

Bush 41 had ties to late Winchendon veteran



Ed Gandy

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

On Sept. 2, 1944, Lt. George H. W. Bush was among a group of airmen conducting a bombing raid on the tiny Japanese island of Chichi Jima. During the attack, Bush's Avenger light bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire and the engine set ablaze. Despite the damage, the young pilot managed to complete his bombing run before ejecting from

his crippled aircraft. Sadly, the two men in Bush's crew did not survive.

Bush landed in the Pacific Ocean and waited for four hours for rescue. U.S. fighter aircraft circled overhead, providing protective cover, until the life-guard submarine USS Finback arrived to pluck him from the sea.

Bush later related that he at first thought the sight of the sub to be an hallucination. In a 2002 interview with the BBC, Bush said: "I saw this thing coming out of the water and I said to myself, 'Jeez, I hope it's one of ours.'"

Aboard the Finback that day was Winchendon native Edward Gandy. The career Navy man had served as torpedo man on the submarine USS Bang before taking on the same job as a member of the Finback's crew.

During Bush's brief time aboard the sub, the two men struck up a friendship which would last until Gandy's passing on March 11, 2012. Several times he visited Bush at his summer home in Kennebunkport, Maine to enjoy some deep-sea fishing aboard the Fidelity, the late president's beloved boat.

Gandy's service spanned three of America's conflicts: World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Gandy was a member of Winchendon's American Legion Post 193, Lions Club, and Artisan Masonic lodge.

As the nation mourns the loss of its 41st president, Winchendon residents can take some small measure of pride in knowing that one of its native sons called the late Command in Chief "friend."



LISTENING CLOSELY

Greg Vine photo

Santa listens closely as youngsters tell him what they want for Christmas during the annual Kiwanis Breakfast with Santa last Saturday. The event, always eagerly looked forward to by local kids, was again a huge success, as the Carriage House held a buffet feeding more than 450 people, the local Kiwanis making certain every child received a gift and both the Murdock and Mahar Key Clubs helping Santa and the restaurant in any way they could as a community service project. More photos page 10.

Computer 'glitch' hits Fidelity business accounts

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

When Bruce Cloutier, owner of Bruce's Burner Service, tried to make a withdrawal from his business's checking account last Saturday, the Winchendon businessman was in for a double shock. This first came when he was unable to withdraw any money from his account at the Fidelity Bank ATM at School Square. But the big shock came when he went to a teller in the bank to get documenta-

tion of a lack of funds in his account. The receipt he received threw him for a loop, to say the least. The little piece of paper indicated his account was overdrawn by a whopping \$60.5 million.

"I guess she must have seen the look on my face," said Cloutier, "because she asked me, 'Is there something wrong?' Well, yeah, there was something wrong all right."

Cloutier's wasn't the only local business account affected by the glitch. Dick's Wayside

Furniture, a local convenience store, and a handful of others were also hit.

"The bank did some routine maintenance on our core banking system on Friday," Fidelity President Christopher McCarthy told the Courier, "and some information, through a glitch, was directed to the wrong field when the maintenance was performed. What resulted is that we discovered early on Saturday morning

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Report on transportation needs won't include how to fund

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

It's no secret Massachusetts has serious transportation and travel issues. Anyone who's driven from Winchendon anywhere past Fitchburg on Route 2 East can attest to that. So can anyone who's endured rush hour at the Concordrotary. Later this month, the Commission on the Future of Transportation in the Commonwealth will release the latest study on the issue and according to the Associated Press, whether this time the woes of north central Massachusetts might even be addressed remains an open question.

Governor Charlie Baker has conceded the state doesn't really have a handle on the never-ending crisis nor a plan to fix it and last year ordered a comprehensive look. The results of that look are what this new report is expected to deliver. When he created the 18-member panel in 2017, Baker said he wanted to see a plan which took into consideration, "impending disruptions due to changes in technology, climate, demographics and more."

"The public is right to have a little fatigue around 'hey, here's another plan, here's another report.' We do that too much in transportation policy," said Chris Dempsey, director

of Transportation for Massachusetts, which is a coalition of statewide groups.

"We think it will be very important for this report to not just have long term recommendations about the year 2040 but to also have very specific recommendations of immediate next steps to take to move us in the right direction," stressed Dempsey.

As ever, a major issue will be financing anything the commission recommends if it offers any new strategies at all. Back in 2007, the state Transportation Finance Commission concluded there were major issues with many roads, bridge-

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Courtesy photo

Mrs. Claus will be at Beals.

Mrs. Claus will read Christmas stories

Ever wonder what Mrs. Claus' favorite Christmas stories might be?

Come to the Beals Memorial Library on Saturday, Dec. 15 at 10am to find out. Mrs. Claus will be taking time out of her busy schedule to read a few of her favorite holiday stories.

All ages are invited! Don't forget your camera to snap a photo of

your child with Mrs. Claus afterwards.

In conjunction with Mrs. Claus' visit, the Friends of the Beals Memorial Library will be holding a bake sale from 10 am to noon. Proceeds will benefit the restoration of the library's 105 year old circulation desk.

The library is located at 50 Pleasant St. in Winchendon. For more information call

the library at 978-297-0300.



LOCAL

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SPORTS

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WEEKLY QUOTE

What's dangerous is not to evolve.

Jeff Bezos

Should you scrap your silver?

The short answer on whether you should scrap silver is that you usually shouldn't. I'll provide a brief history before discussing what to do with your silver.

The oldest silver artifacts were made in ancient Sumer around 4000 BC, according to Britannica. "The scarcity of silver, combined with its softness and malleability, precluded its use for making tools." However, those properties, along with its bright color and resistance to oxidation, made it desirable for ornamental pieces.

In Ancient Rome, it was used for plate ware, utensils, and ornamental work. Prior to the Middle Ages, gold was utilized more often, until after when silver became the primary metal in European metalwork. Silverwork continued to thrive during the Renaissance. During the 18th century, thin silver sheets were used to cover copper. This became known as "Sheffield plate," and made silver affordable for most people.

Before you decide what to do with your silver, you should determine whether you have sterling or silver plate. If you have silver flatware or hollow ware (teapots, serving bowls, etc.), check the bottom. Most American



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WAYNE TUISKULA

silver should be marked sterling. It may also be marked 925 because sterling silver is 92.5% silver. If silver were 100% it would be too malleable for flatware and hollow ware. You can also look for the word "plate." Silver plate, quadruple plate, Sheffield plate and EPNS indicate that there is just a small amount of silver. Except for exceptional pieces, most silver plate has little value.

Other silver isn't as easy to identify. English silver hallmarks can be very complicated. There are different hallmarks for sterling and silver plate.

According to the 925-1000.com website, there may be five hallmarks on a piece. The first is a standard mark which specifies the silver content. The next identifies the city, followed by a letter and the date. The last marks are duty and makers' marks.

Earlier American silver is also hallmarked. It may have the last name or initials of the silversmith. Much of the early silver is made of "coin silver." Coin silver is 90% silver which is the same amount that was in silver coins of the time. You can often find more info on the early American silversmiths. For instance, coins silver spoons marked Goddard may be from a

Worcester silversmith.

Scraping broken pieces may be fine. Sometimes a mixture of simply designed pieces may not have a value much above the scrap value. However, most sterling and coin silver by earlier silversmiths command prices above scrap value and shouldn't be scrapped. If you have a spoon by Paul Revere Jr., it can bring thousands of dollars. Coin silver teapots by other American silversmiths can also sell for thousands.

An average sterling silver flatware set can bring anywhere from \$500 into the low thousands. Prices vary depending on the maker and pattern. We sold a rare sterling flatware set, with scarce serving pieces, for over \$15,000. Mid-century modern sterling pieces are among the mid-century pieces that are currently bringing strong prices. We sold a set of Georg Jensen sterling flatware for over \$4,000.

A rare George Jensen fish platter sold for \$120,000 at another auction house in 2011. You'd need something of similar quality to serve fish from a platter like that. A Martele sterling silver fish serving piece sold for \$2,700 in a 2013 auction.

I'll be at the Shrewsbury Historical Society on Dec. 12th at 7:00 PM for an antiques presentation. We are still making estate pickup and accepting quality consignments for our Jan. 31st



live auction. See www.centralmassauctions.com for details on these and other upcoming 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

Homemade holiday gifts: high in creativity, short on cash



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The holidays are here, and if you're scrambling to find the perfect present on a budget, you're not alone. Before you run out to search a token present from picked over department store leftovers, or recharge a chain store gift card, read on. This year's gift giving philosophy is all about back to basics and a homemade touch can make the difference between a dull or dazzling present. Read on for some new and old gift ideas that represent

some of my favorites!

**** Festive Guest Soaps:** These fragrant soaps are a nod to nostalgic soaps from days of yore. Fancy, yet practical, these impressive soaps make the perfect hostess present. Or add a few to a basket along with a pair of coordinating hand towels for a sensational gift set.

Ingredients: glycerin bar soap (available at dollar stores); dried flowers such as lavender, chamomile, etc.; dried herbs or herbal tea bags; essential oils.

Instructions: Cut glycerin soap bars into chunks and melt in a double boiler or (carefully) in the microwave. Stir until melted. Skim off any top residue that may form. Gently stir in dried flowers and herbs. Pour melted glycerin into soap

or candle molds. When thoroughly cool, remove soap from mold. Embellish for gift giving by wrapping a grosgrain ribbon once around the soap, securing with a floral sticker. Or wrap in tissue paper and tie off with ribbon.

