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Friday, January 20, 2017



THE
MINOR
DETAILS
ADAM
MINOR

Reading into it

As someone who reads and writes for a living, and considers it a lifelong passion, you can imagine the pride I feel in my heart when I see my 5-year-old son learning to read.

I sat down with him before bedtime last week, and he read me a book. It was a simple book. I'm not talking Shakespeare here (although that would be quite impressive). It was called, "I Am Here," filled with short words designed to stimulate early readers, with pictures to help if they get stuck. It was like a book with training wheels. I'm sure at this point he has probably memorized the book he has read it so much, but his eyes light up when he can successfully recognize the words he is trying to read.

It's an awesome thing to see him on the beginning of the path of learning such an important skill. I can see the gears churning as he thinks about the sounds that correspond to different words, his "thinking face" complete with furrowed brow and scrunched lip, as he concentrates on the page in front of him.

Of course, it's not always on the page that I'll catch him reading. As I came out of my bedroom one night last week, I came upon my son playing. He gave my midsection a curious look, and slowly and simply said: "Old Navy."

Puzzled, I looked down, and realized that I was wearing my 2016 American flag Old Navy T-shirt. He had read my shirt. To further test his skills, I asked him as I pointed to the words underneath the American flag, "What does this say?"

"L...an...D...of...the...f...r...ee." Following my fingers, he sounded it out at a faster pace. "Land of the free."

When I was his age, I was reading and writing at a furious pace. I couldn't stop. Anything that had words on it, I was trying to sound out loud. My mother will tell you that it got out of hand sometimes. When I was 3, I was scolded for taking the graphite bottom of a light bulb and using it as a pencil to write words on my wall. My mother was simultaneously angry and impressed, so much so that she left those doodles on my wall years. My son never did that, but he has tackled any and every word he can, even if he doesn't know how to spell it. It's almost become like a secret language we try to decode, as he writes his messages phonetically, oftentimes accompanying his notes with pictures and doodles (sometimes, I wish I could accompany this column with doodles...).

It makes me happy to see him (and my daughter, as she tries to keep up!) enjoy learning to read. Now granted, there are times he gets into his moods and wants to just be left alone and be left to his Legos, dinosaurs and knick-knacks. But more often than not, he is more than happy to be in a book, either trying to figure out the words, or having one of us help him along.

I can only hope that he learns to love the written word as he grows up — but even if he doesn't, at least he can read this in some archive somewhere, sometime in the future, and be embarrassed!

Adam Minor may be reached at (508) 909-4130, or by e-mail at aminor@stonebridgepress.com.

Legislature pushes through pot dispensary delay

QUIET PASSAGE DURING HOLIDAYS RAISES EYEBROWS



Anne Gobi

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Officials and activists were outraged late last month by the passage of a bill that will delay residents' ability to purchase marijuana from dispensaries statewide.

A handful of Massachusetts lawmakers passed a bill during a light holiday legislative session that will mandate a six-month delay for the opening of recreational marijuana retail locations. The bill was quickly signed by Gov. Charlie Baker, even

though the vast majority of lawmakers were not present to deliberate on the bill during a typically uneventful holiday season.

Locally, several residents and officials are displeased by the timing of the decision. They would have preferred to see the proposed delay discussed in January, when all legislators had an opportunity to weigh in. The timing also precluded newly elected officials from participating in the vote.

"I don't like to see contro-

versial actions pass during an informal session. It could have waited to be brought up during formal sessions, which will begin after the new legislature is sworn in," said Senator Anne Gobi (D-Spencer). "I did not support the ballot initiative, but I respect the vote that passed in November. While the timeline that passed was going to be difficult to meet, it could have been done. The governor was also in favor of a delay, and I don't think the

Please Read POT, page A13

United Way hosting funny fundraiser

'BABY BOOMER COMEDY SHOW' CELEBRATES CAMPAIGN

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE — Anyone looking for some great family entertainment?

The United Way of Southbridge, Sturbridge & Charlton is hosting a fundraiser for the whole family — Baby Boomer Comedy Show — on Jan. 28, at 7 p.m., at the Steven Brewer Theater at the Old Sturbridge Village. While most comedy shows feature crude humor and a loud, drunk audience, the Baby Boomer Comedy Show promises laughs for all ages without having to swear even once.

"The comedians will talk about their lives before cell phones and Facebook. Even my kids — who are high schoolers — will think it's funny because they'll say to me, 'I can't believe you lived like that!' Kids get to

laugh at their parents, parents are laughing at their memories and even our parents will say, 'Yeah, I did that, too!'" said Director Mary O'Coin. "It's really generational, which is awesome. It's such a great show."

The idea behind the Baby Boomer Comedy Show fundraiser was to provide something fun and family friendly for the community, something light and entertaining for the end of the campaign. It was a way for United Way to celebrate their campaign, which ends in the middle of January. It will also help them reach their local fundraising goal.

"Right now we are at 90 percent of our local goal," said O'Coin. "We have an overall goal of \$303,000 and a local

Please Read BABY BOOMER, page A13



These four members of the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Library had baked all of the treats for the special screening.

SPECIAL FEATURE

Olivia Richman photos

STURBRIDGE — Friends gathered at the Joshua Hyde Library for a screening of "Enchanted April" on Wednesday, Jan. 11. It was the first installment of the library's second annual Winter Film Festival. For more photos, turn to page A8!



"This is a great way to chase the winter blues away," said Ingrid Hoopes (right), pictured with fellow book club member Marie Drogue.

What can we expect in 2017?

LOCAL MEDIUM PREDICTS WHAT'S IN STORE FOR COMMUNITY

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

For the third year in a row, professional medium and psychic Gary McKinstry will be making predictions for the New Year! As many have figured from our rocky 2016, 2017 has many surprises, including a lot ups and a few downs.

"This is not something I usually do,"



Olivia Richman photo

Psychic and medium Gary McKinstry predicts what the New Year will hold for everyone in the area!

said McKinstry. "But it's very fun to do. I love seeing what hits and what misses."

In this exclusive and entertaining interview with the mystical Dudley resident, Olivia Richman will

explore McKinstry's predictions for 2017 and unveil what 2017 has in store for the Tri-Community.

Please Read MCKINSTRY, page A15

Chinese New Year comes to senior center

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

BRIMFIELD — One of the Brimfield Senior Center's biggest events is coming.

On Friday, Jan. 27, join the senior center for its celebration of the Chinese New Year: Year of the Rooster. The long-lasting tradition has been popular for its delicious food, fun activities and because it's a great way to socialize.

"We are expecting 60 seniors to show up," said Director Eva Pittsinger. "Most of our parties have between 60 and 80 people. They've really grown quite a bit. I think it's the good food and good friends that keep people coming. They really enjoy each other here. It's become such a social thing, with people table hopping

and talking."

What has made the senior center's Chinese New Year party a huge hit is the "idea of having Chinese food," said Pittsinger.

Half of the food is purchased from Empire Buffet in Sturbridge, including pork-fried rice, lo mein and egg-rolls. Volunteers and senior center employees make a stir-fried vegetable medley. This year, Pittsinger is also making teriyaki chicken sticks.

She noted: "This is a feast!"

Along with the exciting and vibrant food, the party will feature games, trivia and other fun activities for attendees. They will also be

Please Read SENIOR CENTER, page A15

Tax assistance applications now available

STURBRIDGE — The Town of Sturbridge is now accepting applications for the Town of Sturbridge Tax Assistance for Low Income Senior and Disabled Citizens Program.

Estate Tax Bill and you are 65 years or older or have a state recognized disability, and your total gross household income does not exceed \$20,000 if single or \$30,000 if married or if others reside in the household you may be eligible.

Applications are available at the Sturbridge Town Hall in the Finance Department, at the Sturbridge Senior Center, or online at www.town.sturbridge.ma.us. The deadline to file an application is Feb. 15, 2017.



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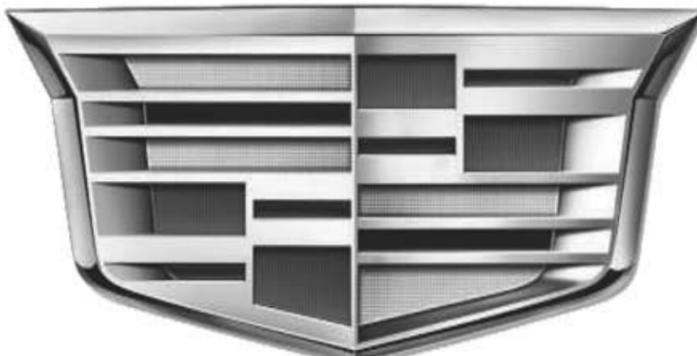
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ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS



DON'T MISS A THING!

QVCAH expands art classes for winter sessions



Because the open studio workshops were so popular in the summer, the QVCAH extended them to winter. Children will have the chance to paint in many different styles.



Art teacher Dolores Cowden with "the largest gingerbread cookie in Southbridge," which will be on display on Jan. 18 when families come to learn more about open studio workshops for children at the Art Center.

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Quinebaug Valley Council for the Arts & Humanities has been hosting summer art classes at the Art Center for children for the last 10 years and they've become so popular that they've decided to expand the program to winter as well.

Led by instructor Dolores Cowden, the winter classes began on Jan. 11. On Jan. 18, families came to the Art Center for signups, met Cowden and even saw Southbridge's largest gingerbread cookie, painted with icing.

The open studio classes will be held every Wednesday from 2:30 to 5:45 p.m. Each week the participants will learn to use different mediums, like watercolor, acrylic, mixed media and some pastels. Each week they will be exploring art in different ways through different themes. For example, one week in January the students will paint snowmen in their own style.

For many children in the Quinebaug Valley area, the art classes at the Art Center aren't only fun, they are the only opportunity they have to be creative, said Cowden.

"There's less and less art in schools now and children really need to find ways to express themselves," she explained. "It builds self-confidence and is great for their self esteem. They meet other kids in the group and it's good for socialization. There are a lot of kids who don't play sports or don't play instruments and they need another way to be creative."

And to Cowden and many other artists and parents, being creative and learning how to paint is very important.



The gingerbread cookie was decorated with icing to show that art can be used in many different ways, said Dolores Cowden.

"When you teach a child how to paint, you're giving them something they can do for the rest of their lives. It doesn't cost a lot. It's a skill you can give them. It helps calm a lot of people, relaxes them. It's a gift nobody can take away from them," she said.

Cowden has been teaching art classes for over 40 years. She has taught at nursing homes and facilities for children with disabilities and brain injuries.

"I just love doing it," she gushed. "I like to put a smile on people's faces. They have a limit to what they can do and don't feel as confident, but anybody can do this. The sense of pride and self-accomplishment ... They squeal with delight! They just love it."

All ages are welcome to attend the open studio workshops. Each lesson is \$10, which goes towards supplies and other children's programs at the Art Center. Contact 508-987-1476 for more information or to register for upcoming sessions.

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

Police urge residents to keep pets safe during winter cold

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Area police departments and animal shelters have a message for pet owners this winter — if it's too cold for you to be outside for a prolonged duration, then it's also too cold for your furry friends.

Local police departments have received numerous calls reporting stray animals with nowhere to find warmth, as well as pets left outside in frigid temperatures. A dangerous misconception that pets' fur will protect them from the elements for extended periods leads to countless deaths nationwide each year.

"Every winter there are animals found dead, injured, or ill because they are not being properly taken care of," said Robert Misseri, the founder and president of Guardians of Rescue, an animal rescue organization which assists pets across the northeast. "Our team puts in a great effort to help as many pets as we can, but we don't do it all on our own. We are urging communities to get involved in helping to keep the pets in their area safe throughout the winter chill."

In addition to the risk of hypothermia, prolonged exposure to the cold can also exacerbate such medical conditions as arthritis for pets, according to the American Veterinary Medical Foundation. There are numerous measures owners can take to protect their pets, including:

- Shorten your dog's walk during extremely cold condi-

tions. Elderly pets may also have a difficult time walking on snow and ice.

- If your dog will allow it, put a sweater on during the coldest days. When bringing your dog back in from a walk in the snow or ice, be sure to wipe down the fur to remove any deicing chemicals.

- Once the temperature drops below 40 degrees, pets should be brought in from outdoor enclosures. For those who cannot keep their dogs inside, opt for having a heated doghouse with proper bedding and insulation.

"A general rule of thumb is that if it's too cold for you to be outside, it's too cold for your pet," said Sheryl Blancato, the executive director of Second Chance Animal Shelter, which operates locations in North Brookfield and East Brookfield. "Also, be aware of areas being treated by ice melt — certain kinds can injure your dog's paws."

Officials also remind residents to be on alert for pets in the neighborhood left outdoors without proper shelter. Additionally, pet owners are warned to keep their animals away from areas where spilled antifreeze can be accessed. Because antifreeze has a pleasant taste to pets, it is responsible for many deaths each year.

In your own driveway and garage, be sure to clean antifreeze spills right away to prevent animals from

contacting it.

Also, pets should never be left alone in a vehicle for extended stretches during cold weather. Much like the summer months, the temperatures in vehicles can quickly become extreme once the engine is turned off.

"We have seen way too many pets that live outside with very poor shelter, and they suffer so much," added Misseri. "We have made it our mission to go out in full force and try to help as many of those pets that we can. The laws on leaving pets outside are very weak, so we have to do what we can to help make a difference for the animals."

Kevin Flanders can be reached at 508-909-4140, or by e-mail at kflanders@stonebridgepress.com.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Editor's Note: Meetings as listed are retrieved in advance from multiple sources, including Town Hall and on the Internet. The Sturbridge Villager is not responsible for changes and cancellations.

STURBRIDGE

Tuesday, Jan. 24

6:30 p.m., Planning Board will meet at the Center Office Building



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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CPL's first toddler story time a hit with families



Melinda Beaudett read two funny short books to the toddlers, who had a fun time answering questions and counting.

Olivia Richman photos

CHARLTON — The Charlton Public Library's first Toddler Story Time of the season was a huge hit. On Thursday, Jan. 12, a large group of toddlers laughed along with some fun stories read by Assistant Children's Librarian Melinda Beaudett, danced around with maracas and cheered on their way over to the craft tables, where they made bear puppets.



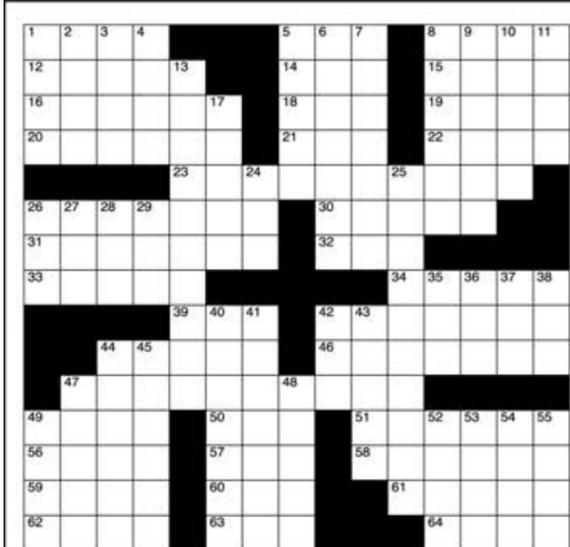
After the two stories were read, the toddlers received maracas, which gave them a chance to have a bit of movement and fun.



Melody Paine helped Carter, 2, figure out how to use a glue stick.



Jax Fischer, 2, got some help from his mother on his bear puppet.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Short tributary of the Seille
- 5. Where you sleep
- 8. Crinkle
- 12. Regions
- 14. United States
- 15. Icelandic poetry books
- 16. Transferred property
- 18. Electrocardiography
- 19. From here
- 20. Hunting or observation expedition
- 21. Used to make cabins
- 22. Containers
- 23. Famed patriot
- 26. Makes less intense
- 30. Forced to take refuge
- 31. Campaigner
- 32. Special security team
- 33. Egyptian city
- 34. The Muse of lyric and hymns
- 39. What newlyweds just said
- 42. Pain
- 44. Norwegian village
- 46. Produced on paper
- 47. Acceptance
- 49. Semite
- 50. Detective Ventura
- 51. Martens
- 56. Small mammal related to rabbits
- 57. Airsick
- 58. Itinerant
- 59. Has spotted
- 60. Garland
- 61. Search engine
- 62. Former Knick and Bull Curry
- 63. Student selected components
- 64. Norwegian island

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Fathers
- 2. Region
- 3. The Great Barrier ____
- 4. Father
- 5. Civil War general Don Carlos
- 6. Bodyguards
- 7. Knives
- 8. Member of U.S. Navy
- 9. English prince
- 10. Expression
- 11. Giants great Willie
- 13. Curving
- 17. Actress Keaton
- 24. Deploy
- 25. Medicine that treats animals
- 26. We all have it
- 27. Greek goddess of the dawn
- 28. Kevin Smith film "Chasing ____"
- 29. City in India
- 35. Went jogging
- 36. What thespians do
- 37. One and only
- 38. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 40. Obstructs from a course
- 41. Prophets
- 42. Prefix meaning on or above
- 43. Got up
- 44. Drenched
- 45. N.Y. State capital
- 47. Sampled
- 48. Tending to an end
- 49. Architectural recess
- 52. Undergarments
- 53. Ethnic group in China
- 54. Reactive structure
- 55. Greek portico



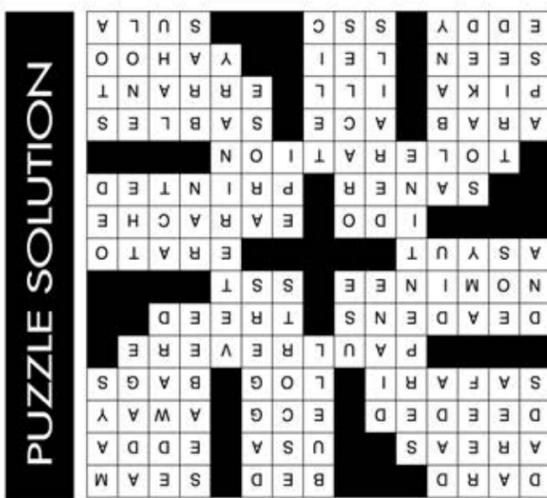
Each child received a spider puppet for "The Itsy Bitsy Spider."



"We love the Toddler Story Times," said Anne Fuess, pictured with 2-year-old Bella Carlisle. "It's a great way to spend time with my granddaughter."



It was 3-year-old Kinnon Williamson's first time making a puppet and he was very excited.



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Library stays busy with children's activities during winter break



Crafty Wednesdays have been getting more and more popular since the summer, when more activities started being added to the Children's Room.



Play-Doh Day and Card Playing Day were a huge hit over winter break at the JEL.



Children's Librarian Liz Gendreau has been adding STEM-related books to the Children's Room at the Jacob Edwards Library.

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Jacob Edwards Library was busy, busy, busy during winter break.

Children's Librarian Liz Gendreau provided new and unique hands-on activities for the kids during their week off from school and plans to keep adding new workshops, programs and activities in the future.

On Tuesday, Dec. 27 Gendreau introduced Play-Doh Day, followed by Card Playing Day on Dec. 28.

Play-Doh Day was a huge success, with more than a dozen children coming in for the workshop. More than 40 kids came throughout the following day for Story Hour, Crafty Wednesday and Card Playing Day. According to Gendreau the library has been getting

busier and busier since summer.

"I know Play-Doh Day will catch on," she said. "They had such a good time with it. They just loved creating things. When you're at home it's different. We had so many colors and all of the tools. The parents were involved. It was just a super fun activity. They got to make things and squish them back up and start all over again."

According to Gendreau, Play-Doh Day isn't only fun, it's also a good STEM activity that allows children to use their imagination, build and problem solve. The Children's Room has been trying to incorporate more STEM activities into the library's schedule recently.

Said Gendreau: "In December we did An Hour of Code. Coding is a big thing coming forward so I wanted to introduce kids to it. That was a Saturday morning

and we had 15 kids. We've introduced STEM into their lives. I've increased books on coding and Legos and different things for kids to do. We've started showing movies. I've been doing winter science experiments, like snow volcanoes and milk painting."

Why the focus on STEM?
"That's the way the world's going," she explained. "The schools are heading towards that. The kids are interested in that. They all have gadgets. Sometimes they want to know why or how things work. It blends so well with reading. Without reading they can't do any of it. Reading is the core."

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.



Olivia Richman photos

The Children's Room was very busy over winter break since Gendreau provided new hands-on activities for all ages.

Officials give fire safety tips

DETECTORS TOUTED, SPACE HEATER CAUTION URGED

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

With fireplaces and space heaters in full use, winter is always a good time to remind residents about fire prevention and safety tips.

Recent fires throughout the area have demonstrated the importance of taking the needed precautions. Properly functioning smoke detectors were credited with preventing any injuries during a December fire at a group home on 12 Jefferson Drive in Auburn. The staff was alerted to the incident by smoke detectors sounding, and they quickly evacuated the building's five residents.

"Smoke detectors give you advance notice so occupants have as much time as possible to get out of a building—just like what happened at the Jefferson Drive fire," said Auburn Fire Department Assistant Chief Glenn Johnson. "Smoke detectors are especially important when fires occur overnight."

Firefighters were able to quickly extinguish the Jefferson Drive blaze upon

arrival, but it could have been a much different situation without the smoke detectors. According to the Mass. State Fire Marshal's Office, almost a quarter of residential fire victims had no working smoke alarms to warn them.

Residents are urged to have smoke alarms on every level of their homes, and the batteries should be tested monthly and changed twice a year. Smoke alarms should be replaced every ten years.

Fire officials also remind residents to use heating sources carefully. With temperatures bottoming out, fires often ramp up due to careless use of space heaters, fireplaces and other household heating sources. Statistics from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) indicate that nearly 80 percent of national home heating fire deaths involve space heaters. It's imperative to keep these devices away from other objects, officials said.

"Half of fatal space heater fires [in 2015] started because something was too close to

the heater and ignited," said Lorraine Carli, the NFPA's vice president of communications. "Heating fires and the deaths they cause can usually be prevented with awareness and a few simple actions."

Unmaintained chimneys are also a major cause of fires nationwide. The NFPA recommends having chimneys inspected and cleaned annually to reduce the risk of a fire. Also, keep the doors of your fireplace closed unless you're loading or stoking a fire—and be sure to allow ashes to cool before disposing them.

Fire officials also warn residents about a far more insidious—but no less dangerous—threat to home and vehicle owners. According to the Centers for Disease Control, about 400 Americans die from unin-

tentional carbon monoxide poisoning each year—and another 20,000 people visit the emergency room as a result of the odorless gas.

CO is found in fumes produced any time fuel is burned. It can occur in vehicles, stoves, furnaces, or fireplaces. The best way to prevent CO poisoning is installing a detector in your home and replacing the batteries when you adjust your clocks each spring and fall.

Place your CO detector in a place where it will wake you up if it sounds, as the majority of CO poisoning incidents

take place while residents are sleeping.

"Carbon monoxide detectors are just as important in your home as smoke detectors," added Johnson, whose department responds to dozens of CO calls each year.

If your CO detector sounds, officials ask that you exit the building and call the fire department so they can check it out for you.

Kevin Flanders can be reached at 508-909-4140, or by e-mail at kflanders@stonebridgepress.com.

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An open forum for creativity to blossom

OPEN STUDIO OFFERS OPEN INVITATION FOR ARTISTS

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SOUTHBRIDGE — The smell of paint filled the air as you entered the Quinebaug Valley Council for the Arts & Humanities Art Center on Thursday, Jan. 11.

It was the first of a weekly Open Artists' Studio program, run by artist in residence Charles Gaulan, in an attempt to bring more opportunities for exposure, advice and just a place to paint for local artists.

Olivia Richman sat down with the accomplished watercolorist while he worked on some small landscape pieces to find out more about his vision for the Open Artists' Studio, which is every Thursday at the Art Center from 1 to 4 p.m.

What got you into watercolor?

"I started painting seriously in 1983. I had always had a passion for it. I was out of work and having a hard time finding work. So I went to Worcester Tech and met Alex Ganois, who had 40 to 50 years of experience with watercolor. He could see I was curious and enjoyed it so he took the time to work with me. His ability and passion rubbed off on me. That's what we're hoping to do here. We have a lot of experienced artists and we hope they'll show their ability and help other people and each other."

Do you think it's important for artists to have a place to gather and work together like this?



