25th anniversary in style on Thursday, May 5. Pictured, Program manager Brittany Walker with program member Dylan St. Germain, who made a speech during the celebration. For more photos, turn to page A4!

Lessons in saving a life

HARRINGTON VISITS TANTASQUA FOR CPR CLASS

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE — Harrington Hospital visited Tantasqua Regional High School earlier in the month to educate students on hands-only CPR. According to RN Educator Jon Gorman, out of the 50 states, only 17 states don't require CPR certification in order to graduate. One of those 17 states is Massachusetts. By visiting schools, Harrington is hoping to spread awareness of hands-only CPR to students and the entire community.

"We want everybody in our community to know," said Health Careers Teacher Katelyn Depace. "They can teach their sib-



Olivia Richman photos

Massachusetts is one of 17 states in America that does not require CPR certification upon graduation. Harrington Hospital has been providing different high schools around the community with free hands-only CPR training.

lings, their friends, their social groups. It's a great community to educate. They've never been educated or gone to a CPR class, which can be expensive. Providing a free hands-only CPR program will get our state's survival rate higher."

According to Gorman, 85 percent of cardiac arrests happen outside of the hospital. New England



RN Educator Jon Gorman and Health Careers Teacher Katelyn Depace were excited to bring hands-only CPR training to Tantasqua students.

Please Read CPR, page A14

Senior center ready to 'go the distance'

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE — The Sturbridge Senior Center is participating in the statewide "Go the Distance" State Walking Challenge on Monday, June 6, at 4 p.m.

The walking challenge is part of the Massachusetts Council

on Aging's goal to get everybody, including the elderly population, walking and exercising.

The State Walking Challenge started last year and many senior centers in the state have already adopted it. This year, the Sturbridge Senior Center have adopted it as a way to

kick off the center's new walking group.

"We will be starting our own walking group with our seniors twice a week, starting in June," said Community Outreach Coordinator Leslie Wong. "It will be in the mornings. This will act as a kick-off event. Seniors have come to

us. This is something they want. Seniors, like anyone, like to do stuff in a group. The seniors that go to exercise classes have expressed that they'd like to get together and do a walking group. It brings them together and gives them time to talk."

The "Go the Distance"

State Walking Challenge will start at the Old Sturbridge Village Education Building. It's a mile walk down Old Sturbridge Access Road. The walk starts at 4:30 but participants can sign up any time after 4:30. Participants who pre-register beforehand will be

Please Read WALK, page A15



Photos courtesy Karen Bodamer

Bethlehem Lutheran Church will have a kick-off for Southbridge's community gardens on June 4, providing free soil, seeds and lunch for participants.

Church set to expand community garden

'WE WANT TO BUILD OUR COMMUNITY'

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE — Bethlehem Lutheran Church is expanding their community garden project to Southbridge next month. The church applied for a Domestic Hunger Grant through the ELCA-Evangelical Lutheran Church in America last year and just received the \$2,500

in April. Bethlehem Lutheran Church partnered with Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Southbridge, working closely with Tamsin Lucey to develop the grant project.

"We believe that there is a level of food insecurity and poverty in Southbridge that would be helped by a community garden," said Mission

Please Read GARDEN, page A14

Festival to benefit skate and bike park in Charlton

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — Charlton Recreational Skate & Bike Park Group's first large fundraiser will be coming up on May 22.

The Rock & Ride Festival, which will be located behind the Charlton Public Library, will have entertainment, including both a BMX demo and skateboard demo, live music, vendors, food, children's activities, face painting and a corn-hole tournament.

The Charlton Recreational Skate & Bike Park Group was formed in May of last year after the town dismantled the skate park for being unsafe. A group of parents decided to start up a group to raise the funds to rebuild the skate park. "We noticed a need in town," said Vice Chairman Amy Stanley. "Kids were riding their bikes and skateboards

but they have nowhere to go now. My son came home from school one day and said his friend didn't have a place to go anymore after school now that the skate park was gone. I saw my son's concern and I thought I'd step up. Other board members noticed the exact same issues with their kids and grandkids."

The group meets once a month to discuss fundraising ideas and what will be included in the new park. Children and teenagers frequent the meetings to put in their input, as well as adults in town who support the cause.

The group's goal is \$25,000, which would include a \$15,000 park and extra money for repairs, maintenance and future expenses. The park that the group hopes to create will be all-inclusive, which includes ramps, jumps and areas for

Please Read FESTIVAL, page A14

Marijuana ballot question raises eyebrows among officials

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — The presidential elections in November will also be coming with a lot of ballot questions. One of the big ones that has concerned the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) is the ballot initiative to fully legalize recreational use of marijuana, which would make Massachusetts similar to Colorado.

Marijuana, both in weed and edible form, would be sold at licensed stores throughout the state. MASS is concerned that this would make it even easier for students and other minors to get a hold of the drug.

“All schools struggle with students using drugs and alcohol. But this law, if it goes into affect, will make it so easy to get it,” said Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Superintendent John Lafleche. “If a kid can get his or her hands on a brownie laced with marijuana, we can’t easily detect that. There’s no smell. A kid comes in high and starts using a welder or starts using other machinery and they could do tremendous damage to themselves physically. For vocational schools, it’s an additional area that we are worried about, in addition to developmental issues.”

MASS saw an increase in availability to students when medical marijuana was legalized in Massachusetts and fear it will only get worse if the new law is passed. Lafleche and other members hold the viewpoint that the state does not need to create more options for people to become high or intoxicated.

“I know that since the decriminalization took place there has been not only a more casual and cavalier attitude towards it, but the signs have increased,” said Dean of Students Daniel McGowan. “Maybe not right away in

2008, but in the last three to four years there will definitely be odors in and around the area more often, leading to more searches. We have been on much higher alert in that regard.”

Members of MASS fear a “trickle down effect” will start to occur with the legalization of marijuana. The exposure to weed will be more frequent for minors resulting in marijuana use spilling even more into the schools than before. This is an even bigger concern for vocational schools, where heavy equipment is involved in many classrooms.

“As a society we are sending the message that marijuana is OK. It isn’t,” said Lafleche. “For years we had to fight alcohol use by kids. Part of the reason kids can get alcohol is because it’s legal for adults and it filters down. Now we’re going to take marijuana and make it the same thing. You get behind any motorized vehicle under the influence of marijuana, you can’t handle it the way you should be.”

MASS and other educational groups have noted that marijuana is not recommended for brains that are not fully developed. For many young users, frequent use can lead to mental illness, such as schizophrenia. Coordination, judgment, learning and memory can all be permanently affected by THC. A recent study even linked marijuana use in early teens to a drop in IQ by up to eight points.

While MASS members acknowledge that adults can make their own decisions regarding marijuana and other drugs and intoxicants, the state and local communities should still be looking out for teenagers and children who may be influenced by peer pressure and make wrong decisions.

If the law were to pass and marijuana use was made legal, smoking weed or being under the influence at Bay Path and other high schools would still be against the law. It will remain against the district’s handbook policies.

“We do feel there will be a heck of a lot more kids using,” said Lafleche. “Because of the fact that four to five states in the country legalized it and you have medical marijuana and they decriminalized less than an ounce of weed – it’s trending that marijuana isn’t dangerous. And nothing can be further from the truth.”

Up until the vote in November, MASS will be educating parents, schools, committees and public officials on the affects legalizing marijuana will have on young people. Students Against Destruction Decisions will be carrying out programs at Bay Path throughout the year.

“It’s important to get the word out often and early so people are informed and thinking about this,” said Lafleche. “Some folks are in favor of this because they, themselves want to use marijuana. But we have to understand the impact on young people. The impact is negative.”

McGowan has gone to several conferences and town meetings in regards to the opiate crisis in the local area and the state as a whole.

Said McGowan: “The local governments have given it a lot of attention.

On one hand we are saying there’s a drug crisis and then on the other hand we’re strongly considering legalizing a drug. It would be a shame to send the public a mixed message of sorts.”

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

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VILLAGER ALMANAC
— QUOTATION OF THE WEEK —

VILLAGER ALMANAC
— QUOTATION OF THE WEEK —
“We support the Clubhouse and their mission is important. It provides a place for members to feel at home and contribute to the overall well-being of the group and society.”

- State Rep. Peter Durant, commenting on Tradewinds Clubhouse, which recently celebrated its 25th anniversary.

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Staubach's showcase

CT ARTIST BRINGS POTTERY COLLECTION TO JEL



Olivia Richman photos

Ashford, Conn. resident Suzy Staubach has her pottery on display at the Jacob Edwards Library throughout the month of May.

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SOUTHBRIDGE — A new type of art has arrived at the Jacob Edwards Library this month. During the month of May the pottery of Ashford, Conn. resident Suzy Staubach will be on display, showcasing over 10 years of experience creating functional pots and kitchenware.

Olivia Richman sat down with the accomplished potter and writer to discuss her passion for pottery, her inspirations and what she has in store. Find out more about Staubach and her work at Willowtreepottery.us.

How did you end up with a show at the Jacob Edwards Library?

"Director Margaret Morrissey contacted me. She was looking through various people who participate in Artists' Open Studio in Northeastern Connecticut. I came and looked at the library and thought it was very beautiful. I like books, but not all libraries are this pretty. It's very beautiful."

Have you had your pottery on display before?

"Yes, I have. I did a lot when I was younger. I do Open Studio every year and Connecticut Open House. I have something going on right now in Woodstock at Artists in the Country. So, yeah, here and there."

What got you into pottery?

"I've been doing it for decades. I was young and I saw a black unglazed teapot that I thought was very pretty."

Where did you come across this teapot?

"I don't even remember. It was in a shop in the early 1970s when there were a lot of shops with handmade things. I thought, I'd like to make one of those, not knowing what I was getting myself



Potter and writer Suzy Staubach pictured with Director Margaret Morrissey. While Staubach has always been into writing and books, it was the JEL's beauty that caught her eye.

into."

What did you initially like about pottery?

"I really loved the feeling of clay. It was much harder than I imagined, of course. But I liked it. I like the fire part. I like fires and you have to fire the pots, which was fun to."

What has kept you going?

"It's just very mesmerizing. You have to be very focused. You have to pay attention to what you're doing. If you have a clutter-y mind, it's very good to have something to focus on. The more I read about it, I love the history, the work that potters do throughout history and around the world right now. I try to keep up with what other people are doing."

Did you take lessons ever?

"The first person I took lessons from was Louise Eldridge. Then I went to Wesleyan Potters for a year and a half. Then I just practiced. You have to like getting dirty and playing with mud."

What kind of pottery do you do? What do you like to create?

"I do primarily functional pots, mostly for the kitchen or dining room tables. It's all single-fired, which is a bit different than what other local potters are doing. Most potters today fire twice, a low firing and then a glaze. I glaze before the pots are dry. I fire very slowly, doing both at once in the beginning. It takes about 28 to 32 hours."

What made you do it that way instead?

"I started that. It was during the first energy crisis in the 70s. It was to save fuel. I just liked doing it and I like the way it looks so I stayed with it. And now we care about energy again."

What inspires you?

"I like very earthy colors. I like thinking about how food is going to look, or about cooking food. I'm inspired by early American pottery and early English country potters and early Irish potters. Some of the Korean pottery."

Do you have your own shop?

"I have a studio that has a display space in Ashford called Willow Tree Pottery. I have pots out in the garden, big cottagey gardens, as well as in the studio."

You mentioned you're also a writer. What do you write?

"I was 8 when I started writing. I recently wrote a book called 'Clay,' which is about how clay has been instrumental in the rise of civilization and was important for agriculture, first oven, sewers, toilets, cooking ... It came out from Penguin and was reissued in 2014. I did a biography of a potter, Guy Wolff. I was asked to write about him. I admired his work. It was an extensive project, but very fun. I spent hours in his studio, watching how he worked."

What's next for you?

"I'm writing a book on sunken gardens, an ancient form of gardening. Romans did it. The Southwestern American Indians did it. It was very popular during the Guilded Age, when rich people had fancy gardens. I wanted to make one and I couldn't find a book on it. I like history and the more I looked I saw more and more about it, but nobody was telling the story."

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.



ACCURACY WATCH

The Sturbridge Villager is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur.

Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page 3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4140 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Editor's Note: Meetings as listed are retrieved in advance from multiple sources, including Town Hall and on the Internet. The Sturbridge Villager is not responsible for changes and cancellations.

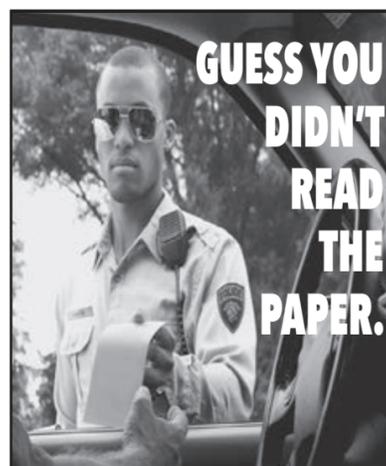
STURBRIDGE

Monday, May 23

6 p.m., Board of Selectmen will meet at the Town Hall

Tuesday, May 24

6:30 p.m., Planning Board will meet at the Center Office Building



GUESS YOU DIDN'T READ THE PAPER.

When things like speed limits change, we're the first to know. You could be the second. **Your Community Paper.** Told ya.

NEWS BRIEF

'Spamalot' headed to Stageloft

STURBRIDGE — Stageloft Repertory Theater, 450A Main St., Sturbridge, presents Monty Python's "Spamalot," a musical lovingly ripped off from the movie "Monty Python and the Holy Grail." Book and Lyrics by Eric Idle, Music by John DuPrez and Eric Idle.

Performances are June 3 through June 26, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2

p.m. This production is directed by Kevin McGerigle, music direction by Leah Marley, and choreography by Jackie Johnson. Starring Gary Swanson, Kaitlyn Ekstrom, Isaac Swanson, Doug Bolduc Jr, James Lamoureaux, Zachary Taylor, John Raymond and more. Tickets are \$18 adults, \$16 seniors/students/military, \$10 youth. Groups of 10 or more \$15 each. For tickets call 508-347-9005 or visit www.stageloft.org.

"Spamalot" tells the legendary tale of King Arthur's quest to find the Holy Grail. Inspired by the classic comedy film, "Monty Python and the Holy Grail," the musical also diverts a bit from more traditional versions of the legend. Instead, Spamalot features shenanigans including a

line of beautiful dancing girls, a flatulent Frenchman and killer rabbits. Outside, there is plague with a 50% chance of pestilence and famine. Throughout the show, Arthur, traveling with his servant Patsy, recruits several knights to accompany him on his quest, including Sir Bedevere, Sir Robin, Sir Lancelot and Sir Galahad. Besides the rabbits and farting Frenchman, they meet such characters as the Lady of the Lake, Prince Herbert, Tim the Enchanter, Not Dead Fred, the Black Knight and the Knights who say Ni.

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Tradewinds Clubhouse observes 25th anniversary

SOUTHBRIDGE — Tradewinds Clubhouse celebrated their 25th anniversary in style on Thursday, May 5. Clubhouse members, employees and representatives from the state and local businesses enjoyed a buffet catered by Fins & Tales, followed by a cake and dancing. There were also speeches from clubhouse members who found success from participating in Tradewinds, which finds jobs and careers for individuals in the area with mental illnesses.



Michael Laliberte, Robert Capen and Eddy enjoyed the feast.



Tradewinds Clubhouse celebrated their 25th anniversary. Tradewinds offers services to adults with mental illnesses in the area, including finding them jobs.



The Tradewinds Clubhouse celebrated their 25th anniversary at the Elm Street Congregational Church.



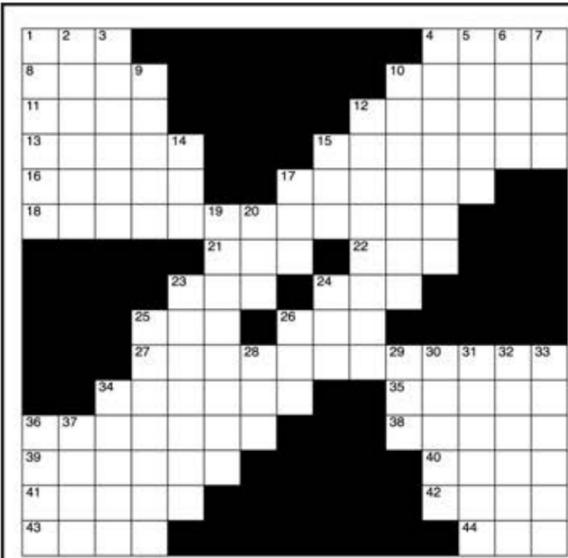
"I started coming two years ago and I got a part time job through Tradewinds," said Scott Dery, who dressed up for the occasion. "It helped me get my GED a couple years ago as well."



"This is Tradewinds' first year doing this," said Matthew Schneider, pictured with friend Casey Oleski. "It's a great turnout."



"I've been with Tradewinds for three and a half years," said Josh Hill, pictured with fellow program member Michelle Boulay. "I absolutely love it. I'm glad to be here on this special day."



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Administrative Review Board
- 4. Not worried
- 8. Rowan Atkinson played him
- 10. Stars
- 11. Indian city
- 12. North American nation
- 13. He partnered with Garfunkel
- 15. Understood
- 16. Foe
- 17. Jewish state
- 18. 2015 postseason hero
- 21. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 22. Goddess of the dawn
- 23. ___ Squad
- 24. Belonging to a thing
- 25. Food-related allergic reaction (abbr.)
- 26. Car mechanics group
- 27. Exceed in weight
- 34. Deserved
- 35. Singer Thicke
- 36. Clemencies
- 38. Critique
- 39. Resented
- 40. Type of tissue
- 41. Passages
- 42. It comes in a can
- 43. His heart is in San Francisco
- 44. Retirement account

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Belittled
- 2. Actress King
- 3. They pour drinks
- 4. Communicates
- 5. Take advantage of
- 6. Take on cargo
- 7. A stiff drink
- 9. Actress Watts
- 10. Natives of the American Southwest
- 12. Covered
- 14. The Science Guy Bill
- 15. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 17. Contraceptive device
- 19. Unfastened
- 20. ___ student, learns healing
- 23. Ties the knot
- 24. Actor McKellen
- 25. Optical phenomenon
- 26. Turf
- 28. Foot (Latin)
- 29. Flub
- 30. Birds settle here
- 31. Calculator
- 32. Herbal tea
- 33. Catch
- 34. Pitcher Santana
- 36. Not for vegetarians
- 37. Japanese novelist



"Today is going really well!" said Sidney and Nicole Bradley.



Brian Minchoff, Trish Surette and Louise Chadborne from the Department of Mental Health all came to support Tradewinds.



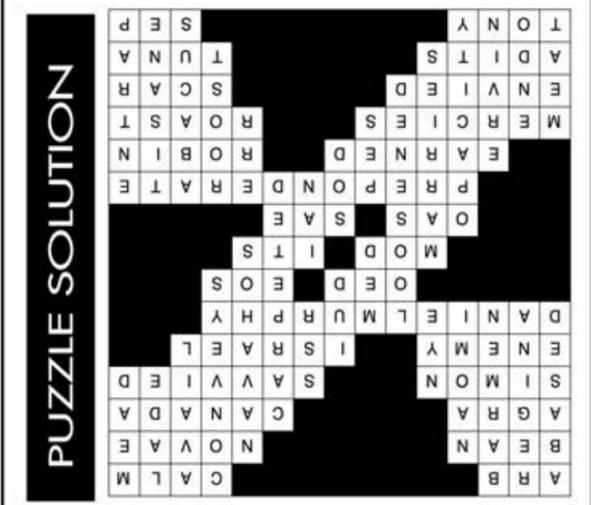
There was a delicious lunch buffet catered by Fins & Tales, followed by cake and other desserts.



Fins & Tales manager Angelique Desforges and Tradewinds Advisor Ed Nowak helped serve the food at the anniversary party.



"We support the Clubhouse and their mission is important," said Rep. Peter Durant, pictured with Mark Reil from Sen. Ryan Fattman's office. "It provides a place for members to feel at home and contribute to the overall well-being of the group and society."



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DON'T MISS A THING!

Elliott generates buzz with Eagle Scout project

TASK ADDS BEE GARDEN AT BUFFUMVILLE



Olivia Richman photos

Oxford resident Nathaniel Elliott worked on his Eagle Scout Project at the Buffumville Lake in Charlton, planting a pollination garden for bees and other important pollinators.

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — Oxford resident Nathaniel Elliott from Boy Scout Troop 147 completed his Eagle Scout project at the Buffumville Lake in Charlton on Saturday, May 14.

With seedlings from American Meadows Company and plantings from Bemis Farms in Spencer through the Worcester Conservation District, Elliott planted a pollination garden for bees at the scenic location.

Leading his fellow troop members and Cub Scouts, Elliott practiced leadership skills and the importance of being an active member within the community.

“That’s one of the core aims of scouting,” said Scout Master Ron Simoneau, “to learn to be a good citizen. We want them to find what interests them within the community and invest a piece of themselves within it. The projects lead to learning personal leadership of their peers. It’s a multi-layered approach to raising children.”

The importance of an Eagle

Scout project is for the boys to learn what it takes to put together a project, see the behind the scenes activities and bring a project to fruition.

“This project is important to Nate for his own personal reasons and it’s a way for him to bring that knowledge and passion to others,” concluded Simoneau. “They’re all good kids. They’re all looking for their way in life and we try to provide them with as many opportunities as we can. He has some ideas as to where he’s heading and he’s learned a lot of skills related to working with his peers. He’s become an effective leader within the troop.”

The Wildflower Pollination Project was an idea Elliott came up with when he learned that many “bee-friendly” home gardens were filled with a class of pesticides that can kill bees and other pollinators. With a growing international concern for the honey bee population, Elliott felt it was a great project to help the community.

Olivia Richman sat down with the Eagle Scout hopeful to

discuss his time as a Boy Scout and the importance of helping out the community.

What is your Eagle Scout Project?

“We are making a pollination garden for the bees. It’s made out of non-GMO plants, no nicotine and stuff that would kill the bees. Forty percent of all plants now have these chemicals in them, which is harming bee populations.”

How did you decide on this project?

“We talked to the ranger here, Jamie, and she gave us a couple of options, like building stairs down by the beach area. I just thought this option would be the best. I like planting stuff so I thought it was better for me than building stairs.”

How did you like working at Buffumville?

“It’s pretty cool. It’s a nice place to walk and play Frisbee.”

What is the importance of this garden to you?

“Since 40 percent of plants have these chemicals, it doesn’t just stop one at one generation. It happens over each generation of plants. The world needs bees to pollinate or else no plants will grow.”

When did you start the project?

“Probably since last November, including all the planning. We came a couple days before and tilled it. We can’t use machinery and stuff. So we did that before everyone arrived today.”

How many hours have you put into the project?

“It’s hard to say. Maybe with



Under Nathaniel Elliott’s leadership, fellow Boy Scout Troop 147 members and Cub Scouts helped out with his Eagle Scout project.

planning, 12 to 15 hours.”

What is the importance of completing an Eagle Scout project in your community?

“It leaves an everlasting impact on the community for generations to come. You can come back at it later in life and see how it affected the area and the community.”

What made you want to become an Eagle Scout?

“It looks really good on your résumé. I just enjoyed being a Boy Scout. I liked camping. Camping is really fun. I like being outside.”

What appealed to you about being a Boy Scout?

“I’ve been in Boy Scouts since 2011. I was a Cub Scout since first grade. I didn’t really like Cub Scouts because there was no camping and a lot more supervision.”

What have you enjoyed about the experience?

“You make a lot of new friends and learn a lot of new skills, like cooking and other real world skills.”

