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Vol. XI, No. 19 COMPLIMENTARY HOME DELIVERY

ONLINE: www.StonebridgePress.com Friday, May 11, 2018



A little Outdoor Woodland Learners 'staff member' plays with the sand and wood.

Event highlights woodland survival

THE MORE KNOWLEDGE YOU HAVE, THE LESS STUFF YOU NEED'

BY GUS STEEVES VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON – What do you think "bushcraft" means? Is it the magic presidents 41 and 43 used to stay in office, or wilderness survival skills?

If you chose number two, you'd be right...and might even have been at the New England Bushcraft Show at Charlton's 508 International site on April 28. For several hours, people wandered between tents and tables displaying an unusual array of nature crafts and related items (sometimes linked to

fairly famous people from survival-related TV series) to teachers demonstrating practical survival skills to chances to try them first-

One of the teachers was Steve Lancia, owner of North Camp in Gallatin, NY, who had two sessions on what he called "The Rule of Threes." In short, that's the fact that several important things to remember in survival situations occur in threes. Among them are you need to stop severe bleeding

and their dog, Bella

Turn To **EVENT** page **A15**

Life of athlete inspires local filmmaker

BY W. M. PIENTON

Lost Shafer, his adventures despite frightening his owners badly, became the basis for a new book by retired principal and math teacher Theresa Tillinger,

Tillinger lost her dog Shafer one evening while driving down a Tennessee road with the windows down. One moment she heard him scratching around in the back and the next moment silence. Pulling over to check on him, she discovered he was missing. She did not know when, but the Bernese jumped out at some

Tillinger remarked he had never done anything like that before. Theresa and her husband Mark searched up and down the 10 mile stretch of road, calling him. Unable to find him they were overwhelmed. The couple did not know what to do.

Friend Patti Bowman Freeman stepped up and put them in touch with private investigator Karin TarQwyn, located in Nebraska, who specializes in missing, lost, and stolen dogs. TarQwyn began direct the couple from afar. Shafer was later spotted on a Tuesday and was reported to look like he was having the time of his life.



W.M. Pienton photo

Theresa Tillinger with her new book

The sighting allowed them to narrow the search. They began putting up missing dog signs and even made Shafer a Facebook page. The couple were new to the area, so when the community came together to help it really surprised

Later, TarQwyn drove from

Nebraska to Tennessee with four tracking dogs to help in person. She brought two dogs of bloodhound and coonhound mix, a feist, and Harper-a Jack Russell terrier.

For about a week, TarQwyn helped with the search. The only picked up faint

Turn To TILLINGER page A4

Senate passes credit protection bill in wake of Equifax breach

BOSTON — Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and the Massachusetts State Senate voted to pass a bill designed to protect the personal information of consumers in the case of data breaches, like the one seen at Equifax, and provide free credit freezes for all consumers.

The bill, S.2455, An Act relative to consumer protection from security breaches, helps all consumers protect their sensitive information before, during, and after a security breach in several ways: providing for free credit freezes for all consumers and creating an online "one stop shop" portal so consumers can freeze and unfreeze their credit at all three main bureaus (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) in one place; providing five years of free credit monitoring for consumers whose information was part of a credit reporting agency data breach, and empowering consumers to know when and why their consumer reports are being pulled by requiring that any company attempting to pull a consumer's report must first obtain consent.

"If you have had your identity stolen or your credit compromised because of a data breach you know how devastating that can be," Senator Gobi said. "This bill will help to put the pieces back together and then put in place protections for your credit information."

The legislation allows increased oversight from Attorney General Maura Healey's office, which recently filed a lawsuit against Equifax. The Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation will create a process requiring companies to certify that they maintain a consumer information security program as required by existing Massachusetts law.

"We all have been affected by the Equifax breach and it feels like a massive betrayal. Millions of Americans don't know who might now have access to their personal information and what they might do with it. Equifax must accept responsibility and compensate consumers for its lack of security, and all credit reporting agencies and companies must take swift action to prevent future breaches," said bill sponsor and Senate Chair of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Barbara L'Italien. "Today we took the next step toward action to fix this situation. I'm so proud of our collaboration on a bill that sends out a clear message that Massachusetts is serious when it comes to protecting consumers, especially seniors, low-income residents, and other vulnerable populations who are hit the

Turn To PROTECTION BILL page A4

Truly a family affair at Royal Crest Farm

BY AMY PAUL STONEBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

While traveling on scenic Howe Road in Spencer, a right off Route 31 South, you will pass one of Spencer's last working and very productive farms. Roval Crest Farm sits bucolically among rolling fields and forest as their Angus beef cattle graze and laze behind stone wall lined pasture or within the newly refurbished, pristine barns. It is a sight to see and a scent to smell, this family-owned farm, one that recalls a part of Spencer's past and a hope for Spencer's future.

Purchased in 1982 by Bob and Meg Moschini from Larry Taylor, Royal Crest began as a dairy farm, which lasted until 2004. During this time, the farm



Amy Paul photos

From L-R: Anthony Moschini, Jennifer Wysocki, Meg and Bob Moschini

was recognized for its delivery of quality milk and other dairy products. However, once the Moschini's son Anthony a 1999 David Prouty graduate and a 2004 graduate of Cornell University's animal science program took over running the farm from his parents the farm's production and sales began to evolve and diversify, while still keeping the business in the family. "It was a real challenge to make money with dairy. For all the work that is the life of a dairy farmer, the income was very little,' Moschini states, "That's when I began to add and sell other high-quality products direct from the farm.

