

Auburn News

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Antanavica: bringing 'a 360° perspective'

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN – A few years after he left office, former Building Inspector Nick Antanavica is angling to return to town hall in a new capacity as selectman.

When asked why, he states, "I like helping the community, serving the community," and feels he can bring "a 360° perspective" to the board's decision-making process.

"Often, we hear 'this is the best option we have,' but it's not explained why it's the best option," Antanavica remarked, noting he feels town officials "don't make decisions on a whim."

One aspect of that is an idea he'd like to look into regarding taxes, for which he feels there need to be "some alternative options." Right now, the town has a split rate that local officials have been very gradually bringing together over several years. Instead of doing that, Antanavica would like to see the town try a tax on businesses based on the number of Auburn residents they employ or the improvements and remodeling they've done in recent years, if state law allows that.

"As the town looks to promote commercial growth, at the same time we need to talk about how it affects the residents long-term," he said. "Even though we say it's only a two percent change, on a fixed income that can be a significant amount."



Nick Antanavica

Antanavica is one of three candidates vying for two selectmen seats on this year's May 16 election ballot. The other two are incumbent Dan Carpenter and Town Meeting member Tristan Laliberte. Their contest is the only one this year, although voters also face a ballot question on whether to ban recreational marijuana-based businesses.

A resident of Auburn for five years, Antanavica hails from a family that has been involved in town affairs in Leicester for some time. Not only have members been firefighters and police officers, his father served as selectman for several years, until recently opting not to seek reelection. His wife has been in Auburn 10 years, and they have two children, ages 4 and 1.

Most of his personal experience

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Gus Steeves photo

David Wright, Officer Brian Kennedy and Dr. Michael Hirsch spoke to Auburn High students last Thursday about the risks of distracted driving.

Driven by distraction a hard lesson to learn

'It doesn't take much to distract an inexperienced driver'

BY GUS STEEVES
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN — David Wright was incredibly lucky, yet unlucky at the same time.

Back in the 1990s, he admits he had a period in which he was "irresponsible." That meant working a "dead-end job," ignoring his college classes and drinking a lot. The latter got him in trouble: One night in 1994, he and his best friend took a round-about drive through parts of southwestern Worcester County that ended by hitting a phone pole at about 70 mph. Wright was driving, his blood alcohol content was 0.11, and he ended up in a month-long coma.

After he woke up, "I kept asking all my friends 'Where is he? He should be here.'" Wright told a full auditorium at Auburn High School last Thursday. For some time, those friends talked around the answer, but eventually they told him — his friend had died in the crash, he said.

Ten months later, Wright was convicted of felony DUI vehicular homicide, got five years probation, and 400 hours community service. While that con-

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Carpenter: 'I work for our residents'

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN – For Dan Carpenter, a second term as selectman would mean continuing personal service to the town that has already lasted 21 years.

Back in 1996, he got involved in the redevelopment of Auburn Mall and was elected to the Planning Board. He's also been on Conservation, Economic Development, town meeting and a Registrar. In that time, things have changed in some ways, but not in others, and he sees the key issues of 2017 being very similar to those of three years ago – "making Auburn responsive, and I think we've done well."

"Paying attention to future needs, that's a major issue for me. I don't want us taxing to 2.5 percent. I want us to have the lowest take we can get and still meet the needs of government," Carpenter said. "Many people are very concerned about things like salaries and vehicles. In their minds, we're spending too much. We have to look at both the facts and what the public sees."



Dan Carpenter

Carpenter is one of three candidates vying for two selectmen seats on this year's May 16 election ballot. The other two are former Building Inspector Nick Antanavica and town meeting member Tristan Laliberte. Their contest is the only one this year, although voters also face a ballot question on whether to ban recreational marijuana-based businesses.

A life-long Auburn resident, Carpenter said he's unmarried with no children but "lots of nieces and nephews. I get to spoil them and send them home." Professionally, he's an auditor for the state Department of Transportation, plus a graduate of Worcester State College (now University) and the Auburn schools.

Not surprisingly with that background, finances are a key concern for him. He said Auburn needs to "continue the trend of thinking positively and putting money aside for future needs." That's especially true today, with federal funding and policy being unpredictable, he added, noting Auburn is "fortunate, other towns rely more

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Town meeting rejects billboard bylaw

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN – After the longest debate of the evening that included a check to make sure quorum still existed, Town Meeting shot down a proposal to amend zoning to allow two big electronic billboards along the Pike.

"They don't put forth the negatives," argued Rep. Dennis Natoli of Precinct 1. "We have a lot of experience with billboards in Auburn. ... They're actually a blight on the community."

Among other things, he cited a recent University of Alabama study that found a 25-29 percent increase in accidents near them. He said these ones would be "a 100-foot large TV basically on a stick" that would be "seen 20,000 feet away" at the right angle, especially at night.

Fellow Precinct 1 Rep. Beth Prouty agreed, noting the town "voted to get rid of all the billboards on Southbridge Street" years ago.

In this case, a majority of Town Meeting members actually supported the proposal (Article 27), 47-33, but it failed because zoning bylaw changes need a two-thirds majority. Although none spoke on its behalf, many of the supporters probably agreed with town officials' arguments for it.

"Malls are trying to reinvent themselves and find a way to stay viable in this economy," said Town Manager Julie Jacobson. She said she saw this as "a way to support our largest taxpayer and largest employer" with minimal impact on the

Turn To **MEETING**, page **A14**

Laliberte: 'I've always been interested in action'

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN – Last year, Tristan Laliberte garnered more than 500 votes in his first bid for

selectman, and he's hoping that publicity gets him over the top this year.

But he's not just counting on memory. Among

other things, he'd like to amend the charter to have the Planning Board and certain other committees elected and give selectmen a vote on town manager appointees, look into creating a plastic bag ban, and get more young people involved.

"No one my age is concerned about municipal government, but it's where you can affect the most change," he said, noting an election three

years ago was decided by just 12 votes.

Laliberte is one of three candidates vying for two selectmen seats on this year's May 16 election ballot. The other two are incumbent Dan Carpenter and former Building Inspector Nick Antanavica. Their contest is the only one this year, although voters also face a ballot question on whether to ban recreational marijuana-based

businesses.

Laliberte is the first of his family to run for office despite being still in college (a UMass-Amherst political science major). He's been involved with the university's Student Government Association (SGA) for two years, serving as both the governor of his dorm and a student

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Tristan Laliberte



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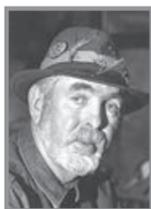
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Angling in New York is a spring dream



THE GREAT OUTDOORS

RALPH TRUE

Lake Ontario fishing in upstate New York is providing a lot of action for anglers fishing for brown trout, lake trout and salmon. Fishing Lake Ontario in the Sodus Bay area was a fishing trip that I always looked forward to in my younger years, at this time

of year. The late Paul Kukonen of Worcester had a fly fishing and tackle shop on Green Street, Worcester. At his shop, he also lived on the site with one of his English setters. Kukonen also showed many of his hunting and fishing adventures that were recorded on 16 MM film. His shows always drew a large crowd and were often shown at the Polish Hall on Green Street! One of his greatest pleasures were the time's he spent fishing the Salmon River,

which is one of the tributaries of Lake Ontario. We enjoyed catching huge king salmon on the river in the fall, but we soon realized that fishing Sodus Bay for kings and browns on Lake Ontario was the way to go. Staying at a camp called "Winnie's Waterfront" we found some of the best fishing from here to Alaska, and it was only a five hour drive from the Valley. Fishing from our own boat we trolled streamer flies with light copper line to get the fly just below the surface

and it had us hooking into huge brown trout constantly, with brown trout tipping the scales at 20 pounds! After returning home from my first fishing trip to Sodus I told my wife we were moving. I needed to have this type of fishing in my back yard after being raised on catching 6 & 12 inch trout! After her rejection of the idea, I soon came to my senses. The harsh cold winters with lake effect snow would not have been too enjoyable.

I still managed to take a few trips a year to the area up until a few years ago, but I now enjoy the ocean fishing in Massachusetts & Rhode Island. Talking with Steve Mercure at the coffee shop about the great times we had fishing Lake Ontario, we both expressed the desire to go one more time before we passed on. As much as I would have liked to go, family came first and I was unable to go along on their recent fishing trip.

Steve Mercure recently made the trip, along with Kurt Salvas, Keith Mercure, & Adam Orn. The four anglers hired the charter fishing boat "Black Jaw Bandit" with Captain Jim Dennis, out of Sodus Bay. This week's picture shows the above mentioned with some of their salmon, browns and lakers. All had a great time. For reservations call Capt. Dennis at (585) 721-5919. The time to go is now!!!!

Trout fishing locally for boat anglers trolling lures and flies has started to improve as lakes and ponds are setting up a thermocline. Trout will continue to be stocked up to Memorial

Day, and maybe a bit beyond that date if trout available warrants.

Turkey hunting continues to improve for many hunters with many impressive birds being harvested. This year numerous turkeys tipped the scales at 25 & 26 pounds. Calling birds into a small set up of decoys, has the birds running into shooting range during early morning hours, and again just before noon as this writer quickly found out last week. My brother Ken shot a nice bird last week. He sure earned it. Looking for his ground blind was a bit frustrating after arriving at his hunting spot early morning. He later found it had blown away during some high winds earlier in the week. Enough said!!!!

Tautog fishing remained very good up to this writing, and stripers in the 30 inch class were reportedly being caught in Massachusetts and Rhode Island waters. Striper fishing could blow wide open this week as the water temperatures rise to the middle fif-

Auburn News

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4142 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

ties. Porgies (bait fish) have already been spotted in the Providence River.

Fluke fishing could bust wide open this week as large pods of squid start arriving all along the coast of Massachusetts & Rhode Island.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club will hold their annual kid's fishing derby this week at the club pond. A good batch of freshly stocked trout last weekend should have the kids catching some nice fish and winning some great prizes. Breakfast will be available. Derby starts at 8 a.m.!

Special thanks to all of the volunteers that helped in clean up day in Uxbridge. Great job. Hopefully it will stay that way!!!!!!!

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending



Courtesy photo

Pictured from left to right: Steve Mercure, Keith Mercure, Adam Orn and Kurt Salvas fishing on Lake Ontario on the Blackjaw Bandit with Captain Jim Dennis from Sodus, New York. If interested in booking a charter with Captain Jim call him at (585) 721-5919 and leave your name, number and a message of what you're looking for in a fishing trip.

AUBURN CAPSULES

REVIVAL

The House of Prayer Church of God is sponsoring a full week old fashioned Tent Meeting at the Auburn Sportsmen's Club, 50 Elm St. in June.

The week long celebration of values and prayer will include baptism, worship and testimony. All are welcome and invited to come be part of this revival of values.

The schedule is as follows: Monday, June 12 beginning at 4 p.m. tent helpers are needed to set up; Tuesday, June 13 at 7 p.m. the week begins with prayers for life; Wednesday, June 14 at 7 p.m. we continue with prayers for healing. Thursday, June 14 at 7 p.m. we ask for prayers for deliverance; and Friday, June 15 we continue with prayers for salvation. We begin Saturday, June 16 at noon with baptism ceremonies, and continue prayers at 7 p.m. with prayers for holiness. Sunday all are invited at 10:30 a.m. to worship services, and at 5 p.m. there will be a march for Jesus followed at 7 p.m. by testimonies. Monday, June 19 we request volunteers once more for dismantling our tents. For more information, please contact Pastor

Richard Anger at (508) 832-6052. Free parking.

HISTORICAL MEETING

Auburn Historical Society's monthly meeting will be held May 16 at 6:30 at the Auburn Senior Center, 4 Goddard Drive. Program speaker Jack Murphy will speaking on "Growing up in Auburn" and will be interviewed by Town Historian Ken Ethier. POT LUCK SUPPER at 5:30, so cook up your favorite dish to share.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

NEW LONDON, NH — On Saturday, May 6, Colby-Sawyer College celebrated its 179th Commencement, recognizing students and other individuals for academic excellence, outstanding contributions to society, and service to the college and community. The following Auburn students were among the graduates: Christina Curtis graduated with a B.S. in public health; Michael Fazio graduated with a B.S. in sport management; and Morgan Rao graduated with a B.A. in psychology.

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ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS

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Art festival 'brings the grades together'



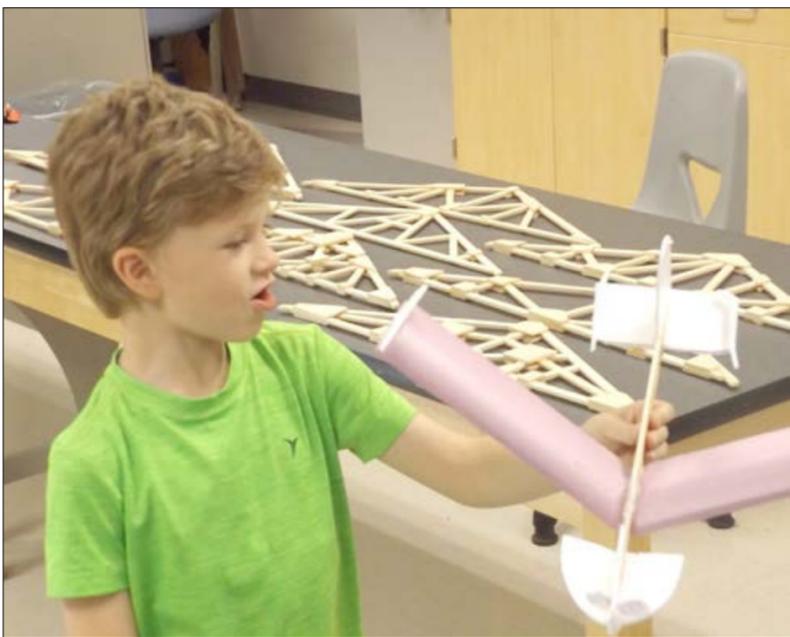
Matthew Sund, 4, pretends to swim along the gym floor.



Ella Ferguson tried her hand at weaving as her mother, Sarah Journey, looks on.



Second-grader Madeline Allegrezza stretches a bit to point out her piece.



Colin Gaston, grade 1, tests the aerodynamics of a model plane.



Teacher Amanda Baskin sets up a painting by senior Dakota Gleason.

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN -- Normally, frogs, volcanoes, robots, submarines and the square dance aren't found in the same place. But they were last week at Auburn High School, which hosted the school district's annual Festival of the Arts.

"This is the epitome of pulling it all together. You're catering to all learning styles, enhancing all the book stuff,"

said Swanson School art teacher Gayle Bieksha. "If they could implement this into every subject, it'd be the dream school."

She was referring to the fact the event was more than just art -- although plenty of that was on display. Bieksha was staffing a table at which her students were demonstrating a little basic chemistry using paper cup volcanoes -- the famous reaction between vinegar and baking soda, with a little food coloring

to make it more visible.

"I'm always amazed at the talent the kids show," said Pat Johnson. "It's so stimulating. It's beautiful and I look forward to it every year."

All around her, the merger of science and art blossomed. One table had a display of the frog life cycle in clay and other natural processes. Several paper mache pieces resembled aliens and animals from Native American culture, which was also commemorated by collages. People tried their hand at weaving, and older students presented everything from self-portraits to a torso made of screens to dragon ceramics. There was even a giant paper submarine labeled the "USS Mary D. Stone" and an area resembling an unfilled pool in which one boy pulled himself around as if "swimming."

Upstairs, there were rooms for robot vehicles, sustainable architecture and energy, and even a communications project creating fake cereal boxes, one of them labeled "Trumpios -- Make Cereal Great Again."

