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Friday, December 18, 2020

Local radio station hosts annual toy drive

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

WHITINSVILLE — The Milford-based radio station 101.3 MyFM recently hosted its fourth annual toy drive, collecting 6,000 toys and \$16,000 in donations.

The event was held at Walmart in Whitinsville; all toys collected will be donated to Toys For Kids and Teens based in Uxbridge and distributed to families in need in the Blackstone Valley, according to MyFM's Ray Auger.

This was the fourth annual toy drive, Auger said. The first three were held at Target in Milford and were called "Stuff-a-Bus."

"Our goal was to stuff a bus full of toys.

Because of 2020 being what it is we came across many roadblocks and ended up 'Tailgating For Toys' at Walmart in Whitinsville," Auger said. "This was an event that I was a part of when I worked on The Cape and then in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and I was thrilled to introduce it here in our community."

Roughly 6,000 toys were collected through on-site donations this year and \$16,000 collected from Shopping Spree Sponsors, Auger said.

"This year has not been kind to anyone and there are so many more families in need. If we can put a smile on the face of a child or teen and make the holidays a little easier for their families it's so worth it," he added.

In previous years, volunteers would stay overnight in the parking lot to guard the bus. This year, everything could be locked up in the Container on Wheels, so volunteers could go home at night. Over the course of three days, 30 hours of work was logged, Auger said.

"It's the least we can do considering all the hard work the volunteers put in year-round at Toys For Kids And Teens," he added

Ray Auger — Courtesy
The Milford-based radio station 101.3 MyFM recently hosted its fourth annual toy drive, collecting 6,000 toys and \$16,000 in donations.



Blackstone Valley
Education Hub awarded
Capital Skills Grant

WHITINSVILLE — The Central Mass. Center for Business & Enterprise, also known as The Blackstone Valley Education Hub in Whitinsville has been awarded a Skills Capital grant from the Commonwealth of MA for \$253,500.

The Skills Capital Grants are competitive grants to education institutions across the Commonwealth to update equipment and expand student enrollment in programs that provide career education.

The Blackstone Valley Education Hub will use their award toward advancing their robotic and advanced manufacturing equipment. Such equipment includes Universal Robots, which are collaborative robots used in industry and manufacturing, educational DoBots to work specifically with middle and high school students, and a new TRAK 20P 3-Axis milling machine.

"We are very excited to bring our students the next level of learning," remarked Jeannie Hebert, President of the Blackstone Valley Education Hub. "We have a great team assembled here at the EdHub and are looking forward to continued collaboration with our education and business partners in the region."

The Blackstone Valley Education Hub's core mission is to support students, young adults and career changers with training to meet the industry demands of advanced manufacturers in the area.

Millville resident celebrates 100th birthday



Millville resident Grace Burns recently celebrated her 100th birthday at Sparetime Recreation.

Michael Soter. "I'm truly inspired by Grace's spirit and motivation at 100 years old."

Burns celebrated her 100th birthday on Dec. 13. Recently, a celebration was held at Sparetime Recreation in Whitinsville, at which Burns is a bowler in two leagues.

Lisa Moon, who is the new owner of Sparetime with her husband since September 2019, said the celebration was an "awesome milestone."

"I am really glad that we are able to celebrate with Grace and all her bowling league friends," said Moon. "What an awesome milestone to be happening here at Sparetime where everyone came together to share this really wonderful moment in Grace's life."

According to a press

Douglas police, fire
personnel see promotions

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS — The town of Douglas recently saw the promotion of two emergency services personnel—Lt. Travis Gould of the Douglas Police Department and Assistant Chief Kelly Manning of the Fire Department.

Lt. Gould was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant recently at the Board of Selectmen's meeting. According to a department statement, he started with Douglas Police in 2004 as a full time Dispatcher and part time Patrolman. In 2008, he was appointed full time as a Patrolman and completed the MBTA Police Academy in Boston. In 2015, he was promoted to Patrol Sergeant. In 2018, he was assigned to the Detective Sergeant position up until this date.

"Lt. Gould is a highly respected member of the department and he has displayed exceptional leadership skills throughout his career," said Douglas Police Chief Nick Miglionico. "I am confident he will continue to be successful. Our organization and the residents of Douglas are fortunate to have him in this position."

Assistant Fire Chief Kelly Manning was promoted as well.

"Assistant Chief Manning brings a lot to the table. She is a HAZMAT tech, a paramedic, and a full-time firefighter with experience on larger departments in Southbridge and Westborough," said Chief Kent Vinson. "A long time Douglas resident, Kelly knows the Town very well. I believe she will have a significant impact on our capabilities going forward. We welcome her aboard as a full-time member of the management team of the Department."

In a statement, the department added that Manning's training and talents will "without a doubt benefit the citizens" of Douglas.

"We regret that COVID-19 prevented all of us from being together to welcome Kelly to this new role for the town," the department released. "We look forward to exciting times for our department with more great opportunities to come."

The town of Douglas recently saw the promotion of two emergency services personnel—Lt. Travis Gould of the Douglas Police Department and Assistant Chief Kelly Manning of the Fire Department.



Turn To **100TH** page **A6**

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Gifts that can make social distancing more enjoyable

Exchanging gifts with loved ones is a holiday season tradition. That tradition figures to continue this year, though families will almost certainly have to adjust the ways they exchange gifts.

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 in the winter of 2019-20 changed how people across the globe live their lives. Social distancing guidelines encouraged people to limit get-togethers, particularly indoor gatherings. Experts anticipate restrictions on indoor gatherings will continue in the early part of the winter of 2020-21, which could force families to rethink how they get together during the holiday season.

Families also may want to think outside

the box when buying gifts for their loved ones, targeting items that can make social distancing easier. The following gift ideas can make a socially distant holiday season that much more special for a loved one.

Streaming subscription

Movie theaters have been closed for months in many areas. But movie lovers still want to see their favorite flicks, so a streaming subscription to a service such as Netflix or Amazon Prime can be just what they need to stay entertained while social distancing this winter. For fans of classic films, including indie movies, foreign films and big studio productions, a subscription to the Criterion Channel might make the perfect gift. Curated by the Criterion Collection, this streaming service provides access to a library of more than 1,000 classic and contemporary

films, making it an ideal gift for the family film buff.

Cooking classes

Many people have spent the last several months honing their culinary skills. Gift givers can help them take those skills to the next level by enrolling them in online cooking classes. The options are endless and some even include access to legendary celebrity chefs like Gordon Ramsay. Many online cooking classes feature monthly memberships or single classes, making them ideal for loved ones of all skill and interest levels.

Technology

Technology has helped many people stay connected with friends and family while social distancing, so a new tablet, laptop or desktop computer can be just what people need to fully engage in family Zoom sessions or weekly virtual happy hours with coworkers and friends. If a new tablet or laptop stretches your budget, consider a pair of noise-canceling headphones, which can make it easier to concentrate while working remotely in a crowded house.

Crafting kit

Hobbyists may have had their passions for crafting reinvigorated while social distancing, making a crafting kit an ideal gift to help them fill their downtime. Beginner's kits also can make an ideal gift for novices looking for an engaging, time-consuming hobby.

Certain gifts can be a perfect fit during a socially distant holiday season.

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Dec 16-20: Collecting Items For Pets 10% off any item \$10 and up with your pet donation. One discount per person per day. Shop here for your last minute gifts or stocking stuffers, or treat yourself to something special! We even have decadent, delicious fudge! And don't forget, **GIFT CERTIFICATES FITS ALL!** Open Wednesday, Dec. 23 10am-5pm and 10am-3pm Christmas Eve

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Beginning Bridges CFCE supports parents as their children's first, best and most important teachers in the communities of Mendon, Northbridge, Upton & Uxbridge. We are a non-profit, family support organization that provides FREE comprehensive services. Currently our programs include weekly virtual early literacy story times, outdoor story walks, a Culture Club and many activity suggestions on our webpage. We also sponsor parent education programs, offer the Ages & Stages Developmental Questionnaire and can connect families to resources. Our goal is to support parents as they guide their children to reach their optimum

potential. We work with many community partners who share the same goal of strengthening our communities. Funding for the Coordinated Family & Community Engagement Grant (CFCE) is provided by the Massachusetts Dept. of Early Education and Care (EEC) and sponsored by South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC-Childcare/Head Start).

Upcoming Events - Registration is required for all upcoming event. Links can be accessed on our website or contact Emily Murray at Emurray@smoc.org.

Mondays, Open Forum Q&A, 1/4 to 1/25 virtually at 7pm: Let's gather to feel less isolated, more empowered.

Tuesday, Story Walk, 1/5 (rain date – Thurs., 1/7), enjoy a self-guided Story Walk at West Hill Dam.

Wednesdays, virtual Alphabet Story Time,

every Wednesday at 10:00am: It's all about the Alphabet!

Thursdays, virtual Monster Mayhem, 1/7 to 2/11 virtually at 11:00am: Playful exploration of childhood emotions and fears! Ages 3 to 5.

Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, Virtual-Story-Time, I'll Read to You, Will you Read to Me? Choose a 1:1 Story Time and enjoy 30 minutes of reading together via Zoom.

Tuesdays, Music Together, 1/12 – 3/30 virtually at 10 am: Ages 0-5, 30 minutes of music, movement, fun and learning with Vicki DeMott of Music Together.

