



Greg Vine photos

The building which houses the Winchendon Fire Department was dedicated in 1978, when the town's population was around 7,000. An article on the fall town meeting warrant would provide funding for a study of the department's current needs.

Funds to study FD needs sought at town meeting

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

One of the articles on the upcoming fall town meeting warrant seeks voter approval for the expenditure of \$75,000 undertake a facility needs study for the Winchendon Fire Department. The funds would be used to hire a consultant who would take a look at what improvements or additions should be made to the fire station on Central Street.

"They would look at what we currently have," said Chief Tom Smith, "what we should have to bring the station up to industry standards; to look at what we should have to bring us into compliance with state and federal regulations. They'd evaluate what we need to do and what direction we need to go in."

The company hired to do the study would

also make a determination on what its recommendations would cost the taxpayers of Winchendon.

Consultant or no, Smith already has some of his own ideas on what improvements should be made.

"We know that we've outgrown the station," he said. "We have apparatus scattered around town. We take some out of service in the winter. We're able to get a truck that carries more water because of space limitations. We don't have male/female locker rooms. We don't have male/female bunk rooms. We only have one bathroom. So, there are a lot of things we know are going to come up."

"But having someone come in who does these studies on regular basis," Smith continued, "will give us a better idea on what it

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Town debt paid off in four years

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

In 2014 an audit of municipal finances uncovered, much to the surprise of town officials and residents alike, an operating deficit of just over \$3.55 million; a huge budgetary hole for a town the size of Winchendon. A number of issues combined to generate the sea of red ink and there was no shortage of finger-pointing over who was to blame. Regardless of where the fault lay, however, the fact remained that Winchendon was faced with erasing a huge debt.

Early in 2015 state lawmakers approved legislation allowing the town to borrow the cash needed to close the town's spending gap. While it allowed the community to erase the deficit, it also saddled the town with a \$3.55 million debt, which it was given 10 years to re-pay.

Nonetheless, instead of a decade, it has taken the town just four years to pay its obligation to the state and reinstate its financial independence. For four straight years, the town has been able to pay substantially more than the minimum payment due on what was essentially a state-approved credit card.

Last Wednesday, Oct. 3, the state certified Winchendon's free cash for the fiscal year that ended June 30 at \$1,064,151. Of that amount, \$312,000 — cou-



Greg Vine photos

Town Manager Keith Hickey watches as the mock bond goes up in flames.

pled with the voter-approved FY19 \$300,000 appropriation targeted to the town's yearly debt payment — will be used to pay off the \$612,000 remaining on the bond.

The official certification of the amount of free cash gave town officials the opportunity to symbolically burn a mock-up of the bond during Saturday's Fall Festival. However, the final payment won't actually be made until March of next year, according to Town Manager Keith Hickey.

Hickey attributes the quick

Turn To **BOND** page **A10**

Re-opening of Beals with new entrance set

On Saturday, Oct. 20 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, the Beals Memorial Library in Winchendon, will open its doors as a fully accessible building for the first time in its 115 year history. Through the tireless efforts of the Trustees, former librarian Julia White Cardinal, the Friends of the Library, and many others, the town of Winchendon can now boast of a library open to all, regardless of physical limitations.

The Board of Trustees invites the entire community for a ribbon cutting, re-dedication and open house of this architectural gem. Along with the revitalization of the building, the library staff also pledges to renew their commitment to the community through a collection that represents their patron's desire for life-long learning, and through pro-



Courtesy photo

The new entrance to Beals Memorial Library is at the side of the building.

grams and events that encourage and inspire fresh cultural experiences.

Light refreshments will be served by the Friends of the Library. For more information about the event, call the library at (978) 297-0300. The Beals Memorial Library is located at 50 Pleasant St. in Winchendon.

Governor candidates explain differences

BY JERRY CARTON
STONEBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Election Day is drawing near and the two candidates for the state's top job differ on a series of major issues important to voters.

Governor Charlie Baker, who defeated then Attorney General Martha Coakley four years ago is seeking a second term. The governor says his administration has created over 180,000 new jobs during the last four years with more people employed state wide than at any time in the last

20 years and the state's unemployment average is at 3.5% because of his policies. Baker said household incomes have risen "dramatically with every demographic group seeing increases in take home pay."

Baker adds,"thanks to pro-growth leadership, Massachusetts was named the most innovative state in the country and the Commonwealth has attracted major business investment."

Baker highlighted his education record by saying "the Commonwealth has increased

support for local public schools by over half a billion dollars, bringing educational investments to a record level."

Baker pointed to the Commonwealth Commitment program "which leverages our state's community colleges and the UMass system and allows students to pursue a four year degree for less than \$30,000."

He noted the state's secondary school students "continue to finish first in the National Assessment of Educational Progress Exam in English and

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Greg Vine photos

Seventh-grade students working on their assignments in teacher Nicole Landry's math class at Murdock Middle School.

Math for the number phobic

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

It's not your prototypical math class, that's for sure. Walk into Nicole Landry's sixth grade class at Murdock Middle School and you might have to adjust to the light, the sound, the energy and enthusiasm.

Yes, math is still math, and maybe that draws shudders from some readers. After all, math was never the favorite subject for many students for many years, but the way it's taught and learned in her classroom would likely seem foreign to lots of people.

Learning math "is a productive struggle," explained Landry who said she was a

"pretty bad" math student herself and that struggle is played out through lots of different games which, while they can be fun, are really teaching and learning tools in the 21st century.

"They're able to measure their own growth as we go along," she said, "and they're learning it's okay to be wrong, that no one's going to be shamed because they are wrong."

Landry is teaching a lot more than math. Sure, there are action plans and goals and a curriculum. It is math class and Landry has had long discussions with MS Principal Jess Vezina about academics.

That said, "I want there to

be a lot of love and support in the room. I want there to be a lot of positive talk. I'm trying, hoping, to teach empathy" as well as math.

"I think someone once said we rise by lifting each other and that's what I want them to do. I tell them I was a bad math student. I know some of them are really nervous, so I want them to be able to speak up, to feel it's safe to ask questions."

Even the way the room is lit and decorated adheres to Landry's passion for caring. There's lots of yellow ("for memory retention", which is crucial in math) and blue ("a calming color"). There are soft

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LOCAL

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SPORTS

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WEEKLY QUOTE

No spring nor summer beauty hath such grace as I have seen in one autumnal face.

— John Donne



CLYDE’S CORNER

Saturday October 13

MASQUERADE MADNESS: tickets are now sale for the Masquerade Madness at the Murdock Whitney House, 151 Front St. Come in costume (the whole shebang or at least a mask) to enter a contest, the usual casino games, and a great time. The best time and fundraiser for the Winchendon History and Cultural Center. Tickets are \$25 each and always sell out. Available at Seppi’s Ice Cream shop when open or call Peg at (561) 459-9484.

Saturday October 20

LAUGH FOR A CAUSE: The Winchendon CAC will be sponsoring a Comedy Fundraising Show on Saturday, Oct. 20 at 8 PM at the American Legion. Doors open at 7 PM. Raffles. Tickets are \$20 per person and are available at the WCAC, To Each His Own Design, or at the door the night of the show.

Thursday October 25

TRIVIA NIGHT: Sons of the American Legion host Trivia Night beginning at 8 p.m. at the American Legion. Gather a team and challenge your friends. Hosted by questions master Ryan Murphy.

Saturday October 27

ANNUAL LIONS COAT DRIVE: the Lions and the Murdock High School National Honor Society will be collecting coats of all sizes, mittens, gloves, scarves and hats for redistribution through the CAC. Coats can be dropped

off at the Winchendon Courier, 44 Central St. from 9 a.m.-noon on DAY OF REFLECTION: A Ladies Half Day Retreat at United Parish Church, 39 Front St., Winchendon is scheduled Saturday Oct. 27 8:30am- 1:30pm. Guest Speaker Jeanne Doyon. Day includes a Panera Bread lunch. Cost \$30, please call the church to register 978-297-0616.

Sunday October 28

APPRAISAL DAY: Wayne Tuiskula of Central Mass Auctions will be at the Murdock Whitney House Museum Sunday, Oct. 28 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wayne is an auctioneer and appraiser and the author of the Antiques column which appears regularly in the Winchendon Courier. Bring up to three items, each item will be examined for \$5 each. For more information about Central Mass Auctions visit www.centralmassauctions.com.

Saturday November 10

OPERATION WINCHENDON CARES: Holiday Drive will be held Saturday, Nov. 10 from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. at the American Legion Post 193 on School Street. That day is World Kindness Day, so what better way than to send some cheer to our military members who are unable to be home with their families on the holidays. Spread the word to your friends, family and neighbors. If you know of anyone who is not on our list, please contact us with his/her information or a contact person for them. Check out our Facebook page (Operation Winchendon Cares) and website: <http://www.winchendoncares.com>.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

THURSDAYS & SATURDAY MARKET IS OPEN! Toy Town Outdoor Market open for the season. Produce, baked goods, crafts and more! Thursday’s 4-7 p.m. and Saturday’s 10 a.m.-1 p.m. next to the bike path parking lot at the corner of Rt. 12 and Rt. 202, Winchendon.

THURSDAYS OPEN HOUSE: come sit on the porch and relax at the Murdock Whitney House museum 6-8 p.m. Tour the house, walk across the street and get ice cream at Seppi’s. Free evening, every Thursday throughout the summer.

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

TUESDAY INDIVISIBLE WINCHENDON: Indivisible Winchendon is discontinuing meetings due to lack of attendance. The group will just continue as an online network and Facebook page.

WINCHENDON RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP: For all who are in recovery or want to be. Not a 12-step group or a “program”, this is an open, peer-led group for discussion, support, sharing practical information and resources, and helping each other with the day-to-day challenges of life in recovery. Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., UU Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St., downstairs in the parish hall.

LEARN: Computer classes for adults

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

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAY GARDEN CLUB: The Winchendon Garden Club meetings are open to the public. Meetings are held at 1 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of the month from May through December. Please note the meeting place has been changed to the Hyde Park Drive Community Building.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

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\$37,500 4th St #47, Couture, Ruth A, to Libby, David S, and Libby, Caroline A.
\$37,500 4th St #48, Couture, Ruth A, to Libby, David S, and Libby, Caroline A.
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ATHOL | ASHBURNHAM | BALDWINVILLE | BARRE | GARDNER | WINCHENDON

COURIER CAPSULES

on Sunday. Following the workshop, the public is invited to a performance by the Mamajamas in Trustees Hall at 2:00 p.m. The concert is free and open to all.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
On Sunday, Oct. 14 at 2 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 52 Spruce St. on the rectory lawn, the parish will offer the traditional Blessing of the Animals in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. All pets are invited to come with their people (pets must be leashed or caged) for this special blessing.

HAUNTED WALK
Narragansett Historical Society and Narragansett Theater Company’s 4th annual Haunted Walk, Oct. 27 & 28, 6-9 pm, At Narragansett Regional High School, 464 Baldwinville Road, Baldwinville. The Asylum treated mentally and criminally insane patients. The accompanying cemetery is the burial site of many patients, and many people have reported ghost sightings and unidentifiable screams there. Come, see, and hear for yourself...If you dare!
\$5 per person. All proceeds will be split between the Theater Company and the Museum. For more information or questions contact coordinator Ann Lyons at alyons@nrnsd.org.
SEEKING PROPOSALS...AND MEMBERS
Applications for the Winchendon Cultural Council due Oct. 15!

Gobi October office hours

Tyler Wolanin, District Aide to Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer) will be holding office hours throughout the district during the month of October. Constituents and town officials are invited to meet with Tyler to express any concerns, ideas and issues they have. Attendants should RSVP to Tyler at tyler.wolanin@masenate.gov, or by phone at 508-641-3502. Town attendance is not restricted to residents of those towns.

Tuesday, Oct. 9: Petersham Town Offices, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Athol Senior Center, noon-1 PM; Phillipston Town Hall, 1:30-2:30 PM; Templeton Town Hall, 3-4 PM

Wednesday, Oct. 10: Hardwick Town Hall, 9:30-10:30 AM; Ware Senior Center, 11 AM-noon; Palmer Senior Center, 12:30-1:30 PM.
Monday, Oct.