Homemade glycerin soaps are fantastic bath gift items for family members too. Chop unscented glycerin soap bars and melt.

For men: toss in a little white sand for an effective abrasive hand soap that's ideal for the workshop.

For women: the addition of poppy seeds, oatmeal or coffee grounds makes an excellent exfoliant soap.

For kids: Poke a plastic bug or other small safe toy surprise in the soap before setting.

**** Gourmet Condiment Basket:** Fancy imported mustards and gourmet vinegars can be costly. All you need are some inexpensive ingredients and a few embellishments to conjure up a gift basket worthy of the fussiest of cooks! Mix up a couple of small jars of flavored mustard and add a tall decanter of vinegar for a complete gift.

Base Mustard Recipe
This base recipe uses the addition of ingredients (posted below) to prepare various gourmet mustards. Makes one cup.

Ingredients: Three ounces of brown or yellow mustard seeds; one quarter cup brown sugar; one teaspoon salt; one teaspoon cracked pepper; one teaspoon turmeric; seven eighths of a cup wine or white vinegar.

Instructions: In a blender, mix together mustard seeds, sugar, salt, pepper and turmeric. Add the vinegar one tablespoon at a time to form a coarse paste. Let mixture rest for about 15 minutes. Add the additional gourmet ingredient flavors below. Spoon into a tightly capped jar. Label jar with mustard name. Make up

a gift tag with instructions to allow mustard to cure for two weeks before serving.

Gourmet Blend Additions (add to one cup base recipe)

Clove Spice Mustard: add one teaspoon of cloves; Tarragon Mustard: add a pinch of cloves and one teaspoon tarragon; Horseradish Mustard: add up to one tablespoon of grated horseradish; Hot Garlic Mustard: add one dried chili pepper and one garlic clove.

Note: Small jelly canning jars are ideal for packaging gift mustards. You can fill two jars with this one cup recipe. Use your computer to make up unique labels.

**** Scented Home Décor Medallions:** These fragrant air fresheners make a fashion statement! They can be hung on a doorknob, in a closet or all around the house. These can be made with candy or candle molds as well as soap molds.

Materials: Plaster of Paris; pearly craft paint; essential oil; soap or candle molds; ribbon

Instructions: Mix plaster according to directions on package and pour into molds. Each medallion requires two identical molds. When completely dry, remove from molds. Using a pearl or enamel, paint front and sides of each form as desired. Leave a small area at the top of each mold unpainted. Apply a finish coat over paint. When dry, apply several drops of essential oil to the top of medallion. The unpainted area is porous and fragrance will be absorbed by the medallion. Cut a loop of ribbon and glue to the back of one mold. Glue the molds together back to back, securing carefully with a vise if necessary to press seams together. When dry and secure, suspend wherever a fresh scent is desired.

**** Heirloom Tea Spoons:** Vintage silverplate spoons coated with candy provide a sentimental sweet treat for tea

drinkers. Silver plated spoons are inexpensive and readily available at flea markets or antique shops. Wrap a few of these stirrers in cellophane and tie with a ribbon. To sweeten the deal, present a matching set of spoons along with a selection of loose tea.

Ingredients: Approximately 35 pieces hard candy, crushed (lemon and cinnamon are great with tea); two tablespoons corn syrup.

Directions: Line a cookie sheet with wax paper and spray with cooking spray. In a heavy saucepan combine crushed candies and corn syrup. Melt over low heat stirring frequently. Spoon candy into bowl of each spoon. Place spoons on cookie sheet with handles on rims to make spoons level. Allow to harden.

**** Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House**

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

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

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Six steps to stop porch pirates this holiday season

By Shannon Boyle,
Content Marketing Specialist for BBB

The holiday season is in full swing and online shoppers need to be on alert for ‘porch pirates’ — people stealing packages from unsuspecting homeowners. In a recent study, nearly 26 million Americans reported holiday packages being stolen from their front porch or doorstep.

Last year, Amazon shipped more than five billion items to Prime members, sparking a packaging business to analyze Google search trends to determine where package theft is more concentrated. Boston is fourth on the list of the most prone cities to so-called porch pirates.

Although certain crimes occur more often around the holidays, the USPS and Consumer Reports have a few ways

you can keep your packages safe from thieves.

Don't leave delivered packages unattended. You wouldn't leave \$500 sitting outside your house overnight so don't leave your packages unattended for long periods of time. Pay attention to online tracking; if the company says it was delivered but it's not at your house report it.

For extra security, use motion detecting lights and camera systems to fend off would-be thieves.

Leaving town? Have your mail held at the post office. Once you return you can pick everything up or request it be delivered to your home.

Customize the delivery. If you know the package is going to be larger than the mailbox, authorize the carrier to leave it in a specified out-of-sight location. You can also request pick-up at their facility.

Secure the shipment. Signature confirmations ensure that the package ends up in the right hands. Register your most valuable packages so special care and documentation is used every step of the way.

Ship your packages to where you are, not where you aren't. Spend all day at work? Talk to your boss about having packages delivered to your workplace instead of your home address.

Keep an eye out for suspicious activity in your neighborhood. Some thieves follow delivery trucks waiting for the opportune time to steal packages. If you

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notice something out of place in your neighborhood, report it to the proper authorities with specific details.

You can also plan with neighbors to move any packages inside their home for safekeeping until you arrive home at night.

If you or someone you know has been affected by stolen packages, report it to BBB Scam Tracker to help warn others.

For more holiday tips you can trust, check out the BBB Holiday Guide at bbb.org or follow us on social media.



Courtesy photo

This is just tempting the porch pirates

Murdock seniors already getting college acceptance letters

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Several dozen colleges and universities have received applications from Murdock High School seniors as the traditional but very much unofficial Dec. 1 suggested target date set by the guidance department passed. So far 37 students have already received acceptance notices and several dozen more applications are being processed.

“These numbers will increase exponentially when we have our decision day” from Mount Wachusett Community College, said MHS guidance counselor Rachael Weinhold. MWCC, as is the

case with several other schools including Fitchburg and Worcester State and Franklin Pierce University, has a same-day acceptance program. The Mount had to reschedule its day at Murdock. MWCC works aggressively to attract local high students.

The schools to which MHS students have applied include but are not limited to UMass Amherst, Salem State, Southern Vermont, Dean College, North Carolina State, Clemson, Penn State, UNH, Lasell, Tufts, UMass Lowell, Western New England, Manhattanville, Roger Williams, St. Joseph College of Maine, Salve Regina, Boston University, Bowdoin, Assumption, Colby Sawyer,

URI, and the aforementioned regional schools.

Murdock's guidance department annually lays out a carefully structured schedule of college preparation which is by no means limited to seniors though the primary focus is obviously on that group. Seminars and assemblies are held to dissect the ins and outs of financial aid, “demystifying the application process,” SAT prep and career planning.

The “Junior Class kickoff” is slated for Feb. 7. Before that though, MWCC will be offering daily campus tours during the upcoming winter vacation.

“We know the whole process can be a little intimidating” for some students and fami-

lies,” Weinhold reflected earlier this fall. “We do everything we can with the College Success Academy (which MHS

conducts in partnership with MWCC) to make the process less intimidating.”



Ice Rink Attendant and Zamboni Driver

The Winchendon School is looking for a part time ice rink attendant & Zamboni driver for evenings and weekends. Responsibilities include, maintaining all public spaces for safety and cleanliness.

Contact Colleen at canderson@winchendon.org

Patrick declines leaving path open for others

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Former Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick has decided to opt out of what is expected to be a crowded field seeking the 2020 Democratic nomination for President.

After leaving Beacon Hill in 2013 following two terms as governor, Patrick returned to Bain Capital but re-emerged during this year's midterm election by campaigning for numerous Democratic candidates across the country, stoking speculation he might decide to enter the next presidential contest, but the Harvard Law grad chose not to do so.

Earlier this year, some of Patrick's backers had created the “Reason to Believe” political action committee to “promote Governor Patrick's positive vision.” The group endorsed and raised money for 27 candidates this cycle, 17 of whom won.

Patrick's decision not to run doesn't mean Massachusetts won't be represented in the '20 primary. Sen. Elizabeth Warren is consistently considered to be among the leading contenders for the nomination and representatives Seth Moulton and Joe Kennedy are reportedly thinking about the race.

Meanwhile, the effect might not be felt immediately in nearby Rindge, Keene, Jaffrey, Peterborough and Fitzwilliam, but New Hampshire's economy is about to get a jolt. As soon as the holidays are over, prospective presidential candidates will be making their first formal forays to the Granite State when the primary will be just over 13 or 14 months off. A recent story in the Washington Post estimated larger cities like Manchester and Nashua are seeing in town spending hikes of some 40 percent once candidates descend on them and even local communities like Keene, which has been a traditional campaign stop since at least the 1970s, see a jump in spending by campaign staffs and the accompanying media.

Additionally, Franklin Pierce University in Rindge has not only been hosting candidate forums the last several cycles but has sent students to conduct polling in conjunction with the Boston Herald the previous two presidential races, prompting increased visitation on campus and in Rindge.

Tis the season to Shop Local

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Kenne tenders resignation

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Murdock High School Assistant Principal Charlie Keene, who was only at the school since the beginning of the current academic year, resigned on Nov. 19, just before Thanksgiving vacation. Personal reasons were cited as the decision.