How do you feel now that the project is complete?

“I feel pretty good. We’ll come back to maintain it to see how it turned out and keep watering it, but it will be done today.”

What’s next for you?

“After this I need two more merit badges then I get my Scout Master Conference and Board of Review.”

Outside of Boy Scouts, what activities do you enjoy?

“I like fishing and playing guitar. I go to school at Holy Name in Worcester, where I play in the band.”

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

HARRINGTON BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Yamika Marie Colon Leon and Luis Enrique Santiago Roasrio, of Southbridge, welcomed Jonnel Enrique Santiago Colon on April 1, weighing 7.5 pounds, 7 ounces. Proud grandparents are Yamilee Leon Santiago, Luis A. Colon Rodriguez, Marie Rosario Ortiz, and Enrique Santiago.

Alissa Ashley-High and Giza High, of Shrewsbury, welcomed Cecilia Maxine High on April 6, weighing 6 pounds, 6 ounces. Proud grandparents are Paul Ashley and Judith Ashley; Doretha and Zeb High, as well as many proud aunts and uncles.

Juliana Vello, of Southbridge, welcomed Jayleana Rodriguez Vello on April 5, weighing, 6 pounds, 6 ounces. Proud grandparents are Lizzy Rodriguez and Shawn Vello. Proud great grandmothers Elaine Escobar and Jean Tretheway; great grandfather Dennis Vello; grandmother Jean LaChance, Godmother Abby Resto and Godfather Isaiah Vello.

Jamie Valois and Anthony LeDoux Sr., of Warren, welcomed Anthony Mark LeDoux, Jr. on April 12, weighing 8 pounds, 3 ounces. Proud grandparents Denise Valois, Pete and Heather LeDoux. Proud Aunt Alicia, Uncle Brian, Uncle Joseph, Uncle Nate and

sister Destiney.

Christina Poce and George Mack, of Monson, welcomed Avery Michael Poce, weighing 7 pounds, 9 ounces. Proud grandparents George Mack, Deborah Mack, Stacey Mack, Karl Benware and Judy Tourville-Kelley, as well as many proud aunts and uncles.

Courtney Lynn Kane and Matthew Raymond Bulak, of Spencer, welcomed Bentley Matthew Black on April 14, weighing 6 pounds, 7 ounces. Proud grandparents David & Shirley Black, and Beverly Raymond.

Melissa and Marty Currie, of Southbridge, welcomed Madeline Ivy on April 26, weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces. Proud grandparents are George and Theresa Currie.

Jahaira Rivera, of Webster, welcomed Yarelises E. Rivera on April 15, weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces. Proud grandparent Awilda Acosta.

Argelis Perez and Esaul Rivera welcomed Aneisha Sophia Rivera on April 25, weighing 8 pounds, 12 ounces. Proud grandparents Rosa Santana and Perez Carmen Millan. Proud godmother Elise Torres, aunt Elizabeth Mendez, and siblings Exael, Yandy and Skyllie.

Eric and Emily Lemoureux, of Charlton, welcomed Evelyn Grace Lamoureux on April 27, weighing 6 pounds, 11 ounces. Proud grandparents Paul and Patty Lemoureux, Jay and Jane Gale. Proud family members Shauna, Adam, Gale, Tara, and Kelly.

Sarah Mellissa and Shane Lloyd Stafford, of New Braintree, welcome

Kayla Karen on May 4, weighing 6 pounds, 13.5 ounces. Proud grandparents Karen Stafford and James Stafford; Patricia Desroches and David Desroches. Proud aunt Trisha Desroches, and proud uncles Ryan Desroches, Matthew Stafford, and Tyler Stafford.

QR Code Challenge Winners!

The QR codes ran on 4/29, and the answer ads ran last week, on 5/13/16. This was by far the largest response we’ve ever gotten to one of these QR Code Contests! Thank you to our many readers for your entries, and to the businesses that sponsored this fun contest! Winners were chosen by random drawing and were able to choose a \$25 gift card from any business on the page. Names and businesses they chose are as follows:

1. Denise Paparazzo of Sturbridge:
Won a gift card to Salem Cross Inn
2. Kayla Cantell of Brookfield:
Won a gift card to E.B. Flatts

Comments were optional...here are just a few:

“This was awesome, I love challenges like this!” A.S., Spencer
 “Three of these businesses I’ve given business to, some I didn’t know about. Great idea to do this!!” D.A., Charlton
 “Love some of these places!” A.N., Brimfield
 “This was fun, I got the chance to teach my mother-in-law how to use a QR code scanner.” K.C., Brookfield
 “Thanks! I learned how to use QR code & found some local businesses I’ll be utilizing in the future.” B.H., Fiskdale
 “This was fun! Company’s look good and fairly local. Thank you.” L.C., Uxbridge
 “There were a couple businesses on this list that I hadn’t heard of before. Glad to know more about them. Thank you!” P.L., Brimfield



We need just 20 businesses to run a contest. If you’d like to enter your business in a future contest (\$80 for both weeks, runs in 7 Mass papers), please email jsima@stonebridgepress.com. As long as you have a website, Facebook page, or YouTube video, we can find your QR Code!

LEMKE NAMED PAUL HARRIS FELLOW



Courtesy photo

STURBRIDGE — Individual Rotary clubs may from time to time honor individuals as Paul Harris Fellows. These honorees are individuals who meet high professional and personal standards set forth by Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary International. A very surprised Lucie Lemke became the newest recipient of a Paul Harris Fellow recognition from the Sturbridge Rotary Club. Lucie became an Honorary Rotarian in 2010 for her support of Rotary and has continued to demonstrate the ideals of ‘Service Above Self’. Her husband Bill, a past-president of the Club, proudly attaches the Paul Harris pin to her lapel. Lucie joins 61 other Paul Harris Fellows in the Sturbridge Club, some of whom have received the designation more than once. Congratulations Lucie for a well-deserved recognition!

Reinforcing the good

ERS PROGRAM FOCUSES ON POSITIVE BEHAVIOR



Photos courtesy Eastford Road School

Teachers from Eastford Road School discuss the school-wide expectations. Each month there is a different character trait that's focused on as well, like cooperation and respect.



Students who demonstrate being respectful and helpful each month, as well as children celebrating birthdays and perfect attendance, are called to the front of the assembly, recognized for their positive behavior.

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SOUTHBRIDGE — Eastford Road School held their monthly Positive Behavior Intervention & Supports assembly on May 6, a school-wide event that promotes positive social interactions and positive behavior. Eastford Road School is hoping to spread awareness to the community about the positive programs held at the school.

"The purpose of the assembly is to acknowledge and recognize positive behavior," said Principal Mary Beth Skrzypczak. "We want to celebrate all the positives. It really helps build the culture here. Everyone makes mistakes but we want to focus on all the great things that are going on. When we focus on the positive, children buy into that

and want to be caught doing positive things."

Throughout the school year there are posters hung up all over the school that discuss the expectations of the students in the classroom, the hallway and the playground, among other locations. If a child demonstrates being respectful, responsible or ready to learn, the student will receive a skill ticket, a way to make an "abstract concept" make more sense to the student population. There are buckets in each classroom, where the skill tickets are collected.

At the assembly, two skill tickets are randomly picked from each classroom. Those students get to go in front of the assembly and dance with the school mascot wildcat, worn by the guidance counselor. Students who never missed

a day of school that month also are recognized, as well as students celebrating their birthdays. It ends up being around a quarter to half of the school population, letting all children have a chance to shine any given month.

The "tangible prize," said Skrzypczak, helps students understand abstract concepts such as cooperation and respect. Some younger students are not aware of their emotions or feelings at that age. The PBIS assembly and monthly recognition also builds a positive atmosphere at the school, as well as making students "more available to learn."

According to Skrzypczak, positive behavior allows learning to happen. Holding students to a high standard and expecting them to follow the rules consistently becomes part of their routine.

"We focus so much on academics all the time, social and emotional aspects can be forgotten," said Skrzypczak. "There's more to getting a great education than fantastic learning. We are teaching children how to develop social skills and grow up to be good people. We teach them how to interact. We want to develop the whole child, not just the academic piece. We want them to have pride in coming to school every day and being positive members of our community as they get older. Starting this young — it continues on throughout each grade level."

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by email at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

NEWS BRIEF

Senate passes transgender anti-discrimination legislation

BOSTON — Sen. Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) has announced that the Massachusetts Senate solidified its role as a civil rights leader in passing An Act Relative to Transgender Anti-Discrimination. This bill provides equal access to public places for every resident of the Commonwealth, regardless of gender identity. Public accommodations include but are not

limited to restaurants, nursing homes, coffee shops, grocery stores, and sports arenas.

"I agree with Governor Baker that no one should be discriminated against based on gender identity and I was proud to cast a vote to uphold that principal," said Gobi.

"I am deeply proud of the Massachusetts Senate for reaffirming our commitment to value and celebrate the diversity of humanity, and fulfilling our sworn duty to uphold civil rights for all individuals as enshrined in the Equal Protection clause of the Massachusetts and United States Constitutions. I am very hopeful that this will become the law of our land as soon as possible. Every day without equal protection under the

law for transgender people is another day we tolerate discrimination, and one more day is far too many," said Senate President Stan Rosenberg (D-Amherst).

According to a 2014 Fenway Health survey, 65 percent of Transgender Massachusetts residents reported experiencing discrimination in public spaces including restaurants, retail establishments, and health service centers. This legislation prevents such discrimination against transgender individuals in public accommodations by adding the phrase "gender identity" to pre-existing law.

This bill builds on the Transgender Equal Rights Bill, passed in 2011, which prohibited discrimination on the basis

of gender identity in housing, education, employment, and credit. Where the final bill in 2011 did not include public accommodations protections, this legislation completes a near decade of advocacy around full inclusion of transgender residents in communities across the Commonwealth.

The bill has received exceptional support from businesses, sports teams, faith leaders, labor unions, and law enforcement across the state. Over the course of the past year more than 200 businesses across the Commonwealth and members of all five New England sports teams came out in support of this bill as central to promoting equal access rights for everyone in Massachusetts.

The bill passed in its origi-

nal form with a 33-4 vote, with rejection of all but one amendment. The adopted amendment, filed by Senator Sonia Chang-Díaz, is an emergency preamble, which calls for the legislation to take effect as soon as it becomes law.

More than 200 cities and towns across the country, including 14 in Massachusetts, already have these protections in place. If implemented at the state level, Massachusetts would become the 18th state in the country to offer public accommodations protections to their transgender residents.

The bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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Two centuries and counting: Southbridge celebrates bicentennial

SOUTHBRIDGE — Main Street was packed with residents on Saturday, May 14, for the town's Bicentennial Parade, which was followed by a festival at McMahon Field. The Grand Bicentennial Parade was a great showcase of the town's past and present, as well as Southbridge's spirit and community. Local organizations, groups and businesses designed extravagant floats. Fire trucks, police cars, Army tanks and classic cars got the crowd excited with honking and engine revving. Clowns handed out candy and go-karts raced down moving ramps.



Olivia Richman photos
First United Methodist Church of Southbridge's patriotic float.



The Bicentennial Grand Parade roared down Main Street, which was lined with cheering and waving spectators.



The Joseph A. Ferko String Band Philadelphia Mummers wowed the crowd with their bright, bejeweled outfits and upbeat music.



An old fire truck led the way for the Southbridge Fire Department.



Southbridge's first fire apparatus from 1836.



Members of the fire department waved to excited spectators as the fire trucks cruised down Main Street.



Charlton Street School's Vocabulary Parade.



Rep. Peter Durant (pictured in foreground) Sen. Ryan Fattman and other local and state politicians made their way down Main Street, waving at their supporters.



Southbridge Savings Bank designed a unique flat for the parade, one of many businesses represented in the Bicentennial Grand Parade.



St. George Greek Orthodox Church was established in Southbridge in 1910.



Revolutionary War re-enactors were near the front of the parade, which went through the town's history chronologically.



Savers Bank had a float pulled by two majestic horses.



St. John Paul II Parish Spanish Speaking Community's float and live music got the crowd dancing as they passed by.



Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops from Southbridge marched down Main Street.



The newly revitalized Italian American Club was proud to be in the Bicentennial Grand Parade.



A Scottish bagpipe group added another great layer of music to the festive parade.



An Army tank made its way down Main Street.

Appraising your antiques

I often get called by people asking to have their items appraised. Often people don't really need an appraisal because their ultimate goal is to sell their items. There are many cases where an appraisal is needed though.



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Most of the work we do is for attorneys or estate representatives (formerly called executors) who require a written appraisal for probate and/or tax purposes. Items are inventoried, photographed and assigned a value. A report is then created that can be used by the attorney, Internal Revenue Service and other parties that require it.

There are other times when a more informal and less expensive option is adequate. For example, there may be siblings who want to know the value of some of the items in an estate. They want to make sure that one heir isn't getting a piece worth \$50,000 while another is getting items worth \$2,000. A verbal appraisal is typically fine for an appraisal for equitable distribution of personal property.

If you have valuable home furnishings or an important collection an insurance appraisal is advisable. Many

people with a large amount of personal property may not be able to remember everything they had in the event of a fire or other disaster. Even if you do have an inventory, that may also be destroyed. Having your items appraised by an independent appraiser and sending that appraisal to your insurance company can help ensure that you are able to get adequate compensation in the event of a catastrophe.

When looking for an appraiser, you want to find one who has knowledge in the area you require. For example, I wouldn't appraise the contents of a power plant. I don't have the knowledge of heavy machinery that would be needed to evaluate that type of equipment. On the other hand, the heavy equipment appraiser typically won't have the knowledge of antiques necessary to do estate appraisals.

An appraiser's report should meet USPAP (Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice) standards. The Appraisal Foundation sets standards for appraisals. Make sure that when you hire an appraiser their report will be USPAP compliant.

I had a client recently hire me to view items that he was considering selling when he was moving from his home. They had been in his family

for many years but he no longer wanted them and planned to part with them. He just wanted to be certain that he didn't sell something for \$200 that was worth \$5,000. The verbal appraisal didn't turn up anything of particularly high value but the client said that he has the piece of mind knowing that he didn't sell a family heirloom for a fraction of its worth.

There are many times when I advise clients not to pay for an appraisal. If we are taking their items to auction we do research, when necessary, while cataloguing their personal property. Also, the competitive bidding at an auction ensures that their items will sell for fair market value. When running an estate sale, items are also evaluated before being priced and an appraisal isn't required.

We will be running estate sales in Medway, Southbridge and other locations. Our next live auction will take place on Aug. 25 in Worcester. You can keep updated by joining our email list and find links to follow us on social media on our website www.centralmassauctions.com.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612-6111), info@centralmassauctions.com.



Courtesy photo

Wurlitzer Model 61 Jukebox in our August auction.

NEWS BRIEFS

Environment Committee to issue report on rattlesnakes

BOSTON — The Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture, Co-Chaired by Sen. Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and Representative Paul A. Schmid III (D-Westport), hosted an Oversight Hearing on Tuesday to hear testimony from stakeholders relative to the state's plan to develop a rattlesnake habitat on the Quabbin Reservoir.

The Committee plans to put together a report evaluating the testimony and offering their conclusion.

"I appreciate that the Baker administration has agreed to take a step back and form a working group to more carefully assess the rattlesnake proposal," said Gobi. "The rattlesnake, as well as the copperhead, has been endangered in Massachusetts for 40 years; clearly there has not been an adequate job done

of protecting them. There is, in my opinion, a need to reassess current protection methods and increase repopulation efforts at existing den sites before introducing a species to a site where they are not currently found. I look forward to working on practical and sustainable solutions."

"The oversight hearing served an important purpose for the Committee and the regional legislative delegation to navigate the specific details of the proposed rattlesnake reservation in the Quabbin Reservoir and address the related concerns," said Schmid. "I look forward to working with the Administration and the working group to further review the plan before it may be implemented."

Secretary Matthew Beaton, Commissioner George Peterson, Director Jack Buckley and Tom French of MassWildlife announced a working group to study the merit, location and timeline of the rattlesnake proposal. The Committee's report will include recommendations for the working group.

The Committee plans to have a final report submitted by the end of the week. The Committee will continue to work with the administration on the

working group to determine the future of the plan.

Black wins REALTORS Choice Award

AUBURN — Jim Black of Keller Williams Realty in Worcester was the recipient of the 2016 REALTORS Choice Award at the Central Massachusetts Association of REALTORS Awards Ceremony on Thursday, April 14, at the Wachusett Country Club in West Boylston.

The REALTORS Choice Award recognizes an individual holding REALTOR membership who has demonstrated the highest level of professionalism, courtesy, and cooperation in the listing and selling of real estate. The recipient is selected by the membership and honored for professional excellence.

Jim Black, who joined the Central Massachusetts Association of REALTORS in 2010, resides in Charlton and can be reached at his office at (508) 365-3532.

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PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

ADAM MINOR
EDITOR, STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

EDITORIAL

My green thumb

My back yard has been grown in for about a decade now. It used to house a nice little garden that my father kept up religiously over a span of 10-15 years before that.

I remember as a kid, growing up in the house that I own myself now, my father composting the food we didn't eat, as well as various lawn clippings and waste from our rabbits, and using it to fertilize the garden. It wasn't much, but we got a nice little harvest every year. Cucumbers and tomatoes were the main ones, but every now and then, we would get some peas. I think I even remember a pepper or two here and there.

However, over the last 10 years, he lost interest. I'm not sure why. I assume it was just that his attention was drawn elsewhere as life got busier and busier. The back yard soon grew in, and brush and other weeds overtook the garden until one couldn't even tell that a nice little patch of soil even existed there.

When my wife and I bought the house from them in 2014, one of the first things I remember saying to myself was, "I'm bringing that garden back." Of course, the first summer we spent here was spent cleaning, painting, renovating and throwing stuff away. That project still hasn't been completed yet, and I fear many hours lay ahead me on that one.

Nevertheless, this summer I am determined. That garden is making its glorious return, and over the past couple weekends, I have been at work in the back yard, cutting back trees, removing a huge pile of brush, and planning out the 13'x13' square that will be the new garden. As I moved the soil around, it was nice and loose still, rich with the last few years of leaves and the remnants of the old garden. I have yet to till it as of this writing, but I am excited to get that part done.

This iteration of the garden will be protected. When my father did it, it was wide open to nature, and animals often invaded the space, munching on whatever they wanted. I suppose that frustration may have led to him just giving up on it altogether. I'm not messing around this time. After a trip to Lowe's, I secured a nice little fence — a 5-foot-tall beast — I'd like to see those lousy critters hop over that!

This year, we are starting small with just a few cucumber, tomato, zucchini and squash plants. For the kids, we promised to plant a couple pumpkin and watermelon seeds just for fun. We'll see if anything comes of them. We even got a couple pepper seedlings and a potato seed given to us from a friend. I think I'll plant those just out of curiosity off to the side and see what happens. We planted seeds in a starter greenhouse a few weeks ago and have witnessed them grow into small plants. As I type this, I can reach out and feel the soft leaves of my future zucchini plants. The kids have gotten a kick out of watching them grow little by little, from when they first sprouted out of the soil to becoming the baby plants they are now. We even had a few extra spaces left in the greenhouse, so we planted a couple "magic beans" — shiny rocks that my son found in the front yard.

I suppose that will be half the fun of creating this garden, making it a fun, educational experience for my kids. I mean, yes, hopefully, we will get some nice, fresh vegetables later this summer, and hopefully some to share with others, but getting the kids involved will be a learning experience not only for them, but for me, as well. I have never tended a garden before, so I am learning everything all over again myself. As the weeks and months go on, and I figure out what works and what doesn't, I will get a feel for how to create the best garden possible for that spot, and return it to its former glory.

Happy gardening, everyone! Let's see how this goes...

Adam Minor may be reached at (508) 909-4130, or by e-mail at aminor@stonebridgepress.com.

OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

June networking at Sturbridge Seafood!



Join the Chamber of Central Mass South for networking and more at Sturbridge Seafood! Sturbridge Seafood offers the freshest seafood and meat dishes served in creative and interesting ways. We hope you can join us on Monday, June 6, at 5 p.m. as we get together to socialize, enjoy delicious appetizers, cool drinks, and awesome drawing prizes!

Did you know ... Sturbridge Seafood was a Winner of the 2016 Peoples' Choice Award at Worcester's Best Chef and a Two-Time 1st Place Winner of Chowderfest. Sturbridge Seafood now offers daily lunch specials from their new 'On The Fly' Express Service. Our guests will also get an update on Sturbridge Porter House, Chef Ken's new Sturbridge venture, set to open soon!

Among several drawing prizes you could win are tickets to the Venture Wine & Beer Tasting on Nov. 3, at Old Sturbridge Village courtesy of our sponsor, Venture Community Services of Sturbridge (tickets valued at \$40 each).

Thank you to our June Fun at Five sponsor, Venture Community Services. Did you know ... Venture has almost 700 employees across the state and was selected as a Top Workplace by the Worcester Business Journal in 2015? Venture has supported people in our community for 42 years.

Sturbridge Seafood is located at 376 Main Street (Route 20) in Sturbridge. Don't forget to bring your business cards! The cost to attend is \$10 for members who pre-register, \$15 for members at the door, \$20 for non-members. Call 508-347-2761 or e-mail info@cmschamber.org to RSVP. The Fun starts at 5 p.m.

Save the Date! Chamber Golf Classic Hits the Links on June 23 — An early summer tradition is back as we hit the links at Heritage Country Club for a fun-filled day of golf and camaraderie on the course at The Chamber's Annual Golf Classic sponsored by Southbridge Savings Bank. All are welcome to come and play golf, socialize, eat and drink, and win some valuable prizes, on Thursday, June 23.

Shotgun start is at 9 a.m. and golfers will enjoy a continental breakfast, greens and cart fees at Heritage Country Club, Charlton, a cookout lunch on the course, awesome raffle prizes, cool contests, refreshments available on the course, and a reception and dinner after play. The tournament is a scramble format, all players hit from the best lie.

The CMS Chamber Golf Classic is open to all players of any ability, you



Courtesy photo

Thank you, volunteers! Volunteers from the Chamber of Central Mass South greeted visitors to the May Brimfield Shows at our Information Booth at the Mahogany Ridge show field. Pictured here are Bev Tetreault of Country Bank and Becky Plimpton of the Joshua Hyde Library.

do not have to be a Chamber Member to participate. Cost is \$125 for an individual, \$475 for a foursome, and you can even attend the dinner reception only (at 2:30pm) for just \$30. Sponsorship opportunities are available. To register or for more information please contact Michael Checkosky at 508-764-0012 or email mcheckosky@southbridgesavingsbank.com. You can also download the detailed Golf Classic brochure from the Chamber's home page at cmschamber.org. Look for the Golf Classic tab.

Welcome new member! Now is a great time to consider joining your local Chamber of Commerce. Contact us today to find out how Chamber Membership can grow your business. The Chamber is very pleased to welcome our newest Member.

Ed Londergan Writing & Editing Services: Ed Londergan is a published author who has had a lifelong fascination with the written word. Mr. Londergan now offers his skills to create and edit materials for marketing, brochures and pamphlets, web content, newsletters, articles and book manuscripts. Located in West Brookfield, you can reach Ed by phone at 413-436-7901 or find him online at www.EdLondergan.com.

The Chamber's Mission — The Chamber of Central Mass South is the leading advocate for business, promotes the success of its members, and enhances regional prosperity through networking, education, and promotion. Contact us today to find out more about the benefits of joining our dynamic organization! Follow the Chamber on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cmschamber, on Twitter at twitter.com/ChamberofCMS and Pinterest at www.pinterest.com/cmschamber.

