

# WHA provides stepping stone to American Dream

**BY GREG VINE**  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

It's often been said owning one's own home is the "American Dream." If that's still the case, the Winchendon Housing Authority has served as a vital stop on the road to fulfilling that dream for two local women.

"I'm closing on May 17," said Savannah Marion proudly. "I'll be moving into a home on Mason Street."

"I've already moved," adds Daira Marciano, with an equal amount of pride. "I'm living on Winter Street."

Marion has lived in a WHA unit since 2015; Marciano since 2010.

Marion said it was her intention to start working and saving for a home as soon as she moved into her housing authority unit, "but I didn't know it was going to be this quick."

"I was a single mom," she went on to explain, "and they were awesome. They got me

*Greg Vine photo*

**Savannah Smialek and Daira Marciano credit the Winchendon Housing Authority for giving them the help they needed to get on their feet and save toward the purchase of their own homes. Marciano recently moved into her new home, while Smialek and her fiancé will be closing on their new home in the next two weeks.**

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*Greg Vine photo*

**Rick Flematti of Athol recently working on drywall at the new headquarters for the Gardner Area League of Artists. Flematti is one of dozens of volunteers who have invested hundreds of hours into transforming the former carriage house at the historic Isaac Morse House into new display and office space. A grand opening is planned for this August.**

## GALA art show treat for eyes and ears

**BY GREG VINE**  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

As the Gardner Area League of Artists moves steadily toward the opening of its new headquarters, the group has also been busy preparing its Spring Art Show. This year's event will, according to GALA President Deb Giordano, be the biggest yet, with more than 70 exhibitors showing more than 200 paintings and music from more than a dozen groups and solo artists.

The show takes place at American Legion Post 193, 295 School St./Route 12 in Winchendon. The opening reception is Friday night from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday's hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and doors are open Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The event is free to the public. Refreshments will be available.

Giordano said steady progress toward the opening of GALA's new headquarters, located in the former carriage house of the historic Isaac Morse House at 135 Front St., has provided additional motivation to more local artists to join the non-profit organization. That, she says, is one big reason for the steadily increasing success of the

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## Supplemental budget includes local perquisites

BOSTON—Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and the Massachusetts Senate passed a \$156.4M supplemental budget to cover increased caseloads and time sensitive deficiencies in Fiscal Year 2018, including additional funding for regional transit authorities, local school districts' special education costs and programs for Massachusetts children and families.

Recognizing the financial challenges regional transit authorities across the state face in providing reliable, affordable transportation, the supplemental budget invests an additional \$4 million in these services. When asked about the increased funding Senator Gobi had this to say, "I have attended meetings and have listened to friends and neighbors whose quality of life would be changed by the reduction or loss of bus service. As the Senate Chair of the Regional Transportation Caucus, I was glad to work for increased funding and will continue to throughout the entire budget process."

Contained in the bill is an amendment sponsored by Senator Gobi that removes language previously barring towns from applying for MassWorks grants with populations under 7,000. "Our 136 small towns, including 13 in my Senate district, should not be placed at an unfair advantage," said Senator Gobi. "My amendment, which passed unanimously, removes onerous language that prevented the opportunity to apply for road and bridge grants on a yearly basis. This change can potentially bring in millions more to our small towns for needed infrastructure."

Another program Senator Gobi has been an avid champion for, the Healthy Incentives Program, gained a much

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## Students take diversity to a new level

**BY JERRY CARTON**  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Several months in the creation and planning, the Winchendon School has spent this week celebrating diversity and inclusion with a wide array of events.

With the weather finally cooperating, a number of campus organizations set up shop next to the Jason Ritchie Ice Rink Monday to promote a variety of causes dedicated to the twin themes of diversity and inclusion. Among them was the LGBT group and junior class student leader Rebecca Levine said the response "has been mostly positive."

"We're a small group compared to others but we meet every week and there are also teachers who are very supportive," reflected Levine, who arrived on campus as a sophomore last in 2016, citing some family connections to the school.

"I'm bi-sexual and I was comfortable here right away," she remarked. "I joined this group right away and this year

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## Senate passes credit protection bill in wake of Equifax breach

BOSTON — Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and the Massachusetts State Senate voted to pass a bill designed to protect the personal information of consumers in the case of data breaches, like the one seen at Equifax, and provide free credit freezes for all consumers.

The bill, S.2455, An Act relative to consumer protection from security breaches, helps all consumers protect their sensitive information before, during, and after a security breach in several ways: provide free credit freezes for all consumers.

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By Greg Vine

## IT'S AN ELF... AND OMG IT'S SANTA!!!

Domenic Iannacone and Chloe Higgins portray Buddy and Jovie in Elf, presented by Murdock Middle School students Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday nights at 1 p.m. at the Murdock Middle High School auditorium. Story and more photos page 9.



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LOCAL

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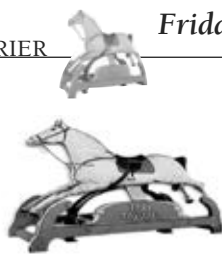


SPORTS

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# CLYDE'S CORNER

## SATURDAY MAY 6 & SUNDAY MAY 7

ELF, JR.: the middle school musical, will be performed on Saturday, May 5 at 7:00 and Sunday, May 6th at 1:00 at Murdock auditorium. Get your tickets by contacting Laura Marshall at 978-297-2461. Tickets are also available at the door. Come support these 50+ students who are participating in this production under the direction of Kristi Iannacone, Aly Galipeau and Maureen Provost.

## SUNDAY MAY 6

SPRING CONCERT: The Greater Gardner Community Choir's annual Spring Concert is Sunday, May 6 at 4 p.m. at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 52 Spruce St., Winchendon. The program features Dan Forrest's Requiem for the Living, with chamber orchestra. We will be singing new pieces, familiar favorites and a unique musical surprise will be included! The Greater Gardner Youth Choir will be our special guests. The Greater Gardner Community Choir is directed by Diane Cushing. Tickets are available at the door. For more information about GGCC email info@ggchoir.org

## FRIDAY MAY 18

DINNER & CONCERT: Spaghetti

and meatball dinner served with tossed salad and bread with assorted handheld desserts will be served from 5-6:30p.m. at the United Parish, 39 Front St. There is no set price, but donations are appreciated! The Needhams will be performing at 7pm. Free admittance, but good will offering is accepted!

## SATURDAY, MAY 19

OWC: Operation Winchendon Cares - Remembering Our Current Military - to be held on Saturday, May 19, at the American Legion Post 193 on School Street, Winchendon from 9-11 a.m. For updates please visit our Facebook page or our website www.winchendoncares.com.

## SUNDAY, MAY 20

CHEESE CHASE: Smith's Country Cheese is sponsoring a 5K charity run-walk to benefit the Winchendon police and fire departments. \$20 entry fee now, price increases after April 1. Route will begin and end at picturesque Otter River Road location; visit runsignup.com.

## ONGOING PROGRAMS

### SUNDAYS

INDIVISIBLE WINCHENDON: The Indivisible Winchendon group

meets every Sunday at 12:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St. to discuss and organize creative, effective resistance to the Trump administration over the long term. We are liberal/progressive but non-partisan. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/381174492262359/>

## MONDAY

LEGO CLUB: Beals Memorial Library, 50 Pleasant St. hosts a Lego Club for kids aged six-12, 3:30-4:30 p.m. every Monday afternoon the library is open. Show off your creative side. More information about this and other programs by calling (978) 297-0300 or visit [townofwinchendon.com/bealsmemoriallibrary](http://townofwinchendon.com/bealsmemoriallibrary).

## TUESDAY

WINCHENDON NA MEETING: Hosted by UUCW and led by Winchendon residents, in collaboration with the Central Massachusetts area/New England Region of Narcotics Anonymous. This is an open meeting with general discussion and support, for anyone who is in recovery or wants to be. Please pass on this information to anyone you know who might be interested in, or benefit from, a meeting. We're working hard to get the word out! At the UU Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St, downstairs in the parish hall. Begins at 6:30 p.m.

LEARN: Computer classes for adults are offered on Tuesday afternoons from

3:30-4:30 p.m. at Beals Memorial Library and are open to adults ages 18 and older.

CRAFT FOR ADULTS: On Tuesday nights at 6:30 Beals Memorial Library has an adult craft hour providing a place to meet and do crafts. People bring in things they are working on, and can get help on knitting, crocheting, quilting and discuss different ideas.

TINY TOTS PLAYGROUP: on Tuesday 10-11 at Beals Memorial Library, 50 Pleasant St. for toddlers aged 0-4. Songs, rhymes and sharing.

## WEDNESDAY

BINGO! Hyde Park residents hold bingo in the community hall every Wednesday night beginning at 6 p.m. It's inexpensive, just two cards for 5¢, and the community is invited! Anyone over the age of 50 is welcome to join in. We'd love to have more players.

BINGO 2! Old Murdock Senior Center hosts Bingo on Wednesday afternoons at 12:15 p.m.

KIWANIS: the Kiwanis of Winchendon meet every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Carriage House Restaurant. Come be part of the service club that concentrates on helping local children with the Backpack Program at the public elementary schools, the Recycle-A-Bike program, Breakfast with Santa and yes, the Family Fun Day with the Massachusetts state level chili cook off every summer. We need your help. Stop in any Wednesday, we'd love to meet you!

## COURIER CAPSULES

### GARDEN CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

The Winchendon Garden Club believes in rewarding those who have demonstrated achievements in community service. To do so, a scholarship is to be granted to one qualified achiever whom has demonstrated a high commitment to beautify the Town of Winchendon to the standards set by the Club's members. One scholarship is to be awarded this year 2018, in the amount of \$500.00. Applicant must be a US Citizen and a legal resident of Winchendon, MA. Applicant

must be planning a career related to environmental issues that affect our beautiful EARTH. For Scholarship Instructions, Guidelines and Application email [linda.dellasanta@comcast.net](mailto:linda.dellasanta@comcast.net). Application deadline has been extended to May 15, 2018

### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

AMHERST—Approximately 283 students received bachelor's degrees from the University of Massachusetts Amherst this past February, 2018. The following local students earned bachelor's degrees: ASHBURNHAM Peri Lian Zhen Michael

GARDNER Luke Somers Morrell ROYALSTON Alyssa E Bergquist WINCHENDON Betsy S Manuel.

MISSOULA MT – Hillary Gleason, a graduate student in clinical psychology at the University of Montana, is one of 100 doctoral students in the U.S. and Canada recently selected to receive a \$15,000 scholar award from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Gleason earned her undergraduate degree at Clark University in Worcester and is originally from Winchendon. The P.E.O. Scholar Awards were established in 1991 to provide substantial merit-based

awards for women of the United States and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral-level degree at an accredited college or university. Scholar Awards recipients are chosen for their high level of academic achievement and their potential for having a positive impact on society.

### TEMPLETON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

It's time!!! We are ready to re-open the Narragansett Historical Building, located at 1 Boynton Road in Templeton Center. May 5, from 1-5 pm we will be starting our Saturday Afternoons at the Museum! We have cleaned up inside and out and are looking forward to a great season! On Saturday, May 5, at 3pm we'll be hanging our new, revamped sign and celebrating the start of the 2018 season! Remember,

memberships are affordable and make great gifts! Email us at the address below for more information, or join us at our monthly meetings. All are welcome.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 23 at 7pm in the Document Room, 1 Boynton Road, on the Common. We are a thriving volunteer organization ready to expand and always looking for new ideas and hands to chip in. Are you a whiz at working with your hands? Do you fancy photographs? (Check out our recently digitized collection! So EASY to see them ALL!) Raring to research some relatives? We have something for everyone! To learn more, follow us on Facebook at Templeton Museum (Narr Hist Society) or send us an email at [nh1924society@gmail.com](mailto:nh1924society@gmail.com). It's FREE to stop by and see a piece of the past. What are you waiting for?



Courtesy photo  
**Alexandra McNamara, a Mount Ida College graduate and department chair of MWCC's veterinary technology program, poses with one of her dogs. Following the recent announcement about Mount Ida College, McNamara encouraged Mount Ida veterinary technician students to consider transferring to Mount Wachusett Community College.**

## MWCC welcomes Mount Ida College vet tech students

GARDNER – Mount Wachusett Community College announced it welcomes students from the Mount Ida College veterinary technician Associate of Arts program and will assist with their transfer into MWCC where they can begin classes as early as this summer.

"Mount Wachusett's veterinary technician program is happy to welcome any student that was enrolled in the veterinary technician program at Mount Ida College," said Alexandra McNamara, a Mount Ida College graduate and department chair of MWCC's veterinary technology program. "I understand this is a difficult moment for many students, but I want the vet

tech students to know they can continue with their studies at MWCC and not miss a beat."

The two-year Associate's degree program at MWCC allows students to gain all the knowledge they need to take the Veterinary Technician National Exam. At under \$10,000 a year, the program can be completed for nearly \$60,000 less than other two-year programs. This will allow students to get out and work with less debt hanging over their head but the same certification.

