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Charles A Birbara, MD
Principal Investigator, Assoc Professor of
Medicine, UMass Medical School
Mary Coughlin, RN, BSN
Clinical Study Manager



Oh Yes it's Ladies' Night
Thursday, November 7 • 5:30pm-7:30pm
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Friday, November 1, 2019

Sturbridge recognized for commitment to being dementia friendly



Courtesy Photo

Executive Office of Elder Affairs Secretary Elizabeth Chen, Council on Aging Director Leslie Wong and Outreach Coordinator Marcia Wildgrube.

STURBRIDGE — The Massachusetts Councils on Aging (MCOA) and the Dementia Friendly Massachusetts (DFM) initiative are pleased to announce that at the recent MCOA Conference, Sturbridge, Massachusetts was recognized for its work to become dementia-friendly by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs Secretary Elizabeth Chen. Council on Aging Director, Leslie Wong accepted the recognition plaque on behalf of the community. To earn the recognition certificate, the community of Sturbridge, has taken specific steps, including signing a formal pledge, to make the town of Sturbridge more welcoming and supportive of people living with dementia and their care partners. Sturbridge joins 21 other communities across Massachusetts who have pledged to work to raise public awareness, reduce stigma and educate citizens to improve the lives of those living with dementia across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. An additional 130 communities are engaged in the Massachusetts Dementia- Friendly initiative and are finalizing their formal commitments. With the support of the Tufts Health Plan Foundation, Dementia Friendly Massachusetts

Please Read **DEMENTIA**, page **A4**

Gobi announces November office hours

REGION — Lucas McDiarmid, aide to Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer), will be holding office hours throughout the district during the month of November. Constituents and town officials are invited to meet to express any concerns, ideas and issues they have. Attendants should RSVP to Lucas at Lucas.McDiarmid@MASenate.gov or by phone at (413) 324-3082. Town attendance is not restricted to residents of those towns, and Lucas is additionally available by appointment if you are unable to make any of the times listed.

Tuesday Nov. 5
10-11 a.m. Warren Senior Center
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Brimfield Senior Center
1-2 p.m. Wales Senior Center

Wednesday Nov. 6
11 a.m.-noon West Brookfield Senior Center
12:30-1:30 p.m. New Braintree Town Offices

2-3 p.m. Brookfield Town Hall
6-7 p.m. Ashby Town Hall

Tuesday Nov. 12
10:30-11:30 a.m. Sturbridge Senior Center
Noon-1 p.m. Rutland Community Center

Wednesday Nov. 13
9:30-10:30 a.m. Oakham Senior Center
11 a.m.-noon North Brookfield Senior Center
1-2 p.m. Holland Town Offices

Thursday Nov. 21
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Charlton Senior Center
2-3 p.m. Monson Senior Center

Tuesday Nov. 26
10:30-11:30 a.m. Paxton Senior Center
Noon-1 p.m. Spencer – Howe Village
1:30-2:30 p.m. East Brookfield Municipal Offices

Cater 2 Kids OT hosts Halloween event

STURBRIDGE — On Saturday, Oct. 19, Cater 2 Kids OT held its third annual Sensory Friendly Halloween event. This free community event for children of all abilities featured a variety of fine motor crafts, gross motor activities, sensory play and social development opportunities through Trick or Treating. Cater 2 Kids OT provided participants who have sensitivities to light, sound and large crowds a quiet con-

trolled environment vs. typical Halloween festivities that would otherwise prove challenging to its participants. This event was held at its original location at 64 Main St., Sturbridge. Staff from the Sturbridge location as well as its sister location at 1078 Main St., Leicester, donated their time for the event. A special thanks goes out to Cornerstone Bank who generously sponsored the event and to Ocean State Job Lot

who also donated items which contributed to the event's success. Cater 2 Kids OT also hosts another free community event, Sensory Santa, which will be held on Dec. 7.

Courtesy Photo

Some target practice with pool noodle shooters... watch out for the crash pad monster!



A Veterans Day tradition continues

STURBRIDGE — Sturbridge has been recognizing the Revolutionary War soldiers interred in the Old Burial Ground next to the Center School/Town Office Building. A tradition was started in the 1930s when children from the school placed geraniums on these graves for Memorial Day. In addition, a new tradition started in 2018 when the Sturbridge Lions Club

purchased thermo-plastic flag holders, that have a caricature of a Patriot on them, to place American flags in. What makes these traditions important and outstanding is having students from the Burgess Elementary School do the honors of placing the geraniums and flags at the graves. We appreciate Principal Kathy Pelley for providing students and their teachers taking part.



Sylvia Buck — Courtesy Photo



Burgess school children placing new flags on Revolutionary Soldier's graves for Veterans Day 2019.

To continue these traditions, the Publick House Historic Inn donates the geraniums for Memorial Day and the Lions

Please Read **VETERANS**, page **A4**

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Hitchcock Happenings

BRIMFIELD — Following is the weekly schedule of events and activities at Hitchcock Academy.

Monday, November 4

REMINDER: You can sign up for all classes and find more information regarding classes on our website: hitchcockacademy.org. Please remember to like us on Facebook.

FAMILY FOUNDATION 5: Free preschooler programs sponsored by a Union 61 Family Foundation 5 Grant. Monday: Playgroup 9-11 AM; bring a snack. Questions? Contact Cheryl Cameron at union61@tantaqua.org

WEIGHT WATCHERS: Traditional Weight Watchers meetings. Weigh-in/Registrations: 5:30PM Meeting: 6:00 PM Leader: Angela Kramer. Visit www.weightwatchers.com to become a member or to learn more about Weight Watchers.

SEN-I JUDO CLUB: 4:30 – 6 PM For the month of November this course is FREE. It runs all year long and is well suited for all levels of practitioners including beginners! Call Sensei Israel Lopez 413 279-4330 for more information.

CHI KUNG: 6 – 7 PM Receive the benefits of increased balance, flexibility, endurance and strength when you practice this ancient, yet evolving exercise form. Instructor: Sharon Palmer M.Ed. Certified 500 hour Kripalu Yoga Teacher

YOGA: 7:15-8:45 PM This 90 minute Hatha Yoga practice will relax and rejuvenate you with guided meditations. Wear comfortable clothes and bring a mat. Instructor: Sharon Palmer M.Ed. Certified 500 hour Kripalu Yoga Teacher

Tuesday, November 5

ART GROUP: 9 – 11:30 AM Bring your own art and enjoy the company of other artists as they explore and encourage each other in creative adventures.

Wednesday, November 6

WATERCOLOR: 9:30 – Noon For all levels – ongoing watercolor classes with new paintings every three weeks. Instructor: Beth Parys. For more information and to register call: 413.245.3295

FAMILY FOUNDATION 5: Free preschooler programs sponsored by a Union 61 Family Foundation 5 Grant. Music and Movement: 9 – 10 AM

BUDDIES DOG TRAINING: 6:30 – 7:30 PM (6 classes) A dog training basics class for canines of all ages (puppies are welcome.) It provides positive training methods, good management practices and problem-solving strategies. Vaccinations must be up to date. Fee: \$130 per dog. Instructor: Laurie Merritt, MEd, CPDT-KA, CNWI; Certified Professional Dog Trainer-Knowledge Assessed; Certified K9 NoseWork® Instructor- National Association of Canine Scent Work

GENEALOGY / FAMILY HISTORY: 6:30 – 8:30 PM The class you need for research into your descendants. Uncover new truths by learning both online and offline research. Instructor: Dave Robinson, Old Bones Genealogy of New England. Four classes Fee: \$45

Thursday, November 7

FAMILY FOUNDATION 5: Free preschooler programs sponsored by a

Union 61 Family Foundation 5 Grant. Thursday: STEM Experiments 9-10:30 AM. Bring a snack. Questions? Contact Cheryl Cameron at union61@tantaqua.org

VIOLIN LESSONS: 2-5 p.m. Instructor: Linda Day Newland, violinist in the Austin Symphony Orchestra for 22 years. Lessons available for all ages and all levels

SEN-I JUDO CLUB: 4:30 – 6 PM For the months of September, October and November this course is FREE. It runs all year long and is well suited for all levels of practitioners including beginners! Call Sensei Israel Lopez 413 279-4330 for more information

FENCING: 6:15-7:15 Youth and adult classes with Andy Bloch.

K9 NOSEWORK® 7 – 8:30 PM. This is a sport open to all breeds of dogs and their people. Progressive training levels offered. Offered at 3 levels. (6 classes) Fee: \$145 Instructor: Laurie Merritt, MEd, CPDT-KA, CNWI; Certified Professional Dog Trainer-Knowledge Assessed; Certified K9 NoseWork® Instructor- National Association of Canine Scent Work

RAVIOLI MAKING: 6:30 – 8:00 PM Jen from Shepherd’s Gate Farm is back to show you how to use goat or cow cheese, as well as pumpkin, to make your own ravioli. Once you’ve seen how it’s done you’ll wonder why you haven’t been making it yourself all along. Instructor: Jen Poirer

Friday, November 8

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Traditional open AA meetings in a friendly setting. Come early to chat and share in refreshments. Time: 7:30 PM

Saturday, November 2

K9 NOSEWORK® Noon – 1:30 PM. This is a sport open to all breeds of dogs and their people. Progressive training levels offered. Offered at 3 levels. (6 classes) Fee: \$145 Instructor: Laurie Merritt, MEd, CPDT-KA, CNWI; Certified Professional Dog Trainer-Knowledge Assessed; Certified K9 NoseWork® Instructor- National Association of Canine Scent Work

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Gateway to hold staged reading of “Eclipse”

SOUTHBIDGE — On Friday, Nov. 1, at 7:30 p.m., Gateway will hold a staged reading of “Eclipse,” an original play written by Jeffrey Coggins. This is free and open to the public, and will be held in Fellowship Hall at Elm Street Congregational Church.

“Eclipse” tells the story of a man dogged by uncertainty and despair, trying to make his way through life- accompanied by a shadow. A staged reading means that this is a work in progress and the audience is welcome to offer comments after the readings. Gateway is always proud to encourage new works and is happy to showcase Jeff’s writing. He may be remembered for his appearances in “Rocky Horror Show” and “It’s a Wonderful Life.”





OCTOBER IS Breast Cancer AWARENESS MONTH

Breast cancer impacts 1 in 8 American women



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Bread of Life benefit to bring hope to the homeless

WORCESTER — Congressman James McGovern and Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis are proud to announce an upcoming fundraiser for Net of Compassion, a local non-profit committed to caring for the homeless.

The Bread of Life Benefit is Net of Compassion's signature fundraiser, and all proceeds will directly and positively impact Net of Compassion's services to the homeless, which include Hotel Grace, an emergency cold weather shelter and its Saturday street outreach where individuals can receive a hot meal, clothing, peer counseling, haircuts and a ride to detox facilities.

The Bread of Life Benefit will take place at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at The Manor, 42 West Boylston St., West Boylston, and will feature entertainment, a buffet dinner and silent auction. Guests will also be invited to fund some of Net of Compassion's most pressing needs.

Congressman McGovern has personally served with Net of Compassion on Saturdays, and said that their commitment to caring for the least fortunate should be an inspiration to everyone in Worcester.

"One person at a time, Net of Compassion is changing lives by lifting up those in our community who need help," said McGovern. "I am so inspired by the dedication, selflessness, and love shown by each and every volunteer. The work they do truly makes our world a better place."

Sheriff Evangelidis has long been a supporter of Net of Compassion which distributes coats and cold weather gear from his annual coat drive.

"There is no one who understands the challenges of the homeless, hungry and addicted better than Richie Gonzalez. He has turned those enormous life struggles into a higher purpose and calling through his Net of Compassion Ministry and Hotel Grace. Feeding the hungry, clothing those in need, providing the homeless warm shelter from the brutal cold while offering hope to those who may feel hopeless is truly God's work," Evangelidis said. "I am honored to know Richie and call him my friend. As a community it is so important we support him in this extraordinary mission."

Sponsorships are available from \$5,000 to \$500. Contact Debra Mooney at

(508) 783-4177 or debrapmooney@gmail.com for more information.

Tickets are available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/net-of-compassion-bread-of-life-benefit-tickets-74019158295>

About Net of Compassion

Net of Compassion is a non-profit organization serving the homeless and indigent. What started in 2010 as Pastor Richie Gonzalez's simple commitment to "love thy neighbor" has grown into a network of more than 100 volunteers, offering weekly meals, peer counseling, recovery supports, and Hotel Grace, a 50-bed, emergency cold-weather shelter.

Individuals who are considered street homeless and chronically homeless often have untreated mental illness, suffer from addiction, are victims of abuse or sex trafficking, or have other issues that make it nearly impossible for them to access traditional services. From Saturdays on Main Street, to street outreach and Hotel Grace, nearly 3,000 of our most vulnerable neighbors are touched by Net of Compassion each year.



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4111 or email news@stonebridgepress.com. During normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

Annual Veterans Appreciation Supper to be held Nov. 10

CHARLTON — The third Annual Ray McDuffy Veterans Appreciation Spaghetti Supper and Silent Auction will take place Sunday, Nov. 10 from 4:30-7 p.m. at the Charlton Grange, 10 Main St., Charlton.

The menu will feature an all you can eat homemade made spaghetti and meatball supper with garlic bread, salad, desert, soda, juice, coffee, and tea. Tickets are only \$10 for adults and \$5 for veterans and children. Children three and under are free.

There will also be a silent Auction that will include many gift certificates from local

businesses, passes for local adventures, gift baskets, electronics (including a 2019

iPad) Red Sox and Patriot items.

Pre purchase of tickets is strongly urged, as only a limited amount will be available at the door. Visit our Facebook page for updates and links to pre pay tickets or call

508-248-5516. You can also go to capenhill.org. Under Events, the first link is the

Spaghetti Dinner and you can scroll down and fill out form for tickets.

SENIOR SCENE

November happenings at the Brimfield Senior Center

1st Congregational Church
20 Main St.
413-245-7253

NEW!! Yoga Dance with Sharon Palmer. Join Sharon for "Let Your Yoga Dance" -- a fun, light-hearted, energizing experience where joy and fun meet deep and profound. It combines flowing Yoga movements, dance, and an exploration of the body's seven "chakras" or energy centers -- all with an eclectic variety of music. You can "let your yoga dance" either standing or seated, or both, and no experience in Yoga or dance is needed. Even if you think you have "two left feet" you can participate easily because there is no "right or wrong" way to dance here, and you will find yourself smiling and feeling great throughout -- and after. Save these dates for a really uplifting experience: October 11; November 1 & 22. All classes start at 10:15.

November 12th, 11AM to 12:30 PM Memory Screening. Representatives from Orchard Valley will be here to offer free memory screenings. Memory screenings make sense for anyone concerned about memory loss or experiencing warning signs of dementia; whose family and friends have noticed changes in them; or who believe they are at risk due to a family history of Alzheimer's disease or a related illness. Screenings also are appropriate for anyone who does not have a concern right now, but who wants to see how their memory is now and for future comparisons.

November 15th, 11 AM to 1 PM: The Brimfield Senior Center is once again celebrating Thanksgiving with a down-home holiday feast on November 15th at 11AM. Come join us in "Giving Thanks" for the bounty we receive from the land, the warmth of the friendship and camaraderie we share with each other, and each and every blessing that has touched our lives. Your feast will include: Oven roasted herbed turkey, homemade gravy, seasoned bread stuffing with apples, onions & celery, golden butternut squash, green beans almandine, seasoned turnip, creamy mashed potatoes, warm buttered rolls, and cranberry sauce. For dessert there will be homemade pumpkin pie and apple pie ala mode. The Senior Center is located in the 1st Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield. Seating is limited for this event. Please call 413-245-7253 for reservations prior to November 11th. There is no charge for this party but donation buckets will be on the tables.

"Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper"

Garden Club welcomes Native Landscaping owner to next meeting

CHARLTON — Come and join us! The Charlton Garden Club's Monday, Nov. 11 meeting will feature Jim Baker, owner of Native Landscaping, will be speaking on Putting Your Garden to Bed.

Charlton Garden Club meetings are open to all interested in gardening and related themes. Whether you're a novice or accomplished gardener, the Charlton Garden Club is a great place to meet other gardening enthusiasts, learn about plants and planting, and to share your gardening tips and experiences. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Charlton Federated Church. A \$5 donation is suggested for non-members. If interested in joining the Garden Club, please contact Co-Presidents, Virginia Charette at (508) 248-7300 or Marcia Liedigk at (508) 434-0507.

Helping Hand Society to host Christmas Fair

CHARLTON — The Charlton Helping Hand Society Inc. will host their annual Christmas Fair on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Dodge Chapel, 81 Hammond Hill Rd., Charlton.

All proceeds will benefit the group's charitable commitment to the Charlton Community. Offerings include our popular "Gramma's Attic", Bake and Cookie by the Pound Table, Raffle Tickets, Chinese Auction, etc. Introducing a "Bag Lunch to Go." You won't have to stop for lunch -- take it with you as you visit the other fairs in the area! All raffle prizes will be drawn at the end of the fair.

Please join us, share the spirit of the season, the fellowship, bargains and especially to "Help Us Help Others."

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‘Civil Service’ designation lifted from police chief’s position

BY JASON BLEAU
 VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – The town of Charlton’s annual fall town meeting concluded with a rather contentious pair of articles on Tuesday, Oct. 8 as voters were asked whether or not to remove both the Police Chief and Lieutenant positions from civil service.

The idea was first brought up in July by Selectman David Singer, who felt

that removing the two positions from civil service designation would benefit the town by allowing for a more competitive and detailed hiring process. Singer started the debate by restating his opinions and explaining that this is a route many communities have chosen in recent years throughout the commonwealth.

“A lot of this came from the fact that we went through a chief hiring process and we paid a lot of money for an assessment center. They compile complete evaluations of all the candidates and, low and behold, we’re not allowed to see them. So, you cannot review any of the evaluations of the candidates that they wrote for the town. All they do is give us a score. By removing this, among many benefits and coming in line with the rest of the state we’d actually be able to read the evaluations from the assessment center,” Singer said.

This started smoothly as the penultimate article of the meeting sought to remove

the chief position from civil service and passed with little debate. A counted vote was taken after an inconclusive voice vote resulting in a 61 to 30 decision in support of the article. However, it was the last article of the night that sought to remove the lieutenant position from civil service that drew the ire of several police representatives from the crowd.

Charlton Police Officer Timothy Smith was the most vocal opponent of the article seeking to put the decision on hold rather than voting on the matter at the meeting.

“I think there has to be a lot more conversation about this. This is a lot different than the chief position where it will affect a lot more people on the department. I think we need to further discuss it to see if this is something we want to do as a whole body of the police department,” Smith said.

Selectman Singer was quick to offer some sharp comments saying that Smith and other officers had ample opportunities to discuss the matter in a public forum. He also responded to criticisms that the police union were not invited to public meetings and while Singer said the union was more than welcome to attend the public forums the lieutenant position is not a bargaining or union position, so a special invite was not required.

“I think everyone here needs to be aware that people who are speaking tonight had every opportunity to discuss this. This was brought up many months ago at a public meeting of the Board of Selectmen in July. This was brought up again in August at a meet-

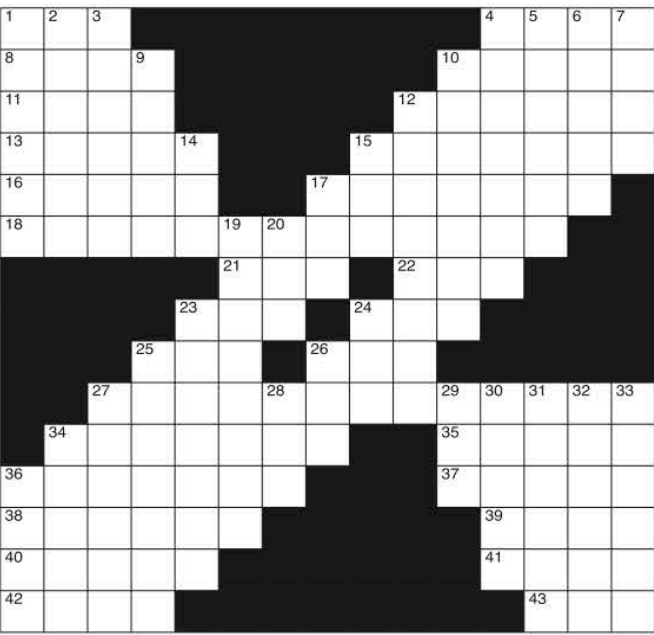
ing where the Chief of Police came and was asked to give pros and cons publicly. So, there were two opportunities where members of the police department had to come and participate in the process and give comments and feedback,” Singer said.