How to keep your portfolio healthy



FINANCIAL FOCUS
JEFF BURDICK
If you have a medical appointment this week, you might want to wish your nurse a happy National Nurses Week.

This annual event is designed to celebrate the important role nurses play in health care. Of course, while nurses and doctors can help you in many ways, you can do a lot of good for yourself by adopting healthy living habits, such as eating right, exercising frequently, and so on. But you can also do much to help your financial health.

Here are a few suggestions:
Stay invested. During times of market volatility, it can be tempting to head to the investment "sidelines" until things "cool off." Going to the sidelines can mean a few different things — you could simply not invest anything for a while, or you could move a substantial portion of your portfolio to "cash" instruments, which are safe in the sense of preserving your principal but offer almost nothing in the way of return or protecting against inflation. If you're not investing during a market downturn, or if you've moved heavily into cash, you might well miss out on the beginning of the next market rally.

Rebalance your portfolio. It's a good idea to periodically rebalance your portfolio to make sure it still reflects your goals and your comfort level with risk. Over time, and without any effort on your part, your portfolio can become unbalanced. For example, following a long "bull" market, the value of your stocks could have risen to the point where they make up a greater percentage of your portfolio than you had intended. When that happens, you may need to rebalance by adding bonds and other fixed-income vehicles.

Diversify. Rebalancing is important. But a balanced portfolio should also be a diversified portfolio. If you only owned one type of financial asset, such as U.S. growth stocks, you could take a big hit during a market downturn. But different types of financial assets don't always move in the same direction at the same time, so by owning a wide variety of investments — U.S. stocks, international stocks, government securities, corporate bonds, real estate, certificates of deposit (CDs) and so on — you may help reduce the effects of market volatility on your portfolio. Keep in mind, though, that diversification by itself can't guarantee profits or protect against loss.

Maintain realistic expectations. If you expect the financial markets to always move upward, you will be disappointed many times. Market downturns are a normal part of the investment process, and they will always be with us. Once you accept this reality, you will be less likely to make questionable decisions, such as abandoning a long-term strategy. If you've designed an appropriate strategy, possibly with the help of a financial professional, you can stick with it through all market environments.

By following the suggestions mentioned above — staying invested, rebalancing your portfolio as needed, diversifying your holdings and maintaining realistic expectations, you can go a long way toward maintaining the fitness of your financial situation.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Jeff Burdick, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or jeff.burdick@edwardjones.com.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WIB Business Expo a success

To the Editor:

On behalf of Woman In Business, Inc., I extend sincere thanks to the following individuals who contributed to the success of WIB's first Business Expo held on May 11, at Old Sturbridge Village.

Sponsors, vendors, volunteers, silent auction donors, and attendees, we could not have done this without your support!

Gold Sponsors and Vendors: Webster First Federal Credit Union; Your Hometown Shopper Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Sturbridge; Spiewak Consultants; Silver Sponsor: Southbridge Savings Bank

Vendors: Antique appraiser Peter Yvanovich; Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School; Bay Path University; Center of Hope Foundation; Brenda M. Bianculli, CPA; Chamber of Central Mass South; Christopher Heights of Webster; Dave's Pest Control; Dress for Success Worcester; Empowerment-Hypnosis; 31 Gifts; Harrington HealthCare System; Heels Therapeutic Bodywork; Les Gardner Photography; Lettuce n Beans; Live A Flourishing Life; Music Lessons for Everyone; Noble Expo & Event Production; Old Sturbridge Village; Plexus Worldwide; Simple Indulgence Day Spa; The BizPal Company, LLC; Timeless Treasures Corner Sturbridge/

Fiskdale Senior Center; Ultimate Touch Spa Salon; Viridian Energy; Work of Art Cookies

Silent Auction Donors: Bay Path University, Sturbridge Coffee Roasters, Dudley Hill Golf Course, Brenda M. Bianculli, CPA, Chamber of Central Mass South, Brush It Off Paint & Sip Bar, Island Breeze Virtual Assistants, Cormier Jewelers, Old Sturbridge Village, Monique Lemaire, Dexter-Russell, Inc., Boston Red Sox, Spiewak Consultants, The Publick House Historic Inn, Carol and Paul Porra, Paul and Doreen Gemme, Your Hometown Shopper, Yankee Candle, Sturbridge. Volunteers: Jay Brenner, Fallon Desforges, Paul Porra, James Porra, Sandy Tarasiak; Expo Event Co-committee members Carol Porra, Maxine Carter-Lome and Becky Brusco; The Charlton Lions Club for help with advertising.

If you were a vendor or sponsor and did not have the opportunity to complete the event survey in your packet, please request one via email: spiewakconsultants@gmail.com.

KAREN A. SPIEWAK
PRESIDENT, WOMAN IN BUSINESS INC.
CHARLTON

Tips to get a jump on joy



TAKE
THE
HINT
KAREN
TRAINOR

One of the longest and coldest New England winters may be over, but the aftermath lingers.

The brutal season not only brought frigid temperatures and flu outbreaks, but for many, a bad case of the “doesn’t feel like spring yet” blues. So what’s the cure for a less than jolly mood? How about a season of green landscapes, outdoor marketplaces and flea market fun?

Endorphin inducing activities are at the top of the list when it comes to combating the impact of a cold spell, and in our area, such pastimes are plentiful. From basking in the warmth of a greenhouse nursery to hiking and haggling at a famous flea market, getting a jump on springtime joy might be easier than you think.

Amp Up the Endorphins: Studies show “feel good” endorphins can be as effective as antidepressants when it comes to boosting a mood. Thankfully, there are many springtime activities that are not only enjoyable on their own, but also release powerful endorphins.

• Area nurseries are gearing up for the planting season, and simply strolling through a local greenhouse can flood your body with feelings of joy and well being. “Garden therapy” is more than just a marketing buzz phrase. Research reveals a lush green landscape and/or colorful blooms has the power to elevate a mood, increase enjoyment and life satisfaction, and even relieve pain. Studies show it takes from three to five minutes looking at a view dominated by trees, flowers or greenery to begin to reduce anxiety and pain and to induce relaxation. Add the soothing warmth of the sun on your back, along with the Vitamin D the sunshine offers, and you have a double dose prescription for happiness!

• Spring is also the season for Farmers Markets and visiting these outdoor events offer another opportunity to rev up the “happy factor.” Many small towns in the region host outdoor markets on a weekly basis. Purchasing food directly from local farmers not only ensures the freshest fruits and vegetables for your family, but the experience offers social and health benefits as well. Shopping a farmer’s market is literally a breath of fresh air! Often a community hub, the marketplace offers a dose of happiness via valuable social interaction and items that cannot be found anywhere else, such as local honey, which can be beneficial in treating allergies.

Trifecta Effect: Sprucing up the home, buying something nice, and getting a bit of exercise have all proven to be mood boosting activities – so why not merge the three for a trifecta effect?

• Spring kicks off the flea market season, and nowhere is that more apparent than at the premiere Brimfield Antique Shows each May, July and September. The one and a quarter mile strip of Main Street fields host 5,000 dealers each season. Walking the market is not only great for releasing exercise endorphins, but the fun of snagging a bargain, coupled with the pleasure of enjoying it in the home, all add up to a happy shopping experience.

• Other regional outside flea markets, typically open on weekends, offer exciting browsing, and as a bonus provide a jolt of joy on sunny days. And indoor multi shop flea markets and co-ops take antique shopping literally to a new level, as some have multiple floors to investigate, offering not only the pleasure of hidden bargains, but an opportunity to get in a little mood boosting exercise too. “Antiquing endorphins” are what keep collectors happy and always on the hunt for the next find, as most any flea market shopper will attest.

Retail Therapy: With a difficult winter finally behind us and shopping opportunities around every corner, is it any

wonder eager buyers are more than happy to do their part to boost the economy? There is no denying it, buying stuff makes us feel good, and it’s no surprise to anyone who has experienced a “serotonin surge” while scoring a great deal. Research from the University of Michigan bolsters the claim that shopping (when not an addiction) can be therapeutic and “can help to restore a sense of personal control over one’s environment and reduce sadness.”

• In three experiments, researchers found that purchasing something was up to 40 times more effective at giving people a sense of control, and they were three times happier than those who only browsed! Great excuse to shop on!

• Shop for someone else as a “thank you.” Practicing gratitude can ignite the happy chemicals in your brain.

• Tap your toes to lively music as you browse and you’re igniting another round of mood enhancing compounds.

• Nibble on a chocolate bar as you shop. Chocolate’s virtues include promoting mood boosting endorphins, increasing libido, and warding off depression.

• Don’t forget to laugh as you’re shopping. Studies prove people who laugh often show increases in the good hormones such as endorphins and neurotransmitters, and decreased levels of the stress hormones cortisol and adrenaline.

• Researchers from the University of Michigan claim ‘retail therapy’ should no lon-

ger be dismissed as it could help people overcome melancholy.

*Previous studies have shown that shoppers enjoy positive feelings when reflecting on their most recent purchase, when that shopping had been motivated by a desire to repair moods.

Win Dinner for Two — Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three-course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I’m in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I’m counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press publications? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, c/o Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or e-mail kdrr@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for a three course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn!

Get your green thumbs ready

There is nothing better than fresh veggies.

Whether you go to your local farmers market or grow your own, you can taste the quality and hard work that went into making these delicious foods so fresh. One of the most important types of food you can put into your body are vegetables. They are super high in vitamins and minerals and fiber and so many other amazing nutrients that our bodies need to function. Dark leafy greens like spinach, kale, broccoli, Swiss chard, etc., are very high in iron, vitamin K, and calcium. Protein is necessary for healthy muscles, bones, skin, and blood. Some vegetables that are highest in protein are beans, peas, mushrooms, artichokes, spinach, sprouts, etc. The list goes on, both fruits and veggies are as important to our body’s function as water!

So with the weather finally getting warmer and now that the rain has finally subsided I challenge you to get into the garden and start planting. Typically I would suggest starting your garden in containers inside at the end of winter, but if you’re a procrastinator like me, we get motivated once the weather gets warmer. There is still time and there is still hope. Once you know for sure there will not be another freeze (which in New England is hard to predict) you can get outside and till your soil and get ready to plant. The best way to have a successful garden is to make sure it is planted correctly. Make sure you have a good soil base and use good fertilizer or compost.

Make sure your garden gets plenty of sunlight and have steady access to water. Pick seeds that will thrive in your area and can grow quickly. Some great choices for the beginner are, salad greens, green beans, tomatoes, eggplant, squash, and cucumber. Mint is also fail proof. I can’t tell you how many mint plants I have killed and they mysteriously come back to life. I will warn you though, that if you plant mint make sure it’s in a contained area because it will spread like wild fire, you will only have to plant it once and you will have it forever. I do have to say though that as it comes up in the spring and any time you mow your lawn, everything will smell amazing!

As you plant, make sure that you plant your seeds only a couple of inches down and make sure you spread them out far enough away from each other that they can thrive individually. Fertilize, water, adequate light, and patience. Before you know it you will have a garden.

If you start them in the house, one of the most inexpensive ways to do it is starting your seeds in an egg carton. This is such a fun project for kids as well, they will be able to cultivate their own garden and this will not only be a lesson that will stay with them, but they will also be more inclined to eat the veggies because they grew them themselves, and they are proud of it. Take a cardboard egg carton

MOM IN MOTION

JILL ROUSEY
jill@stonebridgerpress.com

and cut the top off. Poke a small drainage hole in the bottom of each egg cradle and use the top as a tray for draining. Let me stress that this will leak so either use Styrofoam or make sure you have a plastic case underneath. Have your kids scoop soil into each cradle only about halfway, place a few seeds in the center of each then cover with more soil to the top. Water until moist and place in a sunlit window. Within a week you should see a sprout. Once the sprouts reach about 2 inches transplant to your garden. If you used cardboard you can transfer them, egg crate and all, because the cardboard is biodegradable.

This weeks recipe:
“Farmers Table”

Ingredients:
1 lb. ground sausage browned and drained
1 1/2 c beef broth
However much of the following diced veggies you would like
Summer squash
Green pepper
Green onion
Zucchini
Tomatoes (really good with either cherry tomatoes or sun dried)
Grain of your choice cooked- Whole-wheat pasta, quinoa, brown rice...

Directions: Return cooked sausage to a pan, add in beef broth, and bring to a

simmer

Once simmering add green onion and peppers

Once peppers soften add remaining veggies

Bring back to simmer and once the veggies are cooked to your desired firmness

Spoon over grain
Enjoy!

This weeks tip:

Let’s start a garden! If you have kids, make this a fun weekend project. Let me know how you did and what you grew.

This week our Advice from a Pro is from four of my most favorite kids:

“Vegetables grow in the garden. I like vegetables.” – Maya, 3 years old

“Vegetables are not a cookie. I love the carrots.” – Maddie, 2 years old

“Vegetables are so good for you. Choose them over candy.” Jordan, 8 years old

“Don’t pack the soil down too hard and don’t over water them. Make sure there is nothing bad in your soil.” – Kylie, 12 years old

Please write in and share your thoughts! As always, take what you want from what we discuss as advice or information, share with me your favorite tip or recipe and join me on our next edition of “Mom in Motion.” E-mail me your thoughts and tips at jill@stonebridgerpress.com.

Monthly real estate market update

The market is continuing on a positive note this year, which has been a very nice change from years past. There are still concerns that with this being an election year and with interest rates expected to rise, that we will see a negative impact to our real estate market.

Locally, we have not seen any negative effects yet. If we compare the first four months of this year to the same period last year for Worcester County, all the numbers are positive.

The average days to receive an offer has lowered over 15 percent from 90 days to 76 days. This has largely been impacted by the low inventory of homes for sale and the low interest with fear of rising interest rates causing people to jump on the homes quicker. The average sales price has risen about 2 percent from \$264,886 to \$270,164, which is in line with what the National Association of Realtors predicted of a 5 percent increase in prices Nationally this year. Sales are up 30 percent from the same period last year from 1534 sales to 1993 sales. We have seen that the inventory of homes coming on market is not able to keep up with the demand for homes. Many sellers are waiting to sell because there are no homes on the market, which is causing inventory to stay low.

Not every home is selling within a couple days with multiple offers. If all the repairs have been done to the



REALTOR’S
REPORT

JAMES
BLACK

home, it has been staged properly, priced at a fair market price and has a great online presence those homes are selling quickly and at a premium. However, if a home needs work, doesn’t show well or is overpriced buyers are still overlooking it and sitting back waiting for another home to come on the market. I think this is due to our busy society and most people don’t have time to make repairs or the extra money to make the repairs. If they do buy the home with needed repairs they are asking for a huge discount on the home.

My advice for buyers in this market is to be willing to look at those homes that need repairs and get contractor estimates to know what you are getting into. This may be a great opportunity to get a home for a good deal because most buyers don’t want to do the work. My advice for sellers is to do as much work as possible on your home to get it ready for a sale and make sure to hire your real estate agent right away and have them come in to help you decide which repairs to make to ensure you optimize your return.

James Black is a licensed realtor for A&M Real Estate Consultants at Keller Williams Realty. He may be reached at (508) 365-3532 or by e-mail at jblack2@kw.com.



Courtesy photo

From left, Dick Vaughan, Bill Lemke, Charles Haddock, Bob George, Klaus Hachfeld, Suzanne Smiley, Bob White, Austin Jenkins (current President), Mudi Awan, Carl Kaliszewski, Dr. Marc Goldstein, Larry Mandell, Henry Skarani, Bob Kingman, Phil Carlson.

Rotary past presidents honored

STURBRIDGE — Prior to 1972, Rotarians who lived in Sturbridge were members of the Southbridge Rotary Club but the Southbridge Club was becoming too large with over 80 members at that time. Several Rotarians from Sturbridge decided to start their own Club in Sturbridge that would meet as an evening club so as not to conflict with the Southbridge Club that met at noon.

After seven months of completing paperwork and pre-club tasks, a club charter was granted for The Sturbridge Rotary Club. The Club named itself “The Yankee Spirit Club”. It was the 50th club chartered in Rotary District 791.

The Rotary Club of Sturbridge, currently over 43 years old, recently honored 14 of its Past Presidents. In recognition the Club’s many accomplishments locally and internationally, the Club saw a presentation covering the 43-year history of the Sturbridge Club from the very early days to the present. The history was presented by Honorary Rotarian Pauline White who spent two years researching and writing the history. Documented statistics reinforced the successes of Club members under the leadership of the various presidents. The presentation, memorabilia and photos from the past were a fitting way to acknowledge Past Presidents and members for their hard work and brought back many fond memories.

CALENDAR

The calendar page is a free service offered for listings for government, educational and non-profit organizations. All calendar listings are due Fridays at 5 p.m., for publication on the following Friday's edition. Mail to Editor Adam Minor at Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550; send by fax at (508) 764-8015 or by e-mail to aminor@stonebridgepress.com. Please write "Calendar" in the subject line. We will print such listings as space allows. Please note: Items with an RSVP date will be listed by their RSVP date, not by the date of the actual event, unless otherwise requested.

Friday, May 20

BRIMFIELD

May 20, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. — The Brimfield Senior Center is going "South of the Border" for a Cinco de Mayo Taco Salad Bar Extravaganza. So get out the sombreros and slip away with some south of the border music and a refreshing taco salad bar with all the fixings. There will be: Seasoned ground beef and/or shredded chicken taco fillings; sour cream; salsa; corn chips; black olives; Mexican rice; guacamole; fresh cilantro; chopped tomatoes; cheese; fresh lettuce; fruited iced tea punch; birthday cake and vanilla ice cream with sweet cinnamon topping. May Birthdays will be celebrated and rumor is there will be a Piñata! Please reserve you space prior to May 18. Suggested donation of \$5. The Senior Center is located in the 1st Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield, MA, 413-245-7253.

SOUTHBRIDGE

The Women's Fellowship of Elm Street, Congregational Church in Southbridge is holding a Rigatoni and Meatball Take-Out Dinner, Friday, May 20, Adults \$10, Children 6-12, \$5, under 6 free at The Fellowship Hall of Elm St. Church, Elm & Park Sts., 4:30-6 p.m. Rigatoni and meatballs, garlic bread, salad, brownie for dessert. We are handicapped accessible & free parking in back of the Southbridge Town Hall. This will profit our mission program, scholarships for college bound seniors, food baskets for the poor at Christmas. For tickets call (508) 347-3464 or the church office at (508) 764-8058 Tues, Wed, Thurs AM.

Saturday, May 21

SOUTHBRIDGE

Trinity Catholic Academy's 21st Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, May 21. We are inviting you to join us for a day of golfing while supporting our school. Please visit our website at www.tcagolfclassic.com for forms and information. Please contact our tournament organizer Paula Toti at ptoti3@aol.com or call at 508-847-1871.

STURBRIDGE

Rough Seas, Safe Harbor — A concert of seafaring songs by the Quinebaug Valley Singers directed by Nym Cook. Saturday, May 21, 7:30 p.m. at St. Joachim Chapel, St. Anne/ St. Patrick Parish

16 Church St., Fiskdale/Sturbridge. The QVS embark on the high seas with chanteys, hymns, ballads, and instrumental music about partings and reunions, celebrations and tragedies. You will hear street cries sung down by the docks, romantic farewells, riotous ship-board antics, wives' anxious laments on the shore, and hymns of gratitude for safe homecoming. The QVS will be accompanied by fiddles, guitars, keyboards, trombone, bass, and percussion. The QVS concerts are free, handicap accessible, and refreshments will follow compliments of QVS. Free will donations are accepted at the concerts. The QVS concerts are subsidized in part by the Sturbridge Cultural Council and the Monson Arts Council, local agencies which are supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

CHARLTON

Spring Open House at Blessings Farm — Saturday, May 21, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 50 H. Foote Rd., in Charlton. Pony rides, tag sale, bake sale, local vendors, food, raffles & Drill Team demonstration. Free parking & admission. Fun for the whole family! Rain or shine — all indoors! Visit us at www.blessingsfarm.com.

or call April at 413-245-3658 to learn more!

Yard Sale — Saturday, May 21, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Charlton City United Methodist Church will be holding their annual Yard Sale on May 21. Lots of treasures to enjoy — Collectibles, movies, home goods, books, toys ... too many things to list — and constantly adding more. Come see us at 74 Stafford St., Charlton. Call the church office at (508) 248-7379 for more information. The building is handicap accessible. Plenty of parking available. Bring your truck to haul away the treasures.

WALES

Garden Open House, Saturday, May 21, 2 to 6 p.m. — The Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary will hold a garden open house on Saturday, May 21. May is a wonderful time to view the tremendous diversity of wildflowers in our woodland gardens. The open house will take place between the hours of 2pm and 6pm. Leslie Duthie, plant propagator and horticulturist at Norcross, will lead guided garden tours on the hour for discussion of the wildflowers, both common and rare. Visitors are welcome to walk on their own up until the 6 p.m. tour. Light refreshments will be provided.

Sunday, May 22

CHARLTON

To some of us, every day is Chocolate Day, but Chapter R of the P.E.O. Sisterhood is presenting a full afternoon of chocolate treats and demonstrations, on Sunday, May 22, from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Overlook, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. There will be coffee and tea, homemade treats to sample, baskets and other items for raffle at the end of the event. Special features include a "chocolate fountain" and a cake-decorating demonstration. The decorated cake will also be raffled off.

Tickets for the event are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Proceeds will benefit the scholarships and other educational philanthropies of the PEO Sisterhood. For further information or to order tickets in advance, call Sheila Ansley, 508-434-2649 or Georgeanne Roe, 508-278-3589.

The P.E.O. Sisterhood, founded Jan. 21, 1869, at Iowa Wesleyan College, Mount Pleasant, Iowa, is a philanthropic and educational organization interested in bringing to women increased opportunities for higher education. There are approximately 6,000 local chapters in the United States and Canada with nearly 240,000 active members. Chapter R was organized in Worcester in 1958.

NOTE: P.E.O. chapters support the educational and charitable funds of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, but are not classified as charitable by the IRS. Therefore, donations to individual chapters do not meet the IRS requirements for a charitable income tax deduction. P.E.O. shall not be liable in any way for any goods and services supplied by third-party vendors or public establishments.

HOLLAND

The Holland Trails Committee will be leading a paddle on the Quinebaug River (rain or shine) on Sunday, May 22. Meet at the kayak/canoe launch by the bridge at 20 Pond Bridge Road in Holland. Bring your canoe or kayak. The paddle is from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and is 3.6 miles on flat water (downstream only). Meet at 9 a.m. to arrange transportation back to the launch. PFDs required. For info: 413 245-7745.

Friday, May 27

FISKDALE

Veterans — You are cordially invited to attend the annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Veterans' Breakfast at Tantasqua Regional Junior High School, 320B Brookfield Road, Fiskdale, on Friday, May 27. Breakfast will be at 8 a.m. in the cafeteria on the second floor. Memorial Day ceremony remembering those who made that sacrifice to ensure the freedom we have today and to honor our veterans will begin at 9 a.m. The ceremony will consist of musical selections from our band and chorus, distinguished speakers, and student readings. RSVP Required to Rebecca Perrin at (508) 347-7381 by May 16 or perrinr@tantasqua.org.

Monday, May 30

REGION

All SCM Elderbus offices will be closed on Monday, May 30, to observe Memorial Day.

Tuesday, May 31

BRIMFIELD

May 31, 10:45 a.m. — "Organic Gardening for Everyone" Lunch & Learn with Naturalist & Educator John Root. Join John for an engaging presentation that provides practical advice and inspiration to gardeners of all ages and physical conditions on growing fresh and flavorful vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers. Participants learn and share their knowledge about a range of topics, including composting and mulching to promote healthy soil, using space efficiently, growing plants from seeds and much, much more. John will also be bringing a selection of perennials and vegetable plants available for purchase.

