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COMPLIMENTARY HOME DELIVERY

Friday, March 16, 2018

ConCom congratulates contest winners and announces spring activites



The excited shouts of happy children zinged through the clear, frosty air as they discovered hidden decorated trees in the Sturbridge Conservation Commission's eighth annual Winter Tree Scavenger Hunt on the rolling uplands of the town's Heins Farm Conservation Area.

Organized as informal 'teams,' families and small groups searched along the Pond Loop and Cabin Loop Trails of the property's 2.4 miles of marked trails. When they settled on their favorite tree, with its colorful, shiny decorations, they photographed themselves alongside, and a grand prize winner was selected from a recent random drawing of the submitted collection of pictures.

This year's grand prize was shared by two brothers, Grant and Luke MacFarlane of Sturbridge. The family got out onto the trails while the weather was still mild in early December, and sent their photos with an enthusiastic note: "Thank you so much for putting together this holiday tree hunt Our family had the best day exploring and finding trees.

Two Rotary Clubs join forces to create a community garden



The Sturbridge Rotary Club has partnered with the Southbridge Rotary Club to create a local community garden. Both Clubs subsequently formed the Rotary Community Corps of Sturbridge & Southbridge. The RCC is an organization that encourages all volunteers, whether or not they are Rotarians, to work on projects in their local communities. The RCC's first project is the creation of the "Community

ing season, nutritious organic vegetables will be grown and donated to the Saint John Paul II Food Pantry, which serves families in need in both Southbridge and Sturbridge.

One objective of Sturbridge Rotary has been to help feed the less fortunate and have been doing so for a number of years with an annual dedicated fundraiser for the Saint John Paul II Food Pantry. Southbridge Rotary has held similar fund

Courtesy photo

Hiking through the woods, brothers Grant and Luke MacFarlane found the grand prize in the annual scavenger hunt.

The brothers received a year's subscrip-tion to "Ranger Rick," a National Wildlife Federation publication, and a birdhouse specially designed for chickadees. They said they look forward to placing the birdhouse somewhere close to their windows so they can watch for nesting activity. Other par-

Please Read CONCOM, page A7

Food Collaborative" located in Sturbridge.

The mission statement of the **Community Food Collaborative** is to help foster a greater sense of community by involving neighbors, volunteer organizations, as well as mentoring local youth. Throughout each growraisers. Therefore, it was a logical transition for both Clubs to add another level of support for the Food Pantry.

After researching and visiting four available sites for the garden, the site chosen is on

Please Read GARDEN, page A2

Sturbridge to begin open space and recreation plan update

The town of Sturbridge Planning Department and Open Space Committee are in the process of updating the current Open Space and Recreation Plan that expires this May.

An Open Space and Recreation Plan is a document that provides a plan for the "green infrastructure" of a community. This "green infrastructure" includes things such as water supply protection, open land, working farms and forests, wildlife habitats, parks, ball fields, recreation areas, trails and greenways. Just as the town plans for schools, roads, water and wastewater infrastructure, locations for housing, and commercial and industrial areas to enhance the economic vitality of a community, the green infrastructure is equally important and requires careful planning. Open space and recreational resources elevate the quality of life for residents and add to the appeal of a community.

Legally protected open space is important in order that, as a community experiences growth, there will always be natural areas for humans and wildlife. Open Space helps provide crucial protection for our freshwater and groundwater resources, and serves as the backbone of the local landscape for residents and visitors alike. Open spaces provide habitat for native plants and animals that cannot live in urban and suburban environments. Large tracts are particularly

Please Read OPEN SPACE, page A7



REVIEW CONTINUES ON MULTI-SIGN REQUEST NEAR I-84



Upland Architect vice president Robert Medeiros presents the design of

the proposed business development on Haydes Street.

Tara Vocino photo

BY TARA VOCINO VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — The number of signs in a proposed multi-use building with a 7-Eleven, Subway, Burger King, and Mobil was debated in a Design Review Committee meeting at the Center Office building.

Architects and lawyers proposed to have eight signs, but the bylaw only allows one sign per business. They will go before the Planning Board on March 27 and before the Zoning Board of Appeals on March 21 to discuss. The site at 234 and 236 Haynes St. along Route 15 was formerly Roy Rogers, a restaurant, and will now be owned by Petrogas Group

Please Read SIGNS, page A9



BY TARA VOCINO VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — In an effort to continue their public safety partnership with citizens and businesses, the Sturbridge Police Department is excited to launch a new initiative called

the Sturbridge Police Camera Registry Program.

"This new program will help our residents and business owners aid Sturbridge Police in solving crimes and various neighborhood problems," Police Lt. Earl J. Dessert said last week. "The SPCRP allows residents and business owners to voluntarily register their video surveillance systems with the Sturbridge Police Department. When a crime occurs, police will be able to identify the locations of nearby cameras via the registry and enlist the assistance of the community to help officers collect potential video surveillance and follow up on leads."

Dessert said as of that morning, six residents have up, but no businesses yet.

He encouraged businesses to sign up, as businesses owners and employees could be potentially helping to solve crimes in the community.

With this program, police will be able to directly con-

STURBRIDGE SNIPPETS

STEPPIN' OUT

The Hayloft Steppers Square Dance Club is holding a Casino Night dance on Saturday, March 24 from 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm (early rounds at 7:30). The caller will be Jim Schell and the cuer will be Birgit Maguire. Admission is \$8 per person. For more information on our Beginner Classes, please call Moe at (508)344-3430 or Sue at (860)576-5328 or visit our website at www.hayloftsteppers.org. The club is located at 232 Podunk Road in Sturbridge.

GROW YOUR BUSINESS!

Social media strategies to grow your local business on Monday, March 26 6:00-7:30 p.m. with time after for questions at Webster Police Station - Media Room, 357 Main St., Webster. Hosted by: The Webster Dudley Business Alliance/Score, Worcester Chapter, with presenter Darek Chojnacki. This program is free to WDBA members, \$10 all others. Are you a new business that needs to get started with social media?

Are you an existing business that wants to learn how to get more results from social media? This workshop with help you navigate through the many social media platforms that are available. We will review getting setup on a few specific platforms, and how to create content to share. Developing an online presence is important in modern marketing, and we request attendees of the workshop to bring their computers and devices, so that we can have an active workshop. To sign up email contact@ thewdba.org or call (508) 949-6232. Darek Chojnacki is the owner of Green Tree Insurance in Webster. He also runs a business coaching and consulting company named Business Runway. Before starting his own companies, he spent 12 years in the financial sector working for Fortune 500 domestic and international companies. Darek works with individuals and business owners who are motivated to achieve their financial goals. He is a Quickbooks ProAdvisor,

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Car Buying Tips

Customers ask place: When targets in an effort keep the factories moving. is the best time to buy a Car or Truck?

The RIGHT answer: (PART 3) The NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT theory. Almost every day is a good day to buy a new car or truck. We know that most new cars have rebates from the manufacturer. They may also have special finance terms or some combination of both. This theory is based on the fact that if you are trading your car, its value is at its highest right now. Depreciation is always eating away at the value of a used car. The other aspect to consider is the factory incentives when buying a new car. Incentives can be a volatile thing and can change at the drop of a hat. Manufacturers like Ford watch the markets very closely. They adjust their strategies based on sales and production

As inventory levels, market share and consumer demand change the rebates and incentives change. A strong economy and low inventory might mean fewer rebates. High inventory or the desire to gain market share might mean higher rebates. In any case what we know today is how a vehicle is priced. If a customer finds a vehicle that fits their needs and the numbers make sense then buy now. Waiting could cost you more. Our current economy appears to be at a turning point. If the rebates go down or stay the same and your trade has lost more value your cost to buy will have gone up. Let us here at Place Motor show you how to take advantage of the current incentives and get the most for your trade. Let us show you why we are the Right Place to buy a Ford since 1923.

Send your questions to BillLeavitt@FordPlace.com



and is a certified SCORE mentor in Worcester.

Unity Brunch and Fundraiser

The Sturbridge Democratic Town Committee (SDTC) is pleased to invite the general public to our 2018 Democratic Unity Brunch and Fundraiser. It will be held on Sunday March 25 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Publick House in Sturbridge. This event is hosted by the SDTC to promote and support Democratic candidates and elected officials and to raise funds for our annual scholarship award. This event features speakers, brunch, raffles, cash bar and election news. This year's brunch is expected to be particularly popular. Tickets may be purchased at: https://secure.actblue. com/donate/SDTCbrunch, from any SDTC member, at the door at the event, or you can contact Dave Mitchell at: Waterfront2828@gmail.com.

BAY PATH RECOGNIZED

Bay Path Vocational Technical High School has been recognized by the

GARDEN

continued from page **1**

Maple Street behind the Sturbridge Town Hall. The garden plot is owned by the Sturbridge Federated Church, that gave permission for the RCC to use it for this purpose. Several years ago, it had been a garden for the members of the church. The garden already as a fence, raised beds, and a tool shed. Rotarians cleared the weeds last fall and after further prep work, planting will begin this spring.

The RCC's current partners for the garden project are the Rotary Clubs of Sturbridge and Southbridge, Joseph Coan Landscape Architecture, Sturbridge Federated Church Men's

Annual prom dress swap coming up

Why pay hundreds of dollars for a dress you will only wear for a few hours? Come to the Prom Dress Swap and get your dress for only \$15!

Admission is only \$5!

Tell your friends and come take a look! Students from all schools are welcome.

Saturday, March 31 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Shepherd Hill. Admission is \$5 per person. Each dress is \$15.

Donate a prom dress and get another dress free (of equal quality).

Please call or text Kristin at (508) 864-3209 for more information. Proceeds will be donated to the Make a Wish Foundation.



annual PracticalNursing.org state LPN program rankings as the #5 ranked LPN program in Massachusetts. PracticalNursing.org is the leading LPN/LVN advancement and ranking agency; we have been publishing the PracticalNursing.org rankings list for the past four years. You can find the full, detailed ranking at https://www. practicalnursing.org/lpn-programs/ massachusetts#rankings

Approved programs in Massachusetts are offered at community colleges. technical centers, and private career schools - we list 18 schools across the state. After careful review of NCLEX-PN exam first-time pass rates over the past several years, we have ranked the top five programs. For more information on our LPN program rankings, see our methodology page: https://www. practicalnursing.org/lvn-lpn-ranking-methodology

Group and the St. John Paul II Food Pantry. We'd love to have more partners help us with this project as well as many volunteers. The RCC is a volunteer driven organization and needs your help. We encourage local companies, organizations, schools, seniors, social groups and community volunteers to join in this effort.

Community Visit the Food Collaborative Facebook page (cfcgardens) to learn more about the proiect, see photos as the project continues, and sign up to volunteer. If you are not physically able to help in the garden, you can still help by donating funds and/or new or used garden tools. With lots of volunteers, we'll need lots of tools. There's also a form on the Facebook page for donations of funds or tools. Send donations to Community Food Collaborative, PO Box 357, Sturbridge, MA 01566 or for information email to CFCGarden357@gmail.com.

Let's make the Community Food Collaborative a great community project focused on local hunger relief by growing fresh, organic vegetables. Volunteers of all ages working together, getting to know each other, having fun and feeling good about what we're doing to help, is what this project is all about.

If you would like to volunteer at the Community Food Collaborative garden, please join us for a kick-off celebration for volunteers followed by a tour of the garden site on Wednesday, April 11 from 4-6 p.m. at the Sturbridge Federated Church fellowship hall.



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Powell announces candidacy as clerk of courts

WORCESTER — Charlton resident Joanne Powell has announced her intention to run for the Clerk of Courts for Worcester County. Highlighting the need for professionalism, efficiency and accountability within the Clerk's Office, Joanne is eager to share her vision with voters of Worcester County.

"It is time for a hands-on manager to create an atmosphere of professionalism, efficiency, and accountability in the Clerk of Courts office," said Powell. "After all, it is your tax dollars that go towards these services. The voters of Worcester County deserve them to be spent in the most efficient manner possible."

Currently, Joanne is employed at the Probate & Family Court located in the Worcester Court, where she has been heavily involved in making some extraordinary changes. In part with Powell's keen oversight, the Probate Office now boasts a dramatically decreased processing time for claims, which went from several weeks to just a few days, despite working with a 10 percent reduction in staffing. In addition to implementing increased efficiency within the office, Powell was also instrumental in developing a community outreach program to assist Worcester County seniors when they require services provided by the Probate Office.

Accountable to the citizens of Worcester County, the Probate & Family Court was also pleased to return over \$1.7 million in escrow monies to the proper families or to the state's



Joanne Powell

unclaimed monies fund.

Prior to the Probate & Family Court, her work experience includes time working for District Attorney Joseph D. Early's office as a community liaison. During her time at the DA's office, Powell spoke to thousands of students, parents, school staff, and law enforcement officials on the public safety challenges of our time; including bullying, domestic violence and the opioid epidemic.

In addition to Powell's service in the District Attorney's office and Probate & Family Court, in 2017 she was appointed by Governor Baker to serve on the Board of Trustees for the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children, where her current responsibilities include surplus fund allocation of over \$2 million dollars. Ever committed to strong public education and to our local schools, in 2006 Joanne was elected as vice-chair of the Dudley-Charlton School Committee, where she approved and helped manage a budget of over \$50 million.

Deeply rooted in her community, Joanne has been married for 32 years to her husband Rick, with whom they have five adult children. A graduate of Salem State University, Joanne earned a Bachelor's of Science degree. After starting a family and while working part-time, Joanne returned to school, earning her Master's of business administration from Assumption College in 1993.

Citing her education, extensive public service experience both in the courthouse and the community, Joanne is grateful for the overwhelming confidence and support so many voters have already expressed towards her candidacy. Powell's platform includes: open access to justice in a fair, efficient, and timely manner - and implementing a renewed sense of professionalism and accountability to Worcester Superior Court.

Joanne enthusiastically looks forward to getting to know the voters of Worcester County. Along with her husband, five adult children, friends and many supporters, she will make her official campaign announcement at her kickoff in early May



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4140 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

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Where the hell is Snellville?

The Sturbridge Historical Society meeting will be held on Thursday March 22 at the Publick House Historical Inn on Sturbridge common. The guest speaker will be Robert Briere, on the History and Memories of Snellville School.

There is some confusion as to where Snellville is within the town of Sturbridge. Many years ago it was called Wight Village. The reason for this may be the several Wight families were among the first inhabitants of the village. But, most of you have seen a product of Wight Village, the famous gristmill at Old Sturbridge Village.

The original mill was located near the Quinebaug River just south of Route 20 and today's Cedar Street. In 1798, in order to get the water to power the mill, Captain Alpheus Wight and other men hand dug the canal that ran alongside today's Route 20. It took two years to dig the half mile long canal. The mill opened in 1801.