In fact, Royal Crest Farm now boasts five varied means of income, all of them in high demand and of top quality. Their compost, produced at the farm in Spencer, is a mix of goat and cow manure, mixed with sawdust and wood chips; it is free of harmful chemicals and residues and expertly "cooked" in long windrows for three months at a temperature residing between 130-150°. 3,000 yards per year are produced and sold, with the Tower Hill Botanical Society being an important and repeat custom-

"For compost, we've got customers as far away as Boston. Everyone, including Tower Hill, has told us that ours is

Turn To ROYALCREST FARM page

STURBRIDGE SNIPPETS

DINNER DANCE

The Sturbridge Rotary Club is hosting its fifth annual Dinner Dance at the Cohasse Country Club in Southbridge on Friday, June 1 from 6-10 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the St. John Paul II Food Pantry. Music by Sunshine Entertainment with DJ Chris Hookie. Tickets are \$50 per person or a table of eight for \$350. For tickets, please contact Austin Jenkins at 508-347-6511 or learn more at www.sturbridgerotary. org. Join us for a buffet, raffles and dancing for a fun evening and for a great cause!

BLOOD DRIVE

There will be a Red Cross blood drive held in the St. Joseph Church Hall, 10 H. Putnam Road Extension, Charlton on June 27 from 1:00 until 6:00 p.m. The drive is sponsored by Council 11379 of the Knights of Columbus. Each pint of blood collected can help up to three hospital patients. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments reduce the wait time. Contact the American Red

Cross to schedule your appointment at www.RedCrossBlood.org; or, (800) RED CROSS.

BUSINESS WORKSHOP

All local businesses are invited to an Excel Basics+ Workshop on Wednesday, May 22, from 6-8 p.m. at Caryl's Studio & Creative Design, 148 Thompson Road, Webster, instructed by Caryl Savard. This is the latest in a continuing series hosted by the Webster Dudley Business Alliance to help promote and educate small businesses in the local area. The points covered in this workshop include:

-Quick overview of the worksheet; -Basic calculations; -Filling cells automatically; -Linking sheets and data; -Using Sort & Filter; -Working with Tables; -Working with Pivot Tables; -Mail Merge. Bring a laptop to follow along. Sample data will be provided. There will be time for Q&A. RSVP to contact@thewdba.org or call 508-949-6232. Free for WDBA members; \$10 all others.

Wound Care Center receives recognition

The Wound Care Center at Harrington has received the Robert A. Warriner IV Center of Excellence award by Healogics, Inc., the nation's largest provider of advanced wound care services.

The Center of Excellence award is reserved for locations that have earned at least two consecutive awards. The Wound Care Center received the Center of Excellence award in 2015 and in 2016.

To be eligible, wound care centers must have achieved or exceeded outstanding clinical and operational results for 2017 including a 92 percent patient satisfaction rate and a 91 percent healing rate (in 30 median days to heal).

Out of 340 eligible centers, 268 received the Center of Excellence distinction. Harrington was one out of 10 facilities in the state to achieve the recognition.

"We are pleased to receive this honor for the third year in a row," said Dr. Poniros, medical director of the Wound Care Center. "Out top priorities every day are patient safety and quality of care.'

The Wound Center, located at 10 North Main St. inside Harrington HealthCare at Charlton, opened in 2010 and has treated more than 7,631 patients. The center features a variety of comprehensive treatments for chronic, non-heling wounds, including specialty dressings, debridement and hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

Chronic and non-healing wounds can result from a number of factors, including diabetes, poor circulation, trauma, vascular disease, and immobility. An estimated eight million American suffer from chronic wounds.

The Healogics Network includes nearly 800 centers, with access to benchmarking data and proven experience treating approximately 2.5 million chronic wounds.

For more information, visit www.harringtonhospital.org

Advisory Council has words of wisdom Well, boating season has finally for children under 12 years of age, rid-

arrived and with it, the Sturbridge Lakes Advisory Committee would like to remind all you Captains out there that boating safety is something that should NOT be taken lightly.

Hello boaters! Yes, it's that time of the year again when we are break out the boating gear and get the boat out of winter storage in preparation for another great season on the water. It's also that time where the Sturbridge Lakes Advisory Committee would like to take a few minutes of your time to review some safety tips and remind you that although boating can be a lot of fun, it is also something that needs to be taken seriously.

Driving a boat is like driving your car. It should be considered a privilege that requires you to not only obey Massachusetts State laws but to use common sense on the water to prevent hazardous conditions that could lead to accidents and possible injuries.

The very first law of the water is to have and to use Personal Floatation Devices (PFD). The use of a PFD can significantly decrease the number of deaths that occur each year as a result of drowning. PFDs wear is mandatory

ers on PWCs, anyone being towed in any way through the water as well as canoeists and kayakers between Sept. 15 and May 15.

Enjoying a great day on the water and under the sun can easily lead to distractions. Distracted driving is another major cause of boating accidents, injuries and deaths. As the Captain of a boat, you are responsible for the safety of all your passengers as well as any other boat traffic you may encounter while out on the water.

Review and understand all state and local boating laws and regulations. Massachusetts state regulations may be found at the following web site or you can find them easily by "Googling" Massachusetts state boating laws.

http://www.usps.org/e_stuff/documents/massachusetts-boating-law.pdf

Many lakes also publish their own set of courtesy rules that should be followed on the individual lakes that focus on specific peculiarities for each lake, so it is important to heed these guidelines as well to assure everyone's safety. Rules are usually available at launch sites or on the lake association's web site.



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Collector profile: Bryce Vautour

There are many things I enjoy about being an antique auctioneer. There's the satisfaction that comes when items sell well for a consignor. I like looking through an estate and seeing if there are any great finds.

I also enjoy meeting with collectors and learning more about the things that people collect and why they collect them. It is always nice when I meet younger collectors who are enthused about antiques and collectibles. I recently had the pleasure of meeting a young collector who showed me some of the things he WAYNE TUISKULA collects.

Bryce Vautour is 9 years old and enrolled in the third grade at North Brookfield Elementary School. Besides antiques, he enjoys taking part in Boy Scouts. His parents are Jesse and Angela and he has a younger sister,

Family outings often focus on helping Bryce expand his collection. He gets a \$20 allowance when he goes to yard sales. The family also goes to the Brimfield Antiques Show so Bryce can treasure hunt there, after school of

His interest started when his father dug up a labeled car part in the yard. Although he likes it, he told me that he didn't have to pay anything for it so selling it at some point for \$10 would be a nice profit for him.