Olivia Richman photo

Artist Charles Gaulan hard at work at the first Open Artists' Studio at the Art Center.

"I think it's really important. Believe me, working alone has its place, too. But by talking with other artists that go through the same struggles as you, that's encouraging. To hear about how they put the work in and hearing what worked for them, that's inspiring. We all come from different walks of life, so how people solve problems can be kind of interesting. You're exposed to more creativity. It's how we all learn really."

It's great that you have gotten a lot of established

local artists to participate in the program. What do you like about painting?

"To take a two dimensional surface and create depth, form, colors ... Sometimes it's the creative part, the abstract part of it. Sometimes you're doing a more realistic approach. Plenty of paintings I started out and felt maybe I didn't have much of a chance, but sitting down and taking the time to at least try and do a drawing of it, all of a sudden I have a painting. The more I keep at it the better I am getting at it. But if I did bomb, I at least painted.

You learn from that, too."

Do you find painting to be relaxing?

"Today, more so. This is why it's good to get with people - when I first started out it felt like a fight. I was wrestling with the pieces. At first you may be embarrassed and shy. But this is the struggle we all go through. We've all been there. I've read Monet talk about struggles, Van Gogh ... But everyone goes through that same struggle."

What do you like to paint?

"I like landscape art, atmosphere. I'm trying to create a mood. I want people to see it. They don't have to recognize the place but they get a feeling about it. To them, it means something to them in their walk of life. That can be enjoyable. I saw someone the other day who told me they gave a painting to someone for Christmas. The person had tears in their eyes. People really are moved by paintings."

What is your goal for the Open Artists' Studio?

"I am hoping artists will get to know the Art Center and know they can paint here. I am hoping we will form a group. We don't expect people to show up every week. We want to develop this group, moving forward, so we can paint outside around the towns during the summer. Hopefully we can even go on trips maybe, to Maine, Rhode Island, Cape Cod ... Making connections really just helps you become exposed to other things. The Art Center has been plugging along, working hard, and we're starting to see responses from several different groups that come to shows. We really want to let people know we're here."

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

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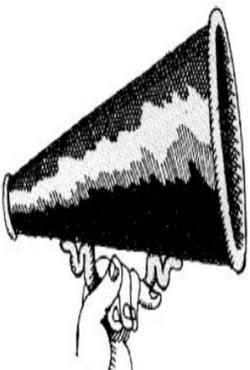
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Winter Film Festival draws a crowd at JHL



The Winter Film Festival proved to be popular once again, with almost every seat taken by friends who couldn't wait for something fun to do during the cold winter months.

STURBRIDGE — Friends gathered at the Joshua Hyde Library for a screening of "Enchanted April" on Wednesday, Jan. 11. It was the first installment of the library's second annual Winter Film Festival, where people can watch fun, light-hearted films and then feast on treats baked by the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Library that relate to the movie. The basement was packed for the first showing, which had audience members laughing throughout.

Olivia Richman photos



Joshua Hyde Library's basement turned into a small theater for the screening of "Enchanting April," part of the library's Winter Film Festival.



Not only is the Winter Film Festival a great way for people to enjoy a good movie and good food, but it provided a fun way to socialize and make new friends.



Mary Whitehead Santos and Catherin Martin are both movie buffs who met at the showing. Said Martin: "It was a lovely movie! Now I want to go to Italy!"



"This food is excellent!" said Susan Zeh.



After the showing, the patrons got to try some delicious desserts from the location of the film, which was Britain and Italy.



"I loved the movie!" said Carol Mitchell.

Evangelidis sworn-in for second term as sheriff



Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis pictured with Lt. Governor Karyn Polito and the WCSO Honor Guard immediately following the Sheriff's Inaugural Ceremony where he was sworn-in for his second term as Sheriff by Lt. Governor Polito. The Inaugural Ceremony was held on Jan. 5, at St. John's High School in Shrewsbury.

SHREWSBURY — Flanked by members of his department's Honor Guard, command staff, local clergy and family, Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis was sworn-in for his second term serving as the county's 28th High Sheriff on Jan. 5 at St. John's High School in Shrewsbury.

The Inaugural Ceremony was attended by Massachusetts Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, who administered the Oath of Office and had much praise for Evangelidis.

"Tonight with friends, family, community leaders, may-

ors, law enforcement and people from all of Worcester County we celebrate the individual for whom we are here tonight, Sheriff Lew. Under his leadership, Sheriff Evangelidis has gone above and beyond what we expected and strengthened our community here in Worcester County," Polito said. "He is a sheriff who understands that 90 percent of inmates suffer from addiction and he has touched inmates lives in a way that had not previously been done and by doing so, he is showing how to reduce the rate of recidi-

visism. Our Sheriff serves this community in so many ways going above and beyond with the senior picnic and winter coat drive."

Evangelidis began his remarks by thanking family, friends, staff, supporters, the department's honor guard and correction officers as well as fellow law enforcement officials.

"Tonight is a celebration of the Worcester County Sheriff's Department and how grateful we are to have this job in public safety and give back to the citizens of Worcester County," said Evangelidis. "We are proud of our promises made and promises kept throughout our first term and the professionalism of our department; including raising the hiring standards, implementing a promotional process based on merit, removing the Sheriff's name off of the vehicles, prohibiting all political contributions from department employees and their spouses as well as immediately consolidating many costly positions."

"The role of Sheriff is more than a desk job and I am so proud of what we have accomplished in the mission of public safety to make Worcester

County a safer place — at the jail, within our community and in our schools," continued Evangelidis, referring to the many programs implemented during his tenure including increased substance abuse programming, the use of shelter dogs for narcotics detection and inmate re-entry, prioritizing military hiring, inmate work crews that provided over \$7 million in county-wide savings and an organic jail farming program that donated to local food banks over 20,000 pounds in fresh food.

Evangelidis also shared during his Inaugural remarks that almost 90 percent of his inmates are incarcerated due to addiction and substance abuse issues and to combat the current opioid epidemic head on he has given extraordinary focus to bringing that message with his Face2Face Program to over 270,000 middle and high school students.

Evangelidis' address concluded with his vision for his next term which included two new building projects at the jail to address infrastructure needs at what is the oldest county correctional facility in the Commonwealth, establishing a local employment board

to assist with inmate re-entry and job training as well as continuing efforts to combat addiction. His Department will also host and house patrol horses, in partnership with the Worcester Police Department, for the newly formed Mounted Police Patrol Unit.

Evangelidis also took a moment to thank many community, civic leaders and charitable organizations that have dedicated their lives to helping others in Worcester County and as Sheriff he has worked with closely including; Gordon Hargrove of The Friendly House, Billy Reilly of St. John's Food for the Poor Program, Pastor Janice Ford of The Reconciliation House of Webster, Warner Winters of Leominster and St. Anne's Human Services of Shrewsbury.

"Over the last six years, it has been a great honor and privilege to serve as your Sheriff. I love this job and I am so appreciative of the faith you have put in me and as we begin our second term at the Sheriff's Department, I look forward to continuing that service," said Evangelidis.

School left reeling after senior's sudden death

DESTO: DABROWSKI'S LIFE A LESSON IN CARING, LOVE



Emily Dabrowski

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON/DUDLEY — Shepherd Hill invited students, faculty, staff and the community to come together on Sunday, Jan. 8 for support—and just someone to talk to—after the tragic death of Shepherd Hill

senior Emily Dabrowski. The 17-year-old Charlton resident passed away suddenly on Friday, Jan. 6, in the UMass Medical Center in Worcester, from rare complications related to mononucleosis.

A funeral was held on Wednesday, Jan. 11, and in lieu of flowers, her family asked that donations be made in memory of Emily to help the children in Haiti by giving to Free the Kids. While just a teenager, Dabrowski had already been on three humanitarian trips to Haiti with her church, a cause she was very passionate about. While she was known to excel in many aspects of life, it was her caring nature that stood out to many.

“Her dedication to the orphaned children of the poverty stricken nation of Haiti was amazing,” Superintendent Gregg Desto stated the following week. “Emily cared deeply for these children and this, for me, is where the lesson begins. We, students and

adults, often live our lives in a state of hurried confusion. We are always busy, often too much so to spend quality time with our loved ones, and we have been conditioned to worry about a lot of superficial things. At times, it seems, we place excessive emphasis on how we look, what others think of us and what kind of stuff we have. Often, that leads to us being judgmental and unkind to one another. We say mean things, start false rumors and use social media as a weapon through which to wage battles with one another. I want to be clear—these issues are not restricted to teenagers. We adults do many of the same things. So I'm asking you to give some thought to the way you treat others. I'm asking you to understand that the things you do and say have a powerful impact on your peers. You can treat people with civility and respect and improve the quality of their lives, or you can be mean and hurtful

and make their lives very difficult.”

Loved by her church, classmates and family, the sudden loss was very hard on the community.

“We had a lot of hurting kids today,” Desto stated on Friday. “Above all else, our hearts and prayers are with Emily's family and closest friends. We trust you will join us in our concern and sympathy for them and in respecting their privacy at this unimaginably difficult time.”

Upon learning of Dabrowski's death, Shepherd Hill had canceled all sports-related events that Friday night.

On Jan. 13, Desto released a letter to Shepherd Hill students that stated how proud he was of the student body for the manner in which they had conducted themselves during the difficult time.

It read: “Whether you were close to Emily Dabrowski or not, as a school community, you have shown an admirable combination of compassion

and strength. I am so proud of the way you have come together and taken care of one another throughout this ordeal. Next, I can't help thinking about who Emily was as a person and what we may be able to learn from that.”

While Dabrowski's sudden death was tragic for the community and has shaken many, Desto stated that he felt she would want the school to honor her memory by caring about one another.

He concluded: “Remember, this school district, this community will be as enjoyable as we make it for one another. Do or say something nice for someone else today; maybe even someone who wouldn't expect it from you. Then do that again tomorrow.”

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

Officials shocked after teachers' alleged racist comments revealed

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SOUTHBRIDGE — It was the first time Town Council Chairman Esteban Carrasco Jr. had an “outburst” at a town meeting.

At a joint meeting between the School Committee and the Town Council on Tuesday, Jan. 10, it was revealed that three anonymous teachers within the Southbridge School District had made highly racist and insensitive comments.

The comments were revealed during a presentation by Superintendent Dr. Jessica Huizenga on the findings of a special education department audit performed by an outside organization. The teachers' names remained anonymous because of a confidentiality agreement they had signed when being interviewed by the auditor.

On page 42 and 43 of the report, the three ignorant comments were revealed. These statements included “Immigrant

parents don't have any structure” and “There are more kids with reduced IQ's here because of how many families are addicted to drugs.”

But it was the third statement that caused Carrasco to yell out in shock: “All Puerto Rican families end up living together because they can't afford their own housing and then they end up inbreeding.”

Said Carrasco: “It was the first time in four years I had an outburst during a meeting. I yelled ‘What?’ I just couldn't contain it. Not only being Hispanic, but being Puerto Rican ... And I'm someone who loves my community ... I felt it. I still feel it. But the way we respond to it will show people who we really are. We are strong. Southbridge is strong. My message to the kids was that we need to be united.”

That was the message Carrasco presented to students at the Southbridge Middle/High School on Friday, Jan.

13. That morning he spoke with the students about the racist comments and stated that they didn't reflect the whole community. Upon hearing that teachers within the school district had said such distasteful and hurtful things, the students—and teachers—were shocked. Everyone was shocked.

The identities of the three teachers remain unknown. The town is hoping to use these circumstances to further unite the community.

“One of the things we have to do is get engaged and get the parents and the community engaged,” said Carrasco. “We do not want to respond in an ignorant manner. We want to respond in a healthy manner. We need to understand that this doesn't represent our district, our community and we need to make some people feel uncomfortable when comments are made and let them know it's not acceptable.”

In response to the racist comments,

the school will be holding focus groups to talk about what happened. The district also plans to provide cultural sensitivity training moving forward.

“These three comments do not reflect our school district,” concluded Carrasco. “It's three teachers who made these comments. But they do not reflect our whole school district. We have dedicated men and women who, on a daily basis, give hours and hours of their life to educate and care for our children.”

The town has thanked Dr. Huizenga for her transparency with the reporting and findings.

The community is invited to an open forum on Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m. at the old high school on Cole Avenue, where questions will be answered and people can voice their concerns and opinions.

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

Forum to discuss open space, recreation

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — The Charlton Open Space and Recreation Committee would like to invite the town's residents to an upcoming forum on Tuesday, Jan. 31, at 7 p.m., regarding the open space and recreation plan.

At the meeting, residents will have an opportunity to learn about ongoing space and recreation planning efforts and discuss the outcome of an open space and recreation survey that ran from July to September of 2016.

“The community meeting is part of a half-year planning process to develop town goals, objectives and action items for open space and recreation for the next seven years,” explained consultant Jayne Armington. “The culmination of this planning process will be an adopted Charlton Open Space and Recreation Plan, making the town eligible for numerous state, federal and private foundation grant opportunities for park and conservation projects.”

Members of the Open Space and Recreation Committee are highly interested in the community's input. They want to hear concerns, ideas and questions. During the meeting there will be maps hanging up around the room featuring big sections of Charlton as well as large easels, so people can write down ideas or put sticky notes onto the map where they believe there's an opportunity or issue in town.

“From feedback we have received, people are interested in hiking and biking trails in town,” said Conservation Agent Todd Girard. “The survey revealed that most people aren't aware of the existing outdoor spaces we already have in town. Buffumville and

Faye Mountain Farm have large trail systems, which we would like to expand on. This includes the mid-state trail, which cuts across the whole state, going through Charlton and Faye Mountain Farm.”

There are other recommendations and suggestions that the committee has put together, based on findings from the survey and other research in town. They want to inform the towns of these suggestions and hear the public's feedback. One of the suggestions is to create more of an online presence, allowing residents to get a more clear understanding of the trails and other amenities in town on an official website.

So why is this an important topic that people should get involved with?

“Open space is directly proportional to your quality of life,” said Girard. “If your town has some nice, beautiful, protected open space—like our goal to protect our surface waters—and people are able to go swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, running ... People will take more interest in it. It gives you clean water for our kids' kids. It has future goals, it's an environmental movement. I understand people want to get virtually outside today, but physical fitness and exploring the beauty that nature offers you, you can't get that unless you go out to these places.”

The forum will allow residents to take a more positive and active role in their own neighborhoods and get involved with green roots activism.

Said Girard: “This is how it starts.”

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

Friday's Child



Keanu is a sweet and affectionate twelve-year-old Caucasian boy who loves to run and be outside. He is fascinated by water and loves to play in the pool. His favorite food is pizza. Keanu dances and sings; his favorite songs include “Old MacDonald”, “You are my Sunshine”, and “Wheels on the Bus”.

Keanu has had a challenging start to life and needs a lot of care, support, and love. Keanu has some medical difficulties and developmental challenges, so he needs family who can put some time into learning about his needs and how to set up the best possible environment for him. Keanu is legally blind with some vision—in fact, his favorite toys are those that light up and play music. Keanu has been learning how to use a cane to navigate in school and works with a vision teacher too. All of his teachers and providers constantly report what a joy he is to work with, and how much he loves being at school!

Keanu is doing very well in his program, but is ready to get the chance to thrive with the attention and love through having a family of his own. Any family constellation that feels they can meet Keanu's needs will be considered.

What is a Homestudy?

Part of the process to adopt a child from foster care is the homestudy review. After completing the Massachusetts Approach to Partnerships in Parenting (MAPP) training course, your social worker will conduct in-home interviews that will help gather information and get to know you and your family. Your social worker will schedule visits with you to discuss your strengths and challenges as a family, your parenting style, and the type of child you would like to adopt. From these meetings, your social worker will write a narrative, also called a homestudy, about your family. Once MAPP training is successfully completed and the interviewing is over, the decision is made to approve you as a licensed pre-adoptive parent. This homestudy document is then shared with other social workers to help make an appropriate, mutually selected match between your family and a waiting child.

To learn more about Keanu, and about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-54-ADOPT (617-542-3678) or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have “a permanent place to call HOME.”

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ADAM MINOR
EDITOR, STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

Random tips to save time and money



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

Making life a little easier is what this column is all about, and this week, it will focus on saving time and money — two things many people wished they had more of! From recycling free samples to cutting down on cleaning, these simple and effective tips give you one less thing to worry about!

Scented Samples: The next time you find yourself with too many perfume sample papers from magazines and store sale catalogs, gather them up and stow them in the glove compartment of your car. When your car needs refreshing, (or if you want to try out a new scent without commitment) stick an end of the fragrant paper into the air vent slot and enjoy the aroma!

Got it Covered: Futon covers are pricey, but did you know a full or queen fitted sheet will do the trick just as well and save you a bundle? The sheet fits nice and snug and best of all, it can be easily washed. Plus you can afford to change colors or patterns with the seasons.

Another futon cover alternative is to shop for sales on duvet covers. They are usually much cheaper than futon covers, but essentially do the same job.

Crystal Clear: Washing large windows, like sliders to a deck can be grueling chore. If you'd like to play hooky from the job for a week (or two), treat the glass with Rain X, a water repellent sold in auto supply stores. Dirt, as well as water, won't be attracted to the glass!

Shower Power: Daily shower cleaner sprays have all but alleviated hard scouring, but the popular commercial products are expensive to use. No worries. You can whip up your own just-as-effective version for a lot less money. Here's how: Combine together in an empty spray bottle: one cup of white vinegar; one half teaspoon liquid dishwashing soap, and one quarter cup of dishwasher rinse agent (such as Jet Dry). To use, just spray down shower and tub walls after each use.

Slick Trick: Keep a bottle of cooking oil spray in the garage to spritz on the shovel this winter. It will keep snow from sticking. This trick also works with snow blowers and lawn mowers, just spray it on the blades to keep them clean and clog free.

Fire & Water: There is still plenty of winter left this season and nothing warms up a room better than a candle's glow. You can cut down on cleaning your votive holders by adding little water to the bottom of the glass before lighting the candle. This way, wax won't stick and cleanup is a snap!

Rub a Dub: Rubbing alcohol does double duty as both a time and money saver. It's an inexpensive cleaner and disinfectant you can use all around the house. Did you know you can pour straight alcohol in a spray bottle to quickly clean windows, streak free? It's also an effective disinfectant for counter tops, telephones and other surfaces you want to be germ-free. Alcohol also shines up chrome sink fixtures with just a quick rub. A spray of alcohol works well in winter to clean car windows, as it does not freeze. If you buy the pine scented rubbing alcohol it will

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OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The spirit of Christmas

To the Editor:

At 5 a.m. on Dec. 11, we were awakened to our dog jumping on top of us in the bed. The smoke was thick as molasses and white as snow. Thirty seconds after my dog woke us, the smoke detector went off.

We flew out of bed and I got my 2-year-old daughter, the dog and the cat in the car and turned the heat on. As I ran back into the house, my partner was ripping the drywall off the back of the chimney where the 2x4 was on fire. The smoke was so thick and piercing to the nose and lungs, I had to crouch below the line and think about what I needed to grab. Jackets, hats, boots, mittens were first out. Then I grabbed our 8x9 family photo that was taken in Maine in a blueberry barren. Next was a stackable wooden snowman set my daughter loves!

I was attaching the hose to the spigot when the fire trucks arrived. It was freezing outside and I needed to get my daughter to a safe place. In a blur of flashing lights, we said goodbye.

For a week and five days, we gratefully slept on my Mom's pull out couch. Mix in some strep throat, fever, horrible coughing, a trip to the ER to check my daughter's lungs and a trip to the pediatric cardiologist (all turned out well!) and I thought things were getting pretty challenging. I definitely had a few meltdowns...

The smoke damage was so intense, everything plastic, rubber, cardboard or fabric had to be thrown out. Mostly all of my daughter's toys, books and artwork, the couch, all mattresses, electronics, small appliances, food, and many other items I didn't even know about got tossed into a big dumpster outside that the cleaning company had delivered. Everything had to be professionally wiped down and cleaned, down

to each DVD movie! Air scrubbers and deodorizer units were set up. All of our clothes, shoes, towels, sheets and rugs were sent out to the dry cleaner. The hole in the floor the fire department had to cut needed to be repaired, the chimney fixed up to code, the entire house scrubbed from ceiling to floor and everything repainted.

Through all of these obstacles, I kept trying to figure out the lesson I was supposed to be learning. I look back now and realize I learned many. The sincere empathy, the astonishing generosity and the overwhelmingly amazing sense of community we felt during this time made the struggles seem small.

First on the scene, book and toy in hand for my daughter, was our friend Shannon, who came to the house that Sunday to assess the damage as an insurance friend. My daughter's daycare, Green Acres Child Care, held a fundraiser to help out. The wrapped Christmas presents, hand written cards and letters, toys, books, clothing, gift cards, money ... even a free week's tuition! All Star Incentive Marketing also donated several amazing items. Someone even did a needlepoint with a sweet home saying! It was hard to wrap my head around how widespread our story traveled! Lessons were being taught to children to share and give in time of need. A little girl filled her backpack with all her own favorite personal toys just for my daughter! Every gift was a true blessing. We would like to sincerely thank everyone who helped us out. A big thank you to our moms!

As we moved back in the Friday evening before Christmas, our hearts were radiating with the Spirit of Christmas!

BRIJIN KASTBERG
STURBRIDGE

It's time to 'dump Casella,' Part 9

To the Editor:

New year. Same old song and dance. Casella and the Department of Environmental Protection are back at it — with Casella doing all it can to expand, and the DEP not doing enough to stop it. Not yet, anyway.

In a few weeks, the DEP will get another chance to either approve or deny Casella's site suitability application. That means depending on the ruling, Casella will either be allowed to expand operations at the Southbridge landfill. Or they won't.

You know, watching this dancing duo embrace is like watching a never-ending waltz. The moves are all the same. And they just keep happening over and over and over again. On the trash side, you've got one force exerting all its strength on the other by sliding around any environmental rule and regulation it can. On the DEP side, you've got the masters of hesitation hiding behind weak regulations and full of pauses, seemingly content to follow along and not step on Casella's toes. It all begs the question: Who exactly should be leading here? Casella or the DEP?

I guess the next step of the dance will tell us. If only I had faith that the DEP is going to do what's right and deny Casella's application. But I don't. Despite 180 letters of opposition written to the DEP's section chief, James McQuade; despite the contamination exceedances both at the landfill and beyond; despite the cease-and-desist order handed down to Casella for illegally operating two basins on Charlton land; despite the nuisances of stench and noise coming from the landfill; despite the fact that the landfill is still contaminating the environment; despite all this, there's still a good chance Casella's application will be approved.

How can that be? Well, if it gets approved, we'll have to ask the director of the DEP that question. When

it was recently expressed to the DEP how insane expanding a landfill is on a site that's already contaminating the environment and likely contaminating local drinking wells, they said, "it's already a landfill." Now there's leadership and logic for you. Way to protect, DEP! That's like saying why operate when you already have arterial blockage. Uh, maybe so we can prevent further damage and save some lives?

But let's not fire off on the DEP just yet. It's hard to keep up with a dance partner who looks to stay one step ahead of everyone else. And that's exactly what Casella is doing. They recently hedged their expansion bet with a nifty sidestep maneuver to buy more time. After most of the 180 letters of opposition were submitted, they filed a Notice of Project Change, altering original plans in order to fast-track approval to extend a liner to already-authorized limits of waste—where contamination continues to release into the environment. Not only is this a desperate ploy to gain about four additional months of operation at the landfill, but it's all part of Casella's grand scheme to sidestep opposition (again) until the opposition goes away and they get what they want.

C'mon, DEP, enough is enough. Twenty years of contamination is enough. Casella's proposed interceptor trench does nothing to mitigate existing contamination. Diverting surface water with a trench does nothing to stop cells from leaking into the environment. Neither does sealing their 900-foot well. They have not put forth a worthy mitigation solution. So let's put an end to this song and dance. Casella can waltz all they want. But right now, it's up to you to take control. Deny their site suitability application. Not delay it. Deny it.

CHRISTIAN BOUSQUET
CHARLTON

FHA loans just got cheaper

In many parts of Worcester County buyers are purchasing with low money down programs such as an FHA loan, which is administered through the Federal Housing Administration.