15: Barre Town Offices, 12:30-1:30 PM; Hubbardston Town Offices, 2-3 PM; Ashburnham Town Hall, 3:30-4:30 PM; Winchendon Town Hall, 5-6 PM

Tuesday, Oct. 16: Warren Senior Center, 9:30-11:30 AM; Brimfield Senior Center, 11 AM-noon; Wales Senior Center, 12:10-1:10 PM

Wednesday, Oct. 17: New Braintree Town Hall, 11 AM-noon; West Brookfield Senior Center, 12:30-1:30 PM; Brookfield Town Hall, 2-3 PM; Ashby Town Hall, 6-7 PM

Monday, Oct. 22: Sturbridge Senior Center, 11 AM-noon

Wednesday, Oct. 24: Charlton Senior Center, noon-1 PM

Monday, Oct. 29: Paxton Town Hall, 11 AM-noon; Spencer Howe Village, 12:30-1:30 PM; East Brookfield Municipal Building, 2-3 PM

Tuesday, Oct. 30: Oakham Senior Center, 9:30-10:30 AM; North Brookfield Senior Center, 11 AM-noon; Rutland Senior Center, 12:30-1:30 PM

Wednesday, Oct. 31: Holland Town Hall, 1:30-2:30 PM; Monson Town Hall, 3-4 PM

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Schlosstein to make exit

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Bill Schlosstein took over as Winchendon's town accountant in June 2016, after working for a month with Donna Allard, the previous holder of the position. Schlosstein entered office at a time when the town was wrestling with a \$3.5 million deficit, discovered by an audit in 2014. By the time of his arrival, the state lawmakers had approved legislation allowing the town to borrow the funds necessary to erase the red ink. Still, town finances were in a state of flux.

It was Schlosstein's first foray into the field of municipal accounting.

"It was a new position for me," said Schlosstein. "I wasn't incapable of being a town accountant, I'd just never done it before. I had lots of schooling in it. I've been in the industry for 26 years. It was something I wanted to accomplish in my career, to show – for my own self esteem – that I could do it. This certainly was a challenging town to do it in."

He said one of the biggest hurdles was familiarizing himself with the town's Munis general ledger system. In addition, he said it took a bit of time to get to know the names of everyone he'd be working with and the functions they perform.

"In different municipalities they parcel out some responsibilities differently among the members of the financial team; payroll, and bills, and things like that. Getting familiar with that is how we actually execute."

He also said closing the books on somebody else's work was challenging.

"Coming in at year end, I wasn't involved in the transactions that made up fiscal '16, so there were a lot of long hours," he said.

When it comes to the town's difficult financial situation, uncovered two years before his arrival, Schlosstein said, "I would say by the time I got here that corner had been turned, and had been turning under (former interim Town Manager) Bernie Lynch and his roll out of the fiscal year 2016 budget, which had to get off the self-insurance trust fund and into a premium based insurance product. That was a big, complicated accounting elephant – being self-insured, but a lot of that stuff had been turned."

Schlosstein said one of his goals was improving financial ties between the town and school district.

"It was essential, because it's a municipal school district and not a regional school district, that there was that common goal of a positive relationship between the two parts," he said.

When it comes to Winchendon's

improved economic standing, Town Manager Keith Hickey said, "I think Bill has played a significant role in that. Obviously, the economy has improved so that obviously helps. But I think the town has been able to get much more done addressing infrastructure needs, trying to start work on capital needs we have, because Bill has a tremendous understanding of how finances are impacted by decisions from the very beginning to the very end. Whenever I have question on how to deal with things, I can go to Bill and we can talk about the potential impact, what makes the most sense. I know where I want to get to, but may not know how to get there; Bill has the directions."

"I think we've been a great team because he's understanding about what the potential impacts of a decision are likely to be," said Hickey. "That's been a tremendous benefit to me."

"So, getting out of the deficit legislation issue six years early," Hickey continued, "and getting that news out there, I think, has made the community feel more comfortable with their government."

Schlosstein has submitted his resignation to Hickey but will likely be seen around town hall for at least a few weeks to come. His official departure date is set as December 1. Current Assistant Town Accountant Joanne



Greg Vine photo

Bill Schlosstein is moving on.

Goguen has already been tapped to succeed Schlosstein.

As for what the future holds, Schlosstein is keeping his options open.

"I'm in the market, looking for opportunities," he said. "My home is in Worcester County, my daughters are still college age, so I'd rather not uproot the family. So, I'd like to stay in Worcester County and work, preferably, in treasury management."

Three way Senate race has clear leader

BY JERRY CARTON
STONEBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Three candidates are vying for Massachusetts US Senate seat: incumbent Democrat Elizabeth Warren, who is seeking her second term, Republican Geoff Diehl, a state legislator, and independent Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai.

Warren is touting her work on leveling the economic playing field saying, "corporate profits and CEO pay are near record highs. But workers' wages have barely budged for a generation and one after one workers' rights are getting wiped away and unions are under attack. Millions of people are struggling to piece together multiple jobs just to pay the rent. I've spent my career fighting to level the playing field for working families in America. We need an economy that works for working Americans. No one who works full-time should have to live in poverty."

Warren supports paid family and medical leave and a \$15 per hour minimum wage as well as equal pay for equal work.

When it comes to health care, Warren said, "we must fight back against repeated efforts of President Trump and Republicans in Congress to repeal, weaken and undermine the Affordable Care Act, and to gut the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Instead we must build on the ACA and strengthen Medicaid to make access to affordable high quality insurance a reality for every American. And we must do more to improve outcomes and lower costs."

On energy, Warren said, "America's energy infrastructure is a critical part of building a better future. Our families and our future depend on reliable access to affordable energy. At a time when climate changes represent a real and growing crisis, we can build new and clean energy infrastructure that supports jobs and our economy, and protects our public health and safeguards our environment."

Diehl, who won a three way

Republican primary last month, boasted of his work to on a successful 2014 ballot campaign against a proposed gas tax. He promised he will prioritize efforts to improve the quality of health care for veterans, which would include a modernization of VA hospitals and increasing the number of women employed at those hospitals.

He also emphasized his support for Trump's crackdown on immigration and for the tax cut bill which passed last year.

"Illegal immigration is a threat to the national security of our nation and to public safety. It costs taxpayers billions of dollars each year. We can no longer kick the can down the road," he said, adding, "The Commonwealth is greatly affected by the problem of insecure borders."

Diehl also supports a relaxing of regulations which he says makes it difficult for small businesses to succeed and flourish.

"When employment grows, there is competition for employees which raises wages," he said.

He pointed to Massachusetts fishermen as examples of those burdened by over-regulation.

"Communities from New Bedford to Scituate to Gloucester will have a friend in the United State Senate," Diehl pledged.

Diehl was the state co-chair of President Trump's 2016 Massachusetts campaign.

Ayyadurai said he is focusing on environmental issues.

"Clean air, clean water and clean land is the foundation of life. Our air is polluted. COPD/lung disease are the most prevalent disorders globally. The amount of plastic waste in the ocean is now being referred to as a 'plastic island'. Our landfills are overflowing with municipal waste, rubber, metals, etc. These are undeniable facts. We need to move beyond the debate of whether climate change is occurring or not. It doesn't matter. We need real, tangible solutions to

these problems. Such solutions will not come from politicians who know nothing about science, engineering or technology. It is time we look at these problems with rational thinking, not ideologies, left or right, liberal or conservative, Democrat or Republican. Neither of these sides know how to solve anything except to get themselves elected."

"Irrational solutions like the 'Paris Accords' will do nothing for clean air, clean water or clean land except to line the pockets of Al Gore and other wealthy families," continued Ayyadurai.

ACCURACY WATCH

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VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

EDITORIAL

Coming up on the finish line...

There are less than three weeks left until the midterm elections. There will be several important decisions made, some will affect us at the state level and some nationally. Tipping scales from one side to the other, balancing scales or unbalancing them is the way the United States actually keeps an even keel.

See, we don't as a rule do well as a nation with only one party in charge. We need to be able to weigh two sides, to be able to have pro and con, to be able have a choice.

Americans have a need to argue, or perhaps at least to be argumentative. They have a tendency to feel very strongly about their own opinions and views.

Most recently...rabitly so.

In an era when politics have made not strange bedfellows but bitter enemies, the days of compromise are no longer in existence.

Which is why we need pro and con even more.

We need people who can represent themselves clearly on their topic. But not bitterly.

Who can speak their minds, say what they mean, and do it without pulling their punches but also without intentionally making enemies.

Hard to do when people are itching for fights.

With that in mind, we are going to use the next three weeks this way. We will accept letters to the editor that endorse candidates for an office. We will accept letters about thanks and gratitude, about events, and about specific topics related to town topics.

We will not be discussing more broad based issues in letters at least until after the election. We suspect there will be an increase in the other types of letters, and there is limited space as it is.

Letters policies are tough. There is a balance to it. We have some

problems with it, we admit. There are people who take advantage; people who want to use it for personal revenge or their own platforms; people who get caught up in it and make it about something else entirely than its intent.

We try to remember that the newspaper belongs to the people who read it; the town that supports it; the ones who want it to succeed. They do have as much right to space in the pages as anyone.

But occasionally things get a bit out of hand and it becomes time to rein in the more boisterous and bellicose. Heads need to cool; and ideas need to take precedence over feelings.

The need to have the letters be pointedly endorsements or discussions of ballot questions at this time will also please include a caveat that they be no longer than 600 words. Again, this is to allow as many people as possible space for their opinions.

In the future, we will continue to adhere to this 600 word limit as closely as possible. We have had several writers at a few publications becoming very wordy and while we can appreciate their need to get their ideas out on paper, we need them to re-write and edit themselves down a bit to our acceptable length. We will no longer print letters that go over our accepted length. We have to draw the line somewhere.

We seem to have to write this editorial every few months. And in one way that is a good thing. It means our readers are engaged and want to be part of the process.

In another way it means readers sometime become rebellious, and don't feel rules apply to them.

And we will continue to write our editorials to remind people; we will continue to interact with our readers and we will continue to encourage writers to write.

Mencken's Garden

In the early '70s I wandered into the oddest saloon in Baltimore not even knowing that it was a saloon. The Peabody Bookstore had a non-descript entrance, and opening the cellar door with its old-fashioned door jingle enveloped me in the smell of old books. That musty odor heightened my book lust; perhaps the bookstore held printed treasures at a bargain price: illustrations from the likes of Arthur Rackham or N C Wyeth or artful bookmaking that embraced classics in embossed leather! As I wandered through the tight aisles, two young women entered and moved with purpose to the end of the store. They disappeared through a doorway hidden behind the click and sway of ceiling to floor beads. I heard faint laughter, and followed my curiosity.

A narrow hall suddenly opened into a room that was dark enough for atmosphere, but lit so that small tables and chairs appeared like islands...in front of a bar! My eyes adjusted to the near empty space. Each dimly lit wall was covered with photographs, posters, animal heads, and cartoon caricatures.

I walked to a huge rectangular photo and stared at the visage of H. L. Mencken. He was drinking at the bar, beer mug in hand, and convulsed in laughter. Mencken was a reporter and journalist for the Baltimore Sun papers most of his life, proudest of being called a newspaperman, in addition to being an author, scholar, magazine editor and a social critic read throughout the nation. Most journalists could tell you the day they met Mencken through an essay or a book. He was that impressive.

The wall was covered in Mencken memorabilia. He was a close friend of a Who's Who of artists, writers and musicians of the '20s through the '40s. Their faces in the many photos on the wall were sometimes unfamiliar, but not the names: Sinclair Lewis, Ben Hecht, Eddie Cantor, Clarence Darrow, Theodore Dreiser, James T. Farrell, Ayn Rand, T.S. Eliot, Dashiell Hammett, F. Scott Fitzgerald. Some of these artists insisted that anyone who spent time with Mencken knew something not readily apparent in his invective-laden writing: he was one of the smartest, friendliest, and most interesting conversationalists that they had ever met. Despite his devotion to uncensored self-expression, there was a generous, polite and often sentimental Mencken.

He offended everyone at some time or another, proudly, as he felt obligated to spotlight graft and hypocrisy wherever he found it. He was a humorist at heart, starting from the day, as a precocious young reader, he fell under the spell of Huckleberry Finn. On any one page of his essays or articles you could be laughing uproariously one minute as he skewered hypocritical politicians, and a paragraph later horrified as his rapier wit cut one of your heroes to shreds. You could feel the joy of his engagement with a subject and his command of language. Many still regard him as one of the greatest writers of journalistic prose in the 20th Century.

At this point, most writers would pull a few of his quotable bon mots and give you a taste of his charm and vitriol. This is always a failure. You must read him. But give him an opening into your life and he will surprise you. Alistair Cooke's The Vintage Mencken is a generous sam-



THAT
GREAT
TIME
.....
PARTICK
MOON

pling of pieces chosen by one journalist who came under his tutelage. For my money, William Manchester's On H. L. Mencken, Disturber of the Peace is more insightful than the many biographies published on Mencken

over the years. You meet him prodding, debunking, and charming...and his joy at being alive is contagious.

At about the same time that I discovered the Peabody Bookstore, I joined a handful of "searchers" for a week-end encounter group sponsored by the University of Maryland School of Social Work. Mencken had written into his will that certain groups could use his home at 1524 Hollis St. for meetings. He had lived at this family address for most of his life. We students would spend two days in Mencken's living room learning to trust each other and encounter our own reluctance to "see ourselves as others see us." Mencken would have enjoyed the spectacle of personal confrontation...and strangers struggling to put tenderness under honesty? That was the veneer of civility stripped from the predatory ape! Intrigue of the highest order! The irony of social work in his living room was not lost on me.