Bryce has an interest in cars and his grandfather gave him a car emblem. He has some oil cans from his excursions to Brimfield. He estimates that he has



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

He has some other things that he is proud of in his collection. His father bought Bryce some currency on Craigslist that had been taped together by a G.I. A World War II soldier had several foreign and American notes signed by his fellow soldiers. Bryce also has

ing a 1968 Coca Cola bottle. He showed me where he had found a mark on the bottom of the bottle dating it to 1968.

a number of bottles, includ-

He has a family friend who mentors him and helps him research his finds. He also watches television shows like 'American Pickers" where he learns more about antiques.

Some collectors like the pieces they collect to be perfect. Bryce doesn't mind a little wear and usage on his pieces, like he sees on "American Pickers."

He has some tips for other collectors. Be aware of reproductions and negotiate when you can. He thinks that people may be more willing to give him a price break because of his age.

If a nine year old who is interested in antiques comes to your yard sale, consider giving him a discount too. He will only have \$20 in his pocket and he is eager to expand the nice collection he has started.

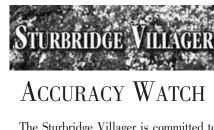
If you have an interesting collection



that you'd like to share with our readers, please contact me.

Our online only auction of robots and space toys ends on May 16. Preview for the Weymouth, MA online auction takes place on May 19, with bidding ending on May 23rd. Our live antique estates auction takes place on May 31st in Worcester. The Westborough farm estate sale will be held on June 2nd and 3rd. See www.centralmassauctions.com for details on these and other upcoming

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



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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Learn more about the Green Initiativr

by W. M. Pienton

Villager Correspondent

On Tuesday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. there will be a public forum for Sturbridge residents and Board members to learn more about the Green Communities Program and Stretch Energy Code. The meeting will be in the Veteran's Memorial Hall in the Town Hall. Representatives of the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources will be there to give an overview and answer any questions. The overview will talk about the Green Communities Program with a focus on the Stretch Energy Code.

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) formed the Green Communities Program to help local communities reduce their environmental impact. It is a voluntary program which uses a point system for certification. The minimum points for the certification is 175, spread across these 10 categories:

Green Building

Energy Efficiency

Green Power

Water Use Reduction and Efficiency

Trees and Green Space

Transportation

Recycling and Waste Reduction

Land Use

Education Innovation

Each of the categories has a government and a community measure. The government measures are ways for the local government to grow a sustainable infrastructure, while community measures are methods to make a more sustainable community. Each is worth 5 or 10 points based on difficulty and relevance.

The certification and point levels are:

175–229 points is Bronze level 230–279 points is Silver level

280-329 points is Gold level

330–460 points is Platinum level

For all local governments interested, the ARC will provide training, assistance, and technical support during the application and certification process. Certified communities will be presented with the Green Communities certification plaque at the location of the local government's choosing. The community will also be recognized on the program's website, at promotional events, and other ARC outreaches. Also, a press release will be distributed about the community's certification and be given use of the Green Communities logo for advertising, marketing, and educational

The focus of the Public Forum will be on the Stretch Energy Code. So what is it? The code is an appendix to the 8th Edition, Massachusetts State energy conservation.

The state of Massachusetts currently has two choices when it comes to the building energy

1.) The Base Energy Code which is made of the 2009 International Building Code, various companion I-codes, and a separate bundle with Massachusetts amendments to the I-codes.

2.) The optional Stretch Energy Code which, when built to code, makes buildings 20% more energy efficient. Though the exact number varies building to building.

To be considered a Green Community, the adoption of the Stretch Code is one of the criteria which must be met. Being a Green Community would make Sturbridge eligible for grants paying for energy saving projects in local government buildings. If adopted, the code will affect the design and construction of most new residential buildings, portions of existing residential buildings (during renovations), and a few new commercial build-

The Stretch Code can only be put into action either Jan. 1 or July 1 of the year. After initial adoption, for the first 6 months the community can choose between the baseline conservation code of the Building Code or the Stretch Energy Code. But after 6 months, the requirements of the Stretch Energy Code must be followed.

Only local building officials that have received

training in the Stretch Energy Code requirements can enforce the provisions of the code. The code cannot be adopted in part. It must be adopted as a whole.

The Stretch Code adds about \$700-\$1300 to new home construction. However, the annual energy bill savings to the homeowner's usuallv balances the scales. As of October of 2017, 210 communities, 65% of the commonwealth's population have adopted the Stretch Energy Code and most builders in Massachusetts are familiar with it.

If you are interested in your community's future or are simply curious and want to find out more about the Green Communities Program or the Stretch Energy Code, attend the Public Forum on Tuesday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m.



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Should an agent give back some commission to the buyer of the home?

I have been asked several times in the past to give back a portion of my commission to a buyer. There is nothing wrong with the buyer asking or an agent necessarily reducing their commission and having the buyer get a credit at closing. This is just not something I have done. This makes me think of the times I have hired someone for a much lower rate to paint a room and it looked like a 4-year painted it or hiring a landscaper that took my deposit and never came back or the general contractor who didn't have the funds to finish a job because they underbid it. I think you get

what you pay for with a real estate agent as well. If the agents value proposition is giving you money back then I would suggest getting a license yourself and then you can keep the whole commission rather than just a portion.