Wednesdays, Culture Club, 1/11 – 4/7 virtually: Ages 3+, please join us in celebrating children all over the world through literature, music, art and images.

Thursday, Parent Education Workshop, 1/21 virtually at 7:15pm: Workshop with Jill

Vetstien.

Mondays, Yoga for Children Ages 3+, 1/25 virtually at 12:30 pm: The principles of Yoga teaching, compassion, mindfulness and awareness.

children kindness, shar-

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Friday's Child



Samantha
Age 14

Hi! My name is Samantha and I want to be a singer when I grow up!

Samantha is a creative teenage girl of Caucasian descent who wants to be a singer when she grows up. Those who know Samantha say she is a smart, resilient, empathetic child who truly cares about the well-being of others. She is also athletic, very practical and a strong advocate for herself. She is able to express her needs without any prompting. Samantha has been very interested in trying out new hair styles and those who are close to her say she is extremely stylish. Samantha likes school, particularly writing

and recess. She is a great problem solver who works hard to achieve desired outcomes.

Legally free for adoption, Samantha would do best in a home with a single mom or a two-parent family. If there are other children in the home, they should not be close in age to Samantha. Samantha would thrive in a family that could give her a lot of attention and help her reach her fullest potential. A pre-adoptive family will need to maintain contact with Samantha's relatives and her visiting resource through phone and visitation. Samantha would like a family with pets (maybe a dog) and older siblings.

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 617-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.



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OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY HOLDS FOOD DRIVE

The Our Lady of the Valley Regional School community held a food drive for two weeks in November. They collected 314 pounds of food that was donated to the People's First Food Pantry in Uxbridge. Pictured are helpers Julia (fifth grade) and Peter (third grade) Colonero.

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Wishing you all a Merry Christmas & Happy and Safe New Year!



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BVT Class of 2021 Adams Scholars announced

UPTON – Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick is pleased to announce that 86 seniors at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School have earned a John and Abigail Adams Scholarship this year. The Adams Scholarship is a recognition of academic success.

The John and Abigail Adams Scholarship is awarded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. To be eligible, students must earn Advanced and Proficient scores on the grade 10 MCAS exams in English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, and Science and Technology/Engineering (with at least one score of Advanced) and

earn a combined score within the top 25 percent of their school district.

Students who accept the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship and enroll as full-time students in a Massachusetts state college or university will receive a tuition waiver for up to eight semesters, which must be completed within six years of the recipient's high school graduation. Recipients must also maintain at least a 3.0-grade point average during their enrollment.

“We are proud of these students for their dedication and determination in earning this achievement,” said Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. He noted that BVT views a college education as a con-

tinuation of learning for its students to further develop the skills that are needed in future career paths. Often students simultaneously pursue a post-secondary education while retaining employment in their vocational industries. Students also strategically seek private financial aid. Last year, the John and Abigail Adams Scholarships were among the nearly six million dollars in renewable scholarships and awards earned by BVT graduates.

The following BVT seniors have earned a John and Abigail Adams Scholarship (students are listed alphabetically by town):

Bellingham
William Callery, Nathan Dynko, Camryn Krusz, and Jacob Krusz.

Blackstone
Jada-Jane Chapman, Avry Guilbert, Sean Tasker, and Grant Van Dyke.

Douglas
Mya Ackerman, Andrew Benoit, Giannah Downen, Daria Hamelin, Abigail Horne, Ryan Masoud, and Luke Morrison.

Grafton
Rebecca Ashmore, Audrey Karyabdi, Catherine Rozanas, and Emily Valoras.

Hopedale
Gabriel Chaves-Silva, Madison Deppe, Tyler Doyle, Matthew Hayes, Rohit Kaushik, Madeleine Poitras, and Vivian Staheli.

Mendon
Gabriel Asacker, Cameron Duncan, Keeley Farmer, Abigail Murphy, Robin Sage Murphy, Elizabeth Pontzer, and Santiago Vazquez.

Millford
Jackson Alves, Adam Boulos, Amanda Ellis, Alaina Gobbi, Donovan Henkel, Jack Mahoney, Jacob Manor, Christopher Mason, Connor Murphy, Ryan Shaw, and Joseph Tutela.

Millbury
Dylann Rebidue, and Nicholas Terp.

Millville
Trent Allan, Ryan Caddell, Aaron Canali, Zachary Desrosiers, Nicholas Kirby, and Hayley Vecchione.

Northbridge
Emery Amtmann, Haley Berkowitz, Brian Bisaillon, Melanie Bisbee, Kevin Downing, Brenden Elder, Samuel Flanagan, Meghan Griggs, Kayleigh Labrecque, Michael Maietta, Luke Malkasian, Donna Ross, Kevin Sawyer, and Matthew Trenholm.

Sutton
Trin Astrella, and Erin Fitman.

Upton
Mark Driver, Cameron Eugster, John Lemieux, Richard Randall, and Kaitlyn Rankins.

Uxbridge
ShyAnn Baillargeon, Madeleine Bleyhl, Nicholas Boisvert, Thomas Breau, Isaac Curley, Madison Gannon, Casey Goyette, Katherine Kloczkowski, John Lowrey, Raymond Makynen, Khushi Patel, Owen Silvestro, and Ella Yaroshefski.

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills. The school's Web site is www.valleytech.k12.ma.us.

TRIBUNE ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

BLACKSTONE

\$513,694, 5 Willow Brook Ln, Independent Building Corp, to Christina, John A, and Cruz, Karen L. \$375,000, 97 Summer St, Lee, Kisoon, to Iacovelli, Adam, and Iacovelli, Zoe. \$365,000, 40 Mendon St, Cora Lane Group LLC, to Tancrell, Eugene. \$260,000, 30 Ascension St, Varieur, Brenda, to Varieur, Tyler.

DOUGLAS

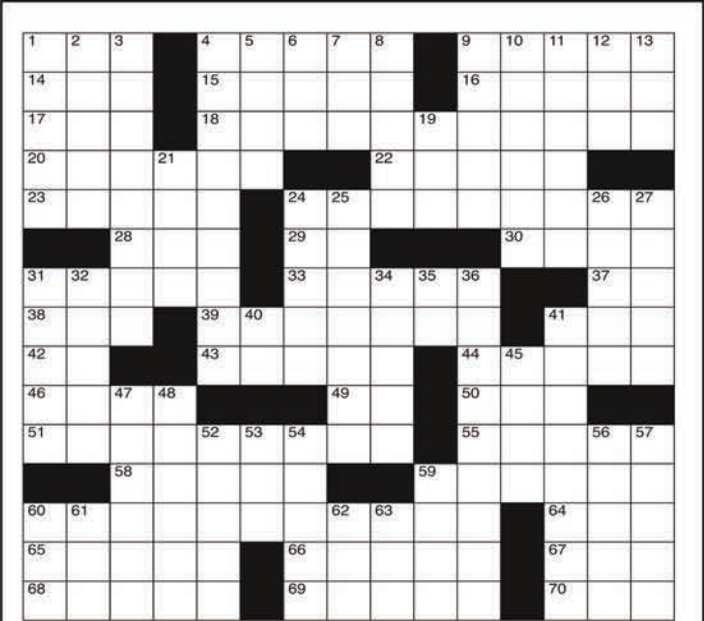
\$584,000, 56 Lakeshore Dr, Cahill, David W, and Cahill, Janis A, to Moran, Robert G. \$325,002, 125 Orange St, Lafortune, Joseph, and Lafortune, Lisa, to Gilchrest, Felicia L, and Lafortune, Lisa W. \$250,000, 50 Manchaug St, Karacius, Donna, to Webb-Gogan, Patrick. \$70,100, 153 Davis St, Douglas Land Corp, to Woodlandbrook LLC.

NORTHBRIDGE

\$5,825,000, 447 Hill St, St Camillus Institute Inc, to Blupoint Hlthcare Rlty 2. \$739,000, 34-44 Overlook St, Transform Prop Group LLC, to C Household LLC. \$570,000, 257 Roosevelt Dr, Shaw, Peter B, and Shaw, Mary L, to Robertson, Joseph, and Crook, Bridgett M. \$525,000, 1031-R Hill St, Barlow, Mary G, to Whitney, Cristina. \$500,000, 228 Hillcrest Rd, Gabriel, Jeffrey M, and Gabriel, Melissa C, to Sastre, Jonathan, and Sastre, Stephanie. \$390,000, 109-113 School St, Selby, Gregory, and Selby, Rebecca, to Hammond, Nicholas. \$374,000, 547 Benson Rd, FNMA, to Lee, Marisa. \$345,000, 27 Edmonds Cir #27, Godbout, Nancy M, and Dsouza, Sarah J, to Mikelonis, Michael P, and Mikelonis, Marion. \$324,900, 184 Sutton St, US Bank NA Tr, to Roman, Josemid, and Roman, Roberta. \$315,000, 108 Ivy Ln, Kogut, Joseph, and Kogut, Maxine J, to Henin, Nazih. \$310,000, 1291 Quaker St, Sullivan RT, and Sullivan, Raymond, to Challis, Darrell. \$150,000, 126 Fowler Rd, Whiteacre Properties LLC, to Simar House Inc.

