

# BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE

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SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO [NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS](mailto:NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS) Friday, December 10, 2021



## PARADE PREPARATIONS

A group of volunteers from Uxbridge High School lent a helping hand during the town's first Holiday Night Parade last weekend.

Courtesy

## Douglas library building renovation project nears funding goal

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI  
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS — The Douglas-based Simon Fairfield Public Library is closer to its \$400,000 building renovation project fund goal.

During their latest meeting, the Trustees of the library voted to add the library's most recent state aid grant reimbursement of \$8,273.90 to the collection of funds reserved for the building renovation project, bringing the total progress to \$124,000, or 31 percent of the overall goal.

Turn To **LIBRARY** page **A13**

## Grafton police providing free jackets to veterans through Coats 4 Vets Program



Pictured from left to right are Grafton Chief of Police Normand Crepeau, Lt. Neil Minardi, Sgt. Michael Mazzola, Sen. Moore, Rep. David Muradian and Grafton Police Administrative Assistant Marianne DeVries.

GRAFTON — Grafton Police Chief Norman Crepeau, alongside Sen. Moore and Rep. Muradian, have announced that the Grafton Police Department will be providing free winter jackets to veterans as part of the Massachusetts Military Support Foundation's Coats 4 Vets program.

"We owe so much to our veterans, and we,

in turn, owe it to them to give back as much as possible whenever we can," said Sen. Michael Moore (D-Millbury). "As the weather gets colder and colder, I am grateful to the Coats 4 Vets program for their passion and drive to make sure our local veterans receive a warm coat for the winter season. I am also very proud that the Grafton Police Department will

be taking part in making sure our veterans are cared for."

"Our veterans have put their lives on the line to ensure our safety and freedom," stated Muradian. "Supporting our veterans and providing them a warm coat, along with other basic necessities for the winter, is the least we can do

Turn To **COATS** page **A13**

## Grafton "odor" testing begins

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI  
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

GRAFTON — Due to persistent issues surrounding recent "foul odors" in Grafton, a limited soy testing trial was held earlier this week at the Feedback Earth facility.

The odors were originally reported in the area of Creeper Hill Road and throughout the town, according to a town statement. Feedback Earth is a Grafton-based company that converts unwanted food into "high-quality animal feed."

"The Town Administrator's Office has been working alongside the Board of Health and Feedback Earth to work towards a solution to the smell," the town released in a statement.

According to town officials, Feedback Earth ran its trial earlier this week with a soy product; the trial was slated to be approximately three

hours long, during which different natural deodorizing chemical agents would be tested on the product to find an effective solution.

Representatives of the deodorizing system company were on-site to ensure "efficient and effective testing," the town reported, as well as the Massachusetts

Department of Environmental Protection Divisions of Air Quality and Division of Solid Waste to monitor the testing.

According to a separate statement on the town's social media, released in November, Grafton's Health Agent

Turn To **TESTING** page **A13**



=To ensure that the Dec. 24 edition of the Blackstone Valley Tribune arrives in subscribers' mail boxes on schedule despite the holiday, the submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication that week will be Friday, Dec. 17 at 9 a.m. Submissions are welcome by e-mail at [news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news).

The staff of the Blackstone Valley Tribune thanks our readers for their cooperation with this scheduling change, and wishes one and all a safe and happy holiday season.

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### 10 REASONS TO LIST DURING THE HOLIDAYS

- Serious buyers have few houses to choose from during the holidays, and less competition means more money for You!
- People who look for a home during the holidays are more serious buyers.
- Houses show better when decorated for the holidays.
- The supply or listings will dramatically increase in January, so there will be less demand for your specific home. Less demand means less money for you.
- You can sell now for more money. (We can certainly provide an option for a delayed closing or extended occupancy until early next year.)
- Buyers are more emotional during the holidays, so they are more likely to pay your offering price.
- Some people must buy before the end of the year for tax reasons.
- Buyer are more time to look for a home during the holidays than they do during the work week.
- January is traditionally the month for employees to began new jobs. Since transfers can't wait until spring to buy, your house must be on the market now!
- Your house can still be on the market, but you'll have the flexibility to limit showings during the 6 or 7 days during the holidays.



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## A guide to picking the perfect fresh Christmas tree

Come the holiday season, perhaps no tradition evokes the warm and fuzzy “feels” more than a family outing to pick a Christmas tree. Whether it’s a trek to a live Christmas tree farm or a short drive to the nearest pre-cut tree lot, the process of selecting a tree that will serve as the crown jewel of the entire season is a great way to make lasting memories.

Selecting a tree is a yearly ritual and each person has his or her set of criteria for what makes the ideal Christmas tree. These tips can help families find the right tree.

### Choose your species

Do some homework on the type of tree you want prior to buying the tree. Balsam fir and Fraser fir are popular Christmas tree varieties, but there are many others, such as noble fir and Norway spruce. Balsams are known for having the most fragrant smell, but Frasers tend to keep their needles the longest. For those who prefer a Douglas fir, keep in mind that they sometimes drop their needles prematurely due to

foliar diseases like needle-cast fungus.

### Space for ornaments

In addition to aroma and needle longevity, look for trees that have a desirable shape and allow for adequate space between branches, advises the home and garden resource The Spruce. Trees groomed to be lush and full will look beautiful unadorned, but once ornaments are added, full branches may cause those ornaments to hang low or even fall off. Trees with sparse branches allow for ornaments to hang straight.

### Measure your space

Trees in the field or in a lot may look much smaller than they do when brought into the living room. Don’t make the mistake of selecting a tree that is too large for your home. The agricultural firm Ragan & Masey says to measure the room from floor to ceiling and subtract the height of the tree stand and tree topper. It’s equally important to measure the width of the area where the tree will stand and allow for ample space for foot traffic around

the tree.

### Perform a needle check

Every tree will drop some needles, and most evergreens hold their foliage. Modest needle loss is not an indicator of a poor tree. However, Decker’s Nursery in Greenlawn, NY says if 50 percent of the needles are lost when you swipe your hand down three to five different branches around the tree, the tree likely is not a good choice. In addition, avoid a tree that has glaring defects in the trunk as it can impede water flow through the tree.

### Heavier is better

A heavy pre-cut tree means it is full of water and has been cut more recently. A healthy, fresh tree is going to require an effort to lift. Older, dried out trees will not be heavy.

Upon arriving home, make a fresh cut off the tree trunk and get it in water as soon as possible — even if that’s a bucket until the tree stand can be set up.

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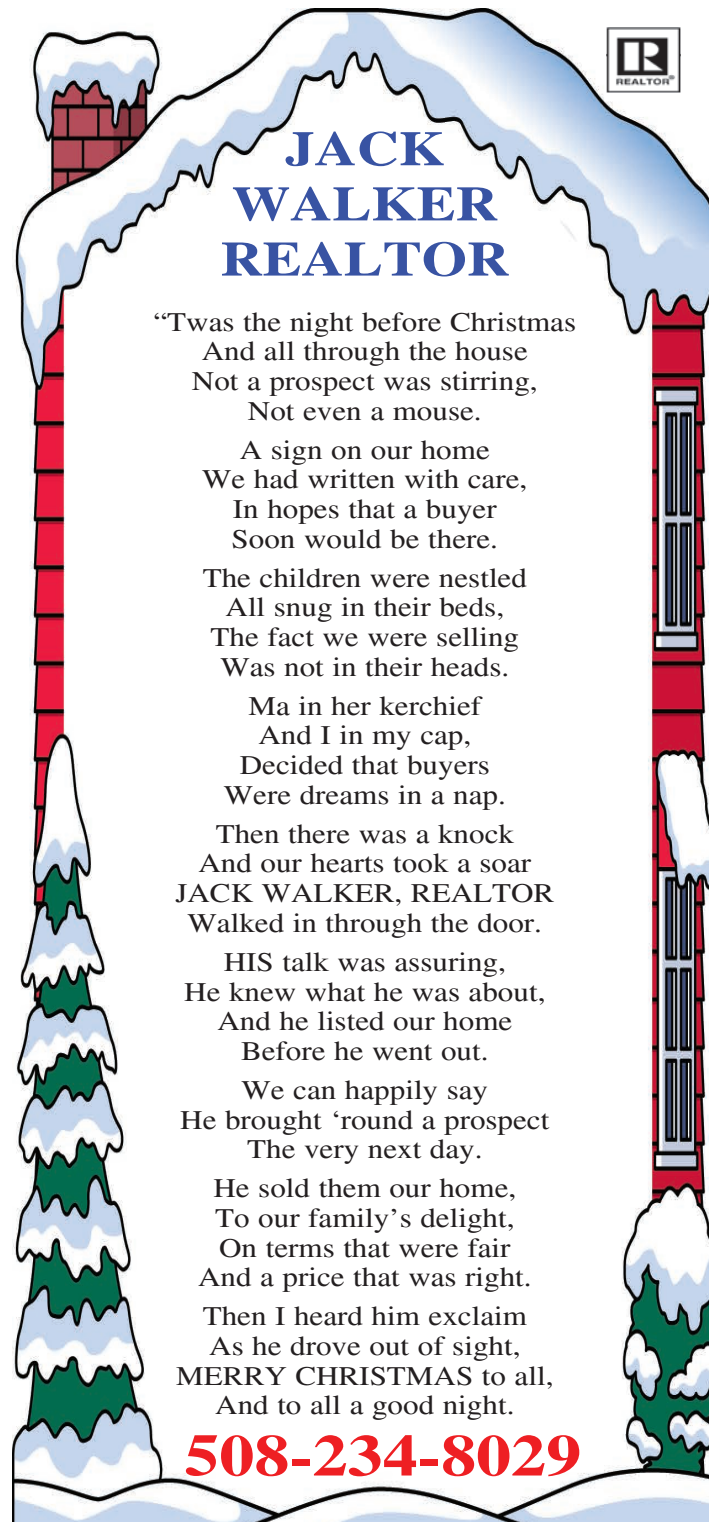


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All snug in their beds,  
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Ma in her kerchief  
And I in my cap,  
Decided that buyers  
Were dreams in a nap.

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And our hearts took a soar  
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And he listed our home  
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The very next day.

He sold them our home,  
To our family’s delight,  
On terms that were fair  
And a price that was right.

Then I heard him exclaim  
As he drove out of sight,  
MERRY CHRISTMAS to all,  
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# Greater Milford Ballet Company presents “The Nutcracker”

BELLINGHAM — This holiday season, the 40th annual “The Nutcracker” returns to the stage and is being presented by the Greater Milford Ballet Company on Dec. 18 and 19 at 2 p.m. at Bellingham High School auditorium Bellingham. The GMBA and the Deane School of dance were founded over 40 years ago by Miss Georgia Deane.

This state-of-the-art ballet production includes dancers from Milford, Mendon, Bellingham, Blackstone, Hopedale, Upton, Easton, Mansfield, and Shrewsbury and Cumberland, Newport and Woonsocket, R.I. The production is under the Artistic Direction of Cynthia Marnik and Susanna Vennerbeck.

Although the production is traditional, every year something new is introduced such as a new costume, new set feature or new character to add to the element of surprise. The adult cast members and young dancers in the production play multiple roles in the production dancing in scenes and corps numbers often requiring precision timing backstage quick changes. The production is complete with falling snow, special effects, lively duel between Nutcracker Prince and the Mouse King, dolls that magically grow to adult size, and a magical dancing bear.

Previous guest appearances with the Greater Milford Ballet’s production of “The Nutcracker” in role of Sugar Plum have been played by Misty Copeland of the American Ballet Theatre, Ashley Murphy from the Dance Theatre of Harlem, Emily Loscocco of Festival Ballet Providence and Ashley Ellis from Boston Ballet to name a few. This year’s guest appearances are by Isabelle Ramage as the Sugar Plum and Timur Kan as the Cavalier from Island Moving Company (IMC) of Newport Rhode Island.