The reason you hire a Real Estate agent on the buying side of a home is to help you find a home but more importantly to negotiate the best deal for you. How do you think that agent will handle



REALTOR'S REPORT

> **JAMES BLACK**

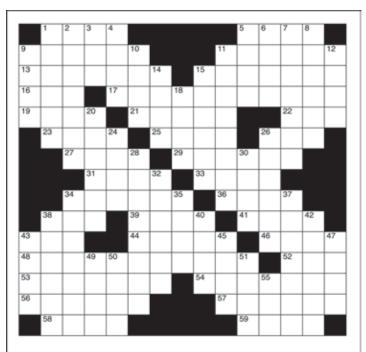
and hire an agent who has a good reputation in your area and is highly trained in negotiations to make sure that you are the one who gets

the home but also the best deal. I believe if you are hiring a true professional in the Real Estate industry then they should be worth more than you pay them or you are hiring the wrong person. If you do not think the agent earns their fee then you may not have the right agent. This is why you want to interview agents and ask the list of questions I have suggested in the past to ensure that you have hired the best agent in your local area to make the process painless and get you the

Fighting to never say no to a Second Chance

EAST BROOKFIELD — Second Chance Animal Services is no stranger to adversity. The nonprofit that grew from a small shelter to a pioneering pet services organization now encompassing three full service veterinary hospitals, two mobile adoption and veterinary units working in the community, a transport facility for pets arriving from out of state and satellite adoption facilities, has faced more than a few bumps in the road. 2018 has already presented many bumps, including numerous rescues arriving with great medical needs, water damage during renovations at the new Community Veterinary Hospital in Springfield scheduled to open later this month, record-breaking attendance at area vaccine clinics and a drop in donations.

CEO Sherul Blancato is proud of the work the organization does to help over 34,000 pets a year, but often loses sleep trying to figure out how to take care of all the pets in need that come to Second Chance.



CLUES ACROSS

- 5. WC's Religious retreat
- Warfare
- 13. One you wouldn't expect Disease-causing
- microorganisms
- 16. For each
- 17. Grammatical term 19. One point east of southeast
- Dern, actress
- 22. Popular HBO drama (abbr.) Shampoo
- 25. Scale drawing of a structure
- 26. An enclosure for confining livestock
- 27. Goat-like mammal Cigar
- Appear

- Rachel Wood
- 34. Leaked through
- 36. The highest adult male singing voice
- Musical group __ Soundsystem
- 39. Aurochs
- 41. Crazy (Spanish)
- 43 Swiss river 44. Strains
- 46. Frock 48. Found in most body tissues
- 52. Cool! 53. Reasons behind
- Christian recluse
- 56. Removes
- 57. Repents
- 58. Energy
- 59. Tailless amphibian

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Not awake
- 2. Type of dessert 3. They
- Retired Coast Guard admiral Gene positions
- Exclude 7. One who is bound
- Where drinks are served
- 9. Small vipers 10. Blackbird
- 11. Adventurer
- 12. Shade 14. A way to gain
- 15. A salt or ester of boric acid 18. Monetary units

0 0

20. Removed

SOLUTION

JZZLE

- 24. "My country, tis of __" 26. Horses
- 28. Drives back by force Bold, impudent behavior
- 34. Types of nerves in males
- A ridge of sand created
- by the wind 37. Wind instrument
- 38. Pakistani city
- 40. Dry or withered
- 42. Delivered a speech
- 43. Peak
- 45. Small waterbird 47. Days falling in mid-month
- 49. Elvis' daughter
- 50. Flat and smooth
- 51. Dallas Cowboys great Leon
- 55. What cows say

1 T O M 3 ٦ C H O A A 0 @ | V | C | I | F H S V 8 M O Я

Blancato noted "in 2018 we are seeing an unprecedented number of rescued pets in need of great medical care like Cheeto, the orphaned Bengal kitten born at Second Chance after his mother was abandoned in distress during labor and Lelia, a gentle dog who arrived from Puerto Rico on a recent transport in dire need of eye surgery. Our caring and talented staff were able to save the kitten, though the mother's health was too far gone and sadly could not be saved, and Lelia came through surgery well and will be going to stay with a foster to continue her recovery. These are just a couple examples of the rescues we help each day. We are the advocates for pets in need and we never want to say no to a 'Second Chance'.'

'Second chances are not limited to rescues,' added Blancato. "Every day, there are clients coming through the doors of our hospitals with pets that have extraordinary medical needs. We work hard to keep our prices affordable and to contin-

ue to offer subsidized pricing so that pet owners have options. Without the support of our generous donors, none of what we do would be possible.'

Second Chance has never wavered in its mission to help pets in need. The Community Veterinary Hospitals in North Brookfield, Springfield and Worcester were created to provide affordable veterinary care for everyone, so that all pets have access to healthcare to enhance their lives and pets facing medical need can stay in the best place for them - with their loving owners. Second Chance hospitals are the only hospitals operated by an animal welfare organization in Massachusetts offering subsidized pricing for qualified individuals. The new, and much larger, Springfield location will enable the organization to meet the growing need in the area. Water damage from heavy rains in January set back the project slightly but a May 23 grand opening is planned with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. and

ribbon cutting at 3:30 p.m. Every spring, Second Chance goes out into the community to provide life-saving vaccines at local vaccine and microchip clinics. In 2018, the organization has seen a tremendous response to the clinics. At a recent clinic in Fitchburg,

Turn To SECOND CHANCE page A15

VILLAGER ALMANAC

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continued from page **1**

scents here and there, but could not find Shafer. TarQwyn was, however, able to establish a perimeter of where he had been and was most likely to go. The area was largely wooded

Then one Saturday, TarQwyn said that there was nothing more she could do until there was another sighting. The couple then thanked everyone that helped, saying that it was up to Shafer now. Meanwhile, Karin TarQwyn had been lining up the couple to adopt Harper.

TarQwyn uses her dogs for work for four or five years, then gets them adopted into a family so they have a chance at being a pet. Theresa and Mark adopted Harper that night. The next morning, Sunday, Karin started packing for her return trip.

Suddenly the phone rang, and the man on the other end said he had seen their dog. The couple took Harper with them. Harper then flushed Shafer out of the woods. Their dog had been missing for almost two weeks.