UXBRIDGE

\$320,000, 5 Summerfield Dr #5, Patricia A Heath RET, and Mansfield, Mary K, to Tesell, Marilyn. \$315,000, 10 Larkin Ave, Stevens, Deborah, to Reed-Mcdavitt, Owen. \$231,000, 139 Linwood St, Weeks, Jedediah J, and Weeks, Kristen A, to Knapp, Joseph B. \$10,000, 620 Aldrich St, Tibbetts, Jonathan E, and Tibbetts, Nancy E, to Dirazonian, Amy.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Popular pickup truck
- 4. Profoundly wise men
- 9. Camera company
- 14. Folk singer DiFranco
- 15. Passerine birds
- 16. Plum-shaped fruit used for preserves
- 17. Popular kids channel
- 18. Dodgers' skipper
- 20. Removes
- 22. The Atlantic is one
- 23. Badgerlike mammal
- 24. Foulness
- 28. Luke's mentor ___-Wan
- 29. Commercial
- 30. A type of gin
- 31. Temptress
- 33. Shuts in an enclosed space
- 37. Milligram
- 38. Actress Adams
- 39. Strive to equal or match
- 41. Health insurance
- 42. A detective's source
- 43. Small American rails
- 44. Alfred __, Brit. poet
- 46. Crest of a hill
- 49. Atomic #52
- 50. __ Caesar, comedian
- 51. Breaks apart
- 55. Register formally (Brit. sp.)
- 58. Worker
- 59. Chemical compound
- 60. Disgraced newsman
- 64. Born of
- 65. Chemical substance
- 66. Supernatural powers
- 67. Clothes
- 68. Indy footballers
- 69. Moves forward
- 70. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Driver
- 2. Bone cavities
- 3. Menacing
- 4. Where coaches patrol
- 5. Greek mythological figure
- 6. War-based board game
- 7. Midway between northeast and east
- 8. 18-year period in astronomy
- 9. Mid-century term used to describe Japanese-Americans
- 10. Large bodies of water
- 11. Eurasian ryegrass
- 12. Perform on stage
- 13. Greek island
- 19. 10th month of the year (abbr.)
- 21. One point east of southeast
- 24. Belgian city
- 25. Praise excessively
- 26. River in France
- 27. Edible lily bulbs
- 31. Quarterbacks take them
- 32. Organic compound
- 34. Tears down (Brit.)
- 35. Beloved Hollywood alien
- 36. Unconscious
- 40. Missouri
- 41. Firemen use them
- 45. Pig noise
- 47. Greatly dismay
- 48. Imitator
- 52. Moves by turning over
- 53. Boxing's GOAT
- 54. Swarms with
- 56. Margarine
- 57. Feudal superior
- 59. As fast as can be done
- 60. Reciprocal of a sine
- 61. Chinese city
- 62. Tell on
- 63. United



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WCS makes gifts from Giving Day

WHITINSVILLE — Whitinsville Christian School's Dutch apple pies are a holiday tradition for many, including the tradition of giving them away. The WCS Dutch Apple Pie sale has provided thousands of pies to area food banks and first responders over the last few years through the "Paying it Forward with Pies" program.

"When we made the difficult decision to postpone this year's Dutch Apple Pie sale," said Erika Johnson, WCS Trustee and Pie Committee Chairperson, "we knew we needed to find a way to honor the tradition of 'Paying it Forward' and find an opportunity to give back to our community."

That opportunity presented itself at Giving Day, a fundraising event for the WCS Fund.

"While Giving Day represents a time to raise funds for WCS, we knew it was important to honor the 'Giving' of Giving Day and the spirit of 'Paying it Forward.' Our team agreed that a wonderful way of doing this would be to donate 10 percent of all Giving Day donations to the Northbridge Association of Churches Food Pantry and the Worcester County Food Bank," said Rick Lukianuk, Head of School. "The NAC Food Pantry serves our closest neighbors while the Worcester County Food Bank partners with more than 100 area food banks. WCS's support of these two organizations represents our families who live in more than 38 communities."

A donation to the Worcester County Food Bank of \$5,717 will be made before the Christmas holiday.

The WCS Giving Day event, held on November 20 and 21, raised more than \$114,000.

"We are grateful to all of our donors for their support of WCS and gifts for these food pantries," said

Lukianuk. "We would also like to thank Milford Federal Bank, our major sponsor for the Dutch Apple Pie Sale. Despite not being able to sponsor this year's pie sale, they made an extremely generous gift to Giving Day, demonstrating Milford Federal's commitment to the residents of our local communities."

On Thursday, Dec. 10, Erika Johnson and Rick Lukianuk presented a check for \$5,717 to James Blair and Julie Gillis of the NAC Food Pantry.

"This has been a particularly trying year for so many, and we at the Northbridge Association of Churches Food Pantry are extraordinarily grateful and humbled by the donations we receive," said Gillis. "Whitinsville Christian School presented us with an incredibly generous donation that will allow us to ensure that all our friends, family, and neighbors have food on the table this holiday season."



Courtesy
Pictured left to right: Rick Lukianuk, WCS Head of School; Erika Johnson, WCS Parent and Trustee; James Blair and Julie Gillis of the NAC Food Pantry.

Milford Regional Medical Center Recognized with an 'A' for safety

MILFORD — Milford Regional Medical Center was awarded an 'A' in the fall 2020 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, a national distinction recognizing Milford Regional's achievements protecting patients from harm and providing safer health care. This is the fourth consecutive time Milford Regional has been distinguished with an 'A' rating. The Leapfrog Group is an independent national watchdog organization committed to health care quality and safety. The Safety Grade assigns an 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D' or 'F' grade to all general hospitals across the country and is updated every six months. It is based on a hospital's performance in preventing medical errors, injuries, accidents, infections and other

harms to patients in their care.

"Receiving an 'A' Hospital Safety Grade from Leapfrog four consecutive times is a real testament to our entire staff for their unrelenting dedication to all areas of patient safety," says Edward J. Kelly, president and CEO of Milford Regional. "While this recognition by Leapfrog affirms these efforts, Milford Regional is committed to providing the resources necessary to support our staff in maintaining the high standard of patient safety and quality care noted in this recent award."

"We are extremely grateful to hospital leadership and health care workers who have remained steadfast in prioritizing patient safety as our nation

battles COVID-19," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "This 'A' is a testament to the care and commitment of those who work for Milford Regional Medical Center. With the current pandemic exposing existing flaws within the U.S. health care system, we appreciate you putting patient safety first. Lives depend on it."

Developed under the guidance of a national Expert Panel, the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses up to 27 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign grades to more than 2,600 U.S. acute-care hospitals twice per year. The Hospital Safety Grade's methodology is peer-reviewed and fully transparent, and the results are free to the

public.

To see Milford Regional's full grade details and access patient tips for staying safe in the hospital, visit hospitalsafetygrade.org. For more information on Milford Regional, go to milfordregional.org.

100TH

continued from page A1

statement, Burns had four children (three girls and one boy) with her late husband, Perry Burns. Though Perry passed away, the family remains close.

"She's just so sweet...she tells it like it is," Moon said. "She doesn't hold back and apparently she's been bowling since she was 18 years old."

Burns bowls every Monday and Wednesday around the Uxbridge area and enjoys playing horseshoes in the fall months. She enjoys singing and had performed in the Millville-centennial Memory Show in 2016 with her original song.

She has played on local softball teams throughout the years and continues to play with her children and grandchildren. Burn's last softball game was on July 1, where she played catcher for her team in Bellingham. At that game, she was presented with a hat from her team with her name embroidered on it.



Soter applauds Uxbridge Police & Fire for toy drive

UXBRIDGE — Rep. Soter [R-Bellingham] applauds the work of the Uxbridge Police and Fire Departments for holding their annual toy drive to support the Blackstone Valley Toys for Kids and Teens program. On Nov. 28, members from both departments held a collection in front of the Hannaford Market in Uxbridge. Soter was proud to contribute to the cause by donating a cart of toys to help fill the cruiser and truck parked out front.

"It is important to help others during the holiday season, but this year amidst all that is going on, it is especially important. For this reason, I was proud to fulfill my duty as a Representative of Uxbridge and give back to my neighbors who are struggling this Christmas season. I want to recognize both Police and Fire for the time that they dedicate to making sure every child in the community has a special holiday season. The community involvement that both these departments show throughout the year is tremendous," Soter said.

The Uxbridge Police Department will continue to have drop off boxes for the program, in their lobby, until Dec. 23.



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SENIORS

Uxbridge Senior Center

36 South Main St.
(508) 278-8622
Lisa Bernard – Director
Gail Boutiette – Outreach Coordinator
Donna Oncay – Transportation Coordinator
Omer Boucher – Van Driver
Sally Selvidge – Activities Coordinator
Edwina Porter – Chef

Happy New Year!
I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday. This New Year brings hope and promise that we will return to a “normal” life soon. The turmoil of the Coronavirus has taken a toll on all of us. With the cold and snowy weather upon us, we will be cooped up in our homes. We hope that you look into the Pen Pal program that the senior center has introduced. Everyone is welcome to participate in this program. This is a way of socially connecting with the world in a safe, contact free environment. We are partnering with the Uxbridge High School Student Council as well as the Taft School students. We also have some senior volunteers who will be making personal phone calls. Please call the Senior Center if you wish to participate or if you would like more information.

The Senior Center is proud to announce that we now have a new parking lot! This has been a long time coming, but, we are so appreciative of the Town Manager, Steve Sette, the DPW and the BOS efforts to help expedite this project. We especially want to thank Harshaw Paving & Bevilacqua Paving for the donation of the asphalt. The senior center is currently under construction as we are now remodeling our bathrooms to accommodate handicap accessibility. We look forward to our grand re-opening of the Center, hopefully in the new year, so that everyone can see all the positive changes being made.