Melville Snell started making

augers in 1841. In 1850, he and nephews Otis and Lucius organized under Snell & Brothers and made augers and bits. Years later, it became Snell Manufacturing. Mill houses were built and the village grew, and around 1852, it took the name of Snellville.

If you had a village, you needed a school. A wooden structure was built across Main Street from the little common at the end of Cedar Street. In 1874 it was replaced by the brick school house at the corner of Arnold Road. It is today's Snellville School and home to the Senior Center.

Taken from a history of the school written by Helen Holley, the first curator of Old Sturbridge Village, the program will detail former organizations who also used the meeting room of the schoolhouse. The Women's Relief Corps, the Auxiliary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, were among the societies who met and even had separate cupboards for their cups and dishes. They used oil stoves to cook on. You can also hear the Fiskdale Brass Band rehearse in the summer in the meeting room with the windows open for the audience as they strolled around outside. All this plus personal memories about the school days will be shared by former students of the school who are being invited to attend.

A fun night about the Good Old Days in Snellville.

Historical Society meetings are free of charge with dessert and meeting room provided by Michael Glick, Publick House innkeeper. Our sincere thanks go out to Mr. Glick.

Society annual dues are \$10, which help to support the cost of speakers. Meetings are held September through May on the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December. November meeting is held the first Thursday in December. All meetings start at 7 p.m.

Public is welcome.



WCAC offers free tax prep

SOUTHBRIDGE Worcester County Community Action Council Inc. will offer free tax preparation in Southbridge as part of its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program for low and moderate income working individuals and families. Services will be available by appointment only at the agency's Healthy Families of Southern Worcester County office, 61 Pine St., on Thursday and Friday evenings through the end of March. Call (508) 909-0061 x 10 to schedule an appointment. The program is supported in part by a grant from the United Way of Southbridge, Sturbridge & Charlton.

Recognizing the economic challenges facing so many in the community, the ability to have income taxes prepared for free by volunteers trained to identify all eligible credits, will result in local families securing and retaining greater returns, which ultimately are returned to the local economy in investments in housing (purchase or rent), vehicles (repair or purchase) and the like. WCAC recognizes the VITA program as an important strategy to build household assets and increase economic self-sufficiency for low and moderate income working individuals and families. WCAC has operated a VITA site in the city of Worcester for more than a decade. This is the first time the agency has been able to open the program to the town of Southbridge.

This expansion represents one of the financial empowerment programs the agency will make

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available to Southbridge residents this year. This spring, the WCAC will launch Bank on Worcester County, a partnership with local financial institutions funded by the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts and designed to connect unbanked residents in Southbridge with affordable, safe transaction accounts at Cornerstone Bank.

Since 1965, the Worcester Community Action Council has served as the federally designated anti-poverty agency for central and southern Worcester County, with a mission of helping people move to economic self-sufficiency through programs, partnerships and advocacy.

Serving the city of Worcester and 45 neighboring communities of Auburn, Blackstone, Boylston, Brimfield, Brookfield, Charlton, Clinton, Douglas, Dudley, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Holden, Holland, Hopedale, Hubbardston, Grafton, Leicester, Mendon, Milford, Millbury,

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March Real Estate Market Update

Interest rates have increased compared to where they were a couple months ago. According to Bankrate.com as of 3/11/2018 the rate on a 30 year fixed loan was 4.34% which is steady with swhere the rate was last month. It is easy to compare our most recent rates to these rate and consider them high but the rates are still at one of the lowest levels in history. Refinancing is definitely still a good option but always look at the effective rate of your mortgage and if you have been paying it down for years the better rate may lower your payment but may not help you to pay down your loan as quickly.

Today we have 1221 single family homes for sale in Worcester County compared to 6 months ago where we had 1203 homes for sale which is the first time in many months that the inventory increased in Worcester County. If we look back to 12 months ago we had 1490 homes for sale in Worcester County which shows a 18.1% decrease in inventory year over year which is the same as the year over year decrease from last month. Low inventory is



definately continuing to cause prices to rise in most areas. The average days on market is currently 141 days while it was 113 days in September which tells me we are continuing to cycle through the inventory

but slightly slower early fall. If we look at homes sold over past 12 months compared to the same time for the previous year there is an almost 0.5% increase in sales and a 4.7% increase in average sales price while it is taking over 20% faster to sell the homes this year than last year in Worcester County. This shows that prices are still rising and homes are still selling quicker than a year ago. The increase in sales and average sales price was less than last month.

The numbers again are all positive and showing continued growth with no immediate signs of a change in the market. This is the first month that we had an increase in inventory however this is normal as we are entering the spring market. It is crucial to hire a Realtor familiar with your market especially in this market where it seems you can just put a sign out front and get a bunch of offers. The right agent will ensure you get the most money for the house in the shortest amount of time.

Speech contest winners move to next level of competition

STURBRIDGE Village Toastmasters hosted its annual international speech and table topics contests March 1.

Cheri Carty of Brookfield and Adam Thibeault of Holland took home the club's awards, respectively, and now they move on to the next level of competition.

Toastmasters' International Speech Contest is an annual event in which tens of thousands of people from around the world compete to deliver the most compelling five- to seven-minute speech. Contestant speeches are evaluated based on their organization and content, mode and style of delivery and the correct and skilled use of language.

Carty crafted and delivered a relatable and amusing speech about nervousness and human emotion surrounding public speaking. Using emoticons placards to punctuate her speech, she wowed the judges.

The Table Topics contest centers on short impromptu speeches. Each contestant is asked the same question and then responds with a one- to two-minute off-the-cuff speech.

This year's question was, "describe your future in three inspire were the

words Thibeault chose. He impressed the judges with his thoughtful and articulate explanation of those words and his future.

As the winners of the Village Toastmasters contests, Carty and Thibeault move on to the Area 56 contests where they will each compete against four other club-level winners. The Area 56 Contest will be held at AbbVie Research Labs in Worcester on Tuesday, March 27, 6-9 p.m.

Visitors are always welcome at Toastmasters meeting and contests.

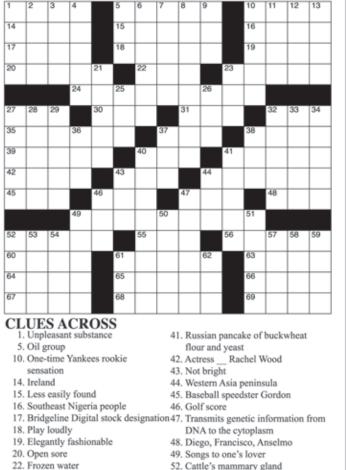
Village Toastmasters, located in Sturbridge, is focused on helping members improve their public speaking and leadership skills while building confidence in their abilities. The group meets every Thursday night 7-8:15 p.m. at the offices of the Chamber of Central Mass South, 46 Hall Road. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, visit VillageToastmasters.org.

your future in three words?" Aspire to Sturbridge welcomes a plucking good time

The Good Types Banjo Band will host the bi-annual Boston Banjo Bash at the Sturbridge Host Hotel April 13 and 14.

This year's event, in addition to hosting many local banjo players performing music from the golden age of jazz and the American Song Book will feature appearances by Massachusetts local favorite Steve Caddick, national banjo superstar Tyler Jackson of Dallas TX, as well as international banjo star from Portland ME Peter Mezoian. Performances are as follows: Mezoian, Friday April 13 at 7 p.m. Jackson Saturday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. Additional performers play on Saturday

afternoon beginning at 1:00 pm. Performances are free to attend, seating is limited. Contact Jim Carey for reservations or for additional info at (508) 675-4938





Tyler Jackson

Courtesy photo

22. Frozen water 23. Sacred Islamic site 24. "Kokomo" rockers 27. Follows sigma 30. Cease to exist 31. Cool 32. Doctors' group 35. Less attractive 37. Swiss river 38. Greek sophist 39. Grandmothers 40. Afflict CLUES DOWN . Philippine province 2. Shallow channel 3. Type of acid 4. Cygnus' brightest star 5. One who buys and sells securities (abbr.) 6. Ill will 7. Plant of the goosefoot family 8. Intellectual 9. Mineral 10. Shiny silicate minerals 11. Ottoman civilian title 12. What you wear when eating BBQ (2 words) 13. Soul and calypso song 21. Advises 23. "The Spanish Tragedy" author 54. Type of sediment 25. Surrounds the earth 26. Paddle 27. Adjusted

52. Cattle's mammary gland 55. Having ten 56. Fencing sword 60. Scarlett's home 61. Hold valuables 63. Italian Seaport 64. Cain and 65. Bad places to live 66. Large, wading bird 67. Witches 68. Cover with drops 69. Props up the head 33. Type of mental illness 34. One from Asia 36. 007's creator 37. Direct toward 38. Pie _ __ mode 40. Large terrier 41. Hillsides 43. Patriotic women (abbr.) 44. Connects words 46. For each 47. Flower cluster 49. Closes a deal 50. Arabian desert 51. Vaccine against poliomyelitis 52. American state 53. Religion practiced in China 57. Hall of Famer Ruth 58. "Layla" singer Clapton

59. Gamble

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AIH

- 61. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.) 62. Midway between south and
- southwest

32. Belonging to Egyptian ascetic Apollo's colleague К

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VILLAGER Almanac

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Indian Ranch holding job fair

Indian Ranch announced its hosting a Job Fair to find qualified candidates to fill open full time, part time, and seasonal positions. The fair will take place Tuesday, March 20 from 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM in Slater's Function Hall at Indian Ranch, 200 Gore Road in Webster.

Indian Ranch is seeking to hire people for the numerous positions they have available. Jobs include work in the different facets of Indian Ranch operations including at the amphitheatre, Indian Princess, Samuel Slater's Restaurant, and Campground. Open positions include bartenders, waitstaff, security, boat and campground maintenance, grounds handyman, office staff, and more.

Candidates should come prepared with a completed application and resume. On-the-spot interviews will be conducted during the fair. Those who cannot make the fair in person may send their application materials to Indian Ranch directly by emailing jobs@indianranch.com or direct mail to Indian Ranch, 200 Gore Road, Webster, MA 01570 Attention: Jobs.

For more details and a list of open positions, please visit the Indian Ranch Employment Page: http://indianranch.com/ about/employment/



Stations of the Cross **Every Friday During Lent** St. John Paul II Parish in Southbridge

3:30pm at St. Mary Church 247 Hamilton Street Musical Stations, 5:30pm at Notre Dame Church 446 Main St.

This week will feature Andrea Humphries singing French arias with the Notre Dame Organ.

Auxiliary program features program of hope in area of plight

For some individuals, tragedy becomes a catalyst for action and a way to deal with grief. For Mags Riordan, a former guidance counselor from Ireland, the drowning death of her son Billy in Lake Malawi in the village of Cape MacClear led to the creation of a much-needed medical clinic.

The Harrington Auxiliary invites members and the general public to attend a special presentation and book signing event on Tuesday, April 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Harrington Hospital Conference Rooms 1 and 2, featuring Mags Riordan, founder of the Billy Riordan Memorial Clinic, and Suzanne Strempek Shea, a western Massachusetts writer, writer-in-res-idence and director of the creative writing program at Bay Path College who wrote This is Paradise: An Irish Mother's Grief, an African Village's Plight and the Medical Clinic that Brought Fresh Hope to Both. The two women will present this heart-warming story to the audience. Books will be available for purchase.

In February 2000, one year after Billy's death, Mags traveled to Cape MacClear to place a memorial stone by the lake to commemorate his life. During the three months she spent there, Mags



Courtesv photos



Suzanne Strempek Shea

witnessed famine, a cholera outbreak, rampant malaria and a high rate of HIV AIDs. These conditions, in combination with lack of access to medical care, prompted her to open a medical clinic and provide other important services to the community.

Since its inception in 2004, the notfor-profit clinic has become a 24/7 operation, employs and trains more than 32 local people, and serves between 80 and 120 patients on a daily basis. In this pre-sentation, Mags will describe her efforts to launch this clinic, to offer educational opportunities for local students, and to initiate a supplementary feeding program, school health program and family planning services

The event is free, although donations to benefit the clinic are welcome. The presentation is open to the public and includes light refreshments. Handcrafted jewelry and other items made by the men and women of Malawi will be available for purchase. Make your reservations today by stopping at the Volunteer Office at Harrington Hospital or by calling the office at (508) 767-6473. The event is also posted on the Harrington Auxiliary Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/ HarringtonHospitalAuxiliary/).

When hair becomes valuable

When Ι was appraising items at the event for the Quaboag Historical Society, someone brought in a mourning locket. It had a painting of the deceased person and a lock of his hair inside a small glass chamber. from the hair of a loved one was

a fairly common practice during the 19th century.

2016 National Α Geographic magazine story discusses the Victorian trend of making mourning jewelry with hair. Queen Victorian publicly grieved for 41 years after the death of her husband, Prince



ANTIQUES,

COLLECTIBLES

& ESTATES

jewelry and wreaths were a way to show your connection to a departed loved one. The use of hair was more common during this era. Women of the era exchanged locks of hair as a love token.

Mags Riordon

The trend Making jewelry WAYNE TUISKULA wasn't limited to the upper class. The middle class also wore mourning jewelry. Wreaths made of

wire and human hair from a departed loved one were fashioned together. Sometimes hair from both living and deceased family members were combined into a wreath.

Mourning jewelry sells for a wide range of

are important factors. We sold a 24 karat gold brooch with seed pearls, diamond chips and a compartment that held hair for over \$2,000 at one of our auctions.

Hair from deceased celebrities and historical figures can bring huge prices. A Time Magazine article listed some auction prices for human hair. A lock of John F Kennedy's hair sold for \$3,000, as did a lock of Neil Armstrong's. Mickey Mantle's hair set a buyer back \$6,900. Beethoven's hair reached \$7,300.

Auction records show that a lock of Ulysses S. Grant's hair sold for \$5,000 in 2012. Rock singer, David Bowie's hair brought \$15,000 in 2016. George Washington's hair sold for \$26,000 the same year. Abraham Lincoln's sold for a bit

in 2016. A lock of John Lennon's hair fetched \$48,000. A letter signed by Robert E. Lee, along with a pocket knife and lock of hair reached \$55,000 in 2014. A former CIA employee sold the fingerprints, death photos and lock of hair from Che Guevara. The lot brought \$110,000 at auction. Elvis Presley's personal barber surreptitiously stashed away a strand of Presley's pompadour. It sold for the hair raising price of \$119,500.