Tillinger thought the experience was one that needed telling. Deciding to write a book about it, she got her friend Patti to help. It is titled: Homecoming: Shafer's Tale of Lost and Found, and is illustrated by Theresa's nephew Jason S. Brock. The story is told from the dog's point of view in rhyme and includes a fun game at the end of the book.

It is available on Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com, and BooksAMillion.com. If you are interested, you can follow Shafer and Harper on Facebook and Instagram: @shafer-

All proceeds go to animal related charities, primarily the

Riedel & Cody Fund and Adopt A Golden Nashville. The Riedel & Cody Fund is a charity that Mark started after their first Bernese died from cancer. If you need financial help caring for your furry friend or wish to donate, you

may do so here: riedelcody.org. $\hbox{Co-author Patti} \hbox{ is on the board of Adopt a Golden Nashville.}$ Formed in 1998, they save almost 200 dogs a year. Adopt A Golden Nashville relies solely on donations and adoption fees. If you care to donate or just want to check them out, you

may do so here: adoptagoldennashville.org. After helping to find Shafer, TarQwyn and Tillinger have become friends. TarQwyn has reunited owners with their dogs since 2005. Starting her training as a private investigator in 1996, she moved to training and working with K-9

search and rescue units in 1997. In 2002, her dog Jack went missing.

The experience of losing her canine friend changed her. After discovering that there were no strategies, recovery techniques, or any system in place, she decided in 2004 to make the recovery of lost pets a full time job. If you have a missing pet or simply want to learn more about TarQwyn, go to: k9pi.com.

PROTECTION BILL

continued from page 1

hardest by situations like these."

"Credit reporting agencies should be working for the American consumer. But recent data breaches and security leaks have demonstrated a repeated failure in due diligence, said Senate President Harriette L. Chandler (D-Worcester). "This bill gives individuals more control over their personal data, and will provide essential consumer protections for Massachusetts residents. This legislation will serve as a model for other states, and I commend Senator L'Italien for her leadership on this issue."

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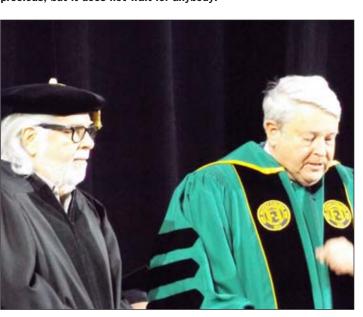
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Valedictorian Haroutiun Sarkisian recalls learning that "Life is so precious, but it does not wait for anybody."



Louis Stroller, left, gets his honorary degree from David Lombard before giving his keynote speech.



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BY GUS STEEVES STONEBRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY - On Saturday, Nichols College commencement sent 499 undergrads and graduate students off into the "real" world at DCU Center in Worcester.

For one of them, it was an achievement that took someone else's lifetime. Although privacy laws prevented Nichols staff from telling us the name, one student celebrated completing their degree after 29 years of trying. On the other end of the spectrum, three people were honored for not being students at all, but for their contributions to the larger community in various ways, with honorary doctorates being awarded to local philanthropist Marilyn Fels, Aubuchon Hardware CEO M. Marcus Moran, and film producer Louis

Stroller. (The latter two were Nichols graduates in the 1960s.)

Stroller was keynote speaker, drumming home a short message he said he hoped people would still remember long after they'd forgotten everything else he said: "Fear makes the wolf bigger than he is.

"This is not some elaborate, philosophical, life-changing notion, but that is exactly why I like it," he said. "Because it is plain and simple, and it is real. ...[L]et that serve as your reminder to chase whatever dreams you have. I would not be standing here in front of you all today if I hadn't taken this same advice."

By contrast, valedictorian Haroutiun Sarkisian departed the stage with a line of famous philosophy from Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius: "What we do now echoes in eternity."



The first graduates-to-be parade into the arena at DCU Center.



In the middle of everything, one student starts celebrating early.



One of the brighter mortarboards carries an appropriate message for the season.

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Rain couldn't keep'em indoors

SPENCER – Rainy Sunday mornings aren't good for much beyond sleeping, unless of course you're a big fan of fishing.

Anglers of all ages shrugged aside the rain April 29 to take part in the Spencer Fish and Game Club's annual fishing derby. In a two-day weekend tradition that goes back several years, families are always eager to head down to the pond and try their luck. Club members are also excited to see new faces get involved each year, some of them just learning the tricks of the trade.

The event also included many other fun activities for kids.



Kevin Flanders photos.

The Bulak family, of Spencer, is eager to get started.



Russell Lindberg, of Oxford, spends the day with his niece, Spencer's Faith Doucette.



From left, Nada Rondeau, Kendall Griffin, and Julianna Rondeau, all of Spencer, come together for a photo.



Local youngsters check out a display created by Shabby Chic Photography, based in East Brookfield.



 $\label{lem:conditional} \mbox{From left, Shaelyn Haynes, Tim Best, and Corey Dame wait to see what the pond has to offer. }$



The Chapman family, of Spencer, arrives for a day of fishing.



Alex Kittredge, of Spencer, left, hangs out with his cousin, Webster's John King III.



From left, Camron, Natalia, and Rose Lund spend the morning fishing.



Charles and Ellen Larson, of Leicester, with their 10-year-old granddaughter, Julia Mingos.

LEARNING

Human rights policy subject to 'veiled intentions'

BY GUS STEEVES STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY - To Assistant Professor Kelly Shannon, the US government has sometimes used, and sometimes misused, human rights in pursuing its foreign policy goals in the Islamic world over the last several decades.

Speaking recently to several dozen people as part of Nichols College's Fischer Institute speaker series, the Florida Atlantic University historian and researcher noted human rights "can be a tool of imperialism," but has also reflected the fact Americans genuinely care about them. They've increasingly been an issue since the "rights revolutions" of the 1950s and 60s here at home, but first appeared in foreign policy as our government lobbied the UN and other groups to "embrace a more expansive definition of human rights" from the 1970s on, she said.