This week it was announced that they will lower the annual mortgage insurance premium by .25 percent. They say the reason is because the amounts of defaults have decreased causing higher reserves to be on hand and passing this savings on to homeowners. The other



REALTOR'S REPORT
JAMES BLACK

thing they are doing is making these loans more competitive and it hedges against the rising interest rates. These loans allow you to buy an owner occupied home 1-4 units building with as little 3.5 percent down payments. These rates will be for loans that close on 1/27 or later. This savings on average should

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Investment tips for 'millennials'



FINANCIAL FOCUS
JEFF BURDICK

If you are a "millennial" — a member of the age cohort born anywhere from the early 1980's to the late 1990's —

then you're still in the early chapters of your career, so it may be a stretch for you to envision the end of it. But since you do have so many years until you retire, you've got the luxury of putting time on your side as you save and plan for retirement.

Here are some suggestions for making the best use of that time:

Invest early — and often. Even if you are at the very beginning of your career, make investing a priority. At first, you might only be able to contribute a small amount each month, but something is far better than nothing — and after a year or so, you might be surprised at how much you've actually put away.

Take advantage of your employer's retirement plan. If your employer offers a 401(k) or similar plan, contribute as much as you can afford. At the least, put in enough to earn your employer's match, if one is offered. Your contributions can lower your taxable income, and your earnings can grow on a tax-deferred basis.

Invest more as your earnings increase. As your career advances, and your earnings rise, you'll want to increase your contributions to your 401(k) or similar plan. And if you ever "max out" on your annual 401(k) contributions (the limits change over time), you can probably still contribute to another tax-advantaged retirement plan, such as a traditional or Roth IRA.

Thus far, we've only discussed, in general terms, how much and how often you should invest. But it's obviously just as important to think about the type of investments you own. And at this stage of your life, you need an investment mix that provides you with ample opportunities for growth. Historically, stocks and stock-based vehicles provide greater growth potential than other investments, such as government securities, corporate bonds and certificates of deposit (CDs). Of course, stocks will rise and fall in price, sometimes dramatically. But with decades ahead of you, you do have time to overcome short-term losses. And you may be able to reduce the effects of market volatility by spreading your dollars among many different stock-based investments, along with a reasonable percentage of bonds and other, more conservative securities.

Here's something else to consider: Many millennials want more from their investments than just good performance — they also want their money to make a difference in the world. This interest in "impact" investing (also known as "socially responsible" investing) has led some of your peers to screen out companies or industries they believe have a negative impact on society in favor of other businesses that are viewed as contributing to a more sustainable world. If this viewpoint resonates with you, then you may want to explore these types of investment opportunities with a financial professional.

But most importantly, keep on investing throughout your life. As a millennial, you've got plenty of the one asset that can never be replaced: time. Use it wisely.

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.



StonebridgePress.com

Short coin series, Part 3: Liberty V Nickels, 1883-1912

Believe it or not, we come across one or more of these coins in about half of the collections we encounter. Most often they are simply loose coins or stacked in old orange pill canisters. The vast majority are from 1900 to 1912.



TREASURES
IN YOUR
HOME
PAUL JOSEPH

However, there's the occasional 1883 both with and without the words "FIVE CENTS" at the bottom of the reverse. And there-in lies the story of gold-plated "bootlegger nickels." We have related this story in past columns so we'll simply note here that the coins without the denomination noted were gold plated and passed off as bogus \$5 gold pieces to folks and merchants who had no idea what a real \$5 gold piece looked like.

You may recall that the only person charged with passing a fake \$5 gold bootleg nickel was here in Mass. However he was acquitted because he was a

deaf mute and, therefore never claimed it was a gold coin.

Over 16 million Liberty V nickels were minted in 1883 in both "without cents" and "with cents" varieties. Production exceeded 10 million each year through the last regular year of production in 1912. The only years that fell below that mark were (in decreasing order of numbers made) were: 1895 (9.9 million), 1896 (8.8 million), 1894 (5.4 million), 1886 (3.2 million), and 1885 (1.5 million). The coins were only made in Philadelphia until 1912 when 8.4 million were made in Denver and just 238,000 were minted in San Francisco.

Of special note...none were legally made in 1913, which was also the first year that Buffalo nickels were produced at all three mints. However, five were clandestinely made and supposedly given to a col-

lector. All of them have sold for well over \$1 million each in the past several years.

We seldom find coins in collections in grades above VF 20. Most normal year coins generally sell for \$1 in G-4 condition, \$3 in F-12, and \$7 in VF-20. But let's take a look at the lower mintage years. Here are the values in G-4 condition for those years: 1895 (5.50), 1896 (\$6.75), 1894 (\$13), 1886 (\$160), and the rarest date, 1885 (\$290). In G-4 condition, none of the letters in "Liberty" on the headband are visible.

In Fine-12, the values are: 1895 (\$18), 1896 (\$30), 1894 (\$75), 1886 (\$300), and 1885 (\$660). In order to be graded F-12 all seven letters in "Liberty" on the headband must be clearly visible.

While we rarely see these coins in EF-40 condition, we do occasionally see them. In order to be EF, there must be considerable original mint luster on both sides of the coin. These values are: 1895 (\$52), 1896 (\$95), 1894 (\$195), 1886 (\$520), and 1885 (\$1,050).



Courtesy photo

A 1912-S Liberty V nickel.

For the only year of production in Denver and San Francisco, here are the values...note that the mint mark is located near the rim at the bottom on the reverse...12D: G-4 is \$2; F-12 is \$8; VF-20 is \$28; and EF-40 is \$75. For the rarer 12-S: G-4 is \$110; F-12 is \$160; VF 20 is \$375; and EF-40 is \$750.

To assist you in identifying a Liberty V nickel we've pictured both the obverse and reverse of a 1912-S coin. In our next column we'll take a look at what

the gold and silver coin market looks like, along with some values for investment coins.

Contact us! Paul, CAI, GPPA: Grey Ghost Auctions & Appraisals, 508-943-6570, pwogio@charter.net; www.greyghostcorp.com; The author conducts certified coin and antique/collectible appraisals, on site estate sales, auctions, and cleanouts.

EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

The University of Vermont

BURLINGTON, Vt. — The following students have been named to the dean's list at the University of Vermont.

To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

Margaret Krause, of Fiskdale
Carrie Wiater, of Holland

Assumption College

WORCESTER — Assumption College has announced that Kathleen Knox, a member of the Class of 2017 from Sturbridge, is one of 486 students named to the College's prestigious undergraduate Dean's List for the fall 2016 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Assumption students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a five-class, 15-credit semester. The Dean's List is announced twice per academic year, once at the completion of the fall semester, and again at the completion of the spring semester.

Emmanuel College

BOSTON — Savannah Lundwall, of Fiskdale, was named to the Emmanuel College Dean's List for the Fall 2016 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

James Madison University

HARRISONBURG, Va. — Sturbridge resident Kerry Barbara Joyce, has been named to the dean's list at James Madison University for the fall 2016 semester. Students who earn dean's list honors must carry at least 12 graded credit hours and earn a GPA of between 3.5 and 3.899. Joyce is scheduled to graduate in 2018 and is majoring in accounting.

Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School

STURBRIDGE — Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School is now accepting applications for the 2017-18 academic year for students eligible for kindergarten through Grade 3. Give your child a unique educational experience and be a part of this pioneering opportunity. The Academy offers education in partnership with EL Education, which provides high-achieving and engaging learning environments. Free public information sessions are planned on the following dates and locations, all are welcome:

- Monday, Jan. 23, Richard Sugden Library, 8 Pleasant St., Spencer, at 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 24, Old Sturbridge Village Fuller Conference Center, Sturbridge, at 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 25, Haston Free Public Library, 161 Main St., North Brookfield, at 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 26, Palmer Public Library, 1455 North Main St., Palmer, at 6:30 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 30, Jacob Edwards

Library, 236 Main St., Southbridge, at 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 6, Jacob Edwards Library, 236 Main St., Southbridge, at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, visit www.osacps.org

Joshua Hyde Library

STURBRIDGE — The Children's Room at Joshua Hyde Library will hold winter Story Times through the week of Feb. 13. Age groups will meet as follows: 18 to 30 months: Tuesdays at 10:45 a.m. and 2.5 to 4.5 years: Fridays at 10:45 a.m. We strive to support early literacy development that will lead to a life-long love of reading. This development begins at birth and is strengthened through everyday interactions including sharing books, singing songs and creative activities. Join us for fun and meaningful story times that will assist you in preparing your child for successful school years and beyond! Please register by calling the library at 508-347-2512 or visiting us at 306 Main St.

STURBRIDGE — The Joshua Hyde Library will be holding their Early Literacy and Fun program during the month of February. The ELF program is a book-in-hand program geared for children ages 9-18 months with their caregiver. The brief program, which includes stories, songs, finger rhymes and more, is followed by playtime. This program is a fun and easy way to introduce your child to the world of books and to instill a love of lifetime learning! ELF, which is free and open to the public, will meet on Thursdays, Feb. 2, 9, and 16 at 10:45 a.m. To register call 508-347-2512, or visit us at 306 Main Street, Sturbridge.

Preschool Screening

STURBRIDGE — Preschool screenings for 3- and 4-year-olds – residents of Sturbridge, by appointment only.

If you have concerns about your child's development and would like your child screened please call 508-347-7041 for an appointment on March 7. Early intervention will do developmental screenings for children birth to 3 years old. Please call 508-765-0292 for an appointment.

Kindergarten Registration

STURBRIDGE — Residents of Sturbridge, if your child will be 5 years old by Aug. 31, Kindergarten registration will take place the week of Feb. 6-10, from 9:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Thursday, Feb. 9, from 3-6 p.m. at Burgess Elementary School, 45 Burgess School Road, Sturbridge. If you have questions, please call (508) 347-7041.

Sturbridge Cooperative Nursery School

STURBRIDGE — The Sturbridge Cooperative Nursery School is having an open house on Tuesday, Jan. 24, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Come to tour the school and meet the teachers! Registration for the 2017-2018 school year will be held on Feb. 1, from 5:30-7 p.m. at the school. Two day and three day programs are available for children ages 2.9 and up. The school day runs from 9-11:45 a.m. The Sturbridge Nursery School is located at 518 Main St. Sturbridge.

For more information please call (508) 347-9131 or email aimeemiranda1978@hotmail.com.

POLICE LOGS

Editor's Note: The information contained in these police logs was obtained through either press releases or other public documents kept by the police department, and is considered to be the account of police. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. If a case is dismissed in court or the party is found to be innocent, Stonebridge Press, with proper documentation, will update the log at the request of the arrested party.

STURBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ARRESTS

Thursday, Dec. 29
1:01 a.m.: Shelbia D. Spence, 33, of 18 Willard Road pt. #2, was arrested for driving under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle,

leaving the scene of property damage and speeding

Saturday, Dec. 31

7:26 p.m.: Charlie Vazquez-Rosario, 26, of 10 Windsor Ct., Southbridge, was arrested for failing to yield and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle

11:12 p.m.: Chriss M. Dolan, 47, of 64 S. Maple Avenue, Brookfield, was arrested for second offense of driving under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, lights violation, marked lanes violation and possession of open container of alcohol in motor vehicle

Friday, Jan. 6

1:14 a.m.: Niels Andersen III, 30, of 2195 Main Street, W. Warren, was arrested for driving under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle and marked lanes violation

1:14 a.m.: Thomas K. Simons, 32, of 135 Pierce Road W. Brookfield, was arrested

for driving under the influence of liquor and negligent operation of a motor vehicle

Saturday, Jan. 7

12:42 a.m.: Alyssa D. Veale, 22, of 246 Monson Turnpike Road, Ware, was arrested for driving under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle and not meeting safety standards

Monday, Jan. 9

12:01 a.m.: Gabrielle Tanacea, 20, of 10 Warren Road, was arrested on multiple warrants

5:17 p.m.: Indy R. Bryan, 22, of 4 Lane Apt. #23, Brookfield, was arrested for operation of an unlicensed motor vehicle, no inspection sticker and speeding

Tuesday, Jan. 3

2:45 a.m.: Timothy J. Mosher, 21, of 21 High Street, Fiskdale, was arrested on a warrant

OTHER ACTIVITY

Monday, Jan. 2

4:13 a.m.: Police investigated suspicious activity on Route 15

Tuesday, Jan. 3

5:10 p.m.: Police responded to an accident, injury, on Whitmore Road

Friday, Jan. 6

7:19 a.m.: Police responded to an accident, property damage on Kelly Road

11:08 p.m.: Police responded to an accident, property damage on Breakneck Road

Saturday, Jan. 7

9:20 a.m.: Police investigated a suspicious motor vehicle on Arnold Road

3:31 p.m.: Police responded to an accident, property damage on Wells State Park Road

TRAINOR

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leave a pleasant, clean smell behind.

Smart or Not?: Did you ever wonder what your IQ is? Just log onto www.iqtest.com for a fun, free evaluation of your brainpower. The test takes 13 minutes or less, and results will be sent immediately to your email address. The results of the test are free, and at the end of the test the sponsor offers an optional complete intelligence profile for a fee.

Car Wash Clone: Run out of car wash? Don't run to the store. A great car washing solution that rivals the name brand one can be made by adding one quarter cup of vegetable oil based liquid soap, such as Murphy's oil soap to a pail of warm water.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House — Your tips can win you a fabulous dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. Hints are entered into a drawing for a three-course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn! 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 publications? Send questions and/or hint to: Take the Hint!, c/o Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or e-mail kdr@ao.com.

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continued from page A1

save a homeowner about \$500 per year.

These loans can be appealing for several reasons. They typically allow for a higher debt to income ratio than many other loans allow borrowers to spend more on a home thus protecting the Real Estate Market from pricing these borrowers out of the market. Many times you can get these loans with lower credit scores than conventional loans. The other reason these can be desirable is the ability to purchase with as little as 3.5 percent down.

For most loans, you will be going from 85 basis points down to 60 basis points. Make sure to speak to a mortgage lender that you trust that can do

a calculation for you to see if this is the best loan product for you. We talked about mortgage insurance premiums and there can be confusion about what that is for. This is not the insurance to protect you if anything happens to your home. This insurance is designed to the help the bank that is lending you money in case you default on the loan. Depending on the loan product and the percentage you put down when purchasing the home you may or may not have to pay a mortgage insurance premium.

James Black is a licensed realtor for A&M Real Estate Consultants at Keller Williams Realty. He may be reached at (508) 365-3532 or by e-mail at jblack2@kw.com.

StonebridgePress.com

CALENDAR

The calendar page is a free service offered for listings for government, educational and non-profit organizations. All calendar listings are due Fridays at 12 p.m., for publication on the following Friday's edition. Mail to Editor Adam Minor at Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550; send by fax at (508) 764-8015 or by e-mail to aminor@stonebridgepress.news. Please write "Calendar" in the subject line. We will print such listings as space allows. Please note: Items with an RSVP date will be listed by their RSVP date, not by the date of the actual event, unless otherwise requested.

Thursday, Jan. 19

STURBRIDGE

Village Toastmasters will host a special Story Time meeting on Thursday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m. At regular meetings, Toastmasters present speeches that they have researched and developed themselves. In contrast, at this special Story Time event, speakers will read from a book, article, poem, or other written work. Interpretive reading projects like this represent a unique speaking challenge – communicate the ideas and emotions of someone else. Interpretive readers have to pay special attention to their pauses, vocal tone, body movement and even eye contact with the audience to make sure the attitude and intent of the author is conveyed. It is a skill that people use more often than typically thought. Anytime a quote, statistics or figures are used in a presentation, interpretive reading skills are necessary. Visitors are welcome to come and watch experienced Toastmasters read from motivational texts, their own books, and quotable quotes during this special event.

Friday, Jan. 20

BRIMFIELD

The Brimfield Senior Center will be showing the movie "Mr. Church," starring Eddie Murphy, on Jan. 20, at 11 a.m. When a dying mother and her little girl engage the talented cook Henry Joseph Church, a six-month arrangement extends into a 15-year one. Mr. Church willingly accepts the responsibility of being the sole bread winner, chef, and teacher of the arts, supporting Charlotte and her mother while creating a genuine loving environment as a member of this unlikely family. Based on a true story. Rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America. \$2 suggested donation for movie. Free popcorn, snacks & beverages! The Brimfield Senior Center is located in the 1st Congregational Church, 20 Main Street. 413-245-7253.

Wednesday, Jan. 25

STURBRIDGE

Winter Film Festival — "Miss Potter," is the third film in the Winter Film Festival at Joshua Hyde Library. Join us on Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 1:30 p.m., and escape the winter snow and cold with an afternoon of adventure set in a beautiful and exotic location. The refreshments are themed to match each movie and provide a time of community and discussion before and after the film is shown. Miss Potter depicts Beatrix Potter's life from her early fascination with woodland creatures to her days as an independent woman pursuing a career in writing and illustrating.

This Film Festival is free due to the funding contributed by the Friends of the Joshua Hyde Library that is located at 306 Main Street in Sturbridge.

Friday, Jan. 27

BRIMFIELD

Chinese New Year Party! The Brimfield Senior Center is celebrating The Year of the Rooster with a fun filled party. Come join us on Friday, Jan. 27, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy traditional Chinese cuisine with a menu of fried rice; lo mein; chicken fingers; crab rangoon; beef & broccoli; chicken teriyaki sticks; vegetable stir fry; egg rolls and fortune cookies and ambrosia for dessert. January birthdays will be celebrated along with games & prizes. The Brimfield Senior Center is located in the 1st Congregational Church, 20 Main Street. 413-245-7253. Please reserve your seat on or before Jan. 24. There is a \$6 suggested donation for this event.

Saturday, Jan. 28

STURBRIDGE

United Way of Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Charlton presents Baby Boomer Comedy Show — Saturday, Jan. 28, 7-9 p.m., at the Stephen Brewer Theater at Old Sturbridge Village. The Baby Boomer Comedy Show is 90 minutes of hilarious, clean stand-up comedy focusing on work, family, do-it-yourself projects, and many other topics that audiences can relate to! Kent Rader and Jan McInnis are both baby boomers who have spent the past 20 years performing for thousands of business groups, non-profit organizations and other professional events. They have a reputation for clean and funny humor — Jan was featured in the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post for her clean humor, and Kent's clean comedy won him the Branson Comedy festival.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the many local agencies in Southbridge, Sturbridge, and Charlton funded by the United Way each year. Tickets are \$25 advanced purchase or \$30 at the door. To purchase tickets text COMEDY to 40403 or call United Way at (508) 765-5491.

WALES

2017 Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary Winter Lecture Series — Saturday, Jan. 28, Discovering New England's Stone Walls. How and why did New England come to acquire its thousands of miles of stone walls? How were these, and other dry stone structures, built? Kevin Gardner, author of The Granite Kiss and stone wall builder specializing in restoration, will speak about stone walls touching on history, technique, stylistic development and aesthetics. He will discuss restoration tips and techniques, information about design, acquisition of materials and preservation. You are encouraged to bring up specific problems or projects on your property. Along the way, Kevin will build a miniature table-top wall using tiny stones from a five-gallon bucket.

Winter lectures at the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary are offered free of charge on Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. Space is limited; call 413-267-9654 or email lectures@norcrosswildlife.org to register. In case of inclement weather please call ahead, check our Facebook page or visit www.norcrosswildlife.org.

Sunday, Jan. 29

SOUTHBRIDGE

Fraternal Order of Eagles will hold a meat raffle on Sunday, Jan. 29, at 1 p.m. All are welcome, 59 Mill St., Southbridge.

Monday, Jan. 30

HOLLAND

The Alzheimer's Association will present a free workshop on behaviors associated with dementia on Monday, Jan. 30, from 1-2:30 p.m., at the Holland Community Center, 40 Brimfield Road. Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behavior offers information to help decode behavioral messages and identify common behavior triggers. Participants will learn strategies to help intervene with the most common behavioral challenges with dementia. To register or for more information call 800-272-3900.

Tuesday, Jan. 31

CHARLTON

The Alzheimer's Association is presenting a workshop to cover the basic information on Alzheimer's and related dementias Tuesday, Jan. 31, from 1:30-3:30 p.m., at The Overlook Performing Arts Center, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. The Basics offers general information on Alzheimer's and related dementias, covers the benefits of early detection, outlines causes and risk factors, explains treatment, and introduces services offered by the Alzheimer's Association for people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their caregivers. To register or for more information call 800-272-3900. The workshop is free and open to the public.

Sunday, Feb. 5

SOUTHBRIDGE

The Southbridge Lions Club will be holding its 26th Annual Cartoon Character Breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 5. Bring the kids to meet their favorite cartoon characters at the Southbridge Community Center, 153 Chestnut Street, from 7 a.m.-noon. The all-you-can-eat breakfast includes, pancakes, French toast and of course, our famous crepes. The proceeds from the breakfast will be put into the Lions' Charity account to be distributed within the community to families, individuals and groups in need of help. Tickets are available in advance from any Southbridge Lions member, or at the door. Cost: Adults \$7; Children under 10 \$4.

Friday, Feb. 10

BRIMFIELD

All are invited to a book discussion and dinner to be held on Friday, Feb. 10, at 6 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Brimfield. Book to be discussed is, "Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption," by Bryan Stevenson. Please join Pastor Dawn Adams in discussing this book that has been cited as "the most important book of 2016!" RSVP to brimfielducc@gmail.com. First Congregational Church of Brimfield, 20 Main Street, Brimfield.

Saturday, Feb. 25

SOUTHBRIDGE

Historical Collaboration in The Last Green Valley — Saturday, Feb. 25, from 1-3 p.m. (snow date is Sunday, Feb. 26), Optical Heritage Museum, 12 Crane St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Topic: Presentation & Tour of the many OHM Galleries by passionate & knowledgeable host Dick Whitney. View antique spectacles, equipment, the AO collec-

tion, history of Southbridge and more. Thousands of items on display. This tour was a smash hit during Walktober 2016. For more info & to RSVP: marcy@tlgv.org.

ONGOING

CHARLTON

Grief Support Group at Overlook Hospice — 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.

SOUTHBRIDGE

The Winter Coat Closet at Holy Trinity Church, 446 Hamilton St., Southbridge, will be open every Saturday morning from 9-11 a.m., beginning Oct. 22 through Dec. 17. This ecumenical effort is supported by many churches in the area. There are coats available for men, women and children, as well as scarves & hats & mittens at no charge. Come down and browse through our racks. People wishing to donate clean, gently used winter coats can drop them off at the church on Saturday mornings. Please no light weight or dry clean only coats and no other type clothing, as space is limited. Children's and men's coats are especially needed. Call Chris McTigue, coordinator at 508-248-4726 for more information.

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.

STURBRIDGE

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.

HOLLAND

Weekly classes at the Holland Community Center, 40 Brimfield Road, Holland. Senior Daytime Events: Mondays and Wednesdays lunch is served at noon, reservations required by calling 413-245-3163 and a \$2 donation is requested. Mondays at 10 a.m. join us for "Fit for Life", strength training class & also at 10 a.m., Mah Jongg. Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. we have Open Crafts and at 4 p.m. join us for Walking Club (rain or shine). Wednesdays at 10 a.m. we have Movin' and Groovin' and at 1 p.m. we have Mah Jongg. Thursdays at 10 am we have Stained Glass as well as Tai Chi, and at 12:15 p.m. join us for Cribbage. We also have a monthly bookclub, and assorted presentations. Community Evening Events: Mondays at 6 p.m. – Texas Hold Em, Tuesdays at 4 p.m. – Walking Club, Wednesdays at 5 p.m. – Yoga, Thursdays at 6 p.m. – Stained Glass & Pitch The Billard Room is open daily from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m., Monday through Thursday. For more information call 413-245-3163.

MENUS

TANTASQUA REGIONAL SCHOOLS

Monday, Jan. 23: Chicken parmesan sandwich, pasta salad, roasted carrots, berry cup, variety milk

Tuesday, Jan. 24: Beef nachos with queso served with cornbread, salsa and sour cream, cilantro rice, Mexicali corn, chilled applesauce, variety milk

Wednesday, Jan. 25: Pasta your way, garlic bread, Italian green beans, Caesar salad, fresh fruit, variety milk

Thursday, Jan. 26: Sloppy Joe sandwich, quick baked potato, spinach garden salad, chilled peaches, variety milk

Friday, Jan. 27: Chicken scampi

with dinner roll, rice pilaf, roasted broccoli, variety pudding and assorted chilled fruit, variety milk

TRI-VALLEY INC.