Local adult and young dancer cast members and their roles from the Blackstone Valley Tribune news area include:

- From Bellingham:

Serafina DiTucci - Small Angel
- From Blackstone:

Hannah Smith - Dancing Cousin, Soldier, Snow Queen, Chinese Tea, Marzipan Corps and Flower

Meghan Smith - Party Child, Mouse, Small Angel and Polichinelle

Ryleigh Smith - Party Child, Small Angel and Polichinelle

Paul Jacques- Herr Silberhaus

Colleen O’Brien – Frau Silberhaus

From Cumberland:

Lauren Busavage - Party Parent, Soldier, Snowflake, Marzipan Corps, and Flower

Marzipan Corps and Flower

Rosalie Depot - Small Angel

Brianna Flori - Small Angel

Sanjana Maddipudi - Snowflake, Marzipan Shepherdess, and Flower

Lila Magee - Snowflake, Marzipan Corps, and Flower

Grant Lepine - Drosselmeyer and Snow Queen’s Footman

Easton

Sam Campanella - Party Child, Mouse King and Arabian.

From Franklin:

Samantha Lomonoco - Candy Cane

From Hopedale:

Lorelei Lefever - Party Child and Polichinelle

Paula Cerulli - Party Parent

Douglas Locke - Party Parent

From Milford

Lexie Annantuonio - Columbine, Solider, Snowflake Corps, Chines Tea, Marzipan Corps, Flower

Colleen Annantuonio - Dancing Maid

Stacey Croeber - Party Parent

Kaitlyn Croeber - Party Child and Polichinelle

Ryan Croeber - Fritz and a Mouse

Joseph Denaro - Butler, General and Prince

Ava Denaro - Clara

Avery Helmka - Mouse

Cora Mandrik - Party Child, Mouse and Polichinelle

Mila Mousse - Small Angel

Mia Santomena - Party Child and Mouse

Noressa Santomena - Dancing Maid

Ellie Wallace - Party Child and Mouse

Camille Williams - Grandmother and Mother Ginger

From Mendon:

Sarah Larocca - Small Angel

Marin DiAnni - Party Child, Mouse, and Tricky Clown

Kendall Negron - Small Angel and Polichinelle

From Shrewsbury:

Lena Santello - Magic Bear and Polichinelle and her mom,

Danielle Santello - Dancing Maid

From Upton:

Annabelle Pinto - Party Chile and Polichinelle

Heather Pinto - Dancing Maid



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The Blackstone Valley Tribune 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 A3 in a timely manner.


If you find a mistake, email [news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news) or call (508) 909-4106 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

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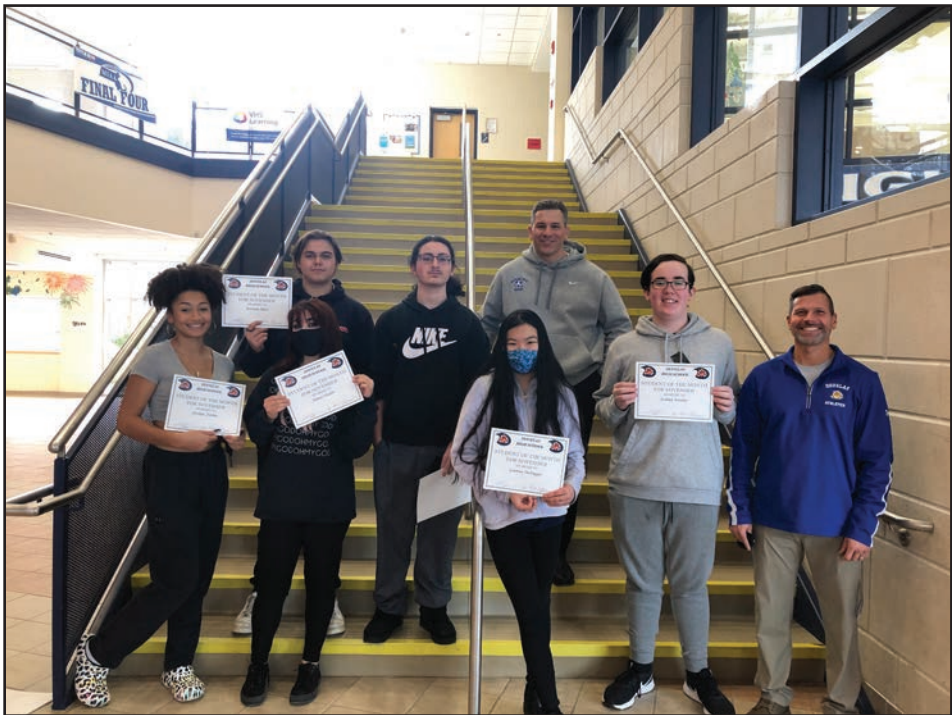
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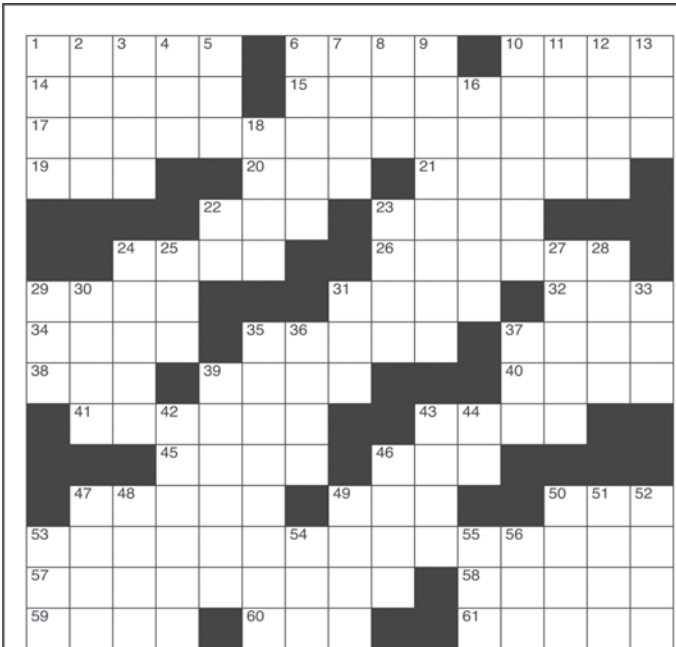


Courtesy

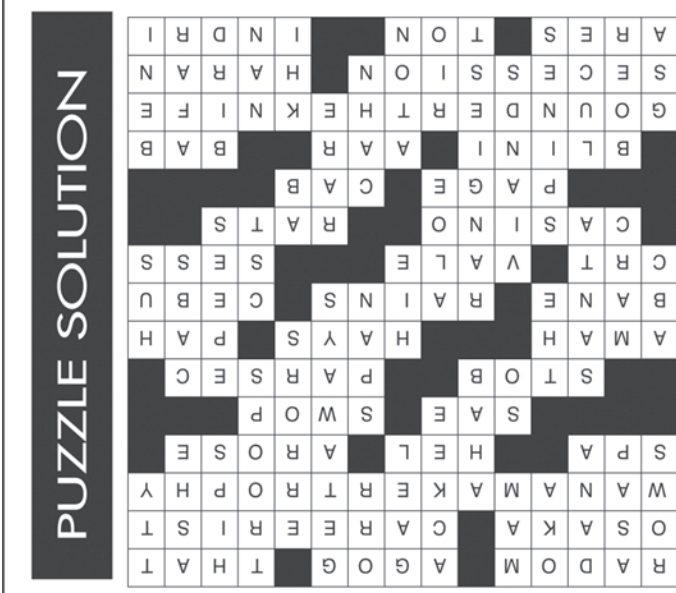
# STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Douglas High School congratulates its Students of the Month for November: Spanish I: Keenan Bliss, Lianna DeBaggis, Alana Taylor, Travis Duplessis, Jordyn Forbes, Alana Pierpont, Joshua Roulier, (Aiden Courtemanche - for Ms. Leclair); Spanish II: Pat Brown, Jessica Rose, Taylor Morel , Olivia Defalco; Spanish III: Emma Hennessy, Cameron Beckwith; Spanish IV: Luke Walcek, Antonio MacGregor.



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Polish city
  - 6. Very eager
  - 10. Identifies a specific person or thing
  - 14. Tennis great Naomi
  - 15. One concerned by professional advancement
  - 17. PGA Championship reward
  - 19. A fashionable hotel
  - 20. Norse mythology afterlife location
  - 21. Stood up
  - 22. Car mechanics group
  - 23. Weather forecasters use it (abbr.)
  - 24. Broken branch
  - 26. Astronomy unit
  - 29. East Asian nursemaid
  - 31. "Airplane!" actor
  - 32. Exclamation that denotes disgust
  - 34. "Batman" villain
  - 35. Downfalls
  - 37. Philippine province
  - 38. Once-vital TV part
  - 39. Valley
  - 40. Tax
  - 41. Classic Scorsese film
  - 43. Subway dwellers
  - 45. Book part
  - 46. Taxi
  - 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
  - 49. Swiss river
  - 50. Founder of Babism
  - 53. Have surgery
  - 57. Withdrawal from a larger entity
  - 58. Lot's father
  - 59. Greek war god
  - 60. 2,000 lbs.
  - 61. Lemur
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Quarrels
  - 2. Right away
  - 3. Comedian Carvey
  - 4. Egyptian unit of weight
  - 5. A Brit's mother
  - 6. Tropical tree
  - 7. One who speaks Gaelic
  - 8. NHL legend Bobby
  - 9. Vacation spots
  - 10. Military personnel
  - 11. Shakira's don't lie
  - 12. Wimbledon champ
  - 13. Teletypewriter
  - 16. Mistakes
  - 18. Whale ship captain
  - 22. Thus
  - 23. From end to end
  - 24. Kids love him
  - 25. One and only
  - 27. Fencing swords
  - 28. Taxis
  - 29. Basics
  - 30. Refuse of grapes
  - 31. Go quickly
  - 33. French ballet dynasty
  - 35. Most open
  - 36. Popular soap ingredient
  - 37. US time zone (abbr.)
  - 39. Items of food
  - 42. Backbones
  - 43. Infrequent
  - 44. Blood type
  - 46. "Let It Snow!" songwriter
  - 47. Dutch colonist
  - 48. Pike
  - 49. Egyptian sun god
  - 50. A cardinal is one
  - 51. From a distance
  - 52. Bolivian river
  - 53. N. American student organization (abbr.)
  - 54. River (Spanish)
  - 55. Chinese life force
  - 56. Chinese surname



## Working together for Uxbridge seniors



Courtesy

Pictured above from left to right: Robert Risio, Donna Oncay, Lisa Bernard, Millie DeLeonardis, State Rep. Mike Soter and Pat Orday.

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge Senior Center wishes to thank all the volunteers, contributors and donors who helped make the 2021 Thanksgiving Meal Distribution Project a success. The Senior Center packaged and delivered more than 230 turkey dinners to seniors throughout the Town of Uxbridge on Monday, Nov. 22. This year, the senior center collaborated with PJ's Restaurant in Bellingham to cook the luncheon. The Town is truly blessed to have so many people who care for each other. It is with many hands that we accomplish so much. What a wonderful way for the community to come together for a great cause.

We especially want to thank our major contributors/donors that helped make this project financially feasible- Fallon Health, Hannaford's, PJ's Restaurant, Savers Bank, Table Talk Pies, and Unibank. The Senior Center also wants to acknowledge all of our volunteers, too many to name. (Some are pictured here) Thank you to the Uxbridge Taft School students who contributed their time and talents to make special greeting cards to our seniors. We especially want to thank State Rep. Mike Soter who helped deliver the food to the Center. We also would like to thank members of the Uxbridge Board of Selectmen and Department Heads that came forward to help as well. Thank you for allowing the Senior Center to be a part of this endeavor. Our seniors thank you!

The Uxbridge Senior Center is located at 36 South Main St. For a current newsletter and to get more information on our services, please contact the Center by calling 508-278-8622.