That has sometimes led to conflicts and confusion, Shannon noted, between American "hard power" (military/economic) goals and "soft power" (cultural) goals – hence the title of her talk, "Veiled Intentions." As an example, she pointed to the internal fights over how to deal with

the Taliban in the 1990s. One faction wanted to recognize them as Afghanistan's official government to promote stability there and push a \$4 trillion Unocal pipeline project, but the other side strongly objected on the grounds that they "sought basically to erase women from public life" and otherwise abused people. The latter came out on top, in part because they had the ear of Secretary of State Madeline Albright and the aid of a strong PR campaign spearheaded largely by a group called the Sisterhood is Global Institute and the Feminist Majority Foundation.

Shannon said SIGI, founded by Iranian exile Mahfez Afkhami, also promoted outreach in the Islamic world, with publications "to allow women in Islamic countries to know what international law actually says and how to apply

The FMF, by contrast, was American in origin and generally lacked "any knowledge of Islam or Afghanistan," but were coming off success against South African apartheid and specifically targeted the Unocal project.

In part because of their efforts, the US became the largest provider of humanitarian and development aid to Afghanistan between 1996 and

2001 – more than \$200 million – and Shannon described that period as "the closest thing to a truly human-rights-driven policy you'll ever see the US government make."

After George W Bush's election and 9/11 introduced a much stronger military approach, the humanitarian elements came to be seen as imperialist, so Obama "tried to repair the some of the rifts with Islamic nations and scaled down the feminist approach," she added.

"The current administration has gutted the State Department...and abandoned human rights altogether," she said. If President Trump does raise the issue, Shannon expects "it'll mostly be a tactic to make Muslims look bad, rather than promote gender equality."

Responding to questions, Shannon addressed several areas she hadn't originally spoken of. One, for example, wondered why refugee camps have been such "fertile ground" for recruiting fundamentalists. She noted since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, thousands of people have been "marooned in those camps for a decade or more" and largely ignored by everyone except the Saudis, who have funded Wahhabi mosques there.

"We need to be concerned about the displacement of people from Syria," who are now in a similar situation in that "nobody wants them," she

Regarding the Saudis, one man described the US relationship with them as "inherent hypocrisy in US policy." Shannon noted that it has been conflicted, with some recent progress after many years of little action due to "personal and business ties with the Saudi monarchy." The government, she said, has a concern about "humiliating" the Saudis in a way that causes the dynasty to fall.

Two audience members asked Shannon to look forward. She noted most of the government's human rights advocates have gone to NGOs and academia, so she expects "it'll be some time before we see any focus on these issues." In the Middle East, though, most countries are disproportionately under age 35, so she feels they'll keep pushing for changes, although they have to do it carefully to avoid being branded "foreign lackeys."

"I think the prospects for change are still pretty good,' she said. "It'll just take longer." One issue is that Muslims

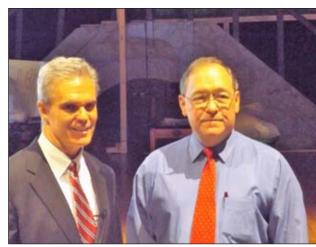
themselves are split. Some men serve as "physical pro-



Kelly Shannon

tection" for protesting women and otherwise seek change, while others are "resentful" of them, and the latter often get support from "very traditional women." Afterward, she noted there are scholars (including the late Moroccan historian Fatima Mernissi, one of SIGI's leaders) and others who have been trying to "reinterpret Islamic texts on a feminist level," noting there were influential women in Muslim history and many practices used to control women are not actually in the Quran.

DA Early takes aim at distracted driving



added, social media sites

and apps are specifical-

ly designed to keep peo-

ple returning to them

without consideration

for other factors. He

dubbed the cellphone

the "world's smallest

slot machine," citing a 60

Minutes video he showed

In that video, head-

stated,

"likes,"

lined "Brain Hacking,"

"Silicon Valley is engi-

neering phones, apps and

tech to get you hooked,"

using a concept well

known in psychology

called intermittent rein-

forcement. That is, the

programs are designed to

ensure that users don't

get a consistent stream

of positive feedback

(messages from friends,

Snapchat "streaks," etc.)

but actually withholds

some of them period-

ically to send them out

in a burst, akin to the

sporadic small wins on

a slot machine. At one

point the programmer

notes the programs are

"designed to promote a

neural response," using

"rewards that have no

you putting that phone

down," Early said, noting

users are "guinea pigs"

for the \$31 billion social

media advertising indus-

that can lead, he showed

a segment from NECN

As an example of where

"They don't want

actual value."

Facebook

in pieces to the crowd.

programmers

DA Joseph Early Jr with Bartlett Principal Steven Knowlton BY GUS STEEVES he Unfortunately,

WEBSTER – They're everywhere, but they shouldn't be, and District Attorney Joseph Early Jr. hopes local teenagers

won't be among them. Specifically, he's referring to distracted drivers – people who let their iPhones and other devices take critical seconds of attention away from driving. For 10 people every day, that distraction means death, among 1.000 accidents daily nationwide it causes, he told an auditorium of Bartlett students last

"You might get away with it, but you won't get away with it forever." Early observed, noting the impact of electronic distractions are equivalent to drinking enough alcohol to blow 0.13 on a breathalyzer. "If you do it, it takes your mind 27 seconds to get back to where it was.

Texting is the most dangerous form, since it taps all three key functions needed to drive safely: visual, manual and cognitive focus. On average, a text takes 5-25 seconds, a dangerous period of inattention when a car moving at 55 mph can travel 100 yards in just 4.6 seconds.