We will be continuing virtual Zumba classes for an additional eight-week session. Thank you to the Uxbridge Elderly Connection for sponsoring this event. We also thank our Zumba instructor, Amy Smith, for assisting us with the continuation of these classes which so many of our seniors enjoy.

The Center is hoping to work with the AARP Tax Assistance Program for folks to receive assistance in filing your 2020 tax returns. Due to the pandemic, this service may be delivered a little different from previous years. We are still working out the details but more information will follow once we know more. Please call the Center for more information.

The Medical Transportation Program was put on hold the end of November 2020 due to the town of Uxbridge’s COVID High Risk status. We anticipate starting up the program again by early January, this will include banking/pharmacy and shopping trips. Please note that all precautions are being made to keep everyone safe. If you need transportation for a medical appointment, please call the Senior Center well in advance to ensure that we have the availability. Please note that everyone is required to wear a mask and we cannot transport individuals that have symptoms of the Coronavirus or have been in contact with someone who is positive for the Coronavirus. We appreciate your understanding and flexibility during this difficult time.

Thank you to all those who donated to our Auction “Fun”draiser sponsored by the Uxbridge Elderly Connection to support our Activity Department. We appreciate your generosity and support!

Take care of yourself and check in with the Senior Center from time to time with a friendly phone call. We are here to help!

Lisa Bernard
Director

Virtual programs will be aired on Local Cable Channel 192 Tuesday – Thursdays, 9:30am & 5:30pm also 10:00am & 6:00pm. You can also check out our Facebook page and YouTube channel.

No-cost drive-thru COVID-19 testing is available at CVS, 323 N. Main Street, Uxbridge. Tests are by appointment only - 508-278-2456 <https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing>

Friday, January 1, 2021 – Closed for New Year’s Day! Happy New Year! We might be apart today, but you’re always in our hearts. Take care and stay safe in these uncertain times. We miss you!

New Zumba Gold – Thursdays, January 7th – February 25, 2021 ~ Interested individuals should call the Uxbridge Senior Center at 508-278-8622 for more information and receive their application and waiver forms prior to the start of the program. Sessions will be sent via email to participants. Thank you to the Uxbridge Elderly Connection for sponsoring this!

Please note:
If the Uxbridge schools are closed due to snow, the home delivered meals will not be delivered.

If there is a snow day on Tuesday, the lunch will be delivered on Wednesday.

If there is a snow day on Thursday, the lunch will be delivered on Friday.

Call 508-278-8622 if you have any questions.

The Uxbridge Senior Center in collaboration with the UHS Student Council and the National Residence Hall Honorary Bridgewater State University Campus are offering FaceTime and Pen Pal Programs for seniors. This will also include students from Taft Elementary School and local senior volunteers!

With the long winter months upon us, seniors will become more socially isolated. If you would like to join this group, just call the Senior Center at 508-278-8622 to sign up. Let us know if you prefer FaceTime or the Pen Pal Program.

Uxbridge Senior Center On The Move - Videos will be posted every Monday at 10:00 am! Get ready to join Sally on VIRTUAL Trips in and around Uxbridge!

Hannaford grocery shopping every Tuesday. Pick up begins at 8:30 AM. Please sign up in advance by calling us at 508-278-8622 to reserve your seat on the van. Masks are required and seating is limited.

Every Tuesday – Virtual Chair exercises with Sally posted on the Uxbridge Senior Center Facebook page & YouTube after 2:30 pm.

Sally’s Walking Club has ended and will start up again in the Spring.

1st and 3rd Wednesdays – Jan 6th & 20th @ 10:00 am – Bank & Pharmacy Rides. Please call at least 24 hours in advance if you need a ride. Masks must be worn as well.

2nd and 4th Wednesdays – Jan 13th & 27th @ 9:30 am – Shopping trip to Walmart. There will only be 4 people allowed on the van per visit. Call ahead to sign up! Masks must be worn.

2nd & 4th Thursdays – Jan 14th and 28th @ 9:30 am – Shaws/Ocean State Shopping Rides. Please call at least 24 hours in advance if you need a ride. Masks must be worn and limited to 4 people on the van.

Every Thursday – Virtual Crafts with Sally posted on the Uxbridge Senior Center Facebook page and YouTube after 2:30 pm.

Every Friday @ 1:00 pm – Live Facebook Pictionary with Sally! Come play along with Sally & Gail. Tune in to the Uxbridge Senior Center Facebook page. Jan. 8th & 22nd will begin at 2:00.

The Uxbridge Senior Center Donation Funds are used to pay for services, programs, and activities for Uxbridge older adults and are not considered part of the Town’s operating budget for the Center. Anyone wishing to donate may do so by making checks payable to the “Uxbridge Senior Center”. Donations may also be made in honor of, in memory of, or in appreciation of. Contributions are greatly appreciated. Our seniors Thank You!

Feel free to contact us at 508-278-8622 or visit us on our web page at Uxbridge-ma.gov/coa or like us on our FB page or by googling Uxbridge Senior Center and our new YouTube Channel or even dropping by.

Uxbridge-ma.gov/Council-Aging
<https://www.Facebook.com/UxbridgeMASeniorCenter>
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNh_Rlq99rucmFH-U07VFBw
<https://www.uxbridgetv.org/schedule/192>

News from SHINE
What if I missed the Medicare Open Enrollment Period?

Can I still make a change to my 2021 coverage?

People who are currently enrolled in a Medicare Advantage (MA) plan have until March 31 to switch to another MA plan or to Original Medicare with or without a stand-alone prescription drug plan (Part D) during the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period (MA OEP).

The MA OEP occurs each year from January 1 through March 31, and it is only available to people who have a Medicare Advantage plan. One change can be made during this period, which will take effect the first of the month following the month you enroll. For example, if you switch to a new Medicare Advantage Plan in February, your new coverage begins March 1.

Changes that can be made during this period include switching to:

- a different MA plan with drug coverage;
- a different MA plan without drug coverage;

Original Medicare and a Part D plan; or

Original Medicare without a Part D plan.

This is an opportunity to make a change if you find your coverage is not working for you; for example, one of your doctors no longer accepts your plan.

Other news:

For those with Prescription Advantage or “Extra Help”; these programs help with paying for your prescription drugs. They also offer a Special Enrollment Period allowing you to change your prescription drug plan if needed outside of Open Enrollment.

Those with Prescription Advantage can do this only once each year.

Those with “Extra Help” can change once each quarter.

The Massachusetts Medicare Savings Program pays your monthly Part B Premium that is deducted from your Social Security income. The 2021 monthly Part B premium will be \$148.50 in 2021. You will also be eligible for Extra Help from Social Security to help pay your prescription drug costs. You may be eligible if your income and assets are at or below these values.

Individual Gross Income: \$1,755/
month Assets: \$15,720

Couple Gross Income: \$2,371/
month Assets: \$23,600

If you want to take advantage of any of these opportunities to change your plans or be screened for assistance call your local Senior Center or the Regional SHINE Office and a SHINE Counselor can talk you

through the process and any consequences of changing plans.

The SHINE Program (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Everyone), is federally funded and state administered through the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. The Program annually certifies over 700 counselors statewide, that provide, unbiased, confidential counseling on all aspects Medicare, related private insurance products and financial assistance programs

The Central Mass SHINE Program office 508-422-9931

You can also call 1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636), then press or say 3.

Visit us at our Central Mass Website www.shinema.org for useful information and applications for various programs.

Millbury Senior Center

Millbury Senior Center Picture Board & Decorate a Gingerbread Cookie to Go! Picture Board is available outside in Garden all welcome to take pictures From November 30th – Christmas Day! Decorate a Gingerbread Cookie Kits Available for pick up only, \$3 for a kit of 2
Supplies Limited so call ahead 508-865-9154

Blood Pressure Clinic
Every Tuesday from 9 A.M. - 10 A.M.
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EXERCISE IN THE GARDEN

The center is closed at this time, but all are welcome to continue lite exercise in the garden on

Monday and Fridays 9:30 – 10:15 A.M.
Weather permitting & social distancing is a must!

Grab & Go Meals”

Lunch meals will be available to be picked up daily at the front door, 11:30 A.M. Menu is available on Town Website, www.townofmillbury.org

Or our Millbury Senior Center Facebook page

A 48 hour reservation is required
For more information or reservations call us at 508-865-9154

The Senior Center is closed to the Public.

While the building is not open to the public the Food Pantry at the Millbury Senior Center is available from 9am to 1pm Monday thru Friday by calling 508-865-9247 for an appointment our food pantry is fully stocked at this time tell us what you need and you can pick it up or we will deliver it.

We are still here to answer any questions you may have and we are available for your transportation to Doctors appointments or if you need to go to the drug store for your prescriptions, we will take you there. If you don’t have a mask, we will give you one.

Also if you are in need of a home delivered meal give us a call and we will set you up to get one delivered to you.

Keep safe and remember to wear a mask if you go out and to wash your hands frequently.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

We all share responsibility for protecting the vulnerable

Something we’ve been hearing over the past few months with regard to COVID-19 deaths is the downplaying of elderly victims succumbing to the virus. When we look at the data and have conversations about the infection rate, and the numbers of those who actually pass away as a result, it seems to be dismissed in cases where the person is over the age of 65. “Well, they are old anyway, and in that age bracket” is often overheard.