I'll be appraising items for the Leicester Historical Society on March 19. The event takes place at 7:00 p.m. at the Leicester Senior Center. See www.centralmassauctions.com for details on this and other events.

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



Albert in 1861. She often wore a lock of Prince Albert's hair around her neck. Queen Victoria's influence extended well beyond England. Many in the United States began

prices. Some pieces sell for well under \$50, but others can bring much higher prices. Like any other piece of jewelry, the materials that were used and the craftsmanship

more at \$32,500. Lincoln's assassin's hair, John Wilkes Booth, went to a buyer at \$25,000. CNBC reported that a tress from Marilyn Monroe sold for nearly \$40,000 at auction

LIBRARY LORNER

Joshua Hyde Public Library Sturbridge (508) 347-2512 sturbridgelibrary.org Open Monday noon-5 p.m.; Tuesday & Thursday 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m.; Friday & Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday (Oct.

15-April 29) noon-5 p.m. Thursday, March 22

How To...Series

How to: recognize and survive stroke, take good cell phone photos, avoid pests this spring...and more in an evening of 20 minute presentations with time for questions. 6:30-8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 27

SOAP MAKING: Bunnies and duckies in baskets (for ages 17 years and older) with Garine Arakelian, Tuesday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m. Pre-register at (508) 347-2512.



Brimfield Senior Center

First Congregational Church 20 Main Street (413) 245-7253

The Brimfield Senior Center is sponsoring a bus trip to Tower Hill Botanical Garden on Wednesday, May 23. Our first stop is at The 1761 Old Mill Restaurant where you can relax and enjoy a sit-down luncheon with fruit

SENIOR SCENE

cup and choice of pork chop with apple cinnamon glaze or baked stuffed sole Almandine served with potato, vegetable, corn fritters, pecan rolls and homemade apple crisp, coffee. We then head to Tower Hill for an afternoon of exploring the garden's features such as The Cottage Garden, The Limonai, The Moss Steps, the Orangerie, The Secret Garden, The Systematic Garden, The Wildlife Refuge Pond, and More! Be sure to save time to visit the wonderful garden shop.

\$68 covers your transportation and luncheon including all taxes and gratuities. Payment must be made in full prior to April 25. Please plan on arriving at the Senior Center at 10 a.m. for a 10:30 departure. Return time is 5:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. For more information please contact Lila at (413) 245-7253. The Senior Center is located in the 1st Congregational Church, 20 Main St., Brimfield.

LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS



Regional tournament includes athlete from entire area

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STONEBRIDGE STAFF WRITER

AUBURN – Athletes from throughout the region came together to celebrate the thrill of competition during the annual Special Olympics basketball tournament at Auburn High School.

Teams were comprised of athletes of all ages, and a strong group of volunteers once again made the event memorable. Several local officials were on hand, including Senator Michael Moore, State Representative Paul Frost, and Auburn selectmen.

"This event is so much more than just sports – it enables all athletes to feel the enjoyment of coming together with friends and teammates," Moore said. Added Frost, who led the athletes'

Added Frost, who led the athletes' oath during opening ceremonies, "You should all be very proud of this moment.

You will always remember how great this day was."

Organizers thanked all volunteers, coaches, family members, and community members who got involved with the event. Members of the Auburn-Webster Elks Lodge provided free spaghetti lunches to all attendees, and American Legion members presented the colors during opening ceremonies.

"We are honored to be a host site for Special Olympics basketball. We want to thank all of the volunteers who make this possible," said Kristen Pappas, the town's director of recreation and culture.

With strong support from the community, the event continues to grow and add new teams every year. The program also features children's games, crafters, and raffles.



A team from Danvers is all smiles before the games begin.

Kevin Flanders photos.



Several signs were made by local students in support of the athletes.



American Legion members make their entrance during opening ceremonies.



Joined by town and regional leaders, Senator Michael Moore addresses guests.



Members of the American Legion get ready to display the colors during the opening ceremony.





Participants unite to recite the athletes' oath prior to the tournament getting underway.



A unified cheerleading team shows off their moves during the tournament.

FREELANCE REPORTER WANTED

Are you a writer at heart? Do you love to capture the moment you're in with a photograph? Do you have an interest in the goings on in your community, and want to get involved in your town?

Stonebridge Press, your best source for weekly local news, is looking for a hard-working, flexible freelance reporter. Job will include writing several stories per week, photography, information gathering and networking.

Candidates must be able to work nights and weekends when needed. Residence in the area is preferred, but not required.

Stonebridge Press is an equal opportunity employer.



So what are waiting for? Send your résumé to Editor Ruth DeAmicis at ruth®stonebridgepress.news, or mail to Stonebridge Press, ATTN: Editor, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550



大量

The world isn't black and white. So, why is your ad? Members of Girl Scout Troop 30197 lend a hand in the cafeteria.



Free lunches were provided to all guests thanks to members of the Auburn-Webster Elks Lodge.



Samuel Bates, age 6, of Auburn, tries his luck at a game in the cafeteria.

Fire companies depend on help from this friend

B Y KEVIN FLANDERS

Firefighters are always ready to assist those in need throughout their communities and beyond. Now, with the launch of a major regional fundraiser, organizers are calling on residents to return the favor.

The Grafton Fire Department's rehab support vehicle — better known as the canteen truck — has been dispatched to countless fires in area towns over the years. After battling blazes and saving lives and property, exhausted firefighters in 26 central Massachusetts towns rely on the truck for hydration before continuing their work.

But the lifespan of the 37-year-old vehicle is almost burnt out, and fundraiser organizers are asking residents to help fund its replacement. The fundraising challenge began in February and will run through April 30. The current canteen truck, a 1981 Chevrolet van, was donated in 2003 and was outfitted by members of the Grafton Fire Department.

Since then, the truck has responded to thousands of blazes, playing just as critical a role as the ladder and pumper units that put out the fires. The truck is staffed by off-duty firefighters and even the spouses of firefighters, who understand better than anyone the importance of hydration during responses.

"I have been to a lot of fires. When you come out of a house afterward, you're exhaust-ed. It's so important to have



Courtesv photo

This aging fire support vehicle needs replacement, and residents are asked to assist the effort through a fundraiser.

that place to sit down and get refreshed, especially if you have to go back into a burning building," said retired Grafton FD firefighter Andy Kjellberg, who helped promote the fundraiser.

Towns served by the canteen truck include Auburn, Brookfield, Charlton, Dudley, Douglas, East Brookfield, Holland, Leicester, Northbridge, North Brookfield, Oxford, Southbridge, Spencer,

Sturbridge, Sutton, Uxbridge, Warren, Webster and West Brookfield, among others. Many fires require mutual aid services from multiple departments, and the truck remains on scene to assist all firefighters

In addition to water and Gatorade, the truck is stocked with warm beverages in the winter months and cold drinks during hot weather. The truck has even been requested at such events as the Boston Marathon.

All of the supplies and equipment on the truck are funded entirely through donations. Depending on the size of the call, the canteen truck can serve coffee, hot cocoa, soup, and even sandwiches. With your help, officials are hoping to purchase an even larger canteen truck as a replacement (at least 16 feet long) that can serve even more firefighters.

Several Grafton organizations have established a matching gifts pool from which they will match any donation made. Now they are calling on you to help firefighters to better serve those in need during emergencies.

"So many firefighters have benefited from having this truck at the scene. It means a lot to have the community's support in this effort," added Kjellberg, who spent 23 years with the Grafton Fire Department.

Not only will community donations help fund the purchase of the new vehicle, but they will also defray the costs of several supplies and services. These include a new freezer and refrigerator to aid in food storage; blankets and clothes to assist fire victims; a stove; three sinks to meet Board of Health requirements; and a small bathroom. During lengthy fire responses, firefighters are sometimes forced to ask neighbors to use their bathrooms, and community donations will go a long way toward enhancing the services of the support vehicle.

If you would like to send a donation, please make your check payable to: Grafton Firefighters Association Rehab. Checks can be mailed to, or dropped off at, Grafton Fire Department, 26 Upton St., Grafton, MA 01519.

If you have questions about the fundraiser, please send an email to barkerc@grafton-MA. gov.

CONCOM

continued from page **1**

ticipants received a handsome certificate of participation, and encouragement to get out and enjoy the trails.

Sturbridge's new conservation agent Rebecca Gendreau, who lives in town and has two young children, noted that the annual winter Tree Scavenger Hunt is a great opportunity to introduce youngsters to these natural settings where they can explore wildlife and differences in habitat. Kids can discover their natural surroundings and have fun at the same time.

This is the eighth year of this event, which typically lasts from Thanksgiving weekend through Christmas and New Years' school vacation. Several town departments and community organizations voluntarily joined in the preparations, including the Conservation Department, Recreation Department, Town Clerk's office, and the Assessor's office, the Board of Health Department, Brownie Scout

Troops #64510 and Cub Scout Troop 161.

In addition to the 2.4 miles of trails on Heins Farm, the town maintains an additional 13 miles of marked trails on the 981-acre Leadmine Mountain Conservation Area.

Although separate from the Conservation Commission, the Sturbridge Trails Committee is charged with the development, maintenance, and promotion of the trails on Sturbridgeowned property. They welcome volunteers to help in any and all aspects of trails, and can be reached at treksturbridge@ gmail.com

The Trails Committee recently published a long-awaited guide to open space properties in town, "Guide to the Trails and Open Spaces of Sturbridge." Information includes descriptions and maps of nine properties, including the Grand Trunk Trail, Army Corp and Opacum Land Trust properties, and more. This free 28-page full color guide is available at the town hall, town clerk's office and the conservation office, or can be downloaded from the town's website; look for Trails Committee; then Trail Maps.

Conservation The Commission is already preparing for its Earth Day Neighborhood Trash Pick Up, set for Saturday and Sunday, April 21st and 22nd.

Residents are encouraged to gather together or individually as neighborhoods, school groups and volunteer organizations take advantage of this community activity.

The DPW provides free heavy-duty trash bags for use in the cleanup, and provides free trash pickup on the following Monday morning. Bags are available at the conservation office at the center office building. Volunteers will be asked to register by providing their names, the location of the cleanup, and the location where bags will be



left. Volunteers can select the area(s) they would like to work in. With prior registration, bags can be left at the nearest intersection for the Sturbridge DPW to pick up on Monday, April 23rd.

In Conservation Commission offices, Grant and Luke MacFarlane show off the prizes won for finding the scavenger hunt holiday tree.

OPEN SPACE

continued from page 1

important to native species and can create habitat areas, which are typically undisturbed (relatively pristine) areas with good wildlife movement corridors, and they provide optimal cover, food, and water resources. Open space can be used to preserve unique and sensitive natural features, including but not limited to the mountains and hills, large rock formations, native landscape, and archeological and historical sites.

Open spaces also provide recreational opportunities by furnishing or making available suitable areas for hiking, biking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, camping, and bird watching, organized sports and other activities. It is important that we have adequate areas for recreation as we all strive to create healthy communities that provide activities and resources for all ages. In other words, many of the things that help define the town's character are associated with open space and recreation areas.

We would like you to be part of this process. We are trying to gather public input from all age groups for this important project. There are several ways you can participate in this planning process. The first is by completing our survey online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/Sturbridge-OSRP by March 30.

The second way to get involved is to enter our photo contest: simply send us a picture of your favorite open space or recreation area in town – it could be an image of scenery or a photo of an activity as it is taking place.

The third way is to attend our Public Forum in Paige Hall of the Publick House on April 11 at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served and you will be able to vote on the photos (prizes will be awarded), hear a presentation on open space and recreation, and offer your input on things that are important to you. Thank you for your participation, Jean M. Bubon, AICP, town planner.

SAFETY

continued from page 1

tact SPCRP members that are using video surveillance in an area in which a crime occurred. Police would ask SPCRP members to check their video footage for a specific date and time that may show activity involved with a crime, such as a getaway car or the direction that a person of interest traveled

"They have to check a box acknowledging that they understand the agreement," Dessert said.

Dessert went onto say the video takes exterior videos mostly, but with a good camera, it can take interior video as

well.

He added police always go to businesses if there's a crime on that street, and this program will make it easier for residents, business owners, and police alike.

That could include smash and grabs, house breaks, and robberies, according to Dessert.

"It's another tool we're trying to put into our toolbox to help fight and solve crimes," he said.

To register an exterior security camera, visit www.town.sturbridge.ma.us/ police, and click on "Quick Links" and then click on Sturbridge Police Camera Registry Program.

For information, contact Lt. Earl Dessert at (508) 347-2525, ext. 338.



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· Do you receive Medicaid, Fuel Assistance, Veteran's Aid or SNAP?

· Are you a resident of Southbridge or Sturbridge?

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> FRANK G. CHILINSKI PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

RUTH DEAMICIS EDITOR, STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

TO THE EDITOR

An idea whose time has come

Since the truck itself is 37 years old, this is NOT a new idea. And for people who are not the ones out there when the need arises, having a food truck on site, serving up either hot...or cold...drinks, a hot soup, a nourishing sandwich... on the spot in the middle of a hectic event by people who do indeed know exactly what is going in that particular moment, can't be underestimated.

We admit we didn't know this existed until the need for a new truck was brought to our attention. We hadn't seen this in action at any of the particular fires we had been to.

But it has been there.

It's seen the worst ones. The Worcester warehouse fire. It was onsite after the tornado. It's been at fatal house fires.

It is staffed by retired firefighters. By spouses. By volunteers who know what it takes to be on the front fire lines.

The funding is entirely by donation.

And now, after 37 years and many miles; after serving thousands upon thousands of cups of coffee, being repaired a bazillion times, racking up miles from Grafton to West Brookfield and back again, having been adapted to the edges and the roof; the old truck needs to be retired.

A truck junior needs to be purchased and outfitted

It won't come cheap.

There are plots and plans in place. As long as a new one is in the works, the dreamers have dreamed. Why don't we.

And they should.

Let's make life convenient, and better, and as easy as possible for those volunteers. They also have some good

The present assault on the 2nd Amendment reminds us of the 2013 Western States Sheriff's Rebellion stopping cold President Barack Obamas's new 23 executive orders further restricting the right of gun owners with-

out authorization from Congress. But today Republicans need to be reminded that neither the executive branch, through executive orders, nor the legislative branch, through laws, can constitutionally legislate away an amendment of the Bill of Rights, so banning AR-15's or bump stocks is unconstitutional. Only a new amendment with 3/4ths support of the states, as outlined in Article V of the Constitution, can alter an amendment.

Many may not remember their basic U.S. history courses as to why the Second Amendment exists in the first place. Certainly, when enacted, there was no thought of restricting type of firearm, or where, or who could carry. So its placement as the second most valued freedom in the Bill of Rights had nothing to do with personal safety or even hunting, these were already assumed. It was specifically placed right after freedom of religion, speech, press and assembly to make certain that these freedoms were never taken from us. It was aimed (pun intended) squarely at the government. But certainly, we need have no fear of the government today?