He also noted that the story had been covered in local newspapers, and meeting notices were posted on the bulletin board o the police department.

“Quite frankly, it’s a little disingenuous to have people come to the board and say they want to have time to discuss it and go over it when they’ve actually had since July and it’s been discussed publicly multiple times,” he added.

The debate evolved into a back and forth discussion between Singer and Smith where each had their say on the matter. Smith feared that removing the lieutenant position from civil service would cause qualified candidates to seek promotions outside of Charlton and fears of possibility of nepotism were also brought to the table. Singer stated that by making the change it would allow Charlton to have a larger pool of candidates and be more educated about their qualifications for the job.

In the end, the article was put to a vote and, in order to ensure accuracy, a counted vote was taken rather than attempting a voice vote first. In a 26 to 58 decision, the article was overwhelmingly defeated leaving the lieutenant position as a civil service post.

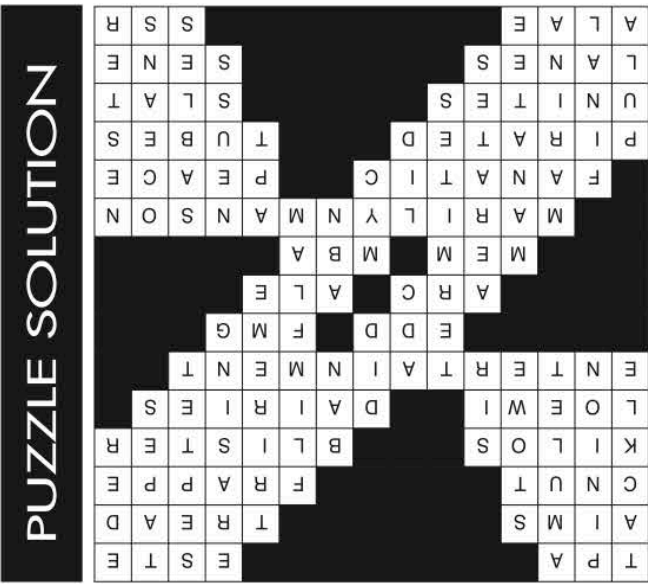


CLUES ACROSS

1. Third-party access (abbr.)
 4. This (Spanish)
 8. Goals
 10. Something to do lightly
 11. “Great” North Sea Empire legend
 12. Iced or chilled drink
 13. Weight units
 15. Immune system response
 16. Groundbreaking German pharmacologist
 17. Milk-supplying companies
 18. Enjoyable distraction
 21. Doctor of Education
 22. Type of submachine gun (abbr.)
 23. Curved shape
24. Brew
 25. The 13th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
 26. Advanced degree
 27. Shock rocker
 34. Enthusiast
 35. Quiet’s partner
 36. Hijacked
 37. TV’s once needed them
 38. Brings together
 39. Narrow piece of wood
 40. Paths
 41. Monetary unit
 42. Wings
 43. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

1. Gear
 2. Outer part of a bird’s wing
 3. Good luck charm
 4. Removing from memory
 5. Group of seven people
 6. Records
 7. German river
 9. “Last of the Mohicans” actress Madeleine
 10. Ancient Greek war galley
 12. Nonsensical speak
 14. Title of respect
 15. Cast out
 17. Have already done
 19. Wood-loving insects
20. Analog conversion system (abbr.)
 23. Pokes holes in
 24. Waiver of liability (abbr.)
 25. Sea cow
 26. Protein coding gene
 27. Where boats park
 28. The top of a jar
 29. Fitting
 30. German city
 31. Martens
 32. They’re all over the planet
 33. One that nests
 34. Coming at the end
 36. Croatian coastal city



VETERANS

continued from page 1

Club purchases new American Flags for Veterans Day.

This year, the ceremony for Veterans Day will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 7 at the gate into the Old Burial Ground. Special invited guests who came for both occasions in 2018, include members of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR),

members of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), the Sturbridge Colonial Militia as well as our State Senator Anne Gobi and State Representative Todd Smola.

When the new Honor Roll in front of the town hall was built in 2012, a new plaque recognizing these veterans was included. Sturbridge resident Bill Barnsley did considerable research and has written a book

identifying the men we honor. The book is available in the Joshua Hyde library.

We invite anyone interested in the ceremony to please attend. To watch the children, walking with dignity, placing flowers or flags is a memorable event. They also are learning from their teachers what the Revolutionary War was about. The men we honor established the freedom we all enjoy today.

A Real Keeper



PHOTO REPRINTS AVAILABLE
 Call Stonebridge Press for details 508-764-4325
 or drop us an email at
 photos@stonebridgepress.com

DEMENTIA

continued from page 1

is a project of the Massachusetts Councils on Aging. The goal of Dementia Friendly Massachusetts is to increase the number of municipalities around the Commonwealth that commit to supporting those living with dementia, their families, and care partners, by signing the DFM pledge. To help communities to become dementia-friendly, DFM offers educational and networking events, access to online resources, and guidance from the DFM project manager. An estimated 120,000 people in Massachusetts live with Alzheimer’s disease or some form of dementia, and the number is expected to rise to 150,000 by the year 2025.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

STURBRIDGE

\$400,000, 218 Hemlock Path, Phipps, Scott W, and Phipps, Mary E, to Simpson, Kevin N, and Simpson, Dawn M.
 \$304,900, 168 Cedar St, Colognesi, Jesse R, to Belog, Joel, and Messier, Kathy.
 \$290,000, 68 Breakneck Rd, Talbot, Nicholas J, to Oksanish, Kyle, and Oksanish, Suzanne.
 \$220,000, 74 Clark Rd, Branniff, Arthur F, and Branniff, Carolyn A, to Branniff, Matthew D.
 \$26,250, 160 Cedar St, Richard, Charlene J, and Cote, Margaret A, to Rob Judson Contracting.
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Speaker explores region’s Italian heritage

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHBIDGE — If you had Italian ancestors in town before and during World War II, it’s more likely they were high school graduates than Italians in other places.

According to historian Dr. Teresa Fava Thomas, that was largely due to American Optical and Hamilton Woolen companies’ efforts to Americanize them. In the 1920s and 30s, the two companies built libraries, hired dozens of teachers and even created school boards comprised of their immigrant workers to run internal school systems at a time when Italians back home and in most other cities typically pulled their kids from school at about age 14 to go to work.

That was particularly true during World War II, when AO had 3264 workers in the military. To fill its gaps, they rehired retirees, women and some high school kids part-time.

“I think this is part of the reason why graduation rates here were radically different from elsewhere and better,” Thomas said. She also noted, “You really have to have some determination to do this,” since the students worked full-time and studied after hours. Their grades went into their personnel files and were used for promotions and raises, and the firm paid them to go to naturalization hearings.

AO started its program in 1920, after having to fire 37 immigrants “for not knowing Technical English.” Company leaders quickly realized they could – and had to – fix that “because it was not a simple, entry-level kind of work,” she noted.

Thomas spoke last week at Jacob Edwards Library. She said many of those Italians came here for two primary reasons: many fled agricultural troubles, earthquakes and political unrest, while subsequent immigrants were often attracted by the “golden letters” that first group sent home about American life.

In the 1800s, the combined crisis hit most of Italy, but the area Thomas focused on – Lazio, Abruzzo and the town of Palestrina – saw it later than most areas.

“Other things besides agriculture kept things pretty stable” there until around 1890,



Gus Steeves Photo

Dr. Teresa Thomas pores over a naturalization ceremony photograph provided by one of her lecture attendees.

she said. But after that, many residents lost their farms and became unstable day laborers. “If you’re in that area, you were beginning to feel as if you didn’t have a future.”

Still, many struggled along until earthquakes and the rumblings of war sent them running.

“Most people who left Palestrina in 1913 left as a group,” taking the train to Naples and boarding a White Star Line ship for the US, she said.

It wasn’t exactly luxury accommodations, Thomas noted; most of them traveled in steerage. A few years ago, she took another ship of the same line to Italy. Although she went under much better circumstances, the ship went through stormy weather that made Thomas sympathize with how unpleasant such a journey could have been for the immigrants.

They came to a country that

was both seeking workers for industry and somewhat biased against foreigners. Town Councilor Mike Marketti noted, “They faced some of the same problems we see today. They were discriminated against, people thought they’d take ‘our’ jobs, and they were preyed on.”

Thomas agreed, saying some of them came over under agreements to work to pay off their transport, only to find their ‘benefactors’ essentially holding them in debt slavery. Some people found their employers would only identify them by number “because they didn’t want to pronounce their names.”

even among those who avoided such blatant discrimination, some found themselves in an awkward situation when World War II came around. Before 1942, any who had not yet naturalized as citizens were labeled “enemy aliens” and subject to various restric-

tions, including curfews, flying bans, and having to notify local police before they left town. Thomas said her father’s parents were among them.

So were Helen Lenti’s parents. She said they never taught her Italian, although they had taught her older siblings, because of the risk.

“They had heard on the street [people saying] ‘If these Italians don’t stop speaking Italian, and speak English, they’ll be deported.’ Italians in Southbridge were petrified,” she recalled.

She also remembered a more subtle kind of discrimination. At AO’s Lensdale plant, almost everyone brought sandwiches for lunch. Most brought bologna, but her mother made her father “great Italian sandwiches.” The others didn’t like the smell, so they made him eat in another room.

Thomas said there were so many Italians here, and so many served in our military,

that “there are stories of people liberating a town and finding their relatives were in it.”

Ironically, she noted, a construction project in Palestrina this September had to stop when diggers ran into an undetonated US bomb from that war. (The town’s Nazi communication tower was a key target, resulting in heavy damage from Allied air raids.) “They had to evacuate 4,000 people for an afternoon to haul this thing out and disarm it,” she said.

Thomas has visited Palestrina several times for research. She noted the town dates back to the Roman era, when it was called Prenestino; has very steep, narrow streets; and was once home to a Pagan temple that eventually became the central palace and park.

Thomas is a professor at Fitchburg State University.

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

Voters put a hold on social media bylaw

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – Charlton’s fall annual town meeting put a new social media bylaw before voters for consideration that would regulate postings on websites like Facebook by town employees, officers, and elected and appointed officials of the town.

The bylaw received mixed responses from the very start with confusion over who would enforce the bylaw, who would be grandfathered in under the proposal and how this would affect social media pages and forums currently operated by employed, elected or appointed officials of the town. Jordan Evans, who serves as a constable in Charlton, was one of the more vocal citizens at the meeting seeing as she operates an online community news and information resource for her town on her own time.

“I run a Facebook page that I use to interact with citizens of the town of Charlton to post election results and other things as they come up in the town. When I created that page, it was never meant to be a town identity, however social media designated me as an official public figure on Facebook so I don’t have control over that. Facebook designated me as an official public entity because they didn’t want my identity to be compromised. Would my personal account retroactively become a town identity?” Evans asked.

Evans’ comments were just some of many throughout the discussion that highlighted some unknowns that remained with the social media bylaw. Curtis Meskus represented the Technology Committee at meeting, who played a role in forming the bylaw, and responded to some of the concerns.

“The town officially needs to maintain its identity and control over what the town does and what the town puts forward. It would be our intention in this bylaw that if you were to have a personal site and did not represent yourself as speaking for the town, but just providing the information, then that would be acceptable,” Meskus said. “An example would be that in a neighboring town an official left employment of that town and used the towns seal

on a personal site. It was very difficult for that town to regain control of that because there was no bylaw in place to do that.”

Other citizens voiced complaints against the bylaw calling it overreaching and invading free speech. Selectman Deborah Noble first brought the idea of a new bylaw to the town several years ago as the result of an incident in another town where an employee was fired for their social media conduct. With numerous controversies, both in the commonwealth and nationwide, stemming from how public officials present themselves on social media having a bylaw felt like a logical step for Charlton to take.

“One of the things we’ve talked about for years now is bringing Charlton into the 21st Century, but without the foun-

dition, without guidelines in place, we can’t move forward appropriately so this is the beginning of that. It has taken two years, it has gone through the Technology Committee, it has gone through multiple departments and it has gone through the attorneys. I think it’s important to realize we’re not trying to inhibit freedom of speech or freedom of expression. Really what we’re trying to do is to encourage responsible speech. There’s nothing wrong with that,” Noble said.

In the end, voters felt there was too much gray area and work still to be worked out with the bylaw. A motion to postpone action on the bylaw was approved in a counted vote of 71 to 26, putting the bylaw on hold until next May. Selectman Noble said she hopes to see citizens make their voices and con-

cerns heard before then so that the town can bring a newly revised version to the table that everyone can get behind.

“A lot of departments put a lot of hard work into crafting the social media bylaw. So, the one thing I’d ask everybody to do is, if you’ve gotten up tonight and you’ve spoken up against it, if you think it’s too onerous and too restrictive, I would expect that you would be contacting one if not every member of this board and sending your thoughts and suggestions to us so that when we come back in May, we can actually say that we were contacted and we’ve incorporated everyone’s concerns,” said Noble. “If those concerns were brought forth when this was posted in September, perhaps we wouldn’t be sitting here right now having this discussion.”

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Annual Trunk or Treat held in Charlton

CHARLTON – The town of Charlton Arts and Activities Center played to the towns annual Trunk or Treat celebration, a modern tradition that saw numerous citizens, local businesses and community groups come together to create decorate trunk displays for costumed trick or treaters to visit.

In addition to the traditional trick or treat concept the day also included cupcake decorating, costume and display contests and more to help everyone capture their Halloween spirit.



Mason and Brayden Conroy pose for a photo before beginning their Trunk or Treat trek.



A trio of heroes prepare to take on the frights of Charlton's annual Trunk or Treat event.



Santa came to town early for Charlton's Trunk or Treat. Young Joseph dressed as the popular holiday mascot along with Caitlin and Kaite as his elf assistants.



Children got to make their own Halloween themed cupcakes as part of the man activities at Trunk or Treat.



What better place for a fireman and police officer to pose for a photo than in front of one of Charlton's very own fire trucks?



Painted pumpkins added some artistic flair to the festivities.



This detailed trunk display featured a fun under the sea theme with shades of “Finding Nemo.”



Charlton Selectman Deborah Noble shows off her trunk display.



Local musician James Bilis performs for some early Trunk or Treaters.



A breast cancer awareness themed trunk stood out for its pink theming.



Local Cub Scout Pack 165 went outdoorsy for their trunk display.



Cornerstone Bank put together this creative trunk display called the Cornerstone Blood Bank.

Jason Bleau Photos



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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Skip the screens

One of the most frustrating phenomena of recent years is to witness a baby, or toddler, or even a school aged child being occupied with a screen of some sort while sitting at a restaurant. It seems as though this is now such a common sight that it has become the norm, and is socially acceptable.

We are not doing these children any favors. We are teaching them that this family time is for the adults, a throw-back to children should be seen and not heard. If your child is misbehaving or fussy, flashing a screen in front of their face may be a quick fix but no valuable lessons are being learned. Back in the day, when a child was fussy, a parent would simply remove them from the room.

A restaurant setting is the perfect time to teach children how to behave in a social atmosphere. We know that distraction is key. There are other options to distract a child then with a screen. Crayons, peek a boo, Cheerios, etc., etc. On that rare occasion, when a parent is feeling overly stressed, tired and lacks patience to deal with a crabby toddler, we get it, and we understand.

The issue we have is the staggering amount of time babies and children are exposed to screens, and how that exposure is playing a detrimental role in delayed development and language skills. Children are exposed to the television set in the morning, iPads during the day, phones during appointments then again after dinner. All of this time adds up.

Preschoolers should not have more than one hour of screen time per day, according to experts. Some local doctors suggest that time, be cut down to zero. Studies have revealed that excessive screen time during the formative years has stalled development, including social development, lack of eye contact or interest in the world around them. One study concluded that a higher level of screen time at ages two and three, significantly affected developmental screening tests. The bright lights have also been shown to compromise development.

During those early years, the brain is at a critical time in development. Young children should be exploring their world as well as developing motor skills. This can only happen when they are on the move, looking around them and observing what's going on. If they are glued to a screen, none of those things are happening. Technology is no replacement for the one on one time that comes with interaction with a person.

Face to face time allows for children to interact verbally and non-verbally as well. The instant gratification of a screen inhibits the child's ability to slow down. Old school toys, such as puzzles, books and blocks are best.

Again, everything in moderation. We think screens have a time and a place and do offer some fun and educational components, however we think the bad outweighs the good, when used in excess.

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

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Or e-mail your letters to the editor at news@stonebridgepress.news.

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.

We don't have a set limit, but if you keep it around 600 words or so, you're going to have a better chance at seeing all your words in print.

If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

Ribbon cutting ceremony to welcome Studio 20/20 to Sturbridge



The Chamber of Central Mass South invites the public to meet Erica O'Brien, the licensed optician and owner of Studio 20/20. Studio 20/20 is an independent retail optical shop located at the entrance of Old Sturbridge Village (in the former Crabtree & Evelyn.) Ask Erica "What makes Studio 20/20 different than other optical shops?" Her answer is "me!"

Erica is a third generation optician. Her grandfather started his optical career at the AO in Southbridge, Mass. Erica's father trained under her grandfather in Hartford, Conn., and now he is the optician/owner of IC Optics in Putnam, Conn. Erica never imagined her career path would lead her to becoming an optician, but it seems it was in her DNA. Erica has worked in the industry since 2001. She has been licensed since 2005 in Connecticut, and in 2008, she became licensed in Massachusetts, too. Erica has been ABO and NCLE certified since 2004, and she recently received her ABO advanced certification. Besides having the credentials, Erica is always reading up on new technology and products whether it be lens design, coating technology, or different frame manufacturing processes. Many of shop's products are from independent companies as Studio 20/20 constantly strives to offer the best products and the best service.

If you have an eyeglass prescription or if you're in the need for specialty glasses or sunglasses in non-prescription, stop in and see Erica. Studio 20/20 takes appointments, but walk-ins are always welcome. Studio 20/20 also sells some great accessories for men and women that are crafted by local artisans and make great gift ideas. Join the Chamber, local dignitaries, our neighbors and guests as we offer Erica and Studio 20/20 an enthusiastic welcome on Thursday, November 7 from 4:00-5:00pm. Enjoy cider and apple cider donuts from Breezeland's Orchards, great raffle prizes, and some awesome giveaways! No need to RSVP, just come on by! Studio 20/20 is located at 371 Main Street, Sturbridge. Reach them by phone at (774) 241-0718 or visit online at www.studiotwentytwenty.com.

"Taco Tuesday" Networking at Mexicali Mexican Grill

November's Fun at Five networking event will be a fiesta for the senses as the Chamber and our guests will visit Mexicali Mexican Grill in Spencer. At Mexicali, everyone works together, not only as a team, but as a family. Guests of Mexicali are treated just that way, too, like a part of the family. Mexicali is the local destination for the freshest authentic Mexican food! Join Mexicali every Taco Tuesday after 3 p.m. and don't miss their Customer Appreciation Night coming on Nov. 21 at 5 p.m.

Every attendee of Fun at Five will go home a winner on this special night! All of our guests will receive a Klem's Gift Card! The gift cards' minimum value will be \$10, but two cards will have a value of \$50, one card will have a value of \$100, and one card will have a value of \$200! Thanks to our amazing sponsor: Klem's! All are welcome to join us.