The MHS position was Keene's first as an administrator. The North Carolina native who grew up in Marlboro and attended Boston College, had been teaching English in Andover before coming on board at Murdock.

School officials' responses were temperate. “I wish Mr. Keene and his family the best in the future. I thank him for his service to students and staff during his tenure at Murdock High School,” said interim Superintendent Joan Landers.

Said School Committee Chair Greg Vine, “It came as a bit of a surprise but the process of finding an interim assistant principal is already underway. We wish him well in his future endeavors.”

There was no word on the timetable for a new assistant principal.



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EDITORIAL

Loss of a statesman

Whether you are a registered voter affiliated with a party, or whether you try really, really hard not to be involved with politics at all, you have to know the world has lost a true gentleman this week.

George Herbert Walker Bush was, for the most part, a soft spoken man...with a spine of steel. He chose not to put himself in the blinding spotlight and take credit for much of what was indeed his own work. He believed in those who worked with him; and gave equal credit to those around him.

His modest adage was that no single person was ever wholly responsible either for triumph or failure.

And he didn't just talk his talk, he lived it.

He nearly lost his election bid because people didn't "get" his demeanor. Time magazine called him a "wimp."

He proved them wrong. His style was different, there wasn't bluster in his speech and mannerisms. There was honesty, and sincerity.

And while he didn't agree with everyone around him, even among those on his side, in his own party and his advisors; he handled any controversy calmly and quietly. Presenting himself and any rancor with a level headedness we could surely use now.

He was a diplomat.

He was a number cruncher. He understood tactics and strategy.

He was a veteran.

He was a devoted husband and father.

He was a successful business man.

He was a friend, a good friend to many, staying friends with old Navy buddies, with college friends, with fellow politicians his entire life.

He may be the last of dying breed; an honest politician who understood compromise; understood human nature; and understood nothing gets done without both sides willing to talk and to sacrifice a bit.

And he understood we are all in this together. There is no "us" and "them"; we are one country.

If for no other reason than to honor his memory, we should attempt to act like it for a month or two.

He would understand that; and probably laugh at us all from Barbara's side; where he most assuredly is now; at peace.

Goodbye Mr. President.

What I wouldn't give to have H.W. in the White House

"We can be powerful without being confrontational. We can be compelled without being pushy, and committed without being arrogant." - Debbie Lynn, American artist, writer

The moving funeral for late former President George H.W. Bush is over and now, after pausing to give him in death the respect he deserved in life, the nation is once again moving on. The deaths of President Bush and, several months ago, Senator John McCain seem almost Providential, as if fate has sacrificed them in order to remind us of the kind of men - and women - of character who built a nation the envy of the world and which now seems slowly relinquishing its position as the country other nations aspire to be.

Now, I was not always a big fan of the elder Bush. When I lived in Seattle, I volunteered on the 1988 presidential campaign of Michael Dukakis and served as a Dukakis delegate to the state Democratic convention.

But, despite my disagreements with his stand on a number of issues, I - like most Americans - respected the man. He was a man of character, grace, empathy, and fairness. What he did, he did for what he felt was the good of



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

the country; not for self-enrichment, or self-aggrandizement. And he carried himself with class.

Can anyone who witnessed any of the campaigns he was involved in - be it for U.S. House, U.S. Senate, or President - picture George Herbert Walker Bush denigrating his opponents the way the current White House occupant is so prone to doing? Can anyone really imagine him hurling around names like a petulant 4th-grader? Lyin' Bill. Low Energy Ron. Low IQ Mike.

He would never have partaken of such low-class, un-American campaigning, legislating, or policy-setting.

And can anyone imagine George Herbert Walker Bush sidling up to authoritarian despots like Vladimir Putin, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Rodrigo Duterte, and Mohammad bin Salman?

Hardly? He may have been part of an administration that supplied money and guns to brutal right-

wing despots and revolutionaries in Central America, but he was no lover of dictatorships.

When he won, he refused to gloat. Wouldn't that be a nice change?

And when he lost, he lost, again, with grace and class. His political adversaries did not become his personal enemies. He understood that the very foundation of America was our ability to disagree with one another, and to do it respectfully.

When the Berlin Wall came down and the Soviet Union collapsed, he didn't spike the ball in the end zone because America had vanquished the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc. Instead, he thanked not himself but God for allowing America to win the Cold War. In doing so he recognized it had not been won by him or Ronald Reagan or any one person. It was won by the American people.

And working quietly behind the scenes, President Bush led the effort to restore a united Germany, something about which the leaders on France and other nations that had been under the Nazi boot were less than enthusiastic. And again, he did without screaming "Look what I did! Look what I did!"

America will miss George

H.W. Bush. He was, at the expense of being competitive, a class act. His death just seems one more step toward a completely tribalized society where winning isn't everything, it's the only thing. It also takes back to a time when political adversaries weren't instant enemies, when even the most partisan politicians but country over politics,

We can only hope that we will once again see a time when America regains its leadership in the world, a status nearly lost under a man who alienates our best friends and swoons over those who would love nothing more than to see us knocked off the global pedestal.

Who knows when we'll see leader like George H.W. Bush again, if ever. But let's hope we can once again disagree like Americans...with respect for one another and the ability to recognize the ability to compromise is not a strength, not a weakness.

Germany's Otto von Bismarck once said, "There is a Providence that protects idiots, drunkards, children and the United States of America."

Here's hoping Providence sends another leader like George H.W. Bush again...and soon!

A tribute to decency

George Herbert Walker Bush didn't mind throwing elbows or at the very least having them thrown on his behalf as was the case during the 1988 presidential campaign when his strategist Lee Atwater took a single horrific incident from Massachusetts' furlough program and used it to unfairly batter Mike Dukakis and swing the momentum towards Bush, a strategy for which Atwater apologized as he was dying. Then again, politics tends to be played with sharp elbows and so on balance there is no question Bush was a genuine war hero, pretty much a decent human being and a guy who saw opponents, not enemies, and who wasn't afraid to change his mind and policies for the greater good. And he was a prolific writer of handwritten letters. That alone remains pretty cool.

Bush died a week ago at 94 and I don't think I have much to add to the many glowing tributes to the aforementioned decency. The close friendship he developed with the guy who defeated him for re-election is testament to his ability to put politics aside of course but even politically you could vehemently disagree with Bush but still hold him in the highest regard. In this time of incivility in our society, we sometimes tend to think people who disagree with one another can also not communicate on a personal level and that



JOURNEY OF THE HEART
JERRY CARTON

peace, President 41.

I learned of Bush's unsurprising death while I was in Baltimore last weekend. Traveling the week after Thanksgiving is a lot cheaper than the week of Thanksgiving. Shocking, right? Of course not. There was no specific reason for the trip other than to see the family - my father will be 92 next month, my mom just reached 86, and at those ages you never know even though they seem to be doing relatively ok considering. So we went to Baltimore, even though the Super Shuttle van driver took the longest possible route from the airport to my parents' house. There's a housing development, upscale yes, but still a housing development where the neighborhood golf course used to be. My long time favorite deli is no more, sunk by a vicious family feud. The movie theatre we went to as teenagers is now a grille and the food was good. Little wins. We went with Courtney's godmother and her husband and had a good visit for sure. There are still some businesses which were around literally 50 years ago which kind of surprised me given the reality of

is sadly too often true. It's also true 41 governed before the Internet, before the 24/7/365 onslaught of social media but one cannot help but believe even today he'd find a way not to demonize. He served his country long, faithfully and well. There can be no higher calling. Rest in

all the national chains. But mostly much of Pikesville where my parents live was unrecognizable to me. I mean after all, an upper-middle class to upper-class neighborhood can never have too many places to eat, shop or bank, right? The demise of the regional Owings Mills Mall has led to the proliferation of restaurants all up and down the main drag of Reisterstown Road which wasn't exactly hurting for eateries 25 years ago. I have no idea how some of these places stay in business. We drove past our old houses. I went to an off-track betting facility Saturday with my dad, sister and oldest college friend. Truth be told, it was too dizzying for me and the place was cold, the bathrooms frigid and the lighting disgraceful. Live and learn.

We did not go to the cemetery. Today is Dec. 7. 18 months, a year and a half, has now gone by since that catastrophic June day but I am obviously not going to love or miss Courtney any more or less regardless of whether I went to the grave or not. Her legacy isn't by that tree. It's in the scholarship program and the work her friends and cohorts are doing. And when we went to BWI to fly back, we were pre-screened and breezed through security in a minute (Thanks Greg to dropping us off Thursday and thanks Katie for getting us Sunday). There are little wins and there are cool wins. This one was a cool win. The weather 400 miles to the South? It was freezing. Then again it is November/December. How many days until spring anyway? See you next week.

What does it really mean to be patriotic?



BEYOND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
LEE H. HAMILTON

Patriotism has been on a lot of people's minds lately. French President Emanuel Macron recently criticized President Trump and other world leaders for their "us versus them" view of patriotism.

"By putting our own interests first," he said, "with no regard for others, we erase the very thing that a nation holds dearest, and the thing that keeps it alive: its moral values."

Meanwhile, just ahead of the midterm elections, The New York Times noted that two clashing visions of patriotism were heading to the polls. President Trump and Republicans saw patriotism as "conspicuous displays of

respect for the traditional expressions of America - the flag, the military, the Pledge of Allegiance." Democrats, by contrast, saw it as protecting the norms and institutions of our democracy.