Monday, Jan. 23: Meatballs with onion gravy, egg noodles, peas and carrots, mandarin oranges

Tuesday, Jan. 24: Macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, green beans, fresh fruit

Wednesday, Jan. 25: Meatloaf and gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, chuckwagon corn, gingerbread, diet=small piece

Thursday, Jan. 26: Greek chicken, steamed white rice, spinach, birthday cake, diet=plain cake

Friday, Jan. 27: Turkey pot pie, mashed potatoes, country blend vegetables, peaches

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'This type of action is ... what upsets people about government'

POT
continued from page 1

Legislature needs to do the bidding of the governor."

Marijuana activists and industry leaders are angered by the effects the delay will have, especially on businesses and those seeking jobs in the industry. Many owners will now have to make contingencies for a half-year delay, which will likely result in the shops opening sometime in the

summer of 2018.

The initial opening of retail locations was slated for Jan. 2018, but owners and customers will have to push back their plans. Marijuana activists said there was enough time to prepare a transition plan to meet the original projected opening next year.

"This is disappointing to say the least," said Jeffrey Zucker, the president of Green Lion Partners, a cannabis industry advisory firm. "The

Massachusetts bill was carefully constructed so that the system could be implemented swiftly. This is an affront to the 54 percent of Massachusetts voters who supported this initiative."

Several activists rallied outside the State House on the day of the vote, asking Baker not to sign the bill since only a handful of legislators had voted on it. Some demonstrators accused Baker of signing the bill only as a final means

of expressing his opposition to recreational marijuana.

"It's a shame that such a small group of legislators are working to undermine the will of millions of voters in Massachusetts," said Isaac Dietrich, the CEO of MassRoots, a cannabis social network and technology platform. "We will be mobilizing our community of hundreds of thousands of cannabis consumers to get this decision reversed."

Added Gobi, "I do know that

the Legislature is sometimes criticized for being reactive and not proactive, but this type of action is a prime example of what upsets people about government."

At the November election, the legalization of marijuana passed by a vote of, 54-46 percent.

Kevin Flanders can be reached at 508-909-4140, or by e-mail at kflanders@stonebridgepress.com.

Clean comedy show to benefit local United Way

BABY BOOMER
continued from page 1

goal of \$270,000. We exceeded last year's local goal, so we increased it this year to fund even more programming."

The United Way has been very pleased and humbled by the area's generosity when it comes to fundraising and supporting the United Way's goals. Many companies and businesses have stepped it up each year, donating more

and more to the cause. In response, the United Way has been able to support even more organizations and their programs.

Currently, the United Way supports 22 programs at 15 different member agencies, including seven programs at the Tri-Community YMCA, the new dental clinic in Southbridge, the Girl Scouts, Literacy Volunteers, Pathways For Change and Meals on Wheels. The programs benefit seniors, cancer survivors, low income families and victims

of abuse.

The importance of the United Way definitely caught the attention of the two comedians who make up the Baby Boomer Comedy Show, who had never performed in Central Massachusetts until now.

Tickets are \$25 per person if ordered ahead of time and \$30 at the door. Interested people can call the United Way's office at 508-765-5491 or drop off a check. They can also text the word COMEDY to 40403, which will provide

them with a link to an online form where they can pay for the tickets with a credit card. Residents may also visit the United Way's Facebook page or website unitedwaysc.org. There are 300 tickets available and it's highly recommended to start ordering tickets now.

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.



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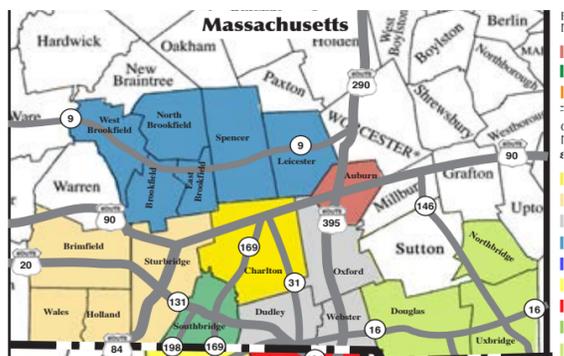
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OBITUARIES

Dorothy H. Gerrish, 85



BRIMFIELD — Dorothy H. (Hendry) Gerrish, 85, passed away peacefully on Jan. 4, at Overlook in Charlton after a long illness.

Dot's husband, W. Scott Gerrish, Sr., died in 1991.

Dot is survived by her loving children, W. Scott Gerrish, Jr. and his wife Amy of Brimfield, W. Shepard Gerrish and his wife Joanne of Pawling, N.Y., and James Gerrish and his wife Julie of Fiskdale. She also leaves her cherished grandchildren, Joseph and Maria-Chace Gerrish of Hampden; Jacob, Jordan and William Gerrish of N.Y., and Lauren and Luke Gerrish of Fiskdale. Dot also leaves her loving sister-in-law; Sarah Mase of Spencer/Charlton and many loved nieces and nephews. She was born on September 10, 1931 and raised in Riverhead, N.Y., the daughter of the late M. James and Lenore Hendry and her step-mother, Adele Hendry Talmage.

She will be remembered as a devoted daughter, sister, aunt, wife, mother, grandmother and friend. Besides Scott Sr and her parents, Dot was predeceased by her mother-in-law and father-in-law; Dr George and Tillie Gerrish of Spencer, her brother and sister-in-law; James and Lynn Hendry of Maryland, her sister-in-law and brothers-in-law;

Anne and Bing Law of Colorado and Dr. Frederic Mase of Spencer.

Dot attended Mary Washington College in Virginia and graduated from Katherine Gibbs School in Boston. She met her late Husband on a blind date in Boston. They married on Aug. 22, 1953, and settled first in Spencer and then Brimfield. They also enjoyed their summer home in Quonochontaug, R.I.

Dot loved her community dearly and volunteered on many town and church committees. When her children were small, she was a Cub Scout den mother and worked part time at Tantasqua Jr High as a reading specialist. In her later years, she was an accomplished Realtor with the former Star Realty in Palmer and then with McInerney & Co Realtors in Wilbraham.

She was also a very talented artist who loved nothing more than to spend afternoons painting with her friends. Many of her works will be displayed at her Celebration of Life event.

A Celebration of Dot's Life will be held on Sunday, Jan. 29, from 4 to 7 p.m. at The Barn at Wight Farm, 420 Main Street, Sturbridge. Please join us so that we may celebrate the life of Dorothy H. Gerrish together.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hitchcock Academy, 2 Brookfield Rd. Brimfield, MA. 01010 or at www.hitchcockacademy.org.

Visit www.morrillfuneralhome.com.

Amy Witter Ramirez, 48



CHARLTON — Amy Witter Ramirez, 48, died Sunday, Jan. 8, in UMass/Memorial University Campus, Worcester, with her whole family at her side.

She leaves her husband of 17 years, Ernest J. Ramirez; her parents, William E. and Susan K. (Johnson) Witter of Auburn; two sisters, Wendy S. Scanlon and her husband Donald of Millbury and Heidi A. Nicholson and her husband Richard of Leicester; three nephews, Timothy W. Scanlon, Adam T. Barter and Matthew V. Ramirez; five nieces, Candace E. Scanlon, Haley C. Nicholson, Riley E. Nicholson, Megan V. Barter and Katherine A. Ramirez; her in-laws, Dr. Ramiro N. Ramirez and Paula A. (Mackowiak) Ramirez of Webster; her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Vincent P. Ramirez and his wife Elizabeth of Auburn and Victoria A. Barter and her husband Thomas of Oxford; and many friends. She also leaves her cats Oscar and Oreo.

She was born on Jan. 7, 1969, in Worcester and raised in Auburn. She graduated from Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School in 1987, where she studied cosmetology. She

later attained her esthetician's license from Assabet Valley Technical School in Marlborough.

Amy was an esthetician at St. Cyr Salon and then at the former Victoria Place, both in Worcester. She was currently a customer service representative at Hairlines/ Paul Mitchell in Shrewsbury.

She enjoyed summer camping in Millbury at Ramshorn Pond and also at Webster Lake with the family, as well as swimming, boating and sun bathing. She enjoyed being with her husband, her cats and her family. She had a special love bond with all her nephews and nieces. "A light that shined so brightly especially to those who knew her is now shining in heaven."

The family would like to thank the nurses and doctors from UMass/Memorial Health Care Intensive Care Unit for the wonderful and compassionate care they gave our Amy.

The funeral was held Monday, Jan. 16, from Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main St., Webster, with at Mass in Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street, Webster. Burial was in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. Visitation was held Sunday, Jan. 15, in the funeral home.

Visit www.scanlonfs.com.

Katherine T. Colognesi, 100



GREENSBORO, Ga./SOUTHBRIDGE — Katherine T. (Thimblin) Colognesi, 100, formerly of Southbridge, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 5, in the Eatontown Health and Rehabilitation Center

after an illness. Katherine had just turned 100 years old on Tuesday, Jan. 3.

Her husband, Philip L. Colognesi, died in 1985. She leaves two daughters, Susan Cook, with whom she made her home for the past four years, of Greensboro, Ga., and Patricia Colognesi of Palm Springs, Calif.; three grandchildren, James Cook and his spouse Rachel of Gainesville, Ga., and Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Daniel Cook of Yulee, Fla., and Colleen Cook of Greensboro, Ga.; a great granddaughter, Carson Cook of Gainesville, Ga., and Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

She was predeceased by her brother,

Charles T. Thimblin.

She was born in Southbridge the daughter of Thomas and Eva (Langevin) Thimblin.

Katherine was a graduate of the former Mary E. Wells High School Class of 1934. She was a long time volunteer at the Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge. She enjoyed playing golf and was a member of Cohasse Country Club in Southbridge.

A graveside service in St. Mary's Cemetery, Southbridge, will be held at a later date. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. John Paul II Parish, 273 Hamilton St., Southbridge, MA 01550 or Harrington Memorial Hospital, 100 South St., Southbridge, MA 01550 or Jacob Edwards Library, 236 Main St., Southbridge, MA 01550.

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

Visit www.morrillfuneralhome.com.

Wayne T. Barr, 95

WOODSTOCK, Conn. — Wayne T. Barr, 95, of Senexet Village Road (formerly of Brimfield) passed away Dec. 27, in Harrington Memorial Hospital surrounded by his loving family.

He is survived by his wife Betty (Gilman) Barr of seventy-four years, his daughter: Cheryl Medlyn and her husband Hank of Woodstock, and a brother Sumner Barr of East Brimfield; two grandchildren: Melissa Oloff and her husband Ed and Sarah Medlyn-Chock and her husband Brian; and four great-grandchildren: McKaylin, Kelsey, Mathew and Justin; several nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Wayne was born on Aug. 9, 1921, in East Brimfield, the son of (late) George and Marjorie (Smith) Barr and lived in the area all of his life.

Wayne was in the Coast Guard during World War II. He was employed as a stonemason and plasterer specializing in restoration. His specialty led him to projects at Old Sturbridge Village, Winterthur Museum, The Smithsonian, and Ford Museum.

Wayne was a Mason at Quaboag Lodge of Masons A.F. & A.M. for 50 years and a member of Melha Shriner's for more than 50 years. Wayne enjoyed nature, sports, was an avid reader of current events and enjoyed watching the History Channel.

Wayne had a kind and gentle spirit as well as an ever present sense of humor that was enjoyed by all who knew and met him.

A private service will be held for the family at their convenience.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Wayne's name can be made to: Shriner's Hospital for Children 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104

The Belanger-Bullard Funeral Home, 51 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA 01550 has been entrusted with funeral arrangements.

A memorial guestbook is available at www.BelangerFuneralHome.com.



Priscilla E. Gillon, 94



COVENTRY, Conn. — Priscilla Eccleston Gillon, 94, of Coventry, Connecticut passed from this world peacefully on Jan. 7, after a long illness.

She leaves seven children and their spouses, 16 grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband Leonard Nelson Gillon, and a sister Shirley Eccleston Blakely.

Her children and spouses include: Kathleen and Gerard Abbatello of Guilford, Connecticut; Joann and Mark Gershman of Woolwich, Maine; James and June Gillon, of Vernon, Connecticut; Gary and Lori Gillon of Toms River, New Jersey; Glenn Gillon and Paulette Smith of Coventry, Conn.; Kenneth and Karen-Beth Gillon of Dudley, Massachusetts; and Nancy and Beau Thurnauer of Coventry Conn. Mrs. Gillon is survived by siblings and their loved ones: Eleanor Eccleston Yachwan, Elizabeth (Betty) Gillon Moodie, and Blair Davis.

Mrs. Gillon's grandchildren and loved ones include: Steven and Elisabeth Abbatello, Michael and Laurie Abbatello, Shana Drew and Martina Woodford, Cory Drew, Daniel and Carmen Gershman, Andrew Gershman and Lucia Brooks, Jamie Gillon and Sarah Hebert, Larissa and Travis Riley, Adah Joy Gillon, Pamela and Michael Cheney, Trevor Gillon, Melody and Ronald Saunders, Lincoln and Lisa Gillon, Kristin Griffiths and Michael Marino, Daniel Griffiths, Logan Thurnauer, and Jaclyn and Rick Orlowski.

Mrs. Gillon was born in Worcester, the daughter of the late Herbert A. Eccleston and Dr. Adah B. Eccleston. Mrs. Gillon was a registered nurse. During World War II she served as

a First Lieutenant in the US Army Medical Corps. She served in the European theater, and was awarded a Silver Star for her support of the Battle of the Bulge. Mrs. Gillon worked as a nurse at Windham Community Memorial Hospital for more than twenty-five years as a bedside nurse and nursing supervisor.

Priscilla dedicated her life to her family and her community. She was a member of the First Congregational Church of Coventry over fifty years. She especially enjoyed her church couples club, women's club, friendly circle, and holiday fair committee. She was a scouting volunteer, youth group chaperone, English literacy mentor, and a meals-on-wheels driver. Mrs. Gillon enjoyed time spent volunteering at the Coventry Thrift and Gift Shop, New England Textile Museum, and the Strong Porter Historical Society.

The Gillon family wishes to thank personal care attendants Pam Davidson and Debbie Becker, and the caring and competent staff of Woodlake at Tolland Health Center.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: The Clergy Fuel Bank -First Congregational Church PO Box 355, Coventry, CT 06238, or The Disabled American Veterans Charitable Trust (DAV) - 3725 Alexandria Pike Cold Spring, Kentucky 41076.

A memorial service celebrating Priscilla's life will be held at 12 noon on Sunday, Jan. 29, at the First Congregational Church, Main Street, Coventry, Conn. A reception will follow in the fellowship hall. Interment will be at the convenience of the family.

Visit www.bartelfuneralhome.com to view the full obituary or to leave condolences for the family.



WEBSTER — Hope C. (Hansen) LaPlante, 87, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 7, with her family at her side after an illness.

She leaves her beloved husband of 62 years, Arthur "Archie" LaPlante; three daughters, Annabelle D. Moninski of Harmony, Maine, Linda A. Charron of Eastford, Conn., and Gail H. LaPlante of Brimfield; eight grandchildren, Jessica Moninski of Westbrook, ME, Charles Moninski, Jr. of Naples, Maine, Beth Moninski of Harmony, Maine, Tamara Charron of Brooklyn, Conn., Wayne Charron of Hagerstown, Md., and Will Charron of Warren, Vt., Rachel Partington and Leah Soriano, both of Southbridge; a great-granddaughter, Naomi Soriano of Southbridge; and a close family friend, Vito J. Lomuscio.

She was predeceased by a sister, Doris Christianson.

She was born in Webster Nov. 27, 1929, a daughter of immigrants Hildus Otto and Christiana Maria (Byfelt) Hansen and lived here all her life. She graduated from Bartlett High School in 1947 and then from Becker Junior College in Worcester in 1948 with a stenography/secretarial certification.

Hope worked as a secretary at the H. Craigin Bartlett Insurance Company for about 12 years. She then held the

position of Secretary and Treasurer of LaPlante Bros., Inc., her husband's business, until the present day.

Hope was an avid walker in her younger year. She loved her family, her church where she worked with the young missionette girls, animals, trips to Cape Cod, keeping up with the news and visits with the Mills Brothers and Kris Kristofferson. She spent many years helping elderly family friends, relatives and fellow parishioners who spent the holidays with our family. Although she had been faced with challenges communicating over the last few years, she always had a warm and welcoming smile. Her faith was very important in her life and she was prepared to join her Lord and Savior Jesus. She had been an active member of the Faith Assembly of God Church and now the Life Church in Webster.

The family would like to extend their sincere thanks to the staff at the Step Down Unit at UMass Memorial Healthcare, University Campus, and the staff at the Brookside Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center for the care and compassion extended to Hope and her family, especially her husband during this very difficult time.

Visitation was held Wednesday, Jan. 11, as well as Thursday, Jan. 12, in the Sitkowski & Malboeuf Funeral Home, 340 School Street. A funeral service followed Thursday in Life Church, 1 Nelson Street. Burial was in Mount Zion Cemetery.

Donations in her name may be made to Life Church, 1 Nelson St., Webster, MA 01570.

Visit www.sitkowskimalboeuf.com.

Jottie L. Mills Sr., 82

WEBSTER — Jottie L. Mills Sr., 82, of Webster, died Tuesday, Jan. 10, at UMass Memorial Healthcare - University Campus, Worcester.

He leaves two sons, Jottie L. Mills Jr. and his fiancé Kay Young, Richard Mills and his fiancée Janie Ahedo, all of Webster; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by nine brothers and sisters.

He was born in Summit, Ga., son of the late John T. and Georgia (Glisson) Mills and lived in Sturbridge before living in Webster for the past 15 years.

He was a United States Air Force Staff

Sergeant, serving in the Korean War. He was a retired printer and enjoyed baseball, football and playing pool.

There are no calling hours and a Celebration of Life will be announced. Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street, Webster, MA has been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may light a candle or post a message of condolence.



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15 for more
Obituaries



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

OBITUARIES

Robert A. Osimo, 68

SOUTHBRIDGE — Robert A. “Bob” Osimo, 68, died Friday, Jan. 6, at UMass Memorial Medical Center/University Campus, with his loving family by his side.

He leaves his wife of 47 years, Diane B. (Racicot) Osimo. They were married Aug. 10, 1969.

He is also survived by his sons Anthony “Tony” Osimo of Uxbridge, and Jonathan and his wife Kerri Osimo of Sturbridge, and five adoring grandchildren Adon, Robert, Elayna “Laynie”, Marissa, and Frank, a brother Dennis Osimo of Falmouth, many

nieces, nephews, and extended family.

He was predeceased by his daughter-in-law Margo J. (Partlow) Osimo (2013), and twin grandchildren Jack and Emily Osimo.

Bob was born in Southbridge, July 6, 1948, son of the late Anthony and Ruth (Donais) Osimo. He graduated from Cole Trade High School Class of 1966.

He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving a tour of duty in Vietnam, and was the recipient of receiving the Vietnam Service Medal with 4 Bronze Stars. He was a member of the DAV, and the American Legion, and was an avid

golfer at Heritage Country Club. He worked for National Grid (formerly Mass Electric) for over 44 years, retiring about five years ago.

He enjoyed traveling, golfing, gardening, walking on the beach, and trips to the casino, but most of all was a loving husband, father, grandfather, who loved spending time with his family. He always attended his children's and grandchildren's important events, and many years ago he coached hockey and baseball for his children. Bob had an infectious smile, and would always be the first to help anyone in need.

Bob's calling hours were Monday, Jan. 9, at Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA 01550. Burial will be private. Please omit flowers, and consider a donation to Veteran's Inc. 69 Grove Street, Worcester, MA 01605. Visit www.sansoucyfuneral.com.



Looking ahead to 2017 with Gary McKinstry

MCKINSTRY

continued from page 1

In a prediction made last January, you said Donald Trump didn't actually want to be president. That he just wants the spotlight. That was clearly correct, but he still ended up winning despite apparent blunders he kept having, flubs you predicted.

“What was unforeseen was the outside forces, like Russia. I still don't believe he wanted to be president. I believe he's still shell shocked.”

Trump did say that he didn't want to be at the White House full-time at one point.

“I don't think he is going to finish the four years. Either he will be removed or he will remove himself. He's just in above his head.”

How do you think his first year will go?

“Chaos. Healthcare, economics, own party fighting against him ... I think it's a good thing that he's in. It will create enough chaos to make change. Through the chaos something good will come out of it.”

That's what I'm hoping. In regards to Hillary Clinton, you predicted she would have leaked secrets and alas that was all anyone talked about all election year. Do you think Bernie Sanders would have been a better candidate to go against Trump?

“Bernie had the right idea at the wrong time. Bernie's socialist stand isn't popular if you're comfortable. There will be a new Bernie coming up. It won't be Bernie. He's getting too old. But someone like him, coming up shortly. It will be interesting.”

One issue already coming to light is the attack on women's health, and healthcare in general.

“They want to defund Planned Parenthood. The removal of Obamacare is going to bomb dramati-

cally. They don't have a viable plan. When they implement the removal you're going to see a major uproar from about 34 percent of the population. Fifty percent of citizens are sort of insulated. But you have that almost 40 percent that needs the assistance. I'm worried about these domestic issues.”

There will be a lot of racism, sexism, religious intolerance...

“Within a matter of six months, we're going to look at the Obama days with nostalgia. It will hurt a lot of people in a very short time and there's no plan. And neither does his party. Or they would have come out with it already.”

So will we get that wall we were promised?

“There will be parts of a wall. Mexico is not going to pay for it. You can put that I'm laughing. ... The wall is going to be just as unpopular with people in North America as with people in Mexico. It won't run the full length. It's little pieces of a wall here and there. That didn't work well in Berlin.”

A question from my mother — are there any spots in the U.S. or around the world people should be weary of? There were a lot of bomb threats and mass shootings in 2016.

“New York, New York, New York...”

You said that last time, too.

“It's iconic. If you're in a Middle Eastern country you know New York, Boston, L.A. ... I'm surprised we made it through New Year's Eve. Notice I didn't say Washington, D.C. I do believe they're afraid to bomb Washington because of retribution.”

Is there anywhere around the world to avoid?

“The soft targets — Paris again ... I think they'll leave England alone. You'll see it in western European countries again. It's kind of a soft spot there.”

The weather is certainly weird right now. Back and forth, freezing, hot. How will the weather be in the summer? Will there be any other weather phenomena?

“Summer will be hot, hot, hot — and tornado alley is going to increase. I believe in global warming, unlike Donald Trump. If you notice, the tornado strip is enlarged and they're coming earlier and staying later. Be prepared for the hurricane from hell.”

In this area?

“I think it will slam the south again. It's coming. It's not the end of days. The species is OK. But there will be dramatic weather changes.”

You predicted low gas prices. But now they seem to be going back up this year. Thoughts?

“Be prepared for a dollar more.”

Really...?

“It won't be dramatically high like the \$4 gallon, but \$3.15 by the time they're done this year. That hurts me. What a lovely thought ... I'm definitely not predicting something I like ...”

You didn't think Southbridge schools would be taken over by the state, but that did happen. There have also been a lot of controversies since. Do you think there will be improvement any time this year?

“I don't see an improvement. That's the problem. I was optimistic last year but now I'm not. They can't get a strong enough leader to lead and last. They're going to go through two or three more principals. That's unfortunate. They've got a year full of controversy.”

Any other local stories, events...

I think we have a redevelopment coming. Somebody will come up with a nifty plan for not only Southbridge, but the central part here. It's almost like a mall, size-wise. It has

to do with retail. It's in commercial land in the Tri-Community somewhere.”

Let's go over horoscopes.

“Aries: Time for learning. Education will be the key. Personal education, transformation. Mid-season change, a positive one. Going from sluggish and slow paced to a more profitable time.

Taurus: They need to make sure they see both sides of the coin this year, not stuck on one facet. They need to be open-minded and then the year will turn out okay.

Gemini: They need to look for the inner person this year. It's all about the self, not about the exterior. It's personal growth. They need to stop taking care of everyone else and focus more on themselves. They're great caretakers.

Cancer: They need a vacation. They've been working, working, working and putting plans together. Now it's time to reap what they've sowed. They need to take a little time for themselves, a little time off.

Leo: This is a charge ahead time, take no prisoners. Go forward. Don't look back. Back won't get you where you need to be. This is both personal and professional.

Virgo: Make sure you don't get lost. Sometimes they think too much. They need to act.

Libra: Lucky, lucky, lucky, lucky. Go to the casino! This is a good year for Libras. This is a luck year. At the end of it, make sure you count your blessings. If you gain, make sure you help.