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E-MAIL:  
news@stonebridgepress.news  
OR send to Blackstone Valley Tribune  
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

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**JOB OPPORTUNITIES DOUGLAS TRANSFER STATION**

The Douglas Board of Health is seeking two (2) applicants for positions at the Douglas Transfer Station. These are entry-level positions working every other Saturday (9 hrs) and on a fill in basis.

These positions are not entitled to benefits. Applications will be accepted until December 16, 2021 and can be obtained on the town of Douglas Website or at the Board of Health Office. A Physical Exam is required.

For more information, contact Kristin at 508-476-4000 ext. 252. Grade MS-1, Step 1 - \$14.96/hr. EOE



## MILLBURY SENIOR CENTER

**SENIOR CENTER HOLIDAY PARTY**  
Tuesday, December 14th at 11 – 1 P.M.  
We will have an ugly sweater contest, along with games and prizes!!  
Enjoy live music!  
Lunch will be served meatloaf, gravy, mashed potatoes with carrots  
Call the center to RSVP by December 9th 508-865-9154

**COVID-19 BOOSTER APPOINTMENT ASSISTANCE**  
We will assist Millbury Senior residents  
If you do not have access to a computer and need help scheduling an appointment for the Booster  
Please call the center at 508-865-9154

**FRAUD PREVENTION CLASS**  
Thursday, Jan. 6th at 1 P.M.  
Officer Piscitelli will be presenting  
Learn about different Scams that target seniors!  
Please call the center if interested in attending  
508-865-9154

**SENIOR WORK – OFF PROGRAM**  
For Eligible seniors, 60 or older that are residents of Millbury  
Receive up to \$1,500 per year that can be used to pay real estate property tax  
In return for voluntary service at a town department  
For more information or to pick up an application please call the center at 508-865-9154

**SENIOR CENTER EXERCISE CLASSES!!**  
**LIGHT EXERCISE CLASSES**  
Mondays and Fridays 9:30 A.M. – 10:15 A.M. (Free!)  
**TAI CHI**  
Tuesdays 9:30 - 10:30 A.M. (class is \$3)  
**YOGA** (All new starting Dec. 16th )!  
Thursdays 9 – 10 A.M. ( Class is \$3)

**SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES!**  
**WII BOWLING**  
Mondays at 12:30 P.M.  
**MAHJONG**  
Mondays at 12:45 P.M.  
**BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC**  
Every Tuesday from 9 A.M. - 10 A.M.  
**CRIBBAGE**  
Tuesdays at 1P.M.  
**SOCIAL BINGO**  
Wednesdays at 1 P.M.  
Bring your pennies!  
**DULL MENS CLUB**  
Thursdays at 10 – 11 A.M.  
No reservations required for any of our activities or exercise classes!

Lunches are served Monday through Friday 12 P.M. at the Senior Center  
The menu is available on the town website, [www.townofmillbury.org](http://www.townofmillbury.org)  
Or our Millbury Senior Center Facebook page.  
A 48 hour reservation is required.

Millbury Senior Center Transportation  
Transportation is provided for Millbury Senior Residents  
Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.  
We travel one town out in each direction including Sutton, Grafton, Auburn and Worcester  
A 48 hour notice is required for scheduling rides (business days)  
Rides are free until January 1st  
For more information or to schedule transportation call the center at 508-865-9154

**“MEMORY CAFÉ”**  
Please join us on December 21st 2- 3:30 P.M.  
We will be decorating Holiday Ornaments!  
A Memory Café is a monthly gathering for people with memory loss/challenges and their care partners. It is a time to socialize, make new friends, and have a good time.  
refreshments will be served!  
We are also looking for volunteers to assist with this program!  
Our Outreach worker, Julie Fitzgerald, is happy to answer  
any questions, call to RSVP 508-865-9154!

Millbury Friendly Visitor Program  
Our Friendly Visitor Program is now being provided by telephone  
Volunteers call clients to check in with them, chat and hear a friendly voice  
For more information on coordinating a Friendly visitor  
Call the center at 508-865-9154

**SNAP APPLICATIONS** (Food Stamps)  
Our appointments are on Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.  
Call for an appointment & required documentation  
508-865-9154  
“This project has been funded at least in part with Federal Funds from USDA.  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider  
The SNAP Logo is a service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.  
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## NORTHBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER

Phone: 508-234-2002  
[www.northbridgemass.org/council-on-aging](http://www.northbridgemass.org/council-on-aging)  
Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.,  
Friday 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Northbridge Coalition is conducting a survey pertaining to the transportation needs of the Blackstone Valley. Through a survey of questions, our hope is to gather specific data, but more importantly, we want to hear the stories of the obstacles members of our community face in meeting their transportation needs. Your information will remain private. Information collected in the survey will be reviewed by the project team. Northbridge Coalition Survey can be found at: <https://qrco.de/BVTransport>  
If you have any questions, please contact Lori at 774-293-8276.

The Northbridge Fire Department will be holding a Blood Pressure Clinic at Plummer Place on Monday, December 20th from 10-12:00pm.

New exercise class being offered: Fluid Motion (Belly Dancing), Thursdays @ 10:00, \$2/class. Low impact, controlled, graceful movements that improves posture. Find yourself standing taller and feeling more confident! Guaranteed that you will have fun and lots of laughs. If you like to dance, this is the class for you! Call to sign up.

Tai Chi is offered at Plummer Place every Monday @ 11:00am. Join instructor Ron Allen for this therapeutic exercise class which is being promoted as helping to reduce stress, anxiety and improving balance. Call for more information.




Ukulele Class is being offered every Wednesday @ 2:00pm. Rianne Richards is our instructor. This class is for both beginners and those who need to brush up on their skills. Call the Center to sign up.

Mahjong is looking for new players at Plummer Place. The Four Winds Mahjong League meets Mondays, 1:00-3:00pm and on Thursdays at 12:30pm, National Mahjong League meets.

Aqua Aerobics Class is offered through the Center at the Whitin Community Center Mondays @ 1:00pm. Call to sign up.

Don't forget to check out our shows on Northbridge Cable TV, channel 194, Monday through Friday from 9-11:00am. We show exercise classes for our senior population along with some entertainment. Our recent show we just produced is the Blackstone Valley Strummers Christmas Special featuring our Ukulele group from the Center. Beginning the week of December 13th, the special will show at 10:30 every day on channel 194. Enjoy!

# The Lighting Ceremony



In Memory of Cole  
William Victor At  
Powdermill Park  
In Spencer  
43 Smithville Rd,  
Spencer Ma  
Please Join Us On  
December 12th From 4-5pm  
43 Smithville Rd, Spencer MA

We will be offering free refreshments while singing some Christmas carols and visiting with Santa before lighting the tree!

### REAL ESTATE

#### BLACKSTONE

\$345,000, 208 Blackstone St, Hogge, Paula M, to Cordero, Christian E.  
\$299,900, 13 Blackstone St, Dugan, Jason, to Caughey, Matthew W.

#### DOUGLAS

\$465,500, 186 South St, Power, Jonathan, to Prosser, Eric.  
\$449,900, 235 South St, Soule, Zachary, to Deprofio, Peter.  
\$350,000, 69 Compass Point Dr #69, Northbrown LLC, to Curley, James P.  
\$95,000, 225 Yew St, Joyce, Terrence, and Berelson, Katherine, to Rogjef Inc.

#### NORTHBRIDGE

\$550,000, 268 Pollard Rd, Duffy, Thomas B, and Clifford, Anna M, to Machikas, Alexa.  
\$479,900, 173 Fir Hill Ln, Sylvestre, Frantz, to Vega, Yerko.  
\$395,500, 41 Heather Hl, Kidd, Sean G, to Riel, Keryn.  
\$370,000, 6-8 Woodland St, Beahn, Kelly A, and Beahn, Derek W, to Vander-Baan, Alexander.

\$312,000, 14 Susanne Dr, Mason, Tina M, and Duvernay, Dianne, to Viera-Sanchez, Magdiel.  
\$265,941, 1983 Hill St, US Bank NA Tr, to All Ideal Homes LLC.  
Oakham \$95,000, 454 N Brookfield Rd, Gehring, Frederick J, to Blanchard, Mark R, and Blanchard, Karen M.

#### UXBRIDGE

\$570,175, 61 Douglas Pike, Prosser, Eric, to Aragao-Decastro, Anderson, and Decastro, Marilda A.  
\$550,000, 34 Spinning Wheel Dr, Gonya, Michael J, and Gonya, Robin M, to Martin, Joaquin R, and Martin, Kerri.  
\$437,150, 42 Tea Party Dr #42, Independence Uxbridge Rlt, to Kakarla, Kavitha.  
\$435,000, 42 S Main St, Poisson, Arthur R, and Poisson, April M, to Tripodi, Krista M.  
\$290,000, 115 Douglas St, Konkol, Paul C, to Andrews, Lauren M.  
\$290,000, 212 E Hartford Ave #212, Kupiec, Priscilla M, to Goudreau-Shaw, Colette.



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# Community Connection

Your guide to local businesses and events! To join us, please call June at 508-909-4062 or email [jsima@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jsima@stonebridgepress.news).

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# Brighten someone’s holiday season with Christmas cactus

The holidays have arrived and so has the Christmas cactus. Set this favorite holiday plant in a basket, decorative pot or foil wrap and it will be ready to give as a gift or add to your holiday décor. With proper care this holiday favorite can flower for four to eight weeks and grow for decades, becoming a family heirloom handed down from one generation to the next.

The plant sold as a Christmas cactus may actually be a Thanksgiving cactus. The true Christmas cactus blooms later and has small segments with rounded edges. The Thanksgiving cactus, though often sold as the Christmas cactus, has toothed or jagged segments and typically blooms prior to Christmas.

Fortunately, their growing requirements and care are basically the same so the plants will do fine no matter the name on the label. These, or hybrids of the two plants, flower with cool nights and long uninterrupted dark periods. A third holiday plant, the Easter cactus, sets flowers in spring as the days start to lengthen.

Christmas and Thanksgiving cacti are epiphytes that naturally grow on trees in shaded and humid forests along the coast of Brazil. They all prefer bright indirect light, high humidity and a thorough watering when the top few inches



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

of soil begins to dry. Don't over water but don't let the soil dry completely. Water a bit more often when the plant is in bloom.

Grow them in an organic well-drained potting mix for best results. Water thoroughly and pour off the excess that collects in the saucer to avoid root rot. Reduce maintenance and improve the growing conditions with the help of gravel trays. Place a layer of pebbles, decorative stones or marbles in the saucer or bottom of the foil wrap or basket. The pot will be elevated above any excess water that collects in the pebbles. As the water evaporates, it increases the humidity around the plant.

Keep your flowering cactus in a cool bright location to extend its bloom time. Avoid drafts of hot and cold air; moisture stress and other changes in the environment that can cause buds and flowers to drop.

Fertilize with a dilute solution of flowering houseplant fertilizer once it has finished blooming and throughout spring and summer as needed. Grow your cactus in a north-facing window or set back from an east- or west-facing window where it receives bright indirect light throughout the year. Too much sun turns the leaf segments dark red.

Don't be anxious to move these plants

to a bigger container. They prefer to be somewhat potbound and can remain in the same pot for years.

Encourage a new flush of flowers with cooler night temperatures around 55 to 60 degrees and slightly drier soil. An uninterrupted dark period will also help promote flowering.

Start the dark treatment in early to mid-October for holiday flowers. Cover the plants or move them to a location free of any artificial light, indoors or outside, each night and provide bright indirect light each day. Any interruption in the dark period from outdoor, street or reading lights can delay or prevent flowering.

Many experts find providing the same dark treatment as poinsettias, 14 hours of dark each night, promotes flowering. Michigan State University recommends providing 16 hours of total darkness and eight hours of light for at least eight days to promote flowering.