One must remember that the early patriots did not ask the existing British government if they could revolt against them. They argued in the Declaration of Independence, that they were "endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" coming from a much higher source than mere man and that "whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government." God is referenced five times in this document and thus, they believed, He sanctioned their rebellion. They were expected to suffer evils while sufferable, "but when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariable the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security." The right of revolution requires the means of revolution and this is why the Second Amendment exists. Normally the ballot box is the only self-correction needed, but they had no intention of giving up the same right that they exercised to give us freedom in the first place. Nor were they pious enough to assume that their correction would stay in place and that future generations would never need the more serious self-correction they used. The wordage of the 2nd Amendment was stronger than any other sentence in the Constitution. "A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."

LIBERTY UNDER Fire **DR. HAROLD** PEASE

They saw this right as essential to freedom and specifically forbade the federal government any authority with respect to arms because historically it was always a government that took away liberty.

Views and commentary from Sturbridge, Brimfield, Holland and Wales

An armed populace

had twice proved its value to liberty in the Revolutionary War. Many do not remember why Lexington and Concord were so important. The Americans learned that the British planned to go door to door to confiscate their firearms so they gathered and hid them in these two villages. Now the British night gun raid, and Paul Revere's desperate midnight ride warning the Americans enroute, make sense. The Battle of Saratoga preventing British conquest of the northeast by General Johnny Burgoyne was stopped, not by the military, but by angry farmers with their own military styled assault rifles. This American victory encouraged other countries, notably France, to come into the war on our side. It is doubtful that we would have won the war without an armed citizenry.

The Founders' attitude regarding guns — even military issue was clear. Thomas Jefferson wrote: "No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms." And George Washington said: "A free people ought not only to be armed," but also, "they should promote such manufacturies [sic] as tend to remind them independent of others for essential, particularly military, supplies" (Gun Control, Freemen Report, May 31,1975, p. 1).

The Utah Sheriff's Association letter to Obama was the most vocal in the Sheriff's Rebellion of 2013. It read in part, "We respect the Office of the President of the United States of America. But, make no mistake, as the duly-elected sheriffs of our respective counties, we will enforce the rights guaranteed to our citizens by the Constitution. No federal official will be permitted to descend upon our constituents and take from them what the Bill of Rights — in particular Amendment II—has given them. We, like you, swore a solemn oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and we are prepared to trade our lives for the preservation of its traditional interpretation." This is commendable, but will Congress, under Republicans, remember that an amendment, unlike a law, may not be altered to destroy or weakened — it "shall not be infringed?" The 2nd Amendment can only be altered by 3/4th of the states with a new amendment and this is not likely to happen when so many Americans fear their own government.

What should investors know about recent volatility?



As you may have heard, the stock market has been on a wild ride lately. What's behind this volatility? And, as an

investor, how concerned should you be? Let's look at the first question first. What caused the steep drop in stock prices we experienced on a few separate

davs? Essentially, two main factors seem to be responsible. First, some good economic news may actually have played a significant role. A 17-year low in unemployment and solid job growth have begun to push wages upward. These developments have led to fears of rising inflation, which, in turn, led to speculation that the Federal Reserve will tighten the money supply at a faster-than-expected rate. Stocks reacted negatively to these expectations of higher interest rates.

The second cause of the market volatility appears to be simply a reaction to the long bull market. While rising stock prices lead many people to continue buying more and more shares, some people actually need to sell their stocks - and this pent-up selling demand, combined with short-term profit-taking, helped contribute to the large sell-offs of recent days.

Now, as for the question of how concerned you should be about this volatility, consider these points:

Sell-offs are nothing unusual. We've often experienced big sell-offs, but they've generally been followed with strong recoveries. Of course, past performance is not a guarantee of future results, but history has shown that patient, persistent investors have often been rewarded.

Fundamentals are strong. While short-term market movements can be caused by a variety of factors, economic conditions and corporate earnings typically drive performance in the long term. Right now, the U.S. economy is near full employment, consumer and business sentiment has risen strongly, manufacturing and service activity is at multi-year highs, and GDP growth in 2018 appears to be on track for the best performance since 2015. Furthermore, corporate earnings are expected to rise this year. So, given this background, what's your next move? Here are some suggestions Review your situation. You may want to work with a financial professional to evaluate your portfolio to determine if it is helping you make the progress you need to eventually achieve your longterm goals. Reassess your risk tolerance. If you were unusually upset over the loss in value of your investments during the market pullback, you may need to review your risk tolerance to determine if it's still appropriate for your investment mix. If you feel you are taking on too much risk, you may need to rebalance your portfolio. Keep in mind, though, that by "playing it safe" and investing heavily in vehicles that offer greater protection of principal, but little in the way of return, you run the risk of not attaining the growth you need to reach your objectives. Look for opportunities. A market pullback such as the one we've experienced, which occurs during a period of economic expansion and rising corporate profits, can give long-term investors a chance to add new shares at attractive prices in an environment that may be conducive to a market rally. A sharp market pullback, such as we've seen recently, will always be big news. But if you look beyond the headlines, you can sometimes see a different picture - and one that may be brighter than you had realized.

Bill of Rights not easily changed

ideas for uses for the truck; from providing a portable bathroom for those fighting the fires to storage for other equipment that just makes sense.

This is firefighters taking care of their own. Yes, the Red Cross often steps up and does some of this too; but the Commonwealth and its innovative people often do more above and beyond taking care of itself. This is just one example. For nearly 40 years, this group of firefighting phenoms have taken care of their own.

So step it up, help them out. Send a buck or two to the address provided. We'd love to see this truck a shining example of volunteerism at its best. Is there a dealership out there that can provide the original truck? Some appliance companies to provide necessary equipment? Plumbers, electricians, outfitters to donate? This can be done with more than just money.

We'd love to see a bidding war for the privilege to be the ones to donate to this cause. Maybe we can put your names on the side...like race car sponsorships.

So step up corporations, dealerships, foundations, banks. Let's see your names on this.

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

> This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Jeff Burdick, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at (508) 347-1420 or jeff.burdick@edwardjones.com



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Celebrate Soups!



THE

Soup, whether it's simple or fancy, is steeped in memories, and many a long, cold New England winter has been cheered by bowls of soup that warm both body and soul. While fast food and quick fix suppers often win out over slow simmering stews and soups for busy weeknight meals, soups still have a place in today's suppertime scramble. Soups are not only deliciously filling, they're typically made with fresh, healthy ingredients. Add in the money saving factor, the convenience of one pot cooking and the opportunity for unbridled culinary creativeness, and it's easy to see why America is rekindling its love affair with soups and stews.

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

Heirloom Soups: A generation or so ago soup suppers were not uncommon. Many of these diverse dishes reflected the ethnic background of the family at the dinner table. A hearty bowl of pasta fagioli and crusty bread was a familiar supper in Italian neighborhoods, as Jewish families enjoyed chicken matzo ball soup with braided challah, and those of French Canadian decent baked Johnny cake to go with a pot of green pea soup.

Today, many of these family

Take to new generations. While the recipes may be tweaked by enthusiastic Food Network inspired cooks, the tradition HINT of preparing a soup supper, whether it's made from chick-KAREN en or beans, remains the same. TRAINOR As most cooks will attest, something magical happens when a big pot of water begins filling up with ingredients. Kids stop their homework to peek into the pot; spouses sneak in for a

quick taste; and like the classic French fable "Stone Soup," a dash of this and a handful of that contributed by family members add up to not only scrumptious soup, but precious memories as well.

recipes have been passed down

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

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

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

Food for Thought - Fun Soup Facts:

*The earliest evidence of humans eating soup was 6000 BC. The main ingredient was hippopotamus.

*The ladies of the French court of Louis XI subsisted mainly on soup because they believed that chewing would cause them to develop facial wrinkles.

*The story goes that in the late 1700s, French royal chefs created a clear broth (called consommé) because the king wanted to see his reflection in his bowl.

*Soup is a breakfast food in Japan. The day is often started with a bowl of fish broth with rice.

*There is an old Yiddish saying, "Troubles are easier to take with soup than without.'

*Frank Sinatra's contracts often specified that chicken and rice soup be in his dressing room prior to performances.

*Andy Warhol said he painted soup cans because he had soup for lunch every day for 20 years.

Crock Pot Tomato Soup

Whole tomatoes and basil bring freshness to this classic, healthy soup. Best of all, it cooks while you're at work!

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

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

Giada De Laurentiis' Italian Wedding Soup

This homemade recipe comes from the kitchen of the famous food network cook.

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

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

Meatball Directions: To make the meatballs: Stir the first 6 ingredients in a large bowl to blend. Stir in the cheese, beef and pork. Using 11/2 teaspoons for each, shape the meat mixture into 1-inch-diameter meatballs. Place on a baking sheet.

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

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

Hottest pepper varieties to try this year

Turn up the heat and add a bit of spice to your meals with hot peppers. Add them to your garden, flower borders and containers for added beauty and easy picking. Your biggest challenge will be narrowing down your choices. Let All-America Selections, all-americaselections.

org, winners help. This nonprofit organization tests new edible and ornamental varieties nationally for their suitability to home gardens and containers.

Grow a few cayenne peppers if you



jam and other recipes. For those that like the flavor of habanero, but can't stand the heat, try Roulette habanero. It looks and tastes like a habanero in every aspect except it's not hot. Roulette is the perfect solution for families with different heat toleranc-

es. Add a full spectrum of color to containers and small space gardens with the early ripening Hungarian Mexican sunrise and sunset wax peppers. The conical snaped inult transition from green to yellow, then orange and red. The fruit can be harvested and eaten at any stage. But the longer it is on the plant, the better the flavor. Mexican Sunrise is semi-hot while Mexican Sunset is for those that like a bit more heat. Both can be eaten fresh, stuffed, baked, grilled or pickled. Grow a few Aji Rico peppers to add warm heat with a hint of citrus to your dishes. Eat them fresh or cook into salsa and hot sauces. Control the heat with the number of seeds left in the fruit. The more seeds that remain; the greater the heat.

Roast them, use them fresh or string a few Giant Ristra peppers together to dry and use throughout the winter. Don't be fooled by its appearance. This 7-inch chili pepper looks like a sweet marconi but has the spiciness of a cavenne.

For those who want to crank up the heat try Emerald Fire at 2,500 Scoville units. Not the hottest pepper on the market, but this jalapeno is certainly one to respect. The deep green fruit resists cracking and matures to red. Use them fresh, stuff with cream cheese, grill or can for later use.

If your taste lies on the other end of the heat spectrum start with Chili Pie and work your way to some of these notter varieties. These miniature bell peppers are mildly hot when the fruit turns red. Be careful not to mix them in with your sweet bell peppers. Heed this warning when growing and using any hot peppers. Clearly mark or better yet grow your hot peppers away from sweet peppers to avoid an unwelcome surprise. Keep your hands away from your eyes when working with hot peppers and wash them thoroughly when done. Most importantly, have fun growing and using hot peppers in your garden, containers and meals. These beauties combine nicely with other vegetables,



All-America Selections photo

Red Ember, a 2018 All-America Selections winner, is full of flavor and adds beauty to flower or container gardens.

ike Mexican. Calun and Asian culsine. They also add a bit of zip to dips, stews and marinades. Brighten your meals and garden with the brilliant red and tasty fruit of Red Ember. This 2018 AAS winner is pretty enough for flower gardens or containers. You'll be harvesting earlier and longer, providing more time to use and enjoy them. For a mildly spicy option with the same great flavor try Cayennetta. Its heat and cold tolerance makes it a great choice no matter where you garden.

If you like it even hotter, include a few habaneros in the garden. Then add heat and flavor to jerk chicken, chili,

herbs and flowers to create stunning garden beds and containers. And their spicy flavor is sure to help you create memorable meals this season.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything: Food Gardening for Everyone." DVD set and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and

Travel restrictions scheduled on Sagamore Bridge

CONCORD - Replacement of damaged roadway joints on the Sagamore Bridge spanning the Cape Cod Canal in Bourne is scheduled to start in late-March 2018 and continue through late May 2018, according to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New England District officials.

During the scheduled times for work, travel over the Sagamore Bridge will be reduced from two lanes in each direction to one, wider 12-foot lane in each direction.

State and local police will be on duty at all times work is being performed to assist the motoring public.

Motorists planning to use the Sagamore Bridge during this timeframe should be aware that travel delays are likely to occur during the morning and afternoon peak travel periods each day.

The \$1,695,000 contract for replacement of damaged and worn roadway joints was awarded to R. Zoppo Corporation of Stoughton. The contractor will work seven days a week with double shifts in order to complete this work prior to the peak summer travel season. Additionally, similar work on the Bourne Bridge is scheduled for fall 2018.

This bridge work is critical to main-

taining the structural integrity of the bridges, which are a vital component to the transportation system of the Cape, the Islands and southeastern Massachusetts.

Work will include the replacement of bridge joints on the roadway, repair of corroded steel and concrete supports at the affected joints, patching of damaged pavement surfaces, and replacement of deteriorated waterproof membranes along the roadway curbs. In addition, USACE work crews will conduct various periodic maintenance activities on the bridge lighting and structure during this timeframe.

Traffic signs, message boards and bridge work alert emails will be used to help inform motorists about pending lane restrictions and bridge work. To sign up for bridge work alert emails send an email to CapeCodCanalBridges@ usace.army.mil with the subject title "Bridge Work Alerts." An email alert is sent when there is a major change to the bridge work status or schedule.

Additionally, updates are available from the Corps' New England District via Facebook and Twitter at CorpsNewEngland or visit the District website at http://www.nae.usace.army. mil.

SIGNS

continued from page **1**

New England, Inc., if approved.

"The bylaw states one wall sign per structure," Design Review Committee member Chris Castendyk said, who added he was very impressed with their presentation overall. "I question whether signs are needed up top. I'm making a suggestion to see if corporate will allow fewer signs.³

Castendyk added it's a marvelous change from what was there, but he suggested that having so many signs is distracting.

Attorney Joshua Lee Smith, of Bowditch and Dewey, LLP, said he understands that vari-

ous boards have various rules, adding that he wants everyone to feel comfortable with the decision.

"The site is uniquely located far from the highway," Lee Smith said. "It's fast-moving with the speed limit being around 45 miles an hour. You can't see the building until you get closer."

The building signs include the following: Burger King five wall signs, a preview board and menu board; Subway two wall signs; 7-Eleven - two wall signs and graphic with two logos. There will be one pylon sign with Burger King, Subway, 7-Eleven and Mobil signs, Lee Smith said Monday night.