"I think it's awesome to see this, especially for younger kids," said Tracy Gaston, whose son, Colin, is in first grade. "It gets Colin super-excited about what they get to learn. It's not just boring math; this is what math turns into."

As Gaston spoke, Colin was closely examining a small windmill, and had just been playing with a Nerf-like plane in the engineering classroom. Surrounding him were samples of high school architecture students' designs for houses and models of how to use triangles in bridges and roof trusses.

That class is taught by Ed Bedard, in his 23rd year at the high school.

"It's a great thing for the kids," he said. "I'm not trying to make architects out of them. I really try to teach the class to make them informed consumers, because they'll be homeowners one day."

That said, though, he certainly takes pride when a student does go into architecture or some kind of engineering. Bridget White will probably be one of them; her design for a zero-energy home was on one wall. She said she wants to go into aeronautical engineering, in large part because of Bedard's class.

"This is where the future is," said Bridget's mother, Gwen White. "As a child, she'd make little replicas of a iPod out of a box with wires hanging out of it. She's always building things."

Across the hall, the wires were humming as kids steered small robots around the room -- and sometimes got them tangled up in each other's wires for mom to unwind. Back downstairs in the gym, the tangles came in the form of Pakachoag School kids trying to sort out the square dance

"I love this show," said high school art teacher Amanda Baskin. "We get to see what everyone's doing, and it brings the grades together to enjoy art, music and dancing, a little of everything."

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.



Wyatt Diamond, grade 4, demonstrates how to make a tiny volcano in your kitchen using a cup, baking soda and vinegar.



Carol Barbosa helps Alaina Barbosa and Vinny Silva disentangle their robots.

ANTANAVICA

continued from page 1

has been in the building field, as an inspector and currently a project manager for R.H. White. Not surprisingly, then, he has a lot to say on development-related issues, noting that Auburn is "running out of land." Developing to increase tax revenues "has to be done smart or we'll overload our resources and the land itself," he said.

The town's present system of zoning seems to work pretty well, and he wants to avoid having "large commercial areas start migrating into residential areas." By contrast,

though, he's not sure how to address housing and its potential impact on police, fire and schools, noting he doesn't like "subsidized housing just to meet a quota. We need to find the right balance that meets the needs of the community."

Related to that, Antanavica said he supports the effort to redesign Drury Square, especially making it a more pedestrian-friendly area.

"In one of my previous lives, I was a civil engineer" and worked on such projects, he said. "We should redevelop areas not being used to their potential. That's better than cutting down lots of trees" to build new places.

Likewise, he likes a recently

proposed disc golf course and the plan to install a dog park at Lemansky Park, to which many people already bring dogs. "If used correctly, it should cut down on people not picking up after their dogs," he observed.

On the other hand, Antanavica is no fan of the effort to ban recreational marijuana businesses from opening in Auburn, although he thinks a moratorium to study the issue makes sense.

"Until we can fully understand how the new law and new items are going to affect the community, we can't really come out and say we don't want that," he said. To him, the ballot question is "playing

on people's fears and concerns rather than looking at the overall picture," in part because of lots of anti-pot propaganda since the 1950s and 60s.

Having read about some of the efforts to open pot businesses in other towns, he said he feels "there are enough checks and balances that I don't think bringing in a business like that is going to be much of a detriment." Allowing it could have "significant revenue potential" and he feels it could be zoned and regulated in ways very similar to how liquor stores are now handled. Outlawing it just sends it out of town, where the other town gets the benefits and Auburn customers bring it back home to use, he added.

To him, it could have a positive budgetary effect overall, but he admits that he has not yet looked at this year's budget. In general, he said he feels the town's process of seeking input is good, as is its tradition of "significant investment in the schools."

"Without knowing the budget and seeing where town needs are, I can't say there's a specific thing I'd like to do" with it, he said.

The polls are open 8 a.m.-8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16 at the Auburn High School gymnasium for all precincts.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

Officer's sacrifice remembered

'TARANTINO STRONG' CARRIES HIS NAME TO DC AND BEYOND



Gus Steeves photo

Tricia Tarantino greets the police horse now names Tarantino Strong in honor of her husband.

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN -- Although Officer Ron Tarantino Jr was killed on duty last spring, his memory will live on ... with four hooves. On Saturday, the fallen officer was honored in a ceremony at

the police station in which the Horses and Heroes Foundation renamed a retired racing horse after him, Tarantino Strong. The horse, previously known as Bailey, will go to Washington, D.C., where he'll be part of the annual national ceremony

honoring fallen officers May 13 before starting a second career with the National Park Police.

"To the family of Officer Tarantino, there is no speech or ceremony, no tribute or salute that can ease your pain," said the foundation's Karen Benson during the brief ceremony.

"Our hearts are with you. We are truly humbled to be able to honor the service and sacrifice of such a brave officer. His courage and compassion need to be told and remembered. He was a true hero."

Benson, who owns Indian Rock Stables of Saugus, teamed up with Skyllar Mulvaney to create the idea of honoring officers with horses a few years ago, when Mulvaney wanted to do something other than just set up a scholarship for the purpose. They "try to match up the right horse to the right mounted unit" based on training, size and temperament, Benson said, noting it can sometimes take a year or more.

In this case, connecting Tarantino Strong with his new

unit took about three months, including a brief period of evaluating him. Since horses live an average of 30-35 years, he could easily have 10-15 more years of activity ahead. Over those years, his new name could spark many conversations in which the Tarantino story gets told, since people tend to ask mounted officers what their horse's name is, Benson added.

She said he needed very little retraining to be suitable, and it showed Saturday, as he mingled smoothly with the couple dozen people of all ages who attended.

That mingling outside came after a brief, tear-studded presentation of flowers and a plaque to the family in the station's conference room. During it, Benson noted the term "hero" has been "used so much that it sometimes loses its meaning," but not here.

"Every day, he stood on the line that separated good from evil, and risked everything to make sure that evil couldn't hurt the good," she said. "He

sacrificed his own safety to protect the rest of us. That's what we call 'a true hero.'"

"This is honestly quite an honor to have a horse named after Ron," said his wife, Tricia Tarantino. "It's a living tribute, a way to have his name go on in positive ways. ...I'm glad he'll be used in ways that are protecting our country."

Her father in law, Ron Tarantino Sr., agreed, saying he used to take his son horseback riding as a child. To him, the honor was appropriate because Ron "was quite the outdoorsman as a hunter and fisherman."

A retired officer himself, he also praised the police department's continued support for his family and Tricia specifically, saying they've been "unbelievable, just like a family. Anything we need, they're there. It's been comforting knowing she's got that support."

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

Rockdale Auto license revoked

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN -- Selectmen unanimously revoked the license under which Rockdale Auto/ Route 20 Auto Sales has been doing business, after hearing of frequent license violations in recent months.

According to the letter the town sent owner Ronald LoRusso, those violations included "storage of vehicles in excess of the number allowed by the license, illegal parking of vehicles, no striping marking out parking areas as shown on the approved plan, and illegal filling of rear and side yard of the property." Officials also cited Kathleen Yarber, the dealer's "last known manager," but Selectman Ken Holstrom refused to swear her in or accept testimony from her because she's not the license holder.

Building Commissioner Caleb Moody said violations there go back before the license was last renewed in January. "It was corrected for some time," but he began seeing issues again before April, he said, noting people from his office have visited them at least 10 times in the past six months.

"When I go to the site, nobody's responsible, nobody's in charge," he said, while other dealers "are receptive" and rapidly correct similar problems when told of them. Noting the license allows 13 cars, but he has seen 18-24 there at various times, he added, "I do not have the time to stop [there] and write tickets every day."

"We are not going to contest there are violations on that property," said attorney Paul Novak, representing LoRusso, who holds the business license but does not operate the business itself. Novak said LoRusso is now involved in two

related civil court cases -- one seeking a commercial eviction of his tenant, the other being sued by that tenant -- and the former includes his court appeal of the accumulated fines.

"If and when this matter is resolved, we'd like to reserve the right to come back before this board [for a new license] if he secures another tenant," Novak said.

Moody, however, was skeptical. He said he sees potential problems with LoRusso holding the license because "the party operating the business should be the licensed individual."

"I think revoking the license is a start, but we have to work with town counsel about getting that business to stop," he added, although later saying he'd accept license suspension "until we can get a new tenant in there."

Town Manager Julie Jacobson agreed, saying "this has gone on a long time." She recommended voting "to revoke without prejudice."

"I could not control it," LoRusso responded. "They wouldn't listen. You do what you have to do."

Indeed the board did. Holstrom said he felt suspension would just be "making it linger" while revocation would allow "a clean start" later with additional conditions. Afterward, Dan Carpenter moved separately to both find the violations had occurred and to revoke the license, and Holstrom told Moody "to take whatever actions need to be taken" to shut the dealership down.

According to the Secretary of State's Corporations Database, there is no entity called "Rockdale Auto" in Massachusetts. It does list Route 20 Auto Sales, which has Kathleen and Kevin Yarber as officers and was legally formed May 10, 2016. Kevin Yarber was

its sole officer until last December. The company did not, however, file an annual report for 2016.

Subsequently, selectmen received a glowing audit report by Thomas Scanlon of Scanlon & Associates.

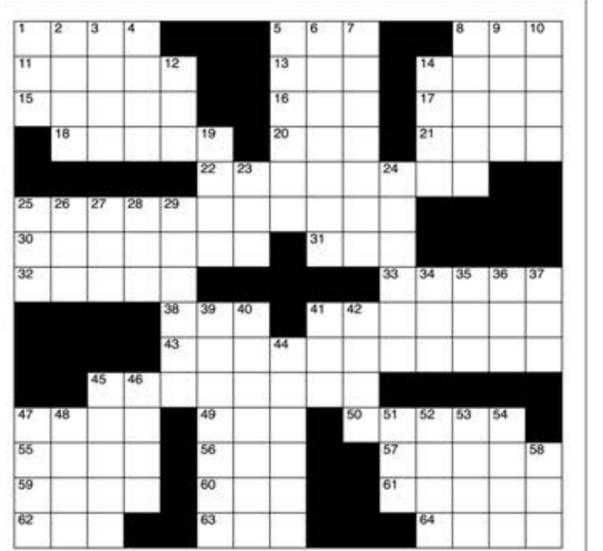
"I can't say enough about your fiscal policies. ... It's a well-managed town, a very nice town to audit," Scanlon said. "... When I see [a town] that has 8 percent in reserves, I get excited, never mind up in the 20s."

He was referring to the fact Auburn set itself a goal of keeping at least 20 percent of its unrestricted funds in various reserve accounts before using free cash for one-time capital items and liabilities. At present the reserves amount to about 22 percent, including \$2.3 million in stabilization.

Scanlon was also happy to see Auburn's investment of about \$2.2 million into the other pension and employment benefits (OPEB) trust, noting it's "one of the few towns who can substantially fund it." He recommended starting to

plan on how to use those funds now, although Chief Financial Officer Ed Kazanowicz said Auburn has only funded about a fifth of its liability to date and hopes to put some free cash into it.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Protective crust
- 5. Federal poverty level
- 8. "NCIS" network
- 11. This many makes a trio
- 13. Geological time
- 14. Populous Colombian city
- 15. Interviewer Morgan
- 16. More (Spanish)
- 17. Not close
- 18. Confined
- 20. ___ Farrow, actress
- 21. One point east of southeast
- 22. Kinetic and elastic are two
- 25. Taking possession of a property
- 30. Associate of same rank
- 31. Uganda
- 32. Heads the department
- 33. Assistants
- 38. I (German)
- 41. Small vessel
- 43. Home to Deadwood
- 45. Vetoed
- 47. Wings
- 49. Vestment
- 50. Heavy cavalry sword
- 55. Deer native to Japan
- 56. Spy agency
- 57. Was hurting
- 59. Famous New Yorker film critic
- 60. Liquefied natural gas
- 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Male offspring
- 63. Sense of self-esteem
- 64. Check

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Engine additive
- 2. Fashionable
- 3. Region
- 4. "Friday Night Lights" director Peter
- 5. ___ fatale, French seductresses
- 6. A treeless grassy plain
- 7. Large flat rectangular strips of pasta
- 8. Eating houses
- 9. Divulge a secret
- 10. Beget
- 12. Midway between east and southeast
- 14. Container for shipping
- 19. Deceased basketballer Bison
- 23. Neither
- 24. Large lizard
- 25. Licenses TV stations
- 26. Express delight
- 27. Refusal of medical assistance
- 28. Upon
- 29. Bright or deep red
- 34. A way to sign
- 35. Zhou Dynasty state
- 36. Shock therapy
- 37. Ocean
- 39. Basketlike boat
- 40. Irish sport
- 41. Doctor
- 42. Middle day
- 44. Autonomous island
- 45. Made of wood
- 46. Meat from a calf
- 47. Inquires
- 48. Chinese dynasty
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. "The Wire" actor Idris
- 54. Resistance fighters
- 58. Criticize

Are all Real Estate Agents Created Equally?

My personal opinion would be the answer is no. First of all an Agent that is a Realtor is held to a higher standard by needing to follow a code of ethics that other Real Estate agents do not have to follow. I would suggest you hire a Realtor. There was a study done with agents selling more than \$5 million worth of homes annually and on average they were in trainings 40% of their workdays which means on any given week they were in a training that could be 1 hour or a whole day on 2 days out of that week. It is important to ask any agent you are interviewing about how much time they spend training to be better at their craft. This brings up the question as to why you would care how many homes your agent sold. I think of the analogy that I am going in for major surgery and my surgeon tells me he does 4-6 surgeries a year or I could choose another surgeon who did 60, which one would I hire? Correct, the one who did 60 surgeries because if there are complications then they most likely have already encountered them and will be able to come up with a solution. I would want a Real Estate Agent who has navigated many transactions so they can think on their feet and come up with creative solutions.



REALTOR'S
REPORT

JAMES
BLACK

Over the past 6 months in Worcester County the average days to offer was 56 days from the home being listing and the average list price to sale price ratio was 99%. I would ask any agent I interview to supply me with these market numbers and let me know how they compare. If their average days to offer is 95 then they may still sell lots of homes but their philosophy may be just post a ton of homes for sale and just hope some of them sell as opposed to focusing on selling every home they list for sale. If their average List Price to Sales Price ratio is 94% compared to the 99% then again they may be selling lots of homes but not pricing them appropriately to sell thus most likely costing the sellers money.

Turn To **BLACK** page **A12**



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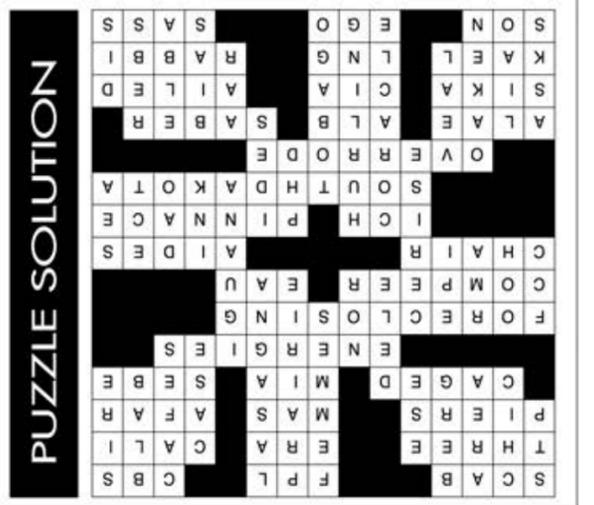
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OPINION/COMMENTARY



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EDITORIAL

In to the spring swing

This past weekend it began. We think perhaps the Nichols College in Dudley graduation might be one of the earliest, but all the others are right here with them. As are the high school and the graduate schools and, though not nearly as significant as they once were, eighth grade celebrations and yes, even kindergarten.