Add a Christmas cactus to your indoor plant collection and share a few with friends and family over the holidays. These easy-care flowering beauties are sure to brighten the recipient's mood and holiday décor.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The



Melinda Myers

Christmas cactus is a general name given to a small group of cacti called *Schlumbergera* that are native to southeastern Brazil's coastal mountains.

Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Her Web site is [www.melindamyers.com](http://www.melindamyers.com).

## Community Harvest Project receives \$10,000 grant from Fallon Health

GRAFTON – Community Harvest Project, a non-profit volunteer farming organization, announced it has been named a recipient of Fallon Health's Community Impact Grant for 2021. The funds, totaling \$10,000 will help support Volunteer Farming Programming.

"The funds provided are helping us to better serve the community as we expand services to 4 new distribution partners, continue to increase long-term orchard output, health, and crop diversity, and actively engage volunteers to grow over 215,000 pounds of produce for donation to local hunger relief. Together, we can ensure that the individuals and families experiencing hunger in Greater Worcester receive the nutritious produce they need," said Tori Buerschaper, Executive Director of CHP.

"This year, Fallon received applications from nearly 110 organizations—up approximately 38 percent from last year, highlighting how the current health care crisis has exacerbated existing social and economic inequities while presenting new challenges," said Richard Burke, President and CEO of Fallon Health. "We are inspired by the


work Community Harvest Project is doing in the community, and it is our sincere hope that we are able to help ease some of the financial constraints they are facing when dealing with critical issues of hunger and loneliness among older adults head on."

In 2021, Fallon Health distributed \$110,000 in grants across its service area through its Community Impact Grants Program. As a Massachusetts' non-profit Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), Fallon is committed to providing support to address unmet health needs and improving the health of disadvantaged populations through its grant program. The organization's work was recently highlighted in a report by the office of Attorney General Maura Healey.

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Friday's Child

🌿🌿🌿



**Ash and Emily**  
Age 13 and 14

**Hi! Our names are Ash and Emily and we want to be adopted together!**

Emily and Ash are friendly and sweet siblings who are looking to be adopted together. Emily is a kind, humorous, sweet, and helpful girl. Very sociable, she makes friends easily, although she sometimes can miss social cues. She enjoys drawing, painting, watching anime and YouTube videos, and going swimming. She easily engages in conversations and loves to talk about her day. Ash, who uses they/them pronouns, works hard on building self-esteem, getting involved in the community, expressing emotions, and exploring their gender identity. In school, they do very well in the classes that they enjoy. Ash does report that they are shy but can be outgoing when they feel comfortable.

Legally freed for adoption, Emily and Ash would thrive in a supportive and committed two-parent family or in a strong single-parent home. The ideal family would provide these siblings with structure, clear boundaries, and a nurturing and attentive environment. A home with other children in it would be welcomed as well as families with no children. Their new family must be willing to help these siblings maintain contact with their biological younger brother.

**Who Can Adopt?**

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ singles and couples.

The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit [www.mare-inc.org](http://www.mare-inc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

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## PAW of the WEEK

**Meet Fallon!** She's a 2-year-old, 50 pound female lab/terrier pup! This pretty girl is so fun! She loves being around people and other dogs. And, more than anything, she REALLY loves it when you play fetch with her! Fallon is medium energy and would fit well into most any home. She's a happy wiggle bum who is looking forward to meeting you! So what are you waiting for? Come fall in love.

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[www.PawfectLifeRescue.org](http://www.PawfectLifeRescue.org)



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# LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate and Family Court**  
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**  
**225 Main Street**  
**Worcester, MA 01608**  
**(508) 831-2200**  
**Docket No. WO21P3893EA**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
**Estate of:**  
Barbara Ann Lambert  
**Also know as:**  
Barbara E Lambert,  
Barbara A Lambert  
**Date of Death: 08/06/2021**  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Gerald E Lambert, Jr. of Uxbridge MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Gerald E Lambert, Jr. of Uxbridge MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this

proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/28/2021**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.  
**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: November 29, 2021  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
December 10, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate and Family Court**  
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**  
**225 Main Street**  
**Worcester, MA 01608**  
**(508) 831-2200**  
**Docket No. WO21P3865EA**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
**Estate of:**  
Bernadine H Pollock  
**Date of Death: 04/24/2021**  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Darrell Pollock of Blackstone MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Darrell Pollock of Blackstone MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney

must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/28/2021**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.  
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WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: November 24, 2021  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
December 10, 2021





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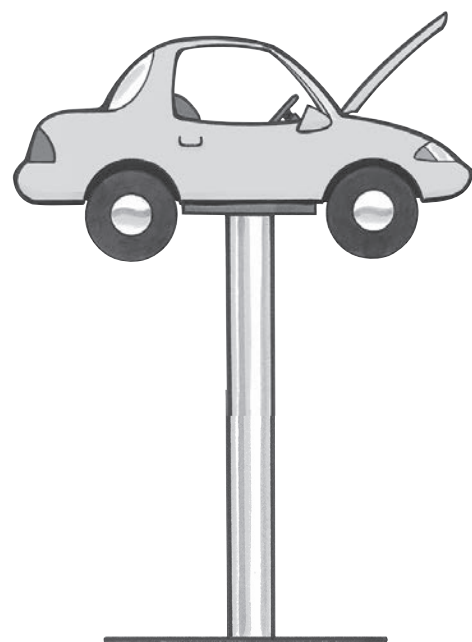
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**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

*From apples to oranges (in stockings):  
The origins of  
Christmas traditions*

Driving about town is fantastic this time of year, as more and more homes are decorated with bright lights to welcome the holiday season. Some people go all out, and others...well, they don't, and that's OK too. The important thing to remember as we get older is that right now, as you read this, there are countless children counting down the days until Santa arrives, or just finishing up with Hanukkah.

As our Editor was dragging their family tree into the house over the weekend, they started to think about how silly this tradition was. Why cut down a tree and drag it indoors, decorate it, and vacuum up pine needles all month long? We will admit, having the tree is fun, especially at night. With that, the research into holiday traditions began.

Did you ever wonder where the tradition of the Christmas stocking came from, or why traditional Christmas colors are red, green and gold or why Kentucky Fried Chicken in Japan is so busy on Christmas? There are endless myths and fables surrounding the Christmas holiday, but there are even more interesting facts. While researching Christmas, and digging deep, we found a plethora of fun and thought-provoking facts worth sharing with our readers.

The first one notes that early images of St. Nicholas depict him as a strict disciplinarian rather than the overweight, jolly man in the red suit we see today. Way back when, a common Christmas eve tradition was to tell scary ghost stories by the fire, boo.

In 1914, during the Great War, a truce between the United Kingdom and Germany was held. They decorated their shelters for the holiday and exchanged gifts and even played a game of football with each other.

When a child drops a letter in the mail to Santa in America, the mail is sent to Santa Claus, Ind.

Thanks to the province of Nova Scotia, which, since 1918, has been sending the city of Boston an enormous Christmas tree as a thank you for supporting them during the Halifax explosion.

Pope Julius I proclaimed Dec. 25 as the official day to celebrate the birth of Christ in A.D. 350.

For the past 40 years, people in Japan eat Kentucky Fried Chicken for Christmas dinner and must make their orders two months in advance.

British illustrator John Callcott Horsley invented the first Christmas card in 1843.

In England from 1649-1660, Puritanical guardian of the realm Oliver Cromwell outlawed Christmas celebrations and carols, which he and his fellow Calvinists viewed as vestiges of Catholic excess.

The first artificial Christmas trees were made in Germany out of dyed goose feathers (we're still trying to picture this one).

X is the Greek letter "chi," which is an abbreviation for the word "Christ" in Greek — hence the abbreviation X-mas being used so often.

Several European countries thought that good and evil spirits were active during the Twelve Days of Christmas. These 'spirits' then became known as Santa's elves.

Have you ever wondered what a 'Yule' log actually is? We have too. It is a large log that is burned during the Twelve Days of Christmas as a symbol of health, fertility, luck and is said to ward off evil spirits.

In Bolivia, there is a celebration called the 'Mass of the Rooster' that takes place on Christmas Eve. Some folks bring roosters to the mass to symbolize the thought that a rooster was the first animal to announce the birth of Jesus.

In 2010, the Columbian government hung lights on jungle trees. When the FARC guerrillas sauntered by, the trees lit up and released banners asking the terrorists to lay down their weapons. As a result, 331 guerrillas peacefully re-entered into the community.

Here's an interesting one: the Bicycle card company created playing cards during WWII that revealed an escape route for POW's in Germany.

In the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," the verse referring to "true love" is a reference to God. A "partridge in a pear tree" represents Christ and the "two turtledoves" represent the Old and New Testaments.

Turn To **EDITORIAL** page **A9**

# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The unwinnable war of vitriol

To the Editor:

Despite the simplified, affirmational stories that end up in our children's history books after being sanitized and wrapped in swaddling cloth to soften and infantilize the reality of their often conflicting complexities, America never actually has been as unified a country as many might suppose. Persisting and perennially chafing against a mythologized, largely imaginal National dream, are wildly divergent narratives and experiences regarding what it means to be an American. If there is anything the historical cacophony of American voices should have taught us by now it's that none of us, no group or individual, can win the debate of what Americans should think, feel, or believe no matter how ridiculous, illogical, or maddening we think the views of others are.

Consider, if only as a momentary intellectual exercise, that there is no evidence whatsoever that any political "discussion" any of us has ever had with a diametrically opposed individual or group has or ever will win them over to our way of thinking. Perhaps it's an evolutionary design flaw that compels us to doggedly believe that by screaming more loudly, pounding our fists more vigorously, or devising ever more clever ways to diminish and demonize our opponents, we can win them over to what to us is obviously true. In our perpetual delusion, we behave as if we believe that our brute passion will force an epiphany upon the desperately misguided other causing him to magically realize the errors of his ways and embrace our correct way

of thinking. Did this approach ever work with your kids?

As Americans, we are badly in need of a more rational strategy, a more reasonable modus operandi by which to address the frighteningly polarized state of National discourse. I reject rank emotionalism and pointless vitriolic hyperbole as candidates for this better way. Haven't we tried these long enough to see that they are increasing not decreasing the dangerous fracturing and polarization of America? Instead, I suggest logic, tolerance, and calm rationalism as the only viable alternative. If screaming and demonizing and pig-headedly clinging to our cherished notions of Truth aren't working, perhaps we are being challenged to reconsider our habitual tribal go-to and utterly ineffective approach.

If there's anything that's become clear in the past five or so years, it's that all of us have been badly mistaken in our blithe presumption regarding the success and endurance of American democracy. Things only seem eternal until they're not. Eternal dynasties and ideologies only reign supreme until they don't. If there's one thing both left and right can agree on it's that the more or less unified America we thought we knew and could forever depend upon is rapidly devolving into something baser, crasser, and uglier. It's time for a new way. Either we persist in pursuing demonstrably unsuccessful past approaches, or we consciously engage evolution by trying a new way.

WAYNE BORDEN  
NORTHBRIDGE

### Be revolutionary — celebrate Christmas

To the Editor:

What I believe. Feel free to disagree. It's time to be revolutionary.

Have you taken a moment to think about how significant Christmas has been in the history of the U.S.A.?

When the Puritans arrived on Cape Cod in 1620, they were very pious and strict about religious observance. On Christmas, there was altogether too much drinking, feasting, carousing, and mummering (parading in funny clothes) by the non-Puritans so, by 1659, they had issued a proclamation:

"Publick Notice: the observance of Christmas having been declared a sacrilege, the exchanging of gifts and greetings, dressing in fine clothing, feasting, and similar Satanic practices are hereby forbidden with the offender liable to a fine."

I revere the Puritans. After all, they made America possible through great sacrifice and privation. Yet they do remind me of our modern Woke Mob, who ban things like liberty, equality, gender, and feasting. They are trying to ban American Exceptionalism, but we are too exceptional to allow them to do that.