I don't entirely buy this distinction, at least when it comes to partisan labels. I've known plenty of Democrats who consider it patriotic to honor the flag, the military, and the Pledge. And I've known a lot of Republicans who value our democratic traditions.

The vast majority of Americans consider themselves patriots - even if, as Gallup found in June, less than half of poll respondents considered themselves "extremely proud" to be American. This was the first time this has happened in almost two decades of polling on the question.

The two broad strands outlined by The Times inarguably exist. We all remember the naval hero Stephen Decatur's famous toast in 1816, "Our country, right or wrong." And

Senator Carl Schurz's amendment a half-century later: "My country, right or wrong - if right, to be kept right, if wrong, to be set right." We may criticize our country, in other words, but this is not motivated by malice. It's motivated by special affection and a belief that a great country can be made greater.

"There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be cured by what is right with America," President Clinton argued, laying out a vision of patriotism that is not about symbols, but about building on a nation's intangible strengths.

I buy that. I believe that patriotism means getting on with the serious business of improving our country. It means that we strive to ensure that we live up to our pledge of liberty and justice for all. In this formulation, patriotism is best expressed not in parades or speeches or exhortations or conspicuous displays, but in what we do.

Perhaps the most persuasive description I've heard on this

score was Adlai Stevenson's.

"True patriotism is not manifested in short, frenzied bursts of emotion," he said. "It is the tranquil, steady dedication of a lifetime."

Stevenson hit the nail square on the head. So much of our national discussion of patriotism is about military heroes. This is important, but it's an incomplete view of love of country. I'd argue that we encounter patriotism at all levels of American life. The teacher in the classroom, the parents who raise their children to be good citizens, the clerk who keeps town records and helps people vote, the ordinary working person who goes about her tasks with dedication and proficiency - patriotism can be found everywhere in our communities, among all kinds of people who pursue their lives with the good of the country at heart.

We have inherited a magnificent political legacy, a set of customs and traditions and, yes, moral values that give ordinary people the tools and

power to improve life for themselves and succeeding generations.

Patriotism lies in our efforts to enlarge that legacy so that it applies to all citizens. It means we defend civil liberties, the right to dissent, and the equality before the law of all Americans. And it means that upholding our core values - tolerance, mutual respect, the right of everyone to be heard, the belief that in pursuing our own lives and interests we all are capable of contributing to the vibrancy of our democracy - is every bit as patriotic as placing our hand over our heart while reciting the Pledge.

Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a distinguished scholar of the IU Hamilton School of Global and International Studies; and a professor of practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



Broadview hosts craft fair...and Santa

On a crisp Saturday the residents of Broadview threw open their doors to welcome the public to a Holiday Fair complete with a visit from Santa himself. There was plenty of delightful items to choose a few gifts for the holidays, and a snack table too.



Santa pauses by the Christmas tree in the lobby of Broadview Assisted Living before making his way to the facility's Holiday Craft Fair last Saturday afternoon.



Greg Vine photos

There were plenty of items to choose from at Broadview Assisted Living's Holiday Craft Fair last weekend.



Santa wishes a Merry Christmas to resident Eeva Stromski at Broadview Assisted Living's Holiday Craft Fair.



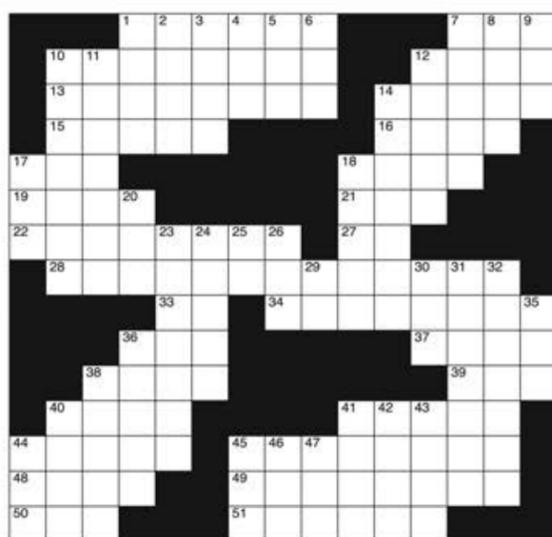
The snack table was a popular attraction on Broadview's Holiday Craft Fair.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

WINCHENDON

\$205,000, 53 Town Farm Rd, Robichaud, Richard L, and Robichaud, Katherine J, to Stiles, Sarah J.

\$93,480, 9 Orient Pl, Breton, Ilene A, and Selene Finance LP, to Selene Finance LP.

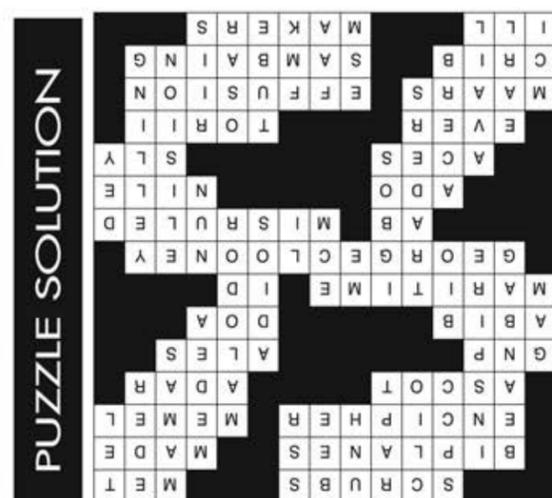


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Doctor's clothes
- 7. NYC ballplayer
- 10. Flying vessels
- 12. Created
- 13. Convert
- 14. WWII battle
- 15. A cravat with wide square ends
- 16. Month in the Jewish calendar
- 17. Value
- 18. Brews
- 19. Child's eating accessory
- 21. Arrived extinct
- 22. Of the sea
- 27. Potato state
- 28. Leading man
- 33. Blood type
- 34. Oppressed
- 36. "Much ___ about nothing"
- 37. World's longest river
- 38. deGrom and Sale are two
- 39. Crafty
- 40. At all times
- 41. Twins great Hunter
- 44. Volcanic craters
- 45. Outpouring
- 48. Where a baby sleeps
- 49. Dancing a Brazilian dance
- 50. Unhealthy
- 51. Manufacturers

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Prevents harm to young
- 2. The Muse of history
- 3. Fascinated by
- 4. Unihexium
- 5. Honey maker
- 6. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 7. They hang out with papas
- 8. German river
- 9. Domain name
- 10. Type of chair
- 11. Fill someone with an urge
- 12. Sorceress
- 14. Unpleasant smell
- 17. Leg (slang)
- 18. Farewell
- 20. A life summary
- 23. Merchants
- 24. Southeastern Nigerians
- 25. Of I
- 26. Electronic countermeasures
- 29. Atomic #3 (abbr.)
- 30. A type of sister
- 31. Omission of a sound
- 32. Screaming
- 35. Ottoman title
- 36. Sour
- 38. Take advantage of
- 40. Nobleman
- 41. Cathode ray was one
- 42. Long, winding ridge
- 43. Muckraking journalist
- 44. Defunct phone company
- 45. Military telecommunications term (abbr.)
- 46. Supervises flying
- 47. Firearms manufacturer



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SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

POLICE LOG

Winchendon Police Department

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

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

12:11 a.m.: burglar alarm (Central Street), secure; 1:18-3:23 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:59 a.m.: tree down (Jackson Avenue), referred; 4:15-4:18 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:09 a.m.: accident (West Street), assisted; 6:10 a.m.: tree down on wires (Hospital Road, Templeton), referred; 8:23 a.m.: accident (Baldwinville Road), report taken; 9:05 a.m.: accident (Otter River Road), unable to locate; 11:00 a.m.: summons service (Ash Street), served; 12:17 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 12:27 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 12:42 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 1:16 p.m.: assist other agency (Lincoln Avenue Extension), services rendered; 2:58 p.m.: FD call (Mellen Road), services rendered; 3:46 p.m.: assist other PD (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 5:33 p.m.: summons service (Mill Street), served; 5:36 p.m.: burglar alarm (Spring Street), secure; 7:50 p.m.: mv stop (Murdock Avenue), spoken to; 9:06 p.m.: burglar alarm (Eli Drive), canceled; 10:44 p.m.: lift assist (Joslin Road), transported to hospital; 11:21 p.m.: accident (Glenallan Street), referred; 11:33 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:55 p.m.: accident (Maple Street), gone on arrival.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