Scorpio: This is a year where Scorpios need to basically not come to false conclusions. Scorpios are known for rumor speculation, holding onto things... They are great, loyal friends. Just don't cross them. They need to stay away from false rumors and listen to the facts and then they'll be able to go forward.

Sagittarius: Working through to get things completed. They're tireless. But the good thing is they will see completion on things this year. It's not about never-ending projects.

Capricorn: indecision, staying in place. Not a lot

change around them.

Pisces: They need to make sure they keep their heads out of the clouds. They need to stick with reality and not get lost.

Aquarius: Write a book, tell a tale, sing a song ... The arts should drive Aquarius this year. It's a year to be creative.”

On the entertainment side, you made some predictions about Daniel Radcliffe being in movies last year that ended up coming true. Any stand-out celebrities or movies you think will be coming in 2017?

“We're going to go away from the year of the reality show. Everything was reality. We're going back to the 60's more. It's going to be sitcoms, western, game shows. ... Everything your grandparents would have watched is coming back. Simple times, simple mind.”

I have seen a lot of new game shows popping up, as well as remakes of game shows.

“War is out. I do believe some of the supernatural will also die down. It's just old. We went through vampires, demons, zombies... They have to find a new genre. This is where we are looking back, instead of new.”

When it comes to technology, I've had my eyes on social robotics, which has been a growing market. My mom mentioned self-driving cars.

“Well, we will have autonomous cars in the next few years. Social intelligence will really soar. We are going to get more AI. That, and the synthetic look. They're going to start shaping things more, especially in the east. It will be humanoid-looking.”

In Japan, they are very into making robots look human. In the US we seem more focused on making robots cute. They are simple, sleek, like EVE from “Wall-E.”

“We feel safe here with those. But humanoid robots are coming.”

Any other trends you see?

“There's a local celebrity coming up.”

You said a talent would appear last year, too. Someone out of Sturbridge.

“Yeah, but out of Oxford, too. Major motion picture, superhero theme. ... Coming out of our little area. That will be kind of nice! The game that will take people by storm. ... A new game is going to catch the country. Everyone will have their head down again. It's not Pokémon. That's passé already. It's something for the summer that will keep everyone amused.”

Nintendo Switch just had a presentation...

“No ... This is more transportable. Android approved.”

Interesting...

By the way, the Kardashians are back in the news this year. Just when you think there's nothing left they could do, there will be something gigantic, something tragic.

Will it be Kanye?

“Either Kanye or their father, Caitlyn. There's one other entertainment trend. This will be the year of the drama. I am expecting more drama and romance, getting away from total action. People are looking to go safe. They're looking for tried, true and safe.”

Any world news you want to share?

“China is sliding deeper into a major recession. If you got any money in the foreign market, watch China. And the final dissolution of the EU... I do believe borders are going back up this year. Right now you can pretty much travel Europe freely. But borders are going back up and Andrea Murkel is ousted out of power this year.”

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

Senior center celebrating Chinese New Year

SENIOR CENTER

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celebrating birthdays that took place in January.

“I think seniors should come out for the party because it's a lot of fun,” she said. “They need to be out with their friends. They need to meet new people. We really have a lot of great camarade-

rie at the senior center.”

According to Pittsinger, outside of the Brimfield Senior Center there aren't many activities for seniors in the area. Since the area is so rural, there's not much to do within walking distance. A lot of times seniors don't get out of the house. The senior center is hoping to keep them busy.

“There's more to do at the Senior Center than just eat and have coffee,”

said Pittsinger. There is at least one exercise class a day, ranging from very gentle yoga to strength training. There are also a lot of crafting activities and local artists coming to lead workshops. There are also a lot of seminars, which feature anyone from bankers and other financial experts to historians and authors. “There's always something to out there,” she noted. They also have bingo, Wii Bowling and volunteer

opportunities.

“It all keeps their mind active,” said Pittsinger. “It keeps their bodies moving. The social interaction is so important. We welcome everybody. It doesn't matter their age or what town they're from.”

Olivia Richman can be reached at 508-909-4132 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com.

SPORTS

Rockets rally to force overtime, but Tantasqua grabs the win

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

AUBURN — A 14-2 run by the Tantasqua Regional boys' varsity basketball team versus Auburn High on Monday night, Jan. 16 gave the Warriors a 44-35 lead with time running

down in the fourth quarter. It appeared as though that would be enough for a victory, but the Rockets worked overtime thanks to a 14-5 run.

From that point forward, though, Tantasqua regrouped and won the four-minute OT session, 11-5, to win the game,

60-54.

"I think we just made some foul shots toward the end of the game," explained Warriors' head coach Tom O'Neil. "We kind of got our composure back and ran our offense better in the overtime period."

Tantasqua made 22 of its 32 free throw attempts, including an 8 for 10 mark in overtime.

O'Neil wasn't pleased with how the fourth quarter ended, though.

"We can't just back off like they're going to give up," he said of Auburn, "because they didn't."

The Rockets trailed, 49-46, with 15 seconds to play when they executed a newly drawn-up play that saw Luke Matthews drive inside before dishing a pass out to Craigon Confer, who drained the 3-pointer with 3 seconds left to tie the score and send the game into the extra session.

"We battled and I'm proud of the guys for battling," said Auburn head coach Andrew Niedzwiecki. "We're busting our butts and we're playing hard."

The Warriors never trailed in overtime, as it began with five quick points from Adam

Phillips on two free throws and a trey. They then continued to sink their foul shots to secure the victory.

"With the two teams you saw tonight, the team with more experience ended up winning," said Niedzwiecki. "They got better possessions when they needed them, we didn't. When you have that consistency you end up winning close games like this and we're trying to get to that point."

The first half of play saw the Warriors win a pair of close-scoring quarters (14-10 and 16-13) — which included a half-ending run of 16-5 — to give them a 30-23 halftime lead.

All in all, the win improved Tantasqua's record to 4-5. The game with Auburn saw Phillips finish with 18 points, Connor McCaffrey with 10 points and Hayden Peterson with 9 rebounds.

"We were struggling in the beginning to find our identity," O'Neil said of overcoming a slow start to now inching closer to a .500 record after reaching the Division 2 state semifinals a season ago. "We're figuring it out. Guys are starting to find out what their roles are."

The youthful Rockets, mean-

while, dropped to 2-7 but are improving with each passing game.

"We're maturing, slower than what I had anticipated to start the year, but it's getting quicker now," Niedzwiecki said. "There's a lot of positives, we just have to start getting into the win column now."

Matthews led the charge for Auburn with 13 points, while Confer scored 11 points and Tyler Judice another 9 points.



Connor McCaffrey of Tantasqua looks to make a drive on Auburn's Kualim Johnson.



Tantasqua's Adam Phillips dribbles away from Auburn defender Luke Matthews to create some separation.



Mike Frio of Tantasqua gets fouled by Auburn's Luke Matthews on a strong drive to the basket.



Tantasqua's defensive duo of Mike Frio (23) and Jack Dalton leave their feet before Auburn's Marc Louis attempts a layup.



Tantasqua's Ben Garrett leaps and wins the game-opening tap versus Auburn's Marc Louis.

Nick Ethier photos

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Jan. 10
Tyrngsborough 113, Tantasqua 65; Tyrngsborough 136, Tantasqua 43 — Both the boys' and girls' swim teams from Tantasqua dropped decisions to the Tigers. The boys are now 2-3, the girls 1-4.

On the boys' side, Gavin Morse won the 500 free and 100 back, while Bryce Iller had a first (100 breaststroke) and a second (50 free). Andrew Wade placed second in the 200 free. For the girls' team, Alyson Locke was second in the 100 back.

Jan. 11
Westborough 99, Tantasqua 70; Westborough 102, Tantasqua 68 — Once again the Warrior boys' and girls'

swim teams lost their matches, this time at home to the Rangers. The boys' 200 medley relay team of Gavin Morris, Kaspar Mazieka, Robert Wilson and Bryce Iller won, as did the girls' team individuals of Alyson Locke (200 IM) and Lauren Butler (100 breaststroke). The boys' are now 2-4, the girls' team 1-5.

Jan. 13
Tantasqua 121, Leominster 23; Leominster 103, Tantasqua 63 — The Warrior swim program had a split decision with Leominster, with the boys' team winning and the girls' side falling short.

In the boys' meet, Gavin Morris took first in the 200 and 500 free, Bryce Iller was

a double winner in the 50 and 100 free, Andrew Wade won the 200 IM, Robert Wilson was the best in the 100 butterfly, Eli Currier took the 100 back race, and all three relays won. Those included the 200 medley (Morris, Ethan Hunter-Mason, Wilson and Iller), the 200 free (Nathan Lowell, AJ Osimo, Wilson and Henry Valcour) and the 400 free (Morris, Wade, Currier and Iller) as the team improved to 3-4.

The girls, meanwhile, dropped to 1-6 as Lauren Butler won the 200 IM and the 500 free was swept by the Warriors, with Elli Dupre winning the race. The 200 free relay team of Parker Riley, Zofia Antczak, Tiana Brantley and Butler also won.

SPORTS CORRESPONDENT



The Stonebridge Press Sports Department is seeking an individual to cover and photograph high school sports on a freelance basis. Candidate will be reliable and flexible with hours, and will be needed on nights and weekends as assigned. Correspondent must have a digital camera and the ability to e-mail photos and stories on deadline.

Local applicants are preferred, but is not a requirement.

Please apply to
Sports Editor Nick Ethier
at sports@stonebridgepress.com
or call (508) 909-4133.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Worcester State University set to host plenty of baseball clinics

Various baseball clinics will be held at Worcester State University this year. Please visit <http://www.wsulancers.com/camps-clinic/index> for additional information on any of the clinics.

10th annual Friday Night Baseball School: Jan. 27, Feb. 3, Feb. 10, Feb. 17, Feb. 24, March 3, hitting from 6-7 p.m., pitching from 7 to 8 p.m. in multipurpose gym/cages.

22nd annual Citing Clinic: Feb. 20-22, 9 a.m. to noon in multipurpose gym/cages.

10th annual Pitchers and Catchers Clinic: April 18 and 20, 9 a.m. to noon outdoors on Lyons Diamond.

Third annual U.S. Baseball Academy: June 26 and 29 outdoors on Lyons Diamond.

10th annual Instructional Prospect Clinic: Aug. 15, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Lyons Diamond.

Softball pitching lessons coming to Southbridge's Armory

Softball Pitching Lessons began Jan. 8 and run until Sunday, March 19 at the Southbridge Armory, located on 152 Chestnut Street. The times are 8:30-11 a.m. for each

50-minute session. Special consideration will be given for teams and leagues. For more information, please contact Coach Bill Rahall at (860) 576-3440 or email wlah@yahoo.com.

Lacrosse referee class starts Jan. 23

The Eastern Mass. Lacrosse Officials Association is offering training for new boys' lacrosse officials in Central Mass. Classes are held at St. John's High School (Shrewsbury) starting Jan. 23. Please contact Matt Croteau at emloatraining@yahoo.com for more information and registration.

NEWS BRIEFS

Harrington HealthCare offering 3-D mammography

SOUTHBRIDGE — Harrington HealthCare is now offering 3-D mammograms at its main hospital campus in Southbridge.

3-D Mammography uses advanced breast tomosynthesis technology, clinically proven to significantly improve the detection of invasive breast cancers, while simultaneously reducing the need to return for additional testing.

"We are pleased to offer 3-D mammograms to women in our community," said Nellie Dinguì, mammography supervisor at Harrington. "The advanced technology is quite remarkable and will allow us to capture breast images in higher detail and increase invasive cancer detection."

In conventional 2-D mammography, overlapping tissue is the leading reason why small breast cancers may be missed and normal tissue may appear abnormal, leading to unnecessary call-backs. A 3-D exam includes a three-dimensional method of imaging that can greatly reduce the tissue overlap effect, Dinguì said.

During the tomosynthesis-dimensional portion of the exam, an X-ray arm sweeps in a slight arc over the breast, taking multiple images. A computer then converts the images into a stack of thin layers, allowing the radiologist to review the breast tissue one layer at a time. A 3-D exam requires no additional compression and takes just a few seconds longer than a conventional 2-D breast cancer screening exam.

2-D mammography is still considered a high standard of testing, however, and will continue to be available in Charlton and Webster.

As with all adult imaging studies taken at any of Harrington's locations, mammogram results are read and interpreted by Harvard Medical Faculty trained radiologists at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC). Harrington has BIDMC radiologists who specialize exclusively in breast imaging.

To schedule your annual exam, call Central Scheduling at (508) 765-3020. If you have questions about annual mammograms and whether you should schedule an exam, please talk to your primary care physician.

Literacy Volunteers receives grant

SOUTHBRIDGE — Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts (LVSCM) has recently

received a \$7,500 grant from the Greater Worcester Community Foundation to help support English language instruction programs in South Worcester County.

According to LVSCM Executive Director, Holly Christo, the organization provides one-on-one and classroom English instruction to over 100 adult students per year through the efforts of trained volunteers. As these students improve their English skills, they are able to more fully participate in American society.

The LVSCM will be conducting tutoring classes for new volunteers in the near future. For information about volunteer opportunities or to make a financial donation, please contact Holly Christo at 508-765-3880.

Greater Worcester Community Foundation unites people from diverse sectors to create positive change within our region. Created and built by local individuals, this permanent endowment is used to create personal and lasting legacies that improve lives and conditions within the community. Established in 1975, the Foundation has awarded more than \$100 million to cultural educational, human service and civic organizations. Today, the Foundation stewards a charitable endowment exceeding \$140 million in over 600 named funds, all created by local citizens. For more information, visit www.greaterworcester.org.

Smola announces school defibrillator bill

BOSTON — Rep. Todd M. Smola (R-Warren), joined his colleagues in the Legislature to pass "An Act requiring automated external defibrillators in schools" before the end of the current legislative session.

Automated external defibrillators (AED) are medical devices that analyze heart rhythms and can deliver electrical shocks that can help the heart reestablish an effective rhythm during sudden cardiac arrest. The new law will require that every school in Massachusetts would need to have automated external defibrillators on site by July 2018.

"This new regulation is essential to ensuring the safety of our children," said Smola. "Our local schools know how important it is to have AED's close at hand and I'm very happy that we were able to get this legislation passed."

Under the bill (S 2449), each school will also need to have a person on staff who is trained as an AED provider, and school administrators will need to ensure that an AED and provider is "readily available at any school-spon-

sored athletic event."

For additional information please contact Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or (617) 722-2100.

Gateway set to host auditions for April play

SOUTHBRIDGE — Gateway Players Theatre Inc. will hold auditions for "100 Lunches, A Gourmet Comedy," by Jack Sharkey and Leo W. Sears, on Monday and Wednesday, Jan. 16 and 18 at 6:30 p.m., in the Gateway Barn, 111 Main St., Southbridge.

Mary Gahagan will be directing, with Barbara Day as producer. Auditions will consist of readings from the script. Wear comfortable clothes and come prepared for a good time. Production dates will be April 21, 22, 28, 29, 30. The cast of men and women offers some fun character roles.

Synopsis: Successful mystery playwright Chuck Reynolds has had his plays lauded by all critics except Charity Starr. When she shows up at his home and has the unmitigated gall to ask his expert help in writing a play of her own, Chuck fiendishly insists that their teacher/pupil sessions be held over lunch with Charity footing the bill at the most expensive restaurants in New York City. Lunatic waiters provide a uniquely hilarious touch to these meetings. Love blossoms despite the scheming of Chuck's amorous neighbor. Charity's play opens on Broadway and she finds out what it's like to be a target for all her critical confreres.

Police officer, state trooper exam announced

BOSTON — The Massachusetts Human Resources Division recently announced that the 2017 Municipal, MBTA Transit Police and State Trooper examination will take place on March 25, 2017.

This written examination will determine the pool for applicants eligible for appointment to the positions of Municipal Police Officer, MBTA, Transit Police Officer and Massachusetts State Trooper. The examination is scheduled for Saturday, March 25, 2017 with an application deadline of March 1, 2017. A late fee will be applied to application filed after Feb. 21, 2017.

Applicants must be 21 years old by March 25, 2017 and must pass a medical and physical examination prior to appointment. They must have a high school diploma or equivalency certificate approved by the Massachusetts

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, or have three years of experience in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Application fees for Municipal and Transit Police or State Troopers is \$100. An application fee for both Municipal and Transit Police and State Troopers is \$150. Application fees are payable by Visa or MasterCard and no personal checks will be accepted. The examination fee may be waived for candidates receiving certain state or federal public assistance or unemployment insurance. All fee waiver forms must be submitted by Feb. 21, 2017.

For more information please call 617-878-9895 or 800-392-6178. Please visit www.mass.gov/civilservice for more information or to apply.

Gobi announces 78th Citizens' Legislative Seminar in March

BOSTON — Sen. Anne M. Gobi announced that they are seeking nominees to participate in the 78th Citizens' Legislative Seminar (CLS) to be held March 21 and March 22 at the State House in Boston.

CLS is a semi-annual educational seminar geared towards adults of all ages interested in learning more about state government and the legislative process.

Established in 1976 through a collaborative effort of the Massachusetts Senate and the University of Massachusetts, the two-day seminar features engaging presentations by Senators and staff on aspects of the day-to-day experience of legislators in the Commonwealth. Topics will include the history and process of the Legislature, the parliamentary role of the Clerk of the Senate and the future of the Legislature. The Seminar will walk participants through the legislative process including how bills are introduced, debated, and passed.

The CLS culminates with a simulated legislative hearing and Senate session where participants are invited to use what they have learned and participate as "Senators" in the Senate Chamber in order to have a first-hand experience of the legislative process.

Interested residents in the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire, Middlesex district are invited to contact Gobi's office at 617-722-1540 by Friday, Jan. 20, in order to be nominated by Senator Gobi. Seats are limited and nominations are taken on a first come, first serve basis.



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January 24 Old Sturbridge Village Fuller Conference Center, Sturbridge, at 6:30 PM.

January 25 Haston Free Public Library 161 Main St., North Brookfield, at 6:30 PM.

January 26 Palmer Public Library 1455 North Main St., Palmer, at 6:30 PM.

January 30 Jacob Edwards Library 236 Main St., Southbridge, at 6:30 PM.

February 6 Jacob Edwards Library 236 Main St., Southbridge, at 6:30 PM.

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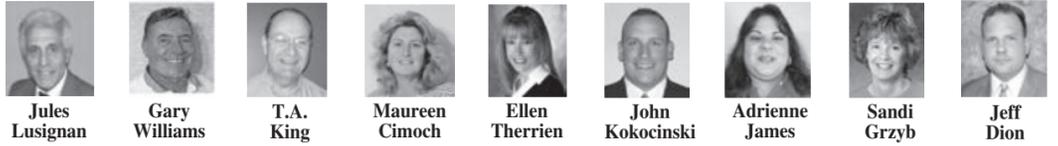


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Listings Always Needed - We're Always Busy Selling!!!