Our November Fun at Five Sponsor, Klem's, is your local destination for all your holiday needs. Klem's has a large expanded gift section with great brands like Vera Bradley, Hallmark, Willow Tree and much more. Their apparel department features Carhartt, Columbia, Woolrich and Life is Good. Klem's Greenhouse is a winter wonderland with everything you need to make your Christmas Merry, and their toy department features specialty and learning toys. Klem's is now your local Stihl power dealer. Klem's is there to help, whether it's a question on training your dog, fixing your snow blower, or finding the perfect gift, we are here to help and answer all of your questions. Stop in and enjoy some free popcorn! Klem's is located at 117 West Main St., Spencer. Visit online at www.KlemsOnline.com.

Fun at Five takes place on Tuesday, Nov. 12 from 5-7 p.m. The cost to attend is \$12 for registered Chamber Members, \$15 at the door or \$20 for non-Members. Please RSVP by phone at 508-347-2761 or email info@cmschamber.org.

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Sustainable investing can pay off – in several ways



FINANCIAL
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Today, more and more people want their investment dollars to do some good in the world. Should you, too, consider sustainable investing? And if you do, must you accept weaker returns from your investments?

To answer these questions, you may want to have some background on sustainable investing. Sustainable investing is generally understood to include any investment process that uses environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria to evaluate investment merit or to assess the societal or environmental impact of investments. Below are four ways to differentiate sustainable investing funds.

ESG Aware – ESG criteria is one of many factors considered when selecting the individual stocks and bonds that make up a fund's portfolio. In these strategies, investments that are poor performers on ESG criteria may still make it into the portfolio if other criteria, such as profitability or growth prospects, outweigh the risks associated with the poor ESG scores.

ESG Integration – These funds fully integrate ESG criteria into the investment selection process, favoring companies that are addressing the sustainability challenges facing their businesses and industries and/or avoiding companies that are not. There are many ways ESG integration can be implemented, from investing only in ESG best-in-class companies to companies that are making the greatest improvements in their ESG profiles.

Impact Investing – As the name suggests, impact funds are those that seek to deliver societal or environmental impact as a primary objective alongside financial return. So, for example, an impact fund may focus on investing in companies making measurable progress in key areas of impact, such as those outlined by the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, which include clean water or reduced inequality.

Thematic Investing – Strategies in this category invest in companies involved in green industries, such as water, renewable energy and environmental services. These funds are more niche because of the thematic focus and typically have narrowly defined investment guidelines, which can reduce diversification and may not fit neatly into a traditional asset allocation framework.

Given the above categories, you can probably find many investment options that align with your own values and interests. But what about the performance? Should you be prepared to accept lower returns in exchange for exercising your preference?

Studies have shown that sustainable investments can perform just as well as their peers in the general investment arena. Of course, each investment is different, and when you invest, you can expect that prices will fluctuate, and you could lose some of the value of your investment. But this is true of all investments, regardless of whether they are considered sustainable.

Furthermore, you don't have to operate in the dark about how well sustainable investments are doing, as several indexes track the performance of securities considered by the index provider to be sustainable. A financial professional can help you evaluate these types of investments to determine which ones might be suitable for your needs.

So, there you have it – you can do well by doing good. Whether you choose to follow a sustainable investment approach or not, it's important to note that if you do, you won't be putting a roadblock on the path toward your financial goals.

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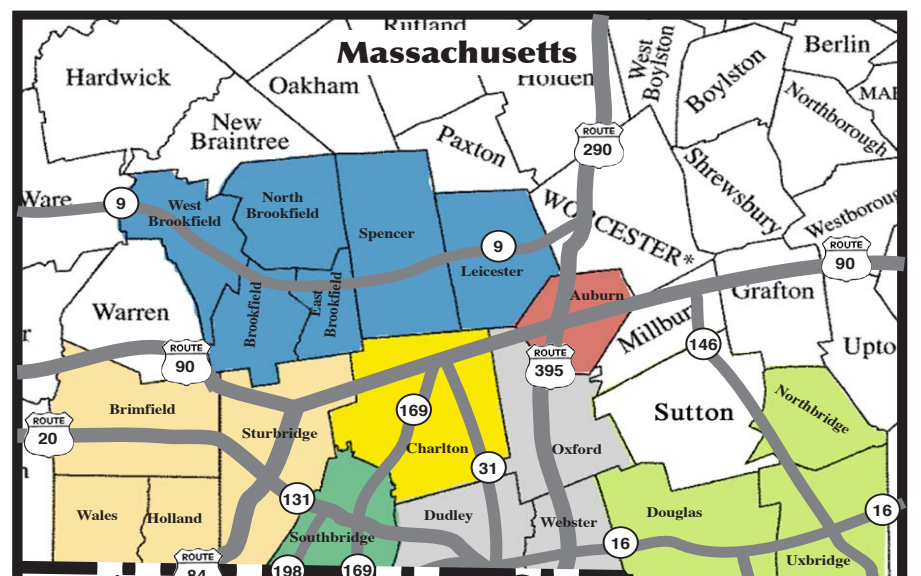
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Best (Budget Friendly) Halloween Hints



TAKE
THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

Want to welcome little ghosts and goblins to your door with more than a tasty treat on Halloween? Getting into the spooky spirit can be as easy as greeting trick or treaters to a dose of creative creepiness. Best of all, with a little imagination, setting the stage for frightful fun doesn't have to break the budget!

Through the years this column has passed along ideas to ensure a spook-tacular holiday, and some favorites deserve an encore. From front door fright to morbid makeup, the following tips culled from past columns offer affordable options to turn up the terror this Halloween!

Front Door Fright
These ideas add a haunted house element to your home.

Flight Factor: Here's how to create the image of a few ghosts bobbing around your front porch or foyer. Just drape a thin sheet square or cheesecloth over a white helium balloon. Use a marker to make two eerie eyes. If you want, tie the sheet off under the ghosts head, or just let it swing free as it bobs in the porch wind. For even more drama, attach the long balloon string to a house eave or roof. The sight of helium ghosts hovering in the dark is sure to spook trick or treaters!

UFO Alert: Trick Halloween visitors by attaching glow sticks to black helium balloons and tying onto a roof or tree. The wind creates just enough movement to make kids wonder!
Note: Disposable glow sticks are inexpensive, and often have a loop or hole at the top that you can use to tie to the base of the balloon.

Ghastly Ghosts: Manufacture a spooky spirit with some cheesecloth and either equal parts Elmer's glue and water or liquid starch. Simply soak the cheesecloth in the stiffener until fully saturated. For a tabletop ghost, place a balloon atop a paper towel roll. Drape the cheesecloth over the balloon until completely dry. Add eyes with a magic marker or felt. If you're more ambitious, use the same procedure to form a giant lawn sculpture!
To add some "super spook" to your ghost, tuck a string of battery operated white mini lights under the sculpture.

Crime Scene: If you have a sidewalk, cement walkway or paved driveway, you can easily create a creepy crime scene. Simply use flourescent sidewalk chalk to draw a life size outline of a "victim." Up the fright factor by stringing a length of yellow "caution" tape along nearby trees or bushes.

Light the Way: Forget old fashioned (and potentially dangerous) candles to light your carved pumpkins! Battery operated flameless candles and disposable glow sticks are ideal alternatives to softly and safely illuminate Jack-O-Lanterns. The lights can also be placed

inside (decorated) paper bag illuminaries to safely line a walkway or path to the front door.

Wet Webs: Simulate scary spider webs by hanging long strands of string from your porch. Be sure to make them long enough to touch the heads of little ones. To add an extra dose of gore, spray the strings with water.

Morbid Makeup
For many creative costumers, a face properly made up for the occasion is a must. But before you run out to buy expensive makeup kits, try your hand at some kitchen creativity to concoct colorful creams and dramatic skin embellishments. Here's a collection of classic recipes that rival professional makeup techniques.

Face off: Makeup can make or break a costume. Whether you're a clown or a ghost, the following basic "recipe" is sure help you put your best Halloween face forward!
To create an easy face makeup that can be tinted with food coloring, mix together one teaspoon cornstarch; one half teaspoon water, one half teaspoon cold cream and two drops of food coloring. To make a big batch of makeup in different colors, mix ingredients in the cups of a muffin tin and you'll have a palette of colors at your fingertips. Just add a different color food coloring to each cup. Mix well and apply.
No cold cream on hand? Make the makeup from scratch. Here's how: Blend three tablespoons cornstarch, one tablespoon flour, three quarters of

a cup of Karo light corn syrup; one quarter cup water and one quarter teaspoon liquid or paste food coloring.

Kid's Choice: This child safe recipe uses vegetable shortening in place of cold cream for a base. In a small bowl, combine ten teaspoons cornstarch and two teaspoons flour. Stir in five teaspoons of vegetable shortening and one eighth teaspoon food coloring. Stir in one quarter teaspoon glycerin, mixing together well.

Bloody Good: Any vampire worth his blood knows a ready supply of the yucky red stuff is a necessity on Halloween! To mix up some realistic blood, blend 1 3/4 cups of corn syrup with one quarter cup of water. Add two teaspoons of red food coloring and five to ten drops of blue food coloring until color resembles real blood. Add one quarter cup of sifted corn starch and mix well.

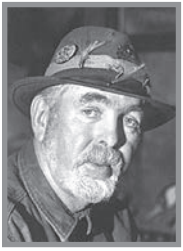
Scary Skin Ailments: Making scars, scabs, moles and other gory facial features require a little more imagination. Gelatin, in various colors and stages of set makes for a realistic Halloween array of yucky facial imperfections.
Ingredients: one ounce gelatin (plain or flavored depending on desired effect); two tablespoons boiling water; mix ins as needed: couscous, hairs, paprika, colored sugar; four tablespoons corn syrup
Directions: In a small bowl or cup combine gelatin and water. Mix and let set three minutes. To create general skin growths: Before the gelatin sets completely make moles, blisters, and some other skin growths by dripping the liquid gelatin

onto a ceramic plate and letting it set completely. When set use a sharp object to carefully peel the forms off of the plate. Stick them onto the face by using a drop of corn syrup as adhesive Or, drip unset gelatin for form a dripping effect, or the foundation for other gory skin conditions. Stirring in mix-ins adds texture to the effects. Sprinkling colored sugar into the unset gelatin will make grainy textured effects, while sprinkling paprika on top of the globs once they've begun to set will make some scab wounds look scabbed over.
**

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 renown restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

A hunter's best friend



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Owning a dog for hunting and companionship can be one of the most rewarding experiences a person can have during their lifetime. Some people often own more than one dog during their life, and is often credited with the persons longevity. When the dog or their owner passes, it is a sad time for the one that they leave behind. This week's picture shows Charlie Warren of Northbridge with his new pup he recently purchased after the passing of his Golden Retriever of only four years. He was still left with his older dog shown in this week's picture along with his new pup on the right, but the passing of his young dog left a huge void in the family.

His wife also felt the loss of the young dog, so the pair decided that they needed another dog. After a few months they found a breeder in Vermont that had a few Golden Retrievers left from a recent litter and they decided to make the trip, to hopefully purchase one of the remaining pups. Arriving at the breeder's home, they quickly decided on one of the pups after checking out the breeding and the breeder's reputation. The family is now complete again and the two retrievers have bonded very well, but it will take a while before the great memories fade after the loss of his four-year-old pup. You never forget.

After the passing of my Wife Judy this year, I was left with her beagle, Molly. Molly also gave us many great memories over the past six years, and my yellow lab Twig has become



closer after I brought Twig indoors. Twig was always a kennel & hunting dog, and never did like it indoors. Numerous times I brought her in, but she was always at the door to go out. Bringing her in during extreme weather conditions was all that she tolerated. Fortunately, I have had the time to take both dogs to a local club daily for hunting, and for long walks. This week's second picture shows Molly on guard in the backyard.

This spring, I purchased a mountain bike at a yard sale and keep it at the club for the daily run. It works out just great and they get to do a lot more running, as this old body is slowing down. On most runs, the pair of dogs find a pheasant at the club and flush it out of there hiding spot. Molly has become a great bird dog, but

she has not learned to bark while on the trail of an elusive pheasant, which is extremely rare for a beagle.

In past years, I have owned many beagles when rabbit hunting was great in the valley. At least twice a week, we would take the beagles to the Douglas State Forest. There was a good population of snowshoe hare in the swamps back then, thanks to local clubs like the Blackstone Valley Beagle Club that I am now one of the few founding fathers remaining. Bob Blackley, Herb Hingley, Fran Magowan and a couple of others are still living, and remember the good old days. Rod & Gun Clubs purchased snowshoe hare from a trapper in Canada annually, and stocked them live into areas like the Douglas state forest. Listening to the hounds



trail the scent of a snowshoe hare for sometimes hours was music to our ears.

The snowshoe hare importation to the valley area was stopped 20 years ago or more by anti-hunting groups, and now our woodlands have become silent with the loss of the snowshoe hare. At the end, sportsmen's groups were purchasing snowshoe hare for more than \$20 each! A small population of snowshoe hare still remain in the Western Part of the state. A recent spike in the cottontail rabbit population in the valley area, is good news if you do not have a garden.

The start of the pheasant season in Mass. a couple of weeks ago has been providing some great hunting opportunities for pheasant, but sportsmen feel the loss of a once popular game

bird the grouse. This fast flying bird offered bird hunters the opportunity to enjoy some fast shooting in local covers, and it took a real good pointing dog to hold the bird from flushing until the hunter could get a good shot. Many of my fellow bird hunters think that Massachusetts should close down hunting for grouse in areas of the Blackstone Valley, Zones 8 and 9 to help restore their populations due to lost habitat.

Fishing on the saltwater and freshwater continues to provide some great fishing, but this past weeks weather did not want to cooperate, unless you like to fish in miserable weather.

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SPORTS

Seniors run wild as Tantasqua rolls past Rams, 21-6



Tantasqua quarterback Dante Reno releases a pass down the field.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — Eighteen members of the Tantasqua Regional varsity football team played their final regular season home game at The Reservation on Saturday, Oct. 26 against Northbridge High. Collectively the Warriors made the most of it, rolling up more than 400 yards of total offense — over 300 of that coming via a bruising rushing attack — in a dominant and methodical 21-6 victory over the Rams.

“Between it being Senior Day and the fact we were facing Northbridge, which is a really great team, we were very fired up to play today,” Tantasqua head coach Jon Hargis said. “On a day like today you have to balance Senior Day on top of the fact you’re playing a great opponent like Northbridge and the winning atmosphere they bring in with them.”

With the win Tantasqua improved to 5-2 overall and 2-0 in Southern Worcester County League games to strengthen its hold on a Central Mass. Division 4 playoff berth with one game remaining on the regular-season schedule. Northbridge, still alive for a playoff berth itself in Division 5, fell to 3-4 overall and 0-2 in SWCL play.

Senior Ryan Sears paced the Warriors’ offensive attack, rushing for 174 of their 342 yards, and all three of Tantasqua’s touchdowns, on 25 carries. Classmate and fellow captain Liam Gore added 123 yards on 12 carries.

Not to be overlooked was the play of another senior, Dominic Brown, who rolled up more than 100 yards of total offense, rushing for 36 yards on five carries and catching four passes from freshman quarterback Dante Reno (6 of 10, 82 yards) for 74 yards.

The Warriors made a statement on the opening drive of the game, marching 85 yards on 13 plays. Sears, who had 34 yards rushing on the drive, crashed in from 3 yards out to give Tantasqua a 6-0 lead. Senior Jarrod Spratt then booted the first of his three extra points on the day and the Warriors led, 7-0, with 6:40 remaining in the first quarter.

“We wanted to set the tone for the game on our opening drive,” Hargis said. “We came in with the mindset that hopefully we could score quick and then make a stop defensively, and we were able to do that.”

Kyle Boone, a senior captain and

offensive and defensive lineman for the Warriors, said that having a pair of 100-yard rushers in the same game is a source of pride for an offensive line.

“We knew we were going to come out and pound the ball up the field today. It’s what we love to do as a team; we love running the ball,” Boone said, quickly adding that Sears certainly does his part. “Ryan’s a beast; he makes it easy. He follows his blocks, he hits the hole, he trucks kids, he’s tough to bring down, he’s fast, and he’s shifty.”

Sears and Spratt increased Tantasqua’s lead to 14-0 with 2:58 remaining in the first half, Sears scoring on a 6-yard run for his second score of the day. The Warriors’ second scoring drive was 76 yards, but it only took four plays, Gore starting it off with a 67-yard rumble down the left sideline.

A 7-yard touchdown run with 9:44 left in the game closed out the scoring for Sears and Tantasqua, pushing the Warriors’ lead to 21-0 after a 13-play, 83-yard drive.

Sears said Tantasqua’s dominance in the running game is no secret.

“It’s the same old story every week,” Sears said. “My offensive linemen, they work for me and I work for them. I know all of them personally and they know me. They know that I’ll get the job done if they get the job done. Once we get out here on the field it all comes together.”

Northbridge avoided the shutout by scoring with 2:51 remaining, sophomore Ryan Boyce hitting junior Brennan Mahoney with a 25-yard scoring strike.

“They outmuscled us and we knew coming in that was going to be the issue,” Northbridge head coach Ken LaChapelle said. “We faced them last year and we knew they had a lot back. They have two nice backs and the line comes off the ball very well. We got what we expected.

“We were hoping on the offensive end to be able to keep up with them,” LaChapelle continued. “The only way for that to happen for us was to minimize sacks and penalties and those were the two things that really stung us when we started to move the ball.”

Boyce was sacked four times — twice by Boone — for 30 yards and the Rams committed six penalties, getting backed up 71 yards in the process.



Tantasqua’s Liam Gore breaks free from a Northbridge arm tackle.



Dominic Brown of Tantasqua looks up for the ball in order to catch a pass while outrunning Northbridge’s defense.



Tantasqua’s Ryan Sears continues to move his feet on a carry to gain extra yardage.