In addition to the cost savings, the MWCC vet tech program makes use of the latest technology and a newly outfitted lab space. The high-tech equipment includes a synthetic canine. The SynDaver canine will allow students to learn the intricacies of surgery and other procedures without the potential of harming a live animal. Students will then be able to put what they learn into practice through externship placements with area veterinarians where they will work with live animals.

MWCC is committed to making this transition as smooth as possible for students who have been studying, or were planning to study, at Mount Ida College. All Mount Ida College students are invited to explore transfer opportunities at Mount Wachusett Community College.

"We understand that this is going to be a huge transition for students of Mount Ida College. We are here for those students and will help them every step of the way as they explore their options to continue their specialized programs," said Marcia Rosbury-Henne, dean of admissions and enrollment management at MWCC.

Students interested in transferring to MWCC and enrolling in the veterinary technician can visit [mwcc.edu/academics/degree/veterinary-technology](http://mwcc.edu/academics/degree/veterinary-technology) or reach out to Rosbury-Henne at (978) 630-9110.

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## MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU... TIMES TWO!

On Friday, May the Fourth, the Beals Memorial Library in Winchendon will be screening a Star Wars double header, featuring "The Force Awakens" at 3:30 pm, followed by "The Last Jedi" at 6:30 pm. Folks are encouraged to come as their favorite Star Wars character and to bring blankets and pillows, as well as popcorn or other snacks to enjoy while watching the movies. Prizes will be given to those wearing Star Wars costumes (while supplies last). The event is free and open to the public. For more information call the library at 978-297-0300.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

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\$190,000 85 Alger St, Gudino, Amparo, and Sanchez, Armando, to Ahearn, Edwin R.  
\$175,000 403 West St, Morin, Richard L, to Ruschioni, Tony L.  
\$167,000 10 Winter Pl Pineo, Andrew P, and Pineo, Danielle L, to Decot, Nina L, and Tompkins, Kenneth.  
\$149,000 83 Pearl St, Carrier, Erica L, and FNMA, to Paquet, Keith A.  
\$133,000 226 Front St, Couture, David, and Serrano, Ronald, to Erickson, Tina, and Payson, Jessica.  
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# Music Festival once again in the Winch

Several weekends in June will once again see a variety of music performed in Winchendon. Music director Andrew Arceci has already lined up the following venue; with all programs at 7 PM. Concerts are free to the public and are held at Old Centre Church (First Congregational Church of Winchendon), 10 Old Centre.

Supported in part by a grant from the Winchendon Cultural Council (a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency). Additional support by the Ashburnham Cultural Council, Athol Cultural Council, Gardner Cultural Council, Royalston Cultural Council, Templeton Cultural Council (local agencies which are supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency), the Massachusetts Festivals Program (Massachusetts

Cultural Council), the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation, and the First Congregational Church of Winchendon in Old Centre.

1 June: Andrew Arceci & WMF artists (classical)

Performer, composer/arranger, and scholar, Andrew Arceci has performed throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. Currently, he directs the Collegium Musicum at Wellesley College, as well as the Winchendon Music Festival. Recording credits include soundtrack work for the BBC (UK), and the labels Novum (UK), Deutsche Harmonia Mundi (Germany), Bôlt Records/Monotype Records (Poland), Cedille Records (US), and Centaur Records (US).

2 June: Anne Azéma, voice, hurdy-gurdy, harp, & organetto (classical)

French-born vocalist and scholar Anne Azéma directs

The Boston Camerata (2008) and the French ensemble Aziman (2005). Her current discography of 35 recordings (Grand Prix du Disque; Edison Prize) includes five widely acclaimed solo CD recitals. Since assuming the directorship of The Boston Camerata in 2008, she has created many new and distinguished productions of important early repertoires spanning eight centuries of music history.

3 June: John Arcaro & Band. Program I (jazz)

International pianist, recording artist, and clinician. Recordings with Garrison Fewell, George Garzone, Jamey Haddad, Skip Hadden, John Lockwood, Jimmy Madison, Michael Moore, Jack Pezanelli, Bill Pierce, and Mark White; on the labels Brownstone, BCM, and TBA.

22 June: Muscari (world)

Muscari is a New England

based band that performs music from the Eastern Mediterranean and the surrounding areas.

23 June: Floyds Row (folk/world)

A folk collective formed in Oxford (UK), Floyds Row explores traditional renditions and original works. Fusing several styles, Floyds Row explores the connections between classical, folk, roots revival, Americana, and bluegrass/newgrass repertoire.

24 June: John Arcaro & Band. Program II (jazz)

International pianist, recording artist, and clinician. Recordings with Garrison Fewell, George Garzone, Jamey Haddad, Skip Hadden, John Lockwood, Jimmy Madison, Michael Moore, Jack Pezanelli, Bill Pierce, and Mark White; on the labels Brownstone, BCM, and TBA.

## ACCURACY WATCH

The *Winchendon Courier* 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 three in a timely manner. If you find a mistake, call (978) 297-0050 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call. Or contact the editor at the following email: [ruth@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:ruth@stonebridgepress.news).

**VENDORS WANTED** for 2018 producers-only outdoor market, May - Oct. \$20/season. Corner of Rt. 12 and Rt. 202, Winchendon. For application / information email [winchendon.agcom@gmail.com](mailto:winchendon.agcom@gmail.com)

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# Auditions planned for new musical

Mount Wachusett Community College's Theatre at the Mount, Gardner announces auditions for the rock musical WE WILL ROCK YOU.

WE WILL ROCK YOU takes place in a future age on a planet once called Earth that is now controlled by a mighty corporation...rock music is unheard and all musical instruments are banned. The hope of breaking free rests with an unlikely resistance - an alliance of rebel Bohemians. The show features many

of Queen's chart topping hits including "We Will Rock You," "Bohemian Rhapsody," "Radio Gaga," "Another One Bites the Dust," "We are the Champions," and more. It's the world champion of musicals and the show that rocks harder than any other, so don't miss the party!

Director David Allen Prescott is looking for a large cast of 30 to 40 adults and teens. For detailed character descriptions visit the TAM web site at [http://](http://theatre.mwcc.edu)

[theatre.mwcc.edu](http://theatre.mwcc.edu)

Auditions for WE WILL ROCK YOU take place in room 182 at Mount Wachusett Community College on Monday, May 21 and Tuesday, May 22 at 7 p.m. No appointment is needed.

WE WILL ROCK YOU runs Aug. 10, 11, 17, 18 at 8:00 p.m.; Aug. 19 at 2:00 p.m.

For additional information contact Professor Gail Steele at (978) 630-9162 or [g\\_steele@mwcc.mass.edu](mailto:g_steele@mwcc.mass.edu)

## Senate approves \$600 million in funding for local road

BOSTON –On April 12, Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and the state Senate passed a three year, \$600 million investment of Chapter 90 funding for local road and bridge repairs, continuing the legislature's strong commitment to supporting our cities and towns.

The legislation passed authorizes \$200 million each year for the next 3 years for infrastructure improvements in municipalities across the Commonwealth. This multiyear investment provides cities and towns with the ability to plan their construction needs in advance, giving communities access to predictable and consistent funding.

"I am glad to see a multiyear plan in place," said Senator Gobi, "This will allow our towns to better plan for their road projects and remove some uncertainty moving forward."

Chapter 90 funds are allocated using a longstanding formula based on community road miles, population and employment. The expected FY2019 apportionment to Senator Gobi's communities includes the following:

Ashburnham in the amount of \$343,284  
Ashby in the amount of \$225,760  
Athol in the amount of \$508,214  
Barre in the amount of \$430,535  
Brimfield in the amount of \$279,213  
Brookfield in the amount of \$167,780  
Charlton in the amount of \$625,473  
East Brookfield in the amount of \$95,368

Hardwick in the amount of \$360,600  
Holland in the amount of \$159,175  
Hubbardston in the amount of \$356,673  
Monson in the amount of \$464,987  
New Braintree in the amount of \$204,096  
North Brookfield in the amount of \$310,999  
Oakham in the amount of \$181,937  
Palmer in the amount of \$476,008  
Paxton in the amount of \$193,216  
Petersham in the amount of \$251,354  
Phillipston in the amount of \$189,780  
Rutland in the amount of \$377,643  
Spencer in the amount of \$501,864  
Sturbridge in the amount of \$431,646  
Wales in the amount of \$105,665  
Ware in the amount of \$428,549  
Warren in the amount of \$288,107  
West Brookfield in the amount of \$233,357  
Winchendon in the amount of \$450,917

"These funds will ensure that our cities and towns can make the necessary repairs and improvements to the Commonwealth's infrastructure system," said Senate President Harriette L. Chandler (D-Worcester).

The bill will now be reconciled with a version passed by the House of Representatives, before moving to the Governor for final approval.

# Celebrate Soups!

Soup, whether it's simple or fancy, is steeped in memories, and many a long, cold New England winter has been cheered by bowls of soup that warm both body and soul. While fast food and quick fix suppers often win out over slow simmering stews and soups for busy weeknight meals, soups still have a place in today's suppertime scramble. Soups are not only deliciously filling, they're typically made with fresh,



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

healthy ingredients. Add in the money saving factor, the convenience of one pot cooking and the opportunity for unbridled culinary creativity, and it's easy to see why America is rekindling its love affair with soups and stews.

Read on for a dose of inspiration to cook up a pot of soup this season!

Heirloom Soups: A generation or so ago soup suppers were not uncommon. Many of these diverse dishes reflected

the ethnic background of the family at the dinner table. A hearty bowl of pasta fagioli and crusty bread was a familiar supper in Italian neighborhoods, as Jewish families enjoyed chicken matzo ball soup with braided challah, and those of French Canadian decent baked Johnny cake to go with a pot of green pea soup.

Today, many of these family recipes have been passed down to new genera-

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WINCHENDON COURIER

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER: FRANK CHILINSKI  
EDITOR: RUTH DEAMICIS

VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

EDITORIAL

Oh, the places you (can't) go

Springtime reminds us very quickly of the reasons why we sock away free cash in our town funds. Why we depend so deeply on good folks in departments of public works in every municipality.

Why we don't bother to wash the salt off our cars every time a little sun shines.  
We saw snow spitting on April 18.  
We felt a bit of rawness in the rain on April 28.  
And we nearly broke an axle in a pothole on April 29.

We have been posting news alerts about work on the Sagamore and Bourne bridges. We have heard the dire news about repaving on major highways around cities (no, even the Big Dig didn't solve that scenario); and the silly experiments by state highway with flimsy 'barrier' warnings they are now replacing after they were all mowed down by snowplows.

So instead of dreaming of gardening or days at a sandy beach; we suspect we will be caught in the never ending on-off ramp traffic at Exit 9 on the Pike (you haven't lived until you've been there); has the state west of 495 heard of more than three lanes of traffic or something besides cloverleaf on-off ramps?

Or traveled Route 2 past the four lanes and into No Man's Land.

Most of us who travel for more than 10 miles beyond our own front doors have discovered back roads rather than highways. We have found joy in wooded bliss. In yes, going less than 70 miles per hour, but actually moving and not standing still in traffic.

We can go 50 miles from home, enjoy the sights, stop for a cup of coffee and fill up the car, listen to NPR and still get to where we are going in the requisite hour with no road rage at all.

It is bliss.

Yes, we can also experiment and discover that by taking THAT road, and though it does wind about a bit, it comes out a little further down on 122 and then we can cut off another couple miles on the route, wow.

See, no pressure. And a new bit of sightseeing.

Now we know not everyone can do this. That is why there are highways. To get us from here to there with less thought. More directly supposedly.

But the Mass Pike was built just a few miles over from its predecessor Route 20; and though the original Boston Post Road is stop and go through some towns, that will absolutely take you the distance. It was once the "highway" just as Route 66 once was in its heyday.

When we get behind the slow truck, or the leisurely driver; the person uncertain of just where they are going, or the overly cautious brake-riding curve-turner; we remember they may be preventing us from speeding into an accident further up the road and slow our own thoughts down to accept the inevitable.

And realize that, yes indeed, we are heading into the season of road repairs, stalled traffic, overheated vehicles, tourists, more pedestrians and cyclists, torrential storms, and maybe, just maybe, the occasional nice day for a leisurely drive in the country.

Be careful out there.



LETTERS  
POLICY

Letters to the editor are always welcome, and may be sent to to [ruth@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:ruth@stonebridgepress.news), or The Winchendon Courier, 91 Central Street, Winchendon, MA 01475. Be sure to include a name and residence. Please refrain from sending letters via fax, and be sure to supply a home address and phone number to allow for confirmation. Allow at least 48 hours for a response. Letters must be submitted by noon Friday to ensure publication in the following week's issue. Every effort will be made to accommodate late submissions, but inclusion can not be guaranteed. The rules of good taste and libel will, of course, apply to all submissions. Personal attacks will not be published. The editor retains the right to edit all letters.