In the 1730's and 1740's, the colonies experienced the First Great Awakening - a religious revival. At the time of the Revolutionary War, Christmas was a day of religious observation, depending upon your religion. Dissenters from the Church of England (Baptists, Presbyterians, Methodists and Quakers) did not celebrate Christmas, but members of the Church of England, Lutherans, Dutch Reformed and Catholics did. The Jewish citizens of Newport and Charleston did not. There was a strong interest in protecting religion from the government. The government was seen as a great Anaconda that would coil around you and squeeze you to death - kinda like our government is doing today.

On Dec. 25, 1776, in Trenton, N.J., the Hessian mercenaries celebrated Christmas in the old way: feasting and drinking. So General George Washington took advantage of it and crossed the Delaware River in a howling Nor'easter with over 5,000 Continental soldiers to stun Britain and her mercenaries in two battle victories, starting on Christmas night.

After the Revolutionary War, when we had finally become the United States, Congress adopted the Constitution, along

with the Bill of Rights, in 1787. This included the First Amendment forbidding the government from making any law respecting an establishment of religion.

In the 1800's, the Second Great Awakening spread across America. Preachers held religious revivals. Methodists preachers rode the "circuit." You will see remnants of that today in Martha's Vineyard: Circuit Avenue, the Tabernacle, and the Gothic cottages in Oak Bluffs (formerly the Methodist revival camp grounds).

In 1822, Clement Moore (an Episcopal minister) wrote the Christmas poem, known today as " 'Twas the Night Before Christmas." By the 1840's (see it "live" at Old Sturbridge Village), the Christian ethos was strong. Many of our favorite Christmas carols were written at that time: "Joy to the World," "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," "O Come All Ye Faithful," "Good King Wenceslas," "We Three Kings of Orient Are," and "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing."

By the 1860's, many God-fearing citizens saw the Civil War as a religious event. White and black Abolitionists argued that God would allow bloodshed to continue until slavery was banished. Chaplains reported the last words of soldiers declaring their faith in their final moments on earth. Lincoln's assassination, reported in many churches on Easter Sunday, 1865, emphasized the religious message.

After World War II, America saw itself as a Christian nation in a cold war with atheistic Communism. Some labeled this time as the Third Great Awakening. Christmas was in full force and continues to this day.

We have become a nation welcoming all religions under the guarantee of the First Amendment to the Constitution. Many celebrate Christmas. Many do not, and the Constitution defends their right not to. Our glorious nation remains the City of Light on the hill above the tyrannical religious persecution in our world today.

Be revolutionary. Celebrate Christmas if you wish. Study American history. It explains why we are an exceptional nation. Let no one tell you any different. What say you?

Nevertheless, she persisted.

BEV GUDANOWSKI  
UXBRIDGE

## Take the risk

POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING

TOBY  
MOORE

I encourage people to follow their dreams.

Following my dreams has been the single most excellent motivator in my life; it's what gets me out of bed in the morning. My biggest dream I am still chasing today, although life has brought me to a place where I'm chasing it most unusually and uniquely, I'm more convinced of my destiny than ever before.

Dreams can change; old dreams can be replaced with new ones. If you didn't pursue a goal earlier in life, it's never too late to follow the same one or a new one now. I say go for it, and you'll find that doors will open; you'll be presented with opportunities you would never have had if you played it safe instead.

Through the years, I've often wondered why everyone doesn't chase after their dreams. Is it because they don't have them? Is it because they don't believe it's possible to achieve them?

I've heard people describe their dream as a pipe dream, defined in the dictionary as an unattainable hope or plan. I guess they say that because, at the outset, they told themselves it wasn't possible, or maybe they tried, gave up, and decided it wasn't meant to happen.

For those of you who do believe it's possible to accomplish your dreams, you may have weighed the risk. Many people are risk-averse. Some might say that taking the risk of following your dream is careless and self-destructive. I believe the opposite. I would never categorize carelessness and self-destructive behavior in the same category as following your dreams - no matter how risky.

Many of you who were reading this were fans of my father, Gary W. Moore, who started this column four years ago. He was an author who is most known for his novel, "Playing with the Enemy," which is still in print today. "Playing with the Enemy" earned him a great deal of fan mail. It was his first book, and everyone seemed to love it.

One person wrote to my father and told a story of how he was a successful lawyer with a great family and how "Playing with the Enemy" taught him to forgive himself. He had gone through many years of regret, beating himself up and feeling like a failure.

When my dad told me the story about this man, I thought to myself, "How could he possibly feel like a failure? He was a successful lawyer with a great family; what more could he want?"

It turns out he was an outstanding boxer in his younger years. He decided to pursue a law career and give up his dream of being a professional boxer because it was just too risky. In the years after his decision, he began to have regrets; as time went on, the regrets started to grate at his soul. It wasn't until he read my father's book decades later that he decided he needed to forgive himself.

That story has stuck with me through the years. He didn't follow his dreams because he felt it was too risky.

It reminds me of my favorite quote by Jim Rohn: "It's all risky, the minute you were born it got risky, if you think trying is risky - wait till they hand you the bill for not trying. If you think investing is risky - wait till you get the tab for not investing. It's all risky, getting married is risky, having children is risky, going into business is risky, investing your money is risky, It's all risky; I'll tell you how risky life is - you're not going to get out alive...."

If you think following your dreams is risky - wait till they hand you the bill for not following your dreams.

It's all risky. Are some dreams riskier than others? It all depends on what you're willing to risk.

Are you willing to risk facing the consequences for not stepping into the fullness of your destiny?

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# A tale of two hunts

Local deer hunters had a somewhat slow day this past Saturday west of Route 146, but hunters that put their time into areas north of 146 harvested a good number of deer this past Saturday. A quick ride on Saturday to get results of the deer harvest at Bob's checking station was shocking but not unrealistic, taking into account the high harvest of deer by archers a few weeks earlier. A total of 82 deer were checked in for the week at the Webster station, as of noon Saturday, which included a six-point, 174-pound buck. Lenny Audette harvested a huge 10-point buck in Uxbridge last week. Unfortunately, no picture was available at the time of this writing.

A report by a Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife employee that only one deer had been checked in at noon on Saturday was a far cry from only a few years ago at the Webster station. Because of the high population of archers that now hunt deer in this state they now harvest more deer than during the shotgun season, which is one of the contributing factors. Thirty-five automobiles were lined up along Route 16 from Douglas to Webster on opening day and only half that many by last Saturday. All of the deer checked in were in good shape, according to the staff at the Webster station.

This year, MF&W officials were swabbing the nose of deer to get a more

accurate account of how many deer were infected with the Covid virus. No update on the results were available at the time of this writing. Unfortunately, MF&W does not share to much information on the deer harvest until next year, which makes it harder to inform our readers. The new checking system for registering harvested deer on line during the archery season, the last week of shotgun, and the entire season on Black Powder has made it a lot easier for sportsmen to comply with the requirement.

Massachusetts shotgun deer season will end this Saturday December 11, and the black powder season will open on Monday, Dec. 13. The black powder season will end at the end of the month Dec. 31. The high tech black powder guns are now rifled, and are extremely accurate up to 100 yards, at least for those that are highly experienced in their use. There are still deer hunters that prefer to use the old flintlock rifles, making it a lot more challenging to harvest a white tail deer. Good luck!

The new MF&W licensing system is now up and running. This is the first year in a long time that an increase in license fees went into effect. The fees will automatically increase for the next few years. If you have not been following the news on license increases for hunters and fishermen for the last 12 months, you will when you apply for



THE GREAT OUTDOORS  
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Courtesy

This week's picture shows a happy angler Dan Southwick, with a huge pike he caught a few years ago while ice fishing. Could this be you this year?

your 2022 licenses and permits. Duck hunting will reopen on Dec. 13 in Central Massachusetts with a daily bag limit of six birds. The final season will close Jan. 1. Canada goose hunting will also reopen on Dec. 13. Hopefully, the snow will not blanket the fields during the season, making for some great shooting opportunities. If snow does cover the fields, hunters will need to hunt rivers and streams, which is a lot more dangerous for man & dog. When a freeze up occurs during the late seasons, it drives the geese and ducks to open water, which often has a coating of ice along the shoreline. It can be dangerous for both man & dog.

Over the years, numerous hunters and dogs have lost their life because of thin ice. Do not let it happen to you. On Jan. 15, the late Canada goose season opens in Massachusetts, and the daily bag limit goes to five birds. Your federal duck stamps are still good to hunt migratory birds into 2022, but you do need to purchase a new 2022 hunting license and state migratory stamp to hunt. Ice fishing can hot be far off, I hope! More on this subject next week. Be sure to stay off of unsafe ice. Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

## Readers Share Favorite Tips and Tricks

It's time once again to share some helpful hints readers send my way. As we gear up for the holidays, the following readers took time from their busy schedule to pass along a tip or trick they've picked up along the way. Remember readers, you can win a three course dinner for two at Publick House! Just send in your favorite hint! Good luck!

Want to save both money and calories? A reader figured out the correct ingredients to splitting a box mix in half – no waste!

I have another hint for your column: The two of us love cupcakes from a cake mix but a full box is too much. I divide the mix to one egg and divide the liquid the same. The full mix usually requires 2 or 3 eggs and produces 24 cupcakes so you can cut it down to 8 or 12 using only one egg.

Paul Davignon  
Uxbridge, MA 01569

This reader's recycling hint is a triple win!

For scented jar candles that you think have burned down as far as they will go but have leftover wax at the bottom (sometimes as much as a half inch or more), don't discard the wax. Break up the leftover wax in cubes and put them in a wax warmer/melter. They will melt nicely and continue to give off the scent and you will have saved money not buying wax cubes, and stopped the wasted wax form being added to the

landfill!  
Donna Joyce,  
Southbridge, MA

Oopsie!: A solution for the absent minded - this reader passed along a tried and true tip, that continues to come to the rescue!

If you seal an envelope and then realized you forgot to include something inside, just place your sealed envelope in the freezer for an hour or two. Viola, it unseals easily. Donna Lewandowski  
Charlton, MA

A longtime reader passes along another of her successful remedies:

This tip worked, several months ago and again today. A small piece of husk from an oat grain e.g. oatmeal, was stuck near the back of my tongue. Coughing forcefully didn't work, gargling with warm or cold water did not work.

I took a wooden long handled Q-tip, but regular size would work too, it is dry on the head and touched quickly and pulling forward, secured the husk and drug it to the front of my mouth to remove safely (do not put too far back on the tongue to gag!).

Also I teach CPR AED First Aid Professional Rescuers and if necessary, would use this for someone. My dad, during the aging process, choked often, so I have spent many years helping him, and I have taught CPR etc. since 1985.



TAKE THE HINT  
KAREN TRAINOR

Publick House Dinner for Two Winner

Congratulations to Donna Joyce of Southbridge for her moneysaving candle tip above. Her name was drawn for a three course dinner for two!

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House – Contest has resumed!

Your tips can win you a great three course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to

Also, if the person is conscious, can speak, just can't get it off their tongue, a small piece of dry bread (1 inch), chewed well and swallowed will move it down. Viola Bramel  
Northbridge, MA

## Horns, lights, fireworks on Dec. 4 in Uxbridge!

To the Editor:  
The day was sunny and rather mild when citizens of this town were given another great 'gift' by the First Night Committee! Thank-you choruses should be shouted loudly for those volunteers who labored long to give us a

### EDITORIAL

continued from page A8

Did you ever wonder why the colors red, green and gold are affiliated with Christmas? The color green is a symbol of life and rebirth, red symbolizes the blood of Christ and gold is a symbol of light, wealth and royalty.

Christmas trees are grown for roughly 15 years before they are purchased.

In Poland, spider webs are a common decoration for trees because a spider, according to legend, wove a blanket for baby Jesus.

In 1836, Alabama was the first state in the country to officially recognize Christmas.