TORPEDOES-NE SWIM RESULTS

The IM/Relay Meet was held at Southbridge’s Tri-Community YMCA, home of the Torpedoes-NE Swim Club, on Saturday, Oct. 26. The results of the Torpedoes-NE swimmers are as follows:

Girls 8 & Under 100 Yard Medley Relay

1. Torpedoes-NE (Hailey Mathurin, Kyrarah Gingo, Brynn Boucher, Neave Bilodeau), 1:32.97

Boys 10 & Under 200 Yard Medley Relay

1. Torpedoes-NE (Jack Sullivan, Keenan Scherer, Dominik Ignatovich, Miles Oprica), 3:02.09

Boys 11-12 200 Yard Medley Relay

1. Torpedoes-NE (Evan Dambly, Sunday Voraraj, Quinn Sullivan, Ethan Zhu), 2:23.25

3. Torpedoes-NE (Jonah Scherer, Wyatt Owens, Sam Merchant, Nathaniel Grant), 2:53.29

Boys 13-14 200 Yard Medley Relay

1. Torpedoes-NE (Akshat Viswanath, Max Sullivan, Eben Mazieka, Ethan Korenda), 2:07.94

Girls 200 Yard Medley Relay

3. Torpedoes-NE (Julia Obrycki, Rebecca Turley, Maria Piekarczyk, Rebecca Jarvis), 2:26.29

Boys 200 Yard Medley Relay

1. Torpedoes-NE (Thomas Morrison,

Daniel Sickenberger, Adam Mazieka, Daniel Durda), 2:10.56

Girls 8 & Under 100 Yard IM

1. Brynn Boucher, 1:34.53

2. Hailey Mathurin, 2:11.02

3. Kyrarah Gingo, 2:12.27

Girls 9-10 100 Yard IM

4. Katelyn Spillane, 1:31.96

7. Ava Serrano, 1:36.97

Boys 9-10 100 Yard IM

1. Dominik Ignatovich, 1:30.02

4. Keenan Scherer, 1:39.77

5. Miles Oprica, 2:02.52

Girls 11-12 200 Yard IM

3. Sonia Ganski, 2:59.83

7. Abigale Houle, 3:12.34

9. Sasha Hidalgo, 3:28.20

Boys 11-12 200 Yard IM

3. Evan Dambly, 2:56.87

11. Kira J. Petrik, 3:09.75

Boys 13-14 200 Yard IM

2. Max Sullivan, 2:32.13

3. Akshat Viswanath, 2:35.23

4. Axel Soderquist, 2:38.05

5. Eben Mazieka, 2:41.20

6. Ethan Korenda, 2:42.32

7. Brad Piekarczyk, 2:47.53

9. Nathaniel Chute, 2:53.40

Girls 15-18 200 Yard IM

3. Maria Piekarczyk, 2:40.68

10. Rebecca Turley, 2:58.73

12. Julia Obrycki, 3:10.32

Boys 15-18 200 Yard IM

3. Ryan McKenzie, 2:21.32

4. Adrian Ignatovich, 2:22.40

5. Andrew Wade, 2:23.90

6. Jack Davis, 2:24.04

Korenda), 2:48.92

Boys 10 & Under 200 Yard Freestyle Relay

1. Torpedoes-NE (Keenan Scherer, Joseph Afton, Jack Sullivan, Dominik Ignatovich), 2:55.39

Boys 11-12 200 Yard Freestyle Relay

1. Torpedoes-NE (Quinn Sullivan, Ethan Zhu, Sunday Voraraj, Evan Dambly), 2:08.58

3. Torpedoes-NE (Jonah Scherer, Nathaniel Grant, Wyatt Owens, Sam Merchant), 2:40.49

Girls 13-14 200 Yard Freestyle Relay

1. Torpedoes-NE (Emily Owens, Abigail Morse, Kira Dambly, Zoey Zhu), 2:01.76

3. Molly Bilodeau, Kira J. Petrik, Bianka Ganski, Nicole Apicelli), 2:22.73

Girls 200 Yard Freestyle Relay

3. Torpedoes-NE (Rebecca Turley, Rebecca Jarvis, Julia Obrycki, Maria Piekarczyk), 2:10.67

Boys 200 Yard Freestyle Relay

1. Torpedoes-NE (Jack Davis, Andrew Wade, Adrian Ignatovich, Ryan McKenzie), 1:43.98

3. Torpedoes-NE (Thomas Morrison, Adam Mazieka, Daniel Durda, Daniel Sickenberger), 1:56.30

Girls 10 & Under 200 Yard Freestyle Relay

2. Torpedoes-NE (Katelyn Spillane, Celia Ares, Marissa Grieco, Abbey

SPORTS

Grafton rules at Southern Worcester County League Golf Championship



Nick Ethier photos

The Southern Worcester County League Golf Championship was held Thursday, Oct. 24 at Leicester Country Club, where Grafton High won the tournament.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — With the Southern Worcester County League (SWCL) Golf Championship getting pushed back a week because of Mother Nature, that meant that the member schools who qualified for their respective Central Mass. Tournaments — Tantasqua Regional in Division 1, Grafton High and Millbury High in Division 2, and Leicester High in Division 3 — finished up postseason play and everyone's final tournament was at the SWCL Championships, which was held at Leicester Country Club on Thursday, Oct. 24.

Each competing school — Southbridge High did not field a golf team this fall — brought six golfers to the 18-hole course, and the top four scores from each team were counted toward the team total. There, Grafton High emerged victorious with a cumulative stroke score of 298. Millbury High took second place (312) with Tantasqua Regional not too far behind in third (324).

The full SWCL Golf Championship team results are as follows:

1. Grafton (Ryan Schiappa, 72; Matt Lukasevich, 74; Deron Breen, 75; Alec Molinari, 77), 298
2. Millbury (Tom Rembiszewski, 76; Jack Remuck, 76; Ryan Tarasiak, 77; Hunter Luby, 83), 312
3. Tantasqua (Will Pieczynski, 76; Grace Farland, 79; Brandon Jarzabski, 83; Jack Gagnon, 86), 324
4. Northbridge (Pat Rosenlund, 77; Hayden Maynard, 78; Will Pielt, 81; Colin Brody, 99), 335
5. Leicester (Ryan Russo, 86; Riley Whalen, 86; Ryan Pickett, 90; Ryan Whitworth, 91), 353
6. Auburn (Nic Spanos, 80; Tom Cowden, 90; Nate Gette, 95; Zion Burdick and Mike Dillon, 97), 362
7. Uxbridge (Kevin Siefken, 87; Katie Cullen, 89; Johnathan Fabian, 93; Dan Redgate, 93), 362
8. Bartlett (Moises Lewis, 90; Ryan Truscott, 93; Barry Berthiaume, 99; Josie Corridori, 101), 383
9. Oxford (Liam Jessie, 79; Brady Margopolis, 97; Matt Beals, 104; Sam Kann, 114), 394
10. Quaboag (Cole Crosby, 88; Aidan Fitzgerald, 96; Lynne Merrill, 109; Travis Floury, 110), 403
11. David Prouty (Gavin Haynes, 102; Dan Bowen, 121; Tyler Johnson, 122;

Jared Holmes, 125), 470

On the individual side, 10 of the 66 golfers earned certificates for their strong play. Grafton's Ryan Schiappa was medalist after carding a 2-over par 72. Teammate Matt Lukasevich followed with a 74, and another Grafton athlete — Deron Breen — finished in third with a 75. Other certificate winners included Millbury's Tom Rembiszewski and Jack Remuck (fourth place tie, 76), Tantasqua's Will Pieczynski (fourth place tie, 76), Millbury's Ryan Tarasiak (seventh place tie, 77), Northbridge's Pat Rosenlund (seventh place tie, 77), Grafton's Alec Molinari (seventh place tie, 77) and Northbridge's Hayden Maynard (10th place, 78).



STURBRIDGE'S PECK LANDS FIRST KING SALMON

Courtesy photo

Logan Peck, an 8-year-old from Sturbridge, successfully landed his first King Salmon this past Friday on the Oak Orchard River in upper New York state. His father, Jeff, was on hand to help Logan catch the 38-inch, 25-pound fish.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Monday, Oct. 21

Wachusett 1, Tantasqua 0 — In a defensive battle, the Mountainers' JV boys' soccer team finally scored with about 13 minutes to go. The Warriors had their chances to tie it up in the second half on a couple of direct kicks, but Wachusett's goalie made some great saves.

Friday, Oct. 25

Quaboag 5, Bartlett 0 — The girls' varsity soccer team from Quaboag improved to 11-3-2 after shutting out the Indians. Megan Shea recorded her first career varsity goal, while Kiarra Dorman potted two more. Paige Baldwin and Juli DeLeon also scored for the Cougars.



SPORTS BRIEFS

Softball pitching lessons available in Southbridge

A 17-week softball pitching lesson (for children 7 years old and up) is available at the Southbridge Community Center (152 Chestnut Street) on Sunday mornings from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. The 50-minute sessions start Oct. 20 and go through Feb. 23, 2020. There will be no pitching on Dec. 22 or Feb. 23, 2020. Ask about team/league discounts. Pitchers must bring a catcher. Please contact Bill Rahall (Clark University) at wlrh@yahoo.com or (860) 576-3440 for more information. Hitting lessons are also available every week.

Ski or snowboard at Wachusett Mountain

Are you interested in having a lot of fun while also helping to make the winter fly by? Any students in grade 3 and up, parents or teachers from any of the surrounding towns and states can ski or snowboard eight consecutive Saturday nights at Wachusett Mountain for just \$158 through the Southbridge Ski Club. You drive to Wachusett Mountain on your own. The eight-week program begins on Saturday, Jan. 4 and ends Saturday, Feb. 22. Ski or snowboard rentals as well as lessons are also available at a very reasonable cost. You may also be able to ski or snowboard for free through your health insurance coverage. Also, anyone (students or non-students) can purchase Gold, Silver and Bronze Season Passes at a lower discounted price through our Club. For more information, please contact Dick Lisi at (508) 410-1332 or at lisirichard15@yahoo.com.

TRIPS OFFERED

The “Trips Offered” section is for non-profit organizations and will run as space allows. Mail your information to Trips Offered, c/o Brendan Berube, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550; fax to (508) 764-8015 or e-mail to news@stone-bridgepress.news.

BAY PATH ADULT EVENING SCHOOL

Fall 2019 catalog offerings

New England Patriots vs. the Baltimore Ravens — “Tours and Pours” 3 Days/2 Nights Nov. 2-4

What’s included: Roundtrip Motorcoach transportation, lodging, five meals, city tour of Baltimore, three brewery tours, distillery tour, winery, reserved seats at M & T Bank Stadium Tour Director, and more!

\$799pp double occupancy, \$949 single occupancy, \$789 triple occupancy, \$779, quadruple occupancy.

For a brochure and complete itinerary, please contact Lori Douthwright at (508) 248-5971, ext. 1715.

A Country Christmas in Nashville, Tenn. at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel 4 days/3 nights Dec. 6-9

What’s included: Roundtrip airfare from Logan Airport, including transportation, three-night lodging, seven meals, Gaylord Opryland exclusive dinner show, ticket for holiday show at Opry House, tour of the Ryman & Grand Ole Opry, ICE Gaylord Opryland, General Jackson Showboat river cruise, and so much more!

Standard view room \$1,899pp double occupancy, \$2,249pp single occupancy

Atrium view room \$1,999pp double occupancy, \$2,399pp single occupancy.

For a brochure and complete itinerary, please contact Lori Douthwright at (508) 248-5971, ext. 1715.

Wine Country Pacific Coast Cruise 9 days/8 nights April 6-14, 2020

What’s included: Roundtrip Motorcoach transfers, roundtrip airfare from Logan Airport, one night pre-cruise stay in Los Angeles, 8 day/7 night cruise on board Princess Cruises-The Star Princess, visiting Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Astoria Oregon, Victoria, B.C., Vancouver, B.C., winery tours, all meals on board ship, and more!

*A valid passport is REQUIRED for this trip

Prices starting at \$2,499pp double occupancy (plus tax, transfers & government fees)

For a brochure and complete itinerary, please contact Lori Douthwright at (508) 248-5971, ext. 1715.

CHARLTON SENIOR CENTER

Trip Coordinator Dotti Murphy - Please call 978-424-7010

Sign up sheets & flyers available at the Senior Center / Flyers also available on our web page www.townofcharlton.net Click on Departments then click on Council on Aging/Senior Center

Pick up is from St. Joseph’s Church 10 H Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton

2019 Day Trips

Nov. 14 (Thurs) Ricky Nelson Remembered - Ricky Nelson’s twin sons perform their father’s hit songs - Venus DeMilo, Swansea \$95.00

Dec3(Tues) Johnny Mathis Christmas Tribute - Ultimate tribute to Johnny Mathis with Christmas songs and some of his biggest hits - Davensport Yacht Club -\$92.00

2019 Overnight Trips

Sept 20 - 22 Lake George Balloon Festival - 3 days, 2 nights -\$449pp dou-

ble, \$599 single

Please call Dotti Murphy at 978-424-7010 for details if interested in any trips.

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

The Daughters of Isabella proudly present our 2019 Fantastic Worldwide Tours!

For reservations contact Jan Caouette at (508) 887-2215. Make checks payable to Bernadette Circle #709 and mail to Bernadette Circle #709, PO Box 201, Webster MA 01570. The Daughters of Isabella is a nonprofit and charitable Catholic women’s organization

DOUGLAS SUNSHINE CLUB

Sunny Portugal next April. The Douglas Sunshine Club is planning a trip to sunny Portugal April 21-30, 2020. This trip is with Collette Travel. An informational meeting is planned for Wed. June 12th at the Douglas Senior Center, 331 Main St., Douglas, at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in the trip, this is a great opportunity to get a description of the travel arrangements and itinerary with a representative from Collette Travel who will also answer any questions you have about the trip. For more info call 508-476-4474.

DUDLEY SENIORS

Dudley Seniors presents a Branson Show Extravaganza, Saturday, May 2 through Sunday, May 10, 2020, \$905 per person, double occupancy. Incredible price includes motorcoach transportation, eight nights lodging including four consecutive nights in the Branson, Mo. Area, 14 meals (eight breakfasts and six dinners), admission to seven fabulous Branson shows, including New Jersey Nights, Amazing Acrobats of Shanghai, Doug Gabriel, Presley’s Country Jubilee, “Noah the Musical,” and the Hughes Show; and one dinner show on the Showboat Branson Belle. For pictures, video and information, visit www.GroupTrips.com/dudleyse-niors. Departure point: Dudley Town Hall, 71 W. Main St., 8 a.m. Saturday, May 2, 2020.

For more information, please call Evelyn at (508) 764-8254.

FRIENDS OF THE STURBRIDGE SENIORS

Tuesday, Dec. 3 to Thursday, Dec. 5 Overnight Trip 3 Days/2Nights. Prices are \$459 for Double Occupancy and \$559 for Single Occupancy. On Wednesday see the Spectacular Awe Inspiring Special Effects and complete with Live Animals “Miracle of Christmas Show “ at the Milenium Sight and Sound Theater. Following the The Miracle Show is Dinner at the always delicious Plain and Fancy Restaurant. Also included in this trip and happening on Tuesday is a Dinner Show production of Irving Berlin’s Musical “Holiday Inn” featuring thrilling dance numbers, laugh out loud comedy and a Parade of Irving Berlin’s Hit Songs. Thursday features a visit to Hershey’s Chocolate World and Milton Hershey School and Founders Hall before we head home with rest stops on our way back. This Trip includes 2 nights Lodging, 2 Breakfasts, 2 Dinners, Tickets to The Miracle of Christmas and Tickets to the Holiday Inn Show and a Full Commentary Back Country Tour of the Farmlands of Lancaster Country.

Dec. 31 New Years Eve “DAY” at the Lake Pearl in Wrentham, Mass. Let’s Celebrate the New Year during the “DAYTIME”. Featuring the dynamic Tom LaMark Orchestra as they cover original classics from the Swing Era, the Best in Ballroom Dancing, our Favorite Line Dances, and on up to the Best songs from the ‘50’s, ‘60’s and ‘70’s. Sing along, Dance along and Party strong to this Live Band. For \$89, enjoy Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Salad, Breads, Choice of Entree, Potato,

Vegetable, N.Y. Style Cheesecake, Coffee/Tea and let’s not forget a CHAMPAGNE TOAST.

May 15, 2020 to May 22, 2020 Cruise 8 Days/7 Nights Boston to Bermuda aboard the Norwegian Cruise Lines “GEM” SHIP. Leave Boston Friday, May 15 and return Boston Friday May 22. Included are All of the Following, Roundtrip Transfers from Sturbridge to Boston and back. The Ultimate Beverage Package, The Ultimate 4 Night Dining Package, Specialty Restaurants for Free, Exclusive Best of Times Cocktail Party, All Luggage Handling Fees, Drivers Gratuities and Best of Times Professional Tour Director. Early Booking Discount for those people who Book a Balcony Cabin by October 1st, you will receive a 1 Category Upgrade & Special On Board Credit. Prices start at \$1,199 Double Occupancy for an Inside Stateroom, \$1,399 for an Oceanview Porthole Window, \$1,899 for a Balcony Stateroom on Deck 9, \$1,949 for a Balcony Stateroom on Deck 10, and \$1,999 for Balcony on Deck 11. ALSO Add \$400 for Taxes, Transfers, and Gov’t Fees. Single Occupancy is Available upon request. Please contact Dick Lisi at 508-410-1332 or at lisirichard15@yahoo.com for questions or information on any of the above Trips.

LEICESTER SENIOR CENTER

Wednesday, Nov. 13: Indian Head Christmas Spectacular and Luncheon. Bus leaves at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$89.

Friday, Jan. 17, 2020: Foxwood Casino. Free lunch buffet or \$10 food voucher and \$10 casino slot play. Cost is \$30.

Friday, Feb. 14, 2020: Foxwood Casino. Free lunch buffet or \$20 food voucher and \$10 casino slot play. Cost is \$30.

Friday, March 20, 2020: Foxwood Casino. Free lunch buffet or \$10 food voucher and \$10 casino slot play. Cost is \$30.

MARY QUEEN OF THE ROSARY PARISH

SPENCER — Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish, 60 Maple St., Spencer, is offering the following trips. For more information, call Bernard Dube at (508) 885-3098.

USA: SPLENDORS OF THE NORTHWEST: Wonders of Northern California Redwoods, Oregon & Washington Aug. 3-16, 2020

JAPAN: March 26 to April 9, 2020

JAPAN & CHINA: March 26 to April

22, 2020

SPAIN & PORTUGAL: September 9-24, 2020

SOUTHBIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon Senior Center Monday, Wednesday, or Friday 9-10 a.m. or call (774) 922-4049 or e-mail jimtrips@yahoo.com.

Trips are open to the public! Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association, payment due at sign up:

SOUTHBIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS 2019 TRIP SCHEDULE

OPEN TO PUBLIC

PAYMENT DUE AT SIGN UP

November 12, 2019 – Tuesday – Foxwoods \$25 - 10 - AM bus.

For \$25 You get a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino You will have 5 hours at the casino as the bus will leave Foxwoods at 4 PM. You will receive \$10 for gaming and \$15 meal voucher.

Trips are open to the public!

Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association.

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon senior center Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00 AM or call 774 922 4049, or e-mail me jim-trips@yahoo.com

STURBRIDGE RECREATION

New York City Holiday bus trip: Saturday, Dec. 14; depart from Burgess Elementary School at 7 a.m. on our Lizak charter. Arrive approximately 10:30 a.m. (a rest stop will be made along the way) for a day to do as you please in the wonderful Big Apple! Ice skate at Rockefeller Center, take in a show on Broadway, do some Christmas shopping, marvel at the light displays, and more! Drop off will be as close to Rockefeller Center as possible. Depart from the city at 6:30 p.m. and enjoy a peaceful ride home. Arrive back home in Sturbridge by 10 p.m. Cost: \$50 per person. Contact the Sturbridge Recreation Departmetn at (508) 347-2041 or recreation@town.sturbridge.ma.us for more information.

UNION SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE CHAPTER 12

Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Chapter

Turn To **TRIPS** page **A15**

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PLACE MOTORS IS PROUD TO SPONSOR



Hi! My name is Bailey and I enjoy spending time with animals!

Bailey is a kind and creative eleven-year-old girl of Caucasian descent. Bailey has many interests and hobbies such as playing outside, swimming, cooking and baking. She also enjoys playing imaginative games with her stuffed animals and dolls. She will often ask others to compete in a game of Uno, Candyland or Connect Four with her. She is a competitive, playful child who is always willing to try new games and activities. Animals are also very important to Bailey and she enjoys going to farms to visit and interact with different types of animals.

Bailey is very eager to have good relationships with adults and peers in her life. She puts in a lot of effort and energy into forming positive relationships. In the school setting, Bailey has been able to create and maintain friendships with several peers in her classroom. She is currently in the fifth grade.


Bailey has identified that she wants to be an only child in a family that will love her and keep her safe. She would also like to be in a family that has pets and shares her love for ravioli! Bailey's team would love to see her placed in an active two parent family that has a strong support system, and very involved in their community. Bailey's future family should be willing to engage in services and maintain contact/visits with her birth parents and siblings.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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



To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have "a permanent place to call HOME."





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Holiday gifts for gardeners



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

Holidays are a wonderful time to gather with friends and family, share a special meal and exchange gifts. Finding the perfect gift for those we love can be overwhelming and stressful. No need to fret; give the gift of gardening that provides seasons of joy.

It doesn't matter if your recipient is young or old, new or experienced, an avid gardener or one who just likes the benefits gardening provides. You can find something special for everyone on your gift list.

Small and large space gardeners will appreciate help keeping their tools handy as they work their way through their landscape. Give them a bucket, pair of gloves and a few tools to keep by the door for those quick planting, weeding and deadheading sessions. Or decorate an old mailbox and turn it into tool storage to be mounted in the garden. Their tools will be handy and they'll spend less time and fewer steps hunting down forgotten tools.