We could use a Macron

*"We can choose isolationism, withdrawal or nationalism. But closing the door to the world will not stop the evolution of the world."* – French Pres. Emmanuel Macron

The worldwide media was abuzz last week as Donald Trump and Emmanuel Macron traded handshakes, hugs, and even polite kisses during the French president's visit to the White House. The apparent closeness of the relationship between the two men was further underlined by the fact that Mr. Trump hosted a state dinner in Macron's honor; the first event its kind for the Trump administration. There was talk of a "bromance." But, if anyone interpreted the exchange of pleasantries and platitudes as a sign of Macron's acquiescence to Trump's policies and politics, they were quickly disabused of any such notion.

In an address to a Congress, Macron politely – but unabashedly – distanced himself from

President Trump on a number of issues. These included, significantly, U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement, the likelihood Trump will disavow the Iran nuclear agreement, and Trump's call to hike tariffs on foreign imports.

Regarding the climate accord, Macron declared: "I believe in building a better future for our children, which requires offering them a planet that is still habitable in 25 years. There is no Planet B."

France and the United States, he said, will have to work together "to make this planet great again."

Macron drew cheers from Democrats and, predictably, a weak response from Republicans. Even Republicans who have admitted to mankind's role in the despoliation of the planet barely managed polite applause.

Macron took a swing at Trump's stated goal of stiffening trade tariffs. The French

leader correctly argued such a move would lead to the destruc-



...AND  
ONE MORE  
THING....  
.....  
GREG  
VINE

tion of jobs, an increase in prices, and the decimation of the middle class.

Trade imbalances should, he argued, be addressed not through unilateral action but through multinational organizations, such as the World Trade Organization. For any nation to take action on its own is inconsistent with a commitment to global security.

"We wrote these rules," he said, referring to the U.S., France, and other western nations. "We should follow them."

Macron also questioned the wisdom of a U.S. withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal, which was also signed by France and the other four nations responsible for hammering out the treaty with Iran.

"France will not leave the JCPOA (Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) because we signed it," he declared.

While admitting the deal is far from perfect, he gave assurances Iran will "never have nuclear weapons. Not now, not in five years, not in 10 years...not ever."

"What I want to do, and what we decided together with your president, is that we can work on more comprehensive deal addressing all...concerns."

In its entirety, Macron's address boiled down to one big slap at the America First nationalism embraced by Trump and espoused by the likes of Steve Bannon, Steven Miller, Sean Hannity and other right-wing extremists. Macron

realizes, even if Trump does not, that the global order which has held western civilization together and prevented a history-ending conflagration was the creation of the United States. It has worked, for the most part, for seven decades.

Macron is quite mindful of the fact – again, even if Trump is not – that it was unchecked "us first" nationalism that marched the world inexorably into a war that claimed 70 million lives.

Unfortunately, Americans can rest assured that Macrons words fell on deaf ears. At this sad point in our history, our only hope is that voters this November will have the wisdom to elect senators and representatives with the courage to put the brakes on the Trump agenda.

Then, maybe, by 2020 we'll be able to find a president capable of being a world leader – instead of a world-leaver.

The American Empire and its media

Recently I wrote that under seemingly worthy goals of stopping the spread of socialism, then drugs, then terrorism we seemingly invited ourselves into every world conflict. Were globalists covertly using these causes instead to build an American Empire? As a college professor teaching current events for 40 plus years, I had to come to this conclusion.

Foreign policy seems to have moved from defense to offense. Now no empire of yesteryear controls or influences more territory than we. We call this globalism where the United States becomes not only the world's only super power but also the world's "real" government. Globalism requires a global military and a media silent on the matter. We now have both.

Today Wikipedia documents US troops deployed in "more than 150 countries" around the world with thousands of military personnel still in World War II countries 73 years later. Approximately a third of our troops serve outside the US in places most Americans have never heard such as Aruba, Bahrain, Kenya, and Qatar. And we have approximately 800 military bases encircling the globe all in the name of "our" national security.

Numerous books and hundreds of articles have identified the heart of the nearing 100-year globalist movement as having been centered on three private industrialist/high finance dominated organizations. The most important of these was the Council on Foreign Relations (1921), to infiltrate both major political parties in the US with globalist thinking, the Bilderbergers (1954), to influence and consolidate the interests of high finance and politics in Europe, and the Trilateral Commission (1973), to

influence and consolidate the interests of high finance and politics in the three most powerful regions of the globe North America, Europe and Japan.

None of this could have happened without big media, once the government's watchdog now its lapdog, becoming accomplices to the new world order movement. This too has been documented by hundreds of articles over the last many decades with the New York Times, the foremost print mouthpiece of the Council on Foreign Relations followed closely by the Washington Post and the Los Angeles Times. This is nothing new as CFR members have dominated all major medias for decades.

What is new for most is the 2010-11 release of 2,325,961 secret State Department cables by WikiLeaks confirming beyond question the above and more. In it "the world saw what the USA really thought about national leaders, friendly dictators & supposed allies. It also discovered the dark truths of national policies, human rights violations, covert operations & cover-ups" (The WikiLeaks Files: The World According to US Empire, by Julian Assange).

Top secret has become, by-in-large, anything that the government does not want known, which in this case, is its working for world dominion. So their immediate reaction was to vilify WikiLeaks asking everyone to delete anything on the Internet from it. "Internet access to WikiLeaks was blocked by national libraries; major



LIBERTY  
UNDER  
FIRE  
.....  
DR. HAROLD  
PEASE

international studies journals rejected all manuscripts citing WikiLeaks material; and the Pentagon stopped all emails containing the organization's name."

The definition of national security was enlarged to include concealing government globalist activities. Anyone willing to expose them were villainized as is the case of WikiLeaks. Much of this had little to do with actual national security but to keep the public from knowing, thus preventing, our government's future conspiring toward world governance.

To counter the globalists censorship of this material and protect "the public's right to know," WikiLeaks "set up a Public Library of US Diplomacy (PlusD), containing the cables and other diplomatic records." They also published a book The WikiLeaks Files to help sift through the over two million documents for easier assessment evaluation of the mountain of information. A chapter in this book by Sarah Harrison explains how to use it (Review of the WikiLeaks Files: The World according to US empire, By Alison Broinowski).

CFR members are in every federal position of importance, in every administration regardless of political party. With the exception of Presidents Ronald Reagan and Donald Trump both presidential party nominees for decades have been affiliated. The CFR is our government. It is no longer a theory. The extent of its influence was expressed by John J. McCloy, a longtime chairman of the Council and advisor to nine U.S. presidents who told the New York

Times: "Whenever we needed a man we thumbed through the roll of the Council members and put through a call to New York." CFR headquarter is located in New York City.

With respect to the establishment media's participation, which, with the Julian Assange's treasure trove of documentation, cannot be called anything less than a conspiracy. From this the Swiss Propaganda Research organization assembled the latest 2017 graphical depiction of CFR/Trilateral Commission/Bilderberg Group membership in the "uppity" plan to give world dominance to them. View at <https://swprs.org/the-american-empire-and-its-media/>.

It documents 190 top US journalists who are members of one or more of the globalist organizations identified. They exist in every major news outlet. They control your news, not only what you know but what you think about. They are the "Ruling Class Journalists". If you are not already aware of their dominance it is because your favorite journalists have not told you and it is increasingly hard for this revelation to get into any news organ which explains why Assange resorted to the State Department dump.

Dr. Harold Pease is a syndicated columnist and an expert on the United States Constitution. He has dedicated his career to studying the writings of the Founding Fathers and applying that knowledge to current events. He taught history and political science from this perspective for over 30 years at Taft College. Newspapers have permission to publish this column. To read more of his weekly articles, visit [www.LibertyUnderFire.org](http://www.LibertyUnderFire.org).





Sarah Galvin

# Athol Savings Bank appoints vice president

ATHOL — Dan Zona, President and CEO of Athol Savings Bank, announced the appointment of Sarah A. Galvin as vice president, commercial lending officer. Galvin has been a commercial lender for over 20 years, most recently as a senior vice president for Fidelity Bank.

“As we look to the future, our focus remains fixed on strategic growth. With the addition of Sarah to our commercial lending team, we will be able to broaden our business customer base. We are fortunate to have Sarah join our team. Sarah’s

knowledge and expertise are sure to have an immediate and positive impact on our lending efforts,” Zona said.

Galvin has a Master’s of business administration from Anna Maria College. She also attended the Massachusetts Bankers School of Commercial Lending and Advanced School of Commercial Lending at Babson College. Additionally, she is a graduate of the American Bankers Association Commercial Lending School.

“I look forward to contribut-

ing to Athol Savings Bank’s goal to enhance Commercial Lending efforts by applying skills and knowledge that I have developed over the course of my career,” Galvin said.

Galvin lives in Ashburnham.

Athol Savings Bank, with its headquarters in Athol is a 150 year old, full-service mutual savings bank and maintains and online presence at [www.atholsb.com](http://www.atholsb.com). The bank has eight offices and seven branches located in the communities of Ashburnham, Athol, Baldwinville, Barre, Gardner and Winchendon.

# Toffey named to post at local school

WINCHENDON — The Winchendon School has named John J. Toffey VI as director of admissions for the school’s main campus located in Winchendon. Scott Pottbecker, the acting director of admissions will continue in his role as the school’s chief operating officer and associate head of school.

Toffey will join the chool’s admissions team effective July 2018. Toffey is currently the senior associate director of admission at Cheshire Academy, Cheshire, CT.

The name John Toffey may be familiar to hockey fans. Toffey was drafted by the Tampa Bay Lightning and played professional hockey for three years. These days, Toffey is known as a New England boarding school admissions professional. His background includes admissions experience at both Cheshire Academy and Salisbury School. In addition, Toffey, who was selected in the major league draft by the

Colorado Rockies and played baseball at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, will be head varsity baseball coach at The Winchendon School.

The director of admissions is a critically important role at the Winchendon School. Toffey will work alongside Associate Director of Admissions Laura DiCarlo, Associate Director of Admissions Thomas Hamilton, and Admissions Officer Brian Troy. The team is responsible for ensuring the Winchendon School continues to attract and support curious, engaged students eager to explore, learn, connect, and grow.

In addition to his director of admissions role, Toffey will also serve as the varsity baseball head coach. With a prep school record as head varsity coach of 135-9, Toffey’s record speaks for itself. More impressive than the win/loss record is the number of students who have continued their careers at top col-

leges and universities. Student-athletes he’s coached have gone on to compete at Vanderbilt University, Clemson University, University of Richmond, Harvard University, Stetson University, UMass Amherst, UConn, Dartmouth College, Northeastern University, Colby College, Boston College, University of Michigan, and Tufts University, among others. In addition, he has a history of coaching major league baseball draft picks, five of whom are currently in MLB spring training camps.

Toffey is excited to join the team.

“The Winchendon School is poised to attract great students. From the moment I stepped onto campus, I was struck by how happy the students, faculty, and staff were. Unique academic programs: Global Dynamics, CoLABs, Service-Learning coupled with small class sizes are differentiators for The Winchendon School. Beautiful facilities and welcoming faculty are a testament to the culture of the school.”

## VIP PUZZLER

?????????

**This VIP born to Peter (percussionist) & Bernadette (hula dancer, singer) in 1985**

Puzzle Answer and Solution Steps shown at bottom

**Suggested Approach for Solving VIPuzzler**

- Solve each of the 5 panels by recording the **TARGET WORD** (what's depicted on the left-side of panel) into **FILL-IN BOXES**
- Guess out any **MINUS-WORDS** (or individual letters) depicted within the black **MINUS-BAR** (in open the right-hand side of the panel)
- Once you've solved all 5 segments, combine the remaining sounds (not necessarily the spelling!) of the 5 panels to hear yourself, saying the familiar name of today's VIP!

**Example:**

MINUS: WEAPON, BIRD, PLURAL, H2O IN SOLID STATE, PICKLE HERB

**Answer:** TOMMY HILF

©JOHN BERRY    Get Top Solving Tips or leave Comments via [vipuzzler@gmail.com](mailto:vipuzzler@gmail.com)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12				13		14			15				
16					17	18			19				
20						21			22				
				23		24			25				
26	27	28	29				30						
31							32						
33								34	35	36	37	38	
				39	40	41		42	43				
								46					
47							48						
49						50		51		52	53	54	55
56							57		58				
59							60			61			
62							63				64		

### CLUES ACROSS

1. In bed

5. Project portfolio management

8. \_\_ Bator: Mongolian capital

12. Roamed

14. Notre Dame legend Parseghian

15. Nothing (Spanish)

16. Not level

18. Self-contained aircraft unit

19. Baseball broadcaster Caray

20. \_\_ Tomei, actress

21. "The Raven" writer

22. Bathrooms

23. Skilled inventors

26. Forcefully silence

30. Remove

31. The arrival of daylight

32. Split lentils

33. "Walking Dead" actress

34. A lazy person

39. Doctors' group

42. Crooks

44. Fragrant essential oil

46. Conjured

47. One who predicts

49. Scarlett's home

50. Television network

51. Something comparable to another

56. What a thespian does

57. Word element meaning life

58. Italian island

59. "King of Queens" actress Remini

60. Jogged

61. Norse gods

62. Lazily

63. Midway between northeast and east

64. Hindu queen

### CLUES DOWN

1. Top Rank boxing promoter

2. \_\_ fide (Latin)

3. At all times

4. Hindu female deity

5. Tufts of hairs on plant seeds

6. Edited

7. Portuguese archipelago

8. Your parents' brothers

9. Pakistani city

10. Farewell

11. Short sleep sessions

13. Remove salt

17. Drug officers

24. One and only

25. The Golden State

26. Fabric baby carrier (abbr.)

27. Quid pro \_\_

28. New England research university

29. Baseball pitcher's stat

35. Western India island

36. \_\_ Angeles

37. Midway between east and southeast

38. British singer Stewart

40. Suggesting the horror of death and decay

41. Riding horse

42. Where wrestlers work

43. Regions

44. Of a main artery

45. Not classy

47. Competed against

48. Biscuit-like cake

49. Large ankle bones

52. Computer company

53. "Friends" actress Kudrow

54. "Chocolat" actress Lena

55. Brain folds

## VIP PUZZLER

Answer & Solution Steps:

**VIPuzzler ANSWER:** Bruno Mars (born Peter Gene Hernandez), singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, choreographer. (1: BARBELL minus "a", BELL) + (2: HARPOON minus HARP) + (3: ARMADILLO minus ARM, "a", DILL) = BRUNO ... (4: MICE minus ICE) + (5: CROWBARS minus CROW, "b") = MARS.

## SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

		4	1		7		2	
			8			1		
	7			9	3	8		
		2						
5			3		9			8
		8		6	4	3		1
6							3	
	3		4					
	2					5		

Level: Intermediate

**Here's How It Works:**  
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	1	9	8	3	9	7	2	4
9	8	7	6	4	2	5	3	1
2	3	4	1	5	7	6	8	9
7	9	8	2	6	4	3	5	1
8	7	6	3	1	9	2	4	5
4	9	6	5	8	7	2	1	3
5	4	3	2	7	1	6	8	9
3	1	2	7	8	6	9	5	4
2	7	1	6	9	3	8	4	5

ANSWER:

## PUZZLE SOLUTION

I	N	A	N		E	N	E		Y	I	D	L	I
R	I	S	E	A		N	A		H	V	A	L	E
A	L	I	C	I	S	O	I	B	S	T	C	A	
G	O	L	A	N	A	C	B	A	A	R	A	T	A
				R	E	T	S	A	C	E	R	O	F
E	S	O	R	A	V	H	V	A	T	T	A	T	
O	S	O	I	F	M	A	V	A	M	A			
R	I	D	L	E					N	H	O	C	
				D	A	L		E	S	I	R	N	S
				S	E	S	A	E	H	C	L	E	S
				S	R	S	E	C	I	F	I	T	A
S	O	O	T		E	O	P		V	S	I	R	A
P	I	H	C		D	O	P		N	E	A	N	U
V	A	D	A	N	A	V	A		D	E	L	O	R
N	A	L	U		M	P	P					A	B





## POLICE LOG

### Winchendon Police Department

*Editor's Note: The information contained in this police log was obtained through public documents kept by the police department, and is considered to be the account of the police. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

*Police agencies can no longer print the names of people who are arrested or charged with domestic assault related charges. The new law is designed to protect victims, so they are not re-victimized through indirect identification.*

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 24

12:51 a.m.: 911 hang up (Pleasant Street), secure; 7:22 a.m.: animal complaint (Holly Drive), referred to ACO; 10:25 a.m.: larceny (Mill Glen Road), report taken; 12:43 p.m.: ambulance (Spruce Street), transported; 12:44 p.m.: property damage (Central Street), report taken; 12:46 p.m.: harassment (Maple Street), advised officer; 1:09 p.m.: animal complaint (Benjamin Street), referred to ACO; 1:55 p.m.: fire/brush (Elmwood Road), extinguished; 2:59 p.m.: burglar alarm (Eli Drive), canceled; 3:41 p.m.: fire alarm (School Street), accidental; 3:43 p.m.: investigation (Spring Street), spoken to; 3:47 p.m.: accident (Central Street), report taken; 4:43 p.m.: animal complaint (Brown Street), referred to ACO; 6:59 p.m.: investigation (Pearl Drive), assisted; 7:00 p.m.: larceny (Memorial Drive), report taken; 8:46 p.m.: ambulance (Highland Street), 9:16 p.m.: DPW call (Lakeshore Drive), referred; 9:53 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 10:07 p.m.: info/general (Glenallan Street), arrest.

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

12:43-3:56 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:49 a.m.: FD call (Eli Drive), services rendered; 8:37 a.m.: info/general (Mason Street), advised officer; 10:05 a.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 10:32 a.m.: warrant arrest (Royalston Road North), unable to serve; 10:52 a.m.: summons service (Central Street), served; 12:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Royalston Road South), spoken to; 1:46 p.m.: officer wanted (Elmwood Road), spoken to; 1:53 p.m.: harassment (Maple Street), spoken to; 3:54 p.m.: custody dispute (School Square), report taken; 4:59 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 6:19 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), services rendered; 6:36 p.m.: investigation (Goodrich Drive), unable to locate; 8:00 p.m.: investigation (Beaman Court), assisted; 9:04 p.m.: suspicious person (Central Street), transported.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 26

12:43-12:58 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:58 a.m.: assist citizen (Central Street), unable to locate; 1:18-1:52 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:58 a.m.: mv stop (Academy Street), citation issued; 4:26 a.m.: burglary/b&e (Spring Street), unfounded; 5:57 a.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Avenue), no service necessary; 6:10 a.m.: traffic hazard (River Street), unable to locate; 7:56 a.m.: investigation (Spring Street), services rendered; 8:33 a.m.: warrant arrest (Royalston Road North), Jody W. Harmon, 49, 46 Royalston Road North, Winchendon; 9:38 a.m.: mv stop (School Street), verbal warning; 10:24 a.m.: extra patrols, secure; 10:31 a.m.: info/general (Central Street), property returned to owner; 10:56 a.m.: info/general (Cedar Street), no service necessary; 10:59 a.m.: threats (Brown Street), no service necessary; 11:39 a.m.: DPW call (Mill Glen Road), referred; 11:51 a.m.: larceny (Maple Street), report taken; 12:20 p.m.: open door/window (Morse Avenue), services rendered; 1:05 p.m.: info/general (Elmwood Road), services rendered; 1:57 p.m.: investigation (Central Street), assisted; 2:03 p.m.: gunshots heard (Toy Town Lane), unfounded; 3:12 p.m.: animal complaint (River Street), referred to ACO; 3:47 p.m.: threats (Spring Street), advised officer; 5:05 p.m.: animal complaint (Teel Road), gone on arrival; 5:18 p.m.: erratic operation (Central Street), unfounded; 7:10 p.m.: animal complaint (Lincoln Avenue), unable to locate; 7:11 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 8:18 p.m.: burglar alarm (Royalston Road North), secure; 10:29 p.m.: harassment (Central Street), report taken.

## New criminal justice legislation includes protections for officers

BOSTON – Representative Paul K. Frost (R-Auburn), Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) and Representative Kate D. Campanale (R-Leicester) announced the Legislature passed an omnibus Criminal Justice Reform Bill which includes language designed to protect police officers in the line of duty. The legislation, which marks the most comprehensive changes to the Commonwealth's criminal justice laws in several decades, sets forth extensive reforms to the criminal justice system and has been laid on the Governor's desk for approval.

Among the many changes included within the omnibus bill is a provision sponsored by Representatives Frost and Campanale and Senator Moore that would make an assault and battery on a police officer a felony. Under current law, there is already precedent for some cases of assault on firefighters to be considered a felony crime, however, there is no such provision protecting police officers. Under the new reforms, an assault resulting in significant physical harm to an officer will now be a felony charge rather than a misdemeanor.

Calls from local law enforcement to make this change were spurred by the death of Auburn Police Officer Ronald Tarentino Jr., who was shot on Rochdale Street in Auburn on May 22, 2016 during a traffic stop by an individual with prior assaults on police officers. Legislation to address this issue was originally filed by Representative Frost, Representative Campanale, and Senator Michael Moore, as well as the Baker-Polito Administration in the wake of Officer Tarentino's tragic death.

Frost, who took the House Floor to comment on the final version of the Criminal Justice Reform Bill, thanked the members and Governor Baker for their support of this change in the law to better protect our men and women in blue. He thanked the members on behalf of the Tarentino family, the Auburn and Leicester police departments and for all the men and women in blue across the Commonwealth.

"Our men and women in blue are doing their jobs to protect us and make our lives safer. They do not deserve to be punching bags or targeted for attack. We owe it to those who protect us this protection under the law," said Frost.

"I am proud to support this legislative provision to enhance protections for the men and women who serve in law enforcement," said Senator Moore, who is a former law enforcement officer and currently serves as Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. "Members of the law enforcement community are placed in harm's way every day to help ensure public safety. This bill seeks to deter acts of violence committed against on-duty officers."

"We owe this to the officers, men and women who put their lives on the line on a daily basis," said Rep. Kate Campanale of Leicester, who serves as the State Representative of Officer Tarentino's hometown.

S. 2371, the Criminal Justice Reform Bill, was enacted by both branches of the Legislature on April 4. The legislation is now to Governor Baker for his review.

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 27

1:21-1:28 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:30 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), written warning; 1:40 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), Yovanny Biseno, Jr., 21, failure to stop for police, unlicensed operation, arrest; 2:53 a.m.: ambulance (Glenallan Street), transported; 2:55 a.m.: assist citizen (Banner Place), canceled; 7:09 a.m.: assist other PD (Troy, NH), canceled; 9:04 a.m.: larceny (Goodrich Drive), report taken; 10:40 a.m.: officer wanted (East Monomonic Road), assisted; 10:45 a.m.: info/general (Hale Street), spoken to; 10:51 a.m.: property found (Central Street), unable to locate; 11:00 a.m.: harassment (Clark Road), report taken; 11:13 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), 11:36 a.m.: animal complaint (Lincoln Avenue Extension), referred to ACO; 12:00 p.m.: suspicious/other (Town Farm Road), services rendered; 12:28 p.m.: info/general (Chestnut Street), spoken to; 3:27 p.m.: fire alarm (Hyde Park Drive), services rendered; 5:01 p.m.: investigation (Glenallan Street), services rendered; 5:12 p.m.: info/general (Highland Street), property seized; 5:48 p.m.: keep the peace (School Square), assisted; 5:56 p.m.: ambulance (Laurel Street), transported; 7:25 p.m.: suicide threats (Linden Street), report taken; 7:41 p.m.: investigation (Highland Street), property seized; 8:04 p.m.: fight (Central Street), spoken to; 9:31 p.m.: suspicious mv (Glenallan Street), gathering dispersed; 10:16 p.m.: suspicious mv (Hill Street), no service necessary; 11:49 p.m.: building checked, secure.

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 28

12:23 a.m.: fire/mutual aid (Holtshire Road, Orange), services rendered; 12:47 a.m.: mv stop (School Street), spoken to; 1:02 a.m.: mv violation (Spring Street), info taken; 1:07 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:11 a.m.: disturbance (Front Street), spoken to; 1:41-2:30 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:39 a.m.: investigation (Grove Street), spoken to; 6:08 a.m.: ambulance (Goodrich Drive), transported; 6:55 p.m.: assist citizen (Front Street), spoken to; 7:30 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 9:02 a.m.: info/general (Spring Street), no service necessary; 10:00 a.m.: property found (River

Street), returned to owner; 10:21 a.m.: abandoned mv (Maple Street), spoken to; 10:42 a.m.: property found (Central Street), info taken; 11:27 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street), verbal warning; 11:35 a.m.: investigation (Central Street), spoken to; 11:57 a.m.: summons service (Old Gardner Road), served; 12:04 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 12:20 p.m.: animal complaint (Brown Street), referred to ACO; 1:07 p.m.: fire alarm (Hyde Park Drive), services rendered; 1:32 p.m.: suspicious/other (Duval Court), services rendered; 2:47 p.m.: assist other PD (Chestnut Street), spoken to; 3:06 p.m.: property found (Forristall Road), 3:08 p.m.: burglar alarm (Mill Glen Road), 3:15 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 5:35 p.m.: animal complaint (School Street), referred to ACO; 4:24 p.m.: abandoned mv (Maple Street), spoken to; 6:20 p.m.: officer wanted (Washington Avenue), spoken to; 6:46 p.m.: assist citizen (Spruce Street), spoken to; 7:05 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 7:43 p.m.: illegal burn (Lincoln Avenue), 7:58 p.m.: disabled mv (Brown Street), info taken; 8:35 p.m.: suspicious mv (Whitney Street), spoken to; 8:51 p.m.: warrant check (Pleasant Street), info given; 9:08 p.m.: ambulance

(Tolman Road), transported; 9:32 p.m.: mv stop (West Street), verbal warning; 9:39 p.m.: larceny (West Street), report taken; 10:44 p.m.: ambulance (Goodrich Drive), transported; 11:22 p.m.: suspicious mv (Brown Street), spoken to; 11:32 p.m.: investigation (Bayberry Circle), secure; 11:56-11:58 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 29