We commend all of them. It isn't easy being a student at any grade level these days. The expectations of grown ups you know is bad enough. You know, the mothers, the teachers, the grandmothers, the dotting aunts, the fathers, the uncles, the older brothers... they all mean well but they do tend to put the pressure on.

If that isn't enough, now we have an awful lot of people who don't know a student at all poking and prodding into their capabilities. Data driven tests, graduation requirements, grade level testing, MCAS, PARCC, PAC-10...you get the idea. There are weeks we think the kids spend more time preparing for some upcoming test, taking practice tests, then taking some unrelated to the actual school work test then they do on learning anything.

Then there are the enrichments. We're not talking about art and music, because we value those like gold. We're talking about pulling kids out of class time for a trip to the beach (no, it wasn't a science class to explore tidal pools) or another to visit a ball park because the school was gifted with tickets (and that benefited how?)

This wasn't a local school mind, but similar events do take place. The kids need to be in classrooms to absorb material. Taking them out every few days for events and trips isn't helping the teachers teach or the kids learn. Even an assembly congratulating one another on a job well done is time out of a classroom. Do it during lunch, they're all in the cafeteria, do it there.

Expectations for kids is changing all the time; we are lost in a mire of what education should be. The old days of three Rs is gone, there is just too much more in the world now. But we can't give up on the basics, nor should we, and we need to continue things like civics and social studies; how to balance a checkbook as well as trigonometry, and remember not every Johnny or Meghan is headed for college. Give them all an even shake.

Antique discoveries and auction prices



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
WAYNE TUISKULA

There have been some great antique finds recently and rare pieces are being auctioned in both the United States and Europe.

A guitar that had been owned by Jerry Garcia, who had been the lead singer for the band the Grateful Dead, is going to auction for a second time. Garcia died in 1995. The Seattle Times reports the guitar is owned by philanthropist, musician and film director Daniel Pritzker. He purchased it for \$790,000 in 2002. It is believed it could sell for over \$1 million this time. The proceeds will be donated to the Southern Poverty Center based in Alabama.

Another celebrity auction will be taking place after the items are displayed on the Queen Mary II, according to the Los Angeles Business News (labiz.com). Clothing and other memorabilia related to Judy Garland will be showcased on the ship when it leaves New York and crosses the Atlantic in August. Some of the highlights include a red velvet ball gown Garland wore in "Have yourself a Merry Little Christmas" with an estimate of \$4,000-\$6,000. A dress from a "Star is Born" also has a \$4,000-\$6,000 estimate.

A British collector discovered a flag that had flown during the Battle of Waterloo in a shoebox according to the United Kingdom's Mirror newspaper. The collector paid under £500 (\$646 U.S.) for the flag, which was in pieces, in an online auction. The fragments were painstakingly put together and it measured 7' X 7' when completed. The flag could now sell for over £300,000 (\$387,750 U.S.) at auction.

A World War II Enigma machine discovered by a German collector recently set an auction record according to a report on the Arizona Daily Star's tuscon.com website. The Enigma machine was developed by a German engineer in World War I. During World War II the British employed them to break German codes. The machine that sold at auction was made for German U-boat use. A collector discovered it at a German electronics flea market. It brought \$463,500 at auction.

A painting that had been kept in a Milwaukee high school's storage room sold for over \$500,000 according to a recent USA Today article. "Creek at Twilight" by Birger Sandzén sold at auction and its sister painting was sold privately resulting in a \$771,000 windfall for Washington High. The two 4' X 5' paintings were a gift to



the school from the class of 1927. Sandzén's works were on display at the Milwaukee Art Institute around that time. "Creek at Twilight" was said to have been purchased from the trunk of Sandzén's car. The money will be used to fund scholarships for graduates of the school.

We have three upcoming online estate auctions scheduled. The preview for a Westford estate with power equipment and home furnishings will be on May 13. Other previews take place on May 20 in Northampton and May 27 in Charlton. An estate sale will also be taking place in Milford later this month. In addition, I'll be appraising items at events on June 10 in Townsend on June 17 in Worcester and June 21 in Ashland. See www.centralmassauctions.com for details on these and other events.

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

End of the year approaching so fast



ROCKETS REVIEW
DR. MARVELLEN BRUNELLE
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

With the Auburn High graduation nearly upon us – it will be held on Friday, June 2nd in the AHS Gymnasium – this is the season to recognize students for their accomplishments and achievements, but also a time to give thanks to the many in our community who work together for the benefit of our young people.

In recent years at the graduation ceremony, upwards of \$80,000 has been distributed in local scholarships, many from family trusts or scholarships in remembrance of deceased family members, as well as from local businesses and civic organizations that raise funds to provide financial support to our young men and women as they graduate high school and move onto the next phase of their lives. The criteria for each scholarship varies, but the intention is the same: to recognize deserving students for their past accomplishments and to support them in the promise that their futures hold.

Auburn's Chamber of Commerce raises money each year and provides scholarships to numerous students, as does the Auburn Rotary Club, the Auburn/Webster Lodge of Elks, the Knights of Columbus, the Joel H. Prouty Masonic Lodge, the Auburn Woman's Club, Auburn Kiwanis, Auburn Education and Retired Educator Associations, the Auburn Firefighter and Police Associations and the Auburn Municipal Scholarship, to name only a few. In addition, several athletic organizations likewise award annual scholarships, including United Soccer of Auburn, Auburn's Pop Warner Football and Cheerleading, Auburn Little League, and the Auburn Rockets Booster Club.

In remembrance of deceased loved ones, many families provide annual scholarships, some of whom are given in memory of Officer Ronald Tarentino, Jr., Major David L. Brodeur, Carol Dell'Aquila, Judith Salce, John Sullivan, Francis Scales, Stephen R. Coyne, Jeffrey DeFrino, Paul and Carolyn Sturgis, the Hedin family and Patrolman Stephen Lucas, to name only a few. There are businesses that also make financial awards, some of those including Bay State Savings Bank, Hanover Insurance, Honey Dew Donuts, Kadant Web Systems, Inc., and the Southbridge Credit Union.

While certainly not an exhaustive listing, it is indicative of the type of support that our community provides to our students and for that we are immensely grateful! It is a true team effort – home, school and community – and our students are the direct beneficiaries.

In addition to the much-anticipated graduation event at Auburn High on June 2nd, our eighth graders will soon graduate from Auburn Middle School, ready to embrace all that high school has to offer them. Another wonderful celebratory event, scheduled for June 15th, this brings students, families and staff together in recognition of students' hard work. We are so proud of our students and appreciative of the collaboration with our students' families.

Finally, with spring starting to settle in with mildly warmer temperatures, end-of-year events are not that far off. A favorite held each year are the Memorial Day programs offered at our elementary schools, as well as at Auburn Middle School, with the schedule as follows:

- Thursday, May 25th P A K Memorial Day Program, 9:00 a.m.
- Thursday, May 25th A M S Memorial Day Program, 10:30 a.m.
- Friday, May 26th B M Memorial Day Program, 9:00 a.m.
- Friday, May 26th S W I S Grade 4 Memorial Day Program, 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

You are encouraged to attend one, helping us to recognize those men and women who sacrificed so much so that we, as Americans, can continue to enjoy many freedoms.

In closing, a quote by an unknown author captures the importance of working together in supporting our students and celebrating their achievements, something we all embrace in Auburn:

"Together may we give our children the roots to grow and the wings to fly." Through our collaborative efforts, we do just that!

To contact me to share an idea, a concern or to ask a question, I can be reached at 508-832-7755 or via e-mail at mbrunelle@auburn.k12.ma.us. Thank you for your continued interest in and support of the Auburn Public Schools!

Plant garden healers going into warmer weather



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

If you plan on growing a garden this year, you might want to consider planting health promoting plants that offer more than nutritional benefits. From flowers and herbs to vegetables and wild plants, nature provides a wide variety of natural healers that aid in everything from taming a tummy ache to fighting off a fever blister.

Read on for some garden favorites that offer the bonus of being beneficial health aids.

Note: Information is offered for general interest only and should not be taken as health advice. Contact your physician before ingesting or applying any herbs or plants.

Marigolds a.k.a. calendula, with their bright yellow and

orange hues, are not only lovely in the garden, they are useful, with their unique properties offering a variety of benefits. The marigold not only repels mosquitos and other pests from the garden, its anti-inflammatory properties also aid in treating minor cuts and abrasions — and the flower may be antibacterial (it was used during the Civil War to draw out infection in wounds). Marigolds are also used to soothe and heal such skin ailments as burns and acne.

Here's a recipe for Marigold Balm from Old Schoolhouse magazine's Homestead Newsletter:

You will need: 1/2 cup dried calendula petals (available in bulk at a health food store or from your garden), one ounce beeswax, 1/2 cup olive oil, and a sterile tin to hold your finished project.

Place the petals and oil into an oven proof dish. Preheat the oven to 200°. Place the oil and herbs into the oven, then turn it off and leave for three to four hours. Remove from oven to cool for an hour or so on the counter. Once cool, strain out the herbs

with cheesecloth. Add the beeswax to the remaining oil and put back into the oven (or you can use a microwave for this part). Heat just until the beeswax is almost melted. Stir until it is completely melted and combined. Pour into your prepared tins and let sit 15-20 minutes until cool. Makes two tins of balm, about two ounces each.

Many backyard gardeners grow tomatoes, and the season's first ripe, red tomato on the vine is a summer pleasure worth waiting all year for! Whether they are in a vegetable plot, container garden, or upside down planter, tomatoes are not only delicious and nutritious, they also offer an array of health benefits. In fact, it's been well publicized that tomatoes are rich in lycopene, a powerful antioxidant. But did you know the tomato is one of the top five food sources of vitamin C, vitamin A, vitamin E, potassium and fiber? Tomatoes are also excellent sources of phytochemicals, polyphenols and carotenoids. And research shows tomatoes an aid in lowering

blood pressure. According to an Israeli study, adding tomatoes to a diet can reduce systolic blood pressure by 10 points and diastolic pressure by four points. The secret weapon once again, is the tomato's high concentration of lycopene. The delicious dosage? About four whole tomatoes daily, which is easy during peak season. Off season, use chopped and canned garden tomatoes in chili, tomato sauces and soups to reach your daily dose.

The pansy is a common, easy to grow flower. With their colorful "faces" a plot of pansies add personality to a garden or window box, but the ancient, edible flower is also a valuable detoxifying and anti-inflammatory agent. In addition, it's been claimed the pansy is also helpful in treating eczema, asthma and allergies.

Pansies grown without pesticides can be enjoyed in their natural state, simply washed and tossed in a salad or cold drink, or the flowers

LEARNING

Virtual school seeks kids, state data mixed

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN – For a relative handful of families, virtual schools look like an alternative to the traditional “brick-and-mortar” schools. Some of them, from across the county, turned out to a forum on the TEC Connections Academy (TECCA) Monday at the Fairfield Hotel.

“The reason I was looking into an online school is to give my daughter confidence,” said Rutland’s Sandra Woodman. “The public schools are hard to adapt to one-on-one children with their way of learning.”

Specifically, Woodman argues traditional schools demand students do things one way – she specifically pointed to math lessons that say student answers can’t include remainders – but not all kids learn that way. But she’s also not fond of homeschooling because she wants her daughter Allyson, now in fifth grade, to graduate with a real diploma, not a GED.

Webster’s Annah Mercier agreed. A retired Bay Path teacher, Mercier is looking into TECCA for her granddaughter who has been having issues in school due to problems at home. At present, Mercier is homeschooling her, but the girl asked to explore virtual schooling.

“I cover in one day, four hours, more than a school teacher can cover in two days. She is much more attentive and she didn’t start off that way,” Mercier added. “Her attitude has changed and her behavior. I see tremendous progress in all subjects.”

According to TECCA first-year history teacher and pre-

senter Megan Spender, the online school is legally a public school under state law, not a charter school, and therefore teachers have to be certified, the curriculum follows state standards, students have to take MCAS and other tests, and graduates get diplomas.

“It’s a really weird line,” she said. “It’s school choice, but it’s still public education.”

Spender said she “was struggling looking for a job” after graduating from Bridgewater State University last spring. She sent out dozens of applications “and this one kept popping up in my searches.” She admitted being skeptical, but came in for an interview and came out satisfied.

“It’s a real school system, and all of that was validated for me,” she said, later adding the school is seeking to add staff for next year.

Founded in Massachusetts in 2014, Walpole-based TECCA is accredited by the state, and its records are on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s website just like Auburn’s or the state’s own data. But that data is mixed in terms of its scores. For example, for last year’s 10th grade MCAS (the only grade level at which all three tests exist), TECCA saw proficient or higher scores from 91 percent of its students in English Language Arts, 63 percent in Math, and 59 percent in Science. By comparison, the state averages for those three were 91, 78 and 73 respectively, and Auburn’s scores were 93, 78 and 76.

On the SATs, for which TECCA had just 17 student takers last year, the academy’s average scores were Reading 514, Writing 491 and Math 472. For comparison, state averages

were 509, 497 and 522 respectively, and Auburn’s were 488, 477 and 505.

The academy is an entity owned by Connections Education LLC, a subsidiary of the giant education publishing firm Pearson. Connections Education and rival K12 are the nation’s two largest for-profit elementary and secondary education firms. Both firms offer virtual schools, which are entirely online, and “blended” schools, in which some classes are online and some are in real classrooms. In both cases, their public schools are tuition-free – the money comes from the sending school district’s budget, just as with any other school choice arrangement – but they also have tuition-paid versions. There are also a comparatively small number of virtual and blended schools owned by the public sector or non-profit organizations.

In a report by the National Education Policy Center released last month and available at www.nepc.colorado.edu, a team led by Alex Molnar analyzed data like that above and other factors regarding virtual and blended schools, which exist in 38 states. “Evidence related to inputs and outcomes indicates that students in these schools differ from students in traditional schools,” they write. “And, school performance measures for both virtual and blended schools indicate they are not as successful as traditional public schools.”

Among other things, Molnar’s team found these schools had student-teacher ratios that were double those in traditional schools, a higher percentage of girls as students, generally fewer minori-

ty, low-income and English Language Learner students, but about the same proportion of special education students. (Indeed, TECCA’s DESE data shows a fairly high percentage of students classed as “economically disadvantaged” and “high needs,” although those numbers are not consistent within a given grade in most cases.)

“Virtual schools continued to underperform academically, including in comparison to blended schools,” Molnar’s team writes. “Overall, 37.4 percent of full-time virtual schools received acceptable performance ratings, compared with 72.7 percent acceptable ratings for blended schools.” There was one notable bright spot: non-profit blended schools achieved a 100 percent “acceptable” rate, and non-profits in general scored better than for-profits in the NEPC’s various metrics. But graduation rates were far behind those of traditional schools for both virtual and blended schools – both saw just over 43 percent graduate, while the national average is 82.3 percent.

TECCA’s graduation this year is at Mechanics Hall in June; students require 24 credits (six per year) to graduate, said guidance counselor Janily Lopez of Worcester, Spender’s co-presenter. She added the virtual district currently has about 830 kids in high school, 350 in middle school and 200 in elementary school grades.

Being virtual, the students can complete their assigned work pretty much at any time, provided they meet certain goals every week. However, Spender noted, “If I see [a kid] is completing 10 lessons in the next hour, that student’s clear-

ly just clicking through them and I will call home.”