'When would you close your eyes for 100 yards [while driving]?" Early asked rhetorically. "You wouldn't."

recorder had been passed by another driver who was driving erratically because she was texting and slammed into a Jeep containing a man, woman and 5-month-old

While that case turned out lucky, Early noted police go to many scenes where they "hear the screams and see the blood" of people injured or killed. He later added electronic distractions are particularly dangerous for new drivers, since there's already a 50-60 percent higher rate of accidents within a driver's first six months than after five years of experience. Most such crashes occur not on high-speed highways, but on the curvy back roads which are generally engineered to be safe at 20-30 mph provided drivers are pay-

in which a man in a car

recorded an accident in

Reading that happened

right in front of him with

a hands-free iPhone's

camera. In that case, the

ing attention. "Don't, don't, don't" take such chances, he urged the crowd. Previously, he'd noted, "For those of you who do listen, this message may

save your life." To end his presentation, Early showed another clip in which several teens talked about how they use such devices while driving, with one noting he felt "the passenger has a really important role in driving now - [of announcing] red light, red light." Although all had admitted to driving distracted, when confronted by a girl who'd been partly paralyzed by being hit by such a driver, they all claimed they'd never do it again. Some broke down in tears and were probably truthful, but some had body language saying they were lying.

Early noted this is not just an issue for teens; too many older drivers do it too. When kids see that happening with parents or others, he urged them to be blunt and ask, "What, you don't love me? Put that phone down."

One audience member, however, noted he's tried that with his mother, who "texts and drives all the time...and it doesn't work." At one point, he took mom's phone, but she just took it back.

In response, Early noted, "There is no easy answer; it's not black and white. You have to get creative."

Another student raised a concern about police officers being distracted by their cruiser computers, noting those "meet all the criteria."

Early agreed, "it's wrong for anyone to be doing it," but said policy is for officers to only use them when stopped, although he admitted use of radios in chases could be distracting.

* * Triday's Child



Hi! Our names are Eli. Eliza and

Eli, Eliza, and Emerald are a sweet and bonded sibling group of three of Caucasian descent. Eli, is an active child who loves to run and play. He is thriving in school and is well liked by his peers and teachers. Eli does best with structure and consistency. He likes to try new activities, watch movies, and play video games! He is protective of his younger sisters and enjoys living with them in the same foster home.

Eliza, is a sweet and inquisitive girl who likes to ask "why". Eliza likes to work towards earning a reward and is proud of herself when she achieves it. Eliza enjoys singing, dancing, swimming, watching TV and arts and crafts. Eliza is said to love attending school! Emmy, loves to play with dolls and color. She has some visual impairments that will likely require follow up surgery and she currently wears glasses. Emmy is described as very loving and she especially loves living with her siblings whom she adores!

Legally freed for adoption, these siblings will need a two parent family who is able to provide them with support, structure and individualized attention. If there are other children in the home it would be best that they are older. Their social worker is seeking an active family as the children have a lot of energy.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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

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RUTH DEAMICIS

Editor, Sturbridge Villager

EDITORIAL

Learning the ropes

When we see someone being trained at the cash register, or a new teller at the bank, we often scurry to another queue because we know this is going to take a while.

There's a bit of exasperation in the air around the person, even if the one doing the training is being uber-patient, is doing all the right methods for show, tell then do...we just know if we get in that line and get to that place, the newbie is going to go to pieces on us.

We have a hard time, most of us, remembering when we were ever in that position ourselves. Not knowing if we were doing the right steps, if we had missed something important, if we were going to blow up something if we hit the wrong keys...

Especially since often the trainee is usually young. Just learning. First job...maybe second.

Were we EVER that young?

We just need to remember one basic

No one is born knowing everything... how to do everything...how to be an expert on every topic.

Everyone is a beginner at something at some point.

So we've ALL been there.

All of us.

We think of this as we are trying to train new people ourselves. Some are better than others. Some have a lot to learn but are eager and willing. Some think the job is a challenge. Some think it is just a way to make a bit of extra money and they can do it so why not.

But other than that "eager and willing" bit right there? None of it is going to get our newspaper where it needs to

Every town deserves a good source of local news, that's the motto, that's the goal And we are super fortunate to have some really, really, really good people on the job in several cases.

But we too have beginners.

We have had some who couldn't do it; some who just didn't ever find the right niche. We can sympathize but we can't take the time while our people who depend on the newspaper wait for gears

They need us now. The news is happening now.

So with all that said, we are going to ask for a boon. If it is a new person, say hi, answer any questions they ask, and understand there is a learning curve. We do understand, we are as eager as everyone else to have the best possible version of ourselves out there, accurate, interesting, up to date, with information you can use.

It might just take a bit longer in the queue.

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It! We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us! Mail your letters to the Sturbridge Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at ruth@ stonebridge

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

yours.

Start writing!

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

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

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

published. So, what are you waiting for?

Views and commentary from Sturbridge, Brimfield, Holland and Wales

Readers reveal their best hints and tips

Spring has finally sprung and there's no better time to utilize helpful hints and effective strategies that free up time and money. Read on for the latest collection of ideas submitted by readers.

And remember, send in your favorite tip and you could win a three course dinner for two at the Publick

House! A winner is drawn each month. Good luck!

You'll be "floored" by this reader's creative use of tiles:

More uses for Peel and Stick vinyl floor tiles: If you have some leftover Peel and Stick floor tiles from a home improvement project they can also come in handy to cover a damaged wood surface. For example, the bottom of a sink cabinet can sometimes become water-stained and ugly due to pipe leaks or condensation. Not only will the floor tiles cover-up stains but can also protect the area from further water damage. If your kitchen cabinets have seen better days you can also line the bottoms with the tiles instead of shelf paper to create a durable and easy to clean surface.

I recently used some of these self-adhesive tiles to restore the surface of my kitchen island when the finish on the veneer top started showing signs of wear. It was cheap, quick and easy and the only tools required are a utility knife and a square edge or steel ruler. They can also be removed with a heat gun if necessary just in case there any screw-ups.

Use a good quality tile like Armstrong or Trafficmaster available at Lowe's or Home Depot. Most are priced around \$1 a square foot and are quite attractive with stone, geometric or marble designs.