Mistletoe is considered sacred to the Druids because it produces fruit and remains green throughout the winter. The Druids never let the plant hit the ground and believed that it was a cure for infertility and warded off evil spirits.

President Teddy Roosevelt, widely acknowledged as one of the first environmental advocates, banned Christmas trees from the White House in 1901.

Apples were the first Christmas tree decorations.

Why do we hang stockings by the chimney with care? Apparently, there were three sisters who were too poor to afford a marriage dowry and were bound to end up on the streets. Bishop Saint Nicholas filled their stockings with gold coins, and their lives were forever changed.

We hope you enjoyed these fun Christmas facts, and hope that you have a happy holiday season filled with endless laughter and memories to last a life time.

grand start to the Christmas season. After last year, no health challenges stopped plans for 2021, and this annual Christmas extravaganza was back bigger and better than ever, especially for those who witnessed the spectacular Santa parade!

From groups gathered around front lawn fire pits from North Uxbridge southward to the dozens-deep crowd around the Town Common, everyone was in a festive spirit. Watching marching bands from Uxbridge and Douglas, dancing troops, State Rep. Mike Sotter's huge float 'raining' snow and others, representing various Blackstone Valley businesses, sporting blow-up Christmas characters, a variety of public safety equipment from various towns and 'big rigs' all trimmed in lights and blaring horns was exciting. Santa brought up the rear of the (approximately) 45-minute parade that was magical for young and old alike. And to end a fun day of family fun, fireworks lit the night sky over the Mumford River around 6 p.m.! Speaking of 'lights', thanks to the Arthur R. Taft Trustees the newly painted (former) Unitarian Church was 'magically' aglow with illuminated belfry windows and steeple.

The library distributed (200!) craft kits for children; the Masonic Temple gave tours; the Simeon Wheelock House invited visitors to sign holiday cards for veterans in nearby VA hospitals; local businesses opened; musicians and craft purveyors populated the Common. It seemed the day was nothing short of a triumphant business and social success for the community.

All this is thanks for the tireless volunteer efforts of the First Night Committee! As they say in marketing, Uxbridge is 'on the map' with this event. Well done, everyone involved especially at the Mendon Street Kitchen!

With heartfelt thanks...

JANE F. KEEGAN  
UXBRIDGE



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# SPORTS

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Dec. 17 vs. Quaboag Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 21 at Leicester High, 6:30  
Dec. 23 at Uxbridge High, 6:30  
Dec. 28 vs. Oxford High, 5:30  
Jan. 4 vs. David Prouty Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 7 vs. Auburn High, 6:30  
Jan. 11 at Oxford High, 6:30  
Jan. 14 vs. Millbury High, 6:30  
Jan. 18 vs. Grafton High, 6:30

Jan. 20 at Southbridge High, 6:30  
Jan. 24 vs. Bartlett High, 6:30  
Jan. 28 at Blackstone-Millville Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 31 vs. Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Feb. 3 at Grafton High, 6:30  
Feb. 7 vs. Sutton High, 6:30  
Feb. 10 vs. Uxbridge High, 6:30  
Feb. 15 at Douglas High, 6:30  
Feb. 17 at Millbury High, 6:30

Girls' Basketball  
Dec. 13 vs. Tantasqua Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 16 at Quaboag Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 20 vs. Leicester High, 6:30

Dec. 23 vs. Uxbridge High, 6:30  
Dec. 29 vs. Blackstone Valley Tech, 5:30  
Jan. 3 at David Prouty Regional, 6  
Jan. 6 at Auburn High, 6:30  
Jan. 10 vs. Oxford High, 6:30  
Jan. 13 at Millbury High, 6:30  
Jan. 21 vs. Southbridge High, 6:30  
Jan. 25 at Bartlett High, 6:30  
Jan. 31 at Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Feb. 4 vs. Grafton High, 6:30  
Feb. 8 vs. Weston High, 6:30  
Feb. 11 at Uxbridge High, 6:30  
Feb. 18 vs. Notre Dame Academy, 6:30

Ice Hockey  
Dec. 18 at Foxborough High, 5:20  
Dec. 22 vs. Westborough High, 4  
Jan. 3 at Hopedale High, 7:30  
Jan. 8 at Assabet Valley, 6:30  
Jan. 12 at Fitchburg High, 5:30  
Jan. 15 at St. Paul School, 6:40  
Jan. 19 vs. Burncoat High, 8:10  
Jan. 22 at Nashoba Regional, 5:50  
Jan. 24 vs. St. Paul School, 8  
Jan. 29 vs. Hopedale High, 12:10  
Feb. 2 vs. Assabet Valley, 4  
Feb. 5 vs. Danvers High, 12:10  
Feb. 7 vs. Grafton High, 4

## UXBRIDGE HIGH WINTER SCHEDULE

All schedules are subject to change. To find up to date schedules, please visit [arbiterlive.com](http://arbiterlive.com).

Boys' Basketball  
Dec. 10 at Blackstone-Millville Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 14 vs. Quaboag Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 17 vs. Tantasqua Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 20 at David Prouty Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 23 vs. Northbridge High, 6:30  
Jan. 4 vs. Leicester High, 6:30

Jan. 7 at Millbury High, 6:30  
Jan. 10 vs. Grafton High, 6:30  
Jan. 12 vs. Worcester Tech, 6:30  
Jan. 14 at Oxford High, 6:30  
Jan. 18 at Advanced Math and Science Academy, 6  
Jan. 20 at Bartlett High, 6:30  
Jan. 24 vs. Southbridge High, 6:30  
Jan. 28 at Blackstone Valley Tech, 6:30  
Jan. 31 vs. Douglas High, 6:30  
Feb. 3 vs. Auburn High, 6:30  
Feb. 8 vs. Nipmuc Regional, 6:30

Feb. 10 at Northbridge High, 6:30  
Feb. 15 vs. Oxford High, 6:30

Girls' Basketball  
Dec. 9 vs. Blackstone-Millville Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 13 vs. Quaboag Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 16 at Tantasqua Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 20 vs. David Prouty Regional, 6:30  
Dec. 23 at Northbridge High, 6:30  
Jan. 3 at Leicester High, 6:30  
Jan. 6 vs. Millbury High, 6:30

Jan. 10 at Grafton High, 6:30  
Jan. 13 vs. Oxford High, 6:30  
Jan. 21 vs. Bartlett High, 6:30  
Jan. 25 at Southbridge High, 6:30  
Jan. 28 vs. Blackstone Valley Tech, 6:30  
Jan. 31 at Douglas High, 5  
Feb. 3 at Auburn High, 6:30  
Feb. 8 at Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Feb. 11 vs. Northbridge High, 6:30  
Feb. 15 at Doherty High, 6:30  
Feb. 18 vs. Sutton High, 6:30

## DOUGLAS HIGH WINTER SCHEDULE

All schedules are subject to change. To find up to date schedules, please visit [arbiterlive.com](http://arbiterlive.com).

Boys' Basketball  
Dec. 13 vs. Blackstone Valley Tech, 6:30  
Jan. 5 at Sutton High, 6:30  
Jan. 7 at Hopedale High, 6:30  
Jan. 10 at Blackstone Valley Tech, 6:30  
Jan. 12 vs. Whitinsville Christian School, 6:30  
Jan. 14 vs. Nipmuc Regional, 6:30

Jan. 18 vs. Framingham High, 6:30  
Jan. 19 at Blackstone-Millville Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 21 vs. Sutton High, 6:30  
Jan. 26 vs. Hopedale High, 6:30  
Jan. 28 at Whitinsville Christian School, 6:30  
Jan. 31 at Uxbridge High, 6:30  
Feb. 2 at Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Feb. 4 vs. Blackstone-Millville Regional, 6:30  
Feb. 8 at Oxford High, 6:30  
Feb. 15 vs. Northbridge High, 6:30

Girls' Basketball  
Dec. 13 at Blackstone Valley Tech, 6:30  
Dec. 15 vs. Oxford High, 5  
Dec. 28 at Bellingham High, 3:45  
Jan. 5 vs. Sutton High, 6:30  
Jan. 7 vs. Hopedale High, 6:30  
Jan. 10 vs. Blackstone Valley Tech, 6:30  
Jan. 12 at Whitinsville Christian School, 6:30  
Jan. 14 at Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 19 vs. Blackstone-Millville

Regional, 5  
Jan. 21 at Sutton High, 6:30  
Jan. 26 at Hopedale High, 6:30  
Jan. 28 vs. Whitinsville Christian School, 6:30  
Jan. 31 vs. Uxbridge High, 5  
Feb. 2 vs. Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Feb. 4 at Blackstone-Millville Regional, 5  
Feb. 8 at Burncoat High, 6:30  
Feb. 16 vs. Bartlett High, 5  
Feb. 18 at Bartlett High, 5

## WHITINSVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL WINTER SCHEDULE

All schedules are subject to change. To find up to date schedules, please visit [arbiterlive.com](http://arbiterlive.com).

Boys' Basketball  
Dec. 15 vs. Maimonides School, 6:30  
Dec. 17 at St. Bernard's High, 6:30  
Jan. 5 at Blackstone-Millville Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 7 vs. Nipmuc Regional, 6:30

Jan. 10 vs. St. Bernard's High, 6:30  
Jan. 12 at Douglas High, 6:30  
Jan. 14 at Sutton High, 6:30  
Jan. 19 vs. Hopedale High, 6:30  
Jan. 21 vs. Blackstone-Millville Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 26 at Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 28 vs. Douglas High, 6:30  
Jan. 31 vs. Bethany Christian Academy, 6:30  
Feb. 2 vs. Sutton High, 6:30  
Feb. 4 at Hopedale High, 6:30

Feb. 7 at St. Paul School, 6:30  
Feb. 9 vs. Weston High, 6:30  
Feb. 11 at Blackstone Valley Tech, 6:30

Girls' Basketball  
Dec. 15 vs. Maimonides School, 5  
Jan. 3 vs. St. Bernard's High, 6:30  
Jan. 5 vs. Blackstone-Millville Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 7 at Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 10 at St. Bernard's High, 6:30  
Jan. 12 vs. Douglas High, 6:30

Jan. 14 vs. Sutton High, 6:30  
Jan. 19 at Hopedale High, 6:30  
Jan. 21 at Blackstone-Millville Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 26 vs. Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 28 at Douglas High, 6:30  
Feb. 2 at Sutton High, 6:30  
Feb. 4 vs. Hopedale High, 6:30  
Feb. 7 vs. Dover-Sherborn High, 6:30  
Feb. 16 vs. Holliston High, 6:30

## BLACKSTONE VALLEY TECH WINTER SCHEDULE

All schedules are subject to change. To find up to date schedules, please visit [arbiterlive.com](http://arbiterlive.com).

Boys' Basketball  
Dec. 10 at Sutton High, 6:30  
Dec. 13 at Douglas High, 6:30  
Dec. 15 at University Park School, 6:30  
Dec. 20 at Nipmuc Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 5 at Keefe Tech, 5:30  
Jan. 7 at Advanced Math and Science Academy, 4:45  
Jan. 10 vs. Douglas High, 6:30

Jan. 14 vs. Monty Tech, 6:30  
Jan. 19 at Assabet Valley, 6:30  
Jan. 21 vs. Bay Path Regional, 6:30  
Jan. 26 at Parker Charter, 6  
Jan. 28 vs. Uxbridge High, 6:30  
Jan. 31 vs. Abby Kelley Foster, 6:30  
Feb. 2 vs. Worcester Tech, 6:30  
Feb. 9 at Abby Kelley Foster, 6:30  
Feb. 11 vs. Whitinsville Christian School, 6:30  
Feb. 14 vs. Assabet Valley, 6:30  
Feb. 16 vs. Advanced Math and Science Academy, 6:30

Girls' Basketball  
Dec. 10 at Tyngsborough High, 6  
Dec. 13 vs. Douglas High, 5  
Dec. 15 vs. Monty Tech, 6:30  
Dec. 20 vs. Nipmuc Regional, 5  
Dec. 22 vs. Leicester High, 5  
Dec. 29 at Northbridge High, 5:30  
Jan. 7 vs. Advanced Math and Science Academy, 6:30  
Jan. 10 at Douglas High, 5  
Jan. 14 at Monty Tech, 6:30  
Jan. 19 vs. Assabet Valley, 6:30

Jan. 21 at Bay Path Regional, 5  
Jan. 26 vs. Parker Charter, 6:30  
Jan. 28 at Uxbridge High, 6:30  
Jan. 31 at Leicester High, 6:30  
Feb. 2 at Worcester Tech, 5  
Feb. 7 vs. Maynard High, 6:30  
Feb. 9 vs. Abby Kelley Foster, 6:30  
Feb. 12 vs. Hudson High, 1  
Feb. 14 at Assabet Valley, 6:30  
Feb. 16 at Advanced Math and Science Academy, 4:45

# Pro boxing returns to Webster for first time in 27 years



Photos courtesy Cristian Nunez

Carlos Marrero, III (L) and Wilfredo Pagan battled to a draw this past August.