Lee Smith said all of the signs give an opportunity for additional communication, adding that multiple logos are standard for 7-Eleven.

Castendyk asked Lee Smith if they have conducted a traffic study since he said Route 15 is mostly congested on Saturdays with the Recycle Center down the road.

Design Review Committee member Elaine Cook suggested putting a billboard on I-84 since Roy Rogers had two of them, and drivers could see the sign before taking the exit.

"You need signage on I-84," Castendyk responded to Lee Smith. "Your argument would be valid if it wasn't for other elements."

Lee Smith said there was a traffic study done on Route 15, but it probably didn't take in account traffic on I-84.

Construction is slated to begin in November, Lee Smith added.

In other business, the committee approved a sign for owner Debbie Winchester, of Sturbridge Fudge Company, at 630 Main St.

Cook suggested Winchester delete the word 'fresh' since that's assumed. The sign reads, "Fresh fudge, balloons, and more.

The board also approved a sign for Wild Flour Kolaches at 55 Main St., which owners Sandy and Bob Stocks said is slated to open April 1. It was

formerly a vacuum cleaner shop, they said.

Diversified Signs owner Gail Chandler said the landlord is okay with the sign even though the fonts are different from the others in the plaza.

"The shape and sign itself is consistent," Chandler said.

And the board approved the second version of The Painted Stone Emporium and Hope Sweet Hope at 230 Main St.

"The font is larger," he said. "There's different shades of orange. The other one had too many words, which was distracting for people to read."

Marketing consultant Kayla Krause said they wanted to make a sign that matched the two different kinds of stores.





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SPORTS

Northampton denies Warriors their first Western Mass. title





The Northampton High girls' varsity basketball team storms the court after defeating Tantasqua Regional for the Western Mass. Division 2 Tournament title.

Rachel Godek of Tantasqua drives the baseline on Northampton defender Bailey Maurer.

From left, Tantasqua captains Victoria Bowler, Lindsey Zak and Rachel Godek, as well as head coach Tom Goyette, stand proudly with the Western Mass. Division 2 Tournament runner-up trophy after falling to Northampton, 57-44.



Tantasqua's Lydia Boland displays tight defense to ensure that Northampton's Emma Tanner can't advance the ball any further.

BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS STAFF WRITER

AMHERST — Playing in its first sectional final since the 1986-87 season — where they captured the Central Mass. Division 2 Tournament title

— the Tantasqua Regional girls' varsity basketball team was hoping to win another championship when they played Northampton High for the Western Mass. Division 2 Tournament crown at the Curry Hicks Cage on the campus of UMass-Amherst on Saturday, March 10.

Unfortunately for the second ranked Warriors, the top seeded Blue Devils employed a strong full-court press that resulted in 17 Tantasqua first half turnovers. That pushed Northampton out to a 33-17 halftime lead. The Warriors had a better second half but it wasn't enough, as the Blue Devils emerged victorious, 57-44, winning their first district title in 10 years



Tantasqua's Emerson Cherry heaves a pass deep down the court versus Northampton.

ti iot titio ili io jouro.

"We haven't seen that type of full-court pressure pretty much all year," said Tantasqua head coach Tom Goyette. "They were tenacious out there and they attacked us. They created a lot of those turnovers, but half of them we created ourselves."

Nerves also played a part in the Warriors' slow start, according to junior Lindsey Zak.

"I definitely think it was nerves, but also our 17 turnovers didn't help us out much," she said.

The Warriors actually held a 10-8 lead after the initial eight-minute quarter, but the Blue Devils surged ahead and never lost their lead when they scored nine of the second quarter's first 11 points.

Northampton won the frame by a 25-7 count to lead, 33-17, at halftime.

"We had to regroup in a hurry and in the second half we did," explained Goyette. "We had a strong second half and we made a couple runs... but they made a couple big baskets and foul shots to keep that distance."

That was true, as Tantasqua won the third quarter, 14-7, to pull within nine points, 40-31, heading into the final frame.

But the Blue Devils held their composure and hit eight of their nine fourth quarter free throw attempts (Amanda Mieczkowski, who scored a game-high 21 points, was sevenof-eight from the stripe in the frame) to win, improve to 19-3, and advance to the Division 2 state semifinals, where they will play Central Mass. repre-

sentative Hopkinton High.

The Warriors finished 19-4.

"We can't let this one loss diminish what we did all year," said Goyette. "We won the SWCL title, had 17 wins in a row at one point and made it to the district finals."

Goyette pointed to the senior leadership of Victoria Bowler and Rachel Godek as a key to Tantasqua's success.

"They were fantastic captains for us and really kept the younger players involved. They were just a great influence on the younger players," he said. But the Warriors are

But the Warriors are a young bunch, as they will return their entire starting five.

"It really bodes well for us for the future and they're only going to get better," said Goyette.

In fact, 42 of Tantasqua's 44 points were scored by players that will return to the lineup. Freshman Ainsley Way led the way with 15 points, freshman Madison Varney had seven, Zak six, freshman Morgan Smith six, sophomore Lydia Boland four and sophomore Jillian Routhier four, while Godek added two.

When asked about the next season, Zak was confident that the Warriors would be back in search of their first Western Mass. title.

"I think we'll start thinking about it right now," she said. "I think next year we're going to be here but we're going to win and go even further next year."

Goyette said that that will be the team's plan.

"You always want to go one step further — or more," he concluded.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Dudley/Charlton women's basketball looking for available players

There will be women's pickup basketball happening at the Heritage School gym from 7-9 p.m. We play Monday evenings based on school schedule until June. There are no set teams and no fees, so no weekly commitment. Come when you can for some friendly competition and exercise. Must be 18 years of age or older. Please contact Deb at (508) 248-3600 or mzd531@charter.net for more information.

High Hoops to host free AAU basketball tryouts

High Hoops will be holding Free AAU basketball tryouts for all boys and girls at the Hab in Uxbridge on Saturday, March 17. Register online or just show up at the Hab between 6 and 9 p.m. See all the details at Highhoopsbasketball. com.



Ainsley Way of Tantasqua grabs a loose ball before it can bounce out of bounds.

SPORTS

HOW THEY GOT THERE

Tantasqua takes down Spartans en route to first district final appearance in 31 years



Emerson Cherry of Tantasqua surveys the floor while pushing the ball down the court.

BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS STAFF WRITER

SPRINGFIELD Team defense and a strong offensive fourth quarter provided No. 2 Tantasqua Regional the magical potion it needed to defeat No. 3 East Longmeadow High, 45-31, in a Western Mass. Division 2 Tournament girls' varsity basketball semifinal at Western New England University on Tuesday, March 6. The win gave the Warriors (19-3) a spot in the district final, where they will play top-seeded Northampton High (18-3) at UMass-Amherst's Curry Hicks Cage. Tantasqua hasn't advanced that far in the tournament since the 1986-87 team won the Central Mass. Division 2 bracket.

"I'm kind of just in shock right now," said junior Lindsey Zak.

"I think that we came out knowing that we wanted it more," added sophomore Lydia Boland.

The fact that Tantasqua is so young — they start Zak, Boland and a freshmen troika of Morgan Smith, Madison Varney and Ainsley Way - and has advanced to a district final is a testament to their team-first mentali-

"Our young team, they know what they're doing," said Zak. "I really think them [the freshmen], on top of us [myself and Boland], can take this team far.'

"We all play well together, it's not just one player," added Boland.

Boland led the way with 15 points, while Zak finished with 12 points nine rebounds. and Varney chipped in seven

points, Smith provided six points and nine rebounds, and Way produced four points and 10 rebounds.

Tantasqua head coach Tom Goyette noted that the game was a defensive struggle in the first half — the Warriors led, 17-13, at intermission — before his team turned on the jets in the second half, outscoring the Spartans, 28-18, over the final two frames. Tantasqua had its best point-producing quarter in the fourth, where they netted 17 points to pull away.

'We both locked down on the defensive end in the first half, but in the second half we started to get better flow with the ball," said Goyette. "We executed a little better as well and we found people getting open."

With the Warriors

leading in the first few minutes of the fourth quarter, 30-24, Boland fought through East Longmeadow's interior defense for a layup and Zak followed on the next possession with a left-corner 3-pointer to extend the advantage to 35-24, which felt monumental based off the game's pace and defensive presence. "Goyette tells us at

practice that when you have the open shot, take it," said Zak. "I really just left it all on the court and when it went in, [a double-digit lead] for this game really brought our energy up because [an 11-point lead] felt like 20."

A few minutes later, with Tantasqua ahead, 39-30, Boland took a charge on the defensive end to provide the Warriors with even more momentum.

"When girls come down I know how to plant my feet because the refs see that I'm little," the 5-foot-5 Boland said of her simple strategy.

Boland then went six-for-six from the free throw line down the stretch — Zak was also two-for-two from the stripe in the quarter — to silence any chance of an East Longmeadow (14-8) comeback.

"We've been practicing every day," Boland said of taking and making free throws, noting that her personal best is 12 made in a row, while Zak's is a monstrous 34 consecutive made.

Defense and free throw shooting can be the keys to winning a district championship, which Tantasqua will next try to do for the first time in 31 years.



The Tantasqua Regional girls' varsity basketball team is thrilled after defeating East Longmeadow High, 45-31, in the semifinal round of the Western Mass. Division 2 Tournament.



Nick Ethier photos

Jillian Routhier of Tantasqua gets fouled by an East Longmeadow defender on her drive through the lane.

Auburn sees season end at hands of Tomahawks, 4-1

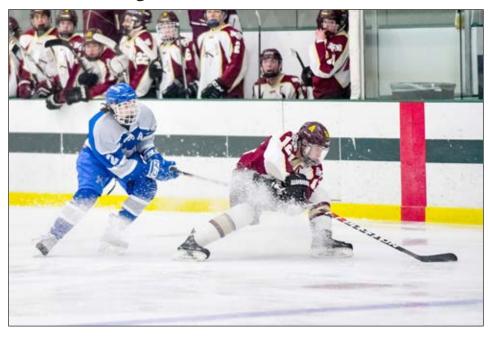
FITCHBURG — Back on Jan. 31, the Auburn High boys' varsity ice hockey team tied Algonquin Regional, 1-1, at the Horgan Arena.

And, when the Rockets took on the Tomahawks in the semifinals of the Central Mass. Division 3 Tournament at the Wallace Civic Center on Tuesday, March 6, Auburn and Algonquin again found themselves tied. 1-1. through two periods of play.

But the second ranked Tomahawks scored three times in the third period

- one being an empty-netter late in the contest — to end the third seeded Rockets' season, 4-1. Goalie Cam Carpenter was outstanding in net for Auburn, as he turned aside 33 shots.

The Rockets, whose co-op team also includes athletes from Shepherd Hill Regional, Tantasqua Regional and Millbury High, finished with a record of 13-6-3. Algonquin advanced to the district final, where they then lost to No. 1 Shrewsbury High, 4-1.



Photos courtesy Mark Seliger, www.SeligerPhotography.com

Auburn's Ryan Lempicki chases down an Algonquin puck possessor.





Cam Dungey of Auburn tries to move the puck along the boards while battling with Algonquin's Henry Alford.



Auburn's Drew Darger attempts to shoot the puck up and over the reach of Algonquin defender Jack Shemligian



Auburn's Collin McKeon works the puck along the boards and past Thomas Ackil of Algonquin.

OBITUARIES

Richard K. 'Dick' Mosher, Sr,80



STURBRIDGE/ CHARLTON- Richard K. 'Dick' Mosher, Sr,80, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his loved ones on Saturday, March 10, 2018.



He leaves behind his wife of 63 years, June A. (Guinee) Mosher, a son Robert Mosher of Worcester, daughters,

MaryJane O'Meara of Southbridge, Kathy Nichols of Sturbridge and her husband

Barry, Wendy Erskine of Sturbridge and her husband Reginald, 5 grandchildren, Keith Nichols, Corey Nichols, Kimberly Nichols, Shane Erskine, Ashely Erskine and 4 great grandchildren, Mason Nichols, Austin Nichols, Emma Nichols and Myah Foley and a sister, Sheila LeClair.

He was predeceased by his son, Richard K. Mosher, Jr., his mother, Pearl Ziak and his brother Thomas Maher.

Dick enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1954 and served until 1957. He was a member of the Charlton Lions Club.

He had an entrepreneurial spirit and was never afraid to try new things. He owned and operated Moe's

Aquarium and Pet Shop for 10 years and then opened Puppy Land in Worcester. He worked for Wright Line Manufacturing Co. in the research and development department for

many years. In 1975

he bought land in Charlton and cre-ated Rocking "M" Ranch & Outings and later Neewollah's Haunted Forest. He lived there with his wife until he retired in 2004 and moved to Sturbridge Retirement Co-op. He had 14 wonderful years there.

His hobbies were painting, wood carving, fishing, horseback riding. darts and playing cards and traveling. He was happiest traveling with his

wife and hanging out with his family. Calling Hours were Wednesday,

March 14, 2018 from 6-8 PM at the ROBERT J. MILLER-CHARLTON FUNERAL HOME, 175 Old Worcester Rd. in Charlton.

Dick's Funeral was Thursday, March 15, 2018 with a Mass at 10 AM at Notre Dame Church, 446 Main St., Southbridge (Kindly meet at the Church), burial with Military Honors will follow at West Ridge Cemetery in Charlton

To leave a message of condolence, please visit:RJMillerfunerals.net

Ernest L. Thibaudeau

STURBRIDGE-ErnestL. Thibaudeau,

Α.



Wednesday, March 7th, in the Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge, after a brief illness.

79, passed away on

He leaves his wife of 50 years, Michelle (Rondeau)

Thibaudeau. He

also leaves his only child and daughter, Erika L. Thibaudeau-Dragon and her husband Ronald A. Dragon of Sturbridge; his loving sister, Jean Pouliot and her husband Rodney of Ashford, CT; his three sister-in-laws, Cynthia Thibaudeau of Sacramento, CA, Mary Ellen Thibaudeau of Charlton and Barbara Thibaudeau of New Smyrna, FL; his brother-in-law, Guy Rondeau and his wife Ginette of Joliette, Canada; his closest friend, Bertrand "Ben" Gendreau of Charlton; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends of the United States and Canada. Ernest's brothers, Francis Thibaudeau, Maurice Thibaudeau, and Albert Thibaudeau predeceased him. He enjoyed large family gatherings and his beloved pet, lucky. Ernest was born in Southbridge, the son of Paul and Irene R. (Langlais) Thibaudeau. He grew up in Southbridge and later

Charlton and graduated from Charlton High School and then served in the US Navy for five years. After the Navy

he worked as an accountant at Coppus Engineering (later becoming Tuthill-Murray) and for over 40 plus years,

retiring several years ago. His passion was learning! He enjoyed his coursework at Quinsigamound college as well as attending seminars and conventions. In his spare time, he enjoyed reading, crossword puzzles, collecting antiques, playing card games, travelling, walking in the woods, gardening, and tending to his many flower beds. For over 40 years he attended St. Anne's Church in Sturbridge. He also enjoyed volunteering his time in many area nursing homes.