With his brother, August, Mencken invested time and energy in the backyard garden. I wandered out there during a break and admired the hand-built brick wall embedded with tiles. He gardened into the last year of his life. Now think of this: he had a stroke in 1948 and he was never able to read or write again up to his death in 1956. He could not make sense of written words! How did this wordsmith survive? Words and language were central to his being. He had lived to write and converse and now the letters on a page were as hieroglyphics!

Part of the answer was friends. William Manchester resigned his Sun paper job and spent the last year of Mencken's life reading to him. Manchester read him the newspaper, the works of Conrad and Twain, whatever Mencken wanted. This was the kind of loyalty he inspired. And there in the center of the backyard brick wall, Mencken had cemented the iconic death mask of Ludwig von Beethoven. Mencken loved music all of his life, played the piano with gusto, and Alfred Knopf, the publisher, had given him the gift a record player. When words failed, music still spoke. He particularly loved the musicals of Gilbert and Sullivan, both the music and the wordplay. Manchester wrote that they would often end the day listening to music. Two decades after Mencken's death, the Voyager spacecraft would rocket into the cosmos with a gold plated recording of sounds. Etched onto the surface were the words: "To the makers of music - all worlds, all times." The grace of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony would serve in part as Earth's introduction to intelligent beings elsewhere. Mencken would have understood.

OK, OK...I can't resist. One quote. From the Baltimore Evening Sun, July 26, 1920:

"As democracy is perfected, the office of the President represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. On some great and glorious day, the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last, and the White House will be occupied by a downright fool and complete narcissistic moron."

I forgot to mention that he was prescient too.

LETTERS POLICY



Letters to the editor are always welcome, and may be sent to to ruth@stonebridgepress.news, or The Winchendon Courier, 91 Central Street, Winchendon, MA 01475. Be sure to include a name and residence. Please refrain from sending letters via fax, and be sure to supply a home address and phone number to allow for confirmation. Allow at least

48 hours for a response. Letters must be submitted by noon Friday to ensure publication in the following week's issue. Every effort will be made to accommodate late submissions, but inclusion can not be guaranteed. The rules of good taste and libel will, of course, apply to all submissions. Personal attacks will not be published. The editor retains the right to edit all letters.

Trauma & the aftermath

Let's talk about trauma. Let's talk about the reality of trauma. Let's talk about how the impact of a deeply traumatic event leaves its mark.

Yes, there are gaps. There really are. Some moments you remember with absolute clarity, frozen in your memory and seared into your soul.

Some moments you remember in part. They're cloudy and hazy.

And some moments you recall not at all. That's not just Dr. Christine Ford's experience. That's what trauma does. I should know.

From that first ghastly moment 16 months ago when we learned we had lost Courtney, through the next five days until her funeral and even beyond, there are vignettes I can see as if they happened five minutes ago. I remember every minute of sitting in the medical examiner's office in Holyoke. I can tell you today who was sitting where at the table. I remember every detail of standing on the softball field at Murdock watching her friends and teammates launch that balloon release from, appropriately, the pitcher's mound. I remember every second at the cemetery in Baltimore and the memorial service at Smith.

Other moments, well, there are other moments of which I have just partial recollection. I remember parts of the memorial service here in town and I have vague visions of her funeral at Sol Levinson's. But I cannot tell you who drove me to the airport to fly to Baltimore. I have no idea what we did after we left the softball field. I cannot recall anything, anything at all, about the first hour or two after we found out. I know Steve and Jennifer Haddad were at our house but what we all did I can't tell you.

This is pretty much the standard response to trauma. You remember some things perfectly. You remember parts of other moments and some you don't recall at all. Period. Anyone who thinks it goes otherwise, and you know exactly who I'm talking about, is either a fool or lying to themselves because it's expedient to do so.

You know damn well Republican senators knew Christine Ford was telling the truth but that mattered not at all. That FBI "investigation" was never going to



JOURNEY
OF THE
HEART
.....
JERRY
CARTON

possible even for legal immigrants and they care, they care desperately, about abortion even though they're only pro-life until the moment of birth. After that, not so much.

They need Kavanaugh on the court because they know quite well DJT is a crook, a fraud and a scammer and they need that fifth vote to protect him because now the tax authorities are closing in and DJT is a useful vehicle for pushing their extremist agenda. And they need that fifth vote to overturn Roe.

Those people in Mississippi and elsewhere mindlessly cheering DJT's despicable verbal attack on a sexual assault victim? They're monsters, plain and simple. They're as despicable as he. Either that or they're stupid beyond words. Or both.

be anything other than a sham. I've told you before. They care about lower and lower taxes for really, really rich people. They care about deregulation even at the cost of putrid water and unbreathable air. They care about sealing the borders as tightly as

Mitch McConnell isn't stupid. He's a ruthless political operator but there are plenty of ruthless political operators who are also decent human beings. McConnell is not a decent human being but that's on the good people of Kentucky. I assume the only way he and his ilk sleep at night is because they have no moral center. I sure wouldn't want to be like that. Would you? Didn't think so.

Trauma victims don't lie. Period. End of story. Brett Kavanaugh's on the Supreme Court because truth doesn't matter, character doesn't matter, decency doesn't matter. All that matters is the implementation of a policy agenda which serves the rich, powerful and well-connected and, of course, an overwhelmingly white privileged class. Look, you can be white and privileged and still have a conscience and that aforementioned moral center. But if that's who you are, then you're not a Trumpian defender of the indefensible and apologist for which there exists no sufficient apology. Good for you.

What you are though, is a patriot and a compassionate human being. Are there enough of those? 25 days, my friends. 25 days. See you next week.

Fidelity Bank establishes fund to mark completion of merger

Fidelity Bank has made good on its promise to support small local businesses in the communities of Winchendon and Gardner in recognition of the completion of its merger with Colonial Co-Operative Bank, which had branches in those communities prior to the merger. The merged state chartered, mutually owned financial institution has combined assets of approximately \$900 million.

Fidelity Bank has committed to earmark \$300,000 for the establishment of a micro loan fund, to be called The Colonial Bank Loan Fund- a Fidelity Bank Endowment.

“We want to honor Colonial Co-operative Bank’s prior commitments to the people of Winchendon and Gardner,” said Fidelity Bank Chairman & CEO Edward F. Manzi Jr. “It

aligns well with our LifeDesign promise of being a team of caring people, who take a caring approach, to provide caring solutions.”

The fund will be managed by Fitchburg based North Central Massachusetts Development Corporation (NCMDC) to provide the loans to small businesses in the city of Gardner and the towns of Winchendon and Templeton.

“We are very excited to be partnering with Fidelity Bank on the establishment of the new Colonial Bank Loan Fund,” said Roy M. Nascimento, CCE, IOM, president and CEO of the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce and the North Central Massachusetts Development Corporation. “These funds will go a long way in providing local entrepre-

neurs with the critical infusion of capital that they will need to take their business from dream to reality.”

The Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce will partner with NCMDC to promote the loan fund to businesses in the area.

“We are pleased to promote the fund as a resource for new businesses to accelerate their ideas and achieve their ambitions. In large part, small businesses are driving the economic growth in the Greater Gardner region” said Carol Jacobson, president and CEO of the Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce. “It is also a fitting tribute to Colonial Co-operative Bank’s rich history of supporting businesses and citizens in Gardner and surrounding towns for more

than a century.”

Fidelity Bank also gave gifts to four nonprofits based in Gardner and Winchendon. Former Colonial Co-operative Bank President Joseph D. Guercio serves as president of the advisory board who chose the nonprofits who were honored. Gardner based Alyssa’s Place: Peer Recovery and Resource Center, Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center, and The Gardner Community Action Committee received gifts of \$5,000. The Wendell P. Clark Memorial YMCA in Winchendon received a gift of \$2,500.

Founded in 1888, Fidelity Bank is one of the oldest independent community banks in central Massachusetts. Fidelity Bank’s exclusive LifeDesign approach offers a

range of banking, investment and insurance solutions to clients in 12 full-service offices in Leominster, Worcester, Fitchburg, Gardner, Shirley, Barre, Millbury, Paxton, Princeton and Winchendon. The bank has consistently earned a “5 Star” rating from BauerFinancial, Inc., the nation’s leading independent bank rating and research firm. The bank has been named to the Boston Globe’s Top Places to Work list four times and recognized by the Worcester Business Journal as a Top Workplace. As of June 30, 2018, the bank had total assets of approximately \$900 million. For more information, visit www.fidelitybankonline.com or www.facebook.com/fidelity-bankma

Voters split over first ballot question

BY JERRY CARTON
STONEBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Just over three weeks before Election Day, a WBUR poll shows Massachusetts voters split right down the middle, 44%-44 % with 12% undecided on the controversial nurse staff ballot question. That’s a shift from last week’s Boston Globe poll which suggested voters were slightly leaning towards yes, an outcome which would limit the number of patients to which hospital nurses could be assigned at any one time. A no vote would impose no such limits.

What do nurses think? That depends on who you listen to. The Massachusetts Nurses Association, which supports mandating a limit and is the state’s

largest nursing union says support from its membership is overwhelming but the American Nurses Association of Massachusetts insists its trade union members feel just as strongly against the measure.

The proposal is opposed by hospitals, who say imposing a strict limit on nurses will cost about \$1 billion a year but advocates from the MNA say that number is a fantasy.

The measure has become the centerpiece of a general election campaign where elections for US Senator and governor show incumbents Elizabeth Warren (D) and Charlie Baker (R) with enormous leads over their respective challengers Geoff Diehl and Jay

Gonzalez. The WBUR poll gave Warren a 26-point lead and had Baker up by 30 points. Some \$14 million in ad buys have flooded the airwaves in the debate over Question 1.

There are two other ballot questions and the WBUR poll showed overwhelming support (71% to 24%) for maintaining legal protections for transgenders, including “using public restrooms that match gender identity.” Additionally, there is huge backing (66% to 24%) for the creation of a commission which would overturn the Supreme Court’s Citizens United ruling, which removed a significant number of restrictions regarding campaign funding, through a constitutional amendment.

EARLY VOTING HOURS:

EARLY VOTING HOURS FOR THE NOVEMBER 6TH STATE ELECTION
WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK
109 FRONT STREET DEPT. 3

EARLY VOTING HOURS:
Monday, October 22nd - 8 am – 6 p.m.
Tuesday, October 23rd – Thursday, October 25th, - 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Monday, October 29th, - 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Tuesday, October 30th – Thursday- Nov. 1st, - 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

No country for old (Republican) men

“If we want to end a culture rampant with harassment, we must listen to the adult women who are speaking out courageously.” – Rachel Simmons, American author



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

Let’s face it, absolutely no one on either side of the debate over the confirmation of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court heaped any great amount of glory on themselves. Democratic Sen. Corey Booker was over the top with his denunciation of Kavanaugh as “evil” and other opponents’ characterization of the then-nominee as a “serial rapist” was way over the top.

However, the old Republican men on the Judiciary Committee really stood out as being completely tone-deaf when it comes to sexual assault. They showed themselves ignorant of both its impact on victims and its prevalence in American society. They were dismissive and disrespectful, not only of Dr. Christine Blasey Ford but of victims generally.

GOP Sen. Orrin Hatch, confronted by sexual assault victims

who asked, “Why won’t you talk to us,” dismissed them by waving them off and responding: “When you grow up, I’ll be ready.” When another assault survivor told Sen. Lindsey Graham of her attack, his response was to scurry down the hall like a coward while declaring, “Call a cop.”

President Trump, not surprisingly, has been among the worst. For a short time, it appeared the president might resist his most grotesque instincts, actually calling Dr. Ford “credible” and “compelling.” But, seriously, you just knew that wouldn’t last. At a campaign rally in Southaven, Mississippi a few days before Kavanaugh’s confirmation, Trump mocked the sexual assault survivor. A short time later he dismissed Dr. Ford’s

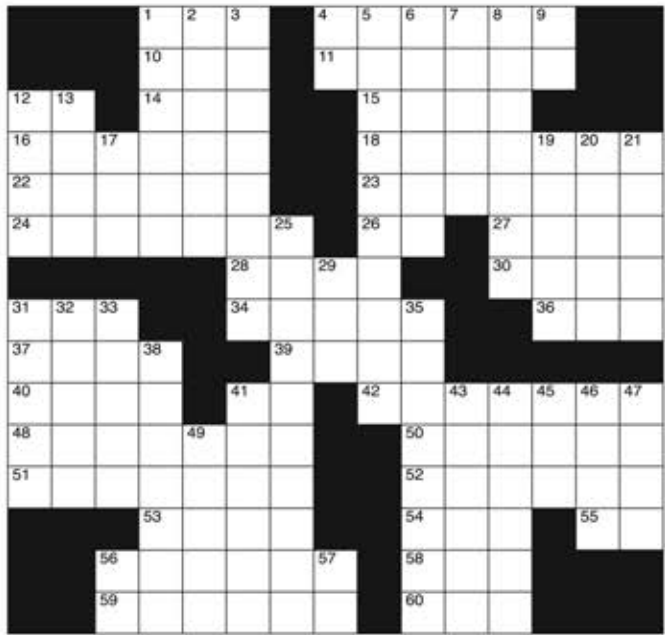
accusations as “a hoax set up by the Democrats.”