The way the system works involves regular contact with both student and parents, who both have access to the student’s online grade book showing what percentage of the work is done and test grades so far. That grade book, lessons, curriculum and other features of the system are password protected, and teacher and fellow student contacts are only available from within the network (not by standard email), but can be accessed from desktop or WiFi, they said.

Lopez said the teachers and counselors work together to personalize a student’s schedule to account for “life events,” adding or dropping classes as needed. Spender noted all students are expected to log in and watch various class videos, and teachers keep track of whether they actually do so. Additionally, they have at least one live online session a week in which students and teachers Skype and/or instant message in real time, although Spender said they can also do one-on-one sessions if kids aren’t comfortable communicating in the group.

For real-world experience, the school offers four field trips a year in each county plus various other get-togethers, including graduation and prom, which are also open to family members who aren’t TECCA students. Kids are expected to finish the work largely on their own, but Spender said she knows some who do study with siblings or nearby friends who are also TECCA students.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves@gmail.com.

ST. MARY’S SCHOOLS HONOR ROLLS

The following students have earned a place on the honor roll at St. Mary’s Schools of Worcester for the third parking period.

HIGHEST HONORS:

SENIORS: Julia Giguere, Mikayla Lozada, Francisco Mandel, Rhianna-Lynn Parent, Veronica Prytko, Dantu Zhao

JUNIORS: Michele Bravo, Isabella Daher

SOPHOMORES: Lordez Asafo-Boakye, Michelle Gitau, Kelly Knutelski, Vanessa Nuamah, Ashley Parker, Teresa Prytko, Wandzia Prytko, Thomas Szkoda

8th GRADE: Lily Daher, Ashley Gatongo, Syrena Prytko, Lucas Smith, Samuel Szkoda

7th GRADE: Faith Asafo-Boakye, Chloe Johnson

6th GRADE: Liliana Ciszewski, Tatiana Kinyanjui, Julia Lech, Maryja Prytko, Elisabeth Pyatt, Sabrina Williams

5th GRADE: Nathan Williams

4th GRADE: Melanie Gitau

HONORS: SENIORS: Brittany Watson

7th GRADE: Mohammed Abdulrazzaq, Mary Jane Shepard

6th GRADE: Nicholas Szkoda

5th GRADE: Connor Linnus, Andrew Poirier, Malachi Purdy

4th GRADE: Ameria Hollins

LALIBERTE

continued from page 1

senator, and helped a cousin win election to the New Hampshire House.

“I’ve always been interested in action, in politics in general,” he said. “Community advocacy was the biggest thing in the SGA,” and that’s equally true of town service, where “a lot of people are struggling with various issues.”

Part of that is taxes, and Laliberte said he hopes to be able to find more places in the budget where the town can save money, although he praises the town manager for her fiscal conservatism.

“We’re spending \$1 million a week, but people don’t really feel they’re getting \$1 million in benefits a week,” he remarked, noting one place he wouldn’t cut is the schools, “one of Auburn’s best aspects.”

He said he feels the current split tax rate has “in some ways inhibited commercial growth” and favors the continued movement toward a single rate. That’s in part because tax-increment financing deals “end up hurting the residents more than if we just moved the rate.”

Noting he supports development akin to the plans for Drury Square’s redesign, Laliberte said it needs to be in appropriate places. He points to the Auburn Mall as a bad example, saying it was “built on a swamp. Some places shouldn’t be developed. They should stay as they are.”

That might play a role in housing, which, while needed, will “stress the police, fire and our schools.” Referring specifically to the potential of a subsidized project coming to town, he added, “if our hands are tied, I don’t know what our options are. We’ll have to go to the

state and make our case there.”

On the other hand, Laliberte said he supports the Lemansky dog park concept and favors allowing recreational pot-based companies to open in town. He feels it’d make sense to treat them like liquor stores and apply the two percent tax state law gives towns as an option. The resulting income “could help out residents and other businesses,” he said. “Cutting it off would be a mistake in the long run.”

“I don’t smoke or use marijuana products, nor do I intend to, but a ban really makes no sense. We can’t ban the use of marijuana in town, can’t ban medical facilities, can’t ban someone from going to another town and bringing it back, and we can’t ban someone from growing it themselves,” he added by email later. “... The city of Holyoke is looking to use marijuana to grow its economy. Mayor Alex Morse is actively looking for facilities to come to the city, and I just believe we should keep an open mind.”

Regarding his bag ban idea, he said he feels the town should consider it because it “would have a large impact” on cleaning up Auburn, but would want to take into account whether local retailers would “take a hit” by doing it.

Lastly, Laliberte said he feels he’ll have no trouble balancing college and serving as a selectman, likening it to the fact many people commute a similar distance to work daily. He currently comes back every weekend and said he thinks he can set up his class schedule to make attending evening meetings possible.

Polls are open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 16 at the Auburn High School gymnasium for all five precincts.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

Friday’s Child



Damon is loving and affectionate eleven-year-old boy of African American and Lebanese descent. He is shy and reserved around strangers at first, but he thoroughly enjoys the company of adults once he warms up and is comfortable. Damon likes video games but he has also played flag football and is open to trying new activities, such as martial arts. He would benefit from a supportive family that could expose him to these types of activities.

Damon is in a small classroom with extra support where he is having success. His teachers love him, and he has many friends. He is very likeable, and can be engaging and fun to be around. Damon does have some academic delays but with the right supports, he could likely transition to a mainstream class. He needs to know that his environment is safe, and he may test limits to see if adults will keep him safe.

Legally freed for adoption, Damon’s social worker is seeking a family for Damon that can advocate for the services he needs both at school and in the community. He tends to do best with male caretakers so a family with at least one father would be the best match. Damon would do best as the youngest child in a home if there were other children. Damon will need a family that will allow him to have ongoing contact with his maternal grandparents, older brother and birth mother who are an important part of his life.

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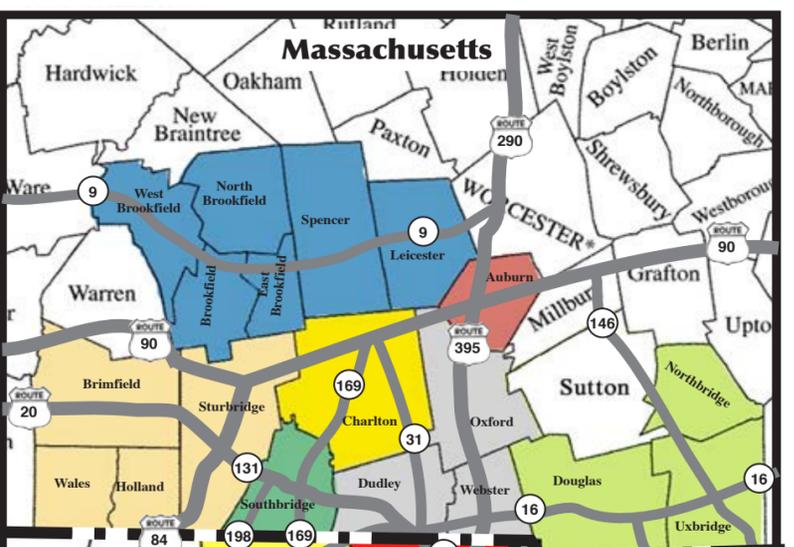
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Sportsmen's Club rings with Native celebration

'WE DANCE TO GIVE BACK TO OUR CREATOR'

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN – The drumbeats weren't quite heard around the world, but they were playing the world's songs at last weekend's Two Nations Powwow.

Hosted by the Auburn Sportsmen's Club, the event featured members of dozens of Native American nations gathering to celebrate their connections to Earth, ancestors and each other. That was one of the nations; the other was the part of the white community equally dependent on Nature: hunters, fishermen and "mountain men" past and present.

"When we cross [i.e. die], our bones will turn to dust and go back to the Mother, our blood will go to the ocean," said Hardwick's Tony Hay. "All we possess is our physical body and our time, and that's why we dance – to give back to our Creator."

To Hay and his wife Mya, a big part of Powwow is the sense of giving. For about a year, they've been running a non-profit organization called One Spirit, their tent full of donated material to raise funds to feed, heat and otherwise help the Lakota Sioux people of Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. There, poverty runs close to 80 percent.

A couple tents away, Jack Sky Warrior Welch said the reservation's conditions approach third-world levels of squalor. He recalled showing people photos and they thought it was a village in Vietnam.

"This is what they [the government] don't want you to know -- there are people living well below the poverty level here in the US," he said.

Welch knows that comparison first-hand, since he's a Vietnam Veteran -- one of many vets who have found community at powwows. That's in part because many Natives served in the armed forces, and some died, for the nation despite the fact our government spent years trying to kill them. Among other things, he noted the famous Navajo Code Talkers started in World War I, although they became famous in World War II, when their language proved to be an unbreakable radio "code."

Welch claims a mixture of Micmac, Mohawk and Abenaki ancestry. "I was told when I was growing up that I had it because my father and his family came down from Canada. He was a chief," he said.

He described the powwow itself as a place where people "come together as a family," something he sees President Trump "trying to utilize right now with the foolish politicians."

"[This powwow] shows how the 'nation' called the Mountain Men integrated into Native American culture," he said. "They showed us a different way of making weapons; we showed them different ways to preserve game and make hides."

Across the roped off dance circle, where men and women in colorful, feathered and bell-festooned regalia danced going clockwise, was the gathering's only formal "mountain man" tent, the overnight home of Dudley's Kevin Leblanc. While most of the other powwow tents were modern, his was crafted as a replica of the pyramid or miners' tents of the 1830s -- made of fabric with wooden poles.

"I'm the only re-enactor here," the leather-and-fur-clad Leblanc observed. "None of them are re-enacting; for them, it's who they are. What they're doing is celebrating life."

They were also celebrating legends and lore. While we talked, a woman was reciting several stories of the Algonquian hero Glooskap, who "taught the people the arts of civilization and protected them from danger," according to www.native-languages.org.

Leblanc claims no Native ancestry, but has a passion for history, especially for the lifestyles of the White traders who lived among the Natives of the Rockies of Utah and Wyoming. As an example, he said, "the biggest pan I had I'd give to the chief's wife to garner favor," or provide older guns, knives, etc., "all in pursuit of beaver [furs], no more, no less."

He says he came to it as a kid, when he grew up watch-



Robert Allen sports colorful Native garb.

Gus Steeves photos



A man dances in the circle.



A group of youths participate in the Candy Dance.



The Walking Bear Singers provide the rhythms and chants.



Sam Oser, Liam Breen, Robert Allen, Ryleigh Breen and Kendra Soucy, all of New Hampshire, take a break from dancing. They claim a mixture of Passamaquoddy, Blackfoot and Penobscot heritage.

ing Daniel Boone and pretending to be him. At one point, his godfather was moving and Leblanc wanted a keepsake, so he bought the man's gun, even though he didn't know how to use it. He eventually learned to hunt and trap (although that gun died) and make a variety of the metal, leather and other goods mountain men made in the early 1800s.

That included his tent, which he noted is not insulated: "Whatever it is out here, it is in there," he said, recalling a recent camp-out where the water froze overnight. "I'd never slept in a fridge before, and that was cold."

Next to his tent was the modern incarnation -- Ron Kazlauskas of Oxford, representing the Massachusetts Trappers' Association. He even had a rusty old-style bear trap that might have seen use in the 1800s and was outlawed a century ago.

Kazlauskas said that trap symbolizes what the most common misconceptions of trapping are -- that they all cause animals to suffer and die horribly. While there still are some killing traps for certain uses, most of them have been designed to hold the animal without injuring them (for example, bears are now hunted with a snare instead).

"I was invited here by the Native community, and it's been an educational experience for myself as well," he said of the powwow.

To Maggie Stovall of Stafford, CT and her kids, the powwow culture has become an important part of their lives even though they aren't Natives.

"This is the first powwow of the year and we've been waiting all winter for it," she said. "They call us 'Natives by heart, not by blood. We fell into it by accident. I wanted to teach them about other cultures and they loved it."

While the kids, in all seriousness, say they love it for the



Pauline Stovall, almost 2, walks out of the Candy Dance.

fun, the key thing she gets out of it is "how important it is to take care of our planet and feel how alive the planet is."

That's a very common feeling among those present, and Tony Hay takes it one step farther.

"To get answers, hear the ancestors' voices in the wind. To get answers, look at the trees, where 30 or 40 species are living together," he said. "... When you approach people like this [fists closed], you can give nothing and receive nothing. But when you approach like this [hands open], you can give or receive anything."

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.



"When you approach people like this [fists closed], you can give nothing and receive nothing," Tony hay said. "But when you approach like this [hands open], you can give or receive anything."

SPORTS

Auburn lacrosse limits opponent's scoring total in close loss



Photos courtesy Mark Seliger, www.SeligerPhotography.com

Auburn's Manny Rosario takes possession of the ball and runs away from a Blackstone Valley Tech defender.

AUBURN — Playing against Blackstone Valley Tech under the lights on Tuesday evening, May 2, the Auburn High boys' varsity lacrosse team limited the Beavers' offensive production.

Valley Tech mustered nine goals, but it was enough as they defeated the Rockets, 9-2. Auburn's record dipped to 1-7 in their first full varsity season.



Jack Froio of Auburn makes a pass down the field.



Auburn's Jake Daniels heaves a long pass from his goalie position.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Night of comedy to benefit girls' soccer team

The Spirit of Liverpool 2001 Elite Girls' soccer team has spent the past year raising funds for the opportunity to travel to England this July. It is a trip that this group of young ladies has dreamed about for several years. The team is comprised of 14 and 15 year old girls from towns throughout Central Mass. and Northeast Connecticut, some of whom have played and trained together since they were 7-8 years old. The Spirit of Liverpool Soccer Club, based out of 5 Star Academy in Oxford, has strong ties to Liverpool, England. This "England Tour" would include a trip to Anfield Stadium in Liverpool, the home of the Liverpool EPL team. The tour would also include several training sessions in Liverpool and London, and the opportunity to play matches against local competition. This dedicated group of young women has worked throughout the year selling raffle tickets, working concession stands, and refereeing youth soccer games in an effort to make this trip affordable for every member of their team. On Friday, May 19, in conjunction with Frank's Comedy Safari, the team parents will be hosting a Night of Comedy at J. Anthony's in Auburn. The event begins at 7 p.m., and tickets are \$25 per person. The evening will also include some amazing silent auction items, including professional sports tickets, signed sports memorabilia, golf packages and more. If you would like to purchase tickets to the show please email spiritofliverpoolmf@gmail.com. Donations are welcome and appreciated. Donations can be made to "Friends of Liverpool FSC" and mailed to SLFC U16 Girls c/o Five Star Academy 94 Main St. Oxford, MA 01540.

U.S. Baseball Academy coming to Worcester State

The U.S. Baseball Academy, the nation's largest training program, is coming to Worcester State University from June 26-29. Advance registration is required. Kids sign up for the sessions they want, although most participate all four days from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please visit www.USBBaseballAcademy.com for more details. You can also call the offices at 866-622-4487.



Ben Jarvis of Auburn whips a shot toward Blackstone Valley Tech's net.



Auburn's Ben Baer maneuvers his way around a Blackstone Valley Tech defender.



Padriac Halloran of Auburn controls possession of the ball while hustling down the field.

SPORTS

Hot start provides enough run support for Beavers versus Bay Path



Bay Path's John O'Laughlin drops down a bunt versus Blackstone Valley Tech.