His funeral was held on Monday, March 12th, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass at 11:00am in St. Anne's Church, 16 Church St., Sturbridge. Burial was in St. Anne's Cemetery, Sturbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Sunday,



son Jarod A. Desroches and his fiance Claire G. Lavoie of Malden, a daughter Stacie L. Horgan of Southbridge, a granddaughter Alexa D. Desroches of Southbridge a great granddaughter Aubrie J. Desroches of Southbridge, a brother Philip Desroches and his wife Melissa of Sturbridge, a sister Marie Hocking and her husband Charles of Taunton and several nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by a brother Normand Desroches.

Arthur was born in Worcester, son of Ernest and Lorraine (Beauchamp)

Arthur L. Desroches, 70

SPENCER- Arthur L. Desroches, 70, of Hastings Road died Friday, March 2 in in 2005. He enjoyed Worcester Rehab. & Health Center after a bowling, camping and spending time long illness.

He leaves his wife of 46 years, Marilyn L. (Viggers) Desroches, a

Desroches. He was a HVAC technician for 31 years at UMass retiring Hospital

with his family. He

loved going to the

beach. He served his



country in the United States Airforce. A Memorial service will be held

Friday at 6:00 PM in J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer. Calling hours will precede the service from 4:00-6:00 PM. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Alzheimer's Assoc. of MA/NH, 309 Waverly Oaks Road, Waltham, MA 02452.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com



Anthony C. Surozenski, 50

WORCESTER -Anthony C. "Chuck" Surozenski, 50, died Thursday, March 1, 2018 in Saint Vincent Hospital, Worcester after an illness. He leaves a daugh-

Ashley ter. M. Surozenski of Florida;

a son, Gregory C. Surozenski of Holland; his parents, Deacon Anthony R. Surozenski and Alice I. (Poisson) Surozenski of South Yarmouth; a brother, Jeffrey A. Surozenski of Jefferson; a sister, Jennifer A. Vear and her husband John of North Grosvenordale, CT; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was born in Putnam, CT and raised in Webster. He graduated from Bartlett High School in 1985. He later attended the Salter School for Culinary Arts in Worcester.

He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1985 to 1989, and then was in the reserves for another 3 years.

Mr. Surozenski first worked as a transportation distributor for Atlas News, now called Hudson News, out of Worcester. He then drove tractor trailer for various companies including CT Container, Lily and M & M. For a time he was the chef at the Holy Spirit Provincial House in Putnam.

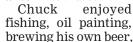
Ainsworth W. Adams, 90

two

WARREN- Ainsworth W. "Ainse" Adams, 90, of Warren passed away on Tuesday, March 6, 2018.

He was born in Holland, MA and lived most of his life in West Brookfield and Warren.

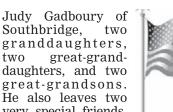
More recently, he took in the homeless and helped those who struggled with addictions. He belonged to the Teamsters Local #170 in Worcester.



making his own wine and playing the guitar. He was best known for the amazing food he prepared for family and friends.

The funeral was held Monday, March 12, from Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main St., Webster, with a Mass at 11:00 AM in Saint Louis Church, 14 Lake Street. Burial was in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace, Webster, with the military honors provided by the Webster-Dudley Veterans Council. Visiting hours were from 8:45 to 10:15 AM Monday at the funeral home prior to the Mass. Donations in his name may be made to either the Urban Missionaries of Our Lady of Hope, 242 Canterbury Street, Worcester, 01603 or to the Veterans, Inc. Homeless Shelter, 69 Grove Street, Worcester 01605. Arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski & Malboeuf Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster.

www.sitkowski-malboeuf.com



March 11th. from 4:00 to 7:00pm. www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Jacquelyn D. Young, 77



CHARLTON Jacquelyn D. (Daley) died Young, 77, Monday, March 5, 2018, at the Life Care Center of Auburn. She was predeceased by her husband of 53 years, Robert C. Young who died in

She is survived by three chil-2015.dren. Betsv A. Gaucher and her husband Charles of Pawtucket, RI, Mark D. Young and his wife Karen of Bath, ME, and Susan E. Desy and her husband Steve of Brimfield; four grandchildren, Elizabeth Young, Sarah Young, Louis Desy, and Joseph Desy. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Barbara S. (Perry) Daley, and lived in Charlton for the past 12 years. She graduated from Oxford High School in 1958, and received her bachelor's degree in education from Worcester

State College in 1977.

Mrs. Young was a customer service representative at New England Telephone for over 20 years, retiring in 1998. She enjoyed painting, quilting, and was a Patriots and Red Sox fan.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Life Care Center of Auburn, for the exceptional care given to Jacquelyn over the past two years.

A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 10, 2018, at Grace Episcopal Church, 270 Main St., Oxford. Burial will be private at a later date at Gore Cemetery in North Oxford. Calling hours were Friday, March 9, 2018, from 4-7 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. Memorial contributions may be made to Old Sturbridge Village, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Rd., Sturbridge, MA 01566.

paradisfuneralhome.com

Doris D. Smith, 92



HOLLAND- Doris D. (Ring u ette) Smith, 92, a longtime resident of Holland, Wednesday, died February 28, 2018, at The Overlook in Charlton. Her husband of 46 years, was the late Joseph Smith,

who died in 1991. She is survived by 4 daughters Margaret Bonnette and her husband Michael of Southbridge, Ida Parron and her husband Robert of Holland, Annette Beaudry and her husband William of Holland, and Laura Bissineri and her husband Paul of W Brookfield. She also leaves 8 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son Edmond Breau, who died in 2011.

She was born in Southbridge, daughter of Leo and Ida (Grenier) Ring u ette. She was a member of St. Christopher's

Church in Brimfield, and the Order of the Eastern Star. Mrs. Smith retired from the housekeeping department at the Overlook Masonic Home, and had previously worked for many years at Hyde Manufacturing in Southbridge.

She enjoyed reading, crocheting, needlepoint, but most of all she loved spending time with her family

Calling hours were held Sunday, March 4, 2018, from 1-3PM, at Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA 01550, with a Prayer Service at 1:30PM with Rev. Robert Grattarotti, officiating. Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Overlook Masonic Home, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton, MA 01507, or to the Shriner's Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Streeet, Springfield, MA 01104. www.sansoucyfuneral.com

Mr. Adams was a veteran of the United States Army, serving from 1946-1949, where he was stationed in Japan. He was a former member of the VFW.

Ainse was an electrican, and owned his own business for over 30 years. He loved all things in nature - fishing, hunting, cutting wood, and watching the birds and wild life in the back vard.

He leaves his caregiver, wife, and companion of 34 years, Gisela H. Page and her family, his daughter, He also leaves two very special friends, Jo-Ann and Bob.

Services for Ainse

will be held privately, and there are no calling hours. Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., West Brookfield is assisting his family with arrangements.

varnumfuneralhome.com

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

www.StonebridgePress.com

CALENDAR

Saturday, March 17

Irish Dance Demonstration: On Saturday, March 17 2:15-2:45 p.m. at Dexter Hall, Charlton Public Library, 40 Main St., Dancers from the Lee Irish Dance studio in Charlton will perform at the library as part of their St. Patrick's Day tour. All dancers are school-aged children, ages 6-17, and they are eager to show off their performance pieces. This program is free and open to the public. Come watch the lassies dance!

CORNED BEEF! Saturday, March 17th, the Charlton City United Methodist Men's Group will be cooking a traditional New England corned beef & cabbage dinner. Come enjoy food and fellowship with friends and neighbors. A delicious corned beef, cabbage, carrots, potatoes, and more plus your choice of beverage, and a St Patty's Day cake for dessert. Dinner is served from 5:30-7 pm and as always there will be continuous serving and take-out available. Adults are \$10. children 6-12 \$6, and as always children 5 and under are free. Family maximum \$40. Tickets may be purchased at the door, reservations are greatly appreciated. Call the church office at (508) 248-7379 for information and reservations. The building is handicap accessible.

Saturday March 17 &

Sunday March 18

WOOF! The Boston Terrier Club of Connecticut and MinuteMan Boston Terrier Club will present four AKC specialty shows March 17 and 18 taking place at the Sturbridge Host Hotel, 366 Main St., Sturbridge.

Hours are from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. and the public is invited to attend.

AKC Boston terriers will compete for AKC championship points and best in specialty show. The clubs will offer a silent auction featuring dog related items as well as a raffle of dog items. Vendors will be selling dog related items.

Sunday, March 18

STEPPIN' OUT: The Hayloft Steppers Square Dance Club is holding a Special Advanced dance on Sunday, March 18 from 2:00 to 4:30. The caller will be Bill Ackerman. There are no rounds. Admission is \$8 per person. For information on our beginner classes, please call Moe (508) 344-3430 or Al (413) 436-7849 or visit our website www.hayloftsteppers.org. The club is located at 232 Podunk Road in Sturbridge.

Wednesday, March 21 SIMPLE SOUP SUPPER: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Holy Trinity Episcopal and New Hope UCC invite you to join us in a meal and discussion on Wednesdays in Lent, Feb. 21- March. 21 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Our conversation will be framed by the Adam Hamilton book, Half Truths: "God Helps Those Who Help Themselves" and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say. All are invited. All are welcome. If you have any questions about these offerings or the church, please contact Pastor Kirsten Nelson Roenfeldt at 774-318-9306 or pastorkirsten@bethlehemsturbridge.org.

Saturday, March 24

FREE MOVIE NIGHT! On Saturday, March 24 come to the United Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale, 8 Maple St. (alongside the library) for a free showing of Sight & Sound Theatre's production of Noah. Time is 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served.

GIANT MEAT RAFFLE: St. Joseph's Church of Charlton, 10 H Putnam Road Extension, is holding a giant meat raffle Saturday, March 24, 6-9 p.m. Six meat, one ham and one lobster table. Early birds arriving prior to 6 p.m. receive three free tickets to be used on the MEAT table of their choice. Selected "HOMEMADE" food purchases will be available for dinner as well as homemade baked goods for dessert. Beverages include beer, wine, soda,

water, coffee, tea etc.

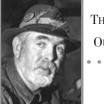
STEPPIN' OUT: The Hayloft Steppers Square Dance Club is holding a Casino Night dance on Saturday, March 24 from 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm (early rounds at 7:30). The caller will be Jim Schell and the cuer will be Birgit Maguire. Admission is \$8 per person. For more information on our Beginner Classes, please call Moe at (508)344-3430 or Sue at (860)576-5328 or visit our website at www.hayloftsteppers.org. The club is located at 232 Podunk Road in Sturbridge.

Sunday, March 25

Unity Brunch and Fundraiser: The Sturbridge Democratic Town Committee (SDTC) is pleased to invite the general public to our 2018 Democratic Unity Brunch and Fundraiser. It will be held on Sunday March 25 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Publick House in Sturbridge. This event is hosted by the SDTC to promote and support Democratic can-didates and elected officials and to raise funds for our annual scholarship award. This event features speakers, brunch, raffles, cash bar and election news. This year's brunch is expected to be particularly popular. Tickets may be purchased at: https://secure.actblue. com/donate/SDTCbrunch, from any

Turn To CALENDAR page A17

Stocking the lakes with fighters a priority



THE GREAT OUTDOORS RALPH TRUE

Now that ice fishing has ended early in Massachusetts on local ponds & lakes, some anglers are still fishing Maine waters that have 20 + inches of ice on them. Some local fishermen are also setting their sights on some steelhead and brown trout fishing in upstate New York.

The two anglers in this week's photos show a couple of anglers holding large steelhead and brown trout, taken on the Salmon River in upstate NY a while ago, while fishing with the Yankee Anglers Guide Service. The steelhead trout are the most acrobatic fish in the river, and will give a fisherman the thrill of a lifetime when they are hooked into one of these hard fighting fish. You do not need a guide to fish the Salmon River, but extreme caution should be used when navigating the river from the shoreline while using waders or hip boots. The rocks in the river are extremely slippery and require an angler to have felt pads or studded boots to keep from slipping on the bottom structure. March and April are prime times to fish the Salmon River, and it is only five hours away. Mass Fish & Wildlife trucks should be busy stocking trout in local



Two examples of steelhead and brown trout caught in upstate New York on the Salmon River. ponds and lakes in the returned. Wallum Lake is coming days and weeks.

still closed to all fishing. The Division of Fish & It will reopen on April Wildlife has more than 14. The interstate pond 500.000 trout to stock provides Massachusetts anglers with the only opening day for trout fishermen in the area and is governed by Rhode Island regulations. Five trout are allowed daily. Efforts by local fishermen in the valley to make Wallum Lake a trophy brown trout fishery by Massachusetts and Rhode Island more than 30 years ago, failed when the two states were unable to communicate with each other. Fishermen were the losers!!! Numerous efforts to introduce smelt into the lake were not realized mainly because of acid rain problems, but that was corrected when this writer and other local fishermen were successful in having "Living Lakes" bring in more

than 10 tractor trailers full of lime. The money was made available by large factories out west, that were identified as the major cause of the acid rain. The lime was spread out over the lake using a large boat that was equipped with the latest equipment, capable of spreading the lime using some of the first computerized technology. Prior to the spreading of lime at Wallum Lake, Massachusetts had stopped the stocking of rainbow trout because of the acid rain problem. Rainbow trout are now stocked annually at Wallum with no problems. We hear very little about acid rain today, but it has not gone away, and could get worse with the lifting of regulations on emissions by President Trump.

Courtesy photos

introduce smelt and shoal spawning alewives into the lake over the years, with the shoal spawning alewives having some success. Maybe it is time to try the alewives again, and to work with Rhode Island, limiting anglers to a daily brown trout bag limit to two fish. Wallum Lake is capable of growing four pound and six pound browns and better if the bait fish are introduced into the lake. I know, because I myself, and others, caught them not long ago. also This writer approached Mass Fish & Wildlife about acquiring a brown trout strain from upstate NY! Anyone that has fished Lake Ontario for browns, know what I am talking about. The brown trout grow fast and are aggressive feeders. Trout do not grow fast on insects. At the time, Massachusetts fish

biologists were reluctant to introduce the new strain of brown trout into Wallum Lake. Maybe the new fish biologist will be willing to give it a try. I hope so!!! They are still available.