But the GOP problem with women doesn’t end with their cowardly treatment of Dr. Ford. (Don’t forget, they were so afraid of questioning her they had to call in a female prosecutor from Arizona to do it for them.) They continue to demonstrate a complete lack of sensitivity to issues that affect women.

In the wake of the accusations against Kavanaugh, Trump idiotically declared: “It’s a very scary time for young men in America.”

A very scary time for young men? Really?

Yes, a young man may – very rarely – face a false accusation of sexual assault. But such instances are few and far between; about two percent of all reported cases. On the other hand, according to the National Sexual Violence Research Center, one in five women in the U.S. will be raped; one in three women will experience some form of sexual violence, and; fully two-thirds of



- ### CLUES ACROSS

 - 1. Type of cleaner (abbr.)
 - 4. Going out
 - 10. __ Jima, WWII battlefield
 - 11. Closed
 - 12. Air Force
 - 14. Moved swiftly
 - 15. Will not (obsolete)
 - 16. Type of tank
 - 18. Raise
 - 22. Represent
 - 23. Gives a new moniker
 - 24. Adversary
 - 26. Anno Domini
 - 27. Lillian __, actress
 - 28. Bunch of something
 - 30. This (Spanish)
 - 31. A guitarist uses one
 - 34. Small stem bearing leaves
- 36. Soviet Socialist Republic
 - 37. Actress Rooney
 - 39. Dark brown or black
 - 40. Matter
 - 41. Atomic number 87 (abbr.)
 - 42. Food company
 - 48. Trips to see wildlife
 - 50. Elderly
 - 51. Famed chapel
 - 52. Something to grab
 - 53. City in Oklahoma
 - 54. Muckraking journalist Tarbell
 - 55. Thallium
 - 56. Corroded
 - 58. A Brooklyn NBAer
 - 59. Most liberated
 - 60. Google certification (abbr.)

- ### CLUES DOWN

 - 1. High moral behavior
 - 2. Expects
 - 3. Fanciful notions
 - 4. Spanish be
 - 5. All the people of approximately the same age
 - 6. Berated
 - 7. Trailblazing comedienne
 - 8. Fabric edge
 - 9. South Dakota
 - 12. Amazon ID number
 - 13. A wife (law)
 - 17. Printing speed measurement
 - 19. Wrong
 - 20. Exams
 - 21. Outlying suburb of London
 - 25. Replaces
- 29. Prints money
 - 31. Accumulate
 - 32. New Zealand conifer
 - 33. College teachers
 - 35. A way of grating
 - 38. Novice
 - 41. Having limits
 - 43. Shining with jewels or sequins
 - 44. Existing at birth but not hereditary
 - 45. __ Caesar, comedian
 - 46. A young male horse under the age of four
 - 47. Russian industrial city
 - 49. Wash off
 - 56. Radio frequency
 - 57. Delirium tremens



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SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

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

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

ANSWER:

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

POLICE LOG

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

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

1:27-2:00 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:36 a.m.: panic alarm (Glenallan Street), secure; 7:10 a.m.: assist citizen (Front Street), spoken to; 9:00 a.m.: animal complaint (Glenallan Street), services rendered; 10:03 a.m.: warrant of apprehension (Juniper Street), unable to locate; 10:05 a.m.: assist citizen (School Street); 10:11 a.m.: animal complaint (High Street), unable to locate; 10:25 a.m.: animal complaint (Maple Street), referred to ACO; 10:50 a.m.: suspicious/other (Harrisville Circle), services rendered; 11:06 a.m.: welfare check/general (Goodrich Drive), unable to locate; 12:27 p.m.: ambulance (Pearl Street), transported; 1:55 p.m.: suspicious person (Central Street), gone on arrival; 3:22 p.m.: suspicious/other (Pearl Drive), report taken; 4:14 p.m.: ambulance (Ready Drive), transported; 5:29 p.m.: fire alarm (Fourth Street), referred; 5:40 p.m.: ambulance (Oak Street), transported; 6:38 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 7:23 p.m.: threats (Hale Street), report taken; 7:46 p.m.: disabled mv (River Street), assisted; 8:05 p.m.: officer wanted (Alger Street), transported to hospital; 8:44 p.m.: animal complaint (Juniper Street), referred to ACO; 9:52 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 11:09 p.m.: assist other PD (Baldwinville State Road), services rendered; 11:56 p.m.: fire/unknown type (Spring Street), unfounded.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

1:54 a.m.: mv stop (Grove Street), verbal warning; 2:34 a.m.: mv stop (Front Street), verbal warning; 2:47-3:12 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:26 a.m.: harassment order service (Cross Street), services rendered; 8:15 a.m.: warrant of apprehension (Hyde Park Street), arrest; 8:17 a.m.: property found (Spring Street), services rendered; 8:20 a.m.: accident (Grove Street), report taken; 10:16 a.m.: summons service (Winter Place), unable to serve; 10:49 a.m.: mv stop (Lincoln Avenue), citation issued; 10:59 a.m.: animal complaint (Old Gardner Road), referred to ACO;

12:00 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 12:03 p.m.: mv stop (Myrtle Street), verbal warning; 12:10 p.m.: summons service (Walnut Street), unable to serve; 12:27 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 12:33 p.m.: open door/window (Tucker Street), secured bldg.; 12:57 p.m.: ambulance (Mill Glen Road), services rendered; 1:19 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), info taken; 2:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Spruce Street), report taken; 3:01 p.m.: disabled mv (Brown Street), assisted; 4:13 p.m.: summons service (Walnut Street), served; 4:23 p.m.: summons service (Winter Place), served; 4:33 p.m.: 911 non-emergency (Spring Street), spoken to; 4:48 p.m.: summons service (Spring Street), served; 4:53 p.m.: summons service (Mechanic Street), served; 5:03 p.m.: ATV complaint (Teel Road), spoken to; 6:17 p.m.: summons service (Prospect Street), unable to serve; 7:22 p.m.: suspicious/other (Baldwinville Road), secure; 7:48 p.m.: welfare check/general (Glenallan Street), transported; 8:16 p.m.: lift assist (Mill Glen Road), services rendered; 10:14 p.m.: suspicious mv (Baldwinville State Road), unable to locate; 11:17 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

1:06 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:12 a.m.: noise complaint (Maple Street), spoken to; 1:21-1:33 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:45 a.m.: ambulance (Island Road), transported; 1:46-2:05 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:11 a.m.: suspicious mv (Baldwinville State Road), spoken to; 2:29-2:41 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:27 a.m.: disabled mv (Spring Street), no service necessary; 5:59 a.m.: mv stop (School Street), written warning; 8:28 a.m.: suspicious mv (Central Street), spoken to; 8:49 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 9:28 a.m.: suspicious/other (West Street), spoken to; 10:08 a.m.: warrant of apprehension (Spring Street), arrest; 10:49 a.m.: FD call (Peggi Lane), services rendered; 11:47 a.m.: warrant of apprehension (Central Street), Joshua S. Robichaud, 28, 13 Cedar Terrace, Winchendon, arrest; 12:40 p.m.: info/general (Old Gardner Road), advised civil action; 1:12 p.m.: summons service (Chestnut Street), advised officer; 1:57 p.m.: accident (Central Street), report taken; 3:59 p.m.: intoxicated person (Mechanic Street), spoken to; 4:06 p.m.: animal complaint (Walnut Street), referred to ACO; 4:28 p.m.: fire alarm (Hilltop Terrace), services rendered; 4:35 p.m.: larceny (Lincoln Avenue Extension), report taken; 4:56 p.m.: harassment (Ash Street), report taken;

5:08 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 5:52 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 6:41 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 6:55 p.m.: erratic operation (Spring Street), unable to locate; 8:07 p.m.: animal complaint (Mill Glen Road), unable to locate; 8:41 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 9:29 p.m.: erratic operation (Baldwinville State Road), advised officer; 10:58 p.m.: disturbance (Beamman Court), spoken to; 11:14 p.m.: panic alarm (Eli Drive), accidental; 11:39 p.m.: building check, secure; 11:50 p.m.: ambulance (River Street), transported.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

12:20-1:37 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:38 p.m.: erratic operation (Spring Street), unable to locate; 3:58 p.m.: open door/window (Spring Street), spoken to; 5:04 p.m.: lift assist (Harrisville Circle), services rendered; 6:56 a.m.: traffic hazard (Beaman Court), gone on arrival; 8:24 a.m. ambulance (Central Street), transported; 8:35 p.m.: officer wanted (Goodrich Drive), report taken; 8:53 p.m.: sex offender registration (Teel Road), info taken; 9:11 a.m.: ambulance (Brown Street), transported; 9:23 a.m.: false ID (Brooks Road), spoken to; 9:50 p.m.: welfare check/child (Spring Street), unable to locate; 10:16 a.m.: property found (Baldwinville Road), returned to owner; 11:38 a.m.: assist citizen (West Street), spoken to; 1:50 p.m.: summons service (Winter Street), unable to serve; 1:56 p.m.: summons service (Chestnut Street), unable to serve; 3:20 p.m.: info/general (Central Street), services rendered; 3:33 p.m.: suicide threats (Ash Street), transported; 3:33 p.m.: welfare check/elderly (Royalston Road South), unfiled; 3:34 p.m.: info/general (Central Street), services rendered; 4:05 p.m.: burglar alarm (Front Street), services rendered; 4:09 p.m.: accident (2250 Main Street, Athol), referred; 4:42 p.m.: erratic operation (Sibley Road), spoken to; 4:54 p.m.: alarm/type unknown (Hyde Park Drive), false alarm; 6:16 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 7:12 p.m.: suspicious person (Elm Street), info taken; 9:26 p.m.: animal complaint (East Monomonac Road), services rendered; 10:29 p.m.: suspicious mv (Robbins Road), services rendered; 11:02 p.m.: 911 non-emergency (Royalston Road South), advised officer.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

12:17 a.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 12:23 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:38 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 12:46 a.m.: assist other PD (Glenallen Street), services rendered; 1:32-2:18 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:50 p.m.: noise

complaint (School Street), no cause for complaint; 6:06 a.m.: private property tow (Central Street), mv towed; 8:15 p.m.: accident (Central Street), report taken; 9:32 a.m.: ambulance (Ipswich Drive), services rendered; 10:33 p.m.; traffic hazard (Mill Street), referred; 1:18 p.m.: animal complaint (Mechanic Street), referred to ACO; 1:43 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pond Street), spoken to; 2:27 p.m.: ambulance (Hale Street), canceled; 5:50 p.m.: accident (Town Farm Road), report taken; 7:24 p.m.: erratic operation (Elmwood Road), services rendered; 7:46 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 8:05 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), written warning; 8:18 p.m.: officer wanted (River Street), report taken; 8:25 p.m.: info/general (Goodrich Drive), info taken; 9:44 p.m.: noise complaint (Beech Street), spoken to; 10:00 p.m.: mv stop (Franklin Street), verbal warning.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

1:11 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 1:19-2:34 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:34 a.m.: disturbance (Spring Street), spoken to; 5:14 a.m.: assist other PD (Spring Street), transport; 8:55 a.m.: animal complaint (Cummings Road), assisted; 10:08 a.m.: investigation (Brown Street), report taken; 10:39 a.m.: Civil Defense dive team needed (Athol Road, Royalston), canceled; 11:33 a.m.: animal complaint (Spring Street), returned to owner; 3:18 p.m.: suicide threats (High Street), report taken; 11:19 p.m.: transport (Heywood Hospital).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

6:38 a.m.: ambulance (Colonial Lane), transported; 8:14 a.m.: ambulance (Poland Avenue), services rendered; 9:31 a.m.: burglar alarm (Spring Street), secure; 11:40 a.m.: assist citizen (Mellen Road); 11:50 a.m.: info/general (River Street), spoken to; 12:52 p.m.: lockout/house (Spring Street), services rendered; 2:28 p.m.: transport (Grove Street); 4:01 p.m.: accident (Brooks Road), Caleb A. Landry, 21, 3 Shadow Lane, Peterborough, NH, negligent operation, transported to hospital; 5:12 p.m.: harassment (Beech Street), report taken; 7:06 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 7:18 p.m.: fire alarm (Juniper Street), services rendered; 7:53 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Glen Road), citation issued; 8:02 p.m.: mv stop (Glenallan Street), spoken to; 8:04 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 8:12 p.m.: suspicious mv (Front Street), unable to locate; 8:19 p.m.: mv stop (Elmwood Road), verbal warning; 8:32 p.m.: mv stop (Glenallan Street), citation issued.



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

I t ' s
October,
and that
means it's
time for
the Major
League
Baseball
playoffs and
the World
Series. Local
fans have
been
treated to
a Red Sox
record
breaking
season with
108 wins.
orcester has

been celebrating the Red Sox AAA affiliate's plans to move to the city. We are fortunate to live in an area rich with history of all kinds. Baseball is no exception.