<p>REDUCED</p> <p>DOUGLAS - 15 Mt Daniels Way! 8 Rm Custom Colonial 2.2 Acres! 2 Story Grand Entry Foyer! New Appliances Granite Kit! Formal Din & Liv Rms w/Hrwd! Frp! Fam Rm! Frp! Master Suite w/Cathedral! 2.5 Baths! Expandable 3rd Level! New Roof & Furnace! C/Ac, Security, Irrigation! 2 Car Garage! \$429,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>DUDLEY - 113 W Main St! Super Brick 2 Family! Move-in Condition! Freshly Painted! 6/6 Rooms! 2 1/2 Bathrooms! 1 1/2 Bath! 1st Floor w/ Fireplaced Living Room! Lots of Hardwoods! Appliances! Tile Kitchens & Baths! Separate Utilities! Oil Heat! Corner Lot, Nice Yard! \$219,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>DUDLEY - 377 Dudley Oxford Rd! 7 Rm Split! 2+ Acres! Appliances Kit w/ Breakfast Bar! Den w/ Pellet Stove! 12x20 Liv Rm w/ Cathedral! 3 Bdrms! Full Bath w/Skylight! Lower Level Fam Rm w/Hearth! 12x20 Deck! 2 Car Detached Garage! 3 Sheds! New Roof! Garage! Town Services! \$234,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER - 16 Orchard Ave! 7 Rm Custom Cape! Farmers Porch! Appliances Kit! Formal Dining! Cathedral Liv Rm w/Frpk & Skylight! 1st Flr Bdrn! Cathedral Master! 3Bdrms! 2 Baths! Family Rm! 3 Season Sun Rm! C/Ac & Vac! Newer Furnace, Water Heater & Windows! Garage! Town Services! \$259,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>CHARLTON - 175 Oxford Rd! 6+ Rm Split! 1.53 Acres! Appliances Granite Kit w/ Tile Flr! Din Rm w/Hrwd, Anderson Slider to Trex Deck! Brick Frp! Liv Rm w/Hrwd & Bow Window! Master w/Hrwd, Slider to Deck! Master Bath! 3 Bdrms! 2 Baths! Newer Furnace, Water Heater & Windows! Garage! Quality Updates Through Out! \$279,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>OXFORD - 3 Mt Pleasant St! 7 Rm "L" Ranch! 1 Acre! Farmers Porch! Eat-in Center! 1st Kit w/SS Appliances! Formal Din Rm/Den w/9" Slider to 12x24 Vinyl Deck! Liv Rm w/Hrwd Flr & 10' Bow Window! 3 Bdrms w/Hrwd! Full Bath! 2 Car Attached Garage & 1 Under! \$279,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>OXFORD - 11 Daniel Dr! U3! 55+ Adult Community! Twin Elm Estates! Nice 6 Rm End Unit! Appliances, Granite Eat-in Kit! All Hrwd Flrs! Liv Rm w/Slider to Deck! Master/Walk-in Closet, Master Bath! 2 Bdrms! 1.5 Baths! Fam Rm! Craft Rm/Office! C/Ac! Attached Garage! \$239,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>DUDLEY - 32 Central Ave! 6 Rm Townhouse! Huge Liv Rm w/Wood Laminate Flooring & Triple Window! Appliances Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Dble Stainless Sink! Din Area w/Slider to Deck! 3 Bdrms! 1.5 Baths! Garage! Oil Heat! Shed! Fenced Yard! \$169,900.00</p>
<p>SOLD</p> <p>THOMPSON - 449 E Thompson Rd! 6 Rm Contemp! Beautiful 1.5 Acres! Appliances Kit w/Quartz Counters, Cherry Cabinets, Breakfast Bar! Formal Din Rm! Cathedral Ceiling! Liv Rm w/Frpk! Master w/Walk-in Closets, Private Deck & Full Bath! 3 Bdrms! 2.5 Baths! CVAc! Mitsubishi A/C! Wired for Generator! 2 Car Garage! 2 Sheds! \$299,900.00</p>	<p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>WEBSTER - 52 Upland Ave! 6 Rm Cape! Spacious Appliances Eat-in Kit! Formal Din Rm or 3rd Bdrn w/Hrwd & Bath! 1st Flr! Frp! Liv Rm w/Hrwd! Fr! Den or Office! 1/2 Bath on Main Level! 2 Oversized Bdrms w/Hrwd on 2nd Flr! Full Bath! Mad Rm! Full Walk-out Basement! Rear Patio! Corner Lot, Nice Yard! Occupancy \$154,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>DUDLEY - 43 Mason Rd! Remodeled 7 Rm Ranch! Appliances Eat-in Kit w/ Quartz Counters, Breakfast Bar & Tile Flr! Large Frp! Liv Rm w/Hrwd! Din Area w/Hrwd! 3 Bdrms w/Hrwd! 2 Full Exceptional Baths! Fam Rm! Office! Security! Oil Heat! AG Pool! Trex Deck! Shed! 2 Car Garage! \$264,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>SUTTON - 58 Stone School Rd! Easy Access! 1461 7 Rm Colonial! 1.12 Acres! Farmers Porch! Appliances Kit w/Din Area, Tile Flr, Slider to Deck! Din Rm w/Hrwd, Custom Wood Ceiling w/Crown! Frp! Liv Rm w/Hrwd! 3 Bdrms! 2 Baths! Master! 2 Baths! \$294,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>DUDLEY - 7 Kayla Lane! 8 Rm Colonial Set On 1.84 Acres! Appliances Granite Kit! Frp! Dining Rm! Living Rm w/Hrwd! Cathedral Ceiling! Family Rm! 3 Bedrooms! Spacious Master, Master w/2.5 Baths! 1st Floor Laundry! Farmers Porch! Deck! Attached 2 Car Garage! \$359,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER - New England Commons! Adult 55+! 2 Bdrms! 1 to 2 Baths! Master! Appliances! Granite! Hrwd, Tile & Carpet! Basement! Garage! C/Ac! Security! Community Center! Walking Trails! Low Fees! Convenient! From \$234,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>DUDLEY - 4 Cross St! Newly Renovated 6 Rm Cape! Appliances Granite Kit w/Tile Flr! Picture Din Rm & Spacious Liv Rm w/Hrwd! New Bath w/Marble Shower & Tile Flr! 1st Flr Master! 2nd Flr w/2 Bdrms w/Hrwd! 1.5 Baths! 3 Season Sunrm! New Furnace, Plumbing & Electric! \$149,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>SOUTHBRIDGE - 32 Glenview Ave! Custom 6 Rm Contemp! Open Kit & Din Area w/Cathedral & Skylight! Liv Rm w/Pellet Stove, Slider to Deck! 1st Flr Master w/Private Deck! 3 Bdrms! 2 Baths! Finished Lower Level w/LP Frp! New Kit Cabinets, Counters & Roof 2014! \$249,500.00</p>
<p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>WEBSTER - 17 Fort Hill Rd! Looking for 30 ACRES OF PRIVACY & SERENITY! 5 Rm Ranch! Eat-in Kit w/Updated Cabinets! Formal Din Rm! Liv Rm Leads to Screened-in Porch w/Overlooking Pond! 2 Large Bdrms! Updated Bath! Full Basement w/Laundry! 2 Car Detached Garage! Oil Heat! Gas Hot Water! \$274,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER - 129 Lower Gore Rd! 6 Rm Split! Immediate Occupancy! 1.5 Acres of Privacy! Appliances Eat-in Kit w/Tile Flr! Din Area w/Sliders to Deck! Liv Rm w/New Carpet! 3 Bdrms w/Walk to Wall! 1.5 Baths! 6 Panel Doors! Newer Furnace! Town Services! 2 Sheds! \$219,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER - 26 Pepka Dr! 7 Room 1,790' Ranch! SS Appliances Kit & Din Area w/Tile Floor! Formal Din Rm & Liv Rm w/Hrwd! Family Rm! 3 Bdrms w/Hrwd! Master w/Bath & Walk-in Closet! 2 Full Tile Baths! Huge Basement! Patio! Circular Drive! Great Yard! \$219,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER - 24 Upland Ave! 6 Rm Cape w/Full Dome! Convenient Location! Appliances Eat-in Kit w/Updated Cabinets & Ceiling! Full Formal Din & Liv Rm w/Carpet Over Hrwd! 1st Master w/Hrwd! 3 Bdrms! 1.5 Baths! Oil Heat! Town Services! Gas! Vinyl Siding! Garage! \$169,900.00</p>	<p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>WEBSTER - 13 Crown St! Conveniently Located 2 Family! 5.5 Rms! 2 1/2 Baths! 1st Flr Frp! Appliances Eat-in Kit! 15x26 Frp! Liv Rm/Din Rm Combo! 2 Full Baths, Master Bath! Spacious 2nd Flr, 5 Rms! Eat-in Pantry Kit, Din & Liv Rms! Detached Garage! Off Street Parking! \$199,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>DUDLEY - 174 Klondike Rd! Pierpont Meadow Waterfront West Facing! Beautiful Sunsets! Full Recreational! Coy Yr Rd Getaway! Renovated! Appliances Kit w/Hrwd! Cathedral Ceiling! Liv Rm w/Frpk & Hrwd! 1 Bdrn! Updated Bath! Heated Sunroom! Overlooking Water! Recent Electrical, Plumbing, Well & Septic! \$199,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>WEBSTER - 36 North Main St! 6 Room Cape! Cabinet Packed! Kitchen w/Dining Area! Living Room w/Walk to Wall! Den w/Wall A/C! 1st Floor Waterfront! 3/4 Bedrooms! 1.5 Baths! Recent Roof & Furnace! Will be Updated to Circuit Breakers! Nice Back Yard! Off Street Parking! \$89,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>WEBSTER - 9-11 Lyndale Ave! 8 Rm Colonial w/Greenhouses! Eat-in Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm Open to Living Rm w/Wood Floors! Full Bath! Den w/Built-ins! 4 Large Bedrooms on 2nd Floor! Nice Level Lot! Walking Distance to Center of Webster! Town Services! Rte. 395 Near! Walk to Schools & Churches! \$114,900.00</p>
<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>WOODSTOCK - 1420 Route 169! Custom Built! 10 Rm 3,154' Colonial! Set on 5 Secluded Acres! Grand Entry! Frp! 9ft Ceilings! Loads of Upgrades! Appliances Kitchen w/Huge Granite Island! Formal Dining w/Hrwd! Fireplaced Family Room! Master Suite! 4 Bdrms & 2.5 Baths! Updated! 2 Car Garage! \$389,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WOODSTOCK - 291 E Quasset Rd! WAPAQUASSET "QUASSET" POND! Hidden 88 Acre Recreational Gem! Woodstock Fairgrounds Near! Yr Rd or 2nd Home! 6 Rm Ranch! 152' Waterfront! 34,848' Lot! Appliances Kit! Frp! Fam Rm! 2 Bdrms! Full Bath! A/C! Garage! \$259,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>DUDLEY - 9 Chestnut St Unit 22! "Stonegate" Conveniently Located! Freshly Painted! 4 Rm 2 Bdrn Condo! Appliances Eat-in Kit w/Pantry Closet, Tile Counter, Dble Sink & Ceiling Fan! Liv Rm w/Wall A/C & Flat Panel TV! Full Bath! Electric Heat & Hot Water! Storage! 2 Parking Spaces! Coin Op Laundry! \$64,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 71 Birch Island! 7 Rm Colonial w/Lake Views from Every Rm! Hrwd in Din Rm & Master Bdrn! 3 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Walkout Lower Level! Fam Rm! 23' Waterfront! New Metal Roof! 2 Car Attached Garage & 3 Car Detached w/2nd Flr! Needs to be Seen to Appreciate Everything it Could Be! \$674,900.00</p>	<p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 701 Treasure Island! Waterfront! End Unit! 6Rms, 2 Bdrms, Master Bath, 2.5 Baths Total! New L6 Stainless Appliances! Din Rm w/Sliders to Deck! Frp! Fam Rm w/Sliders to Patio! New C/Ac! Garage w/Storage! 2 BOAT SLIPS! Heated Pool! Sandy Beach! \$284,900.00</p>	<p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 56 Laurelwood Dr! Middle Pond - Reid Smith Cove! Western Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 12 Rms! 5,517' of Comfortable Living w/ Super 4 Rm In-Law Apartment! Custom Built 2011 from Ground Up! Stainless Appliances Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar/Lunch Counter, Gas Range, Wine Cooler, Pantry & Cherry Hrwd!s! Exquisite Formal Dining Rm w/Chair Rails, Crowns & Cherry Hrwd!s! Lake Facing Frp! Liv Rm w/Crown, Cherry Hrwd!s & Slider to Deck! 1st Flr Laundry! Lake Facing 2 Rm Master Suite w/Walk-in Closet, Slider to Private Deck, Master Bath w/Glass Multi Head Shower, Separate Tub & Dble Granite Vanity! 3.5 Granite Baths! Total! 3.5 Bedrooms! 2nd Full Tile Kitchen! Ceiling Stereo Throughout! 32 Gas Heat! 3 C/Ac! CVAc! Security! Andersons! 2 Car Garage! One of the Newest & Best Homes For Sale on the Lake in Years! \$849,900.00</p>		
<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE COMPOUND! 2 Checkerberry Isl! Private 2.09 Acre Waterfront Peninsula Estate! Park Like Grounds! 2,800' 8 Rm Colonial Main House w/Lake Views from Most Windows! SS Appliances Granite Kit! Din Area w/Tile Flr! Lake Facing 38' Din/Liv Rm w/Frpk, Recessed Lighting & Slider to Wrap Around Deck! French Dr Fam Rm Surrounded by Water! 3 Bdrms! 2! Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Slider to Private Deck w/Lake Views, Master Bath! 2nd Bath w/Dble Vanity Sinks, 3.5 Baths! Skywalk Attached 750' 4 Rm Guest/In-Law Apartment w/Granite Kit, SS Appliances, Open Din & Liv Rm w/Sliders to Lake View Deck, Bdrn, Nice Bathrm! Detached 3 Rm Yr Rd Guest Cottage or Rental Unit w/Kit, Frp! Liv Rm, Bdrn & Bathroom! Enclosed 3 Season Pavilion Great For Entertaining! Tree Lined Private Drive! Rolling Lawn! Decks! Patio! Ideal Dock Setup! Boat Ramp! For the Discerning Buyer! \$1,449,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 17 Lakeside Rd! Middle Pond - Reid Smith Cove! West Exposure - Sunsets! 100' Level Waterfront! 7 Rm Yr Rd or Ideal 2nd Home! Enjoy Music from Indian Ranch - Free! Fantastic 12,298' Flat Lot w/Plenty of Space for Outside Enjoyment! 2 Decks! 3 Bdrms! 1.5 Baths! \$489,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 17 Lakeside Rd! Middle Pond - Reid Smith Cove! West Exposure - Sunsets! 100' Level Waterfront! 7 Rm Yr Rd or Ideal 2nd Home! Enjoy Music from Indian Ranch - Free! Fantastic 12,298' Flat Lot w/Plenty of Space for Outside Enjoyment! 2 Decks! 3 Bdrms! 1.5 Baths! \$489,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 36 Laurelwood Dr! Magnificent Lake Property! .75 Acres! Western Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! Frp! Liv Rm! Kit w/SS Appliances! Din Rm! 4 Bdrms! 2 Baths! 3 Car Garage! Mahogany Deck! Cabana! Sandy Beach! New Dock! Boat Ramp! \$799,900.00</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 103 Treasure Island! 1,874' Townhouse! Oak Cabinet Kit w/ Breakfast Counter! Formal Din Rm! Frp! Liv Rm! Screened Porch! 1st Flr Master w/Walk-in Closet & Bath! 2.5 Baths! 2nd Level w/2nd Master Bdrn & Office! Attached Garage! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Sandy Beach! \$269,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 113 Birch Island Rd! Overlooking Middle Pond! Eastern Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 5 Bdrms! Round Waterfront Home! 5 Bdrms! Renovated Kit & Bath! Din Rm! Liv Rm w/Frpk! Listed by Another, SOLD by Century21 Lake Realty! \$285,000.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 15 South Point Rd! Middle Pond - Panoramic Views! Build Your Waterfront Dream! 100' of Shoreline! 5,394' Road Frontage! 1 and Area & 1771' Town Water & Sewer Available! 3 Decks! Already in the Water! Lots on Webster Lake are a Rarity, Don't let this Slip by without Your Consideration! \$189,900.00</p>	
<p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE COMPOUND! 2 Checkerberry Isl! Private 2.09 Acre Waterfront Peninsula Estate! Park Like Grounds! 2,800' 8 Rm Colonial Main House w/Lake Views from Most Windows! SS Appliances Granite Kit! Din Area w/Tile Flr! Lake Facing 38' Din/Liv Rm w/Frpk, Recessed Lighting & Slider to Wrap Around Deck! French Dr Fam Rm Surrounded by Water! 3 Bdrms! 2! Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Slider to Private Deck w/Lake Views, Master Bath! 2nd Bath w/Dble Vanity Sinks, 3.5 Baths! Skywalk Attached 750' 4 Rm Guest/In-Law Apartment w/Granite Kit, SS Appliances, Open Din & Liv Rm w/Sliders to Lake View Deck, Bdrn, Nice Bathrm! Detached 3 Rm Yr Rd Guest Cottage or Rental Unit w/Kit, Frp! Liv Rm, Bdrn & Bathroom! Enclosed 3 Season Pavilion Great For Entertaining! Tree Lined Private Drive! Rolling Lawn! Decks! Patio! Ideal Dock Setup! Boat Ramp! For the Discerning Buyer! \$1,449,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 17 Lakeside Rd! Middle Pond - Reid Smith Cove! West Exposure - Sunsets! 100' Level Waterfront! 7 Rm Yr Rd or Ideal 2nd Home! Enjoy Music from Indian Ranch - Free! Fantastic 12,298' Flat Lot w/Plenty of Space for Outside Enjoyment! 2 Decks! 3 Bdrms! 1.5 Baths! \$489,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 36 Laurelwood Dr! Magnificent Lake Property! .75 Acres! Western Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! Frp! Liv Rm! Kit w/SS Appliances! Din Rm! 4 Bdrms! 2 Baths! 3 Car Garage! Mahogany Deck! Cabana! Sandy Beach! New Dock! Boat Ramp! \$799,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 103 Treasure Island! 1,874' Townhouse! Oak Cabinet Kit w/ Breakfast Counter! Formal Din Rm! Frp! Liv Rm! Screened Porch! 1st Flr Master w/Walk-in Closet & Bath! 2.5 Baths! 2nd Level w/2nd Master Bdrn & Office! Attached Garage! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Sandy Beach! \$269,900.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 113 Birch Island Rd! Overlooking Middle Pond! Eastern Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 5 Bdrms! Round Waterfront Home! 5 Bdrms! Renovated Kit & Bath! Din Rm! Liv Rm w/Frpk! Listed by Another, SOLD by Century21 Lake Realty! \$285,000.00</p>	<p>SOLD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE - 15 South Point Rd! Middle Pond - Panoramic Views! Build Your Waterfront Dream! 100' of Shoreline! 5,394' Road Frontage! 1 and Area & 1771' Town Water & Sewer Available! 3 Decks! Already in the Water! Lots on Webster Lake are a Rarity, Don't let this Slip by without Your Consideration! \$189,900.00</p>		

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<p>WEBSTER - 9 GORE GABLE RD</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>1st Time Offered! Beautiful 4 bedroom colonial! Front to back Fireplaced formal living room! Formal Dining Room! Family room with cathedral ceilings! Eat in Kitchen! Screened in summer room! 2 Car Garage. Forced Hot Water by Oil! \$264,900.</p>	<p>HOLLAND - 88 STURBRIDGE RD.</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>Welcome to This Wonderful Country Setting Home! Beautiful 4 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch! Nestled On A Flowing 3.2 Acre Lot! Open Layout Floor Plan! Cathedral Ceiling Living/Dining Area And Kitchen, Great For Entertaining! Kitchen is Fully Appliances With Work Island! Plenty Of Storage In Additional Basement As Well As The Connected Two Car Garage! Close To Rts. 20, 84 And The Mass Pike! Hamilton Res. Beach Boat Ramp And Fishing Pier Just Around The Corner! \$269,900.</p>	<p>THOMPSON CT- 351 QUADDICK RD</p> <p>Welcome to the country at its best! This gorgeous 3 bedroom 2.5 Bath contemporary home, nestled on a private beautifully manicured yard on 2.64 Acres! Granite counter tops and island! Brazilian cherrywood throughout kitchen, dining, & living room! Cathedral ceiling living room! Propane fireplace heater! Downstairs master bedroom, full bath! First flr half bath w/washer dryer. 2 Car garage! New Price \$299,900.</p>	<p>DUDLEY- 23 INTERVALE RD</p> <p>Welcome home to this charming 3-4 bedroom, 2 bath cape! One acre! First floor master bedroom w/full bath! Living room w/pellet stove! Lower level has additional heated family room! W/2nd full bath! Sit out and grill on the recent deck and enjoy the fresh air! Make sure you put this one on your "to see" list! New Price \$199,900</p>	<p>LAND: WEBSTER/DUDLEY BUILDABLE LOTS</p> <p>Webster - Black Point Rd. Webster Lake Access! Town Water & Sewer \$44,900 Webster - Lot 119B Thompson Rd \$43,500. Webster - Lot 119A Thompson Rd \$43,500. Webster - 114 Lake St. Multi-Family Zoned. 12,000 +/- Sq Ft Lot. Town Water & Sewer, and City Gas! \$56,900. Webster - 122 Gore Rd. Lot Approx. 1-1.2 +/- Acres. Town Water & Sewer. Level Lot. \$110,000.</p>
<p>AUBURN- 5 PINEDALE RD</p> <p>Centrally Located to All Major Routes! Route 395/290/20/12 and Mass Pike. Charming 4 Bed Cape 1,493 sq ft. +/- Huge Family Room 22x20 to Deck 20x15, Hardwoods, Newer Roof, Vinyl Siding, Spacious Flat Level Lot, Paved Drive, 2 Sheds, Town Services. NEW PRICE \$237,500.</p>	<p>DUDLEY - 6 CHASE AVE</p> <p>Own your own business! Opportunity to walk into a turn key operation! Full liquor license, full commercial kitchen with grill, double ovens, fryolators, walk in fridge, freezers! Expand with catering or take out! Property sale is both the business and building with all bar/business fixtures. Property holds 198 person occupancy. \$629,900</p>	<p>WEBSTER</p> <p>Restaurant Business - Capacity 44, Beer & Wine License! Walk in cooler! Name brand equipment! All service ware included. Avg. Traffic count approx. 13K per day. \$139,900.</p>	<p>DUDLEY - 217 DUDLEY SOUTHBRIDGE RD</p> <p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>Lovely Country Setting for this 3 Bedroom Cape! Motivated Seller! Private setting on 1 Acre. Roomy 2 Car Garage Open Concept Floor Plan. Living-Dining Area. Country Kitchen with Eat in Dining Area. Access to Rear Deck for Summer Fun. Walk out Basement for Convenient Access to Backyard. Electric Fence to Keep The Dogs Safe! Good Value! NEW PRICE \$244,000</p>	<p>THOMPSON CT- 1 MASON TER</p> <p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>New To The Market! Fully Remodeled 2 Family Unit! Maintenance Free! Exterior! Spacious 3 Bedroom Units Fully Applianced With Brand New Dishwashers, Hot Water Heater And Washer/Dryer Hookups In Each Unit! Brand New Roof And Second Boiler Installed For Separate Units Heat. Plenty Of Off Street Parking And Excellent Location. Close To 395 Great Investment Property! Check This One Out! \$149,900.</p>
<p>DUDLEY - 3 PINEVIEW RD</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>1st time offered! Very well kept ranch! 3+ bedrooms! Eat in Kitchen, Breezeway, Covered hardwood floors! Garage! Natural Gas Heat! Town Water & Sewer! Level Lot! Taxes Only \$1800./yr. \$195,000.</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 47 ASH STREET</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>Pride of Ownership says it all with Huge 1400+ sq ft Young Ranch! 11! Meticulously Maintained, 7 Room, Master Bed with Master Bath and Walk-in Closet, Cathedral Ceiling with Exposed Beams! Plus a Fantastic Great Room with Sliders to a Generous 16ft x 16ft Private Deck! Fully Applianced Kitchen! Solid 6 Panel Interior Doors, 4 Year Young Asphalt Shingles, Partially Finished Basement, 15,000+ sq ft Beautifully Landscaped Family Friendly Flat Level Lot. All Town Services! This One is For You! \$271,500.</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - WATERFRONT LOT</p> <p>22 SOUTH SHORE RD. New to the Market. Southern Exposure! Panoramic Water View of South Pond! Breath taking morning sunrises! Have fun Kayaking, Sailing, Boating, Swimming, Snorkel, Skiing, Ice Boating, Snowmobiling, and Skating! Low maintenance low maintenance Dock! Custom architectural home drawings. Engineered and was approved, conservation site plans, (needs to be resubmitted, expired). Conservation Site Plan DEP# 323-0926. \$189,900.</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - TREASURE ISLAND</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>Welcome to Treasure Island! Located on the Shores of Beautiful WEBSTER LAKE! Current Owner's Remodeled every inch of this Unit with a "Magazine worthy" Flair! Each Room is Elegantly Appointed! Bamboo Floors! Family Room in Lower Level has Gas Fireplace with "Floor to Ceiling" Custom Granite & Marble! Tastefully Finished w/ Crown Molding! "Lux" Master Bath With Italian Tiled Shower Surround! Enjoy the Outdoors Deck, Private Beach & Heated "Salt Water" Pool 2 Boat Slips! New Price \$334,900</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE • 2 SOUTH POINT RD</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE: PANORAMIC VIEWS OF WEBSTER LAKE! Great South Facing Location, 62' prime shoreline, large deep lot 10,889', flagstone & concrete patios, full concrete walkway at water's edge, dock, retaining walls & stone-work, privacy fence, storage shed, recently paved drive, plenty of street parking in driveway & area at roadside, spacious, Year-round, 2 story Cape home, 4 BRs (1 on 1st flr), 2 full BAs, Harvey replacement windows, 6 year +/- young roof. \$445,000</p>

REAL ESTATE

Thinking of Buying or Selling?

Join us for Coffee, Questions and Answers
Jan 25 or Feb 3 • 6:30-7:30
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 Realtor, SRES, CMRS
 508-981-4902
 maureen@oconnorrealtor.com

Public Auction

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24th STARTING at 11:00 A.M.
 MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
 • SOUTHBRIDGE •

- (5) RESIDENTIAL VACANT LOTS INCLUDING
- (4) APPROVED RESIDENTIAL BUILDING LOTS •
- (1) RESIDENTIAL VACANT LOT •

Hilltop Drive SOUTHBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS
 ★ To be sold in its Entirety from Lot #7 Starting at 11:00 A.M. and then Individually on each Premises at the Following Times ★

Lot #7 at 11:30 a.m.
 • ± ½ Acre of Land (±22,500 S/F) • Public Water Available •
 • Public Septic Available • ± 140' Frontage Along Hill Top Drive •
 • Assessor's ID: 278-090-003 • Zoned: Single Family Residence •

Lot #8 at 12:00 p.m. (Noon)
 • ± ½ Acre of Land (±22,500 S/F) • Public Water Available •
 • Public Septic Available • Located on Cul-De-Sac •
 • ± 95' Frontage Along Hill Top Drive • Assessor's ID: 278-090-004 •
 • Zoned: Single Family Residence •

Lot #10 12:30 p.m.
 • ± ½ Acre of Land (±22,500 S/F) • Public Water Available •
 • Public Septic Available • Located on Cul-De-Sac •
 • ± 135' Frontage Along Hill Top Drive •
 • Assessor's ID: 278-090-007 • Zoned: Single Family Residence •

Lot #13 1:00 p.m.
 • ± ½ Acre of Land (±22,500 S/F) • Public Water Available •
 • Public Septic Available • ± 100' Frontage Along Hill Top Drive •
 • Assessor's ID: 278-108-099 • Zoned: Single Family Residence •

Parcel "A" 1:30 p.m.
 • ± 6,880 S/F of Residential Vacant Land • ± 130' Frontage Along Hill Top Drive • Assessor's ID: 278-108-101 •

★ WATCH FOR AUCTION SIGNS ★
 Sale Per Order of Mortgagee Attorney Richard A. Sheils, Jr. Of the Firm of Bowditch & Dewey, LLP, 311 Main Street, Worcester, MA - Attorney for Mortgagee

Terms of Sale: Entirety: \$25,000.00 Deposit Cashier's or Certified Check **Individually:** \$5,000.00 **Deposit** Per Property Cashier's or Certified Check. 5% Buyers Premium Applies. Other Terms to be announced at Time of Sale.