12:00 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 12:12-12:38 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:42 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 5:01 a.m.: ambulance (Ash Street), transported; 6:24 a.m.: FD call (Joslin Road), no cause; 8:54 a.m.: assist citizen (Willoughby Avenue), referred to court; 9:22 a.m.: officer wanted (Front Street), report taken; 12:15 p.m.: assist citizen (School Square), report taken; 12:23 p.m.: assist citizen (Front Street), advised officer; 12:51 p.m.: ambulance (Spruce Street), transported; 1:20 p.m.: assist citizen (Mellen Road), unable to locate; 1:46 p.m.: road rage (School Street), report taken; 2:48 p.m.: assist citizen (Willoughby Avenue), info taken; 3:27 p.m.: officer wanted (Willoughby Avenue), spoken to; 3:39 p.m.: custody dispute (School Street), report taken; 3:53 p.m.: animal complaint (Eli Drive), referred to ACO; 5:17 p.m.: animal complaint (Front Street), referred to ACO; 6:14 p.m.: fire alarm (Hale Street), referred; 6:40 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), written warning; 7:36 p.m.: suspicious/other (Cross Street), spoken to; 7:46 p.m.: suicide attempt (Oak Street), transported to hospital; 8:33 p.m.: animal complaint (Gardner Road), report taken; 10:14 p.m.: ambulance (Teel Road), transported; 10:30 p.m.: erratic operation (Baldwinville State Road), secure; 10:42 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 11:46 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 11:59 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

#### MONDAY, APRIL 30

12:04-12:32 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:35 a.m.: ambulance (School Street), transported; 12:36-12:52 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:04 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), citation issued; 4:59 p.m.: ambulance (East Street), transported; 6:25 a.m.: suspicious mv (Cumming Road), unfounded; 6:30 a.m.: gunshots heard (Town Farm Road), report taken; 6:47 a.m.: investigation (Town Farm Road), unfounded; 7:14 a.m.: welfare check/general (North Street), spoken to; 7:30 a.m.: info/general (Hyde Park Drive), referred; 8:18 a.m.: welfare check/general (Joslin Road), services rendered; 8:23 a.m.: larceny (Juniper Street), report taken; 9:13 a.m.: FD call (Maple Street), services rendered; 11:15 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street), verbal warning; 1:01 p.m.: accident (Walnut Street), report taken; 1:36 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Island Road), spoken to; 1:41 p.m.: animal complaint (Phyllis Road), returned to owner; 2:13 p.m.: animal complaint (Vine Street), referred to ACO; 5:22 p.m.: fire alarm (Highland Street), no cause; 5:41 p.m.: illegal dumping (Lincoln Avenue Extension), report taken; 7:11-7:12 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:35 p.m.: ambulance (River Street), transported; 8:37 p.m.: animal complaint (Baldwinville Road), returned to owner; 8:59 p.m.: fire/box alarm (Ready Drive), services rendered; 9:24 p.m.: FD call (Central Street), services rendered; 9:55 p.m.: suicide threats (Alger Street), report taken.



Courtesy photos

**Clock stopped March 30 at 7:14 a.m. and the close's pick out of 589 entries was Renee Tambling with a time of 8:12am. Congratulations Renee. Renee gets to split the pot of \$1,040 with the WSLA. The WSLA would also like to give a BIG THANK YOU to those who participated. Paul will be back next and hopes you will be too.**

## BREAKING NEWS FROM PLUMMETING PAUL



On behalf of the Winchendon Springs Lake Association, the weather got warmer, the ice got thinner, the block went thru and now there's a winner!!

**AT LEFT: What's Paul doing in a golf cart sitting beside Renee Tambling, Terry Charters and Ken LaBrack? Why, they are going to follow Paul down to Templewood golf course for the first but hopefully annual WSLA golf tournament July 14th at 9 a.m. Don't miss out on the fun and barbecue, raffles and cash prizes. For more info go to our website [wsla.us](http://wsla.us)**

Let's Create  
A Buzz!



**Brenda Pontbriand Sales Executive**

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# OBITUARIES

## Joseph W. Comer, 92



WINCHENDON — Joseph W. Comer, age 92, of Winchendon, died Wednesday evening, April 25, 2018 in Gardner Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, with his family at his side.

He was born in Winchendon on April 20, 1926, son of the late Joseph F. and Lillian (Cummings) Comer and had resided in Winchendon since 1945, when he was discharged from the United States Navy.

Joe had worked at the former Hartshorns Co. in Gardner for 21 years and later worked at New Hampshire Ball Bearings in Peterborough, NH as a double surface grinder until his retirement at the age of 62. Joe proudly served his country as a member of the United States Navy and was a member of Eugene M. Connor Post #193 and Lt Frederick Wilder White Post 2158 VFW.

Joe enjoyed working around the house, traveling with his late wife, playing bingo and living a quiet life.

His wife of 63 years, Leona L. (Daniels) Comer, died in 2008. He leaves two daughters, Stacia M. Tatro of Marlboro, NH and Hope C. Strait of Winchendon; eight grandchildren, three great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by two sons, Craig A. Comer and Wayne B. Comer and three brothers, Edward F. Comer and Raymond Comer, and Melville Comer.

Funeral services were held Monday, April 30, 2018 in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery.

Calling hours were held Sunday, April 29, 2018 in the funeral home. Members of Eugene M. Connor Post 193 conducted a Legion service Sunday.

Memorial donations may be made to Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center, Stallings Campus, 21 Murdock Avenue, Winchendon, MA 01475.



## Donna Marie (Tisdale) Crawley, 55

LEOMINSTER — Donna Marie (Tisdale) Crawley, 55 years old, of Leominster, died Saturday, April 21, 2018 in the Rose Monahan Hospice Home in Worcester. She is survived by her husband of 34 years Michael A. Crawley; son Todd Crawley and his wife Amy of Milford; daughter Christy Crawley of Leominster; brothers Robert Tisdale of Rindge, Loren Tisdale of Leominster and Brad Tisdale of Athol; sisters Cheryl Tourigny of Winchendon, Linda Hembrow of Florida, and Deborah Rivers of Leominster; grandchildren Kayden Byington, Cam Rendon, Ava Crawley and Lilly Crawley.

Donna was born on August 24, 1962 in Leominster, daughter of Ennis L. and Athena H. (Burns) Tisdale, and was a lifelong resident. She graduated from Leominster High School in 1980 and was the office manager at Central Mass Appraisals, Inc. in Leominster for

several years.

Donna enjoyed spending her time with family and friends. She loved spending her summers on the beach in Maine with her toes in the sand and a drink in her hand. She spent many years involved in Leominster sports while her children were young. A large part of her life was being a Nana for her grandchildren where she played a pivotal role in their day to day and their number 1 fan at their sporting events. Donna was always the life at any event with her bright eyes, perfect hair and flawless nails that would light up every room she entered. Remember her as the vibrant woman she always was and carry her on through the great memories that have been made.

Donna's funeral service was held on Thursday, April 26th in the Congregational Church of Christ, 583 Main Street, Leominster. Calling hours were held on Wednesday, April 25 in the Silas F. Richardson & Son Funeral Home, 106 West Street, Leominster. [www.richardsonfuneralhome.net](http://www.richardsonfuneralhome.net).

## Manuel DeMelo, 78



LOWELL — Manuel DeMelo, age 78, a Lowell resident, passed away on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, with his loving family by his side. He was the widower of the late Maria (Andrade) DeMelo. He was also predeceased by his first wife, Maria Ana (Freitas) DeMelo.

Born in Faial, Azores, Portugal on June 8, 1939, he was a son of the late Joao Francisco DeMelo and Maria (Garcia) DeMelo.

Prior to his retirement in 2004, Mr. DeMelo was employed by Majilite Corp. of Dracut, for 24 years as a truck driver.

Manuel enjoyed cooking, scratch tickets and watching the Three Stooges.

Most important to Mr. DeMelo was spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Manuel and his family were very

proud that he had recently been awarded citizenship to the United States of America.

He was a parishioner of St. Anthony Church.

He is survived by three children, Jose DeMelo and his wife Lea (Talbot) of Litchfield, NH; Elizabeth Melo of Lowell and Jose Freitas and his companion Linda Lenzi-Forsyth of Goffstown, NH; four grandchildren, Johnathan Joslin and Jessica Melo, both of Lowell; Michael Freitas of Westford and Alycia Freitas of Winchendon; several brothers and sisters residing in Portugal and many nieces and nephews.

He was the grandfather and godfather of the late Joe Freitas Jr., who passed away on March 2, 2012.

Relatives and friends were invited to Manuel's Memorial Mass, to be celebrated on Tuesday evening, May 1 in St. Anthony Church, 893 Central Street, Lowell. For condolences please visit [www.mckennaouellette.com](http://www.mckennaouellette.com).



## Marjorie (Ballentine) Landry, 90

GARDNER — Marjorie (Ballentine) Landry, age 90, of 54 Clark St., died peacefully Monday afternoon, April 30, 2018 in Gardner Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, with her family at her side.

She was born in Gardner on November 9, 1927, daughter of the late William and Eva (Morse) Ballentine and was a 1945 graduate of Gardner High School. In 1975, later in life, she graduated from Mount Wachusett Community College.

Marjorie worked as a teacher's aide in the Gardner School system for several years and later worked as a secretary at Gardner High School until her retirement. She loved to travel, read and play golf. Marjorie also enjoyed spending winters in Florida and spending time with her late dog Cupie.

Her husband of 51 years, Louis J. Landry Jr., died in 2004. She leaves two children, William L. Landry and his wife Karen of Athol and Lisa Smaldone and her husband Gary of Southlake, TX; a sister, Joan Rahaim of Northboro; four grandchildren, Lea, Joseph, Victoria and Erica; two great grandchildren, Riley and Chloe as well as nieces and nephews. A sister, Pauline Blais, predeceased her.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Monday, May 7, 2018 at 10 A.M. in Holy Spirit Church, 50 Lovewell Street, Gardner.

Burial will follow in St. Johns Cemetery.

Calling hours in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon are Sunday, May 6, 2018 from 4 to 7 P.M.

Memorial donations may be made to the charity of one's choice.

## Stella U. Pedigo, 84

GARDNER — Stella U. (Zbikowski) Pedigo, age 84, died on Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at the Highland's Nursing Home in Fitchburg of natural causes. Stella was born in Leominster on October 20, 1933 to Joseph and Stella (Januskirvicz) Zbikowski. She grew up in Gardner and graduated from Gardner High School. Growing up she was quite the tomboy and was probably the only girl to have worked as a pin setter at the Gardner Bowling Alley.

In her early 20s she moved to Chicago and worked as a medical laboratory technician for over 40 years. When Stella moved back to her native Massachusetts 20 years ago, she purchased a home in Winchendon and lived there with her many pets until going

into the Highlands.

Stella is survived by her sister Patricia Tagliavore of Chicago, and two brothers, Joseph Zbikowski and his wife Linda of Ashburnham, and Robert Zbikowski and his wife Brenda of Winchendon. She also leaves 10 nieces and nephews and 17 great nieces and nephews. She was loved by her family and will be greatly missed.

A grave side service will be held in May at St. Bernard's Cemetery in Fitchburg.

To leave an online condolence please visit [www.mackfamilyfh.com](http://www.mackfamilyfh.com)

Lamoureux-Smith & Poliks, A Mack Family Funeral Home, 105 Central St. Gardner, is assisting the family with arrangements.



## Shirley E. (White) Sawyer, 91

WINCHENDON — Shirley E. (White) Sawyer, age 91, of 131 Ipswich Drive, died peacefully Saturday morning, April 28, 2018 in Baldwinville Nursing Home, Baldwinville.

She was born in Winchendon on June 22, 1926, daughter of the late Hollis and Edna (Cook) White and was a graduate of Murdock High School.

Shirley had worked as a clerk in the former family business, Sawyer Pharmacy in Jaffrey. Her hobbies were knitting, crafts and spending time with her family.

Her husband of 38 years, Gerald David Sawyer, died in 1985. She leaves four children, Kevin W. Sawyer and his wife Deborah of Rindge, Suzanne

Lemieux and her husband Howard of South Carolina, Brenda Caron and her husband Michael of Dublin, NH and Jill Wood of Jaffrey; nine grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her son, Gerald D. Sawyer Jr.; two brothers, Emerson White and Floyd White and two sisters, Lois Gleason and Leta White.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 3 P.M. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon.

Calling hours will be held Saturday from 1 to 3 P.M.

Memorial donations may be made to Baldwinville Nursing Home Residents Activities Fund, 51 Hospital Road, Baldwinville, MA 01436 or to Beacon Hospice, 36 Williams Street, Leominster, MA 01453.

## Rita M. (LaFortune) Shepard, 103



PWINCHENDON — Rita M. (LaFortune) Shepard, age 103, formerly of 8 Highland Street, died peacefully Sunday morning, April 29, 2018 in Masconomet Health Care, Topsfield, with her family at her side.