Worcester had a professional baseball team from 1880 to 1882. Although they've been referred to as the Ruby Legs or the Brown Stockings, there are no contemporary sources from the time with the team using those names. It appears they were just called the Worcesters. Lee Richmond was finishing his studies at Brown University while pitching for the Worcesters. On June 12, 1880, he pitched the

first perfect game in baseball at the Worcester Agricultural Fairgrounds. In 1883, the National League replaced the Worcesters with the Philadelphia Quakers.

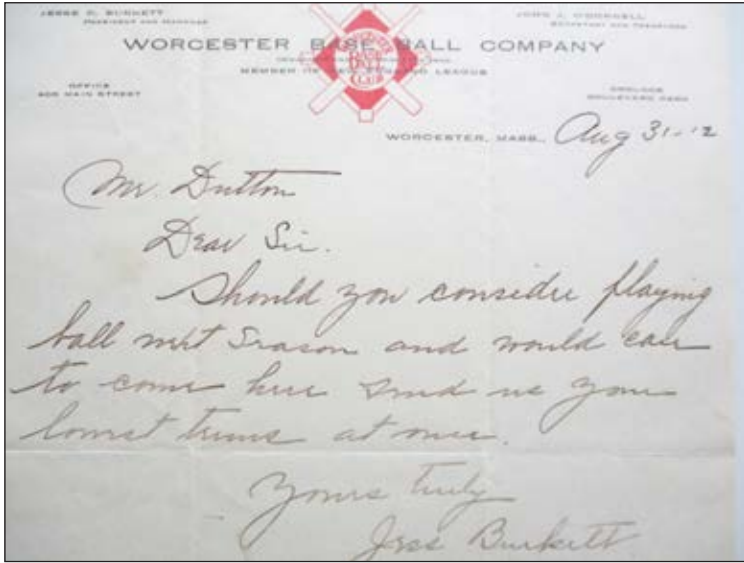
What Baseball Almanac considers to be the most important baseball poem of all times is said to have been written in Worcester by Ernest Thayer. "Casey at the Bat" first appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle on June 3, 1888. Around the same time, The Worcester Grays were also playing baseball in the Atlantic League.

The Worcester Busters played at Boulevard Park in Worcester. They were affiliated with the New England League from 1906 to 1915, according to baseball-reference.com. They became part of the Eastern League during 1916 and 1917. Two Hall of Famers managed the team. Jesse Burkett was in charge while they were in the New England League. "Sliding Billy Hamilton" coached during 1916. Hamilton is credited with having stolen 937 bases.

Another Hall of Famer also managed a Worcester team. The Boston Globe reported that Casey Stengel was the player manager for the Worcester Panthers, a farm team of the Boston Braves, in 1925.

Ted Williams is believed to have hit his first major league home run during an exhibition game at Holy Cross College in 1939. Jack Barry, who became a part of Connie Mack's famous \$100,000 infield in 1908, played at Holy Cross and returned to manage the team after his playing days.

With our rich history, it's no



Worcester once had a professional baseball team.

surprise that important pieces of baseball memorabilia turn up in local estates and homes regularly. Most people first think of baseball cards and some can be very valuable. The player on the card is the primary factor in the value. The other is the condition. A “common” (not a star) player’s card from the 1952 set may be worth a couple dollars in fair condition. In contrast, a Mickey Mantle rookie card that graded 9 out of 10 sold for \$2.8 million this year. We’ve had a collection of lesser condition 1950s and ‘60s baseball cards sell for over \$25,000 at one of our auctions. If you have unopened old packs, it may be best to leave them unopened. Collectors will pay a premium for them.

There are many other types of valuable antique and vintage baseball memorabilia including bats, uniforms, photographs, programs, posters

and ephemera. We'll go into extra innings in my next column, which will be about more local baseball history and different types of valuable baseball memorabilia.

We'll be running an estate sale in Auburn on Oct. 13 and 14. My "Evaluating your antiques" on Oct. 15 is now full. Our important live multi-estate antique and collectibles auction will be held on October 25. I'll be at the Winchendon History and Cultural Center's antique appraisal event on Oct. 28 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. See www.centralmassauctions.com for details on these and other upcoming events.

Contact us at: Wayne
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TOWN OF WINCHENDON PUBLIC AUCTION

**AUCTION HELD AT TOWN HALL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 29 AT 1:00 PM**

31 TOWN-OWNED PROPERTIES ON THE AUCTION BLOCK:

FEATURED PROPERTIES (\$5,000 DEPOSIT):

- 33 Morse Ave & Adj. Lot – Total 15,681± SF Lot
- 403 Maple St & Adj. Lot – Total 39,639± SF Lot
- East Monomonic Rd – (Parcel M11-4) – 17,424± SF Lot
- Hyde St – (Parcel 5B1-35) – 3.2± Acres
- 252 Mill Glen Rd – (Parcel 13-215) – 4.87± Acres

24 VARIOUS PARCELS OF LAND (\$500 DEPOSIT):

• Cedar Ln (Parcel M14-28)	• Murdock Ave (Parcel 5A2-146)
• Rear River St (Parcel 5C2-79)	• Spring St (Parcel 5C4-6)
• Flagg Rd (Parcel 10-25)	• New Boston Rd (Parcel 7-52)
• Rear Spring St (Parcel 9-96)	• Spruce St (Parcel 5B3-173)
• Hall St (Parcel 5D1-42)	• New Boston Rd (Parcel 7-53)
• Rear Summer Dr (Parcel 5B3-96)	• Summer Dr (Parcel 5B3-153)
• Hillside Dr (Parcel M9-36)	• New Boston Rd (Parcel 7-55)
• Spring Pl (Parcel 5C3-34)	• Teel Rd (Parcel 9-220)
• Hillside Dr (Parcel M12-11)	• New Boston Ave (Parcel 7-56)
• Spring Pl (Parcel 5C3-39)	• Woodlawn Ave (Parcel 2D3-104)
• Main St (Parcel 5D1-41)	• Rear N. Ashburnham Rd (Parcel 6-62)
• Spring St (Parcel 5C4-4)	• Woodlawn Ave (Parcel 2D3-107)

TERMS TO REGISTER & BID AT AUCTION:

REQUIRED DEPOSITS LISTED ABOVE in the form of a BANK CHECK made payable to

TOWN OF WINCHENDON. NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

7% Buyer's Premium. Closing must be completed within 30 days of auction.

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OBITUARIES

Roger E. Arsenault, 36

WINCHENDON — Roger E. Arsenault, age 36, of 17 Webster St., died at home Tuesday, October 2, 2018.



He was born in Gardner on March 25, 1982, son of Ruth (Parmenter) Arsenault of Winchendon and the late Andre Arsenault. Roger had lived in Winchendon for the last ten years after previously living in North Carolina for 15 years.

Roger had worked various jobs in the construction field. He enjoyed bike riding and writing poetry.

In addition to his mother, he leaves two children, Andrew Arsenault and Madison Arsenault; two brothers, Michael Arseanult and his wife Mary of Winchendon and Bryan Arsenault of Winchendon; a half sister Violet Skye of California; one nephew Michael Arsenault Jr.; one niece, Kristina Arsenault, as well as cousins, aunts and uncles.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018 in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St. The Rev. Thomas Peragallo officiated.

Donations may be made to gofundme.com/roger-arsenault-funeral-expenses

Patrick R. 'Pat' Daigle, 82

WINCHENDON — Patrick R. "Pat" Daigle, age 82, of Winchendon, died at his home on Wednesday, October, 3, 2018 surrounded by his family after a long and courageous battle with cancer.



Born in Gardner on March 17, 1936, he was the son of the late Emile and Lillian (Gallant) Daigle.

Pat was a graduate of Gardner High School with the Class of 1955. He went on to receive his Associates degree in accounting from Bentley University in 1957. He also attended Clark University. He was an accountant and employed by The Country Hen of Hubbardston for eight years. He was previously employed by Fontaine Bros., Heywood Wakefield Company, and was a bail commissioner for the state of Massachusetts. He was a National Guard veteran, where he served his country for four years.

He was a member of St. Vincent De Paul Church of Baldwinville where he served on the finance committee and the annual Bazaar Committee. He was also a member of AARP, and the Mill Glenn Campers Association, where he was a director and the treasurer for

many years.

Pat enjoyed card playing, golf, traveling, gardening, watching Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune, and spending time at his camp at Mill Glenn Pond, but his biggest enjoyment was spending time with his family.

Pat leaves his wife of 58 years, Patricia A (Kosakowski) Daigle; one son Daniel E. Daigle and his wife Donna of Boxford; one daughter Debra M. Miller and her husband Thomas of Otter River; one brother Emile Edgar Daigle and his wife Pauline of Hubbardston; four grandchildren Lillyanne T. Daigle, Timothy S. Daigle, Nathan T. Miller and his wife Megan, and Kelsie A. Miller; several nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by twin son and daughter, Michael and Patricia Daigle who died at birth; two brothers John Cleo Daigle, and Norbert Alvin Daigle; and one sister Marie Stella Dion.

Funeral Services were held Tuesday, October 9 in St. Vincent De Paul Church, 18 Pleasant Street, Baldwinville. Public was asked to go directly to church. Burial followed in Notre Dame Cemetery, West Street, Gardner.

Calling hours were held Monday, October 8 in Boucher Funeral Home Inc., 110 Nichols Street, Gardner.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Vincent De Paul Church, 18 Pleasant Street, Baldwinville, MA, 01436.

Paul A. LaBarge, 80

TEMPLETON — Paul A. LaBarge, age 80, formerly of 12 Prospect Street, Baldwinville, died peacefully Saturday morning, October 6, 2018 in Wachusett Manor Nursing Home, Gardner.



He was born in Jaffrey on June 4, 1938, son of the late Maurice and Laura (Rivard) LaBarge and moved to Winchendon in 1939.

Paul owned Paul's Variety in the 1960s then LaBarge Landscaping until the early 1990s. In the late 1980s, Paul started his last business Stuff N Things until his retirement at the age of 75. Paul had been a police officer for several years in the mid 1970s for the town of Winchendon.

Paul loved his many years spent in his winter home in Florida. He enjoyed fishing from the Great Lakes to Florida to the East Coast. He also loved hunting in his younger years. Paul proudly served his country from 1955 to 1959 as a member of the United States Navy. He crossed the Equator many times while serving on the USS Essex and spoke proudly of his years of service. Paul was a life member of Winchendon Rod and Gun Club.

Stanley M. Pucko, 73

GARDNER — Stanley M. Pucko, age 73, of Gardner, formerly of Greenville, NH, died peacefully Sunday evening October 7, 2018 in Gardner Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, with his family at his side.



He was born in Peterborough, NH on January 6, 1945, of the late Stanley and Marjorie (Nutting) Pucko and was a graduate of Appleton Academy. Stan lived in Greenville, NH for most of his life and had lived in the Gardner area for the last eight years.

Stan proudly served his country as a member of the United States Air Force during

the Vietnam War. He had worked as an electrician for various companies. He enjoyed cutting wood and especially enjoyed spending time with this family.

He leaves two daughters, Maureen A. Covell and her husband Jim and Christine M. Pillsbury, both of New Ipswich, NH; three grandchildren, Julia Covell, Adam Pillsbury and Brianna Pillsbury and three sisters, Sandra Desrosiers, Judy Brownell and Barbara King.

Military funeral services will be held Monday, October 15, 2018 at 1 P.M. in Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, 111 Glenallan Street, Winchendon.

Memorial donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association, Waverly Oaks Road, Waltham, MA 02452.

Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon is directing arrangements.

Brigadier General Robert Thomas Cutting MD



AUGUSTA, GA — General Cutting died peacefully at home surrounded by his family Monday, October 1, 2018. He was born on Oct. 28, 1929 in Winchendon. He received his education from the College of the Holy Cross in 1951; Boston University School of Medicine in 1955; and Harvard School of Public Health in 1959.

After a distinguished 27-year Army career, he retired as Commanding General, Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Fort Gordon, GA. He enjoyed a second career as senior physician,

Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC.

He is survived by his wife, Frances Clark Cutting, seven children, six stepchildren, 34 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church, 4921 Columbia Road, Grovetown, GA 30813 on Friday, October 5, 2018, at 1 pm. General Cutting will be interred at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery.

If desired, memorial gifts may be made to the Georgia-Carolina Council, Boy Scouts of America, 4132 Madeline Dr., Augusta, GA 30909 or Forces United (Formerly Augusta Warrior Project) 701 Greene St. #104, Augusta, GA 30901.

Thomas Poteet & Son Funeral Directors, 214 Davis Road, Augusta, GA 30907 (706) 364-8484.

Frederick J. 'Bill' St. Pierre, 87

BALDWINVILLE — Frederick J. "Bill" St. Pierre, age 87, of Baldwinville, formerly of Gardner and Winchendon, died peacefully on Friday, September 14, 2018 at the Alliance Health Center in Baldwinville.



Born in Winchendon on April 3, 1911, he was the son of the late Wilfred and Regina (Laplante) St. Pierre.