John has many years experience presenting nature and gardening programs and is the leader of edible wild plant walks at libraries, nature centers, garden clubs, farms, and other venues throughout New England. John also offers musical and historical programs at libraries, historical societies, schools, senior centers, summer concerts, and other venues. John did his graduate studies in Botany at the University of Maryland and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is currently studying "Sustainable Landscape Design at Greenfield Community College. Lunch is available for a suggested \$2 donation but you must call prior to Friday, May 27th at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served right after the presentation (approximately 11:45 a.m.). The Brimfield Senior Center is located in the 1st Congregational Church, 20 Main St., 413-245-7253.

Friday, June 3

STURBRIDGE

Dinner Dance — Proceeds to benefit the St. John Paul II Food Pantry at Cohasse Country Club, Friday, June 3, 6 to 10 p.m. \$50 per person, sponsored by Sturbridge Rotary Club. www.sturbridgerotary.org www.facebook.com/sturbridgerotary. For information contact Austin Jenkins at 508-347-6512.

Saturday, June 4

EAST BROOKFIELD

A highly acclaimed spring safe boating course will be offered right at Camp Frank A. Day on South Pond, Saturday, June 4, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free! Camp Frank A Day, 125 South Pond Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515. Even experienced boaters have raved about this course and it's a must for new and young boaters to be safe and knowledgeable. Register online at Boat Massachusetts Course Information and find the list of courses offered. East Brookfield is at or near the bottom of the list. Or, visit <http://www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/enforcement/environmental-police/boat-and-recreation-vehicle-safety-bureau/boating-safety-course-schedule.html>.

HOLLAND

The Holland Trails Committee & Brimfield Trail Committee will be leading a Trail Ride (rain or shine) on Saturday, June 4. Meet at the kayak/canoe launch by the bridge at 20 Pond Bridge Road in Holland. Ride: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. About 10 miles (options for a shorter ride) mostly on trails, though a small part will be on little-traveled public roads. Flat terrain. Helmets required. For info: 413-245-7745.

FISKDALE

June 4, from 12-9 p.m. Hyland Orchard, 199 Arnold Rd., Fiskdale. Raffles. 50/50. Music by local bands.
1-2 p.m. Touched
2:30-3 p.m. Bobby Roy and Friends
3:30-4:30 p.m. Cold Train
5-6 p.m. Dr. Sweet Fire and Friends
6:30-7:30 p.m. Lower Level
8-9 p.m. Back Seat Boogie
Tickets are \$10 per person. For tickets contact rockingforacureday@gmail.com. Bring a chair or a blanket, pack some snacks and come for the day!

Wednesday, June 8

STURBRIDGE

Woman in Business Inc. announces its June 8 Luncheon Meeting Speaker and agenda. Woman in Business, Inc. will be announcing its annual scholarship recipients at the June 8 meeting. The featured speaker at this luncheon will be a past scholarship recipient, Hannah Datz. Today, Hannah serves as Vice President of Consumer Engagement and Commerce at SAP America, a global business enterprise software firm. A brief part of this meeting will be dedicated to the election of the Advisory Board for the 2016-2018 term. Additional nominees will be entertained prior to voting.

Woman In Business monthly meetings location — Old Sturbridge Village (Oliver Wight Tavern Entrance) 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566. Time: 12 noon (registration at 11:45 a.m.) Cost: \$20 for members; \$25 non-member.

Sunday, June 12

HOLLAND

Please join us on Sunday, June 12, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Holland Community Center for the 6th Annual Pancake Breakfast sponsored by Friends of Hamilton Reservoir. Adults \$8 advance, \$10 door. Seniors and children \$7. All proceeds go to preserve the Lake Fund. Advanced tickets please call 508-344-8007.

Saturday, June 18

HOLLAND

The 2nd Annual Carl Beane Memorial Softball Game — Holland Police vs. Holland Fire — Saturday, June 18, at Hitchcock Field, 27 Sturbridge Rd., Holland. Event begins at 2 p.m. Please come out to see a great game and support a great cause. The Holland Police Department and Fire Department in association with the Holland Recreation Committee have organized this event in memory of Carleton E. Beane, the public address announcer for Boston Red Sox home games at Fenway Park from 2003-2012. Carl was a devoted Holland resident who had a passion for youth sports. We would appreciate a minimum \$5 donation from adults who attend which will be collected on game day. Proceeds from this event will be utilized to set up a Tantasqua Regional High School Local Scholarship for a Holland student in their senior year and will be available in February of 2017.

If you wish to donate prior, you may send a check made out to the Town of Holland and mail it to: Holland Recreation Department, c/o Carl Beane Scholarship Fund, 27 Sturbridge Rd. Holland, MA 01521.

ONGOING

CHARLTON

Grief Support Group at Overlook Hospice — Have you recently experienced the loss of a parent, child, sibling, friend or spouse? We are here to help. Join a safe, supportive and caring group to share your stories and support others who are learning to live again after the death of a loved one. Drop-in group for adults meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, 1-2:30 p.m. Contact Susan Fuller at 508-434-2200.

SOUTHBRIDGE

Saint Paul II Parish's Flea Market, at 40 Charlton St., Southbridge, is open each Monday from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and each Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Items for sale include household, linens and furniture. We also have a holiday room. Donations are appreciated. All proceeds go to the support of the church.

Southbridge Coin Club meets on the third Friday of the month (except July and August). The doors open by 7 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Collectors of all ages are welcome. The meetings include raffle, auction, and show and tell. Light refreshments are served. The meetings are held in the community room at the Southbridge Savings Bank at 200 Charlton Rd. (Route 20), Sturbridge.

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a Good Local Newspaper"**

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OBITUARIES

Robert W. Osowski, 87



FISKDALE — Robert W. Osowski, 87, of Lakeshore Dr., formerly of Southbridge, passed away on Sunday, May 8, in the Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge, after a brief illness.

He leaves four sons, Bobby Osowski and his wife Karen of Dudley, Joseph Osowski and his wife Mindi of Long Beach, Calif., Michael Osowski and his partner Denise Conant of Fiskdale and Sean Osowski and his wife Cynthia of Villa Rica, Ga.; three daughters, Donna Osowski and her partner Allan Montonen of Clayton, Calif., Deborah McLean and her husband Mark of Holland and Patricia Bettencourt of West Brookfield; his former wife, Alice C. (Racine) Osowski of Southbridge; his sister, Dorothy Aucoin of Southbridge; six grandchildren, Mikey Osowski, Haley Osowski, Bobby Bettencourt, Alyssa Bettencourt, Amanda Tapia and Ryan Costere; a great grandson, Trenton Tapia; and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by two brothers, Henry Osowski and Victor Osowski.

He was born in Dudley the son of Henry and Wanda (Polakowski) Osowski.

Bob was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

Bob owned and operated Bob's Cycle Sales in Southbridge, a Honda Motorcycle dealership, for

nearly 30 years before retiring. He also previously operated his own school

bus company in the town of Southbridge, owned and operated the Ritchfield Gas Station in Southbridge as well as Bob's Service Station. Bob was an avid deer hunter but also was well known in the motorcycle racing community helping to promote the sport of motorcycle racing and sponsoring many new riders. In addition, he was well known for his collection of Indian motorcycles. Bob also rode his motorcycle cross-country from Massachusetts to Nova Scotia and onwards to the West Coast of California. In his younger years he was also a stock car driver. Most of all Bob enjoyed spending time with his family.

A special thank you to all of the staff in Emergency and Intensive Care Unit at Harrington Memorial Hospital for the wonderful care they provided Bob.

Calling hours for Bob were held on Sunday, May 15, in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a funeral service following in the funeral home. Burial in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Southbridge, will be held at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Fraternal Order of Eagles Children's Christmas Fund, 59 Mill Street, Southbridge, MA 01550 or to the Tri-Valley Elder Services, 10 Mill St., Dudley, MA 01571.

Visit www.morrillfuneralhome.com.



Alfred E. Ballard, 91



SOUTHBRIDGE — Alfred E. Ballard, 91, of Deer Run, passed away on Friday, May 13, in the Overlook Masonic Healthcare Center, Charlton, after an illness.

He leaves his wife of 60 years, Adeline (Fournier) Ballard; two brothers, Lucien H. Ballard of Sturbridge and Edward C. Ballard of Sturbridge; and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brother, Arthur O. Ballard.

He was born in Southbridge the son of Edward and Marguerite (Savaria) Ballard.

Fred was a supervisor at the Department of Transitional Assistance in Southbridge for many years, retiring many years ago. He previously worked at Globe Tool & Die in Southbridge for 22 years. He was an active member of Notre Dame Parish, now St. John Paul II Parish, serving as Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist and a member of the parish St. Vincent de Paul

Society. He was a past president of the St. Vincent de Paul Diocesan Council. He was a former member of the Board of Directors of Catholic Charities in the Worcester Diocese. Fred was a long time member of the Knights of Columbus Detrianna Council 199 in Southbridge where he was a past Grand Knight. He also served a District Deputy of the Knights of Columbus. He was a member of the Massachusetts Association of Retired Employees.

His funeral will be held on Thursday, May 19, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass at 11:00am in Notre Dame Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 446 Main St., Southbridge. Burial will be in New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge. A calling hour in the funeral home will be held on Thursday, May 19, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. John Paul II Parish, 279 Hamilton St., Southbridge, MA 01550.

Visit www.morrillfuneralhome.com.

Brian R. Mageau, 71



SOUTHBRIDGE — Brian R. Mageau, 71, of Charlton St., passed away on May 10, in the UMass Memorial Medical Center, University Campus, Worcester, after an illness.

He leaves his daughter, Kim Marie Mageau Aviles of Charlton; his two brothers, Romeo Mageau of Southbridge and Mathew Mageau of Southbridge; grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brother, Wilbert Sheran.

He was born in Southbridge the son of Romeo V. and Alice (McLean) Mageau. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Brian worked as a truck driver

for many years at Amerbelle Corp in Rockville, Conn., retiring many years ago. He previously worked at Electric Boat in Rhode Island. He was a life member of the Leonide J. Lemire post 6055 of the VFW in Southbridge. He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Southbridge and the Improved Order of Red Men in Southbridge.

A graveside service for Brian was held on Tuesday, May 17, at 12 p.m. in St. Mary's Cemetery, Southbridge. There were no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Shriners' Hospital for Children, 516 Carew St., Springfield, MA 01104.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

Visit www.morrillfuneralhome.com.



Armand J. Richards, 94



CHARLTON — Armand J. Richards, 94, formerly of Brookfield Rd., died May 8, at Overlook Masonic Health Center, Charlton, after an illness.

He leaves his wife of 65 years, Blanche

Lucille (Mongeon) Richards; five children: David A. Richards and wife Denise of Sterling, Mark S. Richards and wife Gail of Sturbridge, Paul M. Richards and wife Vicki of Southbridge, Jayne M. Petrelli and husband John of Charlton, and Sally A. Lanctot and husband Roger of Vero Beach, Fla.; 13 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

He was born in Charlton, son of Joseph and Anna (Boucher) Richards, and was predeceased by brothers Valmore, Gerard, and Henry and sister Verley.

Armand lived, worked, and volunteered in Charlton most of his life, retiring from Dresser Hill Farm where he worked as a delivery man. He was at one time recognized by the Town of Charlton as a Volunteer of the Year. A man of deep faith, he was a life-long member of St. Joseph's Church, where he ushered and served as "Mr. Coffee" for decades, and together with

his wife, was honored as a Steward of the Year. He was an Army veteran of World War II and a lifetime member of the American Legion Post 391, serving as chaplain for many years. He was a member of the Quinebaug Lodge of Masons, A.F. and A.M., Doric Chapter; Hiram Council and Knights Templar of the York Rite; and the Melha Shriners and Melha Legion of Honor. In retirement he was a driver for Elderbus and a chauffeur for Masonic Home. Always seeking to help others, he recycled cans and bottles to raise large amounts of money for Shriners hospitals. He was an active member of the Charlton Senior Center and enjoyed line dancing, ballroom dancing, and square dancing. He was a crossword puzzle enthusiast with an incredible memory, quick wit, and a knack for making friends and helping others. He will be greatly missed.

Armand's funeral was held on Friday May 13, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass in St. Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton. Burial was in West Ridge Cemetery. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Thursday, May 12.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton, MA, 01507.

Visit www.morrillfuneralhome.com.



Kathleen A. Yaskoski, 84



FISKDALE — Kathleen A. Yaskoski, 84, of Main St., passed away on Saturday, May 14, in her home, after a brief illness.

Her husband, Peter J. Yaskoski, died in 2010.

She leaves three sons, Peter R. Yaskoski of Boca Raton, FL, Michael J. Yaskoski of Palmer and Christopher Yaskoski of Southbridge; three daughters, Marcia E. Paradis of Huntersville, N.C., Patricia A. Campbell of Paxton and Laurie K. Yaskoski of South Yarmouth; nine grandchildren, Sean Woodman, MacKenzie Grady, Matthew Yaskoski, Ian Yaskoski, Chad Coughlin, Katlyn Rae Choinski, Ryan Choinski, Cameron Robida and Blake Robida; 4 step grandchildren, Aidan Spoffard, Griffin Spoffard, Seamus Spoffard and Luke Campbell; and four great grandchildren, Nicholas Jones,

Julianna Yaskoski, Isabella Woodman and Lennyn Grady. She was predeceased by her granddaughter, Jennifer Yaskoski and her sister, Mary H. Cherry.

She was born in Worcester the daughter of Clarence "Jack" and Bertha (Blette) Reed.

Kathleen was a woman of many talents, she was a great artist, and she especially enjoyed painting. She also had a great interest in genealogy. Most of all she enjoyed being with her family.

Her funeral was held on Wednesday, May 18, in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial followed in St. Anne's Cemetery, Sturbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Wednesday, May 18, before the service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney St., Boston, MA 02115.

Visit www.morrillfuneralhome.com.



Send all obituary notices to the
Sturbridge Villager, PO Box 90,
Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail
to aminor@stonebridgepress.com.

Smola supports HOME Act to assist veterans

BOSTON — Rep. Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) joined with his colleagues in the House of Representatives today to unanimously approve legislation to enhance housing and employment opportunities for Massachusetts veterans.

The bill — An Act relative to Housing, Operations, Military Service and Enrichment, or the HOME Act — calls for the creation of a new Office for State Veterans' Homes and Housing within the Department of Veterans' Services. In addition to giving veterans preference in state-assisted public housing units, the bill also makes veterans a protected class for hiring purposes.

"The HOME Act seeks to address the needs of our veterans, particularly as it relates to housing," said Smola. "With Memorial Day fast approaching, it's only fitting that we take these steps now to recog-

nize our veterans and remember the many sacrifices they have made on our behalf."

The proposed Office for State Veterans' Homes and Housing will provide oversight of the Chelsea and Holyoke Soldiers' Homes. The office will also be responsible for making recommendations to address veterans' housing needs across the Commonwealth.

Although veterans currently are given preference in public housing, this preference generally applies only to housing units within the community in which the veteran resides. The HOME Act includes a provision championed by Assistant Minority Leader Brad Hill (R-Ipswich) to give veterans statewide preference for public housing. The bill also prohibits housing authorities from counting as income any veterans benefits for service-connected disabilities in excess of \$1,800 when calculating rent.

During floor debate, two

Republican amendments were adopted and incorporated into the bill. One amendment, filed by Representative Donald Wong (R-Saugus), gives cities and towns the option of establishing a fund to assist local veterans and their spouses with their food, transportation and heating expenses, using money raised through a voluntary check-off box on municipal property and excise tax bills. The other amendment, filed by House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R-North Reading), would allow certain surviving family members of American soldiers who were killed in action, and who possess a US Department of Defense-issued Gold Star Lapel Button and letter of approval, to obtain a Gold Star Family license plate from the Registrar of Motor Vehicles.

The HOME Act also contains provisions to assist veterans with securing employment. Under current law, recipients

of the Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross can be appointed to civil service positions without having to taken an exam. The HOME Act extends this exemption to recipients of the Distinguished Service Medal and Silver Star Medal.

The HOME Act also:

- Reconfigures the Massachusetts Post-Deployment Commission, which will study the barriers facing military personnel returning to civilian life and identify ways to better assist these veterans with accessing education, employment, healthcare, housing and other services;

- Expands property tax abatements for surviving spouses of service members to include those who have died from injuries or diseases sustained during active service, even if those injuries were not sustained in a combat zone;
- Offers full property tax

abatements for the permanent residence of any veteran with a 100% disability rating for service-connected blindness;

- Extends eligibility for the Public Service Scholarship Program to the children and spouses of Prisoners of War (POWs) who served after Vietnam;

- Provides for state employees who are in the reserves and ordered to active duty for more than 30 days to continue receiving their full state salary, minus their reserve pay; and

- Allows local Veterans' Agents to be appointed to three-year terms, rather than on an annual basis.

The HOME Act now moves to the Senate for further action.

For additional information please contact Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617) 722-2100.

Community garden to lend a hand to neighbors in need

GARDEN

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Team Leader Karen Bodamer. "The grant was written not only to provide the community garden, but in hopes of educating the community on agriculture and sustainable living, educating them about nutrition and involving youth and family in the program."

The Health Department in Southbridge established community gardens around town, but they've been underutilized, noted Bodamer. Instead of building new raised beds with the grant money, Bethlehem is looking to foster the existing gardens on Cross Street, the corner of Worcester Street and Charlton Street and Holy Trinity's property, encouraging community members to use those beds for their intended purpose.

There will be a "kick off event" for Cross Street and Holy Trinity's revitalized community gardens on June 4. Residents are encouraged to bring any type of container or



After receiving a \$2,500 grant, the Bethlehem Lutheran Church expanded their community garden into Southbridge, partnering with Holy Trinity Episcopal Church.

crate to the kick-off. Mission members will be teaching everyone how to grow their own container garden in their homes. Soil and seeds will be provided free of charge. There will also be a free lunch.

"We want to get to know our

neighbors. We want to build our community," said Bodamer. "Bethlehem mission is to shine our light onto the community. Although Bethlehem is in Sturbridge, part of our community is Southbridge. It's right down the street. We want

to build that community and develop a relationship with people we don't know yet. We want to provide a place of shelter for them if we need to be. We want to address the needs that are in our community, which are access to fresh produce and

being able to afford healthy, nutritious food and educating the community about that."

Feedback has already been positive, said Bodamer. Residents on Cross Street have expressed interest in the community gardens, some volunteering to be "leaders" for the gardens. Residents must maintain the community garden, but plants and soil will be provided by the church. They will offer supervision, education and help, as well. Residents who participate in the program will receive a gift card to Walmart.

Over the summer, Bethlehem Lutheran Church will offer even more programs to the community. They will be teaching residents how to use straw bails for gardening, which doesn't require soil or water. They will offer cooking and nutrition classes. They will also be growing pumpkins in the fall.

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by email at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

Tantasqua students benefit from Harrington CPR class

CPR

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has a survival rate of three percent. The survival rate has not improved over the years because people don't know what to do in that situation or don't want to get involved. They're afraid, said Gorman.

"Hopefully, giving them the education of what to do and how to do it will take some of that fear away," said Gorman, "and make them more liable to act."

Unlike New England's devastating three percent survival rate, Seattle, Washington has a cardiac arrest survival rate of 70 percent outside of the hospital. Why? Seattle has first aid and CPR training as a requirement to get your driver's license or graduate high school. By educating large groups of students throughout the state, Gorman is hoping Massachusetts' survival rate will improve over the years.

"That life-saving window of chest compression is in the first five minutes – it closes very quickly," said Gorman.

The pressure and fear can cause many people to not react. This causes many people to die, instead of getting the help they need.

Luckily, Gorman said he has received a lot of positive reactions to the hands-only CPR training. He said: "I've seen a lot of positive reactions. You do have students who say they never want to do this. It's understandable but at least they can tell somebody what to do. It's a step in the right direction."

During the hands-only CPR training, students practiced for two minutes, experiencing how it would feel if they were to perform CPR. They learn the proper techniques. They also learn the importance of acting, whether it be calling 911 or performing CPR.

"I think every school should have this," said Depace. "We'd like to have all the districts in our area educated about hands-only CPR. They can reach Jon at Harrington for the full course to get certification."

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.



Jon Gorman discussed cardiac arrest statistics with Tantasqua students.

Festival to benefit skate and bike park in Charlton

FESTIVAL

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skateboarding, biking and scooters. It will also accommodate all age groups.

The Charlton Recreational Skate & Bike Park Group's first fundraiser was at last year's Old Home Day festivities. It included a demonstration by a BMX stunt group, Wheels in Motion, "which was very well received," said Stanley. The support came pouring in, with families signing up for the group and making donations. So far, the group has

raised \$4,000, mostly from local businesses who wish to sponsor the park.

"We want to thank the community for their continued support. It's been tremendous," said Stanley. "A lot of the adults who used this park as kids or still use it as adults, have come to the meetings. We want everyone involved. The community is coming together for this fundraiser."

After the success of Old Home Day, Wheels in Motion will be back at the Rock & Ride Festival, as well as Eastern Boarders, who will do a skateboard

demonstration. The entertainment and bands volunteered for the event, doing it all for no charge at all.

"We were not expecting this much support. It's very, very generous of them," said Stanley. "It's wonderful. The generosity is huge."

With local vendors, face painting, contests, a raffle and food, the Rock & Ride Festival is looking to be a great day for families to enjoy the nice spring weather together, while supporting a good cause.

"Parents in the community see the

need to get children outside and off the video games," said Stanley. "They need a safe place. We live in a very rural area where it's not safe to be riding bike and skateboards on the side of the road. This would be a safe area to go to. There's a new playground back there, too. Younger kids can be playing at the playground while the families and older kids can be at the skate and bike park."

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

NORTH DARTMOUTH — Casandra Caplette, of Sturbridge, graduated from UMass Dartmouth with an undergraduate degree from the College of Visual and Performing Arts during the commencement ceremony held in May at UMass Dartmouth. For more information go to <http://www.umassd.edu/commencement/>.

Bridgewater State University

BRIDGEWATER — Nearly 2,100 bachelor's degrees in the arts, science and education were awarded during Bridgewater State University's historic 175th Spring Commencement Convocation on Saturday, May 14 on the Boyden Quadrangle.

The following area residents were among those who graduated:
Fiskdale: Justin Sullivan
Sturbridge: Arianna Zikos

Colby-Sawyer College

NEW LONDON, N.H. — On Saturday, May 7, Colby-Sawyer College celebrated its 178th Commencement, recognizing students and other individuals for academic excellence, outstanding contributions to society, and service to the college and community.

Casandra Stagias, of Fiskdale, graduated with a B.S. in Child Development.

Isaac Nichols, of Sturbridge, graduated with a B.S. in Exercise Science.

Wentworth Institute of Technology

BOSTON — The following local residents have made the Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology for the spring 2016 semester.

• Sean Parnell, of Fiskdale

Joshua Hyde Public Library

STURBRIDGE — Kids! Teens! Adults! Sharpen those pencils and get those creative juices flowing. We are now accepting entries for the annual Bookmark Contest sponsored by the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library. Create

a bookmark based on the theme "On Your Mark, Get Set... READ!", the 2016 summer reading theme.

Winning bookmarks will be published and available at the Joshua Hyde Public Library. Deadline for the contest is May 20. One winner is chosen from each of the five age groups: 4-6, 7-9, 10-13, 14-17, and over 18. At a special award celebration in the summer, winners will receive a framed copy of their bookmark as well as a personal supply of their winning bookmarks.

Pick up an entry form at the Joshua Hyde Library or download from the Sturbridge Library Friend's website www.SLFriends.org.