Or purchase a tool caddy. Look for one that's colorful and waterproof like the Puddle-Proof Tote that holds and keeps hand tools, gloves and

seeds dry. Help them wrangle larger tools for easy transport from the shed to the garden and from bed to bed with a wheeled tool caddy that handles larger tools. The Mobile Tool storage caddy (gardeners.com) has pockets for small tools, secures large handled tools and provides a place to hold compost, cut flowers or vegetables. It's easy to maneuver, eliminates multiple trips to the shed and is perfect for gardeners of all ages and abilities.

Tools are always a favorite of gardeners. Newbies need to build their tool collection while experienced gardeners may need to replace broken or time worn hand tools. Consider giving a harvest basket, bucket or tool caddy filled with some basics. All gardeners will appreciate a new innovative tool that makes gardening easier or more fun. Look for ergonomic tools that are built to ease stress on joints and allow gardeners to work longer with less pain. Multifunctioning tools like the Golden Gark Rake that rakes, scoops and sifts helps save storage space and the need to haul around multiple tools.

Help your favorite gardener keep their green thumb in shape all winter long. Provide them with pretty pots, potting mix and seeds. Look for kits like the Galvanized Organic Kitchen Herbs Growing Kit that provides all they'll need to grow their own fresh herbs. Increase their indoor gardening success with supplemental lighting. You'll now find light

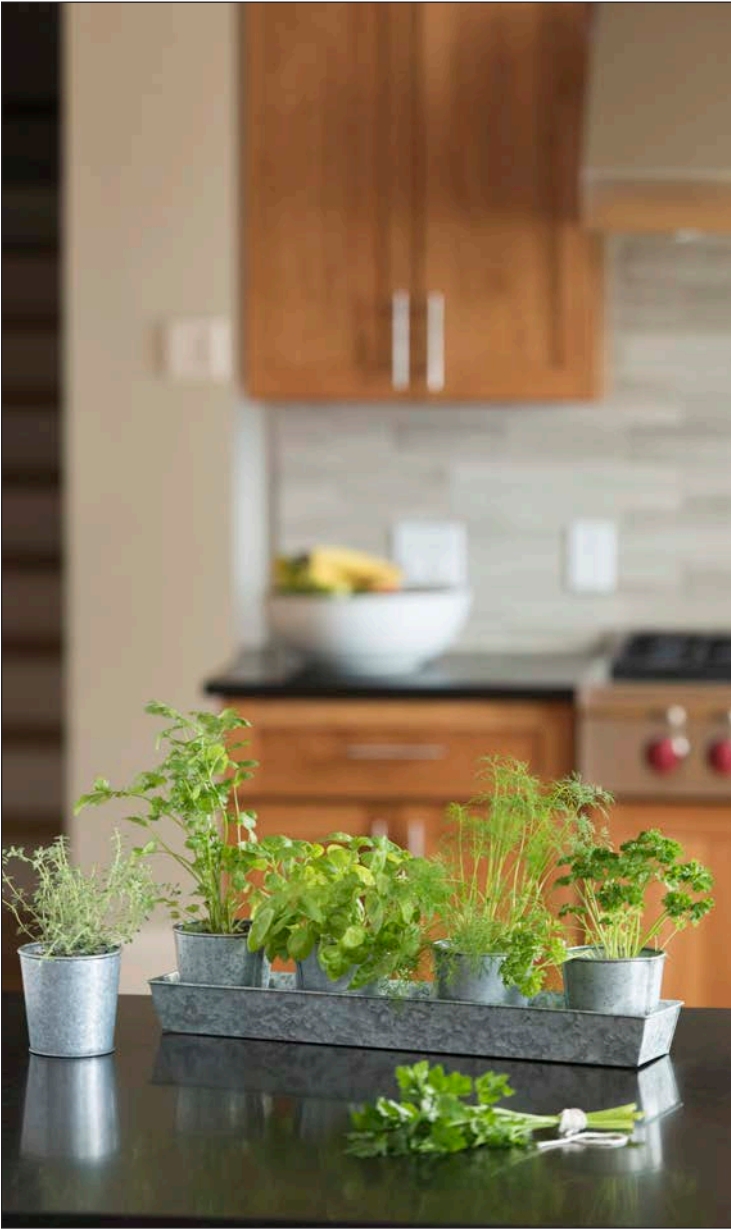
stands that sit on the table, mount on the wall or attach to plant pots. Furniture quality Bamboo Mini LED Grow Light systems provide energy efficient lighting in a set up pretty enough for any room.

And for those that like the flowers but have limited time or interest in growing, give them a waxed amaryllis bulb. They won't need to water or fertilize. Beginning and experienced gardeners will watch in amazement as this plant bursts into bloom with no effort on their part.

Don't know what to send? Cut flowers, flowering bulbs and plants are sure to generate a smile in just seconds. Take care of special occasions throughout the year in one single order. Place one order for 3, 6, or 12 months of blooming beauty delivered right to your loved one's door, providing joy throughout the year.

So, break out your gift list and look for ways to give the gift of gardening. Your family and friends will appreciate your thoughtfulness all year long.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Gardeners Supply* for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



Courtesy Photo

Indoor herb kits keep gardeners growing all year, while providing fresh herbs for flavoring and garnishing meals.

TRIPS

continued from page A14

#12, Southbridge, is sponsoring a variety of excursions for all to enjoy in 2019. We are a non-profit family oriented Franco-American fraternal society since 1900. As always, you do not have to be a member to participate in any of the scheduled events. All are welcome. Gift certificates purchased in any amount can be used by the recipient to any event at face value. For information or reservations contact Ted at (508) 764-7909.

2019
2019 is the Society's 27th anniversary in providing members and non-members alike the opportunity to experience excursions of a day or extended days. All are welcome to travel with our organization.

Nov. 16 — "Do As You Wish Day in New York City" — shop for Christmas, do some sightseeing, visit a museum, attend a Broadway matinee, dine at a special restaurant, a visit to the aircraft Intrepid, visit the 911 Memorial complex. There is much to do and enjoy. Departure is 6:30 a.m. from the Southbridge RMV parking lot, and the return departure from New York City is 6:30 p.m. Included are rest stops to and from New York City. Cost is \$59 per person. The reservation deadline is Nov. 6. For information and reservations, call (508) 764-7909. To avoid disappointment, call early.

Dec. 14 — "Festival of Christmas Lights" at Our Lady of La Salette Shrine, seasonal concert with Fr. Pat, the singing priest, visit the International Museum of Creches, Gift and Book Shop, Chapel of Light, a Bistro for refreshments and snacks, a Carousel for the children, an optional trolley ride for a small charge to view the display of more than 400,000 lights and a complete inclusive luncheon at Wright's Farm Restaurant.

Cost is \$54 per person, \$44 for children three to 10, under three free. Departure is 10:45 a.m. from Southbridge and 11:15 a.m. in Webster, with the return about 7:45 p.m. Reservation deadline is Dec. 5.

UXBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER

All trips leave from the Whitinsville Walmart and the Stop & Shop at 32 Lyman St, Westboro. Make sure to include entree choice, phone # (esp. cell) and an emergency # when sending payment. "Like" us on FacebookThe Silver Club and The Uxbridge Senior Center. Please call Sue at (508) 476-5820 for more information.

The Silver Club BUS TRIPS for 2019
Please call Sue at 508-476-5820 for more information.

The Uxbridge Senior Center and its Silver Club travelling group is offering the following trips for 2019:

Nov. 12~ Aqua Turf Club ~ lunch & show, "Crooning the 70's". \$79. Family style meal of Penne ala Vodka, Beef Burgundy, & Salmon

It's not too early to think about Christmas! Join the Silver Club for Boothbay Harbor, "Christmas by the Sea" in Portland, ME, or Reagle Players Christmas Show for Christmas 2019!

Nov. 21-22~2 day Boothbay Harbor w/lunch at the Harraseeket Inn in Freeport. -- 2 days w/"Gardens Aglow" (beautiful light show at the botanical garden) at the Boothbay Harbor Botanical Gardens. 1 lunch, 1 breakfast. \$199. double occupancy, \$259. single.

DEC.5-6 THE TRAPP FAMILY LODGE CHRISTMAS: \$379. dinner & breakfast at the Lodge; Quechee and Montpelier, meet w/a family member to hear the history, etc.

Dec. 8 - Reagle Players Christmas show.... TBA

DEC 13-14: CHRISTMAS BY THE SEA: \$329. 1 breakfast, 1 elegant holiday buffet lunch, 1 dinner. "Magic of Christmas" Portland Symphony Orchestra plus Ogunquit's "Christmas by the Sea" celebration

All trips leave from Whitinsville Walmart, 100 Valley Parkway, Whitinsville. Make sure to always include entree choice, phone # (esp. cell) and an emergency phone number. Please call Sue at 508-476-5820 for more information or to reserve.

The Silver Club of the Uxbridge Senior Center invites you to join them on a couple of Christmas trips.

There is a trip to Boothbay Harbor, Maine for the Gardens Aglow on Nov. 21 and 22 for the great price of \$199. After traveling along the Maine Coast, we'll arrive in Freeport, Maine to explore this quintessential Maine village. There will be time for shopping at the dozens of brand-name outlets, flagship L.L. Bean Store, and local boutiques housed in historic brick buildings; then enjoy an included late lunch buffet at the Harraseeket Inn. We will arrive in Boothbay Harbor in the late afternoon and check in to the Flagship Inn. This evening we'll experience Gardens Aglow; walk through the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens' dazzling, outdoor display of 650,000 lights illuminating their meticulously cared for gardens. You'll also have a chance to peruse the visitor's center & gift shop and get a bite to eat. We will stop in the village of Boothbay Harbor afterwards to experience "The Festival of Lights." After breakfast we will head home with a stop in Kennebunkport for lunch and shopping. *Please note this tour includes periods of outdoor walking on dimly lit, potentially uneven surfaces, and overnight accommodations that require walking up and down stairs.

On December 5 and 6th there is a trip to the Trapp Family Lodge and it includes one dinner and one breakfast both at the lodge, glassblowing at Simon Pearce Company, a meeting with a member of the Von Trapp family, a stop in Montpelier, and of course the luxury of being at the Trapp family Lodge! It is \$379 for the double occupancy per person and \$499 per person for a single.

Capture the Christmas spirit as we enjoy a little of Austria and a lot of Vermont on this memorable getaway. Situated on 2,500 acres in Stowe, Vermont, the Trapp Family Lodge serves as our magnificent home away from home. Enjoy great shopping, superb dining and exceptional hospitality on this great Christmas holiday tour.

On Wed, Dec. 18 we will travel to the Newport Playhouse to see "A Christmas Cactus" For \$79, you will enjoy a great play, a bountiful buffet and the Christmas Cabaret.

Show Synopsis: Christmas Eve is tough for private investigator Cactus O'Riley, a white-hot redhead with the holiday blues. She is trying to lure her secretary Fred away from his protective mother, dodging the affections of Deputy D.A. Windsor, and considering closing her business. She doesn't need the added aggravation of two fugitives who burst into her office looking for justice and a dead detective named Jake Marley. Cactus also doesn't need Fred's mother, who arrives to take Fred home but decides to stay because she thinks this is the Christmas murder mystery party she has always dreamed of attending. Christmas turns into a dickens of a holiday for Cactus as she solves mysteries, delivers small miracles and takes a second chance on love and sleuthing.

All trips leave from the Whitinsville WalMart. Call Sue at 509-476-5820 for more information.

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TOUCH DOWN!
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OBITUARIES

Lucien H. Ballard, 87



STURBRIDGE - Lucien H. Ballard, 87, of Stallion Hill Rd., passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 23rd, in the Meadows of Leicester Nursing Home, after an illness.

He leaves his brother Edward C. Ballard of Sturbridge; his three nieces, Patricia Ballard and her

husband Gabriel Acevedo of Sturbridge, Louise Schweinler of North Carolina and Rachel Barendregt and her husband Ron of Sidney, Australia; and his seven great nieces and nephews, Sara Barendregt, Amanda Barendregt, Tori Barendregt, Travis Barendregt, Logan Barendregt, Georgie Schweinler and Stormy Schweinler. He was predeceased by his brothers, Arthur Ballard and Alfred Ballard. Lucien was born in Southbridge the son of Edward and

Marguerite (Savaria) Ballard. He was a US Army Veteran of the Korean War. Lucien was a plumber for Blanchette Plumbing in Southbridge for 54 years, retiring many years ago. He was a member of the former Franco American Veterans in Southbridge. Lucien was very interested in electronics. He loved music of all kinds. He also enjoyed spending time with his nieces and was always there to help his family with anything they needed.

Lucien's funeral service and burial will be private. There are no calling hours.

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

www.morrillfuneralhome.com



CALENDAR

Saturday, November 2

Charlton Lions Club Meat Raffle: Six tables of beef, chicken and pork from Fairway Beef are yours for the winning from noon to 3 p.m. at our new location — Heritage Golf Course (85 Sampson Road in Charlton). Come join us for an afternoon of fun and fill your freezer with your prizes. Increase your chances with free "early bird special" tickets to those arriving before 1 p.m. For more information, email thecharltonlions@gmail.com.

Sunday, November 10

THIRD ANNUAL RAY MCDUFFY VETERANS APPRECIATION SPAGHETTI SUPPER AND SILENT AUCTION: 4:30-7 p.m., Charlton Grange, 10 Main St. An all you can eat home-made spaghetti and meatball supper with garlic bread, salad, desert, soda, juice, coffee, and tea. Tickets are only \$10 for adults and \$5 for veterans and children. Children three and under are free.

There will also be a silent Auction that will include many gift certificates from local

businesses, passes for local adventures, gift baskets, electronics (including a 2019

iPad) Red Sox and Patriot items. Pre purchase of tickets is strongly urged as only a limited amount will be available at the door. Visit our Facebook page for updates and links to pre pay tickets or call 508-248-5516. You can also go to capenhill.org. Under Events, the first link is the Spaghetti Dinner and you can scroll down and fill out form for tickets.

Monday, November 11

CHARLTON GARDEN CLUB: Jim Baker, owner of Native Landscaping, will speaking on "Putting Your Garden to Bed" at 7 p.m. at the Charlton Federated Church, Charlton. \$5 donation suggested for non-members. For more information, contact Ginny Charette (508) 248-7300, Marcia Liedigk at (508) 434-0507.

Saturday, November 16

GIANT MEAT RAFFLE: 6 p.m., St. Joseph's Church Hall, Charlton. 6 meat, 1 turkey, 1 lobster table! Early Bird tickets for arrival before 6 p.m.

Selected "homemade" food purchases will be available for dinner, as well as homemade baked goods for dessert. Beverages include beer, wine, soda, water, coffee, tea, etc. Co-sponsored by Catholic Financial Life, Chapter 56.

Saturday, December 7

SANTA CLAUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST: The Bay Path Education Foundation is pleased to announce that its annual Santa Claus Pancake Breakfast will be held at Bay Path High School, 57 Old Muggett Hill Road, Charlton on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the cafeteria. Families are provided with a free five-by-seven-inch photograph with Santa donated by Casson-Foster Photographers. There will also be a raffle and free face painting. Tickets are \$5 each, with children under five admitted free of charge. All funds raised are used for student scholarships and classroom mini-grants.

GINGERBREAD FAIR: 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Visitors to this warm and intimate fair will find unique gifts for everyone. Handcrafts, jewelry, plants, Grandma's Attic, baked goods and cookie table, a silent auction, gourmet delights and much, much more! Coffee and donuts will be served from 9 – 11 a.m., followed by a lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Charlton City UMC, 74 Stafford St., Charlton. The church is handicapped accessible and plenty of parking is available.

FIFTH ANNUAL HOLIDAY CRAFT AND GIFT FAIR: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Charlton Public Library, 40 Main St. Hosted by the Friends of the Library. We will have various raffles available that day, and our book sale room will be open. All proceeds will benefit the library.

ONGOING

THE STURBRIDGE FARMER'S MARKET is held every Sunday through Oct. 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Town Common.

CHARLTON AMERICAN LEGION POST 391 meets every fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Charlton Grange Hall. All veterans are welcome. We'd love to see you. We sponsor Boy Scout Troop 165, as well as three Boys Staters & assist young men interested in attending the State Police summer school. We also assist the Charlton Little League financially, as well as other things such as veteran's wakes & funerals. There's plenty we can still do

to help our community.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Please come join us for a fun evening of exercise and basketball at the Heritage School gym in Charlton. We play pickup basketball from 7-9 PM every Monday evening from September to June based on the school schedule. There are no set teams and participation is free for women 18 years and older. Please contact Deb at 508-248-3600 for more information.

Pilgrimage to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje

St. Joseph's Church in Charlton is sponsoring a Pilgrimage Sept. 29-Oct. 9, 2019 to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje with Fr. Robert Grattatori. The cost is \$4,599; 11 days includes 4-5 star hotels, airfare, luxury transportation, and breakfast/dinner daily. A \$500 deposit is due at the time of registration. Please contact parishioner Dr. Karen Zaleski for trip details at karenzaleski42@gmail.com or you may call Proximo Travel directly for information and to register at 1-855-842-8001, or 508-340-9370.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: First and third Thursday of each month, 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Overlook Independent Living Building, fourth floor Solarium, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. The intent is to build a support system, exchange practical information, talk through issues and ways of coping, share feelings, needs and concerns and to learn about community resources. Contact Kathy Walker at (508) 434-2551 or kawalker@overlook-mass.org for more information. Presented by Alzheimer's Association MA/NH Chapter, visit (800) 272-3900 or alz.org.

Grief Support Group: at Overlook Hospice, Charlton: Have you recently experienced the loss of a parent, child, sibling, friend or spouse? We are here to help. Join a safe, supportive and caring group to share your stories and support others who are learning to live again after the death of a loved one. Drop-in group for adults meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, 1:20-2:30 p.m. Contact Susan Fuller at (508) 434-2200.

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

Charlton Rd. (Route 20), Sturbridge.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: Traditional open AA meetings in a friendly setting. Come early to chat and share in refreshments. Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m., Hitchcock Academy, Brimfield.

K9 NOSE WORK: A sport open to all breeds of dog and their people Saturday mornings over six weeks at Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield starting Jan. 19. Progressive training levels offered. Fee: \$145 per dog, per session. Instructor: Laurie Merritt, M.Ed., CPDT-KA, CNWI, Certified K9 NoseWork Instructor – National Association of Canine Scent Work.

SEN-I JUDO CLUB: This course runs all year long on Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays at Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield, and is well suited for all levels of practitioners, including beginners! Call Sensei Israel Lopez at (413) 279-4330 for more information.

WEIGHT WATCHERS: Traditional Weight Watchers Meetings Monday evenings at Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield. Times: WeighIn/Registration 5:30 p.m., meeting 6 p.m. Leader: Angela Kramer. Visit www.weightwatchers.com to become a member or to learn more about Weight Watchers.

YOGA: Hatha Yoga benefits are stress-relieving. Relax & rejuvenate with postures & guided meditation to restore the body. Bring a mat and wear comfortable clothing. All levels welcome. Six weekly classes held on Monday nights at Hitchcock Academy in Brimfield from 7:15-8:45 p.m., beginning Jan. 21.

FENCING: Fencing is a sport of combat that originally started as practice for dueling with swords. Since that time, it has grown into a modern sport while maintaining those virtues that made it great: honor, valor, and grace. Bring a water bottle, sneakers and comfortable clothing. Youth and adult classes with Andy Bloch at Hitchcock Academy. Fee: \$99.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS: Is food a problem for you? Have you been worried about the way you eat? Do you resolve to go on a diet tomorrow, only to fail again and again? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? You are not alone. Overeaters Anonymous can help. No dues, no fees, no weigh-ins. Meetings are held Sundays in Worcester (St. Michael's On-The-Heights, 340 Burncoat Street) at 7 p.m., Mondays in Auburn (Bethel Lutheran Church, 90 Bryn Mawr Ave.) at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays in Putnam, Conn. (Day Kimball Hospital, 320 Pomfret Strett) at 6 p.m. Want more information? Call or text Bruce P. (508) 864-0593, email him at brucep.0a@charter.net or visit oa.org.