Bill was a graduate of Murdock High School. He was employed by UC Press of Leominster as a foreman for more than 25 years. He was also an air traffic controller at Manchester Municipal Airport, upon his return from the Korean War.

Bill was a United States Korean War Air Force veteran and received the Korean Service medal, United Nations

Service medal, National Defense Service medal and the Good Conduct medal.

He leaves his wife of 65 years, Dolores E. (Morrisseau) St. Pierre of Baldwinville; two sisters, Rena Pelchat of Holiday, FL and Estelle Guertin of Gardner; four nephews, William Pelchat of Dover, NH, Rene Pelchat of Gardner, Larry Pelchat of Winchendon, and Tony Pelchat of New Port Richey, FL. He was predeceased by his brother, Leon St. Pierre.

Funeral services and burial with full military honors were held on Thursday, October 4, 2018 at the Massachusetts State Veterans Cemetery, 111 Glenallan St., Winchendon.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Boucher Funeral Home, Inc., 110 Nichols St., Gardner handled the arrangements.

Lorraine M. (LaFortune) Lemire, 90

WINCHENDON — Lorraine M. (LaFortune) Lemire, age 90, of Winchendon, died Saturday, October 6, 2018 at her residence, with her family at her side.



She was born in Winchendon on November 17, 1927, daughter of the late Napoleon and Margaret L. (Collins) LaFortune and was a 1946 graduate of Murdock High School.

A lifelong resident of Winchendon, Lorraine worked as a secretary for 33 years for the Winchendon

Police Department. She was a member of Winchendon Historical Society and Winchendon Golden Age Club. Lorraine was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox.

Her husband of 36 years, Richard V. Lemire, died in 1991. She leaves many close friends and family.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, October 13, 2018 at 11 A.M. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon. A calling hour will precede the funeral Saturday from 10 to 11 A.M.

Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to Winchendon Historical Society, 151 Front Street, Winchendon, MA 01475.

Evelyn M. (May) Spaulding, 101

WINCHENDON — Evelyn M. (May) Spaulding, age 101, died peacefully Friday afternoon, October 5, 2018 in Alliance Health at Baldwinville.



She was born in Athol on April 11, 1917, daughter of the late Ervin C. and Anna L. (Dennison) May and lived for many years in Fitzwilliam.

Evelyn worked for John Hancock Insurance Company

during World War II. She was a member of the former Congregational Church of Winchendon. She had been a member of Fitzwilliam Community Church, where she was a former Sunday School teacher. She had been a member of the Nutty Knitters, a group of ladies, who formed this group during World War II and continued for many years. In later years, she was a Head Start bus driver.

Evelyn was a former member of Ladies Auxiliary #732.

Her husband of 47 years, Maurice W. Spaulding, died in 1983. She leaves two children, George E. Spaulding of Keene, NH and Nancy J. Gordon and her husband Richard of Winchendon; two grandchildren, Karla Cloutier and David Gordon; six great grandchildren, three great-great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by a granddaughter Laura Bastarache, two brothers, Rev Warren H. May and Raymond E. May, and two sisters, Marion A. May and Leslie A. May.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2018 in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon.

Burial was in Riverside Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to Fitzwilliam Community Church, 85 NH Rt. 199W, Fitzwilliam, NH 03447.

SEND OBITUARIES at no charge to Editor Ruth DeAmicis, by faxing (978) 297-2177, or by e-mailing the editor at ruth@stonebridgepress.news.

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



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SPORTS

Win something first...



TALKING SPORTS

JERRY CARTON

They were annoying, the Astros, Brewers, Dodgers and Red Sox. They were annoying because they all had on-field and champagne-doused clubhouse celebrations after they won what amounts to the quarter-finals. Maybe it's an age thing. Celebrate when you win your LCS and your league's pennant? Definitely. Winning a pennant's an accomplishment. The Astros have only won two

since they were born as the Colt 45s in 1962. The Brewers came into being as the Seattle Pilots in 1969 (immortalized of course in Jim Bouton's 'Ball Four') and since then have won a single pennant, in 1982. The Red Sox have won 11, I think, in 120 years which pales to the 40 won by the Yankees but it's better than one or two and is rare enough an accomplishment to deserve celebrating. But treating a division series win like it's a pennant or a World Series? Please. Stop.

You can't get drama-filled series all the time and none of these were especially riveting. The ninth inning of the last Sox-Yanks game was dramatic but that was about it. That's how baseball goes sometimes.

As for the LCS, yes, Boston won 108 games but having the woeful 115-loss O's plus the Jays in their division might have inflated the number. Defending champion Houston won 103. Boston has Chris Sale and then we'll see. Houston has Verlander, Cole, Morton, Keuchel. Which rotation would you rather have? Milwaukee has a great bullpen and the NL's likely MVP. Los Angeles has Kershaw, Machado, Puig, Turner, Bellinger, etc. I believe we're headed for a rematch of last year's World Series. No champion has repeated since the 98-00 Yankees. The Astros, I suspect, are about to. It would be a great story if the Brewers won since the city was abandoned by the Braves in 1966

not solely because attendance was so bad but because Atlanta offered an opportunity to make inroads in the booming Southeast. On the other hand, the Brewers have been owned by Bud Selig, so....

Boston's the best baseball town of the bunch by a couple bazillion miles but I'm sure MLB would be delighted with an LA win. Glamour and all that. As for the Sox-Yanks being the best rivalry in baseball? It's simply not the "best" rivalry, not historically at least, when one team is 40/27 pennants/Series and the other is 11/6 no matter how much Sox fans insist it is. Baseball's "best" rivalry is still Dodgers/Giants, though I imagine Cubs/Cardinals fans would beg to

differ.

But Dodgers/Giants began in the same city. They moved to California together. They've had multiple playoff series for the NL pennant long before there were wild cards.

The most famous home run in history decided a pennant between these ancient rivals. Brooklyn? "Is Brooklyn still in the league?", Giants player-manager and Hall of Famer Bill Terry once mocked. Jackie Robinson retired rather than accept a trade to the-then NY Giants. Ah, those were the days. And you can bet no one soaked one another champagne until they, you know, won something. See you next week.

Fall activities in full gear

Congratulations to Jason Ingman who placed first in the middle school cross country race at the Wachusett Invitational Cross Country Meet on Oct. 6th.

The National Honor Society will be holding a bake sale at the Haunted High School (Oct. 25). Proceeds from that sale will be donated to Wreaths Across America. Additionally, NHS will be holding a coat drive in conjunction with the Lions Club. More information next week regarding where/when donations may be made. (All coats received from the currently ongoing Murdock clothing/book drive will also be donated to the NHS for their coat drive).

NHS officers are: Phebe Shippey (president), Kaileen Dibble (vice president), Maria Polcari (secretary), Alyssa Boucher (treasurer). Club Advisor: Sherri Fairbanks

Key Club: This is the student branch affiliated with the Kiwanis. Members are currently participating in the student backpack program which provides those students in need with healthy



VIEWS FROM THE TOWERS

SUE POLCARI

snacks over the weekends. Members are also providing babysitting services for S.E.P.A.C. which is a special needs parent group, and assisting Murdock custodial staff by cleaning the stairwells and the

library.

Key Club officers are: Lindsey Smith (president), Emily Smith (VP), Timothy Jinn (secretary), Owen Benedict (treasurer). Club Advisor: Peter Birney

Student Council: Held a very successful blood drive Oct. 4th, registering 32 donors (14 first time donors) and collecting 28 pints of blood. Next blood drive will be Dec. 20.

Student Council Officers: Chloe Lawrence, Nicole Lemire, Lindsey Smith, Phebe Shippey. Club Advisor: Stephanie Rondeau

Kudos to the boys' and girls' soccer teams. Each team recently played their soccer games short-handed (the girls played with nine players against Sizer School on Monday, the boys played with 10 players against North Brookfield on Tuesday) and still came away with a tie against their opponents!

Upcoming Events:

TONIGHT (Friday, October 12): Homecoming Football Game at 7:00 (Sideline class booths open at 6:00); Boys Varsity Soccer at 3:30

Monday, October 15: Boys/Girls Middle School Soccer at 3:30/4:45

Tuesday, October 16: Powder Puff Football Game (Jr Girls vs Sr Girls, Flag Football) at 6:30

Wednesday, October 17: Varsity Field Hockey at 4:00 Coaches vs. Cancer; Girls/Boys Varsity Soccer at 5:00/7:00 Coaches vs. Cancer

Thursday, October 18: Cross Country at 3:30 at Ingleside off Maple Street; Boys/Girls Middle School Soccer at 3:30/4:45; Middle School Football at 6:00

Friday, October 19: Middle School Cross Country at 3:30 @ Ingleside

Saturday, October 20: Varsity Football @ Lunenburg 10:00; Bottle/Can Drive hosted by Class of 2021

Thursday, October 25: HAUNTED HIGH SCHOOL 6:00-8:00

ONGOING: Murdock Sports Boosters Clothing and Book Drive, now through Oct. 26. Items may be dropped off at the main gate of Alumni Field at any home athletic event, or may be dropped off at door D9 at the high school. For home pick up of items, please call or text Sue



Courtesy photo

Jason Ingman placed first in the Middle School cross country invitational.

at 978-257-5671.

Go Blue Devils!!

Lady Devils lose tough one to Ayer

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The Murdock Lady Devils suffered an 11-0 loss against tough Ayer last week but Coach Jason Marshall saw some bright spots on a day when his depleted squad had to contend with both a powerful opponent and a messy field.

"We kept them off the scoreboard for the first nine minutes. Cassidy (Stadtfeldt) made several saves. Izzy did well directing the defense and Gabby (Cote) played strong in center," said Marshall.

But MHS couldn't generate any offense and when the ball consistently remained in their zone, the Ayer goals were inevitable. Four scores in a nine minute span were followed by a couple of tallies coming out of the half-time break. Marshall was encouraged though that his team didn't quit.

"Their spirit stayed strong and they continued to battle, trying to stick to the game plan," noted Marshall.

"Kaileen and Maria worked well try-

ing to muster an attack. They were working give-and-go passes that got us moving in the right direction," but the Lady Devils weren't able to get on the scoreboard.

Maria Polcari and Stadtfeldt switched positions late in the contest.

The boys did manage a score in an 8-1 defeat the same day against the same opponent on a goal from MacLean Brimhall.

"The field was soft and squishy," said Coach Alex Burke.

"We had 11 players and they performed the best they could based on the conditions. They didn't give up on each other and played 'til the last whistle," he remarked.

Adam Digman was in goal the first 20 minutes and Burke said he did a good job providing "punts to midfield for our team for our team to possess."

Julio Rodriguez was the netminder the rest of the way and "positioned himself so the other team had to work hard" to get near the goal.

Benefit for Youth Venture invites all players

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The United Way Youth Venture of North Central Massachusetts program has been a fixture at Murdock High School for a while, and on Oct. 26, the Blue Hands mental illness awareness project, launched two years ago by the now-graduated but still active Hannah Turner, will be holding a benefit soccer game to increase the aforementioned awareness and urge activism.

"I'm ecstatic" the event is finally taking place, enthused Turner.

"Just show up and play," urged Turner about the 6 p.m. game. It will cost a mere \$5 to participate and there will be bracelets, t-shirts and baked goods available.

Come January, the middle school will become another YV partner. For starters, a contingent of middle schoolers will be joining their high school counterparts at next Friday's Fall Kickoff at Mount Wachusett Community College.

Cheer coach Lisa Paulitzky and Student Council adviser Amanda Rodgers will be the faculty advisers. Middle school activities began with a 'Dream IT, Do It' assembly the first week of school in August.

"We're working out the details of our

operating agreement with Jess (middle school principal Vezina) but we're excited about Murdock Middle joining," said Lauren Mountain.

Rodgers said she became involved with Youth Venture because "Lisa and I brought a group of our leaders from both Student Council and cheering to a leadership day at MIAA. From there, the girls decided they wanted to do a peer mentoring outreach. In order to do this, we figured Youth Venture would be the best way to do so because we could put together an action plan and get it up and running."

"We plan to have Youth Venture as an elective once every six days. We'll continue with getting the peer mentoring up and going as well as hopefully launch some other ventures," noted Rodgers, adding, "I'm truly excited to help give students the opportunity to take the ideas they have and put them into action to help the community and their school."

Middle School students attending are expected to include Emily Michaud, Abigail Guerra, Tiana Graessie, Amanda Divoll, Ethan Vanhillo, Angelina Dellasantia, Camille Hart, Madison Silva, Erin McCarthy, Emily Wightman, Madelyn Santos, Reagan Kelly and Surianna Silavong.

Winchendon Courier would like to

SALUTE OUR LOCAL VETERANS



(from all wars & branches, including honoring deceased veterans), reservists, and active duty U.S. Military members in the November 9th edition.