She was born in Winchendon on January 23, 1915, daughter of the late Medart and Victoria (Boudreau) LaFortune and was a resident of Winchendon for most of her life.

Rita had worked for many years as a cook at the former Walter E. Fernald School in Baldwinville. She previously worked for ten years as manager of the former Tucker School cafeteria. Rita also catered and made wedding cakes. She was a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Winchendon Historical Society, Daughters of Isabella and Winchendon Gardner Club. Her

hobbies were making jewelry, playing the organ, baking and braiding rugs. Rita was also an avid fan of the Boston Celtics.

Her husband, George H. Shepard, died in 1960. She leaves a son, Guy H. Shepard and his wife Elizabeth of Georgetown; a granddaughter Sarah A. Shepard; a grandson, Justin H. Shepard and his wife Kathryn and many nieces and nephews. Rita was the last surviving member of her family of 15 brothers and sisters.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 11 A.M. in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 52 Spruce Street, Winchendon. Burial will follow in Calvary Cemetery.

Calling hours in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon were Thursday from 9:30 to 10:30 A.M.

Memorial donations may be made to Winchendon Historical Society, 151 Front Street, Winchendon, MA 01475.



## James Stewart White, 79

TEWKSBURY — James Stewart White, age 79, a chef in two popular area restaurants, died unexpectedly on Wednesday, April 25, at Lowell General's Saints Campus. He was the life partner of Robert L. Lee, with whom he had shared his life for the past 57 years.

Jim was born in Woburn, one of six children of the late Perley and Florence (Hadley) White, was raised in Burlington, but had lived in West Tewksbury for the past 59 years.

He worked as a chef at two locally famous restaurants, Tewksbury Inn and later Mickee's On The Water sports pub in Billerica.

Jim was considered to be the Patriarch

of the extended White family, and cared for everyone in his family. He loved tending to his flowerbeds and vegetable garden, summers at the beaches of New England, and especially enjoyed his winter retirement in Summerfield, Florida.

Besides his beloved spouse, Bob, he leaves many nieces and nephews including Pamela LeBlanc of Winchendon and Florence Collins of Dracut; and was predeceased by his siblings, William White, Christine Manoli, Pearl Meyer, John White, and Jane Ferriera.

Visiting hours were Saturday, April 28, in the Tewksbury Funeral Home, corner of 1 Dewey and 975 Main St., Tewksbury. His funeral service followed in the Funeral Home, with committal prayers at St. Mary Cemetery, No. Tewksbury.

Visit: [tewksburyfuneralhome.com](http://tewksburyfuneralhome.com).

**SEND OBITUARIES** at no charge to Editor Ruth DeAmicis, by faxing (978) 297-2177, or by e-mailing the editor at [ruth@stone-bridgepress.news](mailto:ruth@stone-bridgepress.news).

We also invite funeral directors and families to e-mail us a JPEG photograph to print, at no cost, alongside the obituary.



STONE-LADEAU FUNERAL HOME

STONE-LADEAU FUNERAL HOME

343 Central Street

Winchendon, MA 01475

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# SPORTS

## There is only one Derby

It was way back in 1875 when some 10,000 folks hopped into their buggies or climbed aboard their own steeds or took the train, all of them headed for the racetrack in Louisville where they gathered to see a little red horse named Aristides win the first running of what would become the most sacred prize of the American Turf.

Tomorrow almost 20 times that initial crowd will once again make the glorious pilgrimage to old Churchill Downs for the 144th running of the Kentucky Derby and if you ask me, they'll be seeing the strongest field since the star-studded cast of 1987, a race won by the great Alysheba.

The Derby wasn't born as the race everyone wanted to win. In 1920, a guy named Sam Riddle decided traveling from Maryland to Kentucky was too much to ask from a three year colt (the equivalent of a human teen) and therefore chose not to send Man 'O War.

Fortunately for the Derby, a fellow



### TALKING SPORTS

JERRY CARTON

named Matt Winn was running Churchill and while Winn might not have been a pedigree expert or a long-time breeder, he sure knew how to sell his product and sell the Derby Winn did. Traveling cross-country, refusing to accept "no," Winn built his brand and within a few years, the media was reporting annual crowds of 100,000, unheard of at the time, and horsemen (yes, men) from New York to California were making the Derby their prime objective and merely getting to the race was becoming what Dan Fogelberg would later describe as "the chance of a lifetime in a lifetime of chance."

When television came along, it was fortuitous that the first horse to grace the small screen was gray, a colt named Native Dancer who stood out from the blur of the others. The Dancer didn't win the 1953 Derby, losing by a head to Dark Star, his only loss in his 22-start career but he grabbed the attention. By then the Derby had become, well, "the

Derby."

Let's be honest, though. 20-horses are too many, not as awful as the 23-horse circus which marked the centennial Derby in 1974 but still far too many. There's enough potential danger lurking in a "normal" race. Add the exquisite pressure and drama of the Derby, you always hold your breath that much more.

Be all that as it may, people always ask me who I like. I always answer that I am the last person anyone should ask. I am the arguably and proudly the worst Derby handicapper I know. If you want to know about a maiden race at Aqueduct in mid-February, I'll likely have better insight and more rational reasoning because I've historically done well with that group but since the world doesn't care about that, here goes:

I like Audible, the winner of the prestigious Florida Derby. There are some really good, really good horses - the undefeated Justify and Magnum Moon, both of whom will be trying to become the first to win the Derby without running as a two year-old since Apollo in

1882; Mendelssohn, winner of last fall's Breeders Cup Juvenile Turf, who'll be making his second trip from Ireland and who won the UAE Derby in Dubai by 18 exhilarating lengths; Bolt D'Oro, named after Usain; Good Magic, the BC Juvenile winner and others - the late closing My Boy Jack, the sneaky good Hofberg, the list goes on.

You never know. In the last 13 years, a pair of 50-1 shots (Giacomo, '05, Mine that Bird, '09) have won. Favorites have won the last five runnings, a record. Sometimes even when the second choice wins it's considered a major surprise (Sunday Silence, '89, Bold Forbes, '76) and sometimes an overwhelming favorite can't even manage second (Damascus, '67). You just never know and that's one of the great mysteries and appeals of the race.

Beyond that, the Derby is a rite of spring, a reawakening of sorts. There's a reason 'My Old Kentucky Home' elicits tears. We've lost so many traditions, even in sports. I hope this one continues to awe and inspire.

## Seniors recognized as track dominates spring



Pictures by Sally Huff  
Senior Sean Wilson with his mom



Senior Steven Ingman with his parents



Seniors Steven Ingman and Sean Wilson

### SUBMITTED BY SUE POLCARI

The third varsity track meet of the season is into the books and the Murdock boys were victorious against the visiting Maynard tigers. The girls' loss a hard fought meet.

The girls team lost 83 to 53. The Murdock girls' team was led by Alexia Allard, Brianna Bouchard and Lilly

Digman who combined for 39 of Murdock's 53 points. Allard won the 110 hurdles, long jump and triple jump; Digman won the 400m and javelin; and Bouchard won the 400m hurdles, placed second in triple jump and third in the long jump. The trio combined with Paige Demanche to win the 4x100m relay. Nobaleigh

Laraba placed second in the 2 mile and 800m and third in the discus. Hanna Demanche placed second in the mile and third in the 800m. Paige Demanche also placed second in the high jump.

Alexia Allard broke her own school record in the 100 hurdle lowering it to 16.7 seconds.

The boys' team on the other hand dominated, winning 104 to 31. They won 14 of the 16 events. Adam Digman won his

usual 4 events: 110 hurdles, 400 hurdles, discus and shot put. Ryan Thira won high jump, the 100m and placed second in the long jump and 200m. Justin Thira won long jump, triple jump and finished third in the 100m. Richard Swanson won the 400m, 200m and placed third in shot put. Dylan Lupien won the 2 mile and finished second in the 1 mile and javelin, while Steven Ingman won the mile and 800m and finished third in the javelin. Logan Huff tallied four second place finishes in the 110 hurdles, triple jump, high jump and 400 hurdles. Eighth grader Moeketsi Molai finished the sweep in the 400 hurdles finishing third, as freshman Jameson Rushia completed another Murdock sweep with a third place finish in triple jump. Justin Manuel finished second in the 2 mile. Senior Sean Wilson finished third in the 400m. Freshman Philip Quinn finished third in the 800m. Finishing Murdock's domination was the first place 4x400m relay team consisting of Timmy Quinn, Andrew Race, Justin Manuel, and Cameron LaPlaca.

The dual meet against Maynard on Thursday was the final home varsity meet. Seniors Sean Wilson and Steven Ingman, along with

their parents, were recognized and congratulated for their many years of participation in and contributions to the success of the Murdock Track and Field team.

On Friday, the Murdock boys' and girls' teams competed in the District Relays. The girls team faired just a bit better than the boys team finishing 7th overall.

The girls triple jump (Allard, Bouchard and Digman) finished third with a new school record while the long jump team (Allard, Bouchard and Paige Demanche) finished fifth. The girls 4x400 relay team finished 2nd (Allard, Bouchard, Digman and P. Demanche) qualifying for the state meet and just 3 seconds off of the school record. The same team completed their repeat as district champions in the Sprint Medley relay lowering their own school record.

The boys team finished 8th place overall. The boys triple jump relay (Digman, and Thira brothers) finished first while also placing 5th in the long jump relay. The 4x200 relay (Digman, R. Thira, J. Thira and Swanson) finished fifth. The 4x400m relay (Digman, R. Thira, Ingman and Swanson) also finished first and qualified for the state meet



Jamison Rushia over the hurdles



Justin Thira(left) and Ryan Thira race against Maynard and each other!!

## Weather plays havoc with spring sports

### SUBMITTED BY SUE POLCARI

Continued rainy weather has wreaked havoc on the spring sports schedule, but the softball and baseball teams have managed to play a few games over the past week, though locations were changed for some of the games.

Gardner was the opponent for both teams on April 26, with the girls playing at home and the boys away (due to poor home field condition).

Emily Smith pitched a complete game against the Wildcats, striking out 7, walking 5 and allowing 4 hits in a 4-1 loss. The Murdock lone run came off the bat of Jocelyn Garner with a solo home run in the 4th inning. Strong pitching by Gardner resulted in only 3 additional hits by the Blue Devils (Maria Polcari - triple, Vicky St. Hilaire - single, Emily Kiberd-Pervier - single).

The boys' baseball team was defeated by Gardner by a score of 3-2. Zach Richards went the distance on the mound for the Blue Devils, striking out

3 and allowing 3 runs on 4 hits.

In the top of the 1st inning, Murdock took an early 1-0 lead on a walk by Jack Polcari, subsequent steals to 2nd and 3rd and was driven home on a double by Alec Barrows.

Strong defense by Murdock kept Gardner off the boards until the bottom of the 4th inning when 2 runs scored.

Gardner scored a 3rd run in the bottom of the 5th inning, making the score 3-1.

Murdock answered back in the top of the 6th inning when Polcari (walk, 2 stolen bases) scored on a passed ball).

In the top of the 7th, Alex Marshall reached 1st on an error and then was moved into scoring position on a single to right field by Zach Richards. Unfortunately, the Murdock offense was unable to produce additional runs.

The Lady Devils were back in action against West Boylston on Saturday, April 28, where they turned things around considerably with a decisive

12-5 win over the Lions. Smith once again went the distance in the circle, this time striking out 11, walking 5 and allowing 4 hits. The Murdock bats were very active, as 9 players had at least 1 hit. Lead off batter Polcari went 4 for 5 with a home run, a triple and 2 singles with 4 runs scored. Molly Murphy went 3 for 5 with 2 singles and a triple with 4 runs scored. Garner went 3 for 4 with a home run, a triple and a double. Meghan Knight collected 2 singles and scored a run. Other hits came off the bats of Kelly Murphy, Kiberd-Pervier, Emily Smith, Ashley Seigny and Cassidy Stadtfeld.

Monday's very chilly game against Maynard resulted in a 5-4 loss for Murdock. Maynard was first on the board in the top of the 1st inning. Murdock responded with 2 runs in the bottom of the 1st off the bats of Polcari (double) and Molly Murphy (home run).

Maynard scored 2 runs in the 2nd inning leading the Devils 3-2. In the

bottom of the 3rd inning, Murphy again connected for a double, followed by a Garner triple, scoring the tying run. Maynard scored 2 additional runs in the 4th. Murdock closed the gap again in the 6th inning when Garner hit a single and then stole a couple of bases. Victoria St. Hilaire singled, sending Garner across the plate.

The Blue Devils held the Tigers scoreless in the 7th inning, but were unable to produce any more runs.

Smith, who pitched another complete game, took the loss for Murdock, but pitched a strong game, collecting 9 strike outs.

The Murdock baseball team had a tough day, traveling to Maynard and losing 15-0 in a mercy rule 5 inning game.

Come cheer on your Murdock Blue Devils! Visit [www.mwlna.org](http://www.mwlna.org) for a full schedule of all home and away track meets and baseball/softball games.