• Monday, May 23: Reading Buddies – Reading with Keeva the Reading Therapy Dog. Children are invited to join Keeva for 15 minutes of reading practice. Children may bring their own book or select one at the library. Pre-registration required. 3-4 p.m.

• Wednesday, May 25: Chalk Paper Scissors: A Craft Club for Kids. Join us each month as we use story books to inspire simple crafts. We'll use a variety of materials and methods. Fun for the whole family! Pre-register, please. 6:30-7:15 p.m.

Sturbridge Cooperative Nursery School

STURBRIDGE — The Sturbridge Cooperative Nursery School is now accepting students for the 2016/2017 school year! At The Sturbridge Cooperative Nursery School we help our preschool children learn to work and play with other children, give them the opportunity to work and play with different equipment and toys, and foster growth and independence in each child, while promoting healthy habits that prepare them for kindergarten.

For more information or to tour the school please call (508) 347-9131.

American Legion Scholarship

FISKDALE — The American Legion Post 109 Ladies Auxiliary Fiskdale, is offering a scholarship to a senior male or female attending Tantasqua Regional High School. Special consideration will be given to those whose parent(s) have served or are serving in the military.

Application and rules are available at the Guidance Office.

POLICE LOGS

Editor's Note: The information contained in these police logs was obtained through either press releases or other public documents kept by the police department, and is considered to be the account of police. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. If a case is dismissed in court or the party is found to be innocent, Stonebridge Press, with proper documentation, will update the log at the request of the arrested party.

STURBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

May 5
7:30 a.m.: Illegal dumping, New Boston Rd. General clear.
May 6
9:04 a.m.: Recreation/hunting violation, Cedar Pond Rd. General clear.

9:19 a.m.: Suicide (Actual or Attempt). Sturbridge Police, Dept. Main St. General clear.
11:16 a.m.: Accident, hit and run, Main St. Report completed.
12:32 p.m.: Accident, property damage, All Star Incentive Marketing, Main St. Report completed.
May 7
9:54 a.m.: Accident, property damage, The Boardwalk Stores, Main St. General clear.
10:35 a.m.: Accident property damage, Penney's Appliance, Charlton Rd. Report completed.
10:42 a.m.: Accident property damage, Stop & Shop Fuel Facility - Charlton Rd. General clear.
3:06 p.m.: Accident, injury, Main St + Arnold Rd. Report completed.
7:23 p.m.: Missing runaway, Walmart - Charlton Rd. Report Completed.
May 8
00:10 a.m.: Noise complaint, Days Inn, Rte 15, General clear.

00:03 a.m.: Accident, injury, E Charlton Rd. + Podunk Pike, General clear.
00:41 a.m.: Disturbance/Dispute, Main St. General clear.
7:46 p.m.: Accident, injury, Main St + Fairgrounds Rd. General clear.
May 9
11:29 a.m.: Vandalism, Fairview Park Rd. General clear.
10:42 p.m.: Vandalism, Parking Lot on the side - Heritage Green Dr. General clear.
May 10
12:59 a.m.: Shoplifting, Heritage Xtra Mart - Charlton Rd. Arrest Complaint.
7:50 a.m.: Illegal dumping, Parent Landscape & Construction - River Rd. General clear.
2:42 p.m.: Accident, Hit and run, Publick House Historic Inn, Main St. General clear.
3:10 p.m.: Accident, Property damage, Sweet Kiwi Yogurt, Main St. General clear.

4:30 p.m.: Accident, property damage, Main and Maple St's. General clear.
May 11
4:08 a.m.: Disturbance, Dispute, Sturbridge Host Hotel, Main St. Arrest/Complaint.
6:14 a.m.: Accident, hit and run, Scottish Inn - Main St. Report completed.
7:15 p.m.: Disturbance/dispute, Applebee's Charlton Rd. General clear.
May 12
10:17 a.m.: Accident, property damage, Main St. Old Sturbridge Rd. General clear.
10:20 p.m.: Accident, property damage, E Charlton Rd. and Main St.

motor vehicle.
Richard W. Beley, 47, 152 Foote St. Barrington, R.I. Operation motor vehicle with suspended license, uninsured motor vehicle, Operating motor vehicle with registration suspended.
May 8
Andrew J. Rich, 24, 28 Breakneck Rd. Sturbridge. OUI Drugs, Negligent operation of motor vehicle, possess Class A Drug.
May 9
Katherine K. Jordan, 28, 268 Carpenter Rd. Charlton. OUI Drugs, Negligent operation of motor vehicle, State Highway traffic violation, Possess Class A Drug, Possess Class B Drug.
May 10
Yaskara Campos, 46, 6 Village Green, Sturbridge. Unlicensed operation of motor vehicle.
May 11
Erik J. Nimmo, 27, 69 Freeman Ave., Webster. Warrant arrest.

ARRESTS

May 6
Donald J. Girroir, 52, 8 Oriole Dr. Feedings Hills. Forge/misuse RMV document, missing number plate, No inspection/sticker, OUI Liquor 2nd offense, Negligent operation of

Smola announces support for FY17 House budget

BOSTON — Rep. Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means) joined with his colleagues in the House of Representatives to approve a \$39.5 billion state budget for Fiscal Year 2017. The budget was engrossed on a vote of 156-0 on April 27.

Like the budget proposal Governor Baker released in January, the House budget does not contain any tax increases and significantly reduces the state's reliance on one-time revenues. It also provides for increased local aid for cities and towns.

"As legislators, our first priority is to the taxpayers of the Commonwealth and making sure their tax dollars are being spent wisely and efficiently," said Smola. "The Baker-Polito Administration has set a high standard for fiscal responsibility, and the House budget in many ways reflects this pro-taxpayer approach."

State tax revenues for Fiscal Year 2017 are expected to total \$26.86 billion, which represents a 4.3 percent increase over the current revenue projections for Fiscal Year 2016. However, both Governor Baker and the House have attempted to limit spending growth to just 3.5 percent.

The House budget funds Chapter 70 education aid at \$4.6 billion, which is \$96 million more than the current fiscal year and \$24 million higher than the Governor's proposal, allowing for a guaranteed statewide minimum increase of \$55 per pupil. Unrestricted general government aid, which can be used for a wide range of municipal spending purposes, is increased by \$42.1 million to a total of \$1.022 billion.

Smola noted that under the House budget plan, Brimfield will receive \$1,223,352 in Chapter 70 education aid and \$374,868 in unrestricted state aid.

Holland will receive \$919,098 in Chapter 70 education aid and \$194,067 in unrestricted state aid. Palmer will receive \$10,784,150 in Chapter 70 education aid and \$1,928,274 in unrestricted state aid. Sturbridge will receive \$3,707,004 in Chapter 70 education aid and \$744,926 in unrestricted state aid. Wales will receive \$933,261 in Chapter 70 education aid and \$227,105 in unrestricted state aid. Ware will receive \$9,311,180 in Chapter 70 education aid and \$1,659,994 in unrestricted state aid. Warren will receive \$869,917 in unrestricted state aid.

The House budget increases funding for the "Pothole" account from \$2.5 million to \$10 million to provide extraordinary relief to school districts that experience a substantial shortfall between their Chapter 70 aid and target Chapter 70 aid. The budget also includes \$276.6 million for Special Education Circuit Breaker reimbursements - fully funding the state's share of special education aid for local school districts at 75 percent - while also providing \$85.5 million for charter school reimbursements and \$60 million for regional school transportation reimbursements.

For the second consecutive year, the House budget does not draw money from the state Stabilization Fund. Instead, it provides for \$210 million to be deposited into the fund, which will bring the balance to \$1.47 billion. The House budget also relies on \$253 million in one-time revenues, which is about \$350 million less than the current budget.

The budget now moves to the Senate, which is expected to release its own spending proposal in mid-May.

For additional information please contact Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617) 722-2100.



TANTASQUA REGIONAL JR./SR. HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, May 23: Chicken and broccoli with a twist, served with garlic bread, seasoned green beans, Caesar salad, chilled apple sauce, milk.

Tuesday, May 24: Chicken parmesan, fries, veggie sticks with dip, chilled peaches, milk.

Wednesday, May 25: Breakfast for Lunch - Pancakes with syrup, sausage patty, hash brown potato, warm apple slices, zucchini bread, fresh fruit, milk.

Thursday, May 26: Rib BQ sandwich, rancho beans, Mexicali corn, chilled peaches, milk.

Friday, May 27: Chicken cordon blue sandwich, pasta salad, roasted carrots, oatmeal cookie, milk.

TRI-VALLEY, INC.

Monday, May 23: Chicken Mornay, couscous, Roman blend vegetables, peaches, marble rye vegetables, peaches, marble rye bread, minestrone soup.

Tuesday, May 24: Pot roast stew, steamed potatoes, succotash, fruit crunch bar, Diet=cookie, French bread.

Wednesday, May 25: Turkey a la King, wild rice, Brussels sprouts, pears, pumpernickel bread.

Thursday, May 26: Meatloaf and gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, summer blend vegetables, Birthday cake, Diet=Plain cake, whole-wheat bread.

Friday, May 27: Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, green beans, fresh fruit, French bread.

Attention Pet People!

Looking for photos of your beloved pets to honor them in our newspapers on June 3rd in
WE LOVE OUR PETS!
We will have a spot for Pet Memoriams too!

SEND IN YOUR PET PHOTO with pet name and town from by EMAIL TO June at jsima@stonebridgepress.com. Have an old photo? Take a picture of it with your Smartphone and send. Pet Memoriams can include a 25-word message. **No cost to submit a pet photo or memoriam. This is NOT a contest...ALL of our pets are winners!**

Attention Businesses!

We are looking for sponsors for our **WE LOVE OUR PETS Page** **RUNNING IN ALL 7 MASS PAPERS on June 3rd** Reaching 47,000 households by mail in Spencer New Leader, Auburn News, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Webster Times, Blackstone Valley Tribune, Southbridge News

You do not need to be a PET RELATED SERVICE to participate!

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DOUBLE BLOCK \$100 (reg. \$280; \$530 color) actual size 2.4" x 5" or 5" x 2.5"
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Contact: June Simakauskas at 508-909-4062, email jsima@stonebridgepress.com; or Sandy Lapensee, 508-909-4110, email sandy@stonebridgepress.com for more info or to be a sponsor

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WALK

continued from page 1

entered in a statewide raffle.

Participants don't have to finish the entire walk. Walkers and wheelchairs are also encouraged. The location is handicap accessible. Police and firefighters will be on scene.

Along the mile walk there will be vendors every quarter of the mile. Some vendors are educational, including visiting nurses. Each vendor will be giving a trinket away. There will be freebies at each booth, as well as information on programs for seniors. Local businesses are also giving away gift cards and products.

"We want the seniors to get more involved with the community and get the community more aware of our

seniors. It's a community-wide event," said Wong. "People are coming with their dogs. Families are planning on showing up, students... This brings all ages out. It brings everyone together as a community. It brings awareness to the seniors. They need to be aware of their seniors and get people more involved with the seniors. Sometimes they're lost in the shuffle of things. The seniors want to be involved in the community."

Participants will park at the Education Building. Half of Access Road will be closed. Pre-register by calling the Sturbridge Senior Center at (508) 347-7575.

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER

SPORTS

In search of consistency, Tantasqua softball downs Cougars

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

WARREN — The up-and-down, roller coaster like ride that is Tantasqua Regional's 2016 softball season took a turn for the better on Wednesday, May 11 when the Warriors got over the .500 line following a 12-2 victory over Quaboag Regional.

The win improved Tantasqua's record to 7-6.

"We're looking for consistency," explained head coach Phil Desroches. "It's been a little frustrating. Some games we don't play as well as we can. I think we understand that we're a lot better than our record."

The Warriors started out strong versus Quaboag, setting the tone with a five-run top of the first frame.

"It's a great start against any team," said Desroches. "When you can put up five in the first inning, it puts you in a good frame and it puts them in a bad frame."

Emily Blanchard, Tantasqua's pitcher, batted in the first run with an RBI single.

"That's what you want, helping yourself," said Desroches of Blanchard, who finished 3 for 5 at the plate.

Then, with the bases loaded, Jillian Dunn launched a double down the left field line that plated three. Dunn took third base on a throwing error and later scored on a Lindsey Zak (2 for 3) RBI single.

Blanchard then retired Quaboag's batters without relinquishing a run in the bottom of the first and second before the Cougars plated a pair in the third.

Holly Boyle — Quaboag's pitcher — helped her cause by driving in a run when her hit bounced off third baseman Kendra Salviuolo's glove

and over to shortstop Abby Stansky. Stansky then threw over to first base, but the low throw resulted in an error that allowed Boyle to reach the bag safely and Evona Bolaske to score. Jackie Gancorz then delivered an RBI single into left field to trim the deficit down to 5-2.

Tantasqua responded by getting those two runs back in the top of the fourth on a Kelsey Emrich (4 for 5) pop fly that was dropped to score Abby LaFountain (3 for 5) and an RBI single from Blanchard.

The Warriors' tacked on two more runs in the fifth to make it a 9-2 game. Sarah Harlinski singled, stole second and third base, and scored on a throwing error. Stansky (2 for 5) then tripled and Emrich drove her in with an RBI single.

Stansky made up for her third inning error with multiple defensive web gems. One came in the bottom of the fifth when another ball hit the glove of Marie Stewart — now playing third base — and Stansky tracked it down and threw to first base to record an out.

Tantasqua then put the game away with a three-run seventh. With two runners on, Blanchard ripped a single into right field. The ball then got past the outfielder to score LaFountain, Emrich and eventually Blanchard.

On the mound, Blanchard tossed seven innings and surrendered seven hits while striking out four, walking two and hitting one.

"That's what you want in your No. 2," Desroches said of Emrich's outing, adding that LaFountain, the team's ace, has been out of the pitching circle with tendinitis in her right biceps but should be cleared to return before press time.

Offensively, the Warriors



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua's Abby LaFountain attempts to reach first base safely but can't beat the throw to the bag.

smashed 17 hits. Desroches knows his team can hit, but hopes it can remain consistent while they search for at least three more wins to become postseason eligible in the Central Mass. Division 1 district tournament.

"I think we have one of the better-hitting teams in our league, but I'd love to see it click all at once," he said.

Quaboag, meanwhile, dropped to 3-8.

"We've lost eight [starters] over the last two years and they were eight solid ball players and they're in key positions," explained head coach John Fox.

Fox added that multiple

players, including Cassidy Paquette, Leah Robillard (2 for 4) and Valarie Wedge (2 for 3) are playing out of their normal positions but don't mind doing whatever it takes to help the team compete.

"They're willing to try anything," he said. "They have really good attitudes."

In addition, catcher Shelby McMullen was a junior varsity call-up for the game versus Tantasqua.

"She played phenomenal back there," Fox said.

Despite the sub .500 record, the Cougars' season isn't lost. Quaboag, a Central Mass. Division 3 club, plays 75 percent (15 of 20) of its games

against teams competing in a higher division. Therefore, because of the 70 percent rule, if the Cougars finish 3-2 or better against similar D3 teams, they will also be postseason-bound.

"I tell them every year, the quality of softball that we play in our league — you go up against these better teams — you're more prepared for district play," said Fox.

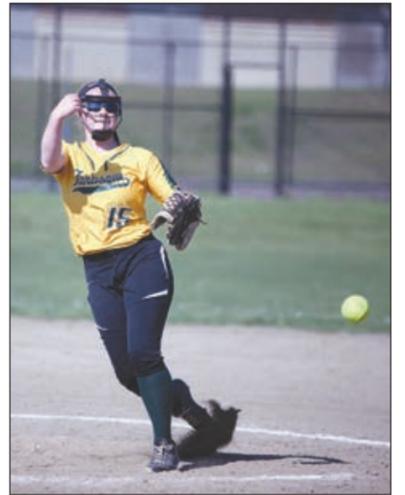
Quaboag is currently 1-1 in Division 3 games — defeating Southbridge High and losing to Uxbridge High — and must win two of its final three D3 contests versus Southbridge, North Brookfield High and Murdock Regional.



Catcher Jillian Dunn of Tantasqua grab the ball on an inside pitch to Quaboag's Shelby McMullen.



Abby Stansky of Tantasqua belts a second inning single versus Quaboag.



Tantasqua's Emily Blanchard lets go of a pitch in a 12-2 victory over Quaboag.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

May 9

Tantasqua 16, Bartlett 3 — Abby Stansky (4 for 5), Kelsey Emrich (3 for 5) and Hayley Worthington (2 for 5) all drove in three runs for the Warriors during a softball victory over the Indians, which was played in six mercy rule shortened innings. All 10 players who went to the plate for Tantasqua produced at least one RBI, while pitcher Emily Blanchard scattered 10 hits to earn the win.

Tantasqua 5, Bartlett 0; Tantasqua 5, Bartlett 0 — The host Warriors welcomed the Indians in a boys' tennis doubleheader, which Tantasqua (5-3) swept. Curt Allen, Michael Herrmann and Aaron Inthirath won both times in their singles matches. The Warriors' doubles tandem of Sam Currier and Gene Munnis won twice, once from No. 1 doubles and once from the No. 2 spot. Andrew Umanzor/Jared Worth and Jimmy Damon/Gino Placella also won in doubles action for Tantasqua.

Bartlett 4, Tantasqua 1; Bartlett 4, Tantasqua 1 — In a girls' tennis doubleheader matchup played in Webster, Bartlett defeated the Warriors by the same score. Natalie Terranova (No. 1 singles), Olivia Mason (No. 3 singles) and Lyndsey Sweatland/Summer Lamprey (No.

1 doubles) won both times for the Indians.

Megan Marrier won once at No. 2 singles for Bartlett (6-2), as did Morgan Mascolo for Tantasqua (4-6). The same situation occurred in No. 2 doubles, where the Indians' Jordan Beals/Edna Mbgubua and the Warriors' Victoria Kirkland/Sarah Scott each won once.

Minnechaug 15, Tantasqua 5 — Grace McHugh recorded a hat trick, Sam Muir tallied a goal and 3 assists, and Camie Hall scored, but it wasn't enough as the host Warriors (7-4) lost a tough decision to Minnechaug.

May 10

Amherst 5, Tantasqua 4 — In the continuation of a game started on May 6, Aliya Bartmon struck out 10 and knocked in two runs with a triple to help Amherst edge the visiting Warriors' softball team.

For Tantasqua, Lindsey Zak was 2 for 3 with 2 RBI's and Emily Blanchard was 2 for 4 with an RBI while pitching and recording 9 strikeouts.

May 11

Tantasqua 3, Quaboag 2 — In a boys' tennis matchup played in Sturbridge, the host Warriors edged the Cougars. The winners for Tantasqua (6-3) were Curt Allen (No. 1 singles), Michael

Herrmann (No. 2 singles) and Sam Currier/Noah Scott (No. 2 doubles). Jack Luyrink (No. 3 singles) and Robert Greenlaw/Magnus Martin (No. 1 doubles) grabbed points for Quaboag (7-1).

Quaboag 3, Tantasqua 2 — The host Cougars defeated the Warriors in a girls' tennis matchup thanks to points by Comfort Smythe (No. 3 singles), Emily Bouchard/Emily Floury (No. 1 doubles) and Isabelle Greenlaw/Alyssa Bettencourt, which vaulted their record up to 7-2. Elise Hanks-Witaszek (No. 1 singles) and Morgan Mascolo (No. 2 singles) were victorious for Tantasqua (4-7).

May 12

Tantasqua 3, Leicester 2 — The Warriors hosted and defeated the Wolverines in a tightly contested girls' tennis matchup. Winners for Tantasqua (5-7) included Morgan Mascolo (No. 2 singles), Kristy Zhang/Rebekah Bennett (No. 1 doubles) and Sarah Scott/Victoria Kirkland (No. 2 doubles).

The winners for Leicester were Grayson Lacroix (No. 1 singles) and Jacqui Robidoux (No. 3 singles), as the Wolverines dropped their first match as their record now stands at 8-1.

Tantasqua 15, Hopedale 3 — The

Warrior girls' lacrosse team jumped out to a 12-1 halftime lead at halftime en route to a big victory. Tantasqua's Grace McHugh scored 3 goals and added another 3 assists, while Cami Hall also scored three times. Two-goal scorers included Joanie Howland and Sam Muir, and Rachel Godek (3 assists), Rachel Hayden, Sharlette LaPorte, Brooke Galonek and Emily Morin also tallied goals. The Warriors' record improved to 8-4.

Westborough 12, Tantasqua 5 — Hayley Worthington belted a two-run homer and Marie Stewart was 2 for 2 with an RBI, but the Warriors' softball team fell at the hands of the visiting Rangers. Abby LaFountain returned to the pitching circle after missing some time due to an injury, but the loss dropped Tantasqua's record to 7-7.

Tantasqua 4, Leicester 1 — The Warriors (7-3) swept their singles matches in a boys' tennis matchup with the host Wolverines (6-2). Tantasqua's winners were Curt Allen (No. 1 singles), Michael Herrmann (No. 2 singles), Aaron Inthirath (No. 3 singles), as well as the No. 1 doubles tandem of Sam Currier and Andrew Umanzor.

Leicester's Trevor Mott and Harsh Patel won their No. 2 doubles game.

SPORTS

Strong fourth quarter helps Tantasqua boys' lacrosse beat Brownies



Tantasqua's Jesse Guillette, right, pokes an Agawam player possessing the ball.



Tantasqua's Anthony Law flings a pass down the field after receiving pressure from an Agawam defender.



A slew of Tantasqua defenders, including Ben Beaudry (24), go after an Agawam attacker.



Tantasqua's Brandon Sears eyes the net before releasing a shot.



An aggressive Mike Lucas of Tantasqua defends his goal well on this play.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE — Although the Tantasqua Regional boys' varsity lacrosse team held a 7-2 halftime lead over Agawam High on Saturday, May 14, and then added another goal early in the third quarter to up the advantage to 8-2, the Warriors found themselves up by just a pair — 8-6 — entering the final 12-minute period.

"We absolutely got complacent," admitted Tantasqua head coach John Pedace. "We were up by six and all of a sudden it's a two-goal game."

At one point during a fourth quarter timeout, the usually mild-mannered Pedace lost his cool, begging his team to improve their play and ultimately win the game.

"I lost my mind and maybe it spurred them on, who knows?" Pedace said.

The Warriors wound up winning fourth quarter scoring 4-1 to pull out a 12-7 victory.

On whether or not Pedace plans on

upping his antics in the future, he joked, "Maybe if it takes me totally snapping and having a meltdown on the sidelines, I'll do that. I'll play the fool for a couple minutes if it gets them fired up."

In addition to the strong fourth quarter, Tantasqua also played good first and second frames to build the aforementioned 7-2 halftime lead. The Warriors jumped ahead 3-0 and led by a 3-1 count at first quarter's end. Tantasqua then scored four of the five second quarter goals to build an even bigger lead.

Pedace believes that when his team plays well they have just as much talent as most teams in Central Mass.

"They're one of the most skilled teams out here," he said. "That first unit is probably one of the most skilled in Central Mass."

The Warriors' first attack line includes juniors Anthony Law, Mike Frio and Ben Beaudry, and all have accumulated over 30 points this season.

Law finished with five goals and an assist versus the Brownies, while Frio (four goals, one assist) and Beaudry

(one goal, three assists) also contributed to the win.

"We moved it well," said Law. "We moved our feet well and found the openings."

Sophomore midfielder Tom Muir registered four assists, while seniors Brandon Sears and Cole France each scored a goal. Freshman goalie Mike Lucas made nine saves.