What an awful world view. True, when we hear about an older person passing, we can find some sort of solace knowing that they were able to live for a fairly long time and enjoy life as such. However, isn’t the point to try to live as long and healthy as possible? Many of these elderly individuals who have fallen victim to this virus, would still be alive today, had COVID not come into all of our lives.

This outlook is a dangerous viewpoint to have, especially amidst a pandemic. Of course the younger, healthier population is less at risk; however the responsibility falls on all of us to protect the vulnerable, regardless of our odds of contracting a severe case ourselves. We may be fine if we catch it, and may decide not to take precautions, telling ourselves “I’ll be fine.” However, walking around asymptotically may infect someone who might not be OK. As a society of neighbors, co-workers, family and friends, it should always be our job to look out for each other. Despite our differences, we must always put humanity first and take care of one another. Whether that looks like helping someone with a flat tire, pulling someone out of a ditch who’s car slid off the road, helping someone in need with groceries, or taking precautions during a pandemic to keep each other safe, it’s our duty as decent human beings to do the right thing, not for ourselves but for each other.

In overhearing such statements regarding the elderly, we want to remind those that need to hear it, that these long lived lives are just as important as they always have been. Being elderly shouldn’t mean we are automatically dismissed as a member of society. The golden years should be protected as best they can as we all age, and we all will.

Our elderly community are just as valuable now as they were when they were in their twenties. Remember that senior citizens still pay taxes, grocery shop, take care of family members including grandchildren. It is our grandparents that make up the highest number of child care providers, allowing their own children to continue to work, which in turn boosts the economy.

Our elderly population provides friendship and support to everyone around them. In addition, the highest number of volunteers come from the senior citizen population. Again, this in turn helps to contribute to our economy.

It doesn’t seem like any of this hits home for some individuals, until they are affected personally. If you are not close with someone who is elderly, remember that many of us are. It is important to continue to value and protect the most vulnerable among us.

In an attempt to bridge recent political division, we want to remind everyone to look out for each other, despite your differences. What matters in the end is community and how we operate in our own small circles.

We have seen refreshing occurrences of both Republicans and Democrats, locally, who have joined forces to make our communities a better place...individuals who have not lost sight of what really matters in life.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

A MOMENT IN HISTORY
.....
BEVERLY GUDANOWSKI
UXBRIDGE

Have you ever heard the amazing story of Henry Knox who became a hero of the Revolutionary War? Knox’s journey is truly that of an eyewitness to history as he was remarkably, divinely placed at key locations during pivotal moments.

Some would have you believe that the American Revolutionary War was not a revolution because it merely replaced rich, white men with rich white men. Those who maintain this false assertion have obviously never studied the history of the American Revolutionary War nor have they ever heard of Henry Knox. That’s General Henry Knox to you.

Henry did not start life auspiciously. Born in Boston, he attended school but at the age of nine, he was sent to work. His father had gone bankrupt and sailed to the West Indies where he died. It sounds like a Dickens novel.

Knox was raised by a now poor, single mother who had lost six of her ten children in infancy. Let me repeat, he was raised in poverty by a single mother. Yet he rose to become one of the great Generals of the Revolutionary War.

It is the classic American story. Henry was bright. He read every book he could lay his hands on. His job at the book store was lowly, but it exposed him to educated people who valued reading and studying.

This gentle job did not stop him from hanging around with a tough, juvenile gang that fought for dominance in Boston, defending the south side against the north end. The boys were sons of shipyard workers, seamen and tavern owners. Henry was tall and strong and learned the art of fighting. In the bookstore, however, he was polite and intelligent. The customers liked Henry, customers such as John Adams and Paul Revere.

On Boston Common, British government troops drilled and trained in artillery. Henry observed and asked questions, eventually joining the local troop. He learned how to maintain, load, and fire cannon. This would come in handy soon, but Henry didn’t know that. He was just fascinated by canon.

On the night of March 5, 1770, he witnessed the Boston Massacre. Later testified at the two trials of British soldiers charged with the murder of Boston citizens.

By 1771, at the age of 21, Henry opened his own book store in the heart of Boston. Things looked promising. Among those who frequented his shop was the lovely,

17 year old Lucy Fluker, the daughter of wealthy, ardent Loyalists. It was love at first sight. When her parents objected, Lucy chose wisely. She chose Henry.

On Dec. 16, 1773, Henry was in the crowd at the Old South Meeting House that stormed down to the docks to dump tea into the harbor rather than pay a tax on it. Britain retaliated and banned all commercial ships from Boston harbor. In turn, Bostonians boycotted British goods. Henry’s bookstore suffered. Nevertheless, Henry and Lucy were married on June 20, 1774. What an auspicious time! Imagine, getting married in 1774, in the midst of a financial crisis and a revolution! Lucy’s family and friends were disappointed. Why, Henry’s prospects were declining and he stood in opposition to the most powerful empire in the world! Lucy showed strength and independence, a rare commodity in her social circle.

In 1775, Britain’s stranglehold on Boston tightened. On April 18, 1775, British soldiers fired on American militia at Lexington and Concord. Knox knew it was time to leave Boston. He abandoned his book store to looters and vandals, and under cover of darkness, he and Lucy escaped so he could join the militia. Lucy had sewn Henry’s sword into her cloak. Henry was 25 years old, Lucy just 18.

Knox did not sign the Declaration of Independence, but he risked his neck to help it happen. He dragged canon back from Fort Ticonderoga, crossed the ice filled Delaware River with Washington, and fought at Yorktown. A poor bookseller rises to become Commander of America’s first artillery. Only in America.

As David McCollough, the American Historian, said, “Jefferson, Adams, George Washington - they didn’t walk around saying ‘Isn’t this fascinating? Aren’t we picturesque in our funny clothes?’ They were living in the present, just as we do. The great difference is that it was their present, not ours. And just as we don’t know how things are going to turn out, neither did they. None of them had prior experience in revolutions. They were winging it. They were improvising.” Scary thought. Or maybe not scary at all, but simply divinely ordained.

You can read more about Henry and Lucy in the book, Henry Knox by Mark Pulis. Or, try the Knoxmuseum.org website. It is one of the best American history websites I have ever seen. Prepare to be amazed.

Dress up your landscape with winter-inspired container gardens



GARDEN MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA MYERS

creativity to work. For those that prefer a natural look, consider white birch branches and stems of red twig dogwood, corkscrew willow or contorted hazelnut. Add a bit more color with berry laden winter holly branches and dried seed rudbeckias, allium, and coneflower seed heads or hydrangea flowers. Finish off your arrangement with a few evergreen cones and a bow.

Or add a bit of glitz with painted and glittered cones, twigs, ornaments, or other holiday adornments. You can purchase these or create your own with a bit of paint and glitter. Just make sure your materials will hold up to the winter weather.

Once your arrangement is complete, water thoroughly. The moist soil helps keep greenery fresh and in place. Once the soil is frozen you can stop watering. The cold weather will help keep

your greens looking good throughout the holidays and beyond.

Extend the life of your greenery with an organic biodegradable antitranspirant. These materials help seal in the moisture, delaying the browning of cut greens. Always read and follow label directions carefully. Most need to be applied to evergreen boughs outdoors and allowed to dry before bringing it indoors or beginning your arrangement.

For additional ideas and a bit of inspiration, watch my Create Beautiful Outdoor Evergreen Containers video. You will find more ways to enhance your landscape with winter containers.

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



Melinda Myers

Winter container gardens brighten up the landscape all season long.

Are you still planning to retire early?



FINANCIAL FOCUS

DARREN PARENT

Have your retirement plans changed because of COVID-19? If so, you have plenty of company. Nearly 40 percent of those planning to retire say the pandemic has disrupted their intentions, according to the Edward Jones/ Age Wave Four Pillars of the New Retirement study. You might have been thinking about retiring early – can you still do so?

Even without a crisis, it’s not a bad idea to review your important life goals from time to time. So, in thinking about the possibility of early retirement, consider these factors:

Your retirement lifestyle – Your ability to retire early depends somewhat on what sort of lifestyle you’re anticipating during your retirement years. If you think you’ll be traveling extensively or pursuing expensive activities, you might not be able to afford to retire as early as someone with more modest ambitions. Of course, there’s no “right” or “wrong” way of living in retirement – we all have our own dreams and preferences. But be aware that different lifestyles do carry different price tags – and have different effects on when you can retire securely.

Sources of retirement income – Obviously, a key factor in knowing whether you can retire early is the amount of retirement income you can rely on. So, you’ll have to assess all your sources: Social Security, any other pensions you might receive, and your investment portfolio, including your 401(k) and IRA. The amounts you receive from these sources will depend on a variety of factors.

For Social Security, the longer you wait until collecting, the larger your monthly payments (although they will “top out” when you reach 70, excluding cost-of-living adjustments). In regard to your investments and retirement accounts, you’ll need to establish a withdrawal rate that’s appropriate for the length of time you expect to be retired. So, by adjusting these variables – taking Social Security earlier or later, taking more or less money from your retirement accounts – you can help determine if the retirement date you had in mind is viable.