With pitcher Alex Belanger covering the bag, Bay Path first baseman Dom Esposito grabs possession of a groundball hit his way.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

UPTON — Seven runs through the first two innings of play — four in the first, three more in the second — were enough to lift the Blackstone Valley Tech varsity baseball team past Bay Path Regional, even after the Minutemen mounted a five-run rally later in the game. When all was said and done the Beavers emerged victorious, 10-5, on Wednesday, May 3.

"We were attacking fastballs and getting in good hitter's counts. We have a tendency to get too deep in counts and we end up chasing bad balls. When we're attacking we're in good shape, and we did that in the first couple of innings," said Valley Tech first-year head coach John Burke.

In the bottom of the first inning Ty Almeida, Blake Morin (2 for 3), Tom Morin (3 for 3, walk) and Andrew Lavergne strung together four consecutive one-out hits, with Tom Morin's plating a run and Lavergne's scoring two more. Then, with two outs, Nate Charron provided an RBI hit to make it 4-0.

In the Beavers' second time up to bat, Tom Morin made it a 6-0 game with a 2-RBI triple to deep field.

"He's up around .500," Burke said of Tom Morin, who finished with 3 RBI's. "He does a great job of adjusting on the fly and he just barrels everything [up the] middle."

Lavergne made it 7-0 later in the second when his hot shot couldn't be handled cleanly, which

helped Tom Morin score. In all, the Minutemen committed three errors, with two of them being costly in the second inning.

"It's always the one or two errors that kill us every game," said Bay Path head coach Mark Sansoucy. "But we are getting better at it because we were making a lot more errors earlier in the year."

Alex Belanger, the Minutemen's pitcher, then settled into a groove and didn't allow any runs in the third and fourth innings before Bay Path mounted its comeback in the top of the fifth.

In the frame the Minutemen took advantage of three Valley Tech errors. Alec DeSimone hit a ball that was boot-

ed, which scored Andrew Fritze. Dom Esposito (2 for 4) then followed with a 2-RBI double to deep right and next up was John O'Laughlin (2 for 4), who ripped an RBI triple to center. Nick Jose then hit a grounder to third base and the fielder threw home, but O'Laughlin slid safely to cut the deficit down to 7-5.

"We have a lot of young guys that stepped up and hit, so we're trying to take the positives out of each game," said Sansoucy. "They're starting to hit the ball a little better each game — each game we're getting a little bit better in different areas."

But Valley Tech starter Nick Connolly escaped the jam and recorded the first out in the sixth inning before being relieved by Justin

Metcalf. Connolly didn't allow an earned run and struck out three, and when his defense was there behind him (innings 1-4) he worked quickly and effectively.

"He pitches to contact and does a great job of being around the plate and not too much in the middle," said Burke of Connolly.

Metcalf then retired the side in the top of the sixth and provided insurance in the bottom of the frame with a 2-RBI triple to center. Alex Moran then hit an RBI single to make it 10-5.

Metcalf then earned the save by pitching a scoreless seventh inning. The frame included a double play turned, the third of the game for the Minutemen.

"He just goes, he just

plays," Burke said of Metcalf, who is only a freshman. "He's a gamer."

Valley Tech improved to 8-1 and Burke hopes that the scary fifth inning is a lesson learned for his Beavers.

"I think we just sat on the lead and it's a good reality check," he said. "You have to go out and show up all seven [innings]. It's a good lesson today."

Bay Path, meanwhile, slipped to 3-5.

"They hit better than us and they should have won. They were better than us, that's all," Sansoucy said. "I'll be looking forward to playing them again. Our goal now is to get to .500."



Alex Belanger of Bay Path peers down to the plate before firing off a pitch.



Nate Shoemaker of Bay Path returns the ball to the infield from his center field position.



Bay Path second baseman Chris Keeler applies the tag on a sliding Nate Charron of Blackstone Valley Tech for the out.



Blackstone Valley Tech second baseman Nate Charron makes the play over to first base while falling to the ground.

OBITUARIES

Joseph Lada Jr., 91



N O R T H GROSVENORDALE — Joseph Lada Jr., age 91, passed away March 15, 2017. He was born on November 1, 1925 in North Grosvenordale one of seven children born to Joseph Lada, Sr. and

Veronica (Ambrosewicz) Lada. He lived most of his life in Webster.

Mr. Lada had a colorful childhood in a multicultural immigrant neighborhood. He swam and fished in local rivers and lakes, and played baseball and soccer at the public field adjacent to his house. At five years old he survived a runaway horse-drawn wagon when a bystander stopped the horses just before they reached an active railroad crossing. At 12 he and his friends were caught outdoors in the Hurricane of 1938, built a makeshift shelter and escaped unscathed. At 13 he taught himself to play the trumpet, and by 16 he was playing in well-known local big bands, led by Matty Mattison and Bob Poole, that toured throughout New England.

Mr. Lada was an Army veteran of World War II, serving as a combat engineer in the Philippines as part of the force being readied for the invasion of Japan. The invasion was scheduled to commence on his 20th birthday but never occurred.

After the war, he returned to North Grosvenordale and found employment as a trumpeter in the studio orchestra of WTAG, a Worcester radio station. On weekends, he played at the popular State Line Casino with the Ray Stone Orchestra in Dudley. On one of those weekends in the fall of 1946 he met Rita Holewa of Webster and a year later they married. In September 2016, they celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary. With the demise of the big band era, he continued to perform with popular local Polish polka bands, most recently the Emeralds. Between 1963 and 1968 he

and his son Charles formed the trumpet section for the Chet K band and later the Cavaliers. Until he retired in 1999, Mr. Lada was employed at a number of local factories, most recently Cranston Print Works Company in Webster. Joe will be remembered for his kind and good-natured disposition, his unflappable manner and his mischievous sense of humor.

Besides his wife, Joe leaves four children: Charles J. Lada and his wife Stacey of Needham, Ann L. Lada of Webster, Joan E. Butterworth and her husband John Butterworth Jr. of Auburn and Elizabeth L. Elston of Gainesville, FL as well 5 grandchildren: Margaret Lada and Navy LT Sam Lada, both of Washington D.C., Elizabeth Butterworth and John Butterworth III, both of New York, NY, Joseph Lada Elston of Gainesville FL, sister-in-law Theresa Lada of Webster, and many nieces and nephews.

Joe was predeceased by his son-in-law Richard Elston and sisters Helen, Hattie, Edna, and Theresa and brothers, Tony and Charlie, a Marine who was killed in action in the Pacific theater during World War II.

Mr. Lada belonged to the Webster-Dudley American Legion Post #184 and was a lifelong member of the Worcester Musicians Association.

The family is planning a private burial service.

Donations in his name may be made to Afternoon Tunes, which supports free music lessons for children. Checks can be made to All Saints Church (with the memo stating "Afternoon Tunes in memory of Joseph Lada, Jr.), 10 Irving Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

Arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main St., Webster.



Mary V. Brzozowski, 91

AUBURN — Mary V. (Anisko) Brzozowski, age 91 of Auburn passed away peacefully Feb. 20, 2017 with family by her side at St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester.

Her husband of 63 years, Stephen J. Brzozowski, died July 19, 2010.

She leaves a daughter, Valerie M. Brzozowski of Auburn; a son, Stanley R. Brzozowski and his wife Joanne of Hubbardston; two granddaughters, Mandi R. Johnson and Kelly C. Brzozowski, a great-granddaughter, Emily; a sister, Jane F. Banach and her husband Wallace M. of Auburn; a nephew and godson Archbishop Michael W. Banach of Senegal, Apostolic Nuncio to Senegal, Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau and Apostolic delegate to Mauritania; and a nephew, David M. Banach of New Jersey.

Mary was also pre-deceased by a sister, Blanche Anisko.

Mary was born and raised in Worcester, a daughter of the late Kostanty and Catherine (Kilik) Anisko; and has lived in Auburn for many years.

Mrs. Brzozowski graduated from David Fanning Trade School. She was a member of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church and the Our Lady of Czestochowa Ladies Guild. Mary was also a member of the Polish American Veterans of World War II Auxiliary and the DAV Chapter 4 Auxiliary.

Mary loved solving crossword puzzles and crafting. She was a beautiful and loving mother and grandmother who always had a smile and was there for guidance and understanding. Mom, you will be profoundly and deeply missed.

The funeral was held Feb. 23 from Henry Dirsra Funeral Home, 33 Ward St., Worcester with a Mass in Our Lady of Czestochowa Church, 34 Ward St. Burial was in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Send all obituary notices to
Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90,
Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail
to ruth@stonebridgepress.news.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Friday and Saturday, May 12 & 13

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRODUCTION: Auburn Middle School proudly presents: Tundalao and Price Key; May 12-13 at Auburn High School. A brother and sister who love to hear stories told by their father are suddenly whisked away to a magical island where there they meet many fascinating creatures and are thrust into an adventure that could alter the fate of Majea.

Tuesday, May 16

HISTORICAL MEETING: Auburn Historical Society's monthly meeting will be held May 16 at 6:30 at the Auburn Senior Center, 4 Goddard Drive. Program speaker Jack Murphy will speak on "Growing up in Auburn" and will be interviewed by Town Historian Ken Ethier. **POT LUCK SUPPER** at 5:30, so cook up your favorite dish to share.

Saturday, May 27

ANNUAL SALE: Auburn Boy Scout Troop 101, which is celebrating its 93rd anniversary this year, will have

its annual Yard Sale on Saturday, May 27th (Memorial Day Weekend) at Auburn Library. The yard sale helps fund Scouting programs and equipment. If you have usable furniture, scout or camping equipment, sporting goods, old aquariums, antiques, collectibles, books, games, children's items, or any other materials suitable for a yard sale you wish to contribute to us, call Scoutmaster Mike (508-905-0408) or Fred (508-612-9228) for a pickup. Please, no clothes, TVs or computer monitors, no junk. Thank you very much for your contributions.

ONGOING EVENTS

Christian 12 Step Program for Men and Women 7-8:15 p.m. every Tuesday at Faith Baptist Church, 22 Faith Ave, Auburn. Do you feel your life/relationships/habits are spinning out of control? A Christian 12 Step Program is the key to Christ and life providing abundance, blessing and grace. Come as you are or contact (508) 832-5044 x 155 for information.

Have a little one in the house? Looking to get out and do something? The Auburn Public Library may have just the thing for you. Mother Goose

Story time is for children ages 6-15 months. It's a great place for children and their grownups to listen to stories, share nursery rhymes and have time to connect with others during musical free play. Mother Goose Story Time is held Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Please stop by and join us. For information, you call the library at (508) 832-7790.

The Auburn Historical Museum, 41 South St. is open Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon, and Saturday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Admission is free to see a variety of artifacts and memorabilia concerning Auburn as far back as when it was known as the town of Ward. All are welcome to come. For more information contact Sari Bitticks at sarilb@verizon.net.

Divorced? Separated? You don't have to go through it alone. Divorce Care is a support group that meets 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays in Room 207 at the Faith Baptist Church, 22 Faith Ave., Auburn, providing practical support, recovery and hope. Voluntary donation of \$15. Childcare provided. Activities for K-high school occur at the same time. For information, call (508) 832-5044 x 321.

The Nipmuck Coin Collectors Club

meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Oxford Senior Center, 323 Main St., behind the Oxford Town Hall. Everyone is welcome from long time collectors to those just starting to collect or maybe looking to pick up a new hobby. For more information about our club or coins in general, call Dick Lisi at (508) 410-1332 or lisrichard15@yahoo.com.

Open Story Time will be held 4:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Auburn Public Library. No registration required. Please drop in. Open to all ages. For information, call (508) 832-7790.

Chuck wants boys in the 6th through 10th grades to join The Man Cave. The Man Cave is a boys' group that meets from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. Thursdays at the AYFS, 21 Pheasant Court, Auburn. This is where members will learn that peers their own age share similar concerns. Group members will be able to discuss ways to cope with their concerns as well as receive positive feedback. Each week will center around a particular topic for discussion. No cost to join. For information, call Brandon Pare (508) 832-5707 x 16 or Dan Secor (508) 832-5707 x 14. Free food available.

TRAINOR

continued from page A6

may be made into a healthful tincture or tea. To make a pansy poultice for external skin application to treat eczema and impetigo, simply add two tablespoons of pansy petals to two cups boiling water. Allow to steep for about 20 minutes and cool. Soak clean cloth in mixture and apply to skin, ***

Growing garlic? The health virtues of garlic have been touted for generations. Here are a couple to try:

*The book, "The Healing Power of Garlic," suggests garlic nose drops can kill the viruses that cause cold or flu. Here are the book's instructions on concocting the drops: Crush some garlic to obtain juice, and add ten parts water and mix well. Apply as you would regular nose drops.

*According to a home remedy published long ago, if you place a clove of garlic on each side of the mouth between the teeth and cheek, a cold will disappear within a day. It's worth a try! ***

Tea Tonics

Natural teas are used to treat many maladies. If you are growing these herbs, you already have the ingredients for some healthful healers!

*Fever Treatment Tea: Some Native American tribes treated a low grade fever with sage, as in this old time recipe. As a bonus, the dried peppermint supplies the tea with a soothing, cooling effect. To do: Pour one cup boiling water over two teaspoons dried, edible sage and one teaspoon dried peppermint. Steep, strain, and sweeten with honey if desired. Slowly sip up to three cups a day.

*Cold Sore Cure: Drinking sage tea can prevent and treat fever blisters and cold sores. To do: Pour one cup boiling water over edible sage leaves and a small piece of ginger root (or substitute ginger powder). Steep, cook and drink two to three cups of hot sage tea every day to get rid of fever blisters.

*Shoo Flu: One of peppermint's claims to fame is that it can alleviate the chills and aid with symptoms of fever and the flu. Try drinking a cup or two of strong peppermint tea made from fresh leaves to relieve cold and flu complaints. To do: Pour

one cup boiling water over four to six peppermint leaves. Allow to steep for 15 minutes, strain and serve.

* Sweet Slumber: Lemon balm promotes sleep as it acts as a very mild sedative. It is also helpful in treating stress and nervous headaches. To make a fresh lemon balm tea: steep one teaspoon of fresh leaves in one cup of boiling water. Steep covered for ten minutes. Strain and enjoy. To combat cold sores, made tea with up to four tablespoons of the herb per cup of boiling water. Allow to cool, then apply with a cotton ball to cold sore several times a day. ***

Win Dinner for Two at the Public House

Your tips can win you a fabulous dinner for two at the historic Public House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. Hints are entered into a drawing for a three course dinner for two at the historic Public House Inn! 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 thee to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a ques-

tion regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press publications? Send questions and/or hint to: *Take the Hint!*, c/o Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email kdrr@aol.com.

BLACK

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I am not saying never to give someone a shot and there may be reasons why these numbers are off in a certain agents business. Possibly the market they are focusing most of their business in is slower than the county or the price point they typically sell in is slower. A new agent, if they have the training and some sort of mentor behind them, many times will do a better job because they have the time to dedicate to getting your home sold and the knowledge backing them up.

Lastly, there is a reason that you can see a huge range in what one agent charges to the next to sell your home. If you hire the right agent with a track record of getting homes sold for more than other agents then most of the time you will NET more money even if they charge you more money. The agent that has the right marketing and negotiation skills will most likely you're your home for more money than another agent that is charging you less commission. What I am really saying is to look for transparency in the agent you hire to ensure you know exactly what you are getting for your money because this most likely will be one of the biggest financial transactions in your life.

Happy Mothers Day

American Legion, Chester P. Tuttle post
88 Bancroft St., Auburn

Celebrate with us,
Happy's @ the Tuttle Post

Sunday, May 14th

Mother's Day Menu 11am-4pm

All you can eat!