All in all, the victory bumped Tantasqua's record up to 8-5, which is a significant increase from the 7-6 mark the Warriors could have endured should they have lost to Agawam.

"It's huge," Pedace said. "Either way we need 10 wins, but 8-5 is a bigger gap."

The 10 wins Pedace referenced is the magic number to automatically qualify for the Central/Western Mass. Division 2 district postseason tournament, where the Warriors reached the quarterfinal round a season ago.

"We got two more games to win to get into the playoffs, so we just got to try to win out and get home field," concluded Law.

SPORTS BRIEF

Blue Jays Baseball Club sponsoring high school exhibition series in Cooperstown

The Blue Jays Baseball Club is sponsoring a high school exhibition series in the Cooperstown, New York area next spring for varsity and junior varsity teams. They are also sponsoring three-game summer tournaments for 13U, 14U, 16U and 18U clubs. Night games can be scheduled. Trophies awarded. For additional information, contact Harvey Sandig at (607) 652-7740 with your open dates. You can also email him at Cooperstown314@aol.com.



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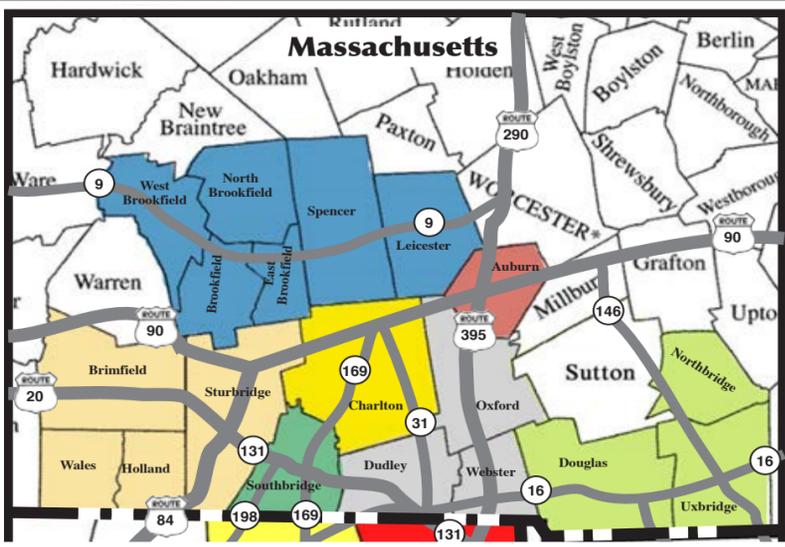
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Senate passes comprehensive agricultural bill

BOSTON — The Massachusetts Senate recently approved a comprehensive, omnibus agricultural package.

The bill, An Act to promote agriculture in the Commonwealth, sponsored by Sen. Ann Gobi (D-Spencer) provides opportunities and protections to current and prospective farmers throughout Massachusetts, increases access and availability of locally grown food products, and invests in educational and agricultural programs to further grow the industry.

There are 7,755 farms in Massachusetts working on over 523,000 acres to produce \$492 million in agricultural products. Massachusetts farms provide employment to nearly 28,000 workers in the Commonwealth. 80 percent of Massachusetts farms are family owned. 95 percent fit the category of "small farms" according to the USDA definition of sales below \$250,000. Massachusetts ranks 6th in the nation for number of farms with Community Supported Agriculture (CSA); a 95 percent increase since 2007. Over this same time period the state saw growth in agri-tourism sales of 127 percent. At nearly \$48 million, the state ranks 5th in the nation for direct market sales and 3rd in the nation for direct market sales per operation. Direct market sales account for 10 percent of the state's total sales of agricultural products.

"Maintaining a robust agricultural economy is the right thing to do, for our farmers, communities and the Commonwealth," said Senator Anne M. Gobi, Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture. "We are fortunate to have so many people willing to spend their time and finances to make sure the rest of us enjoy a wide array of agricultural products. This bill is a step in recognizing their efforts and to support them moving forward."

"Farming is more than just an industry for our small, family-owned farms across the Commonwealth it's a way of life. Farms also enhance the protection of open space and add to our robust tourism industry," said Senate President Stan Rosenberg (D-Amherst). "This bill expands opportunities for the thousands of agricultural workers who call Massachusetts home, and increases access to healthy, locally sourced food. I thank Senator Gobi for her hard work on this important piece of legislation."

"Our local farmers have a large impact on the Massachusetts economy," said Sen. Karen E. Spilka, Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. "This comprehensive bill encourages locally grown products and food sources, increases opportunities for community gardens and farmers markets and enhances farmland sustainability,

among many other provisions to make sure our agriculture industry continues to thrive."

"From the earliest day of the Commonwealth, agriculture has been vitally important to our health, wellbeing and economy," said Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester). "This bill strengthens the infrastructure and systems that support farmers and growers, those who wish to preserve agricultural lands, those employed in agriculture, and consumers."

The legislation reflects recommendations from the Massachusetts Local Food Action Plan, finalized in December 2015. The legislation utilizes state-owned land for non-commercial community gardens and farmers markets, while also allowing farmer brewers and distillers to sell products at farmers markets.

To incentivize farmers and drive local food production, the bill eases regulatory restrictions that may currently inhibit agricultural modernization by establishing commissions to assess the management of state protected farmland and the agricultural plumbing code. Other changes include extending the license durations for forestry and timber harvesting and integrating rain sensor devices into the state building code.

Providing a boost to Massachusetts Dairies, the bill establishes a regulatory framework for the allowance of off-premise raw milk distribution, including through CSA agreements. Massachusetts will join sixteen other states to allow raw milk distribution including Connecticut, Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire.

To promote job growth and support Massachusetts veterans, the bill creates the Massachusetts Veterans and Warriors to Agriculture Program Fund. The fund's purpose is to integrate veterans into the field of agriculture and support veterans currently working in the industry. The fund will provide loans and grants to public, private and charitable entities to finance projects that work towards this purpose.

A retained revenue account for the Department of Agricultural Resources, in conjunction with the Agricultural Resolve and Security Fund, will contribute to the funding of various educational and innovative initiatives to promote food growth and security. Aiming to protect crops, the bill also establishes liability of up to three times the assessed value to any individual who causes damage or destruction to crops or agricultural property.

The bill passed on a 36-1 vote and will now head to the House for consideration.



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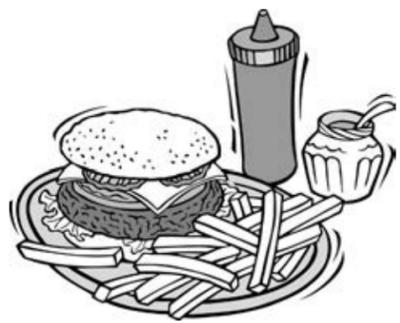
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Listings Always Needed - We're Always Busy Selling!!!

<p>THOMPSON - 4 Jezierski Ln 3,225' 9 Rm Colonial w/Ln-Law Apt! 1.8 Acres! SS Appliance Kit, Corian Counter, Tile Flr & Pantry! Din Rm w/Wood Frplc! Living Rm! Frplc Cathedral Ceiling Fam Rm! Master Suite! 4 Bdrms! 3 Baths! 16x26 Deck! 18x36 In-Ground Pool 2 Car Attached Garage! \$349,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE DUDLEY - 13 Blackmere Rd! 2,579' 8 Rm Cape w/Farmers Porch! 2.16 Acres! SS Appliance Kit! 6 Burner Gas Cook-top! Frplc Liv Rm! Din Rm w/Hrwd! 1st Flr Master w/Bath! Upstairs 2 Bdrms & Full Bath! Over Garage: Main Town/ Guest Rm w/2 Bath! Studio w/Hrwd! Wired w/Oil or Wood Pellet, Sep Furnaces! Heat w/Gen! Garages! Deck! \$333,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE CHARLTON - 6 Bay Path Rd! Charming 9 Rm Brick Colonial! Covered Front Porch! Overlooking 2+ Acres! Spacious Dining & Living Rooms! Formal Staircase Leading to 4 Bedrooms! Seller Resonating Full Bath! 2 Stall Barn w/Turnout! Great for Horses! Two Additional - 2 Plus Acre Lots Available for \$80,000! \$278,600.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT DUDLEY - 4 Flaxfield Rd! 11 Rm Gambrel w/4 Rm In-law Apt! 1.13 Acres! Applcncd Granite Kit w/Is! & Brick Hearth! Din & Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrwd! Fam Rm w/Skyights & Full Bath! Huge Master! 5 Bdrms & 3.5 Baths Total! Lower Level Game Rm! 2 Car Garage! \$369,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT WEBSTER - 884 School St! 7 Rm Cape! Applcncd Kit! Formal Din Rm w/Corner Hutch! Frplc Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 4 Bdrms! 1.5 Baths! Sun Rm! Hrwd! Frs Throughout! Lower Level Game Rm & Fam Rm or Exercise Rm! Buderus Furnace! In-Ground Pool! Garage! Shed! \$234,900.00</p>	<p>MILLBURY - 13 Bayberry Ln! RAMSHORN POND! 100' Shoreline! East Expo - Super Sunrises! 10+ Rm 4,200' Contemp Colonial! Most Rm Lake Facing! Wrap Around Deck! 3 Bdrms, 2 Lake Facing w/Full Baths! 2nd Granite Applcncd Kitchen! 3 Full - 2 Half Baths! 32 AC! Buderus Gas Heat! Garage! \$699,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 4 Tanner Rd! Custom 9 Rm, 3,494' Brick Ranch! 68 Acres! 70' Deck! Fam Rm w/Cathedrals, Skylight, Stone Frplc & Hrwd! Din & Liv Rm w/Hrwd! 3 Bdrms! 3.5 Baths! Master Suite! 1st Flr Laundry! Finished Lower Level! C/A! Security! 2 Car Garage! \$379,900.00</p>	<p>NEW/CONSTRUCTION THOMPSON - 7 Fairway Dr! 7 Rm Colonial! Pick Your Colors! SS Appliance Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar! Open Fr Plan! Spacious Din & Liv Rm! 1st Flr Office/Desk! Hrwd! Frs! Master w/Cathedral Ceiling! Master Bath w/ Dual Sinks, Whirlpool, Separate Shower! 3 Bdrms! 2.5 Baths! 2 Car Garage! LP Gas Heat! C/A! 335 Near! \$354,900.00</p>
<p>NEW LISTING AUBURN - 55 Loring St! RVer's Dream! Pull Your Motor Coach into 24X60 Garage! Full Hook Ups! 7 Rm, 1,820' Contemp Ranch! Granite Kit w/Island! 14x27' Liv Rm w/Cathedrals! Frplc Fam Rm! Frplc Master/Master Bath! 2 Bdrms! 3 Baths! 28x51' "Indoor Pool" Rm! C/A! 1.43 Acres! Super Convenient! \$449,900.00</p>	<p>NEW LISTING THOMPSON - 449 E Thompson Rd! 6 Rm Contemp! Beautiful 1.5 Acres! Applcncd Kit w/Quartz Counters, Cherry Cabinets, Breakfast Bar! Formal Din Rm! Cathedral Ceiling Liv Rm w/Frplc! Master w/Walk-in Closets, Private Deck & Full Bath! 3 Bdrms! 2.5 Baths! C/Vac! Mitsubishi A/C! Wired for Generator! 2 Car Garage! 2 Sheds! \$329,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT CHARLTON - GLEN ECHO LAKE! 92 Stevens Park Rd! Prime 105' Waterfront! Ideal 10,306' Level Lot! Panoramic Lake Views! 4 Rm Ranch! Cathedral Ceiling Lake Facing Liv Rm & Master Bdrm! Skyights! Gabley Kit! Ideal Second Home or Build Your Dream Home. Town Sewer makes it Possible! \$249,900.00</p>	<p>NEW LISTING WEBSTER - 25 Black Point Rd! 6 Rm 2050' Colonial! 13 Yrs Young! Applcncd! Open Fr Plan - Dining Rm & Living Rm - 30' 9" Ceilings! 22' Master Bdrm w/Bath! 3 Bdrms! 2.5 Baths! Corner Lot! Farmer's Porch! Deck! Across the Street from Webster Lake Colonial Park Beach Rights! \$279,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD DUDLEY - 7 Pasta Rd! "Grand View Estates" 9 Rm Custom Split! 1.21 Acres! Applcncd Granite Kit w/Is! Open Fr Plan w/Beamed Cathedrals! Frplc Liv Rm! 16x23 Fam Rm w/Skyights! 25x29 Master w/Walk-in Closet, Skylights, French Dr to Deck! 3 Bdrms! 3 Baths! Finished Lower Level! 5 Car Garage! Ingr Pool! \$329,900.00</p>	<p>OPEN HOUSE Sundays from 12:00-2:00! WEBSTER - New England Commons! Adult 55+! 2 Bdrms! 1 to 2 Baths! Master! Applcncd! Granite! Hrwd! Tile & Carpet! Basements! Garage! C/A! Security! Community Center! Walking Trails! Low Fees! Convenient! From \$234,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT WOODSTOCK - 81 Loyola Rd! WAPPAQUASSET "QUASSET POND" Hidden 88 Acre Recreational Gem! Woodstock Fairgrounds Near! Yr Rd or 2nd Home! 6+ Multi-Level Contemp! 100' Waterfront! 18,750' Lot! 2 Bdrms! 2.5 Baths! A/C! Expandable! 3 Car Garage w/2nd Floor! \$349,900.00</p>	<p>WOODSTOCK - 374 Prospect St! 19.7 Acres! 84' Ranch! 2,500 SqFt! Frplc Liv Rm & Din Rm w/Hrwd! 26' Fam Rm! 3 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2 Full Baths! Anderson Windows! Separate Oil & Wood Furnaces! 14KW Automatic LP Gas Generator! Recent 24x18' Barn & 30x42' Steel Building! \$349,900.00</p>
<p>ON DEPOSIT WEBSTER - 36 Joyce St! Charming 7 Rm Cape! 4 Bdrms! All Natural Woodwork! Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrwd! Fr! Din Rm w/Hrwd! Chair Rail! Kit! SS Appliances! Full Tile Bath! 1st Flr Master! Full Town Water & Sewer! Roof 2011! Gas Furnace, Water Heater & Gas Line! 68' Circuit Breakers & Some Windows! \$194,900.00</p>	<p>NEW LISTING CHARLTON - South Charlton Reserve! 302C Waterfront Hill Rd! Full Recreational! 75' Waterfront! West Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 6 Rm Ranch! Great Water Views! Open Fr Plan w/Cathedrals, Skylights, Frplc! 2 Baths! Fam Rm! Garage! Sandy Shore, Great Swimming! Deck! \$399,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE DUDLEY - Waterfront! Pierpont Meadow Pond! 112 Klondike Rd! 100' Sandy West Facing Shoreline! Sunsets! 15,375' Lot! 5 Rm Year Round Ranch with that Cozy Cottage Feel! Kooky Pine, Cathedrals & Hardwoods! 2 Bdrms! Open Floor Plan! Shed! \$309,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT WEBSTER - 18C Linwood St! 5 Room Townhouse! End Unit! Spacious and Comfortable! 1,200' Applcncd Eat-in Kitchen! Natural Wood Cabinets & Slider to the Deck! Living Rm w/Ceiling Fan! 2 Bdrms! Master w/Walk-in Closet! Fam Rm w/Slider to the Back Yard! 3 Zone Oil Heat! Easy 335 Access! \$169,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT WEBSTER - 188 Lower Gore Rd! Beautiful 14.19 ACRES! 500+ of Road Frontage! 6+ Room Colonial Cape! TLC and Updating Needed! But Loads of Potential & Character! Natural Woodwork! 24' Living Rm w/Brick Fireplace! Pantry Kitchen w/Dining Area! 3 Huge Bdrms w/Walk-in Closets! Barn! \$149,900.00</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED WEBSTER - 9-11 Lyndale Ave! 8 Rm Colonial w/Greenhouses! Eat-in Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm Open to Living Rm w/Wood Floors! Full Bath! Den w/Built-in! 4 Large Bedrooms on 2nd Floor! Nice Level! Walking Distance to Center of Webster! Town Services! Rte. 335 Near! Walk to Schools & Churches! \$122,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT OXFORD - 14 Theloni Court! 5 Rm Townhouse! Corner Unit! Open Concept! Cathedral Ceiling Kit w/SS Appliances! New Counters! Cathedral Liv Rm! Tile Entrance Foyer! Large Master Bedroom w/Updated Bath! 2 Bedrooms! 2 Baths! Washer/Dryer Included! C/A! Oversized Garage! Full Basement Ready to Finish! \$204,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT DUDLEY - 7 Catherine St! Mason Road Area! Comfortable 6 Rm Cape! Freshly Painted! Infr! Recent Walk to Wall Over! Frplc Liv Rm w/Cat. Closet! Din Rm! Applcncd Eat-in Kit w/Knotty Fine Wood Cabinets! 3 Bdrms! Full Bath! Basement! Furnace! 2011! Garage! Roof 2003! Town Water & Sewer! \$179,900.00</p>
<p>WEBSTER LAKE COMPOUND! 2 Checkerberry Isl! Private 2.09 Acre Waterfront Peninsula Estate! Park Like Grounds! 2,800' 8 Rm Colonial Main House w/Lake Views from Most Windows! SS Applcncd Granite Kit! Din Area w/Tile! Fr! Lake Facing 38' Din/Liv Rm w/Frplc, Recessed Lighting & Slider to Wrap Around Deck! French Dr! Fam Rm Surrounded by Water! 3 Bdrms! 21' Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Slider to Private Deck w/Lake Views, Master Bath! 2nd Bath w/Dble Vanity Sinks, 3.5 Baths! Skywalk Attached 750' 4 Rm Guest/In-Law Apartment w/Granite Kit, SS Applcncd, Open Din & Liv Rm w/Slider to Lake View Deck, Bdrm, Nice Bathroom! Detached 3 Rm Yr Rd Guest Cottage or Rental Unit w/Kit, Frplc Liv Rm, Bdrm & Bathroom! Enclosed 3 Season Pavilion Great for Entertaining! Tree Lined Private Drive! Rolling Lawn! Decks! Patios! Ideal Dock Setup! Boat Ramp! For the Discerning Buyer! \$1,449,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 71 Birch Island! 7 Rm Colonial w/Lake Views from Every Rm! Hrwd in Din/Liv & Master Bdrms! 3 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Walkout Lower Level! Fam Rm! 239' Waterfront! New Metal Roof! 2 Car Attached Garage! 3 Car Detached w/2nd Flr! Needs to be Seen to Appreciate Everything it Could Be! \$674,900.00</p>	<p>NEW LISTING WEBSTER LAKE - 402 Treasure Island! Townhouse! 6 Rm! 1,874! Hardwood Floors! Applcncd! Open Floor Plan! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Frplc Fam Rm! C/A! Gas Heat! Recent Trex Deck! Garage! 2 BOAT SLIPS! Heat! Sandy Beach! \$304,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 21 Wakefield Ave! In a Cove! Protected! Idle Out to the Lake - South Pond Lake Access! 10 Rm Colonial! 5 Bdrms & 2.5 Baths! Applcncd! Flexible Fr! Plan! Master Suite w/Bath, Dressing Rm & Office Area! Buderus LP Gas Heat! \$344,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD WEBSTER LAKE - 305 Treasure Isl! Townhouse! 6 Rm! 1,874! Hrwd Floors! Applcncd Granite Kit! Open Fr Plan! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath w/Stone Tile Shower! 2.5 Baths! Frplc Fam Rm! C/A! Gas Heat! Trex Deck! Recent Windows! Garage! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool, Sandy Beach! \$299,900.00</p>	<p>ALEXANDER'S LAKE - Killingsly, CT! 95 Island Rd! Beautiful Inside & Out! 8 Rm Waterfront Colonial! Applcncd Kit! Frplc Liv Rm! 1st Flr Bdrm, Bath & Laundry! 3 2nd Flr Bdrms! Lake Facing Master w/Cathedrals, Skylight, Bath, Private Deck! 2 Car Garage! \$499,900.00</p>		
<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 82 Lakeside Ave! South Pond! Prime 157' Waterfront w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 10+ Rm, 4 Bdrm, 4.5 Bath, A/C, 3,832' Custom Colonial! Technical Marvel! 2 Story Grand Entry! Fully Applcncd Lake Facing Quartz Kit w/2 Dishwashers, Heated Fr & Pantry! Spacious Din Area w/Custom Wall Unit & Slider to the Waterfront Deck w/Elect Awning! Frplc Liv Rm w/Entertainment Center! Din Rm w/Trey Ceiling! 1st Flr Lake Facing Master w/Trey Ceiling, Walk-in Closet, Full Bath w/Dble Vanity, Whirlpool & Corner Shower! Upstairs 3 Comfortable Bdrms, 2 Lake Facing, both connect to a Full Bath, the 3rd has its Own Full Bath & Walk-in Closet! Walkout Lower Level Lake Facing Fam Rm w/2nd Kit, Cedar Sauna & Full Bath! Separate Utility Rm & Workshop! 3 Car Attached Garage! Detached 1 Car Garage! Security System! LP Gas Whole House Generator! Boat House that Auto Drags Boat Out to the Water, Launches It on a Rail System! Weather Station! Well Irrig System! See/Ask For All Attachments! \$1,375,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE WEBSTER LAKE - 39 Loveland Rd! Custom 13 Rm 5,252' Contemp! 130' South Facing Waterfront! 10' Ceilings! Granite & Cherry Kit w/Slate Flr, Wolf SS Gas Range w/Dble Ovens, Sub Zero Frig, Isl w/Dble Sink, In-Counter Steamer! Formal Din Rm & Frplc Liv Rm w/Brazilian Cherry Hrwd! Granite Wet Bar w/ice Maker, Bottle Cooler & Bosch Dishwasher! Office! 1st Flr 5th Bdrm w/Marble LP Frplc! Bthrm w/Walk-in Kohler Steam Shower! Beautiful Stairways! 4 Bdrms w/Water Views! Huge Lake Facing Master w/Cathedrals, 3 Dble Closets & Slider to Private Deck! Master Bath w/Via! Whirlpool Tub, Tile Shower & Dble Marble Vanity! Another Marble & Granite Bthrm! Lower Level Walks Out to Lake! 8 Seat Theater! Stone Frplc Fam Rm! Granite Wet Bar! Workshop w/French Dr to Lake, Possible Bdrm! Half Bath! House Sound System! Anderson w/Nickel Hardware! 2 Car Heated Garage! Beach! Dock! \$1,299,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD WEBSTER LAKE - 17 Mark Ave! South Pond - "710" Waterfront .69 Acre Peninsula! Lake Views in All Directions! Sunrise to Sunset! Impressive 12 Rm 3,292' Ranch! Breezeway to 3 Car Garage! Grand 2 Story Entry! Cherry & Granite Kit w/Is! Frplc Din Rm w/Cathedrals, Skylights & Hrwd! Liv Rm w/Hrwd! Lake Facing Master w/Bath! Fam Rm, Game/Pool Rm w/Bar & Exercise Rm! Summer Kit! 3 Baths Total! C/A! Buderus! Irrigation! Trex Deck, Farmers Porch! Beautiful Grounds! \$1,299,900.00</p>	<p>CHARLTON - Glen Echo Lake! 211 Sunset Dr! Western Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 4492' 14 Rm, Custom Colonial w/Farmers Porch! 200' Waterfront w/Manicured Grounds! 4 Bdrms! 4.5 Baths! 3 Fireplaces! C/A, C/Vac, C/Stereo, Security! Hrwd! Open Fr Plan! Lake Facing Frplc Liv Rm w/14' Ceilings, Sliders to Lake Facing Deck! Din Rm w/Crown Molding, Chair Rail & Waterford Chandelier! Cherry Cabinet Kit w/Quartz Counters, Center Isl w/Decor Appliances & Walk-in Pantry! 2 Master Bdrms - Lake Facing 1st Flr w/11' Ceilings, Frplc & Bath w/Dble Sinks, Shower, Whirlpool & Walk-in Closets! Lake Facing Sunrm w/French Door, Sliders, & 14' Ceilings! Office, 1/2 Bath, Laundry Rm! 2nd Flr w/2nd Master Suite w/Full Bath w/Dble Sinks! 2 Bdrms Share Another Bath! Lower Level w/Frplc Fam Rm, Wet Bar, Billiard Parlor, Workout Rm & 6 Seat Theatre Rm w/60" TV w/Surround Sound! Full Bath! Walkout to Lake, Patio & Private Yard! 42 Bais Furnace! 2 Car Garage! Extra Lot! Glen Echo Awaits! \$869,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT WEBSTER LAKE - 17 South Point Rd! Middle Pond 6 Room Cape! 2' Waterfront! Completely Renovated! Center Island Kit! Mostly Lake Facing! Rm! Master w/Bath & Private Deck! 23 Bdrms! 2 Baths! Oil Fr Buderus! 4 Electric Mitsubishi Heat Pumps w/Air Filters! Porch! Garage! \$499,900.00</p>	<p>NEW LISTING WEBSTER LAKE - 14 Bates Crossing! South Pond! East Expo - Beautiful Sunrises! Expansive Water Views! 11,000' Level Lot! 6 Rm Colonial! 10x6 Porch! Open Fr Plan! 3 Bdrms! 2nd Flr Master w/Cathedrals, Master Bath! 2 Baths! A/C! Garage! \$559,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE WEBSTER LAKE - 296 Killdeer Island! North Pond! 180 Degree Panoramic Water Views! Front Row Seat to all of July Fireworks! 5 Room Ranch! Ideal Second Home or Live Year Round! Winter in Florida - Summers on Webster Lake! Open Fr Plan! 2 Bedrooms! Nice Deck! Garage! \$314,900.00</p>	