This past week I spoke with the new owners of the Al's Goldfish Lure Company at the Saltwater Fishing Show in Providence RI. Back when I was a youngster, I always had a goldfish in my tackle box, and so did everyone else, and we still do today. Today Al's Goldfish Lure Company has introduced numerous new fresh and saltwater fishing lures. Check them out on their web site at www.alsgoldfishlureompany.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun club will host their annual spring archery shoot Sunday March 25. Anyone that enjoys shooting their long bow or compound bow is invited to attend. Breakfast will be available. Noel Rabidor, chairman of the event, does an exceptional job setting up the course, and has some new 3-D targets for attendees to shoot at this year. For more information go to the web site at www.uxbridgerodgun. Note: Because of bad weather the public hearing to extend the archery season in zones 10-14 was postponed to April 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mass Fish & Wildlife field headquarters.

this year. Reports of some brood stocked salmon being stocked in Connecticut waters recently, has some anglers hopeful that Massachusetts may be in line for some of these fish in the coming weeks. Stay tuned!

Prior to the last two snow storms, tree frogs were busy singing their mating calls in my backvard pond. I thought for sure spring had arrived, but that was wishful thinking. I had taken the lawn chairs out and started to wear my shorts, but they have all been put back into storage.

I did get to pull my boat out of storage and managed to get it ready for opening day at Wallum Lake before the snow

Massachusetts made numerous attempts to

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!!

Grow a bountiful garden and share with the hungry

Do vou always squeeze in an extra tomato plant, another row of beans or hill of zucchini? It seems like a good idea at the time, until they all start to produce all at once. Your family, friends and co-workers start to hide as you try to pawn off yet another bag of zuc-

chini or tomatoes. Here is a solution that satisfies your gardening obsession and feeds the hungry in your community. Designate some growing space to a Giving Garden and donate the harvest to your local food pantry.

Feeding America reports that 41 million Americans struggle with hunger. And many are children and seniors. Gardener's Supply Company is inviting gardeners to lend a hand and take the "Garden to Give" pledge to grow food to give to those in need.

They surveyed food pantries to find out what types of fruits and veggies people most enjoy eating, and those that store well. You'll find a simple Giving



Garden plan for beets, carrots, cabbage, Swiss chard, kale and winter squash on their website at gardeners.com. Best of all these late maturing vegetables will be ready for harvest all at about the same time, so you can make

your donation in just one trip.

Don't let a lack of space stop you from participating. Plant a row or container of one or more of these vegetables to share; join forces with a neighbor who may have the space, but only limited time to garden; or gather a few friends and rent a community garden plot. Together you can grow fresh produce and memories to share.

Get the children in your life involved in growing and giving. Gardening increases focus, decreases stress and elevates children's moods. Giving helps children grow into caring well-rounded adults. Plus, if they grow the vegetables, they are more likely to eat them!

Be sure to capture a few photographs of your donation to inspire others to follow your lead. Starting in August, you can enter Gardener's Supply's online "Show What You Share," photo contest for a chance to win a prize for you and your local food pantry.

With the "Garden to Give," program, everyone who participates is a winner. The real prize is making a difference while doing something you love. Once you've experienced the benefits of sharing fresh produce with the hungry in your community, you are likely to find yourself making regular donations of garden fresh fruits and veggies to those in need... and feeling great about it, too.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything: Food Gardening for Everyone" DVD set and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Gardener's Supply



Rob Cardillo photo

Produce about to be transported to a food pantry in West Philadelphia.

for her expertise to write this article. Myers's web site is www.melindamyers. com.



Call Jean at 508-764-4325 or email jean@stonebridgepress.news for more information

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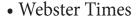
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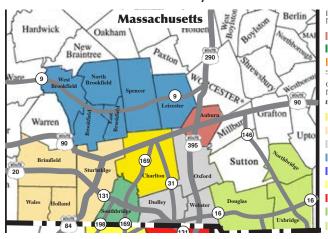
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- Auburn News
- Blackstone Valley Tribune





Paul Giles

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CALENDAR

continued from page A15

SDTC member, at the door at the event, or you can contact Dave Mitchell at: Waterfront2828@gmail.com.

Thursday, March 29

APPALACHIAN ADVENTURE: On Thursday, March 29 at 6:30 p.m. at Dexter Hall at the Charlton Library, Sam Ducharme will describe his 2,180 hike up the Appalachian Trail; a feat attempted many, accomplished by many fewer. No registration necessary, free event sponsored by the Friends of Charlton Library.

Wednesday, April 11

COMMUNITY GARDEN GROUNDBREAKING: There's a new community garden in Sturbridge. The Community Food Collaborative was formed last fall and they are seeking volunteers. To learn more, please visit their Facebook page at https://www. facebook.com/cfcgardens/. If you are interested in volunteering to help prepare and plant the garden, please join us for a kick-off celebration for volunteers followed by a tour of the garden site on Wednesday, April 11 from 4-6 p.m. at the Sturbridge Federated Church fellowship hall. For questions, email CFCGarden357@gmail.com or send a note to Community Food Collaborative at PO Box 357, Sturbridge, MA 01566.

Saturday, April 21

TOWN WIDE EFFORT: Let's Clean Up Holland! April 21st from 9-Noon. Participate in our second annual town wide effort against LITTER! Meet at Holland Elementary at 9am sharp. Form a team, be part of a team, or come on your own. With support and funding from The Last Green Valley, Opacum Land Trust and the Holland Highway, Police and Fire departments it will be a bigger success this year! Last year 70 participated, this year WE WANT 150!!! A party with treats for all participants will follow from 12-2:30! Feel good about our pretty town! Bring gloves & rough clothes, suitable footwear. For more info call (413) 245-4197

Sunday, May 20

CHOCOLATE! Once again, the seductive fragrance from the chocolate fountain will envelop the hall as Chapter R of the P.E.O. Sisterhood presents its third annual Chocolate Sunday, May 20 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., at The Performing Arts Center, The Overlook, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. Tickets for the event are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Contact Georgeanne T. Roe at (508) 278-3589, georgeanne.roe@att.net.

ONGOING

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP:

On the third Wednesday of each month, 6-7 p.m. at the Overlook Independent Living Building, fourth floor Solarium, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. The intent is to build a support system, exchange practical information, talk through issues and ways of coping, share feelings, needs and concerns and to learn about community resources. Contact Kathy Walker at (508) 434-2551 or kawalker@overlook-mass. org for more information. Presented by Alzheimer's Association MA/NH Chapter, visit (800) 272-3900 or alz.org.

NUMISMATICS: Looking for a new hobby? Come learn about the hobby of Coin Collecting. Or maybe you are an old time collector. Our club, the Nipmuc Coin Club, has both. We learn from each other through our monthly guest speakers, show and tell presentations, monthly coin auctions and free attendance prizes. Our group loves to share their knowledge with each other. About half of our members also like to eat. Each month we have a simple dinner with dessert and refreshments just prior to our meeting, which allows us time to socialize too. We meet the fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Oxford Senior Center located at 323 Main St. in Oxford. It is the building directly behind the Oxford Town Hall building. For more information, please contact Dick Lisi at (508) 410-1332 or lisirichard15@yahoo.com.

Free Playgroup at the Hitchcock Academy; sponsored by Union 61 Family Foundation Five Grant. It includes: Music & Movement on Wednesday 9-9:45 a.m. and Playgroup on Monday & Thursday 9-11 a.m. For more information about these and a variety of other classes visit us at www. hitchcockacademy.org or call 413-245-9977

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

THRIFTY: Saint Paul II Parish's Flea Market, at 40 Charlton St., Southbridge, is open each Monday from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and each Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Items for sale include household, linens and furniture. We also have a holiday room. Donations are appreciated. All proceeds go to the support of the church.

NUMISMATICS: Southbridge Coin Club meets on the third Friday of the month (except July and August). The doors open by 7 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Collectors of all ages are welcome. The meetings include raffle, auction, and show and tell. Light refreshments are served. The meetings are held in the community room at the Southbridge Savings Bank at 200 Charlton Rd. (Route 20), Sturbridge.

How Can I Protect Myself From Identity Theft?

(NAPS)

While there are many advantages to living in a connected world, the rise in cybercrime poses risks to our personal information. So how can you safeguard this information while enjoying online opportunities to achieve your financial goals?

One important way you can help protect your identity is by regularly reviewing your credit reports. Doing so is not only a responsible habit to begin as you establish your credit history, it can also be a way to identify incomplete or inaccurate information, as well as accounts that may have been opened erroneously. For free copies of your credit reports from Equifax, Experian and TransUnion, visit www.annualcreditreport.com.

"Reviewing your credit reports is an easy way to monitor your financial commitments," says Francis J. Creighton, president and CEO of the Consumer Data Industry Association. "While lenders and credit-reporting companies have a number of sophisticated security protocols in place to help prevent identity theft and fraud, there may still be instances where a criminal can gain access to your personal information and cause a problem."

After you receive your credit reports, review them carefully to make sure all the accounts are yours. If you notice an account that you don't recognize, or something is not correct, contact the credit-reporting agency as soon as possible to communicate the discrepancy. You can contact all three nationwide credit-reporting agencies online, by phone or by mail. Whichever method you choose, the credit-reporting agency will investigate disputed information and respond back to you with the results.

In a case of identity theft, the credit-reporting agency will work with you to place a fraud alert on your credit reports that can help prevent erroneous transactions from appearing in the future. A fraud alert informs creditors that you may have been a victim of fraud, and encourages them to take steps to contact you to verify your identity. Once a fraud alert is in place, you can choose to remove it at any time online. Under federal law, fraud alerts are free and are shared among the three credit-reporting agencies.

If you have been a victim of identity theft and false accounts have been opened in your name, you may want to consider a security freeze. A security freeze restricts access to your credit report without your permission and may prevent unauthorized individuals from opening new accounts in your name. These are free for identity theft victims and, depending on the state, senior citizens as well. For all other consumers, there may be a fee, based on individual state laws. Consumers should keep in mind that security freezes aren't for everyone, especially those who are actively seeking credit or plan to apply for credit in the future, such as for making a large purchase or applying for a loan.

It's important to safeguard your information wherever you can. Regularly checking your credit reports to make sure your information is correct, and being aware of the tools available to help you protect your identity, are great places to start. Consumers interested in getting copies of their free credit reports should visit www.annualcreditreport. com.

Note to Editors: The credit bureaus are implementing a National Consumer Assistance Plan in New York state. It will be going countrywide. While the information is relevant and can benefit people throughout the United States, it may be of particular interest to news outlets in New York.

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LEGALS

Planning Board Public Hearing Notice Town of Wales,MA Wales Town Offices NOTICE:

Town of Wales Planning Board Public Hearing March 26,2018;7:00 p.m. Wales Senior Center 85 Main St. Wales, MA 01081 Topic: Union Rd.Solar Development NOTICE: Town of Wales Planning Board Public Hearing March 26,2018;8:00 p.m. Wales Senior Center 85 Main St. Wales, MA 01081 Topic:Solar-by laws March 16, 2018 March 23, 2018

LEGAL NOTICE **INVITATION TO BID** TOWN OF CHARLTON HIGHWAY **MATERIALS & SERVICES**

Sealed bids, appropriately marked will be publicly opened and read in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Municipal Office Building, 37 Main Street, Charlton MA 01507 on Tuesday, April 10th, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. for the following highway materials which will be used on approximately 10,000 linear feet of road surface.

1. Bituminous concrete, Type I, in place (*Must be pre-qualified*)

2. Full Depth Pavement Reclamation (Calcium Chloride) (Must be pre-qualified) all grading included. 3. Stone Seal, Double Stone Seal

& 10% Asphalt Rubber Surface Treatment (Must be pre-qualified).

This is a state funded project that exceeds \$50,000.00, therefore, all contractors intending to bid on Item 1 - Bituminous concrete, Type I, in place and Item 2 - Scarifying and pulverizing in place asphalt pavement, all grading included and Item 3 -Stone Seal, Double Stone Seal & 10% Asphalt Rubber Surface Treatment, must be pre-qualified by the Contract Engineer, Room 7373, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116. With submission of the properly executed "Approval for Proposal Form" to the office of the Town Administrator, Municipal Office

Building, 37 Main Street, Charlton MA 01507, the prospective bidder will be entitled to a non-transferable proposal package.

Prospective bidders must obtain and utilize the bid package. The Town Administrator in the Selectmen's Meeting Room, Municipal Office Building, 37 Main Street, Charlton MA 01507, must receive sealed bids, no later than Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Each item shall be clearly marked in a separate envelope as to which category the bidder has chosen, i.e. "Item 1 - Bituminous concrete, Type I, in place". Any deviations from Massachusetts General Laws. Massachusetts Highway Department requirements and proposal stipulations will result in an automatic disqualification from the bidding process.

This bid is advertised under Chapter 30; Section 39M, Chapter 149, Section 26 - 27F of the M.G.L., in reference to the prevailing wage rates. All road material work and materials shall conform to the requirements of the Massachusetts Highway Department Standard Specifications for Highways, Bridges and Waterways.

All bids must be submitted under Chapter 30, Section 39M, which requires a bid deposit in the form of a bid bond. The amount of such bid deposit shall be five per cent of the value of the bid.

Within ten days of the notification of award, the contractor is required to provide a security bond under section twenty-nine of Chapter One Hundred and Forty Nine, for 50% of the contract award

All bids are effective April 10, 2018 and expire December 31, 2018.

Any questions should be directed to Gerry Foskett, Highway Superintendent at 508-248-2212.

The Town Administrator reserves the right to waive any minor informality in the bids and reject any or all bids and to make awards in a manner deemed to be in the best interest of the Town. March 15, 2018

March 16, 2018 March 22, 2018 March 23, 2018

www.StonebridgePress.com



Bill Thibaud



Derek Bachand

Matt Fox

John Snelling



2018 Escape Choose From \$2500 in Rebates "OR" **\$1000** Rebate and **0%** for 60 Months

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Bob Parker



Gary Pion



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White Platinum, AWD, Roof, Nav, CU6615..