12:26-3:06 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:57 a.m.: animal complaint (Maynard Street), unable to locate; 7:15 a.m.: DPW call (Jackson Avenue), referred; 9:02 a.m.: ambulance (Spruce Street), transported; 9:55 a.m.: animal complaint (Otter River Road, Templeton), returned to owner; 10:10 a.m.: disabled mv (Spring Street), secure; 10:30 a.m.: disabled mv (Gardner Road), assisted; 10:34 a.m.: summons service (Brooks Road), served; 11:57 a.m.: summons served (Goodrich Drive), unable

to serve; 12:02 p.m.: summons service (Goodrich Drive), served; 12:05 p.m.: ambulance (Memorial Drive), transported; 12:12 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 1:28 p.m.: ambulance (Spring Street), transported; 2:00 p.m.: assist citizen (Duval Court); 2:28 p.m.: assist citizen (Norther Heights Drive); 2:31 p.m.: ambulance (Memorial Drive), transported; 3:18 p.m.: welfare check/general (Maynard Street), unable to locate; 3:32 p.m.: officer wanted (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 3:38 p.m.: officer wanted (Prospect Street), spoken to; 5:13 p.m.: mv stop (Alger Street), verbal warning; 5:33 p.m.: erratic operation (Glenallan Street), unable to locate; 6:16 p.m.: info/general (Northern Heights Drive), spoken to; 6:34 p.m.: burglar alarm (Central Street), secure; 6:52 p.m.: officer wanted (Central Street), spoken to; 6:57 p.m.: burglar alarm (Central Street), secure; 7:58 p.m.: FD call (Cabot Road), no service necessary; 8:24 p.m. welfare check/general (Maynard Street), unable to locate; 9:15 p.m.: investigation (Heywood Hospital, Gardner), info taken; 9:30 p.m.: fire/CO incident (Pinewood Drive), services rendered; 9:36 p.m.: suspicious person (Gardner Road), spoken to; 9:39 p.m.: mv stop (Front Street), Sheldon Roy, 38, 12 Spruce Street, Winchendon, OUI liquor, negligent operation, marked lanes violation, arrest; 9:50 p.m.: noise complaint (Vine Street), no cause for complaint; 11:00 p.m.: assist other PD (Central Street), transported to hospital; 11:32 p.m.: officer wanted (Spruce Street), spoken to; 11:37 p.m.: suspicious/other (Ash Street), assisted.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

12:40 a.m.: ambulance (Chestnut Street), transported; 2:26-3:01 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:51 a.m.: burglar alarm (Elmwood Road), accidental; 6:08 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 8:23 a.m.: mv stop (Baldwinville State Road), warrant arrest; 8:37 a.m.: warrant check (Mill Glen Road), arrest; 10:28 a.m.: mv stop (Walnut Street), citation issued; 10:48 a.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 11:06 a.m.: officer wanted (Bemis Road), spoken to; 1:44 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 2:16 p.m.: assist citizen (Maynard Street); 2:30 p.m.: sex offender registration (Spring Street), assisted; 2:36 a.m.: unwanted party (Mill Glen Road), referred to court; 2:44 p.m.: assist citizen (Jackson Avenue); 3:08 p.m.: assist other agency (Southwest Fire), services rendered; 3:44 p.m.: annoying phone calls (Mill Street), services rendered; 3:53 p.m.: assist citizen (Maynard

Street), services rendered; 4:47 p.m.: missing person (Elmwood Road), no service necessary; 5:03 p.m.: suspicious person (Highland Street), unfounded; 5:55 p.m.: 911 non-emergency (Central Street), info taken; 6:42 p.m.: assault (Mill Glen Road), David P. Karras, 39, 341 Beacon Street, Athol, assault & battery, arrest; 6:53 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Glen Road), Scott Lafreniere, 52, 26 Mill Glen Road, Winchendon, op w/suspended license, summons; 9:07 p.m.: missing person (Memorial Drive), canceled; 10:32 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 10:42 p.m.: fire alarm (Front Street), assisted.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

12:51-2:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:05 a.m.: suspicious mv (School Street), spoken to; 9:11 a.m.: harassment (Krantz Road), report taken; 9:19 a.m.: sex offender registration (Walnut Street), assisted; 9:49 a.m.: fire alarm (Grove Street), services rendered; 10:03 a.m.: traffic hazard (Central Street), referred; 10:08 a.m.: info/general (Memorial Drive), info taken; 10:50 a.m.: deliver message (Mill Glen Road); 11:00 a.m.: assist other PD (River Street), message delivered; 11:26 a.m.: info/general (Mill Glen Road), spoken to; 11:30 a.m.: assault (Spring Street), report taken; 11:42 p.m.: harassment (Willoughby Avenue), report taken; 12:29 p.m.: erratic operation (Central Street), spoken to; 2:05 p.m.: assist other PD (Mill Glen Road), canceled; 2:10 p.m.: trespassing (Pinewood Drive), spoken to; 3:55 p.m.: erratic operation (River Street), transport; 4:20 p.m.: accident (Front Street), report taken; 4:39 p.m.: investigation (Bayberry Court), spoken to; 5:04 p.m.: accident (Spring Street), referred; 5:27 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 7:25 p.m.: animal complaint (Central Street), referred to ACO; 8:06 p.m.: property damage (Lincoln Avenue), report taken; 8:15 p.m.: officer wanted (Central Street), report taken; 8:23 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 10:53 p.m.: ambulance (Pearl Drive), transported.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1

1:07 a.m.: officer wanted (Webster Street), spoken to; 1:43-1:48 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:57 a.m.: investigation (Mill Street), secure; 2:18 a.m.: fire/mutual aid (Glenallan Street), canceled; 2:28 a.m.: investigation (Lincoln Avenue), spoken to; 2:31-2:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:41 a.m.: disabled mv (River Street), info taken; 2:48-3:12 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:07 a.m.: lift assist (Doyle Avenue), services rendered 7:16 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Alger Street), spoken to; 8:08 a.m.: smoke (Central Street), no service necessary; 9:25 a.m.: ambulance (Goodrich Drive), assisted; 10:32 p.m.: ambulance (Doyle Avenue), transported; 10:43 a.m.: mv stop (School Street), spoken to; 11:36 a.m.: summons service (Goodrich Drive), served; 11:47 a.m.: traffic hazard (North Ashburnham Road), spoken to; 11:48 a.m.: summons service (Glenallan Street), served; 12:03 p.m.: summons service (Old Gardner Road) unable to serve; 12:51 p.m.: keep the peace (Pearl Street), canceled; 1:10 p.m.: building checked, secure; 1:19 p.m.: threats (Glenallan Street), report taken; 3:49 p.m.: fire alarm (Gardner Road), referred; 3:50 p.m.: 911 hang up (River Street), non-emergency; 3:58 p.m.: property damage (Forristall Road), gone on arrival; 4:08 p.m.: animal complaint (Mill Street), report taken; 5:08 p.m.: ambulance (Ipswich Drive), transported; 5:30 p.m.: mv stop (Baldwinville State Road), verbal warning; 5:42 p.m.: mv stop (Hyde Street), verbal warning; 5:58 p.m.: building checked, secure;

6:15 p.m.: registration check (River Street), info given; 6:50 p.m.: mv stop (Front Street), verbal warning; 7:21 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 7:53 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), citation issued; 8:06 p.m.: mv stop (Elmwood Road), verbal warning; 9:17 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Glen Road), verbal warning; 9:30 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), citation issued; 9:39 p.m.: mv stop (Lincoln Street), verbal warning; 10:31 p.m.: ambulance (Ipswich Drive), transported; 11:19 p.m.: welfare check/general (Beech Street), spoken to; 11:27 p.m.: notification (Woodlawn Street), info given.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

9:00 a.m.: burglar alarm (Memorial Drive), secure; 9:37 a.m.: officer wanted (Central Street), info taken; 9:44 a.m.: 911 hang up (Beech Street), child w/phone; 12:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Stoddard Road), spoken to; 1:16 p.m.: larceny (Pearl Drive), info taken; 1:47 p.m.: ambulance (Carriage Lane), transported; 2:09 p.m.: noise complaint (Beech Street), spoken to; 3:26 p.m.: threats (Baldwinville Road), report taken; 5:04 p.m.: welfare check/general (River Street), spoken to; 7:43 p.m.: custody dispute (River Street), report taken; 8:41 p.m.: trespass notice entry (Alger Street), info taken; 8:52 p.m.: officer wanted (Glenallan Street), report taken; 9:32 p.m.: gunshots heard (Central Street), unfounded; 11:20 p.m.: ambulance (Metcalf Street), transported.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

12:09-1:07 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:48 a.m.: parking violation (Front Street), ticket issued; 1:55 a.m.: parking violation (Front Street), ticket issued; 2:04 a.m.: parking violation (Juniper Street), ticket issued; 2:09 a.m.: parking violation (Juniper Street), ticket issued; 2:15 a.m.: parking violation (Juniper Street), ticket issued; 2:22 a.m.: parking violation (Pearl Street), ticket issued; 2:28 a.m.: parking violation (Pearl Street), ticket issued; 2:31 a.m.: parking violation (Pearl Street), ticket issued; 2:39 a.m.: building checked, secure; 2:51 a.m.: parking violation (Front Street), ticket issued; 2:59 a.m.: parking violation (Front Street), ticket issued; 2:59 a.m.: building checked, secure; 4:43 a.m.: property damage (Elmwood Road), report taken; 8:30 a.m.: investigation (Memorial Drive), report taken; 9:25 a.m.: ambulance (Murdock Avenue), transported; 9:37 a.m.: summons service (Eli Drive), served; 10:10 a.m.: mv stop (Front Street), verbal warning; 10:25 a.m.: mv stop (River Street), verbal warning; 11:07 a.m.: mv stop (School Street), verbal warning; 12:08 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 12:15 p.m.: mental health issued (Memorial Drive), Section 12; 12:45 p.m.: summons service (Beech Street), served; 1:51 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 1:54 p.m.: trespassing (Maple Street), unable to locate; 2:40 p.m.: ambulance (Olde Centre), transported; 3:58 p.m.: summons service (Mill Glen Road), unable to serve; 4:14 p.m.: summons service (Alger Street), served; 4:24 p.m.: threats (Polly's Drive), Section 12; 5:04 p.m.: traffic hazard (Maple Street), removed; 5:30 p.m.: accident (Glenallan Street), assisted; 5:54 p.m.: ambulance (Banner Place), transported; 5:55 p.m.: trespassing (Town Farm Road), spoken to; 6:07 p.m.: ambulance (Ash Street), transported; 6:26 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 8:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 11:28 p.m.: accident (Central Street), report taken.