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 Kayleen00@aol.com

Spencer - Thompson Pond Waterfront Contemporary! 6 rms, 3 bdrms, 2 baths! The breathtaking living room has a wall of glass overlooking the water. Triple slider, wood stove, vaulted ceilings all leading to the private deck! A spacious second floor loft features a beautiful full bath with skylights and vaulted ceilings! Over 2000 s.f. of living space! **\$375,000**

North Brookfield - Immaculate colonial! Beautiful hardwood flooring and plenty of amazing, original details & built ins! Open, fireplaced living and dining rooms that have space for all your furniture! Three, generous sized bedrooms upstairs all have hardwood flooring and ample closet space! Tons of storage. Great yard with a patio and plenty of green space! **\$229,900**

East Brookfield - 3 bedroom Cape zoned for business! Perfect for single family living with three bedrooms, open living & dining rooms, 1.5 baths, mud room and deck. Full, walkout basement to the backyard. Currently rented as a single family home. New roofs on both the house and garage, updated windows, natural gas heat, public water. Walk to town, shopping, Lake Lashaway. **\$178,900**

Auburn - Beautiful 3 bdrm. 2.5 bath condo in a 3 unit complex. Great yard, updates, deck, garage, huge fireplaced living room, Master-suite, finished basement! So much to appreciate here! \$140 mo. condo fee. First time on the market! **\$219,900**

Spencer - Paxton Rd - 8 rm, 3 bdrm, 1 bath Cape poised on a knoll overlooking Lake. Wide pine floors, FHW/Oil heat, 1 car garage. Town water & sewer. Great location! Quick access to major routes! **\$174,900**

Spencer - Modern & dramatic one level beauty! Loaded with top of the line upgrades! The kitchen, living room & dining area have an open floor plan! Enjoy the 6 burner gas range, sub zero refrigerator, oversized breakfast bar, triple sliders leading to your outdoor oasis! Relax in the luxurious master-suite with spa like bath, steam shower & walk-in closet! Finished basement! Gorgeous stone patio, manicured lawn, lush landscaping, stone walkways/walls & custom gas firepit. Rights to Assoc. Beach at Sherwood Forest! **\$479,900**



201 SOUTH STREET, SOUTHBRIDGE, MA
508-765-9155
FAX: 508-765-2698

Now offering rental services

Charlton: Sought After Center Hill Colonial with 2568 sq ft of living area! 7 rooms 3 bedrooms 2 ½ baths with oversized 2 car garage! Front to back living room. HUGE GREAT ROOM added in 2001-great for entertaining! New roof! Updated heating system. Freshly painted 1st floor. Screen porch! Large composite deck! Gardens. 1.88 acres in Charlton! Easy commute to Mass Pike & Rt 20. **\$329,900**. 2 H. Footc Rd

Barre: Spacious Ranch on farm like setting with 3.46 acres! 7 rooms 3 bedrooms plus newer attached 2 car garage! BIG Level yard-secluded & private! Needs TLC, roof older and septic needs replacing. Price accordingly- **\$145,000**. Not a foreclosure or short sale.

Southbridge: Magnificent Home with 7 rooms 3 bedrooms 2 baths. Wonderful great room! Open kitchen/dining room/ great room! Perfect for entertaining! Large kitchen island, granite counters, 2172 SF of living area! 1.91 acres. Country location! 2 car garage. Pristine condition! **\$339,900**.

Southbridge: CHEAP commercial space/building for SALE. 4328 SFI 2012 rubber roof. 4 large rooms, office, waiting rooms & bath. Full basement. Being used as dance studio-tenant pays \$1100 plus utilities. Asking **\$70,000**.

Southbridge: Country location! 5 room 3 bedroom 1 bath Cape. First floor bedroom. Open Concept! Great & easy to work with local builder. Many options available and models. **Prices range from \$115,000 to \$249,900**. We have plans for a "tiny home"!!

If you have ever thought of selling your home, this is the time to do it!
 Inventory is extremely low which means the market is a SELLER'S MARKET!
 When you list your home, there are many buyers waiting, so you should sell fast and get your asking price (if priced right!). Call Acuin Ryan Realty first! Our personal service is the BEST!

WE NEED LISTINGS!

SPENCER
 2 BR 2 BA 1,764 Sq Ft Cape; Meticulously maintained 11 year young home with year round views of Stiles Reservoir! Fresh paint & newly installed HW floors in many rooms; Oversized 1-car garage.
\$275,000

E BROOKFIELD
 Rare Find! 5 BR 3.5 Bath Waterfront Colonial on Lake Lashaway w/almost 3,000 sq. ft. of living space & 25 ft. of waterfront w/ direct access from the home! Gutted & renovated in 1991.
\$400,000

SHREWSBURY
 4 BR, 2 BA, 1,700 Sq Ft Cape; This is truly a move in ready home. The interior has been completely remodeled and the exterior has been updated as well. New roof!
\$350,000

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 LICENSED IN MA & CT
 Free Market Analysis!



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DUDLEY
NEW PRICE!
OPEN HOUSE SAT. 10-12 SUN 11-1
 • 3-4 Bedrooms
 • 2 Center Fireplaces
 • Town Services
 • 1st floor Master bedroom, Den & Office
 • Ideal for extended family
11 Elizabeth St - \$244,900

DUDLEY
MERINO POND
 • Fireplace
 • Family Room
 • Cathedral ceiling
 • Incl. 19' Bowrider
 • Access to Merino pond 220' frontage
72 Flaxfield Rd • \$439,000

OXFORD
INGROUND POOL
OPEN HOUSE SUN. 1:30-3:00
 Ready for summer!
 • Sprinkler system
 • Office 1st floor
 • Family Room
 • 2 full Baths
 • 24 x 26 Great Room
131 Old Webster Rd - \$296,968

DUDLEY
 • 4 Bdrm House
 • 2 baths
 • Updated Kitchen
 • 2-Car garage
13 Railroad Ave - \$199,900

Open House Directory

Deadline: Monday at 10am

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| (C) Condo | (X) Condo | (M) Multi-Family | (T) Townhouse |
| (B) Business | (U) Duplex | (S) Single Family | (D) Adult Community |
| (P) Land | (L) Mobile Home | (A) Apartment | |

ADDRESS STYLE TIME PRICE REALTOR/SELLER/PHONE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21
DUDLEY
 11 Elizabeth St S 10-12 \$244,900 Joann Szymczak
 ReMax Advantage 508-230-5044

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
DUDLEY
 11 Elizabeth St S 10-12 \$244,900 Joann Szymczak
 ReMax Advantage 508-230-5044

DUDLEY
6 UNITS
 • Investors!
 • Great Cash Flow
 • Sided & Brick
 • New Septic
110 Southbridge Rd \$349,900

DUDLEY LAND
Tobin Farm Estates
 2 lots available
 1 Acres \$119,900
 4 Acres \$139,900
Your builder or ours
Call for showing

New Ownership Class
Buyer Representative
 Take the class January 25th at 6:30-7:30 at 25 Sutton Ave., Oxford. Purchase a home with me as your buyer agent and I will reimburse you the cost of your home inspection at closing. Limited to the first 5 buyers (must attend class to be eligible)
 For reservations call Vicki Bennett - Client coordinator
774-633-6762

Considering selling your home in 2017?
Attend a FREE Class
Jan. 25 @ 6:30-7:30 • 25 Sutton Ave, Oxford
 Lean strategy, inspections, staging and financing concerns
Reservations suggested CALL:
 Vicki Bennett ~ Client Coordinator
774-633-6762
508-943-7669

REAL ESTATE

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices | New England Properties



OPEN HOUSE SAT 1/21 10:00-11:30



7 Beech Street Woodstock \$229,500
G1017849.bhhsNEproperties.com
Great neighborhood in South Woodstock-close to everything! Spacious Ranch w/4 beds, living room w/ hardwoods & fireplace.
White/Cook Team 860-377-4016

OPEN HOUSE SAT 1/21 12:00-2:00



21 Duffy Road Pomfret \$285,000
G10184608.bhhsNEproperties.com
Rebuilt in 2006 this Colonial offers 4 beds, 2.5 baths, wrap around porch overlooking a beautiful yard. Call today!
Jen Jackson 401-413-1001

OPEN HOUSE SAT 1/21 12:00-1:30



1230 Route 197 Woodstock \$325,000
G10190126.bhhsNEproperties.com
Wonderfully secluded contemporary ranch style home with over 2800 sqft. on 7+ acres.
White/Cook Team 860-377-4016

OPEN HOUSE SAT 1/21 1:00-3:00



106 Laurel Drive Dayville \$259,900
G10178119.bhhsNEproperties.com
Colonial w/ 2225SF, 3DR, 2.5BA, living room w/fireplace. Fenced-in area for pets.
Neighborhood setting close to shopping.
Peter Baker 860-634-7298

OPEN HOUSE SAT 1/21 1:00-3:00



200 Butts Road Woodstock \$385,000
G10188242.bhhsNEproperties.com
Beautifully remodeled Cape, hardwoods, 1st FL Master. 3 car garage with full in-law above.
Town sewer, centrally located.
Mary Collins 860-336-6677

OPEN HOUSE SUN 1/22 1:00-3:00



39 Broad Street Danielson \$184,900
G10175229.bhhsNEproperties.com
Cape 2134sq ft with 4-5 bedrooms. Wood floors have all been refinished. Covered front porch and nice back yard.
Peter Baker 860-634-7298

Woodstock \$439,000 NEW LISTING



G10184387.bhhsNEproperties.com
True elegance, soaring ceilings, walls of glass, hardwoods throughout, 1st floor master suite, each bedroom has full bath.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Thompson \$200,000 NEW LISTING



G10190382.bhhsNEproperties.com
2 Family- 2 beds & 1 bath, hardwoods each side, septic, utilities, deck, parking.
close to MA line-4+ Acres.
Joseph Collins 860-336-1172

Congratulations! December Top Agents



Top Listing Agent: Mary Collins
Top Selling Agent: White/Cook Team
Top Buyers Agent: Paul Romani

Putnam \$222,900 NEW PRICE



G10177084.bhhsNEproperties.com
Beautiful Farmhouse with porch, barn and pool. Convenient location, 2260SF, 3 beds, 1.5 baths, move right in!
Mary Scalise 860-918-1539

Woodstock \$500,000



G10174639.bhhsNEproperties.com
Stunning, expansive Cape located on 5.36 acres. Brazilian hardwood floors throughout.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Putnam \$205,000



G10189471.bhhsNEproperties.com
Condo living at its best! Impeccable condition, close to 2000 sq ft. new kitchen and bamboo flooring throughout.
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Pomfret \$269,900



G10180815.bhhsNEproperties.com
Meticulous, beautiful post & beam construction with 4 beds, oversized 2 car garage and private 3 acre lot.
Tatiana Nassiri 860-455-8609

Hampton \$279,000



G10179237.bhhsNEproperties.com
Busy Rte 6 Commercial live-in or develop. 2 buildings, 4 acres. 10,000 cars daily, current rental income.
John Rich 860-315-2615

Brooklyn \$314,900



G10176371.bhhsNEproperties.com
Ranch on 11.16 Acres, 1752 Sq. Ft, built in 2008, wood floors, 4 Bdrms, 2 Baths, large oversized Garage.
Rachel Sposato 860-234-1343

Hampton \$425,000



G10186240.bhhsNEproperties.com
Sprawling country Ranch, elegant details from Newport Mansion, 3 fireplaces, IG heated pool, large wrap deck w/ fireplace.
Mary Collins 860-336-6677

Woodstock \$599,000



G10186682.bhhsNEproperties.com
Elegant Woodstock 4 bdrm home with post and beam barn, gracefully sits on 15 acres w/pastures & brook frontage.
John Downs 860-377-0754

Hampton \$549,900



G10180876.bhhsNEproperties.com
Private 10AC. w/ pond near Slate Forest. 2012 custom Colonial, open floor plan & granite kitchen, 1st floor master suite.
Mary Collins 860-336-6677

Pomfret \$289,000



G10186603.bhhsNEproperties.com
Custom built classic Cape with lots of updates, finished basement, Mahogany wood deck, fruit trees in the backyard.
Tatiana Nassiri 860-455-8609

Woodstock \$254,900



G10154808.bhhsNEproperties.com
Sprawling 1600SF 3 bdrm, 2.5 ba all on one level. 2 car attached garage. Country location. Very well maintained.
Chet Zadora 860-208-6724

Douglas MA \$250,000



New large master suite w/ full bath on LL. Open eat-in Kitchen & Living RM. 3 beds & guest bath. Deck attached to AG Pool.
Joseph Collins 860-336-1172

Woodstock \$950/mo Commercial Lease



G6686753.bhhsNEproperties.com
Nice & clean 1000 SF unit with HEAT INCLUDED.
Ample parking and excellent traffic exposure.
Chet Zadora 860-208-6724

LAND FOR SALE



Woodstock \$135,000
G10137911.bhhsNEproperties.com
Spectacular waterfront lot on Witches Woods Lake with 94 feet of shoreline. Build your dream home.
John Downs 860-377-0754

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

bhhsNEproperties.com



HERE & THERE → Local Events, Arts, and Entertainment Listings



SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

9:00 p.m.
TEQUILA MOCKINGBIRD
6-piece classic rock/
contemporary band
308 LAKESIDE
308 East main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

9:00 p.m.
BAD TICKERS
The full 6-piece band
playing your favorites
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333

ONGOING

MEAT RAFFLE
Saturdays at 12:30 p.m.
6 tables; prime rib, lobster
and much more
Public invited
In the Veterans Lounge
AMERICAN LEGION
TUTTLE POST #279
88 Bancroft St., Auburn, MA
508-832-2701



ROADHOUSE
BLUES JAM
Every Sunday, 3:00
- 7:00 p.m.
CADY'S TAVERN
2168 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI
401-568-4102



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

WISE GUYS TEAM TRIVIA
Every Tuesday, 8:00 - 10:00 p.m.
CADY'S TAVERN
2168 Putnam Pike (Rt. 44)
Chepachet, RI
401-568- 4102

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT

HEXMARK TAVERN
AT SALEM CROSS INN
260 West Main St., West
Brookfield, MA
508-867-2345
www.salemcrossinn.com

TRAP SHOOTING
Every Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Open to the public
\$12.00 per round includes
clays and ammo
NRA certified range officer

on site every shoot
AUBURN SPORTSMAN CLUB
50 Elm St., Auburn, MA
508-832-6492



HUGE MEAT RAFFLE
First Friday of the month
Early Bird 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
1st table: 7:00 p.m.
Auburn Sportsman Club
50 Elm St., Auburn, MA
508-832-6496

BREAST FEEDING SUPPORT GROUP
at Strong Body/Strong Mind
Yoga Studio
112 Main St., Putnam, CT
Third Friday of each month
at 6:00 p.m.
860-634-0099
www.strongbodystrongmind.us

TRIVIA TUESDAYS
at 7:00 p.m.
Cash prizes
308 LAKESIDE
308 East main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333



Get Bundled Up For Winter



HEALTH

How Much Do You Really Know About Schizophrenia?

(NAPSI)

Schizophrenia is a chronic, debilitating mental illness affecting approximately 1.1 percent of American adults and more than 21 million people worldwide.^{1,2} One of the most significant aspects of the disease is that it is not easily or efficiently diagnosed, and the illness may go undiagnosed—and therefore untreated—after the onset of the first symptoms.³ There is a palpable, sometimes debilitating prejudice associated with schizophrenia, which sometimes interferes with people's willingness to talk about and get treatment for the disorder.⁴ Having a better understanding of the disease—both what it is and what it isn't—could help to address misconceptions.

How much do you really know about schizophrenia? Read further to find out.

True or false? Doctors, patients and families historically viewed schizophrenia, one of the most devastating mental illnesses, as the result of bad parenting.

TRUE. Believe it or not, historically, this was the thinking.⁵ Today, we know that this is not the case, and we know that there are many factors involved with a person's risk for developing schizophrenia. Although there is still much to learn, researchers have identified a number of genes that may contribute an increased risk of schizophrenia and are closer than ever to understanding how they may impact brain development and function in the disease.^{5,6} Additionally, there are a number of environmental factors that can be involved, including the interaction between genes and aspects of an individual's envi-

ronment, exposure to viruses or malnutrition before birth and other, not yet known, psychosocial factors.⁶

True or false? Men and women tend to develop schizophrenia at the same age.

FALSE. In most cases, the first psychotic episode tends to occur between the late teens and the mid-30s. However, men tend to develop schizophrenia slightly earlier, in their early- to mid-20s, while most females develop symptoms in their late 20s.⁷

True or false? The signs and symptoms of schizophrenia vary from person to person.

TRUE. Although symptoms differ in type and severity among individuals, schizophrenia typically interferes with a person's ability to think clearly, manage emotions, make decisions and relate to others.⁸

Initial signs may include isolating oneself, sleep problems and irritability.⁹ Some individuals with schizophrenia experience hallucinations, the most common of which are "voices" that may influence their actions or seeing people or objects that are not there. However, a person with schizophrenia can experience a combination of symptoms—sometimes severe, other times hardly noticeable—that typically fall into three broad categories: positive symptoms (psychotic symptoms such as hallucinations and delusions), negative symptoms (disruptions in normal emotions and lack of motivation) and cognitive symptoms (changes in memory or other aspects of thinking).⁷

True or false? People with schizophrenia always exhibit violent behavior.

FALSE. Most individuals

with schizophrenia are not violent. The sad reality is that people with schizophrenia are much more likely to harm themselves than others, as suicidal thoughts and behaviors are very common among people with schizophrenia. Comorbidities, such as substance abuse, may also increase the chance a person will become violent. Both risk of violence to others and to the individuals with schizophrenia is greatest when the condition goes untreated and has been seen to decrease when treatment is in place.⁴

True or false? Because the causes of schizophrenia are still unknown, treatments focus on improving the symptoms of the disease.

TRUE. There is no cure for schizophrenia, but it can be managed in several ways, including antipsychotic medications, which are available in pill or liquid form taken daily or as an injection that provides patients with medication that remains in the body for an extended period of time. Additional forms of treatment include psychotherapy, such as cognitive behavioral therapy and supportive therapy, as well as self-management strategies and education.¹⁰

True or false? Many people with schizophrenia experience improved symptoms with a combination of medication and psychosocial support.

TRUE. Through a combination of the effective treatment options currently available, continued research and understanding in genetics, neuroscience and behavioral sciences, the outlook for individuals with schizophrenia continues to improve. For example, initiatives such as

the NIMH Recovery After an Initial Schizophrenia Episode (RAISE) research project, which seeks to fundamentally change the prognosis of schizophrenia through coordinated treatment in the earliest stages of the disorder, also promise to further improve the prognosis for people diagnosed with the disease.⁴

Although navigating the course of diagnosis and treatment for schizophrenia can be challenging, knowing the early warning signs increases the chances of diagnosis and coordinated specialty care treatment in the earliest stages of the condition. Individuals with schizophrenia can lead productive, independent lives. For more information regarding schizophrenia and the treatment options available, visit www.mentalhealthamerica.net/medication.

1 National Institute of Mental Health. Schizophrenia. Retrieved November 4, 2016 from <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/prevalence/schizophrenia.shtml>

2 World Health Organization. Schizophrenia. Retrieved November 4, 2016 from http://www.who.int/mental_health/management/schizophrenia/en/

3 O'Callaghan, E., et al. (2010). First episode psychosis and the trail to secondary care: help-seeking and health-system delays. *Social Psychiatry*

and *Psychiatric Epidemiology*, 45(3): 381–91.

4 National Institute of Mental Health. Schizophrenia. Retrieved November 4, 2016 from <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/schizophrenia-booklet-12-2015/index.shtml>

5 National Institutes of Health. Schizophrenia. Retrieved November 4, 2016 from <https://report.nih.gov/nihfactsheets/ViewFactSheet.aspx?csid=67>

6 National Institute of Mental Health. What causes schizophrenia? Retrieved November 4, 2016 from <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/schizophrenia-booklet-12-2015/index.shtml#pub7>

7 Ochoa, S., et al. (2012). Gender Differences in Schizophrenia and First-Episode Psychosis: A Comprehensive Literature Review. *Schizophrenia Research and Treatment*, 2012, 2.

8 American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed.).

9 Birchwood, M., et al. (2000). Schizophrenia: early warning signs. *Advances in Psychiatric Treatment*, 6, 93-101.

10 American Psychiatric Association. (2004). *Practice Guideline For The Treatment of Patients With Schizophrenia* (2nd ed.).

OT-001367

The Eyes Are Windows To Your Health



Make protecting your sight part of the celebration this holiday season.

(NAPSI)

While most people wait until they feel sick to see a doctor, the key to saving sight is to catch eye diseases early—even before noticing any symptoms.

Eye diseases and conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, autoimmune diseases, and cancers can be diagnosed and detected during a simple eye exam. That's because the eye is the only place in the body where a doctor can have an unobstructed view of blood vessels, nerves and connecting tissue without any need for surgery. Abnormalities spotted in the eye may signal the same changes in other parts of the body.

Early detection can help people potentially avoid vision loss and other serious complications.

Eye Exams Are a Simple Procedure that Could Save Your Sight

Adults age 65 or over should have a comprehensive eye exam every one to two years, or as recommended by an ophthalmologist—a physician who specializes in medical and surgical eye care. To help seniors who haven't seen an ophthalmologist in three or more years and are concerned about cost, the American Academy of Ophthalmology's EyeCare America program may be able to help.

EyeCare America's Seniors program connects eligible seniors with local volunteer ophthalmologists who provide a medical eye exam at no

out-of-pocket cost, and up to one year of follow-up care for any condition diagnosed during the initial exam, for the physician services.

To be eligible, you must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or legal resident
- Be age 65 or older
- Not belong to an HMO or have eye care benefits through the VA
- Not have seen an ophthalmologist in three or more years.

Don't qualify for the Seniors program? You may be eligible for EyeCare America's Glaucoma program. It provides a glaucoma eye exam at no cost to those who are eligible and uninsured.

To be eligible, you must:

- Be at increased risk for glaucoma, determined by your age, race and family history
- Be a U.S. citizen or legal resident
- Not belong to an HMO or have eye care benefits through the VA
- Not have had an eye exam in 12 months or more.

EyeCare America has helped more than 1.8 million people since 1985. Its sight-saving services are made possible through the generous support of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation Inc., with additional support provided by Alcon. Visit www.aao.org/eyecare-america to learn more and determine whether you or a loved one qualifies.

Resolve To Live A Healthier Lifestyle In The New Year

Live a Healthier Life

New Year's Resolutions

It takes one step at a time to get results that last. Try these simple and easy ways to improve your health.



Eat Healthy

- 5 steps to healthier eating
- Drink 8 glasses of water a day
 - Eat more fruits and vegetables
 - Manage portion sizes
 - Skip late-night snacking
 - Read food labels



Exercise Regularly

- 5 exercises that don't need equipment
- Walking
 - Jogging
 - Dancing
 - Jumping jacks
 - Push ups



Don't Smoke

- 5 tips to quit because even occasional smoking is harmful
- Seek a doctor's advice
 - Try counseling
 - Use mobile phone apps
 - Try nicotine replacement products
 - Seek tools to quit smoking



Stay Active

- 5 ways to stay active throughout your day to promote better health
- Take the stairs
 - Bike to work
 - Park away from entrances
 - Walk to nearby activities
 - Get up from your desk



... and Stay Healthy

Schedule regular medical checkups, keep vaccinations up to date, and get a flu shot each year.

Join the nationwide effort to prevent and control chronic diseases

#Partnering4Health

Learn more at Partnering4Health.org

(NAPSI)

A few simple steps (including taking more steps) can help you to a healthier lifestyle and a longer, even happier life.