Please send in a photo of your loved one with his or her name, rank, branch of military, and town from by email to Brenda@villagernewspapers.com,

or by mail to VETERANS DAY SALUTE,

Attn: Brenda Pontbriand,

Villager Newspapers, P. O. Box 363, Woodstock, CT 06281

Deadline for photos is November 6

There is no cost to submit a photo.

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A fine fall day in the Winch

The Winchendon Business Association, the Planning & Development office, local service organizations such as the Lions and Kiwanis and a bevy of volunteers have again provided the town with a day of downtown rest and recreation. Vendors, crafters, a touch-a-truck area, and more brought a crowd to Central Street. Even the weather cooperated.

Greg Vine photos



The Winchendon Winds community orchestra entertained visitors to Winchendon's Fall Festival with a concert Saturday morning in front of the Unitarian Universalist Church on Central Street.



One young visitors watches as a member of the Winchendon Fire Dept. gets ready for a demonstration on fire safety.



The crowds were good for Saturday's annual Winchendon Fall Festival. Despite gray skies the rains stayed away helping to ensure a successful event.



(l-r) Winchendon Land Use/Planning Clerk Nicole Roberts, Community and Economic Development Steering Committee member Art Amenta, and Winchendon Director of Planning and Development Tracy Murphy make the rounds of the Fall Festival in a golf cart to make sure things are going smoothly.



A young visitor stands atop an Army tank, just one of the "touch a truck" attractions at Winchendon's Fall Festival.



This young boy enjoys his turn at the wheel in one of the vehicles displayed as a part of Saturday's "touch a truck" feature at the Fall Festival.



A train gave youngsters (and their parents) a chance to trek the length of the Fall Festival without tuckering out their little legs.



A nearly empty popper attests to the success this popcorn vendor had at the Fall Festival.

Reading the morning newspaper is the realist's morning prayer.



George Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel

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FIRE DEPT

continued from page **A1**

would cost to bring us up to code. It would give us a true number so we're not just going on my guesstimate. We'll be making an estimate off an engineered cost analysis."

One of the vehicles taken out of service during winter months is the department's water tanker. The move is made to prevent potential damage from water in the tank freezing up in cold temperatures.

"Our tanker truck comes out of service," said Smith. "We have to drain

the pumps. We also drain the pump on our other forestry unit. Our dive truck is kept in an un-heated garage because we don't have any heated space."

The dive truck is housed at the old police station on Pleasant Street.

"We pretty much have stuff scattered all over the place," he continued. "The command vehicle during the day is left outside here, so if it's icy or it's snowing or iced over, we can solve the problem by constantly running it. But it's just not cost effective to have a vehicle running during a whole shift. And it's not good environmentally."

Smith also said the station isn't equipped with the proper ventilation

to clear out exhaust fumes generated by trucks that may be running while firefighters are in their quarters.

The Central Street station was built in 1978, when the population of Winchendon was around 7,000; it now stands at close to 11,000. It is equipped with four truck bays, but as the department has grown to meet the demands of a growing town it has been forced to keep a number of vehicles outside, regardless of weather conditions.

In addition, Smith said the station has no room solely dedicated to firefighter training, nor for meetings with developers coming in to discuss plans for new buildings or changes to exist-

ing buildings.

Smith said he believes the parcel currently occupied by the fire station is big enough to accommodate an expansion of the structure.

"I think we could probably add four more bays to the back of this building," he said. "I don't think a move to another location would be necessary."

"Besides," he adds, "we're in a really good location. We can get to anywhere in town without much delay."

The fall town meeting is scheduled for Monday, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. at the Murdock High School auditorium.

BOND

continued from page **A1**

retirement of the bond to "sound financial policy, accurate and complete budgeting and the financial discipline to spend no more than what was approved."

Hickey also said he doesn't foresee a repeat of the kind of financial difficulty in which the town found itself four years.

"The current Board

of Selectmen, Finance Committee, School Committee, and administration are committed to sound long-range financial planning to meet the long- and short-term needs of the community."

The retirement of the debt also means the town will have more cash on hand for other purposes. When asked by the Courier if there will now be more funds available to pay for pressing capital needs, hire more workers — particularly for the personnel-strapped

Department of Public Works — or reduce the town's property tax rate, Hickey responded: "There will be just over \$400,000 that has been appropriated for deficit repayment that can now be used for any of the examples you've cited."

At Saturday's "bond burning," Audrey LaBrie, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, had plenty of praise to go around. She thanked Hickey, the town hall staff, the town's department heads, and the school department for all keeping a

close eye on finances and for keeping spending to a minimum. Especially, however, she thanked the taxpayers and residents of Winchendon for their forbearance and understanding in the face of belt-tightening measures taken to reduce the municipal financial burden. She cited increases in some water and sewer rates, a hike in fees for use of the transfer station, and the extinguishing of half the town's street lights as some of the steps taken to improve Winchendon's fiscal

RACE

continued from page **A1**

math. The Commonwealth has the highest graduation rate and lowest dropout rate ever."

The governor said he signed a first-in-the-nation law which limits new prescriptions to seven days to fight the opioid crisis "and invests more resources in prevention, education and recovery." Baker said the state has invested more than \$200 million "across state government to combat substance misuse, a 70-percent increase since 2015. He said he's proposed new legislation to stiffen penalties "for drug dealers whose actions lead to fatalities."

Baker said his administration has increased state aid to cities and towns every year since he took office in 2015.

He boasted the August sales tax weekend has become permanent under his leadership.

Opposing Baker as the Democratic nominee is Jay Gonzalez who served as Secretary of Administration and Finance between 2009 and 2013 under then Governor Deval Patrick and served as well as chair of the state's Health Connector. He defeated Bob Massie in the September primary.

Gonzalez is touting his experience "providing health insurance coverage for low-income residents, helping cities and towns build new schools and fire stations and managing the state budget...during the Great Recession."

He said he oversaw the implementation of Massachusetts' health care reform and chaired the state's Board of Early Education and Care.

"The income gap here in Massachusetts is one of the worst in the country and is growing. That's why I support raising the minimum wage and paid medical and family leave," he said.

He added, "women must have equal career opportunities and equal pay and workplaces free from discrimination and harassment."

"President Trump," he said, "has disparaged and discriminated against people of different ethnicities, backgrounds, religious beliefs, and gender. His unconstitutional Muslim travel bans and increased raids to detain and deport immigrants have been particularly harsh and fear provoking for immigrant communities across Massachusetts."

Gonzalez said he strongly supports early childhood education.

"These early investments in our children pay dividends on multiple levels and across generations. Working families deserve our best efforts to support their children getting the start they need toward academic and career success and to support their own workforce participation and economic prosperity."

Gonzalez backs reforming the state's 1993 school funding formula.

"We need," he said "to end the opioid epidemic, the most serious public health crisis of our time. No more tragic deaths from overdoses. No more lives ruined by addiction. No more families torn apart. We need people of all ages to be educated about the dangerously addictive nature of opioids and the existence of alternatives for managing pain."

MATH

continued from page **A1**

lights strung across a wall to help reduce stress as well.

"It's non-traditional," Landry acknowledged, but it is 2018 and she recognizes the need to reach kids differently.

"We have to find strategies that will work," she said.

For example, Landry distributed a 'social contract', with questions including 'how do you want to be treated by me?'; 'how do you want to be treated by each other?'; 'tell me five facts about you'; 'do you have

any questions for me? They can be about math or anything else about me?'. Definitely non-traditional. And math isn't excluded, of course. 'If you could make one Math goal for the year, what would it be?', the contract asks.

Beyond that, Landry issued a math interest survey, designed to gauge how her sixth graders feel about the subject with questions ranging from whether or not students like math at all to deeper queries regarding specific math skills and what they struggled with most in fifth grade. There's even a section about extracurricular

activities.

"I need to know as much as I can about each of them," noted Landry, who added she usually gets to school around 6 a.m.

"We really are in this together. They know I'm open with them. We're a team here," she emphasized.

Landry's mom Brenda Keney teaches at Memorial school and had this to say about her daughter, "Nicole is a loving, generous, empathetic person with an abundance of energy and enthusiasm for the people who are near and dear to her heart. She gives her all unconditionally daily

to each and every student who comes through her door. She truly loves and treats each child like they were her own."

"As an educator, she listens to what her students' needs are. There was a time in high school when she shed tears trying to grasp math so she understands where her students are coming from when they get frustrated. She tries to make learning 'fun' through the use of games, and believes that learning should not have to come with tears and if they do flow, then they should be tears of joy from feeling accomplished," said Keney.



Assignments keep these seventh graders busy.

LEGALS

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

18SM005589

ORDER OF NOTICE

To:

Jody W. Harmon Sr.; Rebecca G. Harmon, and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 et seq.: JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Winchendon, numbered 46 Royalston Road North, given by Jody W. Harmon Sr., and Rebecca G. Harmon to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Freemont Investment & Loan, dated October 12, 2006, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 39982, Page 184, as affected by a modification agreement, dated December 29, 2015, and recorded with said Registry in Book 54815, Page 64, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before November 12, 2018 or you will be forever barred from claiming that you are entitled to the benefits of said Act. Witness, JUDITH C. CUTLER Chief

Justice of said Court on September 25, 2018.

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson Recorder 201711-0142-PRP October 12, 2018

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Carol Ann Gormley to CitiFinancial Mortgage Company, Inc., dated June 30, 2004, and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 34081, Page 150, as affected by an assignment from CitiMortgage, Inc., Successor by merger to CitiFinancial Mortgage Company, Inc., to Ventures Trust 2013-I-H-R by MCM Capital Partners, LLC, its Trustee, dated February 12, 2015, and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53357, Page 42; assignment from Ventures Trust 2013-I-H-R by MCM Capital Partners, LLC, its Trustee to OHA Newbury Ventures, L.P., dated December 8, 2015, and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 55328, Page 34; assignment from OHA Newbury Ventures, L.P., to Trifera, LLC, dated December 8, 2015, and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 55328, Page 36; and assignment from Trifera, LLC to Laelia, LLC dated February 22, 2018, and recorded with the Worcester County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 58563, Page 206, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by assignment, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 AM o'clock on October 19, 2018 at 151 Pleasant Street , Winchendon,

Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

To wit:

All that parcel of land in Winchendon Worcester County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as more fully described in Deed Book 18832, Page 3, ID#, BEING known and designated as metes and bounds property. As follows:

The land in Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts with the buildings thereon, situated on the easterly side of Pleasant Street, bounded and described as follows, viz:-

Commencing on the easterly line of Pleasant Street at a corner of land formerly of F.O. Whitney, which point is marked by a hole drilled in the northerly side of a large stone forming a part of the bank wall on said Whitney land, the drill hole being charged with lead; thence

Northerly on line of said Pleasant Street sixty-six (66) feet to a stone monument imbedded in the ground with a drill hole charged with lead in the top, which monument is situated seventy and 2/10 (70.2) feet southerly from the southerly line of Grove Street; thence

Easterly on a line parallel with northerly line of said Whitney land and sixty-six (66) feet distant therefrom, being on line of land formerly of Levi P. Ball, one hundred sixteen and 2/10 (116.2) feet to an iron pipe driven in the bed of the brook at land formerly of Susan Wood and seventy (70) feet southerly from the southerly line of Grove Street; thence

Southerly on line of said Wood land and land now or formerly occupied by John G. Folsom (now or formerly the U.S. Post Office) sixty-six (66) feet to an iron pipe driven in the bed of the brook, being also a corner of said F.O. Whitney land; thence

Westerly on line of said Whitney land

one hundred sixteen and 8/10 (116.8) feet to the place of beginning.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded at the above-named Registry of Deeds in Book 18832, Page 3.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

Terms of sale: A deposit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at the offices of WCG Law Group, PLLC, 21 High Street, Suite 208B, North Andover, MA 01845 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Laelia, LLC

Present Holder of said mortgage

By its attorneys, WCG Law Group, PLLC 21 High Street, Suite 208B North Andover, MA 01845 Gormley, Carol Ann; 1801-LAND-1004; September 28, 2018, October 5, 2018, October 12, 2018 September 28, 2018 October 5, 2018 October 12, 2018

Tear soaked tap shoes



MASCHI
MASH UPS

KIMBERLY
MASCHI

I signed my son Jase up for tap lessons at a local dance studio. Jase is ten years old, loves to wear hats, and is non-verbal with autism. He loves to tap. He taps everything in sight. Naturally, I thought it would be a good idea to put him into tap class. Makes sense, right?

I knew he liked it right away. He would come home and practice his shuffle-step, and his squish the bug routine without me even having to ask. He comes close to saying “shuffle-step” when he does the move, which is amazing. He has such a hard time trying to communicate that utilizing motion with sound seems to help him through his apraxia. It is very cool to see him enjoy something so much.

If you are a parent of someone with autism, then you know the happiness and joy you feel when

you find something that makes your child happy and willing to learn more about. But, we also know how everything can change in an instant.