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OBITUARIES

Michael D. Moore, 59



FITCHBURG — Michael D. Moore, age 59, of Fitchburg, died in his sleep November 29, 2018.

He was born December 8, 1958 in Leominster and lived in Leominster and Fitchburg all his life.

He was a 1977 graduate of Leominster Trade High School. He worked in the auto body trade for 40 years, 33 of them at Fairbanks Auto in Fitchburg, then at Acme Auto in Leominster and most recently at West Fitchburg Auto Body.

In his younger years, Mike enjoyed summers with his family at Laurel Lake in Fitzwilliam. He loved animals. He had a lifelong passion for cars and was well known for his skill in the auto body craft. Over the years, he won many awards at auto shows for his work restoring classic cars.

He was predeceased by his parents,

John R. and Irene B. Moore, formerly of Leominster and Winchendon, an older brother, musician Johnny Moore of Leominster and a brother-in-law, Paul Cormier of Royalston. He is survived by three sisters, Nancy Williams of Fitzwilliam, Maureen Moore of Charlestown and Patricia Cormier of Royalston; an aunt Marilyn Cote of California; seven nieces and nephews, Melissa, Nathan and Jonathan Moore, Ryan and Kyle Williams, Jennifer Fowler and Crystal Shotwell, ten great-nieces and nephews, many cousins, many close friends and his dog Wesley.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, December 4, 2018 in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon. Burial will be held in Riverside Cemetery, Winchendon at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made to Sweet Pea FOR Animals, 1090 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612.

Noah A. Devine, 75



WINCHENDON — Noah A. Devine, age 75, of 100 Ipswich Drive, died Saturday evening, December 1, 2018 in Heywood Hospital, Gardner after being stricken ill at home.

He was born in Boston on February 2, 1943, son of the late William and Mildred (Sauve) Devine and grew up in East Boston and Randolph. He lived in Winchendon for four years after living in Greenwood, ME and Auburn, ME.

Noah proudly served his country as a member of the United States Navy during the Vietnam War. He worked as a truck driver for W.L. Mead, Stop and Shop and Purity Supreme until his retirement. He was a member of the Teamster Union, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign War.

Noah leaves his wife of 54 years, Genevieve M.(Karnila) Devine; their children, Noah A. Devine Jr and his wife Bobbi Jean of Kentucky, Sean M. Devine and his wife Catherine of Attleboro, Michelle M. Devine of

Tyngsboro and Colleen M. Coderre and her husband Paul of Winchendon; his brothers, William Devine of Florida, Dennis Devine of Middleboro, Andrew Devine of Whitman and Frank Sauve of Easton; 18 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a son, Timothy Devine in 2012; a brother Herbert Devine and a sister, Joan Bennett.

Funeral services will be held Friday, December 7, 2018 at 1 PM in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon. Burial, with military honors, will follow in the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.

Calling hours in the funeral home are Thursday, December 6, 2018 from 5 to 7 P.M.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude PL, Memphis, TN 38105-9959.

Donna Ann (Byrne) Brooks, 64



NASHUA NH — Donna Ann (Byrne) Brooks, age 64, of Nashua, NH, died Thursday, November 29, 2018, at Greenbriar Health Care in Nashua, NH.

She was married to the late John Brooks, who died in February of 2010.

Born in Medford, she was the daughter of the late John and Antonetta Byrne. She graduated from Tyngsboro High School with the class of 1972.

She enjoyed crafts and crochet, as well as spending time with her family.

She is survived by her brothers and sister, James and wife Lori Byrne of Tyngsboro, Larry and wife Karen Byrne of Hudson, NH, David and wife Katie Byrne of Nashua, NH, Daniel

Byrne of Nashua, NH, John Byrne of Mount Vernon, NH, Thomas and wife Susan Byrne of Townsend, and Kathy Byrne of Tyngsboro, as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was the sister of the late Maria Byrne of Winchendon who died February 2012.

There will be no visiting hours for Donna. Her funeral was Tuesday, December 4, from the Dolan Funeral Home, 106 Middlesex St., Chelmsford, with a liturgy of the word at St Mary Magdalen Church in Tyngsboro. Burial in Memorial Cemetery, Tyngsboro.

Memorials may be made in her name to the St Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Guestbook at www.dolanfuneral-home.com.

Paul J. Lee, 81

MARLBOROUGH — Paul J. Lee, age 81, passed away peacefully at Leominster Hospital on Sunday, December 2, 2018 following a period of declining health.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, Diane (Kebbin) Lee; their children, Lynda Melody of Clinton; Shawn C. Lee & wife Janet of Winchendon; and Shari Scannell & husband Rob of Orange; 4 grandchildren, Carl Larssen, Sara Scannell, Dustin and Zachary Lee; 4 great-grandchildren, Nicholas Paskal, Michael Larssen, Charlotte and Olivia Lee; numerous nieces, nephews, and friends. He is pre-deceased by a son, Michael K. Lee, and 7 siblings.

Paul was born and raised in Marlborough, one of eight children to the late Charles & Rose (Kaminski) Lee. He graduated from the Marlborough High School, Class of 1955, and worked hard to enjoy his career as a self-employed business owner. Paul successfully owned and operated the Cedar

Lawn Grocery Store on Main Street in Marlborough for more than 20 years before establishing Lee & Son Trucking, from where he ultimately retired. Active throughout his community, Paul was a member of the Marlborough Moose Lodge, and the Marlborough Fish & Game. He was an avid fisherman, hunter, and outdoorsman, and a dedicated fan of the Red Sox and Patriots.

Paul had a tremendous sense of humor and was a loyal friend to anyone in need. Above all he was a dedicated family man, husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle.

A funeral service was celebrated Thursday, December 6, 2018 in the Philbin-Comeau Funeral Home, 176 Water St., Clinton, with a period of calling hours prior.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Paul Lee to: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. www.philbincomeaufh.com

Mallorie M. Day, 30



WINCHENDON — Mallorie M. Day of 751 River St., died unexpectedly December 2, 2018, after being stricken ill at home.

She was born in Leominster October 23, 1988, daughter of

Rachel Day of Winchendon and the late Jeff Laramee. She had been working at Gabby's Restaurant for the past six years as a cook. When not working, she spent time as an advocate for the Autism Resource Center. Her greatest enjoyment came from spending time

with her family.

In addition to her mother, she leaves two sons, Aiden and David Phillips, a sister, Gabrielle Day, a brother, Jason Day, her maternal grandparents, Laurence and Karen Day, a nephew, Roman Citrowski all of Winchendon. She also leaves her great grandmother, Shirley Bush, of Tennessee, several aunts and uncles, many cousins, and close friends.

A Celebration of life will be held at a later date.

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

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



CLYDE'S CORNER

Sunday December 9

WINTER TEA: drop in at the Murdock Whitney House Museum for a buffet tea 1-4 p.m. Take a break from frenzied shopping for a bit of tea and bite of dessert with friends. \$5 per person. First floor of the historic house is decorated for the holidays.

Sunday December 16

WINTER TEA: drop in at the Murdock Whitney House Museum for a buffet tea 1-4 p.m. Take a break from frenzied shopping for a bit of tea and bite of dessert with friends. \$5 per person. First floor of the historic house is decorated for the holidays.

Friday January 18

DARREN BESSETTE BAND: at the

Snowbound Club, 130 Baldwinville Road beginning at 7 p.m. Come enjoy this great band with local ties!

ONGOING PROGRAMS

ONGOING AT OLD MURDOCK

MONDAY/WEDNESDAY: Chair exercise 9:30 – Exercise to your skill level.

TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY: Wii bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard. Come join us on these days for Wii bowling, play a game of pool or shuffleboard upstairs.

WEDNESDAY: ZUMBA w/Alisha, Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. Join Alisha on Wednesday mornings and Zumba! Participate at your comfort level. Yoga w/Susan, Wednesdays 10:30. Susan leads this gentle stretching on Wednesday mornings at 10:30. Even if you're a beginner, you'll be gently stretching in no time. Please bring your own mat.

THURSDAYS

OPEN HOUSE: come sit on the porch and relax at the Murdock Whitney

House museum 6-8 p.m. Tour the house, walk across the street and get ice cream at Seppi's. Free evening, every Thursday throughout the summer.

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

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

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

WEDNESDAY

BINGO! Hyde Park residents hold bingo in the community hall every

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

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

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

YOGA & ZUMBA: two new low impact exercise programs at Old Murdock Senior Center, open to everyone age 50 and older. Zumba with Alisha at 9:30 a.m. and Yoga with Susan at 10:30 a.m.

THURSDAY

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

Got Space? we do.

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343 Central Street
Winchendon, MA 01475
Tel: 978-297-0077 • Fax: 978-297-0075

SPORTS

Cheerleading squads honored with banquet and awards night

The fall middle school and varsity cheerleading squads held their season ending awards night on Thursday, Nov. 29. Following a potluck dinner, the cheer coaches, Lisa Paulitsky, Tracey West and Michelle Mercier, presented their squads with their awards.