Your feelings about work – Your goals are not static – they can change in response to any number of reasons, both external and personal. When you first decided you wanted to retire early, you might have been motivated by, among other things, a weariness of your current job. But has that changed over time? Have you found new challenges that interest you at work? Or, if you were forced by the pandemic to work remotely, did you actually enjoy the arrangement and want to continue it?

After all, many employers have found that their workers can be just as productive working at home, so, even when we’ve gotten past COVID-19, we might see a sizable shift in the geography of the workplace. In any case, if your feelings about work have changed in some way, leading you to think you could work longer than originally planned, you’d likely gain some financial advantages. You’d make more money, for starters, but you’d also keep building your 401(k) and IRA, and you could even possibly delay taking Social Security.

The pandemic may lead to a reevaluation of many financial goals – and taking early retirement might be one of them. By thinking carefully about your situation and your options, you can come up with a course of action that’s right for you.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Darren Parent, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or Darren.parent@edwardjones.com.

Brothers on the hunt

The final day of the Massachusetts shotgun season was a good one, according to hunters that I spoke with. The weather was perfect during the morning hours. It was comfortable to sit on a deer run that had high hopes for this writer and many others. I hunted with my brother Ken, as I do every year. We both drew a doe permit for Zone 8, so we hunted in the town of Douglas. I met Ken at our usual spot at 8 a.m., which is a bit late because of our elderly status.

We do not hunt hard, and often have one of us take a stand on a good deer run, that also showed signs of deer activity like acorn feeding. My brother decided on taking a slow walk through the area, hoping to push a deer to my stand. I sat comfortably on my hotseat up against a large oak tree, waiting for my brother to come through. As I waited, I was being entertained by a couple of gray squirrels scampering across the ground, looking for acorns to sustain them through the winter months.

A couple of times one of the squirrel's scampered down a small log that was only a few feet



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
• • • • •
RALPH
TRUE

from me, when he noticed something wrong. He let out a loud screeching noise, alerting every form of wildlife in the area of my presence. A few red squirrels also joined in with their chatter. I spotted my brother walking towards me, and I slowly lifted my ageing body off from the ground, with the help of the large tree, and a couple of smaller trees. After we discussed the situation, we decided to hunt the lower part of the property, where I had left one of my tree stands that I no longer use.

I left Ken on the ridge and headed down to my tree stand to sit on the lower part. At least I could get up to shoot if the situation arises. I slowly walked down to my tree stand, but needed to cross the small stream to get to where I was going. Lucky I had my Muck boots on. I found an old stick that was laying on the ground, and used it to steady my

ageing body, hoping to navigate the water without falling in. "Whew!" "I Made it." I slowly walked over to my tree stand and placed my cushion on the lower part before I sat down. "This is a lot more comfortable."

There were all kinds of fresh deer sign in the area, and I just felt sure I was in a good spot. I called my brother on our two-way radio and told him to take a slow walk through the brush towards my position. I watched the area pretty good for a while, and then suddenly out of nowhere, this huge deer came gliding through the brush in slow but huge jumps. I quickly stood up and took aim at the large deer, but it disappeared into some thick brush. I spotted the deer again and let one round go on my 12-gauge shotgun. The discharged shell echoed through the woods.

I waited a few minutes to stop my heart from racing and to let my brother know of the situation. He stayed where he was because the deer could very well circle and head back in his direction. I was not so sure about my shot being productive, but I spent a while making sure there was no blood trail. It was as I had fig-



Courtesy

This week's picture shows Ken & Mark True ice fishing on one of our favorite spots in years past. We are all hoping for some ice this year.

ured. A clean miss! I guess I will need to borrow some venison from one of my buddies again this year! We worked our way back to the car and headed for the nearest coffee shop. There is still black powder season that ends on Dec. 31 in Massachusetts! But I am not to encouraged about scoring on some venison this year.

With Christmas only days away, we need to brace ourselves as families, that it will be like no other Christmas that we have ever encountered. That does not mean as families that the celebration cannot be meaningful as it has always been; it is just that the celebration should be done in smaller groups of family members & friends. We all need to

hope and pray that the recently approved vaccine to combat Covid-19 is safe, and will work to eradicate this terrible disease that has cost thousands of lives, and threatens thousands more. Our faith is being tested, and we better be ready. God bless!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Are we still a beacon of democracy?

I'm a lifestyle columnist that promotes optimism and positivity in our daily lives. I'm not a political pundit. Occasionally a subject arises that connects the two areas of positivity and politics and I feel it's important to address. We have a problem.



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
• • • • •
GARY W.
MOORE

Depending on which poll you believe, almost 40 percent of all Americans believe our recent election was either dishonestly counted or was unfair, while seventy-seven percent of Republican voters say their candidate was fraudulently defeated. There has never been so much distrust in our voting system.

Former US Congressman and retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Allen West is now floating the idea of secession for those states who feel election laws were broken to elect Joe Biden.

This was an unprecedented election, with new rules and extreme methods, designed to accommodate voters due to our current Covid-19 pandemic. Former President Jimmy Carter, a long-time global advocate and judge for free elections, a Democrat, says that mail-in ballots are wrought with the opportunity for fraud. Never in our history have we had the massive number of vote-by-mail ballots as we did in this 2020 election.

The Beacon of Democracy? The Land of the Free and Home of (because) of the Brave now floating a break-up of our Union?

Yes. I believe our Union is at risk, but let me be clear. I do not advocate overturning the recent election. I accept the results based upon the election rules that were in place. The problem I see, and it should disturb both sides, is that the looseness of rules, methods, techniques, and monitoring of the last election places our democracy at risk. This isn't about Trump or Biden. This

is about election security. We can and must do better.

You may say Allen West isn't representative of most voters on the right, but I'd say you may be wrong. This shouldn't be a left or right issue, it's an American issue. We should be united in preserving the integrity of our elections.

I'm born and raised in Illinois, and for as long as I can remember, there has been, and continues to be, a desire for the Illinois "outside of Chicago" to separate from the Windy City. The Chicago Machine rules Illinois with an iron fist and has for almost one-hundred years. Look no further than the 1960 presidential election if you want to understand the power of the machine and how a small dishonest group can impact an entire nation.

There has been a movement over the last few years for the vast expanses of red California to break away from the influence and control of blue Los Angeles and San Francisco. And red Western Washington and Oregon could not be more polarized from their fellow statesmen in Seattle and Portland. They are now discussing breaking away and joining Idaho. Then back to Texas, there's been a group calling themselves the "Republic of Texas" that has been pushing secession from the U.S. for years. And now a former congressman, retired Lt. Colonel (Army) and head of the GOP in Texas, calling for a discussion of secession.

The secession movement is growing and gaining momentum. It's fueled by a large minority (upwards of forty percent) that believe their candidate was cheated and the rightful winner was denied. Yes, the country is divided almost perfectly down the middle

by a different ideology but that alone isn't enough to fuel a dissolution of our Union that has lasted since 1776. A lack of trust in our elections ... just might be. If we believe our elections are not honest and fair ... how can we possibly be the Beacon of Democracy? Why should we vote if every legal vote isn't counted? It is a National dilemma.

To those calling for secession, let me remind you how well it worked for our nation last time this idea reared its ugly head. The southern states paid a devastating price, while the whole nation suffered the massive losses of our civil war. I cannot believe anyone would want to risk a second American Civil War, but there are those who do, and the numbers are growing. Ideology alone will not cause this break-up, but a lack of a reliable, honest, and trustworthy voting system can and maybe will.

If we want to secure our Union, we must secure our voting system.

How do we do it?

We must show picture identification for many less important reasons in our states and our nation. What's more important than voting? Picture ID must be shown to vote. And no ... this is not voter suppression but reasonable election security.

Absentee ballots must be used for legitimate reasons for being absent on Election Day and should not be available to the masses because they don't want to vote in person. If you care about the future of your nation, show up at the voting booth, show your ID and vote. How is this asking too much?

Counting of every single vote must be done with poll watchers from each party. Any vote that is illegally counted under the view of only one side must be either thrown out or counted again,

with proper witnesses.

As for voting machines and the allegations they are easily open to fraud, I don't know enough to comment, but I've heard enough to believe they must be examined before they are used again.

Then you have our tech giants who I believe clearly favor one side over another and influence voters by their bias. Why is this allowed and how do we stop this?

Want to preserve our Union? Secure our elections. Taking the steps to secure our elections is not voter suppression but election security. Without election security, everything we say we stand for is a lie.

I love my blue friends and love my red friends. If we love our Union, we must join hands and engage in election systems we can all trust. The risk of not doing so is unfathomable.

My prayer for our nation this Christmas is that we can come together and reflect the values that have held us together for almost 250 years. If we only agree upon one thing, let's agree that our United States of America is worth preserving and saving. Imagining the world without our influence creates a frightening picture. Let's set aside our political and ideological differences and preserve our nation.

God bless America, and may God save and preserve our troubled Union.

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @ GaryWMoore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.

What makes estate personal property valuable?

There are many components of estate assets, with home and land typically being the most valuable. Stocks, bonds, or bank accounts may be worth more in certain situations. Personal property is typically the least valuable, but there are times when there are some very desirable items in the estate.

Being an antique estate auctioneer, I focus on antiques, collectibles, and other estate personal property and will explain in this column what we look for in determining whether estate contents are potentially valuable.

One factor is how long the family has been in the country. We've handled at least one estate where the family came over on the Mayflower. There were books and documents dating back to the 18th century. In an estate where items have been passed down through generations, you can usually expect to find some valuable objects.