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Featured New Listing

DUDLEY - 14 JAYBEE AVE

Spacious raised ranch! Open layout floor plan! Hardwoods throughout!!! Fireplaced living room! Double deck w/ hot tub! Lower deck has french doors from fireplaced family room! Applcncd kitchen! Lower level family room w/ fireplace! 2 Car garage! And much more!
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<p>THOMPSON - 473 LOWELL DAVIS RD</p> <p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>Pristine 3 Year Young Ranch! Absolutely better than new! 2 Bedrooms! Appliance Kitchen! 2 X 6 W/ Plywood Construction! Screened in porch! Nestled on 1.7+ nicely landscaped acres! Garage W/Work Shop and attached Carport! House Generator! Forced Hot Air by oil! Lower Level Pellet Stove! ON DEPOSIT - NEW LISTING \$189,900.</p>	<p>DUDLEY - 62 FAIRVIEW AVE.</p> <p>SORRY SOLD!</p> <p>Rocky Hill Estates! Tons Of Living Space With Upgrades Throughout! This Large Colonial Has Custom Granite Countertops, Center Island, Open Dining Area And Breakfast! Huge Cathedral Family Room! Gas Fireplace! Hardwood Floors Throughout! 3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths in Main Part Of House. Big Extras Is The Basement That Is Completely Finished With Kitchen/ Dining/Living Area. Plus 2 More Rooms And Bath! \$399,900</p>	<p>WEBSTER-4 PANARELLI WAY</p> <p>New Listing! Beautiful Colonial Located In A Quiet Cul De Sac! Amazing Grand Foyer With Cascading Stairway! 7 Room, 3 Bed 2.5 Bath Home! Gleaming Hardwoods! Fireplaced Living Room! Applcncd Kitchen! Master Suite! Jacuzzi Tub And Shower! Stall! Private Back Deck! 2 Zone Heating And Cooling! \$328,900.</p>	<p>THOMPSON - 20 LAURELWOOD RD</p> <p>Charming 4 bedroom 3 bath colonial nestled in a picture perfect quiet neighborhood with large manicured yard and privacy gate! Sit out on your screened in porch on those warm summer nights and look out at the fruit trees and garden! Open floor plan has so much to offer! Front to back living room has a lovely fireplace and pellet stove included. Fully applcncd kitchen is open to back den and attached garage offers added storage! New Price \$259,900.</p>	<p>LAND!</p> <p>WEBSTER/DUDLEY BUILDABLE LOTS</p> <p>Webster - Lot 1198 Thompson Rd Town Water & Sewer \$43,500. Webster - Lot 1194 Thompson Rd Town Water & Sewer \$43,500. Webster - 114 Lake St. Multi-Family Zoned. 12,000 +/- Sq Ft Lot. Town Water & Sewer, and City Gas! \$59,900. Webster - 122 Gore Rd. Lot Approx. 1-1.2 +/- Acres. Town Water & Sewer. Level Lot. Business Zoned \$110,000. Dudley - Lot# 149 Southbridge Road - 4.5 +/- acres. 150 ft +/- of Rd. Frontage 610 ft +/- - River Frontage \$85,000.</p>
<p>DUDLEY - 29 PINE ST</p> <p>SORRY SOLD!</p> <p>Need an Office or Business in your Home? Approved Zoning! 1 Custom Split! Not a Drive By - Large Addition off Back - 14x20 Deck! Garage Located in Rear. Beautiful - Hardwood Floors in Living Room & Mirrored Hallway! 15 x 20 Addition off Kitchen can be used as Dining Area or Entertainment Room - Cathedral Ceiling! Marble Kitchen Counters & Island - Totally Finished Lower Level - Living Area complete with Kitchen, Full Bath, Living Room w/Fireplace, Bedroom & Separate Side</p>	<p>DUDLEY-217 DUDLEY SOUTHBRIDGE RD</p> <p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>Lovely Country Setting for this 3 Bedroom Cape! Motivated Seller! Private setting on 1 Acre +/-! 2 Car Garage! Walk-out Basement for Convenient Access to Backyard. Needs some Cosmetic Updates but still a Good Valu \$259,000.</p>	<p>THOMPSON-839 THOMPSON RD</p> <p>Young, Huge 60 X 40 Ranch! Outstanding Quality! Cathedral Ceiling in Living Room, Kitchen, and Dining areas! 10 Skyights! 3 Bedrooms! 2-1/2 Baths! Propane Fireplace! Lower Level Finished with Bath, and Bedroom with walk out sliding door! 2 Acres! Approximately 395 Feet of road frontage New Price \$299,987.</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 25 STEFANK AVE #3</p> <p>Very Affordable! Low Monthly Fees! Desired END Unit gives Wooded Privacy & Extra Windows! Located in a Low Traffic Neighborhood! The Entire Main Level has been Freshened Up with New Paint in a Neutral Tone! This Complex is close to Shopping, Highway, Private & Public Schools! Close Vicinity to the Webster Lake Beach for Lots of Summer Fun! Cheaper than Renting! Heated Lower Level - Extra Space for Office, Family Room, Computer Room, Game Room, etc. \$115,000.</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 10 DIDONATO AVE</p> <p>An affordable starter or retirement home! Original 1954 Cape style, 4 room home with stairway to unfinished walkup attic. 2 bedrooms on main level, some hardwood floors, ceramic tile bath. Young, economical, nature on Webster Lake! Open Fr Plan! 2 Bedrooms! forced hot air furnace, electric hot water heater Full basement with interior and outdoor walkout access. Recently painted. Large corner lot with good sized yard, some fenced-in yard area, 6x8 storage shed and 10x20 1 car attached garage. Located in convenient East Village area of Webster with close proximity to grocery store, banks, service providers, retailers, restaurants, highway access, etc. ON DEPOSIT \$122,550</p>
<p>WEBSTER LAKE - TREASURE ISLAND</p> <p>Welcome to Treasure Island! Located on the Shores of Beautiful WEBSTER LAKE! Current Owner's Remodeled every inch of this Unit with a "Magazine Worthy" Flair! Each Room is Elegantly Appointed! Bamboo Floors! Family Room in Lower Level has Gas Fireplace with "Floor to Ceiling" Custom Granite & Marble! Tastefully Finished w/ Crown Molding! "Lux" Master Bath w/Italian Tiled Shower Surround! Enjoy the Outdoors Deck, Private Beach & Heated "Salt Water" Pool! 2 Boat Slips! New Price \$334,900</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 113 BIRCH ISLAND RD</p> <p>Webster Lake Waterfront! Breathtaking view of Middle Pond! Catch the Early Morning Sun at breakfast right at water edge or in the huge 4 season porch! Many recent updates! Interior Freshly Painted! Fieldstone Fireplace! Hardwoods! Oil Heat! 2 bedrooms! and much more! NEW PRICE \$329,900.</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 11 BATES POINT RD</p> <p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>ON BATES POINT! Elegant Webster Lake Waterfront Home offers all the amenities of a fine home Plus Direct Webster Lake Access! Located in a sheltered cove which provides boat access to full open water! Inground pool, a fully fenced lakeside yard. Fine features include: crown moldings, 9' ceilings, beautiful cherry kitchen w/ceramic tile floors, granite countertops, S/S appliances, center island, Slider to large lake facing deck! Formal dining, formal living rooms w/gleaming hardwood floors! Plus private 2nd floor 20x26 family room! Spacious master bedroom! ON DEPOSIT \$485,000.</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE- 267 THOMPSON RD</p> <p>SORRY SOLD!</p> <p>Webster Lake Waterfront! Breathtaking views! The House is located on Middle Pond which is the Largest Expanse of Webster Lake! Very Private! Abundance of Land for Entertaining! 11 Rooms Total! 3-1/2 Baths! 4 Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2 Fireplaces! Walkout Finished Lower Living Level! Oversized 2 car garage with unfinished space above! Foundation already in for Future Boat House at waters edge! Need an office? This has 2! Property is within a Business Zoned Area! Be in before Summer Hurry won't last. \$599,900!</p>	

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TERMS: \$5,000 cash or certified check at the time and place of the sale. The balance to be paid within thirty (30) days at the law offices of Korde & Associates, P.C. 321 Billerica Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824, Attorney for the Mortgagee.

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SOUTHBRIDGE 3 BR Ranch near Sturbridge line. Fin. walkout bsmt. \$180,000. Sarah Gustafson.	HOLLAND Year-round waterfront 2 BR home. Great views, FP. \$239,000. Lisa Boudreau.	STURBRIDGE Crescent Gate Condo! Energy efficient middle unit. \$147,000. Laura Eliason.	WEBSTER 3 BR Colonial with character and charm! Enclosed porch. \$169,000. Ingrid Helena Karp.	STURBRIDGE Well-maintained 2 Family on Fiske Hill. \$204,900. Sophia Lengyel.
BELCHERTOWN 4 BR Colonial on 2 acres, almost 2000 SF. \$204,900. Stewart & Stewart.	PALMER Classic Colonial! 3 BR, 2.5 baths, farmer's porch. \$325,000. Stewart & Stewart.	SPENCER Charming 3 BR Waterfront on Thompson Pond. Flat lot, 65' frontage. \$244,900. Dorothy Fontana.	WEBSTER Antique brick colonial with 6 BR, 4.5 baths, fireplace, gardens. \$450,000. Laura Eliason.	WARREN 3 BR Cape, open floor plan, sun porch. \$210,000. Stewart & Stewart.

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NEWS BRIEF

Senate passes omnibus tobacco bill

BOSTON — Sen. Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) has announced that the Massachusetts Senate passed S. 2234, An Act to Protect Youth from the Health Risks of Tobacco and Nicotine Addiction, an omnibus bill that seeks to reduce tobacco use and nicotine addiction among youth. Among other provisions, the legislation will prohibit the sale of all tobacco and nicotine delivery products to individuals under the age of 21. The legislation received bi-partisan support, passing 32-2.

Gobi supported a military exemption amendment that would have allowed anyone 18 and older with a military ID to continue to purchase tobacco; however the amendment was defeated 19-14. Gobi also supported an amendment that would have allowed retailers within 3 miles of a state whose law is 18, 19 or 20 years of age to sell at that state's legal limit, but the amendment was also defeated.

"Massachusetts has made tremendous strides in reducing youth smoking and implementing policies that limit the harmful impacts of tobacco and nicotine use, including our new regulations to prevent the sale of e-cigarettes to children," said Attorney General Maura Healey. "Unfortunately, the tobacco industry continues to pose a serious public health risk to our residents. This legislation is an important step to further reduce nicotine addiction among young people."

"Tobacco kills more Americans annually than car accidents, alcohol, illegal drugs, murders, and suicides - combined," said Senate President Stan Rosenberg (D-Amherst). "That's why today the Senate took action to further curtail access to this harmful substance and reduce youth tobacco use. I hope other states around the country follow our lead, and I look forward to working with the House and Governor Baker to move this important policy forward."

Tobacco and nicotine use remains the leading cause of preventable illness and premature death in Massachusetts, requiring the Commonwealth and our residents to spend more than \$4 billion in healthcare related costs each year. Smoking practices begin at a young age; a 2015 report from the Institute of Medicine found that 9 out of 10 daily smokers first tried a cigarette before age 19. This omnibus tobacco bill was created to prevent teenagers from starting to smoke by removing sources of tobacco and nicotine delivery products from their reach.

The Commonwealth has collectively made progress in reducing rates of youth smoking; according to the Center for Disease Control, cigarette smoking among high school students in Massachusetts has declined from 21 percent in 2005 to 11 percent in 2013. However, the tobacco industry is changing and innovating, introducing new products and marketing strategies directed to appeal to youth. As a result, the Commonwealth now faces growing use by young people of other nicotine delivery products such as e-cigarettes; according to the National Youth Tobacco Survey, use of e-cigarettes among high school students has risen alarmingly from 2 percent in 2011 to 13 percent in 2014.

Worcester pediatrician Lynda Young, M.D., Chair of Tobacco Free Mass, said "We applaud moving this critically important bill forward. Enactment of this bill will be a giant step forward for public health, as it will have an immediate, positive impact on the well-being of our young people. We urge its quick passage by the legislature."

This bill also:

- Responsibly regulates nicotine delivery products such as e-cigarettes by prohibiting their use at schools, including vocational schools and technical institutes, and in any workplace;
- Requires child-resistant packaging for e-cigarettes;
- Prohibits tobacco vending machines;
- Prohibits the sale of all tobacco and nicotine delivery products in pharmacies and other healthcare institutions;
- Grants the Department of Public Health the authority to regulate new, emerging tobacco and nicotine delivery products; and,
- Requires the Center for Health Information and Analysis to study the current tobacco cessation benefits offered by commercial insurers, MassHealth, and the Government Insurance Commission to determine how these benefit levels compare to CDC guidelines and best practices.

These provisions were adopted into the omnibus legislation from eight specific tobacco-related bills that were heard by the Joint Committee on Public Health. The legislation will now move to the Massachusetts House of Representatives for consideration.

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\$52/wk.



2013 Mercedes GLK350
3.5L V6 AWD, leather power heated seats w/ memory controls, wood trim, Steering wheel controls with blue tooth, cruise control, Power locks and windows, stability control, traction control. #LAW317
\$101/wk.



2008 Toyota FJ Cruiser
4.0L V6 AWD, manual transmission, Power windows and locks, cruise control, compass and clock dash gauges, Traction and stability control, roof racks and tow package. #LAW121A
\$59/wk.



2012 Nissan Rogue
2.5L 4 AWD, CVT transmission, Power locks and windows, Cruise control, CD player, hill assist and traction control w/ sport mode. #507221
\$73/wk.



2013 Toyota Highlander
2.4L 4cyls AWD, Power locks and windows, cruise control, JVC radio system with CD player, Leather trimmed #LAW268
\$98/wk.



2014 Chevy Silverado 1500
68,537Mi - Work Truck 1WT 4x4, Traction control, Stability control with anti-roll, Air conditioning, Cruise control, 4.3 liter V6 engine, Automatic Transmission, 4-wheel ABS brakes, Tilt steering wheel, Tachometer, Trip computer, Video Monitor, Speed-proportional power steering, Engine hour meter, Intermittent window wipers, Transmission hill holder, Daytime running lights, Dusk sensing headlights #LAW244B
\$70/wk.



2012 Chevy Silverado 1500 LT
66,943Mi - 4x4 - 5.3 liter V8 engine, 4 Wheel Drive, Traction control, Stability control with anti-roll, ABS brakes, Transmission hill holder, Automatic Transmission, Air conditioning, Cruise control, Head airbags - Curtain 1st and 2nd row, Passenger Airbag, Power heated mirrors, Tilt steering wheel, 4 Doors, Four-wheel drive, Tachometer, Compass, External temperature display, Day-time running lights, Dusk sensing headlights, Engine hour meter, Intermittent window wipers #LAW359
\$98/wk.



2012 Chevy Silverado 1500 LT
59,023Mi - 4x4 LT 4 Door, one owner, 4 Wheel Drive, Traction control, Stability control with anti-roll, ice-cold Air conditioning, Power options including remote power door locks and Power windows with 1 one-touch, Automatic Transmission, 4-wheel ABS brakes, 5.3 liter V8 engine, Power heated mirrors, Tilt steering wheel, 4 Doors, step rails, Tachometer, External temperature display, Compass, Engine hour meter, Day-time running lights, Dusk sensing headlights #LAW261
\$86/wk.



2011 Ford F350 Lariat FX4
21,216Mi - 4x4 Crew Cab, 4 Wheel Drive, Traction control, Stability control with anti-roll, Transmission hill holder, 6.2 liter V8 SOHC engine, Sunroof, Signal mirrors - Turn signal in mirrors, Full power options including Power windows with 1 one-touch, Automatic Transmission, ice-cold Air conditioning, Cruise control, Tilt and telescopic steering wheel, Power heated mirrors, Tachometer, External temperature display, Engine hour meter, Intermittent window wipers, Chrome grill #LAW248
\$123/wk.



2010 Ford Explorer Sport Trac LTD
81,483Mi - 4x4, Leather, One Owner, Traction control, Front fog/driving lights, Heated Leather seats, Bluetooth, full power options including Power windows with 1 one-touch, Automatic Transmission, 4-wheel ABS brakes, Cruise control, Audio controls on steering wheel, Tilt steering wheel, 8-way power adjustable drivers seat, Power heated mirrors, Tachometer, External temperature display, Compass, Trip computer, Trailer hitch, Stability control with anti-roll, Climate controlled - Driver and passenger heated-cushion, driver and passenger heated-seatback #LAW212
\$70/wk.



2014 Hyundai Tucson GLS
33,705Mi - AWD All Wheel Drive, Traction control, Stability control - Hill descent control, Bluetooth, frosty-cold Air conditioning, full power options including Power windows with 1 one-touch, Automatic Transmission, 4-wheel ABS brakes, Cruise control, Audio controls on steering wheel, 164 hp horsepower, 2 liter inline 4 cylinder DOHC engine, Tilt and telescopic steering wheel, Power mirrors, 4 Doors, Tachometer, 4WD Type - Automatic, full-time, Front seat type - Bucket, Rear bench seats, Reclining rear seats, Intermittent window wipers, Privacy/tinted glass, Rear spoiler - Lip, Rear wiper, Speed-proportional power steering, Trip computer #STK22653
\$61/wk.



2014 1500 Dodge RAM 1500
14,820Mi - 1500 Four-Door Tradesman/Express 4x4, One Owner, Traction control, Stability control, Transmission hill holder, Power options including Power windows with one-touch, Automatic Transmission, 4-wheel ABS brakes, Air conditioning, Cruise control, Tilt steering wheel, Power heated mirrors, 4 Doors, Four-wheel drive, Tachometer, Power steering, Trailer hitch, Engine hour meter, Intermittent window wipers, Privacy/tinted glass, Dusk sensing headlights STK195075
\$98/wk.



2014 Ram 1500 Tradesman/Express
17,284Mi - Four-Door 4x4, One Owner, Traction control, Stability control, Transmission hill holder, Power options including Power windows with one-touch, Automatic Transmission, 4-wheel ABS brakes, Air conditioning, Cruise control, Tilt steering wheel, Power heated mirrors, 4 Doors, Four-wheel drive, Tachometer, Power steering, Trailer hitch, Engine hour meter, Intermittent window wipers, Privacy/tinted glass, Dusk sensing headlights STK220765
\$98/wk.



2014 Toyota Tundra SR5
24,327Mi - 5.7L V8 4x4, One Owner, Traction control, Stability control, Front fog/driving lights, Automatic Transmission, 4-wheel ABS brakes, Air conditioning, Cruise control, 5.7 L liter V8 DOHC engine with variable valve timing- 381 hp horsepower, Power heated mirrors, Tilt steering wheel, 4 Doors, External temperature display, Heated Windshield Washer Jets, Interior air filtration, Speed-proportional power steering, Intermittent window wipers, Privacy/tinted glass, Trailer hitch, Limited slip differential - Brake actuated, Daytime running lights #LAW289
\$116/wk.



Toyota Tundra Grade 4.6L
24,407Mi - V8 Double Cab 4x4, Traction control, Front air conditioning zones - Dual, Power options including Power windows with 1 one-touch, Automatic Transmission, 4-wheel ABS brakes, Cruise control, Tilt steering wheel, Power heated mirrors, 310 hp horsepower- 4.6 liter V8 DOHC engine, 4 Doors, External temperature display, Tachometer, Interior air filtration, Speed-proportional power steering, Heated Windshield Washer Jets, Limited slip differential - Brake actuated, Interior air filtration #LAW288
\$94/wk.



2012 Toyota Tacoma 4x4
28,101Mi - V6 4DR, 4 Wheel Drive, Traction control, Stability control, 4-wheel ABS brakes, 4 liter V6 DOHC engine, full power options including Power windows with 1 one-touch, Automatic Transmission, Air conditioning, Tilt and telescopic steering wheel, 236 hp horsepower, 4 Doors, Tachometer, Speed-proportional power steering, Limited slip differential - Brake actuated, Interior air filtration #LAW288
\$94/wk.



2007 BMW X3 3.0si
64,278Mi - All Wheel Drive SUV, Sunroof - Loaded with traction control, Front fog/driving lights, Sunroof, Climate control, 4-wheel ABS brakes, Air conditioning with circular control, Auto controls on steering wheel, Over memory seat, Memory settings for 3 drivers, Multi-function remote - 1-Touch/Handsfree/hallgate, windows, sunroof, Tilt and telescopic steering wheel, 8-way power adjustable drivers seat, 260 hp horsepower, 3 liter inline 6 cylinder DOHC engine, 4 Doors, All-wheel drive, Tachometer, Interior air filtration, Speed-proportional power steering, Steering Wheel Air Conditioning Controls, Heated Windshield Washer Jets, Rear spoiler, Extended sunroof, Rain sensing window wipers, Speed sensitive window wipers, Rear wiper, 8-way power adjustable passenger seat, Daytime running lights, Dusk sensing headlights, Stability control, Descent Control - Hill descent control, Transmission hill holder #LAW135
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What it takes to be a team player

The ability to communicate, interact and work collectively with others is both a professional and personal asset. But in certain ways, the reliance on technology has made working as a team more complicated. People have grown accustomed to spending large quantities of time alone working at computers or on phones and tablets, potentially compromising their ability to work directly with others when the need arises.



According to Monster.com, when it comes to choosing a candidate for a new job or promotion, employers consistently say they want a team player. That means it's advantageous for professionals looking to further their careers to brush up on their team-building and social skills.

So what does it mean to be a team player exactly? The following are some traits of team players.