PLACE MOTOR

Thompson Road
Webster, MA
508.943.8012

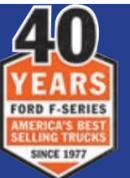
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FISHER PLOW SNOW & ICE REMOVAL
Plows • Sanders • Spreaders



2014 FORD FLEX LIMITED
Ecoboost V6 navigation
Panoramic Roof
\$31,923 499X



2013 FORD FOCUS
"low miles,
great gas mileage"
\$11,923 52291R



2016 FORD FOCUS RS
788 Miles, Unique, AWD, High
Performance, Enthusiasts Car
\$38,923 7004A



2014 FORD EDGE SPORT
Fwd, Ruby Red, Nav., Moonroof,
Remote Start, 41805 mi.
\$23,923 5355B



2008 FORD RANGER
4x4
With Plow
\$12,923 462X



2011 F150 LARIAT
Loaded
Low Miles
\$26,213 4351X



2015 FORD FOCUS SE
Like New,
Low Miles
\$13,923 6129B



2013 FORD TAURUS SHO
Performance Pkg,
AWD
\$21,923 6303A

MORE TERRIFIC PRE-OWNED CARS & TRUCKS

2014 Ford Escape, Low Miles, 20L Ecoboost, AWD #482X **\$18,923** **2014 Escape Titanium** Loaded #506X **\$21,523**
2014 Fiesta Sedan, 4 Cyl, Auto, Blue Candy, 10K! #450X **\$10,923** **2011 Ford Flex Limited** very comfortable #4721X **\$18,923**
2016 Ford Explorer XLT Low Miles, #446X **\$34,923** **2014 Ford F150** ext cab, leather XLT #491X **\$33,523**

IMPERIAL
CHEVROLET
FIND NEW ROADS Imperialcars.com

BRAND NEW 2016 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500
• V6 Engine • Auto • Reg. Cab
MSRP: \$30,520
CHEVY REBATE: \$2,500
OUR TRADE ASSIT BONUS: \$2,000
IMPERIAL DISCOUNT: \$4,543
SAVE \$9,000 AVAILABLE AT SIMILAR SAVINGS
starting at: **\$21,477**

BRAND NEW 2017 CHEVY TRAVERSE LS
• All Wheel Drive • 17" Wheels • OnStar
MSRP: \$34,745
CHEVY REBATE: \$500
OUR TRADE ASSIT BONUS: \$2,000
IMPERIAL DISCOUNT: \$5,468
SAVE \$8,000 AVAILABLE AT SIMILAR SAVINGS
starting at: **\$26,777**

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MANUFACTURER REBATE: \$1,000
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OUR TRADE ASSIT BONUS: \$2,000
IMPERIAL DISCOUNT: \$6,008
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BRAND NEW 2016 DODGE DART SE
• Rallye Pkg • 17" Alloy Wheels
MSRP: \$20,530
MANUFACTURER REBATE: \$1,000
OUR TRADE ASSIT BONUS: \$2,000
IMPERIAL DISCOUNT: \$4,553
SAVE \$7,600 10 AVAILABLE AT SIMILAR SAVINGS
starting at: **\$12,977**

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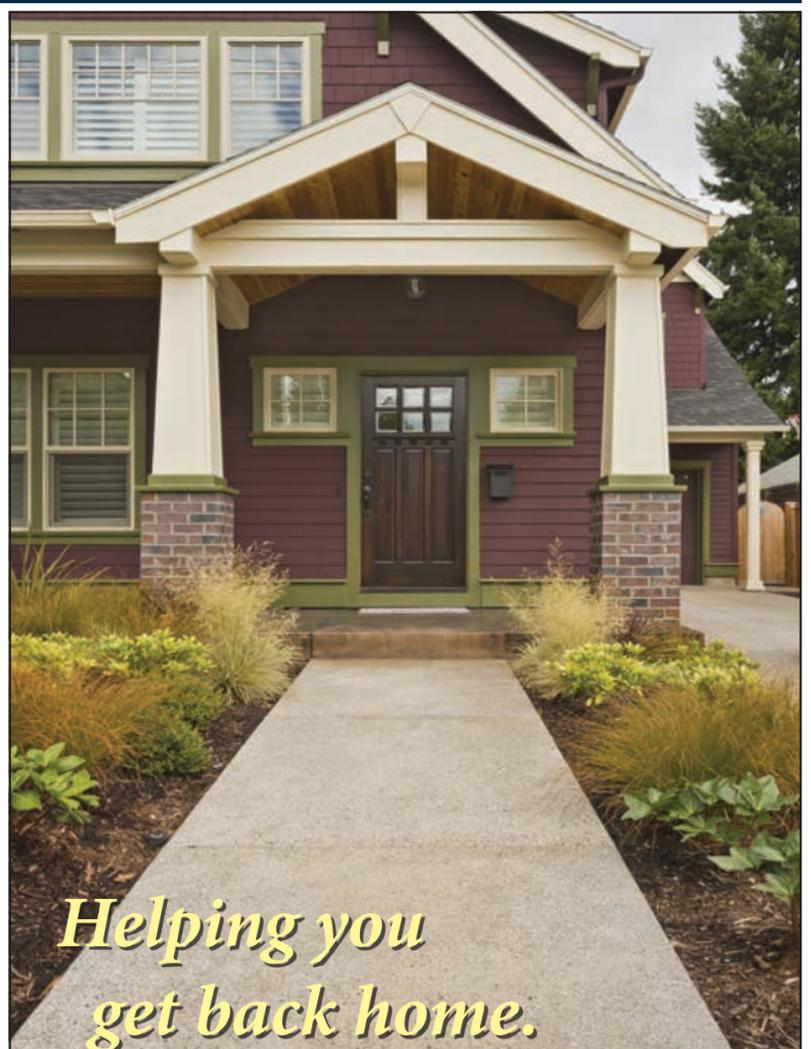
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GE SELF-DEFROSTING FREEZER \$150.00</p> <p>508-943-2174</p> <p>Landscape Equipment Trailer \$995 OBO</p> <p>Call 5pm-8:30pm 508-867-6546</p> <p>LUMBER</p> <p>Rough Sawn Pine DRY 30+ Yrs. 2" x 18" or smaller.</p> <p>Call (508) 476-7867</p> <p>MAKITA 8" PORTABLE TABLE SAW \$60.00</p> <p>KEROSENE TORPEDO HEATER \$60.00</p> <p>SHOP VAC \$30.00</p> <p>Routers, woodworking tools and supplies Many miscellaneous</p> <p>Call 774-241-3804</p> <hr/> <p>*****</p> <p>MATCHING CHAIR AND OTTOMAN BY LANE</p> <p>New: \$1398 Asking \$250</p> <p>(508)612-9263</p> <p>*****</p> <p>Maytag Stove Black \$300 or best offer</p> <p>Whirlpool Refrigerator Black \$400 or best offer</p> <p>Call (860) 753-2053</p>	<p>MINK JACKET</p> <p>High length Mint condition Seldom worn! BEST OFFER</p> <p>508-278-3973</p> <hr/> <p>MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR</p> <p>Like New, Must See! 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13 hp Tecumseh OHV, 45 in width trigger controlled steering, 6 forward, 2 reverse, Hardly used!
\$1,700

WHITE OUTDOOR PRODUCTS
SnowBoss 1050 Snowblower, 10hp Tecumseh two stage 30 in width, electric start Well maintained.
\$600.00

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Excellent Condition
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25 tread depth
Excellent Condition

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Made of Texture 1-11
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Model CLP153S
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100 GENERAL

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Four Stall Horse Barn For Rent

Ten Years Old
Big Stalls & Huge Loft
Nice, Big Turnout Pasture
\$200/stall or
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Master Teacher, 30 Years Experience, Proven Record of Success, Great Way to Prepare for Auditions

\$25.00 for Half Hour Lesson

\$35.00 for 45 Minute Lesson (recommended)

Limited Slots Available
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(508) 949-2468

130 YARD SALES

DEADLINE FOR YARD SALE SUBMISSIONS IS NOON MONDAY FOR ALL MASS. WEEKLY PAPERS
Deadline subject to change due to holidays
Call for more info

ESTATE SALE Saturday Jan. 21st & Sunday Jan. 22nd 9am-2pm each day 17 Dale Avenue #8 Auburn, MA

Furniture, Crystal Glassware, Sleigh Crib, Dining Room Set and
MUCH MORE!!

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Cash only!
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Local News

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1- ALUMINUM 10 ft. JOHN BOAT \$300.

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20' Ranger Comanche
488V
Mercury XRI Electronic Fuel-Injection Motor. 150HP
Four blade stainless steel new prop.

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Old Town Canoe
1931 old town 18' restored Maine guide canoe.

Clear resin coated, Mahogany gun wales And caned seats a third seat mahogany caned seat and back Paddles included
Perfect for the wooden canoe enthusiast.
\$5800.00 (508)479-0230

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in great condition, \$300 each.
Price includes paddles & Thule car racks (\$400 value)

This price is half the cost of new
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207 BOAT/DOCK RENTALS

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\$29,750
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84 PIECE AVON CAPE COD COLLECTION-DINNERWARE AND MORE
In Great Condition!

\$300 or best offer
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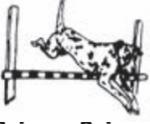


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Vicki Kelley Professional Groomer
20 Years Exp.
"We Go Right to Your Door" (508)987-2419

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Training and behavior management in your home.
Positive methods used. Certified Pet Dog trainer and member APDT
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Antiques And Collectibles Single Items Or Entire Estates

We Buy It All And Also Do
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Specializing in NUMISMATIC COINS, gold & silver of any form!

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239 West Main Street
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Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Flags, Uniforms, etc.
Over 30 Years Experience.
Call David
1-(508)688-0847 I'll Come To YOU!

300 HELP WANTED

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

AHEARN EQUIPMENT, Inc.
is an agricultural, construction and power equipment dealership.
We are seeking full-time positions in our growing company. We are looking for a

Power Equipment Specialist & a Diesel Equipment Field Service Technician.

You must have experience in the construction and agriculture equipment industry.

Resumes or questions can be sent to our Human Resources Coordinator at:
cgirard@ahearnequipment.com or dropped off at the dealership
460 Main St. Spencer, Massachusetts.

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

BAY PATH REG. VOC. TECH. HIGH SCHOOL
57 Old Muggett Hill Rd
Charlton, MA 01507

On-Call Substitute Secretary
7:30am-2:30pm
Rate: \$12.25/hour
Prior office experience preferred but not required.
Please submit Application, Resume, & Three Letters of Reference no later than
Thursday, January 26, 2017
to the above address.
ATTENTION: Dean J. Iacobucci, Business Manager

For Applications, please call:
(508) 248-5971, x1754
between 7:30 am and 2:00 pm or visit our website:
http://www.baypath.net/district-information/pdf/employment-application.pdf

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Community Respite Worker (Days, Evenings and/or Weekends)

To provide families and individuals with dependable and age appropriate Family Support. This is a direct service position, responsible for the provision of Respite Care Services to program participants. To service as a Seven Hills Family Services, Inc. Team Member. An interest in working with families who have a physically, developmentally, emotionally, or other life challenged family member. Must be at least of eighteen (18) years of age. Knowledgeable of creative and developmental activities appropriate for the age and capabilities of the individual being supported. Must have a valid driver's license.

View position details at:
www.sevenhills.org/careers

Type ID#9784 into Keyword/ID# field
AA/EOE

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COUNTER SERVERS WANTED
for Flexible Schedule. Must be over 18.

Apply to
Dippin' Donuts
32 West Main St
Dudley, Ma

Foster Parents Wanted
Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA To Provide Foster Care To Children In Need. 24/7 Support. Generous Reimbursement.
\$1000 Sign-On Bonus Call For Details

Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care (508)829-6769

FRONT DESK & NIGHT AUDIT HAMPTON INN STURBRIDGE
Hours:
6am-2pm and 2pm-10pm

We will train the right person. Holidays and Weekends a Must. Must Be Flexible with the Schedule.

Apply in Person:
Hampton Inn 328 Main St Sturbridge, MA 01566
EOE

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310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME DEEC CERTIFIED TEACHERS AND ASSISTANT TEACHERS

Salary commensurate with experience and education.

Please send resume to
Kathleen Leland, Director

LINE COOK WANTED
Salem Cross Inn
Apply in Person or on our website
saalemcrossinn.com

SHEET METAL MECHANICS

We are looking for experienced mechanics for industrial and commercial work
We will provide permanent positions and excellent compensation and benefit packages
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19 Mashapaug Rd Sturbridge, MA (508) 347-7156

(2) Housekeepers (1) Recreation Person- Experienced ONLY (1) Groundskeeper (1) Pool Monitor (1) Overnight Ranger

Requirements:
High School Diploma or Equivalent, Valid Driver's License & Able to Pass Background Check
Weekends & Holidays A MUST

Please Call
Monday-Friday 9am-3pm
to Set Up an Interview
Talk to Anthony or Bonnie

EOE

WAITSTAFF NEEDED
Must be 18 years old
Weekends a MUST
Please Apply in Person:

Village Pizza 487 Main St, Sturbridge (508) 347-8177

311 PART-TIME HELP WANTED

Sturbridge-Part-Time Business Insurance Representative

Here's an opportunity to join a small, dynamic insurance agency in Sturbridge, MA. Advise and service business customers. P/C insurance experience preferred/will train the right candidate. The ideal candidate will have a positive attitude, be enthusiastic, self-motivated, reliable, and be a team player.
Flexible hours 25 hrs per week.

Email resume to:
siacobucci@mccurdyinsurance.com

313 CLERICAL

Sturbridge-Part-Time Front Desk-Reception-Processor

Here's an opportunity to join a small, dynamic insurance agency in Sturbridge, MA. Looking for a reliable, organized, personable, detail oriented individual, who can maintain a flexible schedule. Must have good working knowledge of Microsoft programs. Career opportunities available. Morning hours 20 hrs per week.

Email resume to:
siacobucci@mccurdyinsurance.com

316 SUMMER HELP

STURBRIDGE SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM-EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

(1) Director \$16.64/hour (4) Lifeguards \$12.67/hour (2) Tennis Instructors \$11/hour (1) Art Instructor \$11/hour

Applications available at
Sturbridge Recreation Department Due by March 31st

319 HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Certified Nurse Aides/Certified Home Health Aides

Need a break from long term care, but still want to work with the elderly?

Christopher Heights of Webster is your answer!
We are an 83 unit
Assisted Living Community

that has full-time positions available for third shift and per diem positions for all shifts. Responsibilities include the provision of personal assistance as well as light housekeeping, personal laundry, and dining services.

Apply in person to:
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Located directly behind Hubbard (Harrington) Hospital

PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL SERVICES, INC. IN STURBRIDGE IS LOOKING TO HIRE HHA'S/CNA'S/PCA'S & HOMEMAKERS BILINGUAL/SPANISH SPEAKING ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

(508) 347-9400
EOE

325 PROFESSIONAL HELP WANTED

TRAILER TRUCK DRIVERS WANTED

Class A CDL with Hazmat
Based in North Brookfield

Please Call 508-867-3235

400 SERVICES

402 GENERAL SERVICES

Call The Junk Man

Trees Cut Brush/Limbs Removed METAL PICK-UP Appliances, Furniture, TV's. Construction Materials. Cellars/Attics Cleaned. Small Building Demolition, Residential Moves. Furnaces Removed

Dave (508)867-2564 (413)262-5082

415 BUSINESS SERVICES

Seeking area residents interested in having an on-site, professional review of their private wells. This service is grant funded by the USEPA. It is free and is confidential. Many times well owners are unaware of the possible causes of contamination in their wells. Older wells may not be sealed properly near the surface or their source of water may be shallow and influenced by things like feedlots, septic systems, or nearby land uses. Many things at or near the surface could impact the water quality of a well.

This assessment provides you a comprehensive evaluation of the possible causes of contamination at or near your well to help you understand what possible risks and vulnerabilities you should be aware of that might impact your drinking water. The assessment considers site conditions, geology, land use practices, well construction, and maintenance to provide you with a detailed list of things, if any, that could impact your well water quality. The results will provide you a list of possible concerns, if any are found, and recommendations and best practices that will help you keep your well and your family safe from well contamination.

Contact Jim Starbard at
(978) 502-0227 or jstarbard@rcapsolutions.org

442 LICENSED DAY CARE

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of Child Care Services requires that all ads placed in the newspaper for child care (daycare) in your home include your license number

454 HOME IMPROVEMENT

Furniture Doctor
Have your furniture Professionally restored at Reasonable rates. furniture face lifting, painting, striping to Refinishing, caning and repairs.

ANTIQUE DOCTOR Daniel Ross (508)248-9225 or (860)382-5410 30 years in business

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SNOWPLOWING
Residential Commercial Plowing & Sanding

Focusing on:
Southbridge
Charlton
Sturbridge
Oxford

Roof Snow Removal

Call Rich
508-248-7314

500 REAL ESTATE

505 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT-SOUTHBRIDGE
First Floor, 3 Bedrooms, All Appliances Included, Includes Washer/Dryer YOU PAY OWN OIL HEAT NO PETS \$750/month
Call
(508) 764-6425
NO CALLS AFTER 7pm

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Cozy Two Bedroom Apartment

Off-Street Parking, Quiet Neighborhood,

Available Feb 1st
\$745/month

Call
(774) 258-0147

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2 Bedroom, 2nd Floor, Stove, Refrigerator & Hot Water, Off-Street Parking

First, Last & Security \$715
(857) 222-2065

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STURBRIDGE APARTMENTS ON BEAUTIFUL CEDAR LAKE

3 Room Apartments, 1 Bedroom, Kitchen Appliance, Utilities Not Included
NO PETS
1/4 Mile to I-84 and MA Pike
References A Must
\$750/Month
First/Last/Security Call (508)347-9623 9am-6pm

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Happy Garden section Includes cement vaults Valued at \$9,000 Asking \$5,900
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Bought (2) \$3,750.00 each and will sell for \$3,500.00 each

Call (508) 248-6373

Worcester County Memorial Park Paxton, MA

Garden of Faith Lot 271A
2 Graves, side-by-side

Asking \$1,700 each \$2,200 Both

Call (508) 723-2306

WORCESTER COUNTY MEMORIAL PARK Paxton, MA

Garden of Valor 1
2 side-by-side plots
Current Value \$8,500

Asking \$4,800/080 Call (508) 556-7407

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PARK MODEL TRAILER

2 BEDROOMS, 1 BATH
Large Enclosed Porch
Large Shed

Meadowside of Woodstock
A Seasonal Cooperative Campground

Asking \$16,500
For more information
Call Brett (860) 733-2260

575 VACATION RENTALS

CAPE COD TIME SHARE FOR SALE

Edgewater Beach Resort
95 Chase Avenue
Dennisport, MA 02639
On the water
Studio (Unit 706)
Fixed week 33 (August)
Deeded rights

You'll own it for a lifetime & can be passed down to your children and grand children. \$5000.00
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OFF SEASON IS GREAT AT THE CAPE



South Dennis, off Rte. 134:

Cozy 3 BR, (dbl, queen, 2 twins) 1 bath home with full kitchen & microwave, washer/dryer, screened in porch w/ picnic table, grill, cable TV. Outdoor shower. On dead-end street. Near shopping, theater, restaurants, bike trail, fishing, playground, 10 minutes from bay and ocean side beaches.

Off season rates available

Call Janet at 508-865-1583 after 6 pm, or email June at junosima@icloud.com for more information.

Automotive

700 AUTOMOTIVE

2008 Toyota Corolla
Standard shift, 265,000 highway miles, still going! Well maintained.
We need a larger car. \$5,500 negotiable.

1978 Thunderbird Coupe
Dual Exhaust, Rust-free, 89K \$8,950

(978) 760-3453 After 7:30pm

Local News



FOUND HERE!

705 AUTO ACCESSORIES

2006 MUSTANG GT PARTS

(4) Koenig Beyond Wheels 17x8 \$450
Front Leather Seats \$500
Complete Stock Exhaust \$300
Front Brake Calipers w/Pads \$300
Complete Suspension System \$750
Other Parts
508-476-2293

705 Auto Accessories

4 BF GOODRICH WINTER SLALOM SNOW TIRES

205/55R16
Used Two Winters, Still in Excellent Condition! Original Price: \$130 per Tire Offering at \$55 per Tire, All Four Only

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720 CLASSICS

1966 Ford Galaxie 500 Convertible

Information and Pictures are on Craigslist under car/trucks owner. Type in 1966 Ford. Car is White

\$15,500 Call Dean (508) 885-9537

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725 AUTOMOBILES

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4 Speed Coupe, 327/300HP, Silver Pearl/Black Interior, \$18,000

lena28726@gmail.com (203) 826-2702

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Club Cab, 6.5 Utility Body, 4-Way Fisher Plow
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1940 CHEVY SPECIAL DELUXE

4-Door, 6 Cylinder, 3 Speed, No Rot, Needs Work
\$4,000

2003 16' HARD-TOP CAMPER
Foldout Beds, AC, Sway Bar Tow Kit
\$1,000

FISHER 8' MINUTE-MOUNT
Four Springs, HD, Frame Only
\$500
(508) 341-6347

725 AUTOMOBILES

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Recent brakes, tires, rear struts, muffler
2 extra rims
117,000 miles; good condition asking \$2,500

Call (508) 769-2710

2010 HONDA CIVIC LX (Gray)
Excellent condition
22,600 miles
\$11,000
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2011 RED HYUNDAI SONATA

Excellent Condition,
Four Door,
73,000 miles,
One-Owner Car!
\$8,500
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2005, V8, Black
Good condition
NStar Navigation, Leather Interior, Moon Roof, CD Player
131,000 Miles
\$4000
Call 774-272-2085

725 AUTOMOBILES

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Dodge 1500 pickup. 98'
110,000 Miles
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Ford Wind Star 01'
143,000 Miles
\$1100.00
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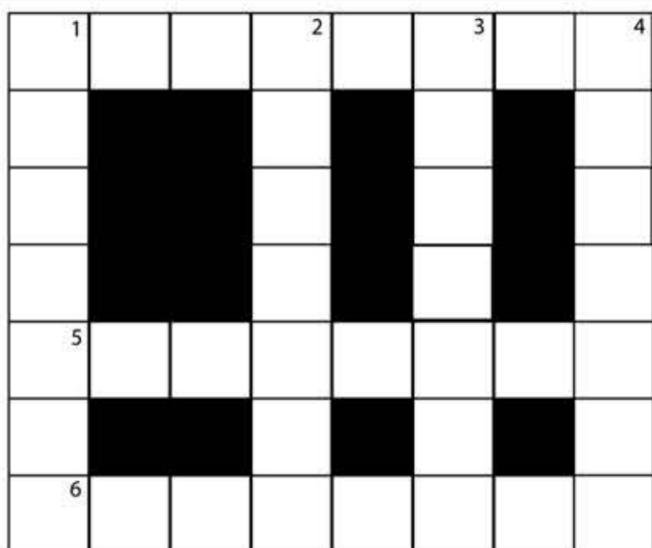
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KIDS' CORNER

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Makes more firm
- 5. Wanting to learn
- 6. Found on beach

DOWN

- 1. Things done for pleasure
- 2. Those who dance
- 3. Not in any place
- 4. Performance

Answers:
 Across
 1. Hardener 5. Interest 6. Seashell
 Down
 1. Hobbies 2. Dancers 3. Nowhere 4. Recital

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

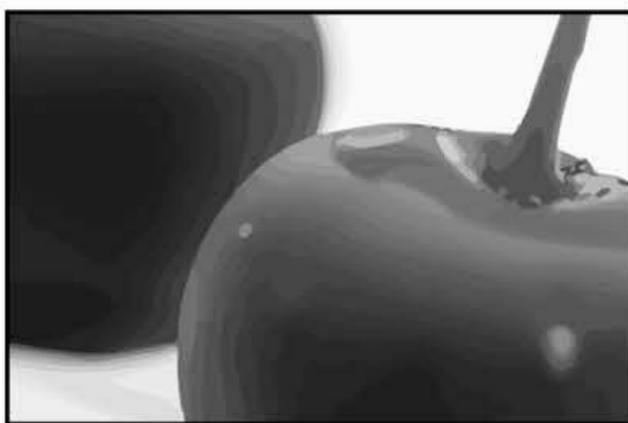
- **1915:** GEORGES CLAUDE PATENTS THE NEON DISCHARGE TUBE FOR USE IN ADVERTISING.
- **1977:** SNOW FALLS IN MIAMI, FLORIDA.
- **1993:** THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND SLOVAKIA JOIN THE UNITED NATIONS.

New
word

HOBBY

activity done for pleasure

GET THE PICTURE?



CAN YOU GUESS WHAT THE BIGGER PICTURE IS?

ANSWER: CHOCOLATE-DIPPED CHERRIES

HEALTH FACT:

MANY DIETERS THINK THIS ENERGY SOURCE IS BAD. HOWEVER, IT TAKES A BALANCED DIET TO REMAIN HEALTHY.



ANSWER: CARBOHYDRATES

Did You Know?

THE KEY TO MAINTAINING A HEALTHY WEIGHT AND BEING IN GOOD HEALTH IS A BALANCED DIET AND EXERCISE



How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Craft
- SPANISH:** Destreza
- ITALIAN:** Arte
- FRENCH:** Habilité
- GERMAN:** Geschick

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 - ✓ 4-DOORS
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 - ✓ ROADSTERS
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 - ✓ CROSSOVERS

- TRUCKS**
- ✓ REGULAR CAB
 - ✓ CREW CABS
 - ✓ FULL SIZED
 - ✓ SPORT SIZED
 - ✓ 4x4s
 - ✓ SUPER DUTIES
 - ✓ DUALYS

- SUVs/VANS**
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 - ✓ MINIVANS
 - ✓ FULL SIZED
 - ✓ MINI SIZED
 - ✓ 4x4s
 - ✓ CARGO VANS
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- Interest Rate Too High?



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