The family's wealth is another important factor. Some families have the financial means to buy Rolex instead of Timex watches and to buy large sterling silver flatware sets instead of silver-plate or stainless steel. Even though



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
• • • • •
WAYNE TUISKULA

formal dining isn't as popular today, sterling silver flatware can be worth thousands.

One of the rules that most collectors follow is to collect what you like. Collectors typically don't look at their collections as an investment. However, when the collection is auctioned and converted to cash, having collected popular items will benefit the collector or their heirs. Some common collectibles like coins, 1960s and earlier baseball and other trading cards, and comic books can be worth a considerable amount. We recently sold a collection of mainly gold and silver coins that brought nearly \$40,000 and sold a baseball card collection a few years ago that sold for over \$20,000.

The time period that the person collected their items also impacts the value of personal property. Over 20 years ago, we were contacted by a woman who had a large collection of Barbie dolls and other toys. She was at the age where she could've begun collecting when some of the first Barbies were manufactured and we had high hopes for selling her items after our conversation with her. Unfortunately for her and us, she col-

lected all of her toys later in her adult life and they had little value. When you've collected something in your youth, you don't have to worry about fakes and reproductions in your collection that have become more prevalent now.

Many people are uncomfortable when we first meet if the estate they are handling is packed with items. I assure them that there are never too many items as far as an auctioneer is concerned. Even if there aren't a lot of valuable objects, sometimes the sheer volume of items can make an auction or estate sale profitable. Around 15 years ago, we auctioned a collection of items from the 1920s through 1960s that a collector had acquired over many years. There was enough material to fill a box truck. Although there weren't any big-ticket items, 1950s hair dryers, 1940s household items and even circa 1930s rolls of toilet paper combined to bring in tens of thousands for the consignor.

We have a small online auction taking place with items from a Worcester estate. Included is a commercial tractor, dump truck, motorcycles, other vehicles, a large Coke sign and Ford Mustang pedal car. The first session of the large toy collection from a West Boylston estate will soon be ready for



online bidding. Session I will contain diecast toys. Antique and vintage toys will be in later sessions. You will also be able to bid online for equestrian and other paintings from artist Fay Moore's estate after the holidays.

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

OBITUARIES

Maurice E. “Junior” Ballou, 77



D O U G L A S - Maurice E. “Junior” Ballou, 77, passed away, riding his Harley into the sunset on Saturday, Dec. 5th, 2020 after a period of declining health.

He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Laura J. “Laurie” (Lavallee) Ballou; his adored daughter, Melissa Ballou and her husband Jimmi “Pink” Mahalares of Douglas; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, brother/sister in laws, many cousins and great friends. Born in Chelsea, MA on May 12, 1943, he was the son of

Maurice E. and Mabel (Payne) Ballou. Junior grew up in Weymouth and lived in Douglas the past 61 years.

Junior was a longtime Auto Body man over the years. His last job he was a Foreman for E. J. Murphy Fire Trucks in Hopkinton. Junior was a lifetime member of the Blackstone Valley Beagle Club.

He loved riding his Harley, antique cars, ducks, hunting, fishing and was an avid cook. Some of his favorite past times were camping and fun times at Old Orchard beach with his many friends. He loved taking fishing trips to the Cape with his best buddy of over 60 years, Danny Vecchione, who was like a brother to him. Most of

all he cherished spending time with his wife and daughter, they were his world and he spent his life protecting them and being the most loving and amazing husband and father they could ever hope to have. The many “daddy/ daughter adventures” him and Melissa took exploring places all over with stops in between to eat seafood on the ocean was one of the things that made him the happiest.

Well-known and always sociable, his personality made a lasting impression on all he met. He had an enthusiasm for life and lived every moment to the fullest. His genuine excitement and appreciation for the little things in life was infectious. He had a heart as big

as the sky and will be missed beyond words. The unbearable pain of his loss is only comforted by knowing he is no longer suffering. We are better for knowing him and being loved by him. He was our hero here on earth and we know he is now our angel in Heaven watching over us.

There will be no services at this time due to the current pandemic, but a celebration of Junior’s life will be held at a later date (you all know how much he loved a party) In lieu of flowers his family asks that you create a memory with your loved ones in his honor. To leave a condolence message for his family please visit: www.Jackmanfuneralhomes.com

Strategies for “Living by the List”

Few simple tasks bring order to chaos better than making a list. Creating a list of “pros and cons” vividly illustrates points for contrast and evaluation, while crossing off a daily list of accomplishments (no matter how mundane) can be a powerful motivator. In fact, most avid list makers take great satisfaction in viewing their options and/or daily successes literally laid out before them.

Numerous studies reveal lists can greatly benefit the writer far beyond short term satisfaction. Writing a list not only has the power to help save time and money, but the act of “listing” has been shown to aid memory, prevent procrastination and boost decision making skills.

Whether you want to pay down debt, tackle a new project or just lay out the pros and cons of an issue, making a visual list sorts it all out for easy review and action. The following listing strategies, ideas, and suggestions reveal how list making list (and maybe even checking it twice) can be a valuable tool to everyday success.

**



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

check off items with a thick black marker. These “in your face” visuals of tracking each accomplishment throughout the day serve to motivate.

**

For those who need a jump start to begin a manual list, a few simple tracking tools may be all it takes to inspire “listing.” Some people enlist the help of a day planner or other calendar based notebook to record daily diet, fitness or work goals. A fresh legal sized pad or lined notebook also inspires pen to paper as do long, narrow pads of paper made for listing. A good, comfortable pen is another valuable aid. In the home office or gym, a white board calendar that displays daily, weekly and monthly goals, commands attention and successes can be easily checked off when achieved.

**

Free List Maker Software: If you prefer to “type it out,” there are many applications that support making, sharing and prioritizing lists. Here are some free ones to check out:

lists can relieve stress by organizing items and/or tasks. Listing items into order not only calms mental clutter, but cuts tasks down to a manageable size.

Making a list can also be good news for procrastinators as a list can be valuable call to action. From tracking a diet program to monitoring career success, listing can break down goals into workable segments. “Listing out” is often all that’s needed to jump start a bigger project.

Studies show writing and using lists exercises the brain and builds memory. In today’s busy world, trying to remember everything is stressful! Placing items from your mental memory to a list alleviates stress and offers peace of mind that the important issues are “backed up” on paper (or computer).

**

According Cynthia R. Green, PhD, a nationally recognized clinical psychologist and brain health/memory fitness expert, making and using a list is a memory tool that can “save your brain.”

“Using lists, just like using any technique to boost your brainpower, will focus your attention more actively on the information you need to remember. Why? When we work with information, we pay closer attention to it,” she said.

In addition, Ms. Green notes that making a list is good for overall well being:

“Lists help us feel better. When we are organized we forget less and do more and generally are more effective and productive. Feeling effective is important to our self-esteem, since we feel better about ourselves when we see ourselves as capable. Being more productive means we are making the most out of our time, so we have more time to do things we really want to do. This is how list making can help us.”

**

From Grocery Lists to Bucket Lists: Lists can serve as great organizers. Whether you want to recall past accomplishments for a resume, or simply need to write a weekly grocery shopping list, a simple list is a clear and concise tool to get the job done.

**

Those who “live by the list” advise making both short term and long term lists. Short term lists, which are com-

pleted daily or within a week include grocery lists, daily “to do” lists, diet meals, exercise tracking, etc. Long term lists typically include “bucket lists” of future accomplishments, work projects, home improvement plans, career goals, etc.

**

When writing a list, it’s important to keep an open mind. While creating a list can boost enthusiasm, it’s important not to get carried away and “overlist.” For example, when making a pros and cons list, each point should be short and concise. Stick to basic positive and negative points only, to keep it simple and clear.

**

When making a “to do” list avoid listing more than can be accomplished. List only tasks that are manageable in the time allotted. It’s often better to complete a shorter list than to carry over an uncompleted one. That said, a list is a tool to get jobs done, so don’t be tempted to undercut the tasks. “To do” lists should be challenging, but do-able!

**

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press newspapers? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, C/o the Southbridge Evening News, PO Box 90; Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email KDRR@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.

Happy Holidays

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to obits@stonebridgepress.news*

LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO20P3336GD
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
In the matter of:
Marcelle J Boule
Of: **Uxbridge, MA**
RESPONDENT**

Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Tri-Valley, Inc. of Dudley, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Marcelle J Boule** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Kevin E Desy, of Worcester, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. **You have the right to object to this**

proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **12/29/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 01, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
December 18, 2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO20P3337GD
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
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Marcelle J Boule
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Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Tri-Valley, Inc. of Dudley, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Marcelle J Boule** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Kevin E Desy, of Worcester, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. **You have the right to object to this**

proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **12/29/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 01, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
December 18, 2020

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January 2021 Virtual
Programs

Adult Programs

Virtual Gentle Yoga
– Saturdays at 10:00am
Tune in to YouTube Live
to start off your day with a
yoga session with Marise
Nazzaro! Search YouTube
for the Uxbridge Free
Public Library channel.
This class is sponsored
by the Uxbridge Board of
Library Trustees.

Virtual Mindfulness
Meditation – Thursdays,
January 14th and 28th
at 6:00pm Tune in on
Facebook Live for an
interactive virtual medi-
tation session with Jenny
Xie! This class is spon-
sored by the Friends of
the Library.