Hand carved baked Virginia Ham, Turkey w/ stuffing, Mashed potatoes, Rice pilaf, Green beans, Glazed baby carrots, Antipasto, Fruit and dinner rolls

Adults \$15.95 • Children 12 and under \$6.95

Prices Does not include 7% meal tax and gratuity

Reservations appreciated

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Celebrate with us,
Happy's @ the Tuttle Post



Sunday, May 14th • Mother's Day Menu 11am-4pm
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Five tips for container gardening success



Bonnie Plants photo

Container gardens are an easy way to incorporate color, edibles and interest into the landscape.

Container gardens allow you to easily dress up your balcony and patio, create a colorful welcome for guests and keep edibles close at hand for cooking and entertaining. They're also a terrific way for new gardeners to get their start. Increase your success growing vegetables, herbs or flowers in a container with these tips.

Proper plant selection. Select the right plants for the container and growing conditions. Closely check the plant tags for

this and more information to help with your decision. Create attractive combinations with plants that look good together and require the same growing conditions.

And don't be afraid to mix flowers, herbs and vegetables. This is a great way to have both beauty and flavor on your patio, deck or balcony. Scour gardening magazines and the internet for free container planting plans like those featured on the Bonnie Plants website.

Selecting the right con-

tainer. Further increase your success by selecting a container large enough to accommodate your plants. The bigger the pot, the more moisture it can hold, maximizing the time between watering. A small pot with a large plant will need to be watered several times a day during hot weather and fertilized more frequently.

Use a container with drainage holes made from material suited to your gardening style and climate. Even if you could provide the exact amount of water your plants need, nature may intervene with an extra dose or two. Drainage holes prevent water from building up in the bottom of the pot, leading to root rot.

Those in areas with hot summers should avoid black and metal pots that can heat up in the summer sun and damage tender plant roots. Terracotta pots are a traditional favorite. They are attractive, heavy and dry out more quickly than some other materials. Glazed pots are beauti-

ful, but tend to be pricey and heavy to move. Plastic pots are affordable, come in a variety of styles and don't dry out as quickly as terracotta. Then there's the sturdy half whiskey barrel. This planter is a longtime favorite, but be sure to drill drainage holes in the bottom if it doesn't already have them.

Potting mix. Next, invest in a quality potting mix that holds moisture, yet provides adequate drainage. These are usually a combination of peat moss, compost or coir to hold moisture, and perlite or vermiculite to aid in drainage. Leave garden soil in the garden where it belongs, not in containers.

Watering. Check the potting soil moisture in your container gardens at least once a day and more often if the pots are small or temperatures high. Water thoroughly when the top inch of soil

is dry and allow the

excess to run out the drainage holes. This shows you have moistened the potting mix, top to bottom, encouraging a robust root system to develop.

Extend the time between waterings with the help of self-watering pots. Their built-in water reservoirs provide water to the plants as the soil dries. Fill the reservoir as needed and make sure there is a weep hole. This allows excess water to drain out of the reservoir instead of saturating the soil and leading to root rot.

Fertilization. Lastly, incorporate a slow release fertilizer into the potting mix at planting. This type of fertilizer provides small amounts of nutrients over a longer time period. Follow label

directions and make additional applications as recommended on the fertilizer label.

As your container plants continue to thrive and you enjoy the flavorful vegetables and herbs and gorgeous flowers they provide, you'll soon be looking for more spaces to incorporate container gardens into your landscape.

Gardening expert Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening and the Midwest Gardener's Handbook. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything: Food Gardening For Everyone" DVD set and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is also a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Bonnie Plants for her expertise to write this article. Myers' website is www.melindamyers.com.

DRIVEN

continued from page 1

cluded long ago, he has made it his life's work to keep spreading the message that distracted driving can ruin people's lives.

"He's done thousands of hours of community service," said Dr. Michael Hirsch, Wright's co-presenter on Thursday.

As a pediatric emergency surgeon at UMass Medical Center, Hirsch has seen far more of the effects of driving while distracted — from alcohol, drugs, texting and other preventable causes — than he ever wanted to. That prompted him to start the UMass injury prevention program in 1988.

All too often, his experience has gone like this: A young patient in a tuxedo or fancy dress on prom night comes into the ER unconscious and bleeding. They have no ID except for their cellphone, and the only way to find out who they are is

to make a cold call to whatever number happens to be listed as "home." The caller can't tell the person who answers much over the phone, only to find a way to UMass in a hurry. For parents, he said, "that drive is one of the worst drives ever."

When they arrive, they get a bunch of questions regarding their teenager's medical history, questions Hirsch admitted are partly intended to distract them so the emergency crew can find out what's actually wrong. Then the parents are taken to the "Consultation Room," dubbed in the hospital the "Quiet Room." After a while, Hirsch comes to talk to them.

"About 98 percent of the time, when I'm out talking to parents, I have good things to say... [because] you're going to be OK," he said. But the rest of the time, "I'm bringing very bad news to your family, and if you want to see something change the Quiet Room to the Wailing Wall, you have to lis-

ten in on that conversation."

He quietly tells the audience that their child's injuries were too severe to save them, and they died. After a moment, he mimics a reaction he's seen all too often — a very loud scream of "No!" that shocks the entire audience to attention, sparking somewhat confused chatter.

"This has happened to me many, many times," Hirsch added. "I've seen that Quiet Room go berserk when I say that you died, and a little piece of me dies, too."

Obviously, Wright doesn't remember that from his own crash. In fact, he said he can't remember a lot of his life very well, including his late best friend and even all of his first 10 years. Much of his memory depends on things people have told him he did, "but I can't remember doing them," he said.

"My memory is functional, but it's a pain," Wright said, his voice somewhat hard to follow because of his injuries. "I

have to do things again and again and again."

He did eventually finish college, took more than 10 years to relearn how to walk, no longer smokes pot or drinks, and thinks about that accident daily, he said.

As Hirsch noted, however, such things really are not accidents because they're predictable results of choices.

"It's not an act of fate. It's inexperience, bad decisions, taking risks. It's driving impaired," he said, noting that, "Even a five-word message on your screen takes your eyes off the road for the length of a football field."

For nearly a decade before 2015, he added, federal data showed a steady decrease in crash rates, but that figure has climbed by 16 percent since then. Why is unclear, but it could involve the fact that lower gas prices have encouraged more driving at a time when other forms of transit are getting more costly, the fact

that cellphones are more common, and that some states have legalized marijuana, he said.

"We have to work harder as a result to get the message out to teens that they're at the greatest risk of injury and death," he said before the presentation. "It doesn't take much to distract an inexperienced driver."

Afterward, Officer Brian Kennedy, the school's resource officer, said this was the third year the school has hosted this presentation and the accompanying distracted driver simulator.

"The more these kids see it and hear it, we'll reach a few more of them," he said.

So far, Auburn has been "fairly lucky" with accidents. No student has been seriously injured or killed since before the new high school opened in 2006, he said.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

CARPENTER

continued from page 1

heavily on state aid." (At present, about 20 percent of the budget comes from Boston, compared to 50 percent or more in some towns.)

That said, though, he's wary of the ongoing tax rate shift, which started in 2008, noting he's not sure whether a split rate or single rate is actually best.

"We have to be cautious with any sort of thing like that because it has an exponential effect on the residential taxpayer," Carpenter said. "We definitely want to remain competitive. Auburn is one of the best communities to do business in" because of the road network, zoning and other things. Right now, he noted, the town's economy is heavily service-oriented, and he doesn't see the town as "having a role in promoting

particular industries."

On the other hand, he feels recreational marijuana businesses are "not something I think we want to explore. But I want as many people to say one way or the other."

He said he does support medical uses and feels it'll be "interesting" to see what the response to the ballot question is.

The ongoing redesign of Drury Square is something he supports, and he should — as chair of the Master Plan committee in 2006, he played a key role in getting it started. He sees it as having a notable potential to benefit the town financially and otherwise, but it still needs "business buy-in" to make it work. Although it's not the actual center of town, he hopes to see it evolve a "town square feel" as befits "the crossroads of Auburn."

Even when that's done, though, there

will always be a need to help some members of the community. He said he supports proposals on the Town Meeting warrant to give veterans, active troops and seniors tax breaks, noting "it's very important as we pursue these community goals to be fiscally responsible." Regarding seniors, he observed Auburn's doing "as much as the state will allow, but at times, it seems insufficient" in the face of rising costs of health care. One of those things is the recently released request for proposals to redevelop Bancroft and Stone schools into senior housing, which he noted is "a major need."

That's likewise true of the town's roughly 30 percent of families with students receiving reduced lunches. Since they're "also sensitive to taxes, we have to be very aware of our needs vs. our wants," Carpenter added, later noting, "Workforce housing is an issue. At

times, people who work for the town can't even afford to live in town."

Regarding the proposed dog park, he praised the Fur Friends group for doing "a tremendous amount of research," but noted he's not sure yet whether he'll support it. He's still waiting to see the Dog Park Committee's report, ongoing maintenance costs, and resident's overall reaction to the plan.

"I'm not self-employed. I work for our residents and businesses. If they have issues, I hope they'll talk to me," he said.

Polls are open 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 16 at the Auburn High School gymnasium.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

MEETING

continued from page 1

town as a whole.

Additionally, the project would have brought "a donation" of \$50,000 a year for 20 years, with \$250,000 upfront and the rest paid starting in year 5, plus rights to use the signs 20 hours per month and a separate, smaller, movable sign for permanent town use, she said.

"A donation has been offered to the town, but that's not why we're proposing this," Jacobson later added.

According to Town Planner Matt Benoit, the billboards would have gone on the mall side of the Mass Pike curve nearest the mall. Analysis of the area showed they'd have "a very limited view" from the neighborhoods around Arrowhead Drive, from the intersection of Millbury and Pakachoag, and from parts of Route 12, he said, noting most of them would only see the structure itself. By contrast, the screens were designed to be visible only from a certain angle largely aimed at the Pike, with a maximum brightness, and could not be "transitional or animated" or change more often than every 10 seconds,

Benoit said.

Only for two of the other articles — number 4, on the capital budget, and the last one (35), on a recreational marijuana moratorium — did Moderator Chet Stencil request a hand count, and both passed overwhelmingly. A third item seeking to create a Special Education Reserve Fund was unanimously postponed indefinitely for lack of information.

Everything else passed unanimously or with an uncounted tally, many of them with minimal discussion. The longest articles — on the budget and capital programs — were primarily presentations by town officials, with Jacobson and Chief Financial Officer Ed Kazanovicz shouldering much of the burden. (Their Power Points are available on the town website.) He said the \$63.9 million budget involved \$475,000 in new growth (down from the five-year average of \$701,000), \$10.9 million in state aid, \$8.8 million in various local receipts, and a tax levy of \$38 million. Overall, it would result in a tax hike of only 1 percent, and he added "We have not taxed to 2 1/2 over the last eight years."

The budget includes several new jobs: six at the schools,

four firefighters, two police officers, and one each in DPW and Inspectional Services, Finance Committee Chair Kevin Hussey said. A lot of the budgetary changes were driven by "significant growth in school spending, driven in large part by additional special needs student related costs," he added. (Later, Precinct 1 Rep. Robert Platukis suggested the schools reach out to WPI to "help these kids and mitigate future funding," noting the college has sometimes designed accessibility devices for the handicapped.)

"... The town still faces some significant financial unknowns, primarily the state's ability to continue this new level of local aid" in the face of rising health care costs and falling state revenues, he said. Specifically, Auburn's state aid rose by \$1.1 million to \$12.3 million, which comprises 19.2 percent of the budget.

By contrast, Hussey noted, the town is seeing "significant reduction" in debt as payment for older projects concludes. During her overview of the past year, Jacobson added that the town has also been getting a wide range of grants, "saved upwards of \$800,000" on health insurance changes,

has amassed \$9.2 million in free cash, and is putting about \$700,000 toward roads on top of the state's Chapter 90 aid (\$608,000).

Among the items that sparked the most discussion were four articles that ultimately gave various parts of the community tax breaks. All of them involved the town accepting a "local option" that exists in state law.

Article 21 reduced the interest rate accruing on deferred property taxes for certain residents from 8 percent to 4 percent.

Article 22 exempted half of the real and personal property taxes paid by National Guard and military reserve members serving overseas. That one saw a little opposition from Precinct 1 Rep. Carl Westerman, who objected to the fact it did not include the full-time soldiers also serving. In response, Jacobson noted the existing law doesn't give that option. "Someone could petition the Legislature to change it," she added.

Article 23 reduced the age for a senior property tax exemption to 67 while increasing the financial limits eligible people can have. In response to a question, Assessor Cynthia

Cosgrove noted the new estate limit of \$50,000 does not include one's home or car; it just covers bank accounts and similar things.

Additionally, the members unanimously approved allowing the town manager to negotiate payment in lieu of taxes agreements for solar projects.

"Several solar companies have come forward" with plans, Jacobson said, adding that previous attempts at both PILOT and net metering deals fell through because the projects themselves did. She said she felt putting this on the books now is necessary because solar firms have been winning court cases to get themselves declared non-profits.

"If the state law changes and makes these facilities tax-exempt, it's our understanding the PILOT agreement will supersede the change in the law" and allow Auburn to keep collecting income from them, Jacobson said.

Benoit added the town still lacks a specific solar bylaw, but the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee is preparing one he hopes to be ready for the Fall Town Meeting.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

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New 2017 Toyota COROLLA SE



• Back-Up Camera • Bluetooth • Automatic

Lease For **\$134** /Mo. **36** MPG! †

Stk# 267998, Model# 1864, MSRP: \$21,554. \$2,799 cash or trade down, \$3,498 due at signing, \$20,276 capitalized cost. \$1,000 Toyota lease cash.**

New 2017 Toyota CAMRY SE



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Lease For **\$149** /Mo. **35** MPG! †

Stk# 268495, Model# 2546, MSRP: \$24,954. \$2,899 cash or trade down, \$3,605 due at signing, \$23,070 capitalized cost. \$1,950 Toyota lease cash.**

New 2017 Toyota RAV4 LE AWD



• 6 Speed Automatic • Off Road Capability

Lease For **\$189** /Mo. **28** MPG! †

Stk# 267999, Model# 4432, MSRP: \$27,738. \$2,999 cash or trade down, \$3,711 due at signing, \$26,292 capitalized cost. \$450 Toyota lease cash.**

New 2017 Toyota TACOMA SR5 4X4 DOUBLE CAB



• V6 Engine • Back-Up Camera

Lease For **\$279** /Mo. **23** MPG! †

Stk# 278142, Model# 7540A, MSRP: \$34,563. \$2,999 cash or trade down, \$3,497 due at signing, \$32,743 capitalized cost.

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• V6 Engine • Star Safety System • 8 Passenger

Lease For **\$299** /Mo. **24** MPG! †

Stk# 278699, Model# 5366, MSRP: \$36,370. \$2,799 cash or trade down, \$4,497 due at signing, \$34,233 capitalized cost.

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Lease For **\$327** /Mo. **25** MPG! †

Stk# 277999, Model# 6953, MSRP: \$41,463. \$2,999 cash or trade down, \$3,711 due at signing, \$38,393 capitalized cost.