2016 Cadillac XTS

yuaniy, iuny-serviceu pie-owneu:		Peter Stafford
\$15,999	2015 Lincoln MKC White Platinum, Reserve, Roof, Nav, TU9480R	\$29,999
\$18,999	2015 Toyota 4 Runner Limited Sterling Grey, 4x4, Leather, T/Tow, Roof, TU9218	\$32,999
\$25,999	2015 Ford F-150 Super Crew Lariat Bronze Fire, 4x4, 20" Wheels, Nav, TUA448R	\$37,999
\$36,999	2014 Ford F-150 "Raptor" Black, Supercrew, Roof, Nav, Loaded, TU9379	\$44,999





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WEBSTER LAKE - 60 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 52' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 8 Rms 3 Bdrm 2 Baths A/C'd Banch! Custom SS Applianced Granite Kit! Din Rm Irdwds & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/Awning! Lake Facing Frplc Liv Rm w/

WEBSTER LAKE - 82 Lakeside Ave! South Pond! Prime 157' Waterfront w Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 10+ Rm 4 Bdrm 45 Bath, A/C'd, 3,832' Custom Colonial! Lake Facing Quartz Kit w/Heated Flr! Din Area w/Custom Wall Unit & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/Elect Awning! Frolo Liv Rm! Din Rm w/Tray Ceiling! Lake Facing Master w/Master Bath! Upstairs 3

WEBSTER LAKE - 3 Long Island! Accessible by Boat Only Cottage" Ready to Rough It! Loads of Potential! Water on 2 Sides! Panoramic

ON DEPOSIT

WEBSTER LAKE – 3 Lakeview Rd! Middle Pond – Reid Smith Covel Ideal Summer or Yr Roundl Western Expo – Beautifu Sunsets I & Rm Ranch New Quartz & Stainless Kitl 3 Remodeled Bdrms! 2 New Baths – Master Bath! Tile & Hrdwds! Frplc! Oil Heat! Unique Waterfront! \$575,000.00

NEW/LISTING

WEBSTER LAKE - 55 Colonial Rd! WEBSTER LAKE - 33 Beacon Rd! 6 South Pond! 105' Level Waterfront! Western Expo! Awesome Sunsets! 10 Rm Contemp! Pano Lake Views Most Rms! Open Flr Plan! Froled Liv Rm! 4 2nd Flr Bd Facing! Master Bath! 2.5 Remodeled Baths! 2 Car Garage! Dock! Add Lot Across St! Recent Roof! \$599.900.00

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NEW PRICE

Rd! 440' Waterfront! Great Location!

Direct Highway Access! 3.4 Acres!

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Rm. 2 Bdrm Home! Oversize 2 Car Garage

w/2nd Floor! \$379.000.00

Re

Rms, 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths! 141' Waterfront 12,458' Lot w/Plenty of Privacy! Kit, Maste Bdrm, Master Bath, Roof & Windows New in 2013! Enjoy Sunsets from Wran-aroun

Cathedral, Skylight & Hrdwds! Comfortable Master Bdrm! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 2 Car Garage!

\$749.900.00



Hearth! Forced hot air by oil! Central Air Conditioning! 14' X 42' car port 3 car garage! Comes with Non-Seperable Waterfront Lot, on

\$367,000.

Pond! Enjoy Webster lake without the High Taxes!



WEBSTER LAKE – 48 Laurelwood Drl Reid Smith Cove! One of the Lake's Best Lots! Beautiful 10 Rm, 3,686' Contemp! 104' Waterfront, 228' Rd Frontage, 33,628 Sq. Ft, or .77 Acres! The Best on Market! Gradual Sloped Lawn to Beach/Shore! Private Rd wWoods Across Street! Location, Slope to Water, View & Exposure, Things You Can't Change, After that it's One's Imagination! Front, Back, & Side Yards, Space to Roam, Entertain, Park & Expand! Main Level, White & Black Granite Kit, Center Isl w/Gas Range & Sink, Wall Ovens! Din Area! Lake Facing Din Rm! Fryled Liv Rm w/Cathedral Open to Sun Rm w/Water View! Lake Facing Office/Possible 4th Bdrm! Half Bath! Upstairs, 3 Bdrms, 2 Bathrms! Amazing Lake Facing Master, Bath w/Whirlpool, Steam Shower, Dble Vanity, Cathedral w/Skylight & Laundry! Walk-out Lower Level w/ Fryled Fam Rm, Summer Kit & 3rd Full Bath, 3.5 Total! C/Air! Gas Heat! 2 Car Garage & More! \$1,100,000.00

Bdrms, 2 Lake Facing! Lower Level Fam Rm w/2nd Kit, Sauna & Full Bath! 3 Car Attached, 1 Car Detached! Security! Generator! Boat House! \$1,195,900.00

Middle Pond! 3 Separate but Connected Buildings! 4 Bedrooms! Town Water & Sewerage! **\$229,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 18 Bates Crossing! South Pondl Beautiful Sunrises! Huge Eastern Exposure! 8 Rm 3,100 'Custom Contemporary! 2.43 Acres! Substantial Privacy! Home Features Endless Possibilities! Open FIr Plan wMagnificent Views from Every Rm! 3 Bdrms, 3 Baths, Endress rossionlies: yopen rir ran whaqiiniceni views from every sini 's bornis,'s batins, Cathedral Cellings wSkylights European Kit WCenter Isl Movern FpC Liv Rin wGlass Sliders Open to Waterfront Balcony! Master Bdrm wfen-suite Bath, Separate Shower, Jacuzzi Tub, Walk-in Closet & Attached Laundry! Lower Level Bdrms Share Prixate Bath! OAri Attached Garage wWork Space D teached 2 Car Heated Garage wWorkshop! Greenhouse! Panoramic Lake & Estuary Views! **\$950,000.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 901 Treasure Is! Prime Beachfront Townhouse! 6Rms! 1,874'! Open Floor Plan! Applianced Granite Kit w/Hrdwds! Din & Liv Rms w/ Hrdwds! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Frplcd Fam Rm w/Tile Flr! Recent CAir, Gas Heat & Windows! Trex Deck! Garage BOAT SLIP! Heated Pool! \$424.900.00

Porch! Beautiful Lake Views! Frolc Liv Rm! SS Appliances C/Air! 2 Car Garage! \$519,900.00

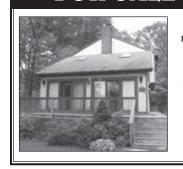


WEBSTER LAKE - 60 Lakeside Ave 100' Waterfront! Huge Views of South Pond! Western Exposure = Fantastic Sunsets! In Time for Summer! 5 Rooms of Rustic Charm! Real Log Summer Cottage! 10,924' Lot Allows for Room to Expand! Remodel It! Tear it Down! Build New! \$359,900.00



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SPENCER | \$549,000. Laura Eliason. Colonial restored & updated to perfection! Currently a B&B with 7 bedrooms, 6.5 baths, 8 FPs. Private master suite. Potential for in-law. Search 72254681 on cbhomes.com

COLDWELLBANKERHOMES.COM



WARREN | \$260,000. Stewart & Stewart. Picture perfect setting for this 4 BR, 2 bath Colonial on dead-end street. Fireplace with insert, garage. Search 72283299 on cbhomes.com



WEST BROOKFIELD | \$179,000. Melissa Matter. 3 BR, 1.5 bath Colonail near town green in this charming town! Original hardwood floors, excellent natural lighting.



rea

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Stewart & Stewart. Move in ready Cape just outside town center. Full of charm & custom craftsman details. Hardwood floors, fireplace, garage. Search 72249893 on cbhomes.com

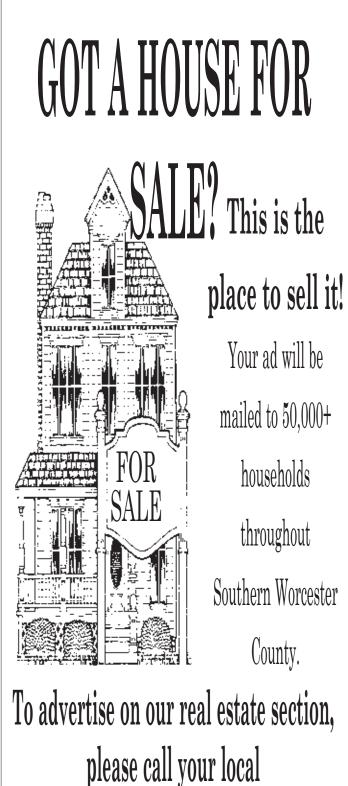


HOLLAND | \$250,000. Lisa Boudreau. Beautiful level lot for this waterfront on Hamilton Reservoir! 2 BR, 2 full baths, 2 car garage, fireplace. Search 72290917 on cbhomes.com

135 Main Street | Stubridge, MA | 508.347.7181 | CB Home Protection Plan 866.797.4788

Search 72275664 on cbhomes.com

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ans - Interested candidates should send a letter of intent, resume, and three recent letters of recommendation to: Jeffrey Kollett, 21 Davis Street, Douglas, MA 01516. All appointments are conditional based on a satisfactory CORI and SAFIS Background check per 603 CMR 51.00 The Douglas Public Schools welcomes and is open to all students, and offers opportunities in all approved programs and courses of study without regard to race, color, sex, sexual

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gion, national origin, homeless-

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PORTUNITY AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER. Ashlie E. Wolf, Executive Director, Southbridge Housing Authority, 60 Charlton Street, Southbridge, MA 01550 phone: 508-765-5858, fax: 508-764-2574

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8:30pm 508-867-6546 MOVING SALE: Hillsboro Full-Size Iron Sleigh-Bed with Box Spring & Mattress. Excellent Condition. \$1,000. Walnut Dresser & Nightstand and Full/Queen Headboard. Excellent Condition \$450. Beige Reclining Lift Chair \$350. White Couch and Blue Velvet Chair & Floral Chair \$450. 48" Round Slate and Cherry Coffee Table with Matching End Table \$500. Antique Dining Room Set; Table w/ Six Chairs, Buffet Server, China Cabinet & Secretary.

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(18"-22" Tall) 10 for \$99. New

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message

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Gallon

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each. Dishwasher, bought new,

never used, \$225 or best offer.

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\$50.

100 GENERAL

110 NOVENAS

JUDE

Worker Of Miracles, Pray For

Us. St. Jude, Helper Of The

Say This Prayer 9 Times A Day

For 9 Days, By The 9th Day

Answered Even If You Don't

Never Been Known To Fail.

Believe. This Novena Has

K.L.

Hopeless, Pray For Us.

Your Prayer Will Be

Publication Must Be

Thank You St. Jude

Promised.

May The Sacred Heart Of

Loved And Preserved

TWO DRESSERS best offer. Custom made parlor cabinet, \$1500. Glass door hutch - best offer. John Deere snowblower (like new) \$700 - must be seen! LET US KNOW!!! Call for appt. 774-507-6315 Please call us so that we TWO SOFA TABLES: ONE can take your ad DARK OAK w/ Shelf Underneath \$125. ONE MAHOGANY

out of the paper ... COLORED \$100. Both Very Town-To-Town Good Condition. Can email Pic-Classifieds 508-909-4111 TWO USED RECLINERS, \$75



FOUND HERE!

PRAYER TO ST. **286 LIVESTOCK**

HORSE BEDDING: Pine Bag Shavings 3.25 cubic feet, \$4.85/each. HORSE HAY for Jesus Be Adored, Glorified, Sale Big Squares 3' x 3' x 71/2' Square Bales. EXCELLENT for Throughout The World Now Horses, West Brookfield, Call And Forever. Sacred Heart Of (508) 867-2508 Jesus, Pray For Us. St. Jude.

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ROUTE 169 ANTIQUES: 884 Worcester St., Southbridge MA. Looking To Purchase Antiques And Collectibles Single Items Or Entire Estates. We Buy It All And Also Do On-Site Estate Sales And Estate Auction We are now accepting dealers for our multi-dealer group shop. Call Mike Anytime (774)230-1662.



HAMPTON INN STUB-BRIDGE is now hiring for the following positions: Front Desk Associate, Night Auditor. Apply in Person: Hampton Inn. 328 Main St., Sturbridge, MA 01566

TOWN OF CHARLTON seeks a FT Deputy Fire Chief to assist the Chief by providing highly responsible supervisory and administrative work in the planning, organizing, budgeting, staffing, managing and directing administrative and trechnical aspects of the Charlton Fire Department. Associates in Fire Science or Business and 10 years experience in an organized fire department, with 7 of those years in a FT Supervisory capacity; or equivalent combination. Bachelor's degree preferred. MA Firefighter I/II certified, current MA EMT certified, CPR and First Aid, Hazard Materials Operations, NIMS 700, ICS 100 & 200. Advanced EMT or Paramedic preferred. Must reside within 10 miles of the perimeter of Charlton within 14 months of appointment. Application deadline is 3/21/18. Full Positing and application details found at: www.townofcharlton.net/ opportunities.htm

311 PART-TIME HELP WANTED

2nd SHIFT PART-TIME DIS-PATCHER - for 1-3 nights a week. We will train qualified applicants. Dispatch Solutions is an E/O/E. All applicants must pass a pre-employment drug ground check to be eligible for mobilemedtransport.com

DRIVERS WANTED 20 hours a week, split shift. Driving special ed children to school in Spencer, Leicester and Worcester areas Call: 508-885-5778 or: 508-885-5788

PROFESSIONALS hookups, Oil heat, Year-round, PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL SERVICES, INC. in Sturbridge is looking to hire HHA's, CNA's

Applianced. \$850/month 413-262-5082 PCA's, and Homemakers. Bilin-

bedroom.

700 AUTOMOTIVE 325 PROFESSIONAL

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1977 CORVETTE Automatic Red, Rebuilt Original Motor 350HP, Rebuilt Front Suspen-sion, Rebuilt Rear End with 3:55 Gears, Excellent Body, Solid Frame, Painted and Restored in 1996, Runs Excellent, No Win-ters! \$11,000 obo. Call or Text 774-318-7014

""64" TBIRD: Very Good Condition, Older Restoration, 390 Automatic, Runs Strong, Black with Red Interior. Asking \$13,500 obo.(774) 230-4156

725 AUTOMOBILES

1999 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE: 35th Anniversary Edition. 121,000 miles, 5 speed manual transmission, V-8, Great Condition Inside and Massachusetts Office of Child Out! Always Garaged. \$4,500 or Care Services requires that all best reasonable offer. Call (508) 943-7705 to See

2007 HYUNDAi ELANTRA, 4 cyl., automatic, a/c, power doors/windows. auto start. cruise control, tilt steering, exc. condition, 111,000 miles, \$4,500 508-779-0542

2009 CHEVY HHR SPORT 53+K miles, 2 new tires, heated leather seats, remote start, am/fm radio. cd plaver. sunroof. title in hand, minor body damage. \$4800 OBO 508-949-0440 8am-6pm only

2011 DODGE CHALLENGER: 305 hp V6 SE auto w/slap stick Mango Tango w/black strips 59,000 miles, Loaded, remote start. \$14,500. 508-864-1906

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725 AUTOMOBILES

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