To place a Card of Thanks In-Memoriam, Birthday or Anniversary Greeting,

the deadline is Friday noon for the following week.

(Memoriams will run on the Obituary pages)

Ad prices are \$15 for a 2x3 (actual size 2.4" x 3") or \$25 for a 3x4 (3.7" X 4") or 4x3 (5" x 3"). You can add a photo at no additional cost.

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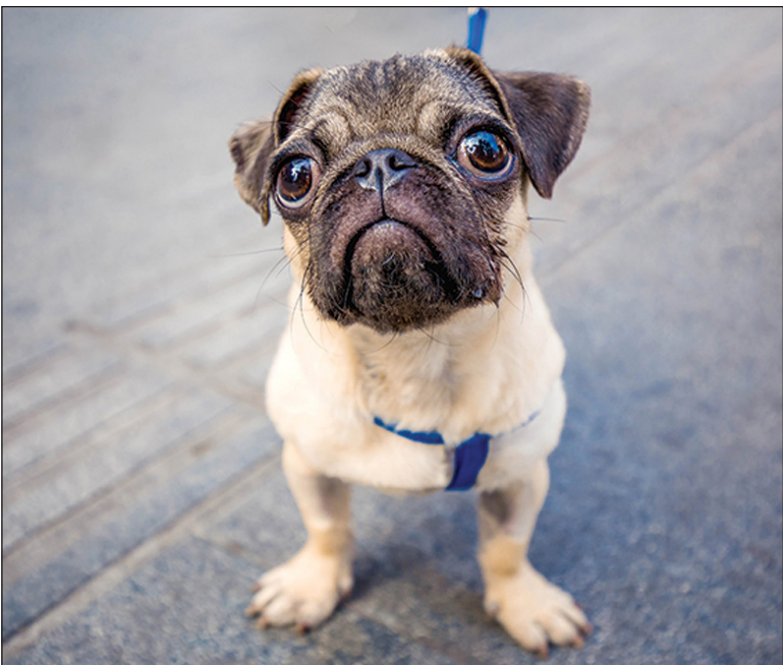
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Set realistic expectations when housebreaking puppies

Individuals and families who decide to bring new puppies into their homes understand that their lives are bound to change until the new pup acclimates to the household. Many are willing to accept the work involved because of the love and affection their adorable puppy offers.

Arguably one of the most challenging — and often frustrating — components about puppyhood is training the dog to use the outdoors for bathroom needs. It's easy to underestimate the time involved in housebreaking a puppy. The Humane Society of America says puppies typically can control their bladders for one hour for every month of age. That means if the dog is three months old, he can hold it for about three hours.



How often a puppy will need to defecate depends on the food being fed and when meals are offered. The American Kennel Club says that most puppies will need to poop shortly after a meal, anywhere from 15 minutes to a few hours. Puppies

typically can hold urine a little longer overnight, but probably won't be able to go the entire night without a potty break. Many pups can last around six hours from the last time they've gone out. An early-morning bathroom break will be needed, or consider penning the dog with puppy pads to catch the mess until the dog gains greater control over its bladder.

The following are some other tips for housebreaking success:

- Take pups outside immediately in the morning, after naps and after vigorous play.
- Pick up food bowls and water several hours before bedtime. This can prevent accidents by ensuring dogs' stomachs and bladders are not full

overnight.

- Some pups may be hesitant to go outside when the weather is cold, rainy or snowy, so people who live in cold climates may want to wait until the weather warms up to adopt their puppies.

- Err on the side of caution at the start and take the pup outside once every 30 to 60 minutes to establish a system of reward and praise for going outside.

- Contain the pup when you can't provide it with your undivided attention. It only takes a moment for a puppy to wander off and have an accident.

Housebreaking requires extreme patience, routine and practice. Eventually the puppy will gain greater control of its bowels and stop soiling inside the house.

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DUDLEY - 7 - 9 West Street! Brick 4 Family plus a 2 Family! Side by Side! All with 5 Rooms and 2 Bedrooms! Gas Heat! All Separate Utilities! 2 Car Detached Garage! The 4 Family with Beautiful Natural Woodwork! All Apartments are Empty and Work is Needed in Several Apartments! Excellent Potential! Will be a Good Investment for the Right One! **\$399,900.00**



THOMPSON - 299 Quaddick Rd! Beautiful Custom Cedar Log Home Privately Set on 5.47 Acres! Stone Wall Entry Leads Up the 700+ Driveway! Nestled in the Woods! 6 Rms of Gorgeous Cedar! Applianced Granite Kit w/Soft Close Hickory Cabinets! Ideal Open Flr Plan w/Soaring Beamed Cathedral Ceilings w/Skylights! Gleaming Hrdwds! Liv Rm w/Spectacular Stone Frplc w/ Pellet Insert! 1st Flr Master w/Full Whirlpool Bath & Walk-in Closet! 3 Bdrms & 2.5 Baths Total! 3Z Buderus Oil Heat! 2 Car Garage! **\$399,900.00**



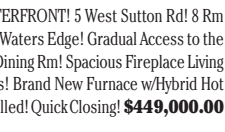
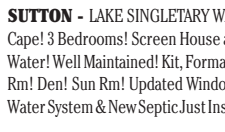
DUDLEY - 94 Tracy Road! 7 Rm 4 Bdrml Colonial on 1.24 Acres! Privacy! Many Upgrades! Hrdwds Throughout! Frplc Liv Rm w/Recessed Lights! Formal Din Rm! Eat-in Kit! Updated in 2015! Cherry Cabinets, Granite Counters, Center Isl & SS Appliances! Sunroom w/Skylights, Hrdwd Flrs & Slider to Deck! 1st Flr 1/2 Bath w/Laundry! Master Bdrml w/Dble Closet & Full Bath w/Linen Closet! 2nd Flr Full Bath! Lower Level Game Rm/Office! Utility/Storage Rm! 16X21 Deck! Garage Under! Save on Your Electric Your Bills, 2015 Solar Panels! Level yard w/Shed! Call now! **\$349,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 250 Killdeer Island Rd! North Pond's Sandy Shore! 9 Rm Ranch in Meticulous Condition! Absolutely Beautiful 100' Waterfront Lot! Stainless Applianced Kitchen w/Cherry Cabinets, Granite Counters, Hrdwd Floor & Dining Area w/Slider to Deck! Formal Dining Rm w/Hrdwds! Front to Back Living Rm Overlooking the Lake w/Cathedral Ceiling, Custom Built Cabinets, Gas Frplc & Hrdwds! 1st Flr Lake Facing Master Bdrml w/Slider to the Deck & Access to the Screened Hot Tub, w/Walk-in Closet, Full Bath w/Whirlpool Tub, Separate Shower & Commode Closet! 1/2 Bath & Separate Laundry Rm Nearby! Walk-out Lower Level w/Full Kitchen, 22' Lake Facing Family Rm w/Sliders to the Patio/Lake! 2 Lake Facing Bdrms w/Sliders to the Patio/Lake! Full Bath! Oversized 2 Car Garage! LP Gas Heat/Hydro Air! Generator! Private Boat Ramp! Docks! Don't Delay! **\$899,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 50 West Point Rd! Killdeer Island! 4,700' Entertainers Dream! Magnificent Sunsets! Built 2016, Has It All! 2 Story Foyer! Granite Kit w/Center Isl, Dble Oven, High End Appliances & Walk-in Pantry! Din Rm w/ Wet Bar, Sliders to 14x30' Deck! Bright & Airy Liv Rm w/Lake Views, Custom Built Cabinets, Gas Frplc! 1/2 Bath w/ Laundry! An ELEVATOR to Service All 3 Floors! Upstairs leads to 3 Spacious Bdrms each w/Private Baths! Master w/ Tray Ceiling, Walk-in Closet & Private Balcony! Master Bath, Soaker Tub & Large Tile Shower! Walk-up Attic w/Expansion Possibilities! Lower Level w/Full Kit, 1/2 Bath, Lake Facing Fam Rm, Media/Exercise Rm + Lake Facing Bdrml w/Frplc & Private Bath! Slider to Patio! 13 Zones! Oversized 2 Car Garage! Loaded w/Quality & Detail! **\$1,175,100.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 68 W Point Rd! Western Exposure - Spectacular Sunsets! 75' Waterfront w/Expansive Views! 6 Rm Yr Rd Ranch! Ideal 2nd Home! Renovate or Enjoy As Is! Open Flr Plan! Applianced Cabinet Packed Kit! Lake Facing Din & Liv Rms w/Water Views! Sliders to Screen Enclosed Porch! Master w/Ceiling Fan & Dble Closet! 2nd Bdrml w/Dble Closet! Full Bath off Hall! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w/25' Fam Rm w/Door to Lakeside Patio, Bdrml, Full Bath & Utility/Storage Rm! 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths Total! Oil Heat! Covered Entry Ramp & Electric Chair Lift! Shed! Dock! Summer Will Be Back - Don't Delay! **\$499,900.00**

SUTTON - LAKE SINGLETARY WATERFRONT! 5 West Sutton Rd! 8 Rm Cape! 3 Bedrooms! Screen House at Waters Edge! Gradual Access to the Water! Well Maintained! Kit, Formal Dining Rm! Spacious Fireplace Living Rm! Den! Sun Rm! Updated Windows! Brand New Furnace w/Hybrid Hot Water System & New Septic Just Installed! Quick Closing! **\$449,900.00**

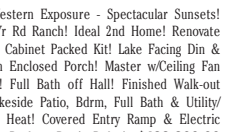
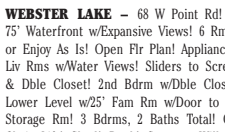
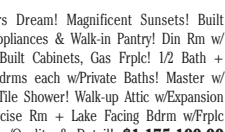


CHARLTON - GLEN ECHO LAKE! 3 Sunset Dr! Western Exposure = Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic 105' Waterfront! Ideal 15,941' Gently Sloping Lot! Comfortable 9 Rm Ranch! Stainless Applianced Eat-in Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Panoramic Water Views! 4 Bdrms, 3 Lake Facing including the Spacious Master! Full Hall Bath! Enjoy the Sun Rm w/Lake Views! 32' Walk-out Lower Level Frplc Fam Rm w/Wet Bar & Convenient Half Bath! Nicely Landscaped Front & Back! Lake Level Deck, Dock & Rear Shed! Benefitted by Town Sewer! Start Packing! **\$499,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 50 Union Point Rd! Panoramic Views of Middle Pond - South Facing - Tons of Sun! Principal Residence or as a Second Home this 6+ Rm Gambrel Colonial will be Ready for You! You'll Appreciate its Easy Access and Taken Back by the Ever Changing Lake Vistas! Featuring Applianced Kitchen w/Land, Dining Area, Lake Facing Fireplace Living Rm with Custom Cabinetry, All with Hardwood Floors! Ideal Lake Facing 3 Seasons Rm w/Tile Floor & Anderson Sliders All Around! 3 Second Floor Bedrooms! Spacious Lake Facing Master w/ Cathedral Ceiling & 2 Sliders to its Private Deck! 2 Full Baths! Central Air! Composite Decks & Flag Stone Patio for Your Enjoyment! 7,405' Lot with 50' on the Water! Sorry, Closing not before 9/10/2019! **\$624,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 603 Treasure Island! 1,874' Townhouse! 6 Rms, 2 Bdrms, Master Bath, 2.5 Baths Total! Recent Maple & Corian Kit w/SS Appliances! Din Rm w/ Sliders to Deck! Frpld Fam Rm! Patio! Newer C/Air, Heat & Hot Water! Garage! 2 Sigs! Pool! Beach! Listed by Another - "SOLD" by C21 Lake Realty! **\$355,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - Steps Away From! 110 S. Shore Rd! Killdeer Island! Access to Swimming & Boating w/Killdeer Island Club Assoc Membership! Perfect 1st Home or Summer Retreat! 7 Rms! 2 Bdrms! Full Bath! 12x25' Deck w/Water Views! Garage! Don't Delay! **\$249,900.00**

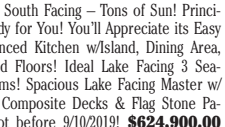


CHARLTON - 105' WATERFRONT! Baker Pond! 63 Lincoln Pt Rd! East Facing = Fantastic Sunrises! Custom 9 Rm Colonial! Beautiful 1/2 Acre Lot w/Lawn to Water's Edge! 2 Story Foyer! Natural Woodwork! Open Flr Plan! Applianced Granite Kit w/Ls, Recessed Lights, Tile Flr & Water View! Din Area w/Slider to Deck! Sunken Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flrs & Water Views! Din Rm w/Hrdwd! 1/2 Bath w/Pedestal Sink! 2nd Flr w/4 Bdrms, 3 w/Water Views! Master w/Cathedrals, French Dr to Balcony, Bath w/Separate Tub/Shower, Walk-in Closet & Laundry! Hall Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w/31' Fam Rm! Full Kit! Full Bath & Laundry! Includes NEW A/C SPLIT SYSTEM! Enjoy Outside from the Farmer's Porch, Deck, Patio, Screened Porch or Dock! 2 Car Garage! Full Recreational Use! **\$524,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 50 Union Point Rd! Panoramic Views of Middle Pond - South Facing - Tons of Sun! Principal Residence or as a Second Home this 6+ Rm Gambrel Colonial will be Ready for You! You'll Appreciate its Easy Access and Taken Back by the Ever Changing Lake Vistas! Featuring Applianced Kitchen w/Land, Dining Area, Lake Facing Fireplace Living Rm with Custom Cabinetry, All with Hardwood Floors! Ideal Lake Facing 3 Seasons Rm w/Tile Floor & Anderson Sliders All Around! 3 Second Floor Bedrooms! Spacious Lake Facing Master w/ Cathedral Ceiling & 2 Sliders to its Private Deck! 2 Full Baths! Central Air! Composite Decks & Flag Stone Patio for Your Enjoyment! 7,405' Lot with 50' on the Water! Sorry, Closing not before 9/10/2019! **\$624,900.00**

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Featured New Construction!

THOMPSON, CT - 6 LILLIAN AVE, LOT #1



There is No Place Like Home - beautiful newly constructed home! Split level style home has an attractive modern flare! Open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, tile floored baths, & walaater full bath w/extra wide shower & walk in closet, plus 2 more spacious BRs & a full hallway bath. 24' lower Level family room, half bath w/ laundry hookups! Two car garage! Central AC. **\$309,900.**

WOODSTOCK, CT - 64 LYON HILL RD



Estate like long paved driveway! 3158 Sq Ft Colonial! Geothermal built. Open floor plan, ash flooring throughout! Granite and s/s applianced kitchen! Large master bedroom, coffered ceiling, master bath, W/Jetted tub! Walk in closets. Two car garage. Radiused catwalk on upper level! A walk up attic. Walk out lower level! The third garage is accessed from the lower level. Generator hookup. One beautiful property! assisted sale **\$499,900.**

DUDLEY - 71 EAGLE DRIVE



Wow! Young 8 room Center Hall Colonial! Better than new! 3 bedroom, 3 full baths! 23' X 23' Cathedral ceiling Family Room! Hardwood & Ceramics throughout. Heat by forced hot air/oil, Central air! 2880 Sq Ft of living area. In one of Dudley's finest developments with underground utilities! **\$420,000.**

SOUTHBRIDGE - 79 N.WOODSTOCK RD



FRESHLY PAINTED 3 BEDROOM RANCH HAS SO MUCH TO OFFER!! ALL HARDWOODS THROUGHOUT! REMODELED BATHROOM! 3 SEASON ENCLOSED PORCH. KITCHEN/DINING AREA HAS A VERY SPACIOUS OPEN LAYOUT! BEDROOMS WITH DOUBLE CLOSETS! CORNER LOT WITH SIDE GARAGE UNDER! CLOSE TO SHOPPING AREA AND MAJOR AMENITIES. Town Water. New Price **\$214,900**

POMFRET, CT - 280 RIVER RD



Cape gutted to the studs and remodeled, 3 Br, 1 bath; 1.7 acres. New kitchen cabinets w/granite counters and center island. New electrical/plumbing. Large Gambrel Post & Beam. 2 bay garage w/loft. New septic. **\$264,900**

WEBSTER - 212 SCHOOL ST



Large 4 Family! 3 car garage! Off street parking. 2 bedrooms each unit! Walk-up attic with a lot of potential! Solar panels!! Fully Rented. **\$369,900.**

WEBSTER - 3 STEFANIAK AVE.



Cute 2 Bedroom Ranch! All hardwood floors, gas Fireplace living room! 2 baths. Appliances included. 2 zone heat. Large deck! Young asphalt roof. Walk out lower living level. Town Water & Sewer, City Gas **\$229,900.**

DUDLEY - 188 WEST MAIN ST



COMMERCIAL/BUSINESS LOCATION IN THE HEART OF DUDLEY! THIS 3 BEDROOM 1.5 BATH RANCH HAS A UNIQUE OPEN FLOOR PLAN AND IS LARGER THAN IT APPEARS! 19,582 +/- sq ft Lot. Natural Gas Heat! Hard wood floors! BRING YOUR IMAGINATION AND VISION AND THIS DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH COULD BE THE HOUSE OF YOUR DREAMS! LARGE FLAT YARD GIVES YOU PLENTY OF ROOM AND ALSO GREAT PARKING AREA IF YOU HAD A SMALL BUSINESS FROM HOME! CONTRACTORS DREAM! **\$178,500.**

WEBSTER/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS LAND!

Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000 +/- Sq. Ft. Possible potential for a 2 family to be built! Town Water, Sewer, City Gas! Nice level lot. **\$70,000**
Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2-2.5 Acres of flat land that abuts Douglas State Forest **\$132,900**
Webster - 3 Lots Cooper Rd. Attention Developers! 3 abutting house lots, potential to divide into 5-6 Buildable lots! Lake Residential area, water/sewer access **\$129,400**
Oxford - 4 Leicester St. approx. 8.47 acres! River frontage! Highly possible to be subdivided. **\$119,900**

WEBSTER - 34 EASTERN AVE UNIT A



AN AFFORDABLE LIVING OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF! This 20 Unit Condo Complex is tucked away at the very end of Eastern Ave, fenced in & private. Easily accessible (95)! There's a lot to love about Webster! Unit 34 A is an 1,037 SF +/- END UNIT. Large living room w/picture window, an eat-in kitchen, access to rear deck, 2 spacious bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, full basement! New Price **\$154,900**

WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD



Attention Developers! 3 abutting house lots, potential to divide into 5-6 Buildable lots! Lake Residential area, Water/Sewer access **\$129,400.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagogggchaubunagungamaugg



WEBSTER LAKE - 118 POINT BREEZE RD

Excellent Opportunity to Finally Own Your Own Webster Lake Waterfront Property! Prime Location, 5,697 +/- SF Lot, 50' Rd & Water Frontage at a Great Price! Contemporary Ranch offers 996 +/- SF of living area w/2 BRs & 2 full baths. Plus, convenient, indoor access to Walkout Lower Level w/tremendous potential for additional living area. Main level features Open Floor Plan w/sliders to full front deck! Spectacular Westerly views across Middle Pond! Additional land & shore frontage available. **NEW PRICE \$299,900**



WEBSTER LAKE - 32 JACKSON RD

AN INTRIGUING OPPORTUNITY TO OWN AN EXTREMELY UNIQUE 3.32 ACRE WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT PROPERTY! Charming, year-round, 2 BR, 2 bath Ranch, located at the Southern most end of Webster Lake's South Pond beyond Cedar Island! Extremely private w/direct Lake access. The home offers a full finished LL w/walkout access, a screened-in 18x20 patio, 18x26 det'd garage & 8x8 storage shed. Park like grounds! **New Price \$375,000**



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Leicester – Burncoat Lane – Custom built, one owner, lakefront living on Burncoat Pond. 3628 sq ft, 3 bdrm, 3.5 ba, 65 ft of water frontage. Attached 2 car heated garage. Central air. 3 season sunroom. Finished walkout basement. **\$549,500**



Spencer – Lincoln St – Affordable Colonial on private 3/4 acre lot in a great location. 1155 sq ft, 4 bdrm, 1 ba. Spacious country kitchen & large living room. Town water/sewer. Walk up attic. **\$199,900**



Spencer – Wall St – Business owners/investors take a look! 5442 sq ft. Conference room, 1.5 baths, individual offices plus a reception area. Two heated, oversized garage bays. Town utilities, plus apartment. Off Rt 9. **\$260,000**



Spencer – High St – Rare 3-family home w/ 2 duplex style & 1 ranch style apartment. 3083 sq ft, 5 bdrm, 3 ba. All separate utilities. Washer & dryer hookups. Full, walkout basements. **\$244,900**



New Braintree – West Brookfield Rd – Over 153 acres. 2 story building has 3 bdrm, 2 ba apartment, 3 bay garages for large equipment & fully equipped commercial kitchen. All solar powered! Detached barn & greenhouse. Over 1/2 mile of road frontage! **\$899,000**



Leicester – Main St – Mixed use property on Rt 9. Office space & 2nd flr apartment. 2280 sq ft. New boiler, updated electrical, oil tank & windows on 1st floor. **\$329,900**



Spencer – Lyford Rd – Contemporary home on 2 acres in a great location! 2100 sq ft, 3 bdrm, 2.5 ba, 1 car garage. Vaulted ceilings, lower level family room w/ separate entrance. **\$309,900**



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LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

AUBURN: Move in - updated electrical, plumbing, heating system, young roof, replacement windows, 3 bedrooms, 1st floor bedroom, fenced in yard, 67 Hampton St - **\$244,900**



COLONIAL OFFERS!