Coach Paulitsky thanked administration and the athletic director for their support throughout the season. She also thanked the middle school team for making her "a better coach and better person."

The middle school squad participated in three competitions, placing first in the first two competitions. They achieved fourth place in the Mid-Wach competition. Paulitsky reflected over the season which started with many young, inexperienced girls who progressed in trust and team bonding.

Coach Mercier thanked the middle school cheerleaders for making her first coaching experience easier than she expected!

Certificates were presented to the middle school partici-



Courtesy photo

Members of all cheerleading squads posed for a quick snapshot during the banquet held the end of November.

pants: Kaylynn Bigness, Emily Bradley, Abby Bradley, Janelle Dansin, Nicole Fluet, Camille Hart, Reagan Kelley, Cassidy Lauziere, Min D Merritt, Desiree Morin and Emily Wightman. Cheerleaders who were not able to attend awards

night were Ruth Adams, Nevaeh Hickey, Tessa-Mae Boudreau and Rachel LeBlanc.

Wachusett League All-star athletic awards were presented to Emily Wightman and Rachel LeBlanc. Emily Bradley was presented with the All-

star academic award. Eighth graders Min D Merritt and Camille Hart were recognized and presented with a Bow-Pro. Specialty awards were presented to Ruth Adams (Most Spirited), Reagan Kelley (Most Improved), Janelle Dansin

(Coaches Award) and Camille Hart (MVP).

The varsity cheer squad members were then presented with their certificates and letters or pins. Recipients were Kim Anderson (the lone senior on the squad), Joslynn Laverdure, Patricia Montesion, Amber March and Dezzaray Schindler-Roberts.

Middle School cheerleaders who also helped out on the varsity squad were Abby Bradley, Camille Hart, Cassidy Lauziere and Min D Merritt.

The Academic All-Star award was presented to Camille Hart. The Athletic All-Star awards went to Dezzaray Schindler-Roberts and Joslynn Laverdure. Special Awards were presented to Schindler-Roberts (Most Athletic), Kim Anderson (Most Spirited) and Laverdure (Coaches Award).

One of the parents in attendance also expressed her gratitude to the coaches for their perseverance and dedication in pursuing the cheerleading program, despite low numbers on varsity.

Several ideas for last minute gifts



VIEW
FROM THE
TOWERS

SUE
POLCARI

Need Last Minute Gifts?? Murdock Blue Devil Sweatshirts (\$30) and/or Blue Devil discount cards (\$20) are available by calling me (Sue) at 978-257-5671.

The International Travel Club is selling homemade cookie dough (\$4, comes frozen) make your holiday baking easy!! Flavors are: chocolate chip, peanut butter, M&M, soft ginger and Swedish sugar. Also available are Mason jar mixes (just add butter and eggs, \$10). Flavors are chocolate chip, sugar or brownies. Orders may be sent to Stephanie Rondeau, Room 228, Murdock High School, 3 Memorial Drive, Winchendon, MA 01475. Orders due by December 14. Checks payable to Travel Club-MHS. The travel club will also be sponsoring a table at the Memorial School Vendor/Craft Fair tomorrow (Dec. 8). All proceeds for the Travel Club will be going towards their Spring trip to Scotland/England!!

Winter sports have begun!! The JV and varsity boys' bas-

ketball team participated in two scrimmages this week against Lowell Catholic High School and Monadnock High School. The first scrimmage was a bit of a defensive struggle. The second scrimmage was a well-played game with Monadnock eventually earning the win 57-52.

The Key Club recently assisted the Kiwanis in wrapping gifts and assisting Santa Claus in distributing those gifts at the Santa breakfast held at the Carriage House Restaurant last Saturday. Key Club members from Murdock High School and Mahar Regional High School also assisted in busing tables for the event.

The National Honor Society (NHS) will be going to Veterans Cemetery on Dec. 14 to lay wreaths on the gravesites as they participate in Wreaths Across America.

Upcoming Events:
TONIGHT (Friday): Tournament of Plays at 7:00
Saturday, Dec. 8: Tournament of Plays at 7:00; Indoor Track Meet at 9:00 at Fitchburg High School; Vendor/Crafter HOLIDAY FAIR at Memorial School 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 10: Girls JV/V basketball at 5:00/6:30; High School Financial Aid Night at 6:00; Swimming (co-op) at 4:00 at Holy Cross College

Tuesday, Dec. 11: Boys/Girls

Middle School basketball at 3:30/4:45

Wednesday, Dec. 12: National Honor Society induction at Murdock Auditorium at 6:00; Indoor Track Meet at 4:00 at Shrewsbury; Swimming at 4:00 at Tantasqua; Girls JV/V basketball at 5:30/7:00; Boys JV/V basketball at 5:30/7:00 at Lunenburg; Ice Hockey (co-op) at 8:00 at Buffone

Thursday, Dec. 13: Boys/Girls Middle School basketball at 3:30/4:45

Friday, Dec. 14: Girls JV/V basketball at 5:30/7:00

Saturday, Dec. 15: Bottle & Can Drive at Rite-Aid parking lot 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., sponsored by NHS and Student Council to benefit Wreaths Across America

Wednesday, Dec. 19: Winter Concert at 6:30, Murdock Auditorium

Thursday, Dec. 20: Blood Drive 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Murdock Gymnasium

All athletic events are subject to change, please visit www.mwlna.org for the most up to date schedule

**SAVE THE DATE:
MURDOCK HIGH SCHOOL
MUSICAL "CHICAGO"
MARCH 1 AND 2.**

GO BLUE DEVILS!!

O'Malley heading into 5th season

BY CHRIS MARTIN

Just recently the Winchendon Courier caught up with head coach of the Murdock Blue Devils Matt O'Malley.

O'Malley will be heading into his fifth consecutive season as the Devils head coach. About the upcoming season O'Malley said, "I'm excited! Looking forward to a BIG year. We got our numbers down a little bit this year, opposed to what they have been in the past but the guys are all working hard."

Key losses last season are Nick Roy, Spencer Pelkey, James Anderson, and Ross O'Toole gone to a different school.

O'Malley said, "We list basically half our varsity team, we've got to replace a lot of production. Whether it's rebounding or scoring. Just a lot of those guys had been around a long time, Nick and Spencer. But between our young guys and our guys coming in on the bench are going to see more minutes. I think we will be able to replace it but it's going to be tough, but we got some good young players coming up."

Last season the Devils were just shy of Districts.

O'Malley said, "We lost four games by six or less points, we lost six by under ten, so there were only two or three games

we were out of right from the start. So, we focus on a lot of the little things and don't give away games at the end, I think we'll be right there, right in the Clark, and right in the Districts."

The basketball program in these past five seasons, O'Malley said, "We're training in a good direction here. We got a foundation of kids that are really, really talented, a good mixture of old and young, and these kids really work hard. We're going in the right direction."

On Dec. 14th and 15th the Devils open up their season with a Holiday Tournament at Athol High School. Then the Devils will have their home opener on Dec. 20th versus Lunenburg. December 27, 28, & 29 a Zero Gravity Tournament at Keene State College; Jan. 3 at Ayer-Shirley at 7PM; Jan. 5 home against 'Gansett at 7pm; Jan. 9 home against Maynard at 7pm; Jan. 12 at West Boylston at 7pm; Jan. 16 home against Tahanto at 7 pm; Jan. 19 home against Ayer-Shirley at 7pm; Jan. 23 at 'Gansett at 7pm; Jan. 26 at Maynard at 7pm; Jan. 29 home against Worcester Tech at 7pm; Jan. 30 home against West Boylston at 7pm; Feb. 2 at Tahanto at 7pm; Feb. 6 at Millbury at 7pm; Feb. 12 at Bromfield at 7pm; and Feb. 16 home against Gardner at 7pm.

LEGALS

[seal]

**COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT
OF THE TRIAL COURT
COMPLAINT TO
FORECLOSE TAX LIEN
No. 16TL001524**

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and to Earl C. Mowrey, deceased, formerly of Winchendon, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; Shirley B. Mowrey, now or formerly of Gardner, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; Robin J. Mowrey, Sr., now or formerly of Royalston, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; or their heirs, devisees or legal representatives: Whereas, a complaint has been presented to said Court by the Town of Winchendon, in the County of Worcester, and said Commonwealth; to foreclose all rights of redemption from the tax lien proceeding described in said complaint in and concerning a certain parcel of land situate in the said Winchendon, in the County of Worcester, and in said Commonwealth, bounded and described in said complaint as follows:
Property Address: 25 Nash Rd
Description of Parcel: A parcel of land with any buildings thereon containing about 0.25 AC being described as parcel 4 0 48 in the office of the Assessors, Town of Winchendon identified in book and page 4521-593, Worcester Registry of Deeds.

If you desire to make any objection or defense to said complaint you or your attorney must file a written appearance and an answer, under oath, setting forth clearly and specifically your objections or defense to each part of said complaint, in the office of the Recorder of said Court in Boston (at the Courthouse located on Three Pemberton Square, Room 507 in Boston, MA 02108), on or before the thirty-first day of December in the year two thousand and eighteen. Unless an appearance is so filed by or for you, your default will be recorded, the said complaint will be taken as confessed and you will be forever barred from contesting said complaint or any judgment entered thereon. And in addition to the usual service of this notice as required by law, it is ordered that the foregoing citation be published forthwith once in the *Winchendon Courier* a newspaper published in said *Winchendon*.