Jase does tumble right after tap. It is great for his body to get all the pressure from the gym mats. He loves to roll around and do somersaults, so I was shocked when he stood up and bolted from the classroom. He ran straight into a ballet class and opened a random door I have never even noticed before. He tore the door open and there was a staircase. Jase feels an immense need to know everything about a building he walks into. He must explore every long hallway, every room, every closet, and stairs are his favorite. In this circumstance, it is not an appropriate behavior. This was a dance studio, not his own home, or home of a family member. I could not allow him to go up the stairs. I blocked his way and stated it was time to go back to class. He fell to the ground, screamed, and bit down on his hand.

Self-harm is one of the ways my son communicates. He can't tell you

how mad he is, and deep down he doesn't want to hurt anyone else, so he hurts himself. I tried to block the biting, and ignore the behavior, and slowly direct him back to class. But it was too late, I lost him. He found a staircase and now we were an immense disruption to everyone around us. In a cramped dance studio, with little ballerinas around, already feeling so out of place everywhere we go, it's hard to gather up your thoughts and act accordingly. Safety is first. I blocked his way from getting to anyone else so of course, he attacked me. He got his arms around my waist and squeezed. I couldn't breathe, but he did release me. I then lowered myself in an attempt to gain his attention back and show him that I am here for him. He got his arms around my neck and things became dangerous. I froze. I freeze completely any time he does something like this. I won't pry him off of me, I won't fight against him. He does eventually let me go. He doesn't mean to hurt me or anyone else, but he can't communicate so he

lashes out.

I decided that dance was over for him, and it was time for him to be removed from the situation. I picked him up in the pouring rain and carried him out to my car. His aide stayed with him while I went back in since my daughter Charlotte was still in class. I made sure to not lock eyes with any other dance moms. I don't know what they were thinking, I didn't care.

That's a lie. I did care.

I was hoping that they would not feel sorry for us. That they would just know that this kind of thing happens and I got it under control. I gathered up all our belongings, sat down in a chair, and began crying hysterically.

Yup. Control. All under control.

I couldn't help it. It just all came pouring out. It was exhausting and it makes me think that this one moment is what every day will be like. As a parent of autism, when a day like this happens it can send me into a whirlwind of despair. It makes me feel like I've



Kim Maschi photo

Shoes can become symbolic.

done everything wrong. I tried desperately to keep my sobbing quiet. I knew if anyone even spoke to me, I, myself, would have an absolute and complete meltdown.

I collected myself just in time to get my daughter dressed and to the car to go home. My son's aide asked me what we were going to do. I said we will be right back at dance class next week.

We do not give up. He had a bad day, and every day we return he will try to go to that door and explore those stairs, until eventually he will not feel the need as strongly. We don't stop a good thing just because we have a hard time with it.

I know he likes his dance classes, I know he has a good time, and I know he wants to keep going. What got in his way was not his fault.

And I realized that I have changed in one big way. I saw through my frustration, fear, and tears that I needed help. I called my son's ABA services coordinator and I asked her for help. I told her what happened. I asked what I did wrong, what I can differently next time, and then I asked her to just come. I cannot do this alone. When I try, it is not good for me or for Jase.

I need help with my son, and that's okay.



TAKE
THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

The daily English ritual of Tea Time may be more than a social break — in fact evidence suggests it may be just what the doctor ordered! The simple habit of sipping a cup of hot, steaming tea is being reexamined and is hailed as a cure all for many common ailments in addition to its role as a warm, comforting refreshment. The following information highlights the many ways tasty tea truly is terrific!

Homegrown Herbal Tea

Making tea from freshly harvested herbs not only retains the integrity of the brew, but offers the satisfaction of “home grown” goodness. Whether you're picking plants from a backyard plot or plucking leaves from a windowsill pot, fresh herbs are an easy and affordable way to create your own signature teas. Some favorite herb tea choices include peppermint, lemon balm, chamomile, and lavender.

If you're using fresh herbs, be sure to rub leaves to “bruise” them before brewing to release the flavors. For each cup of tea use about two heaping teaspoons of fresh leaves or flowers. Add six ounces of boiling water for each serving. Allow to steep for at least five minutes, strain and serve. Or, if you are purchasing dried herbs, simply use one tablespoon of dried herbs per cup of tea. Strain and enjoy.

Sip Up!: Tea is Good for What Ails You

It's no secret sipping tea offers an array of terrific health benefits. From easing arthritis pain, tea has been shown

to possess impressive healing properties.

*A study funded by the Arthritis Foundation suggests drinking green tea may help ease rheumatoid arthritis. The tea's benefits are attributed to a class of compounds called polyphenols, which are abundant in tea made with fresh or green leaves.

* Here's good news for allergy sufferers. A recent study reveals a compound in green tea may help inhibit aspects of the immune system response that produces symptoms of common allergens such as grass, pet dander, grass or mold!

*Did you know a sore throat can be relieved by using a strong, hot tea as a gargle? Simply brew the tea of choice, allow it to cool, and gargle once or twice a day during the cold and flu season. As a bonus, the natural, herbal gargle tastes great.

* Medical studies reveal green and black teas take center stage when it comes to boosting the immune system. Test-tube studies also suggest that the flavonoids in tea may have more antioxidant activity than certain better-known antioxidants like vitamins C and E.

*According to researchers at the University of Geneva in Switzerland, green tea is packed with caffeine and catechin polyphenols, substances proven to speed up the body's calorie-burning ability. A study they performed showed drinking three cups of the ancient Japanese cure per day can rev up your metabolism as much as an average man walking 17 minutes!

*Studies reveal green and black tea contain fluoride and polyphenols that prevent plaque from sticking to your teeth? Studies show tea decreases the activity of the oral enzyme amylase, which is responsible for breaking down

starch into sugar in the mouth. In addition, the tea plant naturally contains fluoride in its leaves which makes tooth enamel stronger and more resistant to acids. Tea also inhibits bacteria growth in the mouth.

*Sipping both black and green teas has been associated with a lower risk of heart disease. It's been speculated that the antioxidant activity of chemicals in tea called flavonoids are at least partly responsible. Black and green teas each contain different flavonoids that appear to be beneficial to health.

Topical Tea Treatments

Drinking tea isn't the only way to reap the benefits of the healing herbs. Here are some ways natural teas can take the place of commercial health and beauty aids.

Stress Reliever

Make up this green tea and oatmeal bath recipe from a New York City Day Spa, and you'll be soaking in the lap of luxury for mere pennies! The popular treatment is a great stress buster for both men and women as the green tea tones your skin and helps you unwind after a stressful day, while the oatmeal serves as a soother for sensitive skin.

To make: Combine one half cup of loose green tea leaves (available at health stores) and one half cup rolled or instant oatmeal. Place the mixture in a muslin or cheesecloth bag to make a sachet. Then hang the bag from your bathtub spout with string or ribbon and let the warm water rush over it while filling the tub. Once steeped, remove the bag and enjoy a relaxing soak for 15 minutes or so.

Treat Tired Eyes

If late nights and little sleep are making your eyes puffy, this quick and easy

treatment will erase the telltale signs as well as a costly cream. Brew loose tea (try a calming herb, such as chamomile) and chill in the freezer until very cold but not frozen. Dip a cotton pad in the tea to saturate, wring out, and place on puffy areas. Lay back and keep pads on for at least 10 minutes.

Tea Note: Here is a rundown of how the caffeine in an average cup of tea compares to coffee: Espresso (2 oz) 60-90 mg; Drip coffee 60-180 mg; Black tea 25-110 mg; Oolong tea 12-55 mg; Decaf coffee 22-45 mg; Green tea 8-16 mg; Decaf tea 4-6 mg.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

Beals Memorial Library

Beals Memorial Library
50 Pleasant Street
(978) 297-0300
EXPLODED VIEW
On Sunday, Oct. 21 at 4: pm, the Beals Memorial Library will present “DeadLines,” a live performance of art and poetry by Exploded View.

Exploded View is a dynamic group of women artists working across art forms, including spoken word, visual installation and collaborative performance. Intimate and daring, piercing contemporary and universal themes, the work is site specific and always evolving. Members are Trish Crapo, Edite Cunha, Candace Curran, Nina Rossi and Samantha Wood.

Their latest performance work crosses lines in DeadLines, asking, how well do you really know the people you love? And, what will make it into your obit? After the performance, the group offers a talk-back – an opportunity for the audience to engage in discussion ranging from the subject matter of the art to the manner in which the work was made.

POETS TO COMPETE FOR THE BEALS PRIZE

The Beals Memorial Library in Winchendon will host a reading by the top ten finalists in the Beals Prize for Poetry on Sunday, Oct. 21 at 3:00pm. Award winning, Western Mass poets Candace Curran, Trish Crapo, and Samantha Wood will judge the competition. The top three poets will earn prize money



Photo courtesy Sheila Damkoehler.

The Beals Memorial Library will host Exploded View, a live performance of art and poetry on Sunday, October 21 at 4:00 pm. From left to right, Samantha Wood, Trish Crapo, Samantha Wood, Edite Cunha E

of \$100.00 for first, \$50.00 for second and \$25.00 for third. Winners will be announced immediately after the readings.

Following the reading, the poetry and performance ensemble, Exploded View, will perform their latest work, “Deadlines.”

DOC & TALK

The Beals Memorial Library will be hosting a monthly “Doc & Talk” documentary film and discussion series beginning on Thursday, Oct. 11 at 6:30 pm. The first documentary screened will be the recently released, DARK MONEY, a political thriller that examines one of the greatest present threats to American democracy: the influence of untraceable corporate money on our elections

and elected officials. The film takes viewers to Montana—a front line in the fight to preserve fair elections nationwide—to follow an intrepid local journalist working to expose the real-life impact of the US Supreme Court's Citizens United decision. Through this gripping story, DARK MONEY uncovers the shocking and vital truth of how American elections are bought and sold. This Sundance award-winning documentary is directed and produced by Kimberly Reed.

A discussion of the film will take place directly after the screening lead by library staff member, Patti Stanko. Light refreshments and coffee or tea will be available. For more information call the library at 978-297-0300.

VINE

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sexual assaults will never be reported.

A very scary time for young men in America indeed.

And what about the over-all old Republican male view of women? Well, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley recently covered that one pretty well.

When asked why none of the Republican women now in the Senate were serving on his committee, he responded: “Well, it's a lot of work. Don't forget, compared to a lot of committee meetings, we have an executive (session) every Thursday...So it's a lot of work. Maybe they don't want to do it.”

Right, Chuck – it's a lot

of work. And those women may just be too tired after spending all morning tidying up the house and making breakfast for their husband and kids, right?

Good grief!

If Democrats do re-take the House of Representatives next month it will be in large part because women have had it with the Republican Party, and with good reason. The misogyny of President Trump and the ignorance of other old white men in the GOP leadership is just so obvious the vast majority of women have no choice but to reject Republican representation, precisely because the party does not respect – nor does it represent the best interests of – women.

In the meantime, those doddering old white guys need to get a clue.

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Race – well, sort of – raises funds for WHCC

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

A race meant to test the physical prowess of absolutely no one was held Saturday in the shadow of Old Murdock. The event, billed as the 0.5K Fun Run-Walk for Underachievers, raised funds for the Winchendon History and Cultural Center.

Participants were encouraged to dress up in costumes, and there was no shortage of creative garb. There were fairies, turtles, dinosaurs, and, well, Town Moderator Rick Morin actually wore a thong; probably not quite what would normally come to mind, but a thong nonetheless. Adults and children alike took part.

The weather was a bit chilly, with temperatures in the lower 50s, but that didn't deter any of those who showed up for the event.

The fun run was held at GAR Park which, it turns out, it nearly exactly a half-kilometer around. Close to 50 individuals took part, according to WHCC President Don O'Neil. The "runners" stepped across the starting line at the west entrance to the park on Murdock Avenue. Any of those who found themselves fatigued after making a half circuit were able to stop at a donut and coffee/apple juice table located strate-

gically near the east entrance on Morse Avenue.

Anyone who might have felt uninspired to walk around the historic park did have the option of paying an extra \$5 in order to get a lift in a VIP-designated vehicle. However, no one opted to be the only one to fail to meet the grueling demands of the contest.

The event was emceed by Mark Desmarais, commander of American Legion Eugene M. Connor Post 193.

WHCC Vice President Barbara Lafrennie said, "We heard about a town in Texas that was holding a 0.5K race, and we thought the idea was absolutely hilarious. We decided it would be a fun way to raise some funds for the center. As a non-profit, we're always looking for new and interesting ways to raise money."

"This is a pretty good turnout for the first time around," said Lafrennie. "I think once people hear more about it we'll see more of them turning out next year, and in following years."

According to O'Neil, close to \$1,000 was raised for the WHCC.



Heldah-Anne Hollis and Polly St. Pierre sported fairies' wings but still had to walk the half-kilometer around GAR Park.



Tracy Gambill sported a turtle outfit and a sign proclaiming her racing ability.

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Those who tired at the 0.25K mark of Saturday's Fun Run for Underachievers could stop and grab a donut and coffee or apple juice to power them to the finish line.

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Winchendon History and Cultural Center President Don O'Neil displays the tee shirt given to all who took part in Saturday's "race."

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