Main event fighters Wilfredo Pagan and Carlos Marrero, III will meet in a rematch of their exciting draw earlier this year, once again, for the vacant New England Junior Welterweight title.

ing there in '93 and '94 and the place being packed. The fans are so close to you, it has a Blue Horizon feel to it with fans right above your head in the balcony section. In our 'New England Future' series, we like to showcase boxers from all over New England and we are happy to bring that to Webster, Massachusetts. The fans will not be disappointed with our line-up of boxers from Worcester, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Lowell, Southbridge and other cities and states throughout New England."

Pagan, fighting out of Southbridge, and Bridgeport's Marrero, III will be fighting again for the vacant New England Super Lightweight Championship in the 6-round main event.

The original Pagan-Marrero was an extremely entertaining, non-stop clash in which momentum swung round by round from one fighter to the other. One judge scored the fight 58-56 in favor of Pagan, another 55-59 for Marrero, and the last 57-57.

Tickets are priced at \$75 (reserved seating) and \$45 (general admission) and available for purchase or by contacting Jose Rivera ([elgallojar@gmail.com](mailto:elgallojar@gmail.com)/508.864.6954), AJ Rivera

([anthoneerivera@gmail.com](mailto:anthoneerivera@gmail.com)/774.272.2269) or any of the fighters. Doors open at 6 p.m. ET, first bout at 7 p.m. ET.

## NEW ENGLAND S FUTURE VIII SET FOR DEC. 18

WORCESTER — Rivera Promotions Entertainment (RPE) is bringing professional boxing back to Webster for the first time in 27 years on Saturday night, Dec. 18, at Webster Town Hall.

RPE's popular "New England Future VIII" will be headlined by a rematch of arguably the 2021 New England Fight of the Year to date between Puerto Ricanative Wilfredo "El Sucaro" Pagan (6-1-

1, 3 KOs) and Carlos Marrero, III (2-6-2), who fought to a thrilling 6-round split draw this past Aug. 14 in Worcester.

Three-time, two-division World champion, RPE promoter Jose Antonio Rivera, fought in the last show in Webster back on Nov. 18, 1994, when the then 11-0 Rivera stopped Gerry O'Campo in the fourth round at Municipal Auditorium. Rivera also fought at the Municipal

Building in Webster on Dec. 10, 1993, knocking out Julio Torres in round three. Fighting on that same card was his close friend, 3-0 Worcester heavy-weight Bobby Harris, whose son Bobby "BH3" Harris, III will be fighting on the RPE Dec. 18 card.

"Being able to run a boxing event at the Webster Town Hall is very exciting for me," Rivera said. "I remember fight-



The logo features the number '48' in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The '8' is stylized with a clock face inside its lower loop, showing two hands. To the right of the '48', the words 'HOUR PRICE QUOTE' are stacked vertically in a bold, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a light gray background with a subtle circular arc passing behind the text.

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# REAL ESTATE



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## Seasons Greetings - Happy Holidays



**WEBSTER LAKE** - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Lake Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their Own Bathrooms! 5.5 Bathrooms Total! Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator from the Ground Floor up 3 to the Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bathroom with Steam Shower just off the Mirrored Exercise Room! Billiard Room! Media Room with Custom Cabinetry & Wet Bar! Fantastic Center Island Granite Kitchen with Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, 16' Butler's Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Family Room with Cherry Entertainment Center & Wet Bar! Open Formal Dining Room, Fireplace Living Room & Atrium! Library with Private Deck! Waterfront Master Suite with Private Office, Bedroom with Triple Glass Door to its Private Deck with Panoramic Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Lake View Bathroom with Huge Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Double Vanity Sinks & Separate Commode/Bidet! Pedestal Sink Area! 16 Zones of Updated Geothermal Heat & Air Conditioning - 30 Tons! Recessed Lighting & Sprinkler System Through Out! 3 Car Heated Garage! Full House Generator! Slate Roof! All Decks & Railings Brazilian Ipe Hardwood! Copper Gutters & Downspouts! It's Time to Reward Yourself! **\$1,749,900.00**

**WEBSTER** - 20 Scenic Ave! Views of Webster Lake! 7 Rm Colonial! Work-in Appliance Kit! Dining Area w/Cathedral Ceiling! Living Rm w/ Pine Flooring, Hearth & Woodstove! 1st Flr Bdrms, 3 Bdrms Total! 2 Full Baths! Expandable Walk-out Lower Level! Buderus Oil Heat! Recent Roof & Siding! **\$299,900.00**

**WEBSTER** - 8 Riverside Dr! Super Convenient 9 Rm Colonial! Work-in Appliance Kit w/Granite Island & Dining Area! 24' Living Rm w/Laminate Wood Flooring, Slider to Composite Deck! 3-5 Bdrms Total! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths Total! Finished Lower Level! Oil Heat! Roof 2019! **\$399,900.00**

**WEBSTER** - 6 Slater Street! Professionals Take Notice! Ideal Office Setup! 1st Floor w/Waiting Rm, Reception Area, 4 Offices w/Sinks, 3 Alcove/Prep Areas, Handicap Accessible 1/2 Bath, and Hrdwd Flrs! 2nd Floor Currently w/Employee Breakroom w/ Full Kitchen, Cabinets & Closet Storage, 3/4 Bath and additional office/bedroom! C/Air! CVA! Security System! **\$349,900.00**

**DUDLEY** - 50 Brandon Rd! 3 Family! 5/4 Rm! 2/2! Bdrms! 2/2! Bathrms! Investors take Notice! Fully Rented! Solid Rental History, Long Term Tenants! Conveniently Located! Washer & Dryer Hookups in the Basement for Each Unit! Efficient Natural Gas Heating! Two Driveways provide Off Street Parking for up to 5 Vehicles! Dudley's Low Taxes & Desirable School System! **\$349,900.00**



**DUDLEY** - 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131' Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w/ Guest Closet! SS Appliance Dining Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Flr, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Chair Rail! Formal Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 13.6x27' Fam Rm w/Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert, Soaring Cathedral Ceiling, Ceiling Fans & Skylight! Half Bath! 3 Season Porch! 1st Flr Laundry! The 2nd Floor w/4 Bdrms! Spacious Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Vanity! C/Air & Vac! 2 Car Garage! Fire Pit! Many Updates! Original Owner - Pride of Ownership! **\$570,000.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** - 701 Beacon Park! 5 Rm End Corner Garden Unit - One Level Living - No Stairs! 10 Beautiful Acres of Park Lake Grounds w/Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 1,100' of Living Space! Ample Room for Year Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Well Maintained! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath, 2 Baths Total! Beautiful Lakeside Pool, Spectacular Beach, Best on the Lake! Detached Garage! **\$299,000.00!**

**WEBSTER LAKE** - 50 Laurewood Drive! 90' Waterfront! Western Exposure - Beautiful Sunsets! Half Acre, 22,729', of Natural Privacy! 6 Room Custom Built Cedar Home with 2 Car Attached Garage! Dining Area and Fireplaced Living Room with Soaring Cathedral Ceilings! First Floor Master Bedroom with Full Bath! 2 Second Floor Bedrooms and Second Full Bath, Large Second Floor Expansion Area! Additional Garage Space Under! Lighting Strike Fire Damage Repair Required! Tons of Potential! **\$889,900.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** - 33 Loveland Rd! South Pond - Fantastic 19,243' Waterfront Lot with 125' of Prime South Facing Natural Shoreline which Highlights this 5 Room, 2 Bedroom, 3 Season Cottage! Start Your Lake Memories Here! Cute & Cozy, the Way the Lake Use to Be! Open Floor Plan with Lots of Glass and Panoramic Lake Views! Just Enjoy it as it is, or Add on to it, or Take it Down and Build Your Dream Home Here! Don't Need the Entire Lot, Subdivide it and Bring the Cost Down! Perfect Gentle Slope to the Water! Town Services! **\$949,900.00**



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### Featured New Listing!



**SOUTHBRIDGE - 140-148 HAMILTON ST.**

Multi-Familys - 4 Buildings! 9 Occupied Residential Units! 1 Occupied Commercial Unit! Huge BONUS, Drive through Heated Garage, can accommodate up to 18 Vehicles! **\$975,000.**



#### DUDLEY - 10 MILL ROAD



Beautiful family home! 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, newer widows & heating system. Mini split system. Hardwoods. Lg eat-in kitchen /Corian counters & Island! Warming fireplace with handsome mantel. Generous dining room, spacious enough for your family gatherings. lower level fireplace family room. Harmon pellet insert! 2 car garage. Reduced **\$340,000.**

#### WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.



Extraordinary Find! Beautiful 2 Family! Owner occupied with pride and it shows. Grand Front Entry! 3,012 SF +/- living area. 12 rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 updated Baths. 2nd Flr - Granite Countertops! High ceilings & Hardwood Floors, Modern Kitchens. Manicured 13,525 SF Lot with a Hip roof 3 car garage! **\$439,900**

#### WEBSTER - 10 THOMPSON RD



2 FAMILY! LOCATION, LOCATION! OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THIS A SOLID INVESTMENT. A GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! PRIME WEBSTER BUSINESS DISTRICT! A LARGE, DEEP LOT, 14,875 SF/0.34 ACRE. 9 Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, FHW/OIL. Garage! Lot is currently private with a mature tree line in the rear. Property serviced by Municipal Water & Sewer, Natural Gas line in Basement. A QUICK CLOSE IS POSSIBLE. **\$195,000**

#### WEBSTER • 22 EASTERN AVE



LOOKING FOR AN AFFORDABLE, HUMBLE ABODE, THAT WON'T BREAK THE BANK? Convenient Location, corner lot! 1288 SF +/-, 4 BRS w/1st Flr Mstr BR, Half Bath! Eat-In Kitchen, Dining/Living Room Combination! 3-Season Porch. 2nd Flr - 3 BRs, Reshingled Roof, Replacement Windows, Updated Electric, Buderus Boiler. Part finished walk-out bsmt! Garage! **\$215,000**

#### THOMPSON CT - 15 WAGER RD



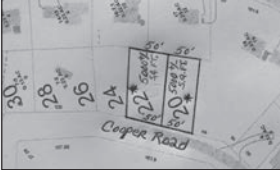
Cape with 3 bedrooms, gleaming hardwoods, stone fireplace. Septic (2019), replacement windows, family and dining room, fresh paint throughout! Generator hook up, and updated Buderus boiler with holding tank. Garage under. This one maybe for you! assisted sale **\$279,900.**

### Featured Island Listing! Webster Lake - 22 Long Island



Once in a lifetime opportunity to own a Webster Lake Waterfront Cottage on Long Island! Properly named the "Grand View". Sandy beach, boat house! Antique Cottage w/5 Rms, 3 BRs, a stone fireplaced w/pellet stove, eat-in kitchen w/modern appliances, full bath! washer/dryer. Screened porches. Included, 25% ownership share in a main land waterfront lot at 38 Point Pleasant Rd, in sheltered Mumford Cove! land provides boat slip & winter storage. A FAR AWAY PLACE NEAR BY! **\$389,900.**