Witness, **GORDON H. PIPER**, Esquire, Chief Justice of said Court, this seventh day of November in the year two thousand and eighteen.
Attest with Seal of said Court.
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
Plaintiff's Attorney:
Dawn E. Bloom, Esq.,
Berenson & Bloom,
116 Pleasant St., Suite 340,
Easthampton, MA 01027
Tel: (413) 529-9936
December 7, 2018

**Legal Notice
Winchendon Conservation
Commission**

800, 900 Spring Street; Assessor's Map 9, Lots 31, 32, Parcels 28, 29, 30, 33, 35, 36, and 340
Pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, and the Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw, the Winchendon Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 13th, 2018 at 7:10 pm to consider the Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation filed by New England Auto & Truck Recyclers for confirmation of Wetland Resource Area boundaries at 800 and 900 Spring Street; Assessor's Map 9, Lots 31, 32, Parcels 28, 29, 30, 33, 35, 36, and 340. The hearing will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the Winchendon Town Hall, 109 Front Street.
The Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation is available for public review at the Land Use Office, Room 10 (first floor) of the Winchendon Town Hall on Wednesdays and Thursdays during the hours of 9am - 12noon, except for 3pm - 6pm on meeting nights, or by calling the Conservation Agent for an appointment at 978-297-5402. December 7, 2018

**Legal Notice
Winchendon Conservation
Commission 33**

35 Eagle Road; Assessor's Map 8A-3, Lot 33
Pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, and the Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw, the Winchendon Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 13th, 2018 at 7:05 pm to consider the Request for Determination of Applicability filed by property owners Brian Mack and Ellen Ray for proposed work within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands at 35 Eagle Road; Assessor's Map 8A-3, Lot 33. The project entails the construction of a 12' x 30' (360 square feet) shed on concrete blocks. The hearing will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the Winchendon Town Hall, 109 Front Street.
The Request for Determination of Applicability is available for public review at the Land Use Office, Room 10 (first floor) of the Winchendon Town Hall on Wednesdays and Thursdays during the hours of 9am - 12noon, except for 3pm - 6pm on meeting nights, or by calling the Conservation Agent for an appointment at 978-297-5402. December 7, 2018



SPORTS

Sensory overload...

Last Saturday since we were back in Baltimore for the weekend, I went to a racetrack. Of course I did. That's what I've spent my life doing.

But Saturday there weren't any horses at the track I visited. We didn't drive down to the live races at Laurel but instead went to the OTB (Off-Track-Betting) facility at the Maryland State Fairgrounds where parking looked at first to be at a premium because of a massive model train show. Fortunately, the lot nearest the OTB was not crowded at all, which was nice but things went semi-downhill from there.

On the good side the food was excellent. Obviously that matters. But, the dining room was too dark. The lighting was abysmal. Because the state fair track runs in summer, the bathrooms in the open air grandstand were beyond frigid. They need to be enclosed if there's going to be an OTB there in winter.

The biggest problem though? There had to be 20, 25, maybe 30 monitors at least and that was too much for me. It was a true gambler's paradise

to be sure. There were races from who knows how many tracks. There were football and basketball games. There was even a local radio station on the public address system. The past performances in the program were far too small to read. You'd have needed a magnifying glass. The demographics? I was one of the younger people there. Not exactly the way to grow the game. Maybe if the amenities were better? I'm used to sitting in my living room watching

When Maryland first began accepting simulcast signals from other tracks in the spring of 1993 there were just a handful of those - New York, Kentucky and California for starters if I recall, beginning the week before that year's Kentucky Derby. It was pretty exciting too. Previously, or at least since the mid 1980s, we'd been able to bet the occasional big race from around the country, the Derby and Belmont Stakes,



TALKING SPORTS

JERRY CARTON

the Breeders Cup, and a couple others. But now we could play full cards from the other major racing circuits and it took some getting used to. More than one of us learned the ins and outs of different places the hard way. That first summer of simulcasting from Saratoga was a disaster for me. Even when the menu of available tracks available expanded it didn't seem as dizzying as did our adventure Saturday. Or maybe I was just younger and more tolerant?

Baseball's winter meetings take place next week and who knows, we might learn the future homes of Bryce Harper and/or Manny Machado but whether we do or not, Harper's technically former team (I think he'll wind up staying in DC) made a splash this week. The Nats signed D-Backs starter Patrick Corbin to a six year deal. Yes, Corbin is only 25 but long term contracts for starting pitchers are scary. It's true Washington has dumped a lot

of (non-Harper) money but still...

Washington's football team found himself in the midst of a public relations disaster after signing former 49er Rueben Foster who has had multiple interactions with law enforcement including accusations of domestic violence similar to the one which ended the career of Ray Rice in 2014. Even Rice decried the signing and though Foster is a long way from any NFL playing time, the optics are disgraceful and deservedly so. The Redskins chose not to sign Colin Kaepernick after starting QB Alex Smith broke his leg and maintained that position after backup Colt McCoy did likewise even though that left Mark Sanchez as the signal caller. To back-up Sanchez, the Skins signed someone named Josh Johnson. Even after being out as long as he has, Kaepernick must be better than whomever Johnson is and is demonstrably better than Sanchez who ruined his long term future by ignoring warnings from Pete Carroll and left USC too early. Two bad moves from Danny Snyder. See you next week.

FIDELITY

continued from page 1

that there were some of our business banking accounts that were impacted by this glitch."

"We discovered this at about 8:30 Saturday morning," he explained, "and we were able to get our team together to identify what the issue was. We worked with our core banking partner, which is called Fiserv. We worked with them on Saturday morning and everything was fixed by before 11:00."

"There were a number of business accounts - it wasn't all of our accounts by any stretch - but there were some that were impacted by this issue. We did get some calls Saturday morning that some customers were inquiring about what the issue

was. We were well aware of it at the time and able to explain to them what happened."

"We also had a small number of accounts," he continued, "that were impacted with some incorrect overdraft fees and we were able to correct all of those. We've actually personally contacted by phone all of the clients that were impacted and addressed the issue with them."

"So, it wasn't any kind of a hack or cyber incident; nothing like that. It was just a computer glitch that happened through the programming and maintenance that was taking place. All of our client accounts were back to normal Saturday morning."

McCarthy said he's not expecting a similar incident to occur in the future.

"It should just be a one-off

thing that happened to us," he said. "It hasn't happened to us in the past and it doesn't appear to be anything will happen again in the future."

The bank president said the number of customers affected constituted a "small percentage" of Fidelity's business accounts.

"It was a small number of accounts that were affected, and even a much, much smaller number that had any overdraft situations and we paid any overdrafts that occurred and fees that might have been charged we reimbursed."

McCarthy said that all seven branches of the bank were affected by the problem.

As of late Tuesday afternoon, Cloutier said he had not yet been contacted by the bank.

REPORT

continued from page 1

es and transit systems but there wasn't any money to do much about the problems. Last year the conservative-leaning Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation asserted capital spending on transportation had doubled in the ensuing decade to about \$16 billion on roads and bridges but had done little to resolve anything. The MTF also accused the Boston region transit system commonly known as the "T" of doing nothing to cut operating expenses or improve service.

It further charged the state has neglected problems in Worcester County

and points west including the Winchendon/Gardner portion of Route 2.

And how's this for a nightmarish vision?

"If we think congestion is bad now, imagine we can have a world where you can have a robot or zombie car driving around with no one in it and competing with you for space during the morning or afternoon commute," Dempsey warned.

Steven Kadish, Baker's former chief of staff who chaired the commission, has hinted the panel probably won't get too deeply into the funding issues and is more likely to present 'scenarios' for the next two decades.

The report is expected to be out before Christmas.

Winchendon Homescape



Recently updated 3 bedroom 1.5 bath single family home only .5 miles from downtown with its stores, library, art gallery, recreational trail and newly expanded community center. Updates include, new deck and front porch, cedar siding on back, fenced in yard around spacious back yard with patio and pergola!, custom built shed, new windows and slider, granite counter tops and pellet stove in open concept living room to take the chill out! Extra room down stairs with french door and period built-in would make a great home office or craft room. Area amenities include Mount Wachusett ski area, 2 universities, 1 community college, Lake Dennison and other state parks, and Mount Monadnock, to name a few!

CALL TODAY!

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\$229,000



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Santa makes a breakfast stop in Winchendon

The Kiwanis and the Carriage House have partnered for several years to hold a breakfast the first Saturday in December and invite a very special guest. He reserves his time and has managed to make it every year so far.

This year was no exception. The Mahar and Murdock Key Clubs were both in attendance to help hand out gifts and to clean tables as more than 450 people, parents, grandparents, friends and children, showed up for few minutes with the bearded one and his friends.

Candy Cane the elf was there handing out her candy, and Mrs. Claus was there too.



Greg Vine photos

Despite the line snaking right out the door sometimes as the families waited to see Santa, everyone was in a good mood and patiently waited their turn.



This little one clutches her gift and her candy cane as her parents take just one more photo.



Once a visit with Santa was accomplished, there was a good breakfast to be had.



A whole family crowds around Santa for a portrait.



Yes, it was a bit crowded at time, but it was orderly, as the line snaked in to meet first Mrs. Claus, then Candy Cane, and finally the Big Guy himself.

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