W. BOYLSTON: Seller ready to move on. What an address to come home to. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, 1+ acres, AGENT BONUS 44 Central St - **\$334,900**



OPEN HOUSE SUN 11-1

DUDLEY: 3 bedrooms, town services, sided, recent roof, recent gas furnace

7 Daniels St ~ **\$199,900**



REDUCED \$10,000

WEBSTER: 3 bedrooms, hardwood floors, eat-in appliance kitchen, modern bath, 1/2 acre lot, town water & sewer, walk-up attic. School Street - **\$249,900**



SZYMCAK SELLS!

SOLD IN 7 DAYS!
48 Airport Rd
\$159,000



WEBSTER
Contractors Investors Vinyl sided

46 Granite St - **\$79,900**



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FOR SALE



OPEN HOUSE SAT 11-Noon
WEBSTER, MA - \$189,900
4 Snow Street
2 Family

ON DEPOSIT



SPENCER, MA - \$259,900
24 Bay Path Road
3 Bdrm Ranch
Immaculate Condition

FOR SALE



SOUTHBRIDGE, MA - \$469,900
535 Pleasant St.
Gorgeous custom home with indoor swimming pool.



OPEN HOUSE SUN 11-Noon
New Construction

WEBSTER, MA - \$289,900
90-A Sutton Rd.
3 Bedroom, Raised Ranch. Come Choose Your Colors & Finishes Now!



OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN 12:30-2

DUDLEY, MA - \$249,900
5 Fairview Ave
Under Priced, Needs Work



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REAL ESTATE

A Place To Call Home...



THOMPSON- Raised Ranch style home located just minutes from I-395 for commuting yet is sitting on over 5 ACRES of privacy. There are three good sized bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms that have both been updated, a large eating space kitchen with newer appliances and also a slider to the rear deck and fantastic backyard. Outside-the landscaping coming up the paved driveway will make you the envy of the neighborhood especially when you see the stone steps & walkway. There is a great playhouse/swing-set, large pit area, and a great garden in addition to not one but TWO sheds! Don't wait, schedule your showing today! **\$254,900**



THOMPSON HILL- This Federalist Colonial style home with 4 bedrooms also features kitchen with wood floor, butcher block kitchen-island, granite counters with a farm sink & s/s appliances. The dining room & living room have painted wide wood floors, plaster walls, and are good sized. The family room/office features an impressive brick fireplace with raised paneling, built-in bookcases and French doors out to the fireplaced stone patio. The grounds are pristine with stone walls, and a large side patio with pergola. Having once been a working farm the barn has evidence of a tack room, horse stall, and even an old 3 seater outhouse. There is room for a car and much more. **\$324,900**



EASTFORD- You don't want to miss this 2,400 sq ft updated cape with 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, a study/office and family room. New kitchen appliances with tile floor, dining room with French door and wood floor. Outside offers a long farmers porch which leads to a wrap around deck. Two car attached garage plus barn/storage building. Privately set on 2 acres on country road. Beautiful retaining wall lines a portion of the driveway. A MUST SEE. **\$329,500**



THOMPSON- You said you needed 4 bedrooms and room to move, well we have the house for you. 2,728 sq ft cape on .48 acres needs your TLC to bring back to life. This home offers a living room, kitchen, a large family/great room with 3 sliders for lots of natural light, slate floors along with a wood stove for those cold winter nights or maybe curl up with a good book near the fireplace in the den along with a Wet Bar and plenty of room for entertaining. **\$164,000**



POMFRET- Located on 4.6 mostly wooded acres and abutting Conservation land, this 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial resides in a quiet rural location, yet is a reasonable drive for the Hartford and MA commuter. The open kitchen and family room has an oversized slider opening onto a 2 tiered backyard deck overlooking nature in every season. Formal living and dining rooms are located off the front foyer. The generously sized master suite provides 2 walk-in closets and a full bath. The wide open walk out basement can be made into a workshop, playroom, office, yoga studio, or all of the above! Never hot water heater, boiler, well pump and Central A/C round out the picture of this house that you will want to call home! **\$348,000**



THOMPSON WATERFRONT!! Come take a look at this very cute 680 sq. ft., (FULLY FURNISHED) seasonal property with 51 ft of water frontage with a dock. Enter onto the bright sun porch through to the living room with working fireplace. Fully appointed kitchen with breakfast bar, 1 bedroom w/ built-ins for storage, second bedroom, an additional den/office and a full bath. Outside offers a shed, a nice deck where you can enjoy your morning coffee while looking out at the beautiful water view and after coffee, doing some fishing, boating or take a swim. Leased Land. Great opportunity to own your own waterfront property for only **\$179,900**

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SINGLE FAMILY HOME

643 LEBANON HILL ROAD

This ranch style single family home sits on \pm .82 acres in an area of nice homes just over a mile from the Connecticut border. The house has \pm 1,120 sq. ft. of living area and features 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, vinyl siding, enclosed porch and attached 1 car garage.

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Charlie Tracy

Woodstock \$398,000 NEW PRICE



Gorgeous 3 BR custom home w/many updates, custom details & 3 levels of living space!
Gelhaus Realty Group:
Brooke 860-336-9408

Brooklyn \$169,900 NEW PRICE



3 BR, 1 BA charming Ranch on 1.6 acres. Attached garage. Large fenced backyard & huge deck for entertaining!
Mary Collins 860-336-6677

Thompson \$425,000 NEW PRICE



One of the most stunning Antique House homes in NECT. Alpheus Russell House circa 1795. Completely remodeled, exceptional architectural detail.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Killingly \$699,000



Breathtaking long views! Spectacular horse property in NECT w/indoor riding arena (2013), open pastures & 8 horse stalls w/run-outs.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Woodstock \$630,000



Horse property! Custom 3000 SF ranch, 41 acres to ride, hunt, and fish. Huge heated barn for all your toys and a workshop.
Maryann Miller 860-949-6130

Pomfret \$728,900



This stunning 5 BR reproduction features authentic historic detailing and custom craftsmanship. Located on 5.52 private acres.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Ashford \$374,900



2002 Sturbridge Village Freeman Farm House replica. 3 BR, 2 BA, Ash flooring, 2 FPS, 17.8 acres. Concrete core tested!
Robert Viani 401-741-2432

Brooklyn \$525,000



4 BR, 3.5 BA, 12+ acres. This Colonial has been restored & is move-in ready! Zoned for commercial & residential use! Open a bed & breakfast!!
Gelhaus Realty Group: Kristen 860-377-0118

Thompson \$277,000



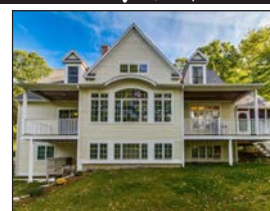
Great 3 BR, 3 BA oversized Raised Ranch in Thompson w/2 acres! Quiet country road, yet close to amenities. Motivated seller!
Kathy Durand 860-208-3934

Putnam \$150,000



Well cared for Victorian w/in walking to downtown. 3 BR & 2 full BA & hardwood floors. Private drive w/a detached 2 car garage & shed.
Gelhaus Realty Group: Vivian 860-455-5363

Brooklyn \$479,900



4 BR, 3.5 BA, in-law w/1500 SF on lower level, sep. entrance, 3 bay att. garage, center island, fieldstone fireplace, sunroom, sauna w/shower.
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Killingly Waterfront \$695,000



Sensational living on Alexanders Lake. Glassed in front w/the most beautiful views. Open living, wood floors, fireplaces, wine room, front patio.
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Pomfret \$239,900



Private 3 BR, 2 full BA Ranch on just under 2 acres. Recent kitchen, baths & electrical, 2 car garage. Move in ready!
Robert Viani 401-741-2432

Pomfret \$350,000



Custom Colonial w/4 BR & 2.5 BA. Kitchen w/granite counters opens to eat-in area & plank hrdwd floors. 2 car garage & lg. deck.
Mary Collins 860-336-6677

Woodstock \$549,900



Stunning, custom built Colonial reproduction home in Woodstock CT complete with separate in-law home! Private 3.2 acres.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Putnam \$2,000/mo. Commercial Lease



2 rentals- side by side! Combo of 4000 SF or rent individually. Offices, waiting rooms already set up! Lease per unit is \$2000. Triple net lease.
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Land for Sale

Putnam \$125,000
27 acres. Commercial land, close to 395 on Kennedy Drive Build your business location. Near medical offices!
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Canterbury \$59,900
Buildable 2 acres, beautiful lot on Raymond Schoolhouse! Build your dream home
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Killingly \$44,900
Build your dream home on the last lot on a dead-end street abutting State of Connecticut wooded land surrounding Quinebaug Pond. .60 Acres.
Corleen Law 401-263-8893

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45 Route 171 | Woodstock, CT | 860-928-1995

bhhsNEproperties.com



THE REAL ESTATE SECTION

FIND THE HOMES OF YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



REAL ESTATE

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
AT PUBLIC AUCTION

Wednesday, November 6, 2019


2:00 PM-BLACKSTONE
4 Washington Street
sgl fam, 2,354 sf liv area, 0.3 ac lot,
10 rm, 4 bdrm, 3 bth,
Worcester(Worc): Bk 37224, Pg 111

TERMS: \$5,000 cash or certified check at the time and place of the sale. The balance to be paid within thirty (30) days at the law offices of Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851, Attorney for the Mortgagee

Auctioneer makes no representation as to the accuracy of the information contained herein.

BAY STATE AUCTION CO., INC.
NORTH CHELMSFORD (978) 251-1150 www.baystateauction.com
MAAUF#: 2624, 2959, 3039, 2573, 2828, 116, 2526, 2484, 3246, 2919





Open House Directory

(C) Condo (B) Business (P) Land	(X) Condox (U) Duplex (L) Mobile Home	(M) Multi-Family (S) Single Family (A) Apartment	(T) Townhouse (D) Adult Community (W) Waterfront	
ADDRESS	STYLE	TIME	PRICE	REALTOR/SELLER/PHONE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2				
DUDLEY 5 Fairview Ave	S	12:30-2	\$249,900	Re/Max Professional Associates/ Patrick Sweeney 774-452-3578
WEBSTER 4 Snow St	M	11-Noon	\$189,900	Re/Max Professional Associates/ Patrick Sweeney 774-452-3578
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3				
DOUGLAS 417 NE Main St	S	1:30 -3	\$329,000	Re/Max Town & Country / Deb Hackett 401-774-4891
DUDLEY 7 Daniels St	S	11-1	\$199,900	ReMax Advantage 1 / Jo-Ann Szymczack 774-230-5044
5 Fairview Ave	S	12:30-2	\$249,900	Re/Max Professional Associates/ Patrick Sweeney 774-452-3578
WEBSTER 90-A Sutton Rd	S	11-Noon	\$289,900	Re/Max Professional Associates/ Patrick Sweeney 774-452-3578

LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Docket No. WO19P3421EA
Estate of:
Doris P DiGregorio
Date Of Death: 8/31/2019
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE


To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Lisa D. Lannon** of **Southbridge, MA**
A Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Lisa D. Lannon of **Southbridge, MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and

Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
November 1, 2019



TOWN OF BRIMFIELD
PUBLIC HEARING

The Brimfield Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on the following pole and wire locations petition filed by National Grid on Tuesday, November 12th at 6:45 p.m. for the following: Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc. requests permission to locate poles, wires, and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures, along and across the following public way:
Paige Hill Road: #28919916
October 10, 2019
Reason: Paige Hill Rd. – National Grid to install (1) JO pole #56-50 and anchor on Paige Hill Rd. beginning at a point approximately 269 feet north of the centerline of the intersection of Polly Rd., Wales.
Persons with an interest in this public hearing are asked to appear at the Brimfield Town Hall, 21 Main Street, Brimfield, MA on the date and time affixed to this notice.
Carol L. Camerota
Assistant to the Board of Selectmen
November 01, 2019

417 NE MAIN ST., DOUGLAS, MA. 01516



OPEN HOUSE
SUN., NOV. 3 • 1:30 -3



MOVE IN READY! Conveniently located on RTE 16., this lovely Cape, situated on a near acre cleared lot, is filled with charm and impeccably maintained by the same owners. Features include: tin ceiling, solid doors with latch locks and original hardwood floors., spacious island kitchen, & enclosed multi-seasonal porch. Inviting foyer and master suite were added in early 2000 along with a great private patio. First floor bedroom along w/full bath. 2 additional bedrooms w/ a half bath on the second floor of the original home. Updated electrical, heating system, windows are younger w/ plenty of life left. **\$329,000**

DEB HACKETT **RE/MAX**
401-774-4891 *Town & Country*

HERE & THERE



Local Events, Arts, and Entertainment Listings

FRIDAY SATURDAY & SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2, 3

A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum. Show dates are November 1st and 2nd at 7:30 and November 3rd at 2PM Tickets are \$17.00 for adults and \$12.00 for seniors and 12 and under. Held at the North Brookfield Elementary School Auditorium 10 High School Drive, North Brookfield, MA 01535

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7


ANNUAL LADIES NIGHT
5:30pm-7:30pm Cormier Jewelers and Art Gallery
First 50 people receive a free gift. Free raffles from local businesses and in-store baskets. Wine will be served - must be 21 or older
136 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

HOW TO MOVE ON - CREATING A BRIDGE TO A NEW LIFE
1:30-2:30. Barbara Perman, President, Moving Mentor
Tea & Refreshments will be served
Limited seating
Quabog Rehabilitation & Skilled Care Center
47 East Main Street
West Brookfield, MA
RSVP 508-867-7716

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Second Chance Mobile Unit Pet Adoption from 2-4pm
Thankful for a Home!
MOBILE ADOPTION UNIT is coming to Klem's! On the road to saving more lives! Be sure to stop by and say hi to some of the sweet dogs and cats looking for a new home! Let adoption help you find your next best friend. Let us know you're coming. Click here to RSVP at our Facebook Event Page. Please don't forget to share with your friends!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

SUNDAYS AT 308 LAKESIDE
Chris Barber
308 Lakeside
308 East Main Street, East Brookfield, MA 01515 774-449-8333

FRIDAY SATURDAY & SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2, 3

A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum. Show dates are November 1st and 2nd at 7:30 and November 3rd at 2PM Tickets are \$17.00 for adults and \$12.00 for seniors and 12 and under. Held at the North Brookfield Elementary School Auditorium 10 High School Drive, North Brookfield, MA 01535

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

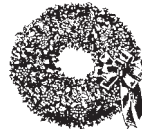

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER
An interactive dinner theater
The Fashionable Murders 6:30 pm
Join us for a laugh-filled night, a great dinner, and a mystery we need help solving. Advance ticket sales required
saalemcrossinn.com or call 508-867-2345. 260 West Main Street
West Brookfield, MA 01585

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16

HOLY ROSARY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
10am-5:30pm. Along with our regular booths (baking, lottery, indoor flea market, thanksgiving basket etc...), this year we will be introducing a new money raffle drawing replacing the special gift raffle. St. Andrew Bobola Church 508-943-5633

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17


HOLY ROSARY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.
8:30am-12:30pm Along with our regular booths (baking, lottery, indoor flea market, thanksgiving basket etc...), this year we will be introducing a new money raffle drawing replacing the special gift raffle. St. Andrew Bobola Church 508-943-5633



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7



Mary Queen of the Rosary Christmas Faire Vendors, Crafts, Raffles, Baked Goods, and so much more!
In the Church Hall 9am-2:30pm. 7 Church Street, Spencer, MA. If you'd like info on being a vendor at this Christmas craft fair, please. Email susan.terkanian@gmail.com

Pictures with Santa from 10am-3pm
\$5.00 Donation to the Spencer American Legion Ho, Ho, Ho – Santa is Coming! Spread the Cheer!
Children & Pets Welcome! Santa will be meeting and greeting, take Christmas Pictures together! Let us know you're coming. Click here to RSVP at our Facebook Event Page. Please don't forget to share with your friends!




SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

Second Chance Mobile Unit Pet Adoption from 2-4pm. Home for the Holidays!
MOBILE ADOPTION UNIT is coming to Klem's! On the road to saving more lives! Be sure to stop by and say hi to some of the sweet dogs and cats looking for a new home! Let adoption help you find your next best friend. Let us know you're coming. Click here to RSVP at our Facebook Event Page. Please don't forget to share with your friends!



ONGOING

MARIACHI BAND
First Thursday of the month 5-8 p.m.
MEXICALI MEXICAN GRILL
Webster location
41 Worcester Rd., Webster, MA
508-461-5070




TriviaNight

TRIVIA SATURDAY NIGHTS
7:00 p.m. register 7:30 p.m. start up
HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB
325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA
508-892-9822

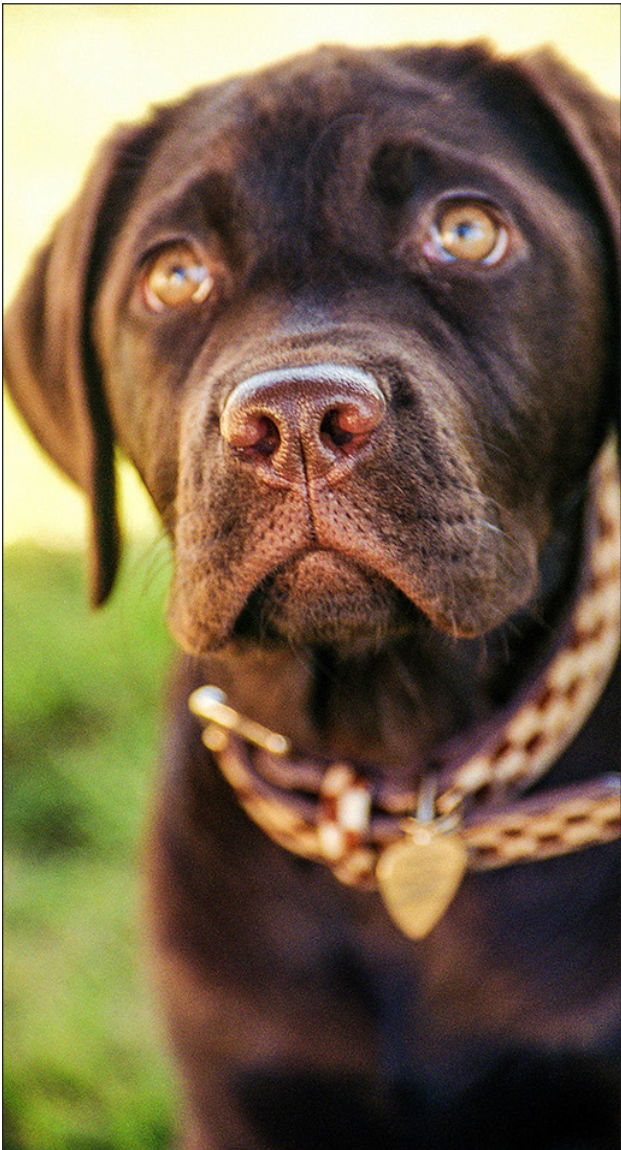
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT
HEXMARK TAVERN
AT SALEM CROSS INN
260 West Main St., W. Brookfield, MA 508-867-2345 saalemcrossinn.com

THE CENTRAL MA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED
meets the first Monday of every month from September through May. We discuss a variety of conservation programs to improve the local cold water fisheries, local fishing opportunities. Our annual High School Fly Fishing Championship (open to all MA high school students) And our annual fund raising banquet.
Auburn Sportsman's Club
50 Elm St., Auburn, MA



PETS

How to choose the right dog collar



New pet parents quickly learn just how many supplies they need to raise happy, healthy animals. Collars and leashes are two essential items dog owners will need. No matter how well-trained a pooch may be, collars and leashes are oftentimes necessary, especially when taking dogs to public places.