- Meets deadlines: People working together on a project have their own unique responsibilities regarding such projects. It's important that the end result is produced on time; otherwise, the entire group pays the price. Employees who care about their teams consistently meet their deadlines, making things easier for their fellow team members as a result.
- Adapts easily: Team players are willing to adapt to change and take others' suggestions. Professional flexibility and openness to ideas are important traits,

as you just may learn something from team members when you try things their way.

- Listens attentively: In order for a team to function, every member has to listen to what his or her coworkers are saying. This also includes being receptive to criticism without lashing out. Listening can sometimes be more important than speaking.
- Communicates clearly: Team players effectively communicate their thoughts and ideas. This includes using language that is constructive, honest and respectful.

- Participates frequently: Even when his or her own work is done, a team player does not shy away from taking on the tasks of others to ensure a project is completed on time. This also can include offering tips or pointers.
- Happily shares the spotlight: Never the glory hog, a team player is content to stand in the spotlight alongside coworkers. Team players make sure everyone is involved and recognized equally, and even take their share of the blame when things go awry.

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CAREERS

The Expanding Health Care Industry Has Created Demand In This Exciting Field

(NAPS)

Imagine this: Your classroom has been turned into a disaster site, and you and your fellow students must make split-second decisions and follow through quickly with potentially lifesaving actions.

Fortunately, no one can get hurt because it's all a simulation, part of the kind of education that nursing students can get these days as schools work to meet the growing need for more nurses who are trained using the latest technology in the classroom or lab.

There are a number of reasons why America needs such trained nurses, including an increased emphasis on preventive care, growing rates of chronic conditions such as diabetes and obesity, more Americans covered under the Affordable Care Act, and demand for health care services from the baby-boom population as they live longer and more active lives.

"At University of Phoenix® College of Health Professions School of Nursing, we offer degree programs that stay on the pulse of health care change and address how to best prepare nurses for a rapidly evolving industry," said Betty Nelson, Ph.D., RN, academic dean for University of Phoenix School of Nursing. "This



The health care industry is rapidly evolving, creating an increased demand for trained and skilled nurses to play a major role in delivering high-quality care and implementing innovations.

prepares graduates with the skills needed to succeed in today's health care field."

Students can access nursing simulation labs that provide hands-on, lifelike patient care experiences focused on teaching applied skills in a safe environment while getting real-time performance critiques from faculty members and peers. The students practice

giving injections, taking vital signs, conducting physical assessments, and responding to various patient scenarios such as heart attacks and childbirth.

The University's nursing programs use video and audio technology in conjunction with simulation. This lets faculty members analyze and evaluate nursing students' progress during

simulation exercises and provide feedback, ultimately improving student learning outcomes.

The school's technologies also include task trainers and an electronic medication-dispensing system. These let students engage in dozens of scenarios that give them the opportunity to build their confidence and skills in real-world nursing situations with-

out risk to live patients, while they complete a portion of their requisite clinical hours.

"Now more than ever, we must ensure that nurses have the skills and education needed to meet new demands of the profession so they can fill roles across the continuum of care," said Dr. Nelson. "Through a forward-looking curriculum and hands-on training,

University of Phoenix School of Nursing is committed to providing nurses with the skills, knowledge and confidence needed to be successful well into the future, no matter what the health care landscape may look like."

The University offers many conveniences for working adult students including evening classes, flexible scheduling, a universitywide academic social network, online classes, a digital library and computer simulations.

Whether you're a registered nurse looking to bolster your credentials to meet today's higher standards or an advanced-practice nurse seeking to expand your knowledge and take on greater leadership challenges, you can get the deep industry insight and up-to-the-minute knowledge and skills you need to become the nurse that tomorrow needs.

Learn More
For further information, including information about on-time completion rates, the median debt incurred by students who complete the University of Phoenix School of Nursing programs, and other important information, visit www.phoenix.edu/programs/gainful-employment.

Private Security And Its Expanding Role In Law Enforcement

(NAPS)

Having your identity stolen is an eye-opening experience. Even more eye-opening is the response you may get when calling police to report the crime. That's because it's become more common today to receive a follow-up visit at your home, not from that police agency, but from a representative of a private security firm specializing in identity theft.

It's a new landscape of blended roles, as law enforcement agencies increasingly team up with private security companies to form public-private partnerships to serve the public. These partnerships cover a range of specialties including cyber security, financial criminal investigation and private protection.

"Law enforcement and private security share a number of goals including crime prevention, the protection of people and property, and identification of criminals," said Robert Gonzalez, program dean for University of Phoenix College of Security and Criminal Justice. "To better achieve these goals, law enforcement and private security have been teaming up in public-private partnerships that cover everything from local to national security."

The growing use of these partnerships reflects some recognized advantages. It often makes more sense for law enforcement to leverage the expertise and resources of a private security firm. Specialized security investigation sections can team with law enforcement to better investigate and prosecute complex cases. And private firms aren't restricted by a public budget and can invest in the latest technology. Additionally, law enforcement officers often moonlight with security companies, or transition into careers in private security, and have an understanding of the system and how they can work with law



Public-private partnerships between law enforcement and the security industry continue to grow.

enforcement to better serve their community.

This leads to the greatest benefit of these growing partnerships: the expansion of a force focused on crime deterrence. Neighborhood associations and business groups are finding that cooperation between law enforcement and private security is leading to a higher degree of satisfaction in discouraging criminal activity. This allows law enforcement to expand initiatives like community-oriented policing. The winners are those who now live in safer neighborhoods.

"As public-private partnerships between law enforce-

ment and private security continue to grow, it is important that both law officers and security professionals are receiving proper education to complement their training," said Gonzalez. "University of Phoenix offers associate and bachelor's degrees in security and criminal justice*, as well as professional development and certificate programs that can help public safety professionals enhance their careers."

University of Phoenix™ College of Security and Criminal Justice recognizes the benefits of partnerships between law enforcement and private security. The

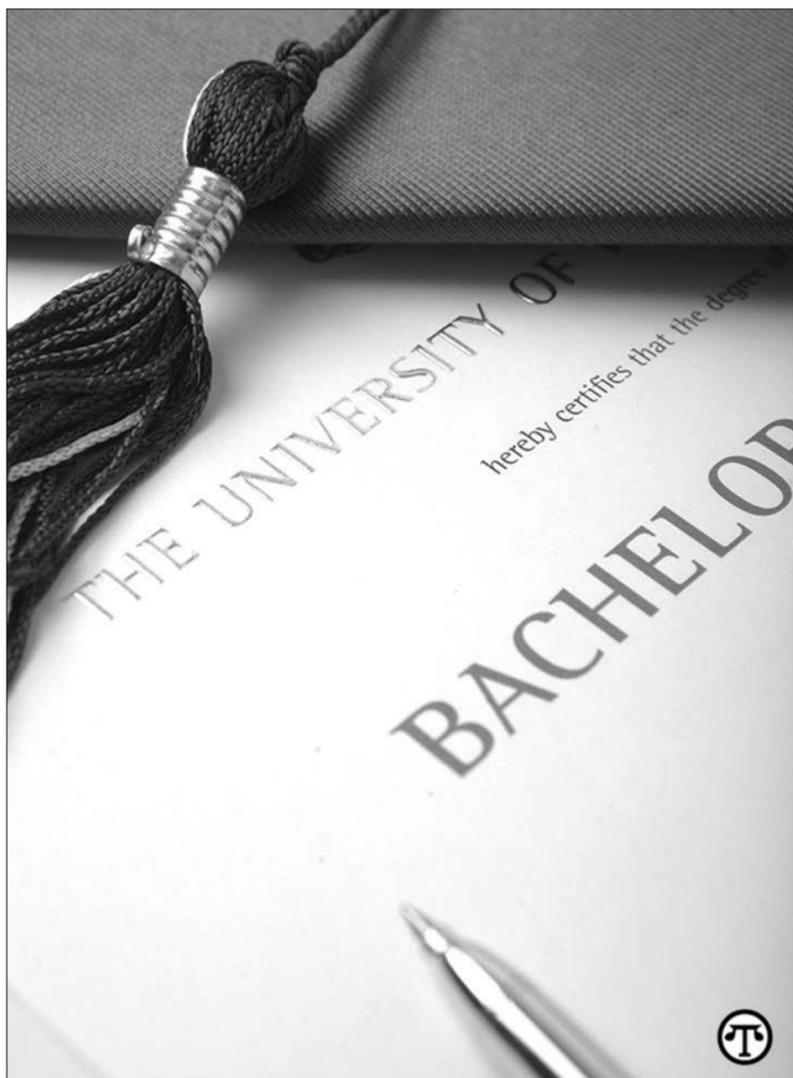
University offers curriculum for those looking to get into the industry as well as for industry professionals looking to enhance their careers. Students have the opportunity to learn directly from faculty members who have extensive experience in their respective fields. This includes a number of faculty members who are current or former chiefs of police, sheriffs, judges, wardens and security executives. For more information, visit www.phoenix.edu.

*The University's Criminal Justice programs are educational degree programs. For

those interested in pursuing a career in law enforcement, corrections or as a peace officer with any particular local, state, federal or international agency, there are numerous additional qualifications (and often disqualifications) depending on the position. Before enrolling in a Criminal Justice program, potential students are highly encouraged to check with the relevant agency for a complete list of position requirements. The University makes no representations regarding whether any particular University program will qualify a graduate for any such position.

CAREERS

Job Security, Higher Income Two Benefits Of A College Degree, Experts Say



(NAPS)

Whether you're searching for a new job or moving up in your current career, a number of professions require a minimum of a bachelor's degree. Most career analysts and experts agree that a bachelor's degree is a key asset that can offer professionals many advantages.

Yet, according to the Lumina Foundation, less than 40 percent of working-age Americans have a college degree. Many people today are choosing to forgo a college education and enter the workforce.

Dr. Elena Mastors, dean of faculty at University of Phoenix College of Humanities and Sciences, says a bachelor's degree has five primary benefits:

1. It aids in the job search. When job candidates have equal qualifications, an employer is often more likely to choose the person with a college degree. In addition, even in a job where

a college degree is not relevant, employers are more likely to choose college graduates.

2. It solidifies job security. Unemployment is lower for college graduates than it is for those who have completed some college or who ended their education with a high school diploma.

3. It helps secure a higher starting salary—with salary increases throughout a career. Workers with a bachelor's degree tend to earn more at the same positions than workers without a degree. For example, secretaries, police officers, construction workers, plumbers and retail salespeople with bachelor's degrees all earn more than those without. This is often because employers view workers with a degree as more valuable or more skilled.

4. It benefits rapidly expanding job fields. Many professions, such as writing, technically oriented fields, and science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) are evolving rapidly. To keep their positions, workers are expected to adjust and change with the times.

As a result, college graduates may have the advantage when it comes to adapting to a changing workforce.

5. It helps students hone and refine lifelong skills. Critical and creative thinking, collaboration, communication and knowing how to use information are valued skills in any career regardless of college major.

According to Pew Research Center, 83 percent of college grads say their degree was "worth it."

Where To Get A Degree

While many people feel they don't have the time or flexibility in their schedules to attend classes, flexible online offerings from schools such as University of Phoenix can make earning a degree possible. University of Phoenix has a number of undergraduate degree offerings that students can pursue on their own time.

Learn More
For more information about University of Phoenix degree offerings, visit www.phoenix.edu/degrees/undergraduate.html.

.....
Flexible online offerings can make earning a degree possible. Nearly all college grads say their degree was "worth it."

Transitioning Resources Important To Returning Service Members

(NAPS)

Each year, between 240,000 and 360,000 service members transition out of the U.S. military, and as we draw down from the war in Afghanistan, the military is expected to separate a million service members over the next several years, according to the White House. This leaves our nation's heroes returning home only to face a new battle—finding a job in the civilian workforce. Service members and veterans gain valuable skills and knowledge during the time they serve. However, understanding how the skills gained in the military translate to civilian jobs isn't always easy.

An online survey conducted by Harris Poll on behalf of University of Phoenix® in fall 2015 of more than 500 hiring managers found that they overwhelmingly (86 percent) have considered hiring a person with military background. And of those same hiring managers, 80 percent cited hiring employees with a military background.

"Military veterans are well disciplined and possess a strong work ethic, making them desirable employees for organizations," said Adam Such, University of Phoenix Military Relations vice president and retired Army Lieutenant Colonel. "Hiring managers are taking notice of the unique skills that military members bring to the civilian workplace. The community can support veterans by providing resources to help them communicate effectively with employers and know how their skills can help them grow and thrive in civilian careers."

Having a plan is critical for veterans transitioning, but less than one in three (28 percent) of current active-duty service members have made a transition plan, according to another

University of Phoenix survey of more than 1,000 past and active service members, 138 of whom identified as active duty. To prepare themselves for the private sector, veterans should consider:

1. Putting a plan in place before leaving the military

2. Getting additional career-specific training and education to add to military skill sets

3. Preparing for the job search and civilian work life.

"A transition plan is essential for veterans making the leap from a military career to the civilian workforce but employers also need to take steps to ensure that a candidate's military experience is matched appropriately to the civilian position," said Such. "It isn't always easy for returning military service members to know how to market their skills and employers may not instinctively know how those skills translate. The good news is that there are a number of resources out there to support veterans and employers in speaking the same language during the interview and job placement process."

Higher education and employers can play a critical role in providing resources to those who have served, as well as the opportunities they need to successfully transition to civilian careers.

Learn More

To learn about educational tools available to help military service members take charge of their search for a meaningful career, The American Legion and AMVETS provide great resources. A variety of career services can be located through their Veteran Employment Center. For more information, visit www.legion.org/careers or www.amvets.org/careercenter.



Veterans have valuable skills and knowledge that can be great assets in the civilian workforce.

300 HELP WANTED

305 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
Corvette 1987
 Red with ground effect new brakes in good condition asking \$6700 (508)278-2809

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TOWN OF STURBRIDGE
 The Town of Sturbridge is seeking applicants for the full-time position of Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Town Administrator & Board of Selectmen. This position provides administrative support for an extremely fast-paced office in the Sturbridge Town Hall. The position requires some evening meetings and provides confidential administrative & clerical support. Ideal candidates will be able to multi-task, provide exceptional constituent service and have good organizational skills. The Town of Sturbridge offers an excellent benefits package and a pay range for the position between \$17.50 and \$20.92/hour DOQ. For a full description, go to the vacancies link at www.town.sturbridge.ma.us Submit resumes no later than June 3, 2016 to:
Town Administrator Leon A. Gaumont, Jr.
 308 Main Street
 Sturbridge, MA 01566
 The Town of Sturbridge is an EOE

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
 Home care aides needed to care for elders and handicapped individuals with light housekeeping, laundry, shopping, personal care. Candidates must be compassionate, reliable and have reliable transportation
Call 800-649-4364
 EOE/AA

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ TOURISM COORDINATOR TOWN OF STURBRIDGE
 The Town of Sturbridge is seeking applicants for a new and exciting position of Economic Development/ Tourism Coordinator. Ideal candidates will have proven economic development experience and will work to promote tourism in one of the premiere tourist towns in Central Massachusetts. The Town of Sturbridge offers an excellent benefits package and a pay range for the position between \$22.17 and \$26.50/hour DOQ. For a full description, go to the vacancies link at www.town.sturbridge.ma.us Submit resumes no later than June 3, 2016 to:
Town Administrator Leon A. Gaumont, Jr.
 308 Main Street
 Sturbridge, MA 01566
 The Town of Sturbridge is an EOE

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Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA To Provide Foster Care To Children In Need. 24/7 Support. Generous Reimbursement.
\$1000 Sign-On Bonus Call For Details

LICENSED PLUMBERS \$10,000 sign on bonus

Multi-Family New Construction Top Salary, benefit package includes medical, dental, LTD, 401k, sick, holiday and vacation pay.
Call 800-304-4924

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

MAINTENANCE POSITIONS, full and part time, are available at a residential camp in East Brookfield, MA. Responsibilities include assisting in day-to-day maintenance and housekeeping. Please contact zacb@wsymca.org for more information

311 PART-TIME HELP WANTED

ASSISTANT ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
 The Town of Charlton seeks applications from qualified candidates for the part-time Assistant Animal Control Officer position. Reports directly to the Animal Control Officer. Preferred candidate should have "animal handling experience," will assist in the care and control of domestic animals/wildlife; makes frequent contact with the general public. Annual stipend is \$5,620.00 paid weekly. Applicants will be required to work nights and weekends. Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume and completed application which can be found at www.townofcharlton.net/opportunities.htm to:
Town Administrator Robin L. Craver
 Town of Charlton
 37 Main Street
 Charlton, MA 01507
 Submission deadline is May 23, 2016 or until filled. EOE

CUSTODIANS TOWN OF STURBRIDGE

The Town of Sturbridge is seeking applicants for the 18 hour/week position of Custodian for several of the Town's municipal buildings. The Town of Sturbridge offers a flexible schedule. The pay range for the position is between \$15.41 and \$18.41/hour DOQ. For a full description, go to the vacancies link at www.town.sturbridge.ma.us. Submit resumes no later than June 3, 2016 to:
Town Administrator Leon A. Gaumont, Jr.
 308 Main Street
 Sturbridge, MA 01566
 The Town of Sturbridge is an EOE

311 PART-TIME HELP WANTED

FACILITIES COORDINATOR TOWN OF STURBRIDGE
 The Town of Sturbridge is seeking applicants for a newly created, 28 hour/week position of Facilities Coordinator for several of the Town's municipal buildings, excluding the schools. Ideal candidates will be able to multi-task, have experience overseeing custodial service, and have project coordination and long-range planning skills. This position will be responsible for establishing proper preventive maintenance schedules, policies and procedures as well as the coordination of staff and contractors involved with the maintenance of public buildings. The Town of Sturbridge offers an excellent benefits package and a pay range for the position between \$17.79 and \$21.27/hour DOQ. For a full description, go to the vacancies link at www.town.sturbridge.ma.us Submit resumes no later than June 3, 2016 to:
Town Administrator Leon A. Gaumont Jr.
 308 Main Street
 Sturbridge, MA 01566
 The Town of Sturbridge is an EOE

316 SUMMER HELP

SEASONAL WATER SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION LABORER
 The Whitinsville Water Company is seeking to hire a Seasonal Water System Construction Laborer for the 2016 construction season. The position will be a 40-hour-per-week position and the primary responsibility of the position will be to work with our construction crew repairing water mains, services, valves, etc. Other duties may include other water system maintenance tasks. It is anticipated the position will last from approximately May to September. Salary will be commensurate with level of experience. A full job description and application is available at <http://whitinsvillewater.com/category/announcements>

320 MEDICAL/DENTAL

VETERINARY RECEPTIONIST
 Part-time Late afternoons and evenings. Every other Saturday morning to early afternoon. Veterinary or medical experience preferred. Apply in person:
Sturbridge Veterinary Hospital
 6 Cedar Street
 Sturbridge, MA

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325 PROFESSIONAL HELP WANTED

TOWN OF DUDLEY TOWN PLANNER
 Responsible for preparing meeting agendas; processing special permits, site plan and subdivision applications; review and comment on development proposals; provide technical and professional advice to Planning/otherboards/committees; prepare studies and reports; assist with development according to Town and State regulations and bylaws; economic development services; grantwriter; attend various planning meetings; respond to and meet with the public, developers, attorneys, engineers and other departments on planning and zoning matters; and other duties as needed. Master's Degree in Planning, Landscape Architecture or related field with 2 years of planning experience, municipal government preferred; AICP Certification desirable. Salary range is \$36.00-\$41.00 per hour for a 17 to 19-hour workweek. Please send resume and cover letter to:
Dudley Personnel Board
 71 W. Main St. #18
 Dudley, MA 01571
 by 5/27/16
 EEO

325 PROFESSIONAL HELP WANTED

TRAILER TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED

Class A CDL with Hazmat
 Based in North Brookfield

Please Call 508-867-3235

325 PROFESSIONAL HELP WANTED

TRAILER TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED

Class A CDL with Hazmat
 Based in North Brookfield

Please Call 508-867-3235

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 Call 800-536-5836

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<p>2014 Mercedes E350 AWD, Sport Trim • #136456L \$34,877 or 124/wk</p>	<p>2012 Grand Cherokee Limited Trim • #115354B \$27,377 or 128/wk</p>	<p>2015 Ford Mustang Low Miles • #P10060 \$23,777 or 85/wk</p>	<p>2015 Fiat 500 Sport Trim • #D7453R \$9,977 or 42/wk</p>	<p>2015 Chrysler 200 Low Miles • #D7441R \$24,477 or 94/wk</p>
<p>2015 Jeep Renegade Trailhawk Trim • #36889A \$22,377 or 82/wk</p>	<p>2013 Chevy Silverado Low Miles, LT Trim • #36927 \$23,677 or 84/wk</p>	<p>2015 Dodge Journey Low Miles - 3 • #D7621R \$20,977 or 75/wk</p>	<p>2015 Chrysler 200 S Alloy Wheels • #D7225R \$16,377 or 60/wk</p>	<p>2014 Jeep Compass 4x4 • #D7266L \$18,477 or 68/wk</p>
<p>2015 Cadillac Escalade Premium Trim • #36932 \$74,977 or 267/wk</p>	<p>2013 Chevy Avalanche 4x4, Low Miles • #36950 \$34,377 or 123/wk</p>	<p>2014 Ford Fusion SE Trim • #16011A \$14,477 or 75/wk</p>	<p>2015 Town & Country Touring Trim • #D7488R \$20,377 or 76/wk</p>	<p>2013 Ram 1500 4x4 • #D7523L \$32,477 or 116/wk</p>
<p>2015 Chrysler 300 Low Miles • #D7578R \$24,577 or 88/wk</p>	<p>2015 GMC Canyon SLT Trim, 4x4 • #36956 \$32,577 or 121/wk</p>	<p>2015 Ford F-150 4X4 Lariat • #15967A \$42,377 or 152/wk</p>	<p>2015 Chrysler 200 V6, Only 3 Miles • #D7491R \$28,377 or 101/wk</p>	<p>2015 Chrysler 200 V6, Only 3 Miles • #D7492R \$24,477 or 96/wk</p>
<p>2013 Buick Verano Fuel Efficient • #36978L \$12,777 or 45/wk</p>	<p>2015 Chevy Silverado Crew Cab, 4x4 • #116198A \$29,477 or 105/wk</p>	<p>2014 Jeep Patriot Sport Trim • #D7646R \$17,477 or 62/wk</p>	<p>2015 GMC Yukon Denali Trim • #16499A \$55,377 or 197/wk</p>	<p>2015 Chrysler 200 V6, Only 3 Miles • #D7529R \$25,977 or 99/wk</p>
<p>2015 Nissan GT-R 8,851 Miles, Heated Leather Seats, All Wheel Drive, Twin Turbo, Back-Up Camera, NAV, Aluminum Wheels. \$82,944</p>	<p>2014 Ford F-150 King Ranch • #P10052 \$38,977 or 138/wk</p>	<p>2014 Ford Fiesta Titanium Trim • #16186A \$12,977 or 73/wk</p>	<p>2014 Dodge Avenger V6, Alloy Wheels • #D7551L \$11,977 or 43/wk</p>	

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2014 Chevy Express #37034R, 31,568 miles, Sticker \$31,944	\$25,444
2015 Ford Mustang GT #P10062, 2,707 miles, Sticker \$38,855	\$35,777
2015 Ford Transit T-350 #P10059, 2,696 miles, Sticker \$32,855	\$28,777
2015 Chevy Silverado #S116400A, 20,404 miles, Sticker \$47,944	\$44,344
2015 Ford Transit T-350 #P10066, 13,984 miles, Sticker \$32,855	\$28,777
2015 Chevy Traverse #37025L, 5,824 miles, Sticker \$33,944	\$26,944

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