# MMS mounts production of Elf the Musical Junior



BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Murdock Middle School students will present Elf the Musical Junior this weekend at the Murdock Middle High School auditorium. Friday's performance is at 7 p.m., Sunday's start time is 1 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for children younger than 10. Senior citizens admitted free of charge.

In case you've managed to miss one of the most popular holiday movies of the past 15 years, Elf tells the story of Buddy, a young orphan who accidentally stows away into Santa's bag of gifts as the big guy is making his rounds of gift-giving one Christmas. Buddy finds himself transported to the North Pole, where he is raised as an elf. However, his unusually (for an elf) large size and complete lack of toy-making ability forces him to face the truth. Thus, Buddy leaves the friendly confines of the North Pole and heads to New York City, only to discover his half-brother doesn't believe in Santa Claus and that his father is, well, pretty much a permanent addition to Santa's naughty list. But these disturbing revelations don't get the best of Buddy and he doggedly endeavors to convert his new family and instill New Yorkers with the true spirit of Christmas. Oh! And along the way he falls in love.

Cast: Santa, Gavin Greer; Walter Hobbs, Brady Dufour; Emily Hobbs, Morgan Eldredge; Michael Hobbs, Brady Niles; Buddy, Domenic Iannacone; Jovie, Chloe Higgins; Charlie, Cole Paterson; Shawanda, Dezzaray Schindler; Business Woman, Jasmine Hardy; Saleswoman, Maia

Drake; Macy's Manager, Conor Murphy; Comforting New Yorker, Kaitlyn Cormier; Jogger, Shaina Thompson; Teenager, Elaine Maloney; Santa's Helper, Kyleigh McConnell; Fake Santa, Ethan Girouard; Sarah, Annabelle Merante; Deb, Camille Hart; Mrs. Greenway, Lily Digman; Chadwick, Abbbu Guerra; Matthews, Abigail Bradley; Charlotte Dennon, Jonah Trick; Darlene Lambert, Kaitlyn Cormier; Emma van Bracklin, Yu-Shan Liang; Elves, Andrew Islam, Maggie Phelps, Alexia Whitney, Chloe St. Peter, Bryan Drisdelle, Alex LeBlanc, Mason Mello, Rylie Maynard, Emma Bourque, Emily Michaud, Tiana Graessle, Rickelle Divoll-Tieu, Arriane Daigle, Kaitlyn Tamulen, Emily Wightman, Stacey Wood; FlyerGuys, Hanna O'Neill, Skylar Winn; Security Guards, Steven Gauthier, Alivia Martin; Ensemble, Catherine Chapman, Madisson Alden, Skye Lynch, Ruth Adams, Ashlyn Musgrove, Felisha Belanger.

Crew: Director, Kristi Iannacone; Student Director, Kailleen Dibble, Music Director, Aly Galipeau; Musician in Training, Charlotte "Charlie" Galipeau; Artistic Director, Maureen Provost; Student Artistic Director, Ari Dibble; Christmas Queen, Laura LaBrack; Building/Set Coordinator, David LaBrack; Sets, David LaBrack, Kris Provost; Jacks of All Trades, Kris Provost, Becky Benedict, Nicole LaBrack, Cindy Darcy, Sarah Islam, Marcus Provost, Caela Provost, Katie McKellick; Electricians, David LaBrack, Rob Marshall, Dian Iannacone; Artistic/Mural/Glitter Slingers, Laura LaBrack, Maureen Provost; Graphic Designer/Photography, Katie McKellick; Seamstress, Jen Leblanc; MacGyver of Theatre, Martin Johnson; Elf Headmaster, Amanda Rogers; Backstage, Brianna St. Pierre, Lyanna Laford; Lights/Sound, Nicole Lemire; Spot Lights, Nicole LaBrack; Tickets/Marketing, Laura Marshall; House, Laura Woodbury; Sets/Marketing, Laura LaBrack; Ad Collections, Sue Polcari; Queen of Concessions, Mary Ellen Mansfield.

A reminder: Audience should refrain from the use of recording devices of any kind and of flash photography. Cell phones and PDAs must be turned off or muted during performance.

The production is sponsored by Murdock Middle School and Murdock Friends of Music.



Greg Vine photos

As Domenic Iannacone (Buddy) looks on, Artistic Director Maureen Provost helps Ethan Girouard get into the costume he needs for his portrayal of "Fake Santa" for this weekend's production of Elf the Musical Junior. The musical is being presented by the students of Murdock Middle School.



(l-r) Nicole Lemire, Kailleen Dibble, and Ari Dibble man the light and sound board during a dress rehearsal for Friday's and Saturday's production of Elf the Musical Junior.



Gavin Greer is an enthusiastic Santa in the Murdock Middle School production of Elf the Musical Junior.



Artistic Director Maureen Provost puts finishing touches on the costume for Domenic Iannacone, who portrays Buddy in Elf.



The Murdock Middle School cast of Elf the Musical Junior.



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**HINT**  
*continued from page A3*

tions. While the recipes may be tweaked by enthusiastic Food Network inspired cooks, the tradition of preparing a soup supper, whether it's made from chicken or beans, remains the same. As most cooks will attest, something magical happens when a big pot of water begins filling up with ingredients. Kids stop their homework to peek into the pot; spouses sneak in for a quick taste; and like the classic French fable "Stone Soup," a dash of this and a handful of that contributed by family members add up to not only scrumptious soup, but precious memories as well.

Tip: Start a "soup tradition" by preparing a pot of soup to honor an ethnic tradition once a month.

\*\*\*

# LEGALS

## MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Dolores T. Donovan to Wachovia Mortgage Corporation, dated July 21, 2006 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 39566, Page 132 subsequently assigned to Sparta GP Holding REO CORP by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., successor by merger to Wachovia Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 51763, Page 333 and subsequently assigned to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by Sparta GP Holding REO CORP. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 58465, Page 298; of which Mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 3:00 PM on May 11, 2018 at 6 Crosby Road, Winchendon, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

A certain Parcel of Land situated on the Northerly side of Crosby Road, in Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts as being shown as Lot "1" on a Plan Entitled: Plan of Lots surveyed for Steven J. Bibeau, (Applicant and Record Owner), Winchendon, MA, March 22, 2002, SZOC Surveyors, 32 Pleasant St, Gardner, MA" Recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 795 Plan 41 to which plan reference may be made for a More Particular Description. Lot 1 contains 2.145 Acres more or less according to said Plan. Subject to Declaration of Fill easement dated December 2, 2003 Recorded with said Deeds at Book 32427 Page 48. Subject to an easement to New England Telephone Company dated October 22, 1999, Recorded with said Deeds in Book 22063 Page 124. Subject to an easement to Verizon and Massachusetts Electric dated September 19, 2002, Recorded with said Deeds in Book 27790, Page 17.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, building and zoning laws, liens, attorney's fees and costs pursuant to M.G.L.Ch.183A, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession.

**TERMS OF SALE:**  
A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. **TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.** Other terms if any, to be announced at the sale.

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Inspirational Ingredients: In some cultures, it is believed a cook's mood, good or bad, can ultimately affect the taste and enjoyment of the meal he or she has prepared. Some claim this to be particularly relevant to soups, simply due to the many chopping and cutting tasks required for soup and stew preparation. "Spiritual cooking" has become a buzz word in the culinary world as mindfulness and love, as well as chanting and prayer are being integrated into cooking chores in the belief it will heighten both flavor and awareness.

Tip: Make it a habit to de-stress before cooking, take a few deep breaths, smile and think positive thoughts as you prep and cook in the kitchen.

\*\*\*

**Food for Thought - Fun Soup Facts:**  
\*The earliest evidence of humans eating soup was 6000 BC. The main ingredient was hippopotamus.  
\*The ladies of the French court of Louis XI subsisted mainly on soup because they believed that chewing would cause them to develop facial wrinkles.  
\*The story goes that in the late 1700s, French royal chefs created a clear broth (called consommé) because the king wanted to see his reflection in his bowl.  
\*Soup is a breakfast food in Japan. The day is often started with a bowl of fish broth with rice.  
\*There is an old Yiddish saying, "Troubles are easier to take with soup than without."  
\*Frank Sinatra's contracts often specified that chicken and rice soup be in his dressing room prior to performances.  
\*Andy Warhol said he painted soup cans because he had soup for lunch every day for 20 years.

\*\*\*

**Crock Pot Tomato Soup**  
Whole tomatoes and basil bring freshness to this classic, healthy soup. Best of

all, it cooks while you're at work!

**Ingredients:** 8 medium tomatoes; 1 medium onion, chopped; 2 carrots, peeled and thinly sliced; 1 garlic clove, crushed; 1 tablespoon brown sugar; 1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil; 1 tablespoon chopped parsley; 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce; 1/2 teaspoon salt; 1/8 teaspoon pepper; 3 cups chicken broth or bouillon.

**Directions:** Drop tomatoes in a pan of boiling water for 15 to 20 seconds; immediately rinse with cold water. Remove skins. Cut in half crosswise; squeeze out and discard seeds. Combine in slow-cooker with onions, carrots, garlic, brown sugar, basil, parsley, Worcestershire sauce, salt, pepper and broth (or bouillon). Cover and cook on low 5 to 6 hours or until vegetables are very soft. Puree in blender or food processor fitted with metal blade.

\*\*\*

**Giada De Laurentiis' Italian Wedding Soup**  
This homemade recipe comes from the kitchen of the famous food network cook.

**Meatball Ingredients:** 1 small onion, grated; 1/3 cup chopped fresh Italian parsley; 1 large egg; 1 teaspoon minced garlic; 1 teaspoon salt; 1 slice fresh white bread, crust trimmed, bread torn into small pieces; 1/2 cup grated Parmesan; 8 ounces ground beef; 8 ounces ground pork; Freshly ground black pepper

**Soup Ingredients:** 12 cups low-sodium chicken broth; 1 pound curly endive, coarsely chopped (1 pound of escarole would be a good substitution); 2 large eggs; 2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmesan, plus extra for garnish; Salt and freshly ground black pepper.

**Meatball Directions:** To make the meatballs: Stir the first 6 ingredients in a large bowl to blend. Stir in the cheese, beef and pork. Using 1 1/2 teaspoons

for each, shape the meat mixture into 1-inch-diameter meatballs. Place on a baking sheet.

**Soup Directions:** Bring the broth to a boil in a large pot over medium-high heat. Add the meatballs and curly endive and simmer until the meatballs are cooked through and the curly endive is tender, about 8 minutes. Whisk the eggs and cheese in a medium bowl to blend. Stir the soup in a circular motion. Gradually drizzle the egg mixture into the moving broth, stirring gently with a fork to form thin strands of egg, about one minute. Season the soup to taste with salt and pepper. Ladle the soup into bowls and serve. Finish soup with parmesan cheese if desired.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

# Shade gardening beyond hostas



Photo Melinda Myers, LLC

**Utilize a variety of shade-tolerant plants in shade gardens to add beauty and interest to the landscape.**

A shady spot provides welcome relief from the summer heat; but it can make growing a beautiful garden a bit more challenging. Take heart, your landscape may receive more sunlight than you suspect and if not, there are quite a few shade-tolerant plants you can grow.

Evaluating the sun and shade patterns throughout the day, season, and year is a good place to start. Sun-loving bulbs need lots of sun early in the season before most trees leaf out, while other plants need sunlight throughout the growing season. If you work all day, you may assume those shady spots in the morning and evening never light up, so take some time to evaluate the sun and shade conditions throughout the season.

Make a list of plants that you have had success with and those that failed in the shady location. Use these to help you select or avoid plants with similar light requirements. For example, if peonies bloom and toma-

atoes produce fruit this area receives quite a bit of sunlight, perhaps more than you thought.

If your landscape is too shady to grow the plants you desire, try increasing the sunlight reaching ground level plantings. Hire a certified arborist to thin the overhead tree canopy. They have the training and experience to do the job safely and correctly. You don't want to damage the health and structure of established trees, so critical to the beauty of your landscape.

If there's too much shade to grow even shade-loving plants, consider mulch to keep the mud in place, permeable pavers and a table or chair for relaxing, or a few steppers and moss to create a moss garden.

Once you've made your selections and planted your garden, you need to adjust the care to compensate for the limited light conditions. Plants growing under large trees or overhangs need to be watered more often, espe-

cially the first year or two until they become established. The dense canopy of many trees and imperious overhangs prevent rainfall from reaching the ground below. Plus, the extensive root systems of trees and shrubs absorb much of the rainfall that does make it through, so check soil moisture several times a week and water thoroughly as needed.

Tree and shrub roots can also compete with plantings for nutrients. Use a low nitrogen, slow release fertilizer like [Milorganite \(miloroganite.com\)](http://Milorganite.com) that promotes steady above and below ground growth. The 85% organic material further helps improve the soil. Apply slow release fertilizers at planting and once again for annuals mid-season. Fertilize new and established perennials in early spring and again in mid-summer as needed.