In addition to helping keep pets close, collars are a great place to hang identification tags, increasing the likelihood that dogs will be safely returned if they dash off.

There are various types of collars, each offering unique attributes. Choosing a collar involves investigating the key functions collars can serve, and assessing the pros and cons of each.

FLAT COLLAR

A flat collar is the standard collar used by many

dog owners. Flat collars are typically made from nylon, fabric or leather, and many come with plastic or metal quick-release tabs. Some may have buckles similar to a belt.

Flat collars are useful for many dogs. However, some pet parents find dogs are more apt to pull when wearing flat collars, choking themselves in the process. A properly fit collar shouldn't slide off and should be gentle on the dog's neck.

MARTINGALE COLLAR

Also known as limited slip collars or greyhound collars, according to the consumer information site The Spruce: Pets, martingale collars are designed primarily for dogs with narrow necks and heads. The martingale will tighten (only to the size of the dog's neck when properly adjusted)

when the dog pulls, so he can't be a collar Houdini. Some people worry that the collar will squeeze too tightly, but proper sizing can prevent that.

HEAD COLLAR

A head collar is reminiscent of a horse's halter, as it slips over the dog's snout and attaches behind the ears. The purpose of head collars is to redirect a dog's attention so pulling is minimal. Some dog's do not like the feeling of a collar on their faces and may resist.

PRONG COLLARS

Sometimes called pinch collars, prong collars are controversial. Prong collars are made of various links that can be expanded or shortened by "pinching" the links and removing or adding links. When the dog puts tension on the leash, the prongs will add pressure to the neck to help correct pulling, offers the Canine Journal, a pet care resource. Many trainers advise that prong collars should be used only as a training tool and not for extended periods of time as the primary collar. Also, the Humane Society emphasizes that prong collars must be properly fitted with the size of the prong links appropriate for the size of the dog, and it must sit high on the dog's neck. A chain collar works similarly as a pinch collar, in that it also tightens when tension is applied.

HARNESS

Some pet owners like a harness, which puts the pressure on the dog's chest and back instead of its neck. Harnesses come with back clips or front clip attachments to offer control where owners want it.

A knowledgeable pet store employee or a dog trainer can help guide new pet parents in regard to which type of collar may be most appropriate for their dogs.

This common virus can affect young pups



Juvenile dogs, much like their similarly aged human companions, have immature immune systems that develop over time as they gain more exposure to their environment. Many dogs are immunized against certain harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses that can cause serious illnesses. But exposure to certain viruses may catch new pet parents off guard when their furry friends begin to exhibit symptoms.

Canine oral papilloma virus is a contagious DNA virus that can be spread anywhere dogs interact. It is common at dog parks, daycare facilities, overnight boarding houses, or even among multiple dogs in a household. Transmission is spread through direct contact with an infected dog or through indirect contact from shared toys or communal water bowls, advises the pet health resource Vetstreet.

Oral papillomas, also known as oral warts, are typically small, benign tumors of the mouth caused by the papilloma virus. They can produce white or gray cauliflower-like eruptions on the lips, gums, mouth, and other mucous membranes, advises the Pet Health Network. These papillomas typically affect young dogs under the age of two, as they are more susceptible to the virus due to an underdeveloped immune system. Immunocompromised dogs also may be affected.

A report in The Canadian Veterinary

Journal says the growths can form after a roughly four-week incubation period. The oral lesions are usually mild in most cases and will not produce any discomfort or complications. In most instances, the papillomas will resolve themselves within a one- to two-month period.

Treatment is not necessary for oral papillomas unless the case is severe and is affecting the animal's ability to eat or drink or if the warts cause a respiratory obstruction. Treatment also may be necessary if the lesions become infected. Because the virus often has a short lifespan with no long-term health consequences, many people do not seek confirmatory testing of the papillomas. Vets can typically perform visual examinations to determine if papillomas are the culprit. It is a good idea to have a vet diagnose papillomas to rule out cancerous lesions.

Once a dog has had the papilloma virus, he or she likely will not get it again, as immunity is established after exposure. The virus is species-specific, so pet parents should not worry about catching it from sloppy kisses. However, owners should keep infected dogs away from other canines for a period of time to prevent spreading the virus.

Papillomas tend to look worse than they typically are, and will usually resolve themselves in due time.

Pros and cons to pet doors

Pets quickly take up residence in their owners' homes and hearts. Many pet parents treat their pets as full-fledged members of the family, with the same privileges and attention they devote to other family members.

A 2016 Harris Poll found 95 percent of Americans consider their pets to be part of the family, and there is not much they won't do for their companion animals. One area where pet owners may focus their attention is giving their pets more freedom to explore the outdoors. This can be achieved with the installation of a pet door. With busy schedules taking many pet parents away from home, pets may spend many hours home alone. An outdoor retreat could be just what the veterinarian ordered for pets who need more fresh air. Before pet owners install doors for their four-legged friends, it may behoove them to consider the advantages and disadvantages to doing so.

Pros
Pet doors can be very convenient for pet owners and pets. Unencumbered bathroom breaks is one



Pet doors can provide convenience and extra freedom to pets and owners.

of the prime reasons to get a pet door. Not having to wake up early in the morning or rush home from work to let out a pup can give pet owners more freedom. Cat owners may choose to have their cats soil outdoors, removing the hassle and odor of indoor litter boxes.

A pet door provides a way for pets to regulate when they need to go and not be at the mercy of their human companions. This is handy when training a puppy who cannot hold his bladder for more than a few hours. Avoiding indoor accidents can be a great

reason to install a pet door.

Pets need exercise and stimulation to alleviate boredom and avoid destructive behaviors. Access to the outdoors promotes physical activity and mental stimulation. Cats may chase bugs or small animals. Dogs

may run around the yard and play with a ball or stick. Easy access to outdoor play can take some of the burden off of busy pet owners.

Cons

As convenient as pet doors can be, they may disconnect pet owners

from their pets. People may feel they don't need to spend the time in the yard or walking the animal, and that can adversely affect the bonds between pet owner and pet.

Another potential disadvantage concerns alpha-driven pets. Giving pets control over their comings and goings may reinforce ego and potentially cause the animal to be less responsive to his owner's commands.

Safety is another concern. Although there are smart doors that can only open when triggered by a chip on the pet's collar, one never knows what pets may bring indoors. Cats may present dead rodents and dogs may dirty the house with muddy paws.

Weather is another concern. In colder climates, pet doors may be another source of drafts, contributing to inefficient heating and cooling situations.

Dogs or cats who are prone to roaming could get into trouble if left to their own devices outside.

Pet owners should consider a host of factors before installing pet doors in their homes.

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010 FOR SALE

ABOVE GROUND OVAL POOL
used 12 seasons.
15'x24 all aluminum.
Walk around deck, patio,
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cluded, including electric heater.
Needs liner and
bottom rail.\$1,200
Call 508-476-1467

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brewer \$75 Oak bookcase
3"x3" 3 shelves \$50 508
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Zoom II
62 mm UV model 202
35-70 mm 1007773
Asking \$180.00
of BEST OFFER
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8 place settings of Golden
Peony by Princess.
if interested please
call between
9am-6pm
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Couch, 84 inches long. Dark
red fabric with pillows, good con-
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dition. Hardly used! \$1,600.00.

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wood custom cut to your specs.
Delivered to your home. 12"-14"
\$300 per cord. 16-18" \$260 per
cord.
Call: 508-282-0232

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Generator-Unboxed, never
used. Original manual + war-
ranty card. Provides 5500
watt power supply. Asking
\$575. 203-209-6418

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of fabrics in both prints and solids
to choose from. Also includes
choices of a variety of laces,
trims, sequins and beads etc.
Please call
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SUPPLIES**
including a large assortment
of fabrics in both prints and solids
to choose from. Also includes
choices of a variety of laces,
trims, sequins and beads etc.
Please call
413-436-5073.

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stove-\$100, windows/door:
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light-\$100, Pitcher window-
\$ 1 0 0 ,
Teratone door-\$100, Double
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Double Hung Replacement
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14"x22", job press 10"x15", Sey-
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Harley Davidson Women's
black leather jacket Size L \$100.
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Harley Davidson women's vests
1 tan, 1 black \$50. each; Men's
Widder Electric heat vest size 42
\$25. Ladies Hudson Leather
vest size L \$25. HJC full face
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new size S, \$75. HJC full face
grey helmet size XS, used \$25.
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**QUEEN SIZE BEDROOM
SET** dark cherry, includes bed
frame, headboard, 2 bureaus,
one end table \$500. Also lighter
oval table with leaf and 4 cush-
ion chairs, solid wood. \$200.
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WHEEL HITCH** \$375
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& VAC PRO**
Models 72085, 72285,
72295
Used Twice
Best Offer
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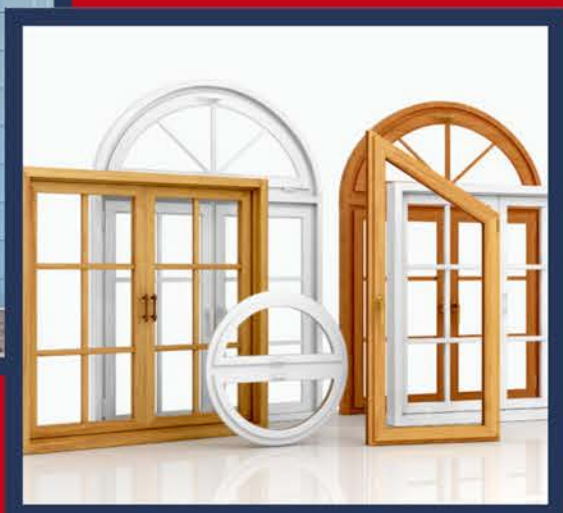
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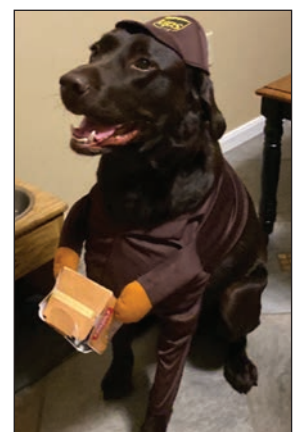
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PETS

How to transition pet food

The food a companion animal is eating today may not be the food he or she consumes in the near future.

Pet owners alter their pets' diets for a variety of reasons. These can include food allergies or intolerances that develop, new formulations that boast health benefits or the cost of food. Food transitions also occur when juvenile pets mature into adults and then require different foods to meet age-related dietary requirements.

Anytime pets owners introduce new foods to their pets, owners should follow a gradual introduction process to minimize the risk of potentially negative reactions, which can include loose stool or stomach upset, according to the pet retailer PetSmart. In addition to taking things slowly, pet owners can employ a few other strategies so pets seamlessly transition to their new diets.

- Choose a similar formulation. PetMD advises pet owners to find foods with similar formulations if existing foods need to be switched due to a recall or if a brand is no lon-



ger carried. That means if you were feeding chicken and rice, look for chicken and rice products when buying new foods. A similar nutritional analysis also can help make the transition go smoothly.

- Opt for a gradual switch. Mixing the old food with the new food gradually can ease diarrhea or stomach upset. Hill's Pet Nutrition, the maker of Science Diet®, suggests a seven-day transition. On days one and two, make it 75 percent current food with 25 percent new food. On days three and four, serve a 50-50 mix. On days five and six, the ratio should be 25 percent current food and 75 percent new food. Starting on day seven, serve only new food. Pets with sensitive stomachs may require a transition period that lasts between 10 days and two weeks.
- Consult with a veterinar-

ian. If you are unsure about food choices or want advice about making a switch, talk to your veterinarian. He or she can suggest foods, including some that may be breed- and need-specific.

- Watch for side effects. It can take as long as 12 weeks before you determine if a diet regimen is working. But most companion animals will resume normal digestive function within a few weeks of transitioning to new foods. Avoid new edible toys or food treats during the transition period to isolate potential food reactions to the new food. If vomiting or diarrhea is present and persists, it could be a result of sensitivity to the new food and a vet should be called.
- Use the same technique for wet or dry food switches. When switching from a wet to dry food or vice-versa, adhere to the same gradual transition process.

When transitioning to a new pet diet, adhere to the feeding guidelines on product labels, as portion sizes may need to change depending on differences in nutritional values.

Shopping for a well-dressed dog



Size, fabric and comfort are important factors when choosing clothing for dogs.

Dog lovers go to great lengths to ensure their pets have everything to keep them healthy, safe and comfortable. Many dog owners extend their love even further to ensure their furry friends put fashionable paws forward.

The American Pet Products Association says that total pet industry expenditures reached more than \$60 billion in 2015, and the spending continues to grow. In fact, pet spending is remarkably resistant to economic downturns, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. While food, grooming, vet care, and more are included in the list of necessary items people buy for their dogs, clothing — a nonessential item — has grown in popularity.

The National Retail Federation

states around 27.7 million Americans dress their furry friends in costumes for Halloween and other holidays. But buying clothes for everyday occasions also has become the norm for many pet parents, as dog apparel does everything from making pooches look fashionable to protecting them from inclement weather. When shopping and dressing dogs, dog owners can consider these tips.

- Be certain of measurements. Measure a dog from neck to tail, as this is how many manufacturers size their apparel. Going by the measurement is more accurate than estimating whether a dog is small, medium or large on breed charts.
- Avoid overbuying for a puppy. Like

children, puppies grow quickly. Those who stocked up on outfits while the dog was very young may find dogs quickly outgrow their wardrobes. Stick to a few items at a time until the dog has stopped growing.

- Select machine-washable pieces. Dogs get dirty and their clothes likely will as well. Look for items that can be put into the washing machine and withstand frequent laundering.
- Skip the zippers. Zippers can catch on fur or skin, making dogs reluctant to wear clothes. Look for buttons, snaps or other closures instead of zippers.
- Choose comfortable fabrics. Breathable cotton can keep dogs comfortable, but it may not be the best insulator or moisture-wicking fabric.

Select clothing based on desired use, and choose high-quality materials for comfort and durability.

- Avoid obstructions. Select well-fitting pieces that are neither too tight nor too loose. This way dogs can move around unencumbered and will not trip and fall.
- Keep disposition in mind. Some dogs tolerate clothing well, while others may bite and pull at garments. Do not force dogs to wear something if they're resistant.

Pet clothing can be stylish, make a statement or protect dogs from the elements. Keep comfort, budget and sizing in mind when shopping.

Get to know your feline friend

Cats are stealth and lovable but somewhat unpredictable. Ancient Egyptians revered cats for their companionship and ability to keep dangerous creatures such as poisonous snakes, rats and scorpions at bay. The Egyptians were among the first peoples to domesticate cats, and now thousands upon thousands of people share their homes with feline companions.

According to a world survey by the German organization Gesellschaft für Konsumforschung (Society for Consumer Research), published in PetfoodIndustry.com, dogs are the most popular pet globally, owned by 33 percent of respondents. However, cats are not that far off at 23 percent. The United States, China and Russia have the highest pet cat populations. And according to a 2014 report by The Washington Post, Massachusetts, Maryland and Maine boast the highest percentages of cat-lovers in the United States.

Cats are coveted for a variety of reasons, including their regal countenance and graceful movements. Many people are surprised to learn that cats boast several characteristics



that make them wonderful pets.

Those looking for vocal companions may be surprised to learn that cats can make roughly 100 different sounds, compared to the 10 sounds dogs make.

Cats only meow to human friends. In addition to purring, cats will rub up against people to show affection. This trait also serves to mark territory. Cats have scent glands around their faces, paws and tail area.

While cats are thought by many to be aloof and less feeling than dogs, science says otherwise. According to the book "What Cats Are Made Of," by Hanoch Piven, a cat's brain is biologically more similar to a human brain than it is to a dog's. Both humans and cats have identical regions in their brains that are responsible for emotions.

For those worried about a pet getting lost and running away, cats may be preferential com-

panions. That's because cats have an ingrained ability to find their way home known as "psi-traveling." Experts think that cats use the angle of the sun or magnetized cells in their brains to act as internal global positioning systems.

Contrary to popular belief, cats can be trained. Although they're not likely to be as motivated by praise as dogs, cats can respond to food treats — particularly something soft and smelly. However, that may take some practice as, according to Petfinder, cats are less instinctively driven to work in partnership with humans. But those tasty treats may inspire them to stay and come and even use a toilet in lieu of a litter box.

People who welcome cats into their homes can expect a companion for a long time, as cats can live up to 20 years or more.

Cats make wonderful pets. In contrast to dogs, cats have not undergone major changes since being domesticated, and their ancient characteristics still make them desirable companions to this day.



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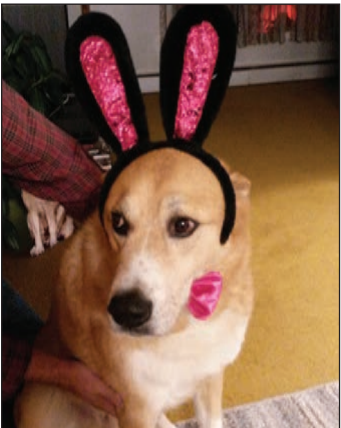
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Applications are now being accepted for Studio and 1 Bedroom apartments at Slater Estates, 96 Slater Street, Webster, MA for income eligible individuals who are 62 years of age and older or mobility impaired. Rents are based on 30% of income with HUD Section 8 subsidies. All units are equipped with modern appliances and carpeted throughout. Laundry facilities, emergency call system, community room, and convenient location of shopping areas and on call maintenance provided

**For further information call
the Management Office Today!**
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SALE ENDS 11/06/19. Cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion and may require other source financing. Some restrictions apply, see us for details. Does not include specialty vehicles or renewed for you vehicles. Some vehicles may not qualify, see dealer for details. Prior sales excluded. Some restrictions apply, see us for details. Estimated KBG value are options and may vary from vehicle to vehicle. Value based on vehicle condition. Amount may be adjusted for mileage, wear and tear, and options. Value differences assessed on list price. Deductions from allowance may be made for equipment failure, body and/or interior damage, reconditioning cost and/or excessive mileage at a rate of 20¢ per mile assessed on mileage of 10,000 miles per year. New retail price based on MSRP of new models. Not valid with prior sales. Selling price including our \$1,000 Imperial trade assistance bonus for a qualifying 2010 or newer trades. Advertised price does not include tax, title, registration or documentation fee. Vehicle must be paid in full and take same day delivery. 5 DAY OR 200 MILE RETURN EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR YOUR TOTAL CONFIDENCE - If you're not happy with your Imperial certified used vehicle, bring it back within 5 days or 200 miles and we'll give you a credit of your full purchase price toward the purchase of another vehicle. Not responsible for typographical errors; photos are for illustration purposes only.