#### WEBSTER - 20 & 22 COOPER RD



LAND with Sewer & Water access! Excellent Opportunity for New Homes! Boat Ramp Near by! **\$24,500., each.**

#### LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/CHARLTON

Oxford - 2 Merriam Rd 80 +/- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton. **ON DEPOSIT \$329,000.**  
Oxford - 4 Leicester St. - Approx. 8.47 Acres! River Frontage. **NEW PRICE \$79,500.**  
Webster - DOUGLAS RD 26 ACRES! on SUGERLOAF HILL 1000 +/- of frontage! **SORRY, SOLD! \$200,000.**  
Webster - COOPER RD - 2 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & SEWER Access. Zoned Lake Res.! **\$24,500. Each**

#### OXFORD - 10 BEVERLY STREET



2 Family! A RARE FIND, BUILT IN 1967!! 2 PARCELS = 16,224 SF!! EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED! Total 9 rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 baths. 2nd apartment is a perfect mortgage helper! Beautiful Hardwood Floors! Roomy yard. Off Street Parking! Neighborhood Setting! **\$449,000.**

## On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

#### WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL.



**Killdeer Circle!** Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear shoreline. Ranch with 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walkout lower level to patio! Garage! **\$650,000.**

#### TREASURE ISLAND - CONDO



Unit 1404 Marina side of the Complex - with 2 Boat Slips! 6 rooms, 2-1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, Sandy Beach, Heated Salt Water Pool! **\$549,000.**

#### WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND



WEBSTER LAKE! Treasure Island Townhouse! UNIT# 401 Quiet summers on big & beautiful Webster Lake! 6 Rooms. Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Hardwood Floor & Carpet, Master Bedroom, W/2 Closets, Master Bath! 2-1/2 Baths Total! Slider to Deck & Slider to the Patio! Natural gas heat! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Natural! Sandy Beach! **\$439,000.**

#### WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.



Quiet Summers & Fall Seasons on Big & Beautiful Webster Lake. Completely updated Hardwood & Ceramic. Center Island Kitchen. 6 Rooms. 2-1/2 Baths. a must see. Overlooking the Marina. 2 Deeded boat slips. assisted sale **\$600,000.**

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#### DUDLEY



**NEW LISTING:**  
3 units, Unique duplex style, 2 units- 2 bedrooms ea., modern bath & kitchens, 1st flr unit possible 3 bdrms, Sided, Detached garage, Updated electrical service  
92 West Main St ~ **\$425,000**

#### WEBSTER



**PRICE REDUCED \$60,000**

**6 Units:** Sided, 6 (1) bedroom units, Recent roof, Detached barn  
227 School St ~ **\$525,000**

#### WEBSTER



1.5 acres, 26' living/dining room, Fireplace, 2 baths, 2100 sq.ft., 2 car garage

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LIBRARY

continued from page A1

“It is our sincere hope to one day—sooner rather than later—be accessible to all patrons,” said Library Director Justin Snook.

The Trustees began a capital campaign in 2020 with a goal of \$400,000, and the four main goals, according to Snook, are: an entrance to the building that is accessible; code-compliant paved

parking connected to that accessible entrance; an elevator to provide access to both floors; and an accessible public restroom.

“If we focus on what we need rather than what we want, these things can be accomplished with minimal alteration and invasion of the Library’s existing space,” Snook said. “What we want to avoid at all costs is a situation in which a significant amount of money is spent to go through plan-

ning and proposal processes with no end-game funding strategy besides a debt exclusion article on the ballot.”

Preliminary discussions with a joint subcommittee estimate that this “will be somewhere around a \$500,000 project.”

Snook added that if residents are able to contribute to the capital campaign, they can do so by visiting the Friends of the Library page at mysf-

pl.org/friends, by signing up to support the library through Amazon Smile, or by mailing a check made out to the Library INT’ Building Fund to PO Box 607, Douglas, MA 01516.

“As Library Director, I am strongly advocating that we collect enough capital to see the project through before committing further funds to planning and design,” Snook said in a statement on the library’s Web site. “Once we have enough funds to

reasonably guarantee the project will reach fruition, we can proceed with confidence that resources are going to a good use instead of out the window.”

In other news, the library’s new Thinkpads are now available. Five IBM Thinkpads are circulating with a two-hour loan period, Snook said. A library card in good standing will be required to for use. The library is also collecting donations of unused video games,

including Nintendo, PlayStation, Xbox, and more.

“Since our collection development budget is not infinite, we have to prioritize what we buy for our shelves. We’re a library, so books are always our first priority,” Snook said. “Literacy isn’t limited to the written word, though, and we aim to provide access to all sorts of media. Video games represent a format in which we are extremely lacking.”

COATS

continued from page A1

given their service.”

“The Grafton Police Department is grateful to take part in the Coats 4 Vets distribution program to ensure that local veterans have a warm coat and other basic necessities throughout the winter season,” said Crepeau. “Anything we can do to assist our veterans is but a small token of appreciation for their service and sacrifice for our country.”

The Massachusetts Military Support Foundation has been collecting coats from people across the Commonwealth and has now distributed them to locations across the state so that they can now be given to veterans in need.

Any veteran in Grafton or the greater Central Massachusetts area may pick up their free winter coat at the Grafton Police Department. Anyone interested in picking up a coat may also call the station directly for information on what is available. The Grafton Police Department can be reached at 508-839-5343, and is located at 28 Providence Rd., Grafton, MA 01519.

TESTING

continued from page A1

spent time at the Feedback Earth facility and worked with the owner to end the smell. The town reported that it received correspondence from Feedback Earth.

“Our mission is to provide a scaled, economic facility to process food waste into high quality animal feed—and thus supplement the local agricultural industry,” wrote David Jenicek, Ph.D.

Chief Operating Officer of Feedback Earth, in the correspondence. “The new facility..was designed to process over 10 percent of the food waste of Massachusetts and we’re actively sourcing and developing new sources of materials to process safely.”

In the correspondence, Jenicek said that the facility runs two products, including a dry bakery product that consists of a blend of bakery waste, including bread and flour, and a soy product made from tofu and tofu manufacturing byproducts.

“Our industrial dryer removes moisture from waste tofu and produces dry soybean meal as an ingredient in animal feed. Soybean meal is one of the most valuable feed materials—and our plant can uniquely transform tofu (which spoils and otherwise just gets thrown out) into dry, shelf-stable feed,” Jenicek wrote. “Unfortunately, processing this soy-based product produces a strong, unpleasant odor. This is completely unlike our bakery product, which is generally odorless, and it caught us by surprise when we ran this new ‘recipe’ for the first time.”

During the company’s daily Safety and Product Debrief, they discussed how they were potentially “over-roasting the material,” and then tuned their drying parameters down, although this had no effect on odor release, the correspondence read.

“First of all, I can assure you that the odor is natural (albeit pungent) for fresh tofu—and there are no toxic, rancid, or otherwise unsafe chemicals emitted from this material’s drying,” he wrote. “However, we absolutely recognize that this community disturbance is completely unacceptable and are taking

measures to address this odor comprehensively.”

At the time of the correspondence, Jenicek wrote that Feedback Earth was in the process of specifying and installing an industrial-grade, active deodorizing system that will “neutralize vapors exiting our stacks.”

“Furthermore, our facility will not run the soy product until this deodorization system is installed and tested,” Jenicek wrote, adding that they would notify the Board of Health ahead of the renewed “testing” of the soy-product recipe once they felt the deodorizing system was ready. “We strongly believe this system will address odor emissions from our plant comprehensively—and we apologize for the disturbance caused to the community during this initial learning. We strive to be good corporate citizens and reset the relationship this specific site has had with the surrounding community in the past.”

Residents with concerns about this trial were asked to contact the Grafton Board of Health via email at healthdept@graffton-ma.gov.

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# Sutton Fire Chief receives "Firefighter of the Year" award

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI  
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

SUTTON — Sutton Fire Chief Matthew Belsito was recently recognized and honored at the state's Firefighter of the Year awards ceremony.

Belsito received an Individual Meritorious Conduct Award for his efforts, while on vacation, to save a father and son who had been swept out to sea by a fast-moving current.

"Firefighter of the Year award recipients are usually nominated by the chiefs of their departments; this one was nominated by the chief in the town where he was vacationing," the state's Department of Fire Services released in a statement.

On July 8, 2020, Belsito was listening to his two-way radio while vacationing in Sandwich, according to the Department of Fire Services. He overheard an urgent call to the Sandwich Fire Department reporting two people in Scorton Creek being swept out to sea by a fast-moving current.

"A full marine response was launched but could not arrive for at least 10 minutes. Fortunately, Chief Belsito was not only nearby but also familiar with the

area's currents and waterways—and he knew time was of the essence," the statement read. "He jumped into a boat with his brother and nephew, and within two minutes located the father and son, who were not wearing life jackets and barely holding onto a tube. Chief Belsito brought them onboard, radioed the Sandwich Fire Department that he had retrieved them, and stayed with them until paramedics arrived."

Belsito was among the firefighters from 14 fire departments statewide who were honored by Governor Charlie Baker, Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito, Public Safety Secretary Terrence M. Reidy, and State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey at the recent ceremony, held at Worcester's Mechanics Hall.

"These awards recognize acts of bravery and dedication that are remarkable even by the high standard set for Massachusetts firefighters," said Gov. Charlie Baker. "Through their courage, compassion, and commitment to helping others no matter the risk to themselves, the men and women we honor today represent the very best of the fire service."

"The Commonwealth's firefighters demonstrate bravery and professionalism every day,

and our communities are grateful for the service of these dedicated public safety professionals," said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. "It's a privilege to recognize this year's award winners and thank fire service personnel across the Commonwealth for doing such a difficult, dangerous job so well every day."

Since their inception in 1990, the Firefighter of the Year Awards have grown from a simple ceremony to the premier annual event for the Massachusetts fire service, honoring "truly remarkable acts of courage, service, and sacrifice" by the Commonwealth's firefighters and recognizing their "invaluable contributions" to the communities they serve.

"Firefighters have helped make Massachusetts a national leader in fire prevention strategies and one of the most fire-safe states in the country," said State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey. "But when a fire does break out and puts people in danger, Massachusetts firefighters are there to bring them to safety—no matter when, where, or what the call might be. The Firefighter of the Year awards recognize their individual and collective acts of bravery and service that truly go above and beyond the call of duty."

## Repairs to Grafton Unitarian Church begin



GRAFTON — A summer wind storm knocked the six-foot tall, gilded cast iron weathervane off the top of the historic Grafton Unitarian Church. On the way down, the weathervane damaged the steeple, roof, and front of the church building.

Valley Restoration of Torrington, Conn. has been hired to repair the damage. Valley specializes in the repair and restoration of New England churches.

At the same time, the church is updating electrical and information technology capabilities to support ongoing live broadcasts of church services on the Internet.

Plans are also being drawn for a handicapped ramp to improve building accessibility, as well as installation of updated exit and emergency lighting.

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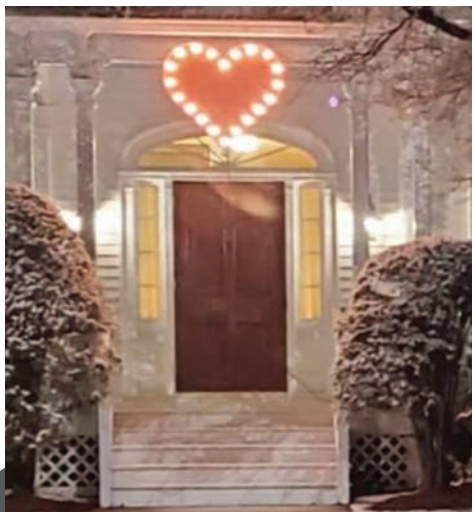
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