Cathy Buonomo

Fiskdale

This tip is for the birds! Feathering the nest with household waste takes repurposing to a new level.

Spring is soon approaching and I have a hint for all bird (and dog) lovers:

When grooming my shedding dog, I save the hair and put it in a suet feeder. When I hang it outside, the birds come and take the hair to line their nests for the cold weather and to incorporate into new nests for the upcoming spring. This can also be done with scrap yarn from a knitting or crocheting project. Nests will be quite colorful! Hope some people can use this hint.

Doris Kennedy Brooklyn, CT

This reader's tip promotes the old adage "better safe than sorry."

Having read about another attempted robbery involving an ATM, I wanted to remind drivers of newer cars that their cars unlock (some doors) when placed in "Park" at the Drive-Up ATM. It takes just a second to lock your doors to stay safer while you use the ATM. As always, we should lock our cars whenever we leave them, too, no matter how brief the reason. I even lock my car while gassing up so I can leave my valuables inside. Stay safe, mv friends!

Kathleen McClintock

North Brookfield

This unpublished (but timeless) tip was recently found in a desk drawer: Spray WD40 on a cloth and wipe over

leather shoes and boots, then buff with a soft clean cloth to shine and make them waterproof.

Bob Bourdeau Fiskdale

Ditch the itch with this reader's economical discovery!

I found this to help with poison ivy. I'm 74 years old and I get it every year, from my childhood to this day. When I get it, it lasts at least two weeks, and when I put on calamine lotion, it works just a little.

Well, last year (to make a long story short), I got it again and the only thing

TAKE THE HINT **KAREN TRAINOR**

available was extra strength gel, it's a muscle rub for arthritis and muscle pain. I put it on my poison ivy and it soothed my poison ivy and I was able to go longer periods of time without re-apply-

I also cut down my time of having it by about

three days. It works so well. And as a matter of fact, I just got over my first encounter with poison ivy for my summer of this year. Also, I bought the muscle rub at the dollar store,

and it's a lot cheaper than calamine lotion or anything else on the market!

Dorothy Walsh

Uxbridge

This girl loves hair scrunchies - and shares NEW uses for the versatile hair ties (as well as a few other genius ideas)!:

On my last few flights I kept a hair scrunchie on my wrist, many purposes such as pull my hair back, but the dirtiest place on an airplane is the handle in the restroom so I could use the scrunchie as a barrier. They come in handy for the buttons on water fountains when traveling. Just wash out and dry quickly with soap in the restroom and lasted for the entire

On that note, those fundraiser rubber bracelets (for causes) make a great jar opener in a hurry. Place band around jar lid and twist.

At the gym, my earphones no longer tangle, I use a pipe cleaner (soft) and wrap my wires from earbuds into thirds and gently wrap the pipe cleaner the length of the cords (twist gently) and it unfold nicely every time and fits well into my gym bag.

Viola Bramel Northbridge

Reader Question: Please send in your best tips for this

reader: Q: How can I keep ladybugs out of my house?" They seem to be squeezing in around the window frames.

(Editor): A quick scan of the internet suggests sealing up entrances and treating areas of entry (or infestation with ladybug deterrents. Here are few natural ones to

Mix camphor and menthol oils in a spray bottle, add water and spray where ladybugs congregate. Or try placing net bags filled with dried cloves in such areas. Lastly, spray citrus oils (mixed with water) to spaces where they enter.

Any more ideas readers?

Prize Winner

Congratulations to Viola Bramel of Northbridge. Her name was drawn for a three course Dinner for Two at the Publick House Inn in Sturbridge, She submitted the scrunchies tip above.

Win Dinner for Two

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

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

Mother's Day: financial gifts for your adult children

Mother's Day is almost here. If you're a mother with grown children, you might receive flowers, candy, dinner invitations or some other type of pleasant recognition. However, you might find that you



Focus

enjoy-FINANCIAL ment from the holiday by giving, rather than receiv-

ing. The longest-lasting gifts may be financial ones - so here are a few moves to consider:

Contribute to your child's IRA. If your children have earned income, they are eligible to contribute to an IRA, which offers tax benefits and an almost unlimited array of investment options. You can't contribute directly to another person's IRA, but you can write your child a check for that purpose. This could be a valuable gift, as many people can't afford to contribute the maximum yearly amount, which, in 2018, is \$5,500, or \$6,500 for those 50 or older.

Give gifts of stock. You know your children pretty well, so you should be familiar with the products they buy. Why not give them some shares of stock in the companies that make these products? Your children will probably enjoy being "owners" of these companies, and if they weren't that familiar with how the financial markets work, having these shares in their possession may greatly expand their knowledge and lead to an even greater interest in investing.

Donate to a charity in your child's name. You might want to donate to a charitable organization that your child supports. In years past, such a donation might earned you a tax dedu tion, but the new tax laws, which include a much higher standard deduction, may keep many people from itemizing. Still, it's possible for a charitable gift to provide you with a tax benefit, depending on your age. If you're $70 \frac{1}{2}$ or older, you must start taking withdrawals from your traditional IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan, but by moving the withdrawal directly to a qualified charitable group, the money won't count as part of your adjusted gross income, so, in effect, you can get a tax break from your generosity.

Review your estate strategy. Like virtually all parents, you'd probably like to be able to leave some type of legacy to your children, and possibly your grandchildren, too. So, if you haven't already started working on your estate strategy, consider using Mother's Day as a launching point. At the very least, you'll want to write your will, but you may need much more than that, such as a living trust, a durable power of attorney and other documents. And don't forget to change the beneficiary designations on your life insurance and retirement accounts if you've experienced a major life change, such as divorce or remarriage. These designations are powerful and can even supersede whatever instructions you might have left in your will. As you can guess, estate planning can be complex, so you almost certainly will want to work with a legal professional to get your arrangements in order.

Mother's Day is a good opportunity for your children to show their love