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 '11 Toyota RAV4 Base SUV 4x4, I-4 cyl, 4 spd auto, 77K miles, A267658B	 '13 Kia Sportage LX AWD, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 71K miles, A4024A	 '15 Toyota Corolla LE Sedan, I-4 cyl, auto, FWD, 29K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4168	 '11 Toyota Camry XLE Sedan, I-4 cyl, auto, front wheel drive, 76K miles, A4138A	 '13 Honda Civic Si Sedan, I-4 cyl, 6 spd manual, front wheel drive, 30K miles, A4174A	 '15 Toyota Camry SE Sedan, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 22K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4159
 '12 Toyota RAV4 Ltd 4WD, I-4 cyl, 4 spd auto, 75K miles, A4041A	 '11 Toyota Venza Crossover Base AWD, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 67K miles, A4177A	 '13 Hyundai Genesis 3.8 Sedan, V-6 cyl, 8 spd auto, RWD, 63K mi, Carfax 1-owner, A4086	 '12 Honda Pilot LX 4x4, V-6 cyl, 5 spd auto, 73K miles, A4193	 '14 Toyota Avalon XLE Sedan, V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, 55K miles, A267770A	 '13 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport SUV, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 30K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4183
 '14 Toyota RAV4 Ltd 4WD, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 29K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267757A	 '14 Kia Sportage EX SUV, I-4 cyl, auto, FWD, 23K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267846A	 '14 Toyota Venza Crossover AWD, V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, 26K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267624A	 '15 Toyota Sienna LE Van AWD, V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, 56K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267605A	 '15 Honda CR-V EX-L SUV, I-4 cyl, cont. Variable auto, FWD, 12K mi, Carfax 1-owner, A4139A	 '15 Toyota Avalon XLE Sedan, V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, FWD, 36K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267809A
 '16 Toyota RAV4 SE SUV, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, AWD, 48K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267627A	 '14 Ford Edge Sport SUV, V-6 cyl, auto, FWD, 23K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267572B	 '14 Toyota 4Runner SUV 4x4, V-6 cyl, 5 spd auto, 77K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267675A	 '17 Toyota RAV4 XLE AWD, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 5K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4222A	 '14 Toyota Tacoma Truck 4x4 Double Cab, V-6 cyl, auto, 36K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4163A	 '15 Toyota Tacoma Truck 4x4 Double Cab, V-6 cyl, auto, 26K mi, Carfax 1-owner, A267129B
 '13 Toyota Tundra Truck 4x4, V-8 cyl, 6 spd auto, 58K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267829B	 '17 Volkswagen Tiguan 2.0T SEL 4MOTION, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, AWD, 4K miles, A267169B	 '16 Toyota Tundra Dble Cab 4x4, V-8 cyl, 6 spd auto, 2K mi, Carfax 1-owner, A267935A	 '14 Toyota 4Runner SUV 4x4, V-6 cyl, 5 spd auto, 51K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267577A	 '15 Toyota Highlander Ltd AWD, V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, 45K miles, A4122	 '16 Toyota Tundra TRD-Pro CrewMax 4x4, V-8 cyl, 6 spd auto, 15K mi, Carfax 1-owner, A267973A

Not responsible for typographical errors

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Tuesday, May 23, 2017 • 6pm
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proudly presented by
**Financial Advisor Dennis Antonopoulos of
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SATURDAY, MAY 13

THE MCMURPHY'S
9:00 p.m.
Fun-loving duo playing songs we know and love
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333



**MAY MADNESS
MEAT RAFFLE**
Doors open at 11 a.m.
12 p.m. start
WEBSTER FISH & GAME
91 Gore Rd.
Webster, MA



ROADHOUSE BLUES JAM
Every Sunday, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
CADY'S TAVERN
2168 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI
401-568-4102



HUGE MEAT RAFFLE
First Friday of the month
Early Bird 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
1st table: 7:00 p.m.
Auburn Sportsman Club
50 Elm St., Auburn, MA
508-832-6496



TUESDAY, MAY 23

**PREPARING YOUR
ESTATE PLAN**
6:00 p.m.
Presented by Financial Advisor
Dennis Antonopoulos of
Edward Jones and Estate
Planning Attorney Melissa Gleick
CHRISTOPHER HEIGHTS
An Assisted Living Community
338 Thompson Rd.
Webster, MA
Please RSVP to the receptionist
at 508-949-0400 by May 26, 2017
Open to the public

SATURDAY, JUNE 10
8:00 A.M. - afternoon
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7:30 p.m. start up
HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB
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Cash prizes
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<p>List Price: \$15,977 SAVE \$2,000</p> <p>2015 Hyundai Elantra SE 34 MPG Economy, Alloy Wheels, Sport Trim, Heated Seats • #H0013</p> <p>JUST REDUCED \$13,599 PRICED \$1,600 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK</p>	<p>Compare at \$26,775 new</p> <p>5 SONATA AVAILABLE</p> <p>2015-2016 Hyundai Sonata Low miles • Full power package • Alloy wheels • #H0010L</p> <p>PRICED FROM \$14,999 PRICED \$2,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK RETAIL!</p>		<p>List Price: \$19,999 SAVE \$2,000</p> <p>2014 Nissan Altima 2.5S Leather Seats, Very low miles Every power option • #H0024</p> <p>JUST REDUCED \$15,999 PRICED \$1,000 UNDER KELLEY BLUE BOOK</p>
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Horse lovers, take notice! This 1.4 Acre lot with a 3 BR, 2 Bath 2,014 sq. ft. ranch also offers a barn and 2 storage sheds! Barn has electric service, stable, (2) 12x10 stalls, 12X11 dry hay storage, grooming area, a 12x6 tack room and a 21x9 aisle. \$269,999

AUBURN
Recently renovated 4 BR, 2 bath Cape on dead end road. Recent updates include paint throughout, renovated bathroom, bedroom carpets, roof, storm doors, skylight and flue for chimney. 16x10 bonus room in finished basement. \$239,900

BLACKSTONE
3 Br, 1.5 Bath, 1,589 sq. ft, like-new Split-Entry; Updates include a new roof, deck, kitchen, bathrooms & flooring throughout. Finished LL has large fireplace, bathroom & laundry area that could be used as an in-law setup in the future. \$309,900

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A Place To Call Home...

BROOKLYN-To be built, no construction loan needed! This hip roof Colonial style home has a flexible floor plan and opportunity for additional living space over the 2 car garage. The home sits on an over 2 acre lot and is ready for your input and designs. Home features 3 bedrooms 2 1/2 bathrooms, an open floor plan with fireplace living room, granite countered kitchen, family room, dining room & hardwoods throughout the first floor. The master suite features two walk-in closets and a full bathroom. You will find an oversized 12x16 back deck to compliment the efficient propane heat, CAIR, all the bells & whistles! Have time to pick the siding, shingles, paint, flooring and more! \$369,900

WOODSTOCK-This 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bathroom Colonial is ready for new owners! Sitting on almost 3 private acres with a 2 car attached garage and great multi-level deck for entertaining. The open kitchen features stainless steel appliances and unique concrete counters. The open living room has a cozy fireplace and an additional room that makes a great office/den/playroom. The master suite has a jetted tub, walk-in closet, & double sinks. Priced at just \$319,900.

WOODSTOCK-Privately set and located in a neighborhood of similar quality homes, this custom built 3 BR 3 Bath colonial provides the perfect venue for either peaceful solitude or large party entertaining! Hickory cabinets, granite countertops and a generous sized eat-in buffet/breakfast bar, opens onto casual living and dining areas, the latter with a cozy gas fireplace. A more formal dining room is set off the front foyer; palladium windows and vaulted ceilings throughout the home; your guests will enjoy watching the game while floating in the indoor heated pool, or belting up to the impressive pub sized wetbar. Atrium doors lead you to an almost 1000 foot stamped concrete patio; a tiered waterfall flows from the hillside into a lacustri pool surrounding a Gazebo; a 2nd fireplace is located in the master suite. Luxury living is yours in this incredible package for just \$549,900

KILLINGLY-You must see this 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 1451 sq. foot Cape Cod home that sits nicely on 1 acre to truly appreciate all it has to offer. Re-built from the subfloor up by a local respected builder. Hardwood floors, chef's kitchen complete with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances, master bedroom with full bath and walk-in closet are on the main floor. Easily accessible to 395. Listed at only \$219,900, you won't want to wait on taking a peek at this home. Call today for your private viewing.

WOODSTOCK-Great opportunity! 2 family older home. First floor, 3 bedroom apartment with pellet stove and 2 bedroom apartment on second floor. Two car garage and shared laundry. Simple country living. Within minutes to amenities and MA border. \$174,900

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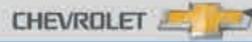
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\$3,200
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19' Quickstep Sail Boat
7'8" beam,
leaded keel draft 22"
main sail and jib
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\$800.00

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\$1000.00
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(508)832-3029

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4W296, HK Potter 2790
Normally Sells For \$700
\$50 OBO
Call 5pm-8:30pm
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Beautiful Solitaire Diamond Ring
Ready to propose to your beloved but resources are limited? Diamond is 3/4 of a carat, white gold band, size 7. It's elegant and yet modern. Simply beautiful!
Retail market value: \$2,850. Selling for \$700. Credit and Debit Cards are accepted. Please Call or Text Jane for pictures
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MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SPECIALIZED GLOBE SUNTOUR 14764 TIRE SIZE 700X38C CROSSROADS AVENIR SEAT SHIMANO REVOSHIFTS 7 SPEEDS & MORE MINT CONDITION A MUST SEE
ASKING \$300
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Self cleaning
Digital clock, black
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Call **774-230-8060**
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\$650 or best offer
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Lg Pierced w/Glass Front
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Candles Included
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\$125
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With Bed Underneath,
Never Been Laid On!
\$200
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Local News

FOUND HERE!
DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT RING
Half carat
Beautiful marquis setting
Yellow gold band
Never worn, still in box
Cost \$2250 new
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Electrical Material
Industrial, Commercial, Residential
Wire, Pipe, Fittings, Relays, Coils, Overloads, Fuses, Breakers, Meters, Punches, Pipe-Benders.

New Recessed Troffer
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Enclosed
\$56 Each
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\$800

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WITH NORAM CLUTCH-
MOTOR MOUNT 58T 59T 60T
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2-BOTTLES OF OIL
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BICYCLE
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Shimano
Equipped Off Road
21 Speed, Twist Shift
Paid \$400
Will sacrifice
Also
WIRE WHEEL HUBCAPS
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Make offer
Call **860-215-0962**
Ask for Rich

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For Sale
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White (P-17)
Excellent condition
Asking \$1,450.00
Call after 4 p.m.
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Fits models x310, x360, x540, x530, x534
Lists \$1,900.00
Sell \$1,200.00
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FOR SALE

OAK TV STAND
\$200

CHERRY COFFEE TABLE
\$125

TWO END TABLES
\$125/EACH

SOFA TABLE
\$150

ALL VERY GOOD CONDITION

FULL-SIZE AERO BED NEVER USED
\$75

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\$35

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Best Offer
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lists New \$1,800.00
SELL \$850.00

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Very Good Condition.

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Size 12
New \$2,400
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Bed, Two Bureaus with Mirror
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Solid Cherry Table with Two
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with
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LUMBER
Rough Sawn Pine
DRY 30+ Yrs.
2" x 18" or smaller.

Call **(508) 476-7867**

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\$60.00

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\$30.00

Routers, woodworking tools
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Many miscellaneous

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Maytag Stove
Black
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Thigh length
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Seldom worn!
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1/2HP 230/460V
1725RPM, 56 Frame
\$30

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4 Motor Speed Controls
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Tools, Compressor,
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Items, Some Furniture,
plus Much More!

Please Call
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or email:
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for more information or
appointment

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NEW BALANCE SNEAKERS
3 Pair
Black Leather Walking Shoes
Velcro Close, Never Worn!
9 1/2 Wide

\$60/each
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5 Years Old
Good Condition
White
\$350
Call Sandy
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Some with motors,
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Call **774-241-0027**

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Replica 1929 Mercedes
SSK
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Gear
\$7,700

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\$150

Flexible Flyer Sled, Wooden Toboggan, Wood/Fiberglass Skis
Best Offer

Lionel Mid-Forties Train Set, Tracks Accessories
\$450

Steel Car Ramps
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ONLY 9AM-4PM!

Sears 12" Bandsaw

Troy Built 3-in-1 Lawnmower

New Total Gym
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WANTING TO SELL
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THESE ARE GENUINE
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AAA GRADE.

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SNOW BLOWER CUB CADET 945 SWE SNOWBLOWER

13 hp Tecumseh OHV,
45 in width trigger
controlled steering,
6 forward, 2 reverse,
Hardly used!
\$1,700

WHITE OUTDOOR PRODUCTS
SnowBoss 1050
Snowblower, 10hp
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30 in width, electric start
Well maintained.
\$600.00

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Until Sold! \$46.....
(Up To 1 Year Maximum)

* Bargain Box rate does not apply to Pets,
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Write your ad here:

Name: _____
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Charge it to my credit card.

Circle one:

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Expiration Date Name on the credit card

Zip Code for Card

V Code 3 digits on back of card _____ Amex Code 4 digits on front of card _____

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Credit Card Number For Your Ad

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Fax to: 508-765-0233

Email to:
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Drivers, \$2,500 Sign-On Bonus!
Home Every Weekend!
Great Pay & Benefits!
CDL-A, 1yr Exp. Req.
Extension Logistics
Apply: www.goelc.com
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- SMALL BUREAU**
\$75.00
 - PRINTER'S ANTIQUE DRAWERS**
\$20.00 PER
 - 2002 COMPUTER ACCUSYNC 50 NEC**
\$100.00
 - KITCHEN CHAIRS**
 - SPARE TIRE P225/60R16 EAGLE GA WITH RIM**
\$45.00
 - ELECTRIC CHORD ORGAN**
\$60.00
 - CAR SUNROOF**
\$100.00
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\$100.00
 - ANTIQUA LAMP JUG**
\$40.00
 - ANTIQUA CROQUET SET**
\$40.00
 - SMALL COFFEE TABLE**
\$35.00
 - ELECTRIC BASE BOARD**
\$25.00
 - DROP LEAF CART**
\$50.00
 - END TABLE W/DRAWER**
\$50.00
 - END TABLE W/ TWO DRAWERS**
\$60.00
- CALL**
1-508-764-4458
1-774-452-3514

Solid Rock Maple Bedroom Set
Full Box Spring & Mattress
\$1,000

Cracker Barrel Rocking Chair
Brand New!
\$75

Rocker/Glider Chair
\$75

Hutch
Top Comes Off
\$75
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TIRES from 2014 Jeep Wrangler

Set of 5
Spare is BRAND NEW!
Rims are silver five star style
.25 tread depth
Excellent Condition

\$300 FIRM
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TOOL SHEDS
Made of Texture 1-11
8x8 \$775
8x10 \$960
8x12 \$1050
8x16 \$1375

Delivered, Built On-Site
Other Sizes Available
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TWO CURIO CABINETS
Pulaski Brand, Cherry
\$250/each or Best Offer

GE ELECTRIC STOVE
Excellent Condition,
Light Cream Color
\$250 or Best Offer

ROLL-TOP DESK
Maple
\$150 or Best Offer
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\$500
(508)612-9263
(508)461-7479

YAMAHA CLAVINOVA ELECTRIC PIANO WITH BENCH
Model CLP153S
Original price \$2,675
Asking \$900 (negotiable)
508-765-1514

100 GENERAL

105 BULLETIN BOARD

FOUR HORSE STALLS FOR RENT

CALL FOR INFORMATION
(508) 335-8239

TWO CAR GARAGE FOR RENT
in Oxford, MA

Ten Year Old Building
Whole Garage \$700
Please text
(508) 615-1246

UMass Memorial Center has information regarding:

Richard Snyder
date of birth 2/12/40

and is seeking to locate family members of this person. If you are a family member of **Richard Snyder**, please contact Alexis Silver at (774) 442-6996 before May 15th, 2017.

WANTED
ONE-CAR GARAGE IN SOUTHBRIDGE
No more than \$50 a month
Call Mike at
774-230-8720
Please leave message

130 YARD SALES

DEADLINE FOR YARD SALE SUBMISSIONS IS NOON MONDAY FOR ALL MASS. WEEKLY PAPERS
Deadline subject to change due to holidays
Call for more info

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE

518/520 Leadmine Rd
Sturbridge
Saturday, May 13th
8am-2pm

Household Items, Children's Toys and Clothing, Tools, Gardening Tools, Electronics and Much More!

YARD SALE

7 Ash St.
Webster, MA
Friday, May 12th & Saturday, May 13th
8-5

Rain or Shine, In Garage!
Many household items, vintage toys and other vintage items.
Follow Arrows from School St and Thompson Rd

200 GEN. BUSINESS

205 BOATS

1- BASS BOAT 10 ft. with trailer \$1150.

1- 13 ft. 10" ALUMINUM SPORTSPAL CANOE \$500.

1- ALUMINUM 10 ft. JOHN BOAT \$300.

Call
508-885-5189

16FT OLDTOWN OTTER KAYAK

2 Person
Paddles Included
\$400
(508) 347-9979



20' Ranger Comanche
488V
Mercury XR1 Electronic Fuel-Injection Motor.
150HP

Four blade stainless steel new prop.
2015 New Minnkota Maximum 65lb thrust, 24 Volt Dual console. LowranceHD85 with trailer.
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205 BOATS

2013 Mirro-Craft 14'6" Boat Trolle1416
2013 40HP Yamaha Motor, Full Cover Hummingbird Fish Finder, Many Extras, Boat, Motor, and 2014 Trailer Like New, Ready to Go!
Call
(860) 935-0340
Leave Message
Price \$8,500.00

For Sale
2006 BASS TRACKER PRO 175 BOAT

25 horse 4 stroke motor Recently tuned
New water pump
Includes trailer, life jackets, bumpers, ropes, oars \$6500 firm
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Old Town Canoe
1931 old town 18' restored Maine guide canoe.

Clear resin coated, Mahogany gun wales And caned seats a third seat mahogany caned seat and back Paddles included Perfect for the wooden canoe enthusiast.
\$5800.00
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84 PIECE AVON CAPE COD COLLECTION-DINNERWARE AND MORE
In Great Condition!
\$300 or best offer
(508) 885-7372

265 FUEL/WOOD

FIREWOOD
Cut, Split & Delivered Green & Seasoned
Wood Lots Wanted
Call Paul(508)769-2351

LOG LENGTH FIREWOOD AVAILABLE BY THE TRUCKLOAD

7 cords mixed hardwoods per load
\$800 delivered
Delivery location must have tri-axle truck access.
(860) 974-0127
Ask for Mike Bartlett
www.hullforest.com

281 FREE PETS

EIGHT OLDER, WELL-LOVED INDOOR CATS

Need Re-homing
Wife died and elderly husband with illness can no longer care for them.
All spayed and vet checked.
Call for pictures & information
(774) 245-4665

283 PETS

AKC REGISTERED COLLIES

Full Registration, Parents on Site
\$1,000
Call Sue
(860) 268-6973

284 LOST & FOUND PETS

Did you find your pet? Or find a home for one?



LET US KNOW!!!
Please call us so that we can take your ad out of the paper...

Town-To-Town Classifieds 508-909-4111

FOUND CAT Saturday April 27th, in the Pleasant St. Area of Southbridge, MA.

Unneutered Male, All Gray, Short Hair, Very Friendly, Doesn't Appear to Want to be Outside
(508) 344-5412

285 PET CARE

FAN-C-PET
Mobile Grooming Salon

Vicki Kelley
Professional Groomer
20 Years Exp.
"We Go Right to Your Door"
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Going... Going... Gone to the Dogs

Training and behavior management in your home.
Positive methods used.
Certified Pet Dog trainer and member APDT
Call Renelle at 508-892-1850
email: cherydals@aol.com

Marty's Paws & Claws NOW OPEN Full Service Pet Salon

conveniently located on Route 20 in Charlton.
We are committed to keeping your pets looking great!

384 Worcester Rd
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(774) 276-7038
martyspawsandclaws@gmail.com

286 LIVESTOCK

HORSE BEDDING
Pine Bag Shavings
3.25 cubic feet
\$4.85/each

HORSE HAY
for Sale
Big Squares
3' x 3' x 71/2' Square Bales
EXCELLENT for Horses

West Brookfield
Call
(508) 867-2508

298 WANTED TO BUY

Route 169 Antiques
884 Worcester St. Southbridge MA
Looking To Purchase Antiques And Collectibles Single Items Or Entire Estates
We Buy It All And Also Do On-Site Estate Sales And Estate Auctions
CALL MIKE ANYTIME (774)230-1662

\$ BUY & SELL \$ ALL GOLD & SILVER ITEMS

Specializing in NUMISMATIC COINS, gold & silver of any form!
Qualified with over 30 years experience & a following of many satisfied customers.
We also sell a nice selection of fine jewelry, antiques & collectibles.
Bring in your items & see what they're worth. You won't leave disappointed.
Honesty and fairness are our best policies!

Lee's
Coins & Jewelry
239 West Main Street
East Brookfield (Route 9 - Panda Garden Plaza)
(508)637-1236
(508)341-6355 (cell)

LOOKING FOR SNACK VENDING MACHINES

Call Allan
(508) 367-9503

298 WANTED TO BUY

WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIRS WANTED WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING!
Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Flags, Uniforms, etc.
Over 30 Years Experience.
Call David
1-(508)688-0847
I'll Come To YOU!

300 HELP WANTED

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

Applications being accepted for summer positions:
Front Desk, Snack Bar, Maintenance, Security, Cleaning, Mini Golf, Activities and Boat Rentals
Reliable Person, Sturbridge Area
Ask for J.D.
(413) 262-5082

MONETTE LANDSCAPING AND CONSTRUCTION

Looking for Full-Time Help
License Required, Experience a plus, but will train.
Contact Richard Monette
(508) 885-2579

ASSISTANT MANAGER WANTED (Liquor Store)

Evenings 3-11pm
Part Time/Full Time
Applicants must be mature, responsible and reliable. Experience preferred, but will train the right applicant.
Please Call
(508) 864-2991 for details.

Part-Time Coffee Servers and Experienced Part-Time Donut Baker needed

Call (508) 943-3517 or in person
Dippin Donuts
32 West Main St.
Dudley, MA

Salem Cross Inn hiring Bussers and Servers

Apply in person or on our website:
www.salemcrossinn.com

DRIVER Full-Time or Part-Time Excellent Driving Record Required

Apply online:
www.wsaparts.com or in person to:
West Springfield Auto Parts
10 Technology Drive
Auburn

Foster Parents Wanted

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



Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care
(508)829-6769

HOUSEWIVES WANTED

to Address Envelopes at Home
You Must Have a Typewriter or Good Handwriting
Call
(774) 318-1232

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

HAMPTON INN STURBRIDGE
is now hiring for the following positions

Front Office Manager
Night Auditor
Front Desk Agent

Apply in Person:
Hampton Inn
328 Main St
Sturbridge, MA 01566

LANDSCAPER HELPER & GENERAL WORKER NEEDED

Loading Trucks, Tree Cutting, Painting, Fence Repair, & Cutting Grass

Reliable Person, Sturbridge Area

Ask for J.D.
(413) 262-5082

MONETTE LANDSCAPING AND CONSTRUCTION

Looking for Full-Time Help
License Required, Experience a plus, but will train.
Contact Richard Monette
(508) 885-2579

PART TIME HELP NEEDED to Stack Firewood and Run Equipment

Firewood Processor Experience a Plus.
Please Call
(413) 245-9615 to apply

Part-Time Coffee Servers and Experienced Part-Time Donut Baker needed

Call (508) 943-3517 or in person
Dippin Donuts
32 West Main St.
Dudley, MA

Salem Cross Inn hiring Bussers and Servers

Apply in person or on our website:
www.salemcrossinn.com

SHARED LIVING PROVIDER

Alternatives Unlimited Inc. is currently seeking a clinically knowledgeable Shared Living Provider in the Webster/Southbridge area to establish a home with a gentleman with developmental disabilities. The ideal candidate would be able to provide a safe, structured and stable living environment. If qualified, Shared Living Providers receive a generous tax free monthly stipend. Training and support provided. Experience in Human Services and advocating for people with disabilities is beneficial, but not required.
Contact Diane at:
(508) 266-6576 or:
diane.pickett@alternativesnet.org

THE WHITINSVILLE WATER COMPANY

is seeking to hire Seasonal Grounds Maintenance Positions for the 2017 season. Full job description and application available at:

http://whitinsvillewater.com/wvc-now-hiring-seasonal-water-system-laborer-position

319 HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Behavior Specialist (ID 10477) Sturbridge, MA

Full-Time Behavior Specialist will develop and supervise the implementation of behavior support plans, attend meetings, train staff, and provide technical assistance with behavioral issues as needed in Shared Living homes. The position requires proficiency with the delivery of behavior analytic services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities within their natural environments.
Bachelor's Degree with two years of behavioral intervention experience. Master's degree in psychology, behavior analysis, special education, or related field preferred. BCBA license preferred.

View job specific details & apply at:
www.SevenHills.org/careers/
Type ID #10477 into the Keyword/ID# field.
AA/EOE

PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL SERVICES, INC. IN STURBRIDGE

IS LOOKING TO HIRE HHA'S/CNA'S/PCA'S & HOMEMAKERS BILINGUAL/SPANISH SPEAKING ENCOURAGED TO APPLY
(508) 347-9400
EOE

325 PROFESSIONAL HELP WANTED

TRAILER TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED

Class A CDL with Hazmat
Based in North Brookfield

Please Call
508-867-3235

400 SERVICES

402 GENERAL SERVICES

Call The Junk Man

Trees Cut
Brush/Limbs Removed
METAL PICK-UP Appliances, Furniture, TV's. Construction Materials. Cellars/Attics Cleaned. Small Building Demolition, Residential Moves. Furnaces Removed

Dave
(508)867-2564
(413)262-5082

442 LICENSED DAY CARE

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of Child Care Services requires that all ads placed in the newspaper for child care (daycare) in your home include your license number

454 HOME IMPROVEMENT

PAINTING Interior/Exterior Power Washing Carpentry

• FREE ESTIMATES •
• FULLY Insured •
• Reasonable Rates •
Rich O'Brien Painting
28 Years Of Experience
(508)248-7314

454 HOME IMPROVEMENT

Furniture Doctor
Have your furniture Professionally restored at Reasonable rates. furniture face lifting, painting, striping to Refinishing, caning and repairs.

ANTIQUA DOCTOR

Daniel Ross
(508)248-9225
or
(860)382-5410
30 years in business

Spring Cleanups, Small One-Time Landscaping Jobs

Will build cemetery/window boxes, picnic tables. Also, small odd jobs, handyman services available. Light maintenance, appliance removal, power washing, shelving, woodwork, picture hanging to name a few. Honest, professional and courteous service. Reasonably priced, free estimates.

Call:
(508) 320-3431
or email:
lashawaypc@gmail.com
Thank You

457 LAWN/GARDEN

*****ROTOTILLING*****

New or existing gardens or flower beds, Cheaper than renting!
Call Jay
(508) 769-8183

500 REAL ESTATE

505 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT-SOUTHBRIDGE
First Floor, 3 Bedrooms, All Appliances Included, Includes Washer/Dryer
YOU PAY OWN OIL HEAT
NO PETS
\$750/month
Call
(508) 764-6425
NO CALLS AFTER 7pm

SOUTHBRIDGE 141 Elm Street Large Two Bedroom for Rent

Available Immediately, Washer/Dryer Hookups,
NO PETS
\$700/month
(508) 328-9093

SOUTHBRIDGE Large 3 Bedroom in a Quiet Neighborhood for Rent

References Please
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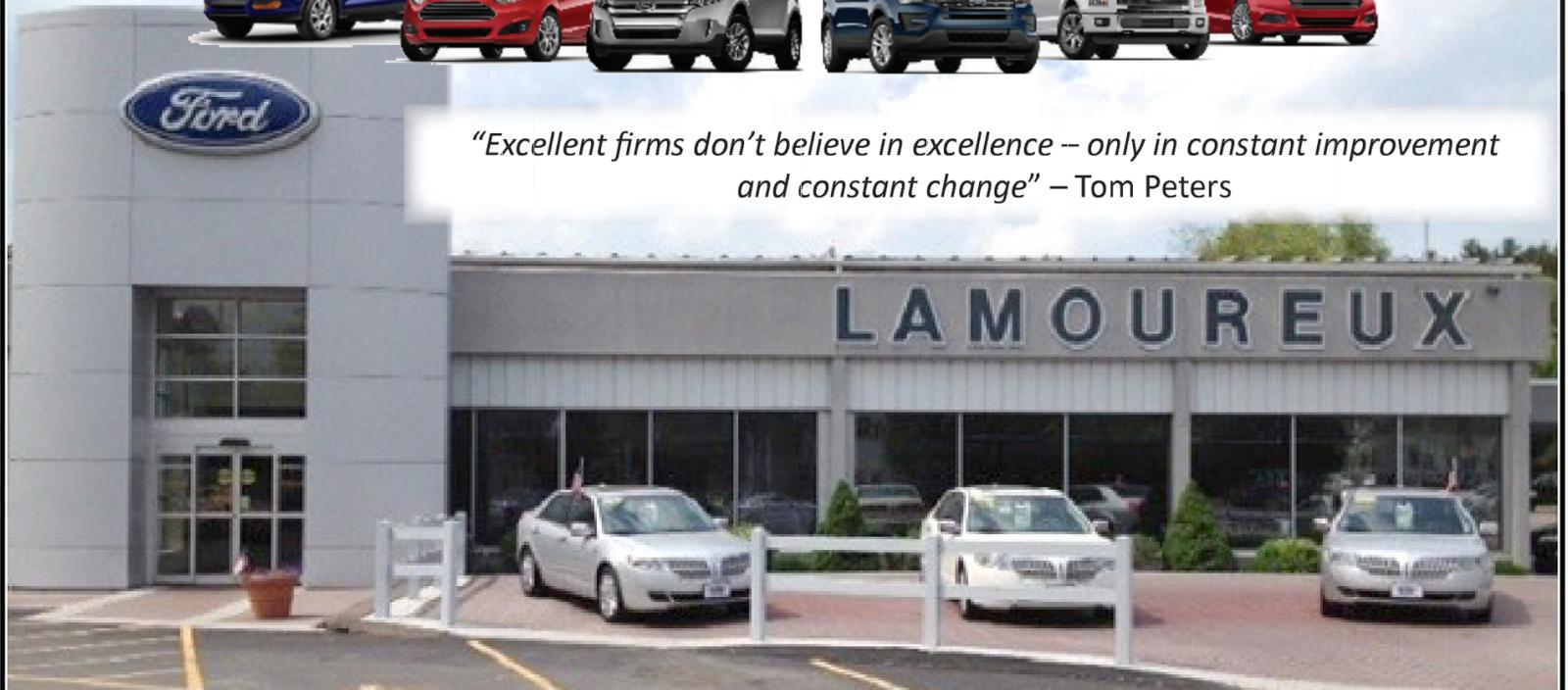
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