Virtual Running

Girl Eats: Gluten Free Grains – Thursday, January 7th at 6pm
Join Running Girl Eats on Facebook Live to learn about the benefits of incorporating more gluten free grains into your diet. Sarah Roy will speak about cooking these gluten free options and using them in place of other commonly used grains. She will cook a recipe with quinoa, feature a cooking chart, and introduce a handful of recipes to try. This class is sponsored by the Uxbridge Board of Library Trustees.

Virtual I Remember: Writing – Childhood Stories – Wednesday, January 20th at 6:30pm
Childhood tends to remain a vivid time, no matter where we find ourselves now. In this relaxed (and user-friendly!) writing workshop, we'll recall memories from early days and hear recollections from others. Using

Joe Brainard's whimsical memoir *I Remember* as a model, we'll tap into tales from our youth and consider how these experiences have shaped us. No prior writing experience necessary. All are welcome to attend. To register, see our website. This class is sponsored by the Uxbridge Board of Library Trustees.

Virtual Homebuying Seminar – Thursday, January 28th at 6:30pm
Are you considering leaving your rental behind and becoming a homeowner? At this seminar, you'll learn crucial information about the home buying process and you'll leave with all the necessary tools you need to get started on your search. To register, see our website.

Youth Programs

Take-Home Crafty Wednesday's- Wednesday mornings and afternoons
Our weekly crafts are back! Let us know how

many you would like in your curbside bag!

Virtual Story Times - Monday and Wednesday mornings at 10:30am
Join Lindsey and Iggy on Facebook Live for songs, rhymes, stories, and more! Best for ages 0-4.

Virtual PJ Story Time - Thursday, January 28th at 7:00pm
Join us on the last Thursday of the month on Facebook Live with cozy picture books! Best for all ages.

Virtual Music and Movement with Deb Hudgins - Tuesday mornings
Deb is on YouTube with more songs, rhymes, and activities about seasons, friends, and more! Visit our Calendar for the program link each Tuesday. Best for ages 0-4. Brought to you by the Library Board of Trustees.

Please visit our Calendar to register, as registration is required. Brought to you by the Friends of the Library and Beginning Bridges CFCE.

Virtual Bedtime Yoga - Monday's, January 11th and 25th at 6:30pm

Wind down with Lindsey and some stories as we read, relax, and do some yoga over Zoom! Visit our Calendar to register. Best for ages 6 and up.

Virtual Pepperoni Pizza Mug Meals - Wednesday, January 6th at 5pm

Join us and Chef Julie on Zoom as we make another yummy microwave mug meal!! Visit our Calendar to check out the ingredients list and register! This program is best for ages 8 and up. Brought to you by the Library Board of Trustees.

Virtual Brownie Mug Meals - Wednesday,

more than mug meals! Join us as we prepare and cook homemade meals for the whole family. Look below for the ingredients list, and visit our Calendar to register! This program is best for ages 14 and up. Brought to you by the Library Board of Trustees.

Middle School Book Club - Tuesday, January 26th at 4pm

If you're looking for fun books and graphic novels to read, this is your book club! Join us for the first meeting to get to know one another and choose our first book. Monthly meetings will be on the last Tuesday at 4pm. To receive the Zoom link, email Lindsey at lcntrella@cwmar.org.

Letters to Librarians

Have you ever had a pen pal? Do you wonder what the librarians have been up to? Email Lindsey at lcntrella@cwmar.org to join our Letters to

WHITINSVILLE — The United Church of Christ, located at 5 Church St., welcomes worshippers to the following holiday services.

On Sunday, Dec. 10 at 10:15 a.m., the church will host a worship service with organ, cantor and a performance by the Village Bell Ringers.

Our traditional Christmas Eve candlelight service will take place Tuesday, Dec. 24 at 8 p.m. with organ, cantor, the Bell Ringers, and a performance by the Blackstone Valley Brass Sextet.

Come as you are; all are welcome, but please note that we will be observing social distancing, and masks are required.

Tracks in the Snow
StoryWalk - Tuesday,
January 5th at 10am
Winter time is the
PERFECT time to enjoy
the outdoors! Bundle
up and join us and
Beginning Bridges
CFCE for a StoryWalk
of Tracks in the Snow
by Wong Herbert Yee.
The StoryWalk will take
place at West Hill Dam!

Virtual Brownie Mug Meals - Wednesday, January 20th at 5pm
Warm up with a sweet treat! Visit our Calendar to check out the ingredients list and register. Best for ages 8 and up. Brought to you by the Library Board of Trustees.

Virtual Family Meals for Teens: Macaroni and Cheese - Thursday, January 21st at 5pm
Chef Julie makes much

Letters to Librarians
Have you ever had a pen pal? Do you wonder what the librarians have been up to? Email Lindsey at lcntrella@cwmmars.org to join our Letters to Librarians pen pal program!

Do you miss LEGO club?? We sure do! Email Lindsey at lcntrella@cwmmars.org if you'd want to join a virtual LEGO club at the library!

Check our website and social media for additional programs as the month unfolds!

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WEBSTER - 6 Nicholas Circle! 8+ Rm Center Hall Colonial! 1.22 Acres! Sought After Neighborhood! Great Commuter Location Accessible to Many Major Routes! Spacious Stainless Steel Appliance Cabinet Packed Eat-in Kitchen & Formal Dining Rm! 23 x 24 Frplace Family Rm w/Cathedral Ceiling & Slider to the Huge Deck! Front to Back Living Rm! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry Closet! The 2nd Floor You'll Find the Comfortable 12X17 Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Linen Closet! 2 Additional Bedrooms plus an Office/Nursery/Bedroom all w/Ample Closets! 2nd Full Bath off the Hall w/Linen Closet! 2.5 Total Baths! Lower Level Ideal for Storage or Future Expansion! 2 Car Garage w/Electric Openers w/Double Door Entry to the Basement for Moving Larger Items aka Boys Toys! 2 Z Oil Heat, 2 A/C, Separate Oil Water Heater! Irrigation! Don't Delay! **\$418,900.00**

DOUGLAS - 102 SE Main St! Start Packing! Spacious 9 Rm Colonial! 2.23 Acres! Center Island Granite Kit w/Soft Close Cabs, SS Appliances! Slider to 24' Deck! Open Floor Plan! Hickory Wood Floors throughout the Kit, Din & Liv Rms, all w/Recessed Lighting! 1st Flr Office or Possible 4th Bdrm w/Oak Hrdwd Flr! Full Bath in the Hall! 2nd Flr w/Full Dble Vanity Bthrm & 3 Comfortable Bdrms, all w/Beautiful Wood Laminate Flrs! Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Skylight, Ceiling Fan, Bay Window overlooking the Back Yard and a Master Bath! Lower Level w/2 Finished Rms, Utility Rm w/Laundry and Half Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Recent C/Air, Heat & Roof! 24x26 2 Car Detached Garage! Huge Shed! Nearby Nature Trails & Walkum Lake Beach! **\$379,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 112 Gore Rd! NORTH POND! Sucker Brook Cove! 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Ranch is Ready for You! Southwestern Exposure! Gorgeous Sunsets! Unique Waterfront! An Open Floor Plan! Lake Views from Nearly All Rooms! 2x6 Construction! Energy Efficient Blinds in Every Room! 4 Oil Tanks - Fill Up Once a Year! C/Air! Gas Fireplace! Whole House Fan! Meticulously Cared For! Large workshop! 3 Car Garage! Carport! 2 Sheds w/Electric! Back Yard is Perfect for Family Gatherings! Plenty of Off Street Parking! Summer is Here! **\$539,900.00**

WEBSTER - 55 Hillside Ave! 7 Rm, 4 Bedroom Cape! Great Highway Access! Walk to Memorial Beach! View July 4th Fireworks from Your Backyard! Liv Rm w/Hrdrws, Ceiling Fan & Pellet Stove! Eat-in Kit! Fam Rm! Full Bath! 1st Flr Master w/Hrdrws & Ceiling Fan! Oil Heat! Vinyl Sided! Younger Roof! Replacement Windows! Town Services! Fenced Yard! 1 Car Garage! **\$239,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 20 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Western Exposure w/Panoramic Lake Views! Beautiful Sunsets! 7 Rms, 3 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths! Recently Renovated from Top to Bottom! Move-in Ready! Professionally Landscaped! Exterior Stonework Front & Back! Open Floor Plan! 1st Level w/Huge Family Rm w/Lake View & Access out to Stone Patio, 1/2 Bath & Laundry, Travertine Tile Throughout! 2nd Level w/Custom Granite Kitchen w/Stainless Steel Appliances, Center Island w/Seating & Large Pantry! Spacious Living Rm w/Sliders to 14X34 Composite Deck! Dining Area w/Views, Hardwood Floors Throughout, Bath w/Tiled Shower, Guest Bedroom or use as Office! Lake Facing Master Bedroom w/Walk-in Closet & Private Deck! Bathroom w/Double Sinks, Tiled Shower & Separate Tub! Comfortable 3rd Bedroom w/Lots of Storage! Level Lot w/Room for Entertaining and Enjoying All The Lake has to Offer! **\$749,000.00**

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Market Volume	\$2,583,300	\$3,133,407	▲
# of Homes Sold	10	10	►
Avg Days on Market	73	25	▼

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"I am Definitely glad to be a part of the team as well. I feel like I'm home and everyone has been wonderful." — Nicole V. (LPN)

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