Avoid high nitrogen, quick release fertilizers that promote lush succulent growth that is more susceptible to insects and diseases. And with limited light as a potential plant stressor, this can increase the risk of problems.

When planting under or near trees be careful not to kill them when creating your shade garden. Adding as little as an inch of soil over the roots can kill some tree species. And deep cultivation can damage the feeder roots critical for water and nutrient absorption since the majority grow within the top



**GARDEN MOMENTS**  
.....  
**MELINDA MYERS**

12 inches of soil. Here is a list of just a few shade-tolerant perennials to consider. As always make sure the plants also tolerate your region's climate. And once you start reviewing the internet and plant catalogues you may find it difficult to narrow down your choices to fit in your new shade garden.

Woodland Wildflowers  
Spring Flowering Bulbs  
Grape hyacinths, checkered lilies, camassia, daffodils, Virginia bluebells  
Perennial Flowers  
Ajuga, astilbe, barrenwort (Epimedium), bleeding heart, bugbane/snakeroot (Actaea), columbine, coral bells, dead-nettle (Lamium), ferns, foam flower (Tiarella), ginger (Asarum), hostas, Japanese forest grass (Hakonechloa), lungwort, sedges, Siberian bugloss (Brunnera), variegated Solomon seal, toadlily (Tricyrtis).

*Melinda Myers has written more than 20 books, including Small Space Gardening and The Midwest Gardener's Handbook. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Milorganite for her expertise to write this article. Myers' web site is [www.melindamyers.com](http://www.melindamyers.com).*



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WHA

continued from page A1

in real quick. Then I met somebody and we both worked really hard and saved up. We got into a first-time homebuyer class and worked our way through it.”

Marcano was unsure exactly how she would meet her goals.

“I came here in 2010 from Puerto Rico,” she said. “I didn’t have anything, so I had to start from the bottom. My husband and I eventually got jobs and we both worked hard. But, as soon as I moved in here, I decided I wanted my own house.”

Marcano said she and her family decided to

move to Massachusetts because her son has ADHD, “and in Puerto Rico the schools are not too good when it comes to dealing with that. So, we wanted to come here, to come to the schools. I think it’s perfect for him. He’s been doing very well here in Winchendon.”

She said she feels very fortunate having her own home, but she also feels a bit of sadness knowing that many of her fellow Puerto Ricans lost their homes in Hurricane Maria.

“I’m going to Puerto Rico in September. I’m bringing some help; not just for my family but for all of the people I know. I feel bad. My mother had no power for almost eight

months.”

Marion said her family moved to Winchendon when she was three, “so I was basically raised here.”

“I went to Murdock and graduated in 2009. In 2012 I met somebody, but it didn’t work out. Then life just took a crazy spiral. Then my parents moved to North Carolina, so I was by myself – with my daughter, of course. So, I came here, and I got into Pearl Drive. I just worked my butt off until I could get into my own house. That’s always been my dream.”

Realizing that dream became a little easier – a little – after she met her fiancé and they began working together toward

the same goal.

“We got engaged, and we’re getting a house, and we’re going to get married. It’s been a lot of crazy stuff,” she said with a laugh. “But I’m happy. It’s just what I wanted.”

And a house is just what she needs. Her oldest daughter is 4 and her youngest is a year and a-half old.

“So, we need a house,” said Marion, matter-of-factly.

And both Marion or Marcano did whatever they needed to do in order to achieve their goal of home-ownership.

Marion initially worked as a manager at the local McDonald’s. She now works as a certified

nursing assistant and her fiancé is a manager with the Devens Job Corps.

When Marcano first arrived in Winchendon she spoke virtually no English. Her husband, she chuckled, “spoke worse than me.” The couple, in part because of the language barrier, at first had difficulty finding work. Eventually, however, they found employment that allowed them to support themselves and their four children.

While both will immediately offer that hard work and perseverance are among the keys to realizing one’s dreams, they are also quick to credit the Winchendon Housing Authority with giving them the help they

needed to establish a firm foundation on which to build.

“This is just a stepping stone,” said Marion. “That’s what they told me when I first moved in here. ‘It’s a stepping stone; take advantage of it,’ they said. So, I did... and I’m glad I did.”

“We had almost nothing when we were younger, now look at us,” said Mercano, her eyes welling with tears; but they are tears of happiness – and well-deserved pride.

“We’ve come a long way. The housing authority helped us a great deal,” she said. “They gave us the space we needed to work hard. Now we have our own home. I’m proud of where we are.”

DIVERSITY

continued from page A1

I applied to be the student leader. Mrs. (Miranda, service learning director) Jennings thought I’d be a good choice.”

“It’s fun to be part of this,” she said, gesturing to the flurry of activity Monday morning. “There’s a lot of respect.”

Allesandra Adams is arguably the driving force behind the overall event, though she was quick to note she had a good deal of help.

“We were kind of brainstorming,” recalled the Jamaica native, “and we were talking about Usain Bolt and the Olympics and thought it’d be a good thing to have a kind of Olympics here, something the whole school could participate in,” and so was born this week’s inaugural Diversity/Inclusion Week.

“We did a lot of surveys. We wanted to make sure everyone could be involved. We wanted all opinions to be involved. It took a couple, two-three months to get this organized and we think it’s going to be a good experience,” added Adams.

Science teacher Patrick Englehart said the weeklong event was a way for students to interact with peers they might not automatically be drawn to.

“Down the road, they will hopefully look back and say ‘that was a cool experience.’”

The weather made Justin Derby and his dining services team happy since they were setting up outdoors.

“Last week would not have been fun,” he laughed.

Tuesday saw students restricted to \$2 lunches and they found themselves carrying buckets of water around, dramatizing the flight of millions who are impoverished around the globe.

“It’s about making choices,” said Jennings about the lunch. “We obviously can’t replicate conditions but this project can get them to think”, adding a slew of students have spent school breaks in other places pitching in to help people recover from natural disasters or living consistently in poverty.”

Today, the school will recognize the LGBT community with a moment of silence as part of a nationwide acknowledgment of respect.

Last Saturday, a couple dozen Winchendon School students took part in the town’s annual Earth Day celebration in conjunction with the Clark Memorial YMCA, participating in trash pickup, sign making and even taking fishing lessons while learning how pollution can impact fish and humans alike as well as doing some bird-watching.

“We encouraged people to sign up and we filled a couple buses,” said student leader Cassie Burdick.



Greg Vine photo

Winchendon School student leaders Rebecca Levine and Allesandra Adams organized a bar-becue lunch in recognition of Diversity Inclusion Week. The event included a number of tables manned by organizations promoting diversity, understanding, and civil rights. Joining Levine and Adams is Winchendon School Service Learning Director Amanda Jennings.

CREDIT

continued from page A1

viding for free credit freezes for all consumers and creating an online “one stop shop” portal so consumers can freeze and unfreeze their credit at all three main bureaus (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) in one place; providing five years of free credit monitoring for consumers whose information was part of a credit reporting agency data breach, and empowering consumers to know when and why their consumer reports are being pulled

by requiring that any company attempting to pull a consumer’s report must first obtain consent.

“If you have had your identity stolen or your credit compromised because of a data breach you know how devastating that can be,” Senator Gobi said. “This bill will help to put the pieces back together and then put in place protections for your credit information.”

The legislation allows increased oversight from Attorney General Maura Healey’s office, which recently filed a lawsuit against Equifax. The Office of Consumer Affairs

and Business Regulation will create a process requiring companies to certify that they maintain a consumer information security program as required by existing Massachusetts law.

“We all have been affected by the Equifax breach and it feels like a massive betrayal. Millions of Americans don’t know who might now have access to their personal information and what they might do with it. Equifax must accept responsibility and compensate consumers for its lack of security, and all credit reporting agencies and companies must take swift action to prevent

future breaches,” said bill sponsor and Senate Chair of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Barbara L’Italien. “Today we took the next step toward action to fix this situation. I’m so proud of our collaboration on a bill that sends out a clear message that Massachusetts is serious when it comes to protecting consumers, especially seniors, low-income residents, and other vulnerable populations who are hit the hardest by situations like these.”

“Credit reporting agencies should be working for

the American consumer. But recent data breaches and security leaks have demonstrated a repeated failure in due diligence,” said Senate President Harriette L. Chandler (D-Worcester). “This bill gives individuals more control over their personal data, and will provide essential consumer protections for Massachusetts residents. This legislation will serve as a model for other states, and I commend Senator L’Italien for her leadership on this issue.”

SHOW

continued from page A1

spring show.

“We have a very good reputation,” she said. “People rave about how organized our shows are. They love the opportunity to show their own work, and to appreciate the talent of other artists. And they love the music we provide. The nicest thing is that, whether it’s the artwork or the music, it’s all local talent.”

Giordano said pieces shown at this year’s event will fall into one of several categories, or media, including oil, acrylic, water color, pastel, mixed media, drawing, 3-D, and photography. Prizes will be awarded for each medium; first, second, and third place, and honorable mention. A single Best of Show award will also go to one piece in each category.

The High School Invitational will feature work by young artists from the

Winchendon School and Narragansett Regional High School. Giordano said artists from Oakmont Regional High School were unable to participate this year because the school’s art show was also scheduled for this weekend.

While GALA still has about \$7,000 worth of work to do on the new headquarters, Giordano said, the art show is not a fundraiser.

“We’re still fundraising and we have applied for a grant from the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation,” she said, “but we won’t know the decision on that until sometime in June. We still need to seal some cracks, apply some epoxy, do more painting, of course, and install baseboard (skirting board/floor molding). We also need to get some sort of electric heater. The unit we’re looking at runs around \$2,000.”

GALA took over the old carriage house through an agreement with the Winchendon History and Cultural Center, which purchased the property several years ago. The cost of renovat-

ing the building will, once complete, come to around \$25,000.

This weekend’s art show is supported in part by grants from the Ashburnham, Gardner, Templeton, and Winchendon Cultural Councils, with support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

In addition to exhibits and musical performances, the event will include an “Off the Wall Art Sale,” with original framed artwork – 5” by 7” – available for \$45, and framed photographs, also 5” by 7”, on sale for \$25. An art raffle will be held, with a \$5 investment getting the purchaser 25 tickets. Tickets will be available at the information table.

Artist demonstrations will be open to the public on Saturday and Sunday. At 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sue Weber will demonstrate the skill behind working in wax, oil, and watercolor pencils. That will be followed at 2 p.m. by a felt-ing demonstration by Karen Sugalski. On Sunday, at 11 a.m., Linda Keach will demonstrate the use of woodburning tools on gourds. At 1 p.m., Martha

Webster will demonstrate the techniques for executing oil seascapes. The schedule for demonstrations is subject to change.

Visitors to the show will have the opportunity to vote on their favorite pieces. At the conclusion of the weekend, the most popular will be honored with the People’s Choice Award.

Friday’s musical entertainment will be provided by Steve Rapson, Brian Dickens, and Mill Street. Saturday’s performers include Garold Amadon, Sound Alchemy, Cara Keane and Valerie Newman, Route 2 Revolution, Surround Sound, SPRING ACAPITIS (Winchendon School), and Dan Arsenal. Visitors on the final day of the who will be entertained by Bob Goodwin, Sweet Euphoria, Abbey Fluet (Gardner High School), Jack Newbrough (Murdock High School), and Dave Baldini.

For more information, go to galagardner.org, [info@galagardner.org](mailto:info@galagardner.org), or facebook.com/galagardner.

BUDGET

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needed boost to the tune of \$2.2 million to increase access to nutritious foods for low-income residents, “It is great to see successful programs that promote local agriculture and healthy foods. Outdoor Farmers Markets will be opening soon so it was necessary to add funding for the start of the season.”

Senator Gobi was also proud to co-sponsor an amendment that addressed municipal police training funding. The amendment creates a dedicated funding stream by adding a \$2 fee per rental car transaction in the Commonwealth which will create a steady flow of income and allow the Municipal Police Training Committee to maintain critical services and expand training, “I appreciate the work my police chiefs and officers do to protect our communities, said Senator Gobi. “They want to make sure they have the best training possible for their safety and ours. Creating a dedicated revenue stream to accomplish that makes sense and the unanimous vote showed my support and that of all my colleagues.”

The supplemental budget also

includes \$12.5 million for the Special Education Circuit Breaker, increasing reimbursements to school districts for the high cost of educating students with disabilities.

Additional investments include:  
\$25.6M for Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children grants  
\$21.1M for the operation of the Commonwealth’s county sheriffs  
\$19.3M for Emergency Assistance Family Shelters  
\$15.5M for recently ratified collective bargaining agreements  
\$5.3M for veterans’ benefits  
\$4.5M to support payroll costs at the Department of Correction payroll and \$2M to support payroll costs at the Department of Developmental Services  
\$2.5M for services for hurricane evacuees residing in Massachusetts  
\$2M for DCF Family Resource Centers to support increased demand for services from hurricane evacuees  
\$1M to support the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund  
\$150K for the Municipal Naloxone Bulk Purchasing Trust Fund

The bill will now be reconciled with a version passed by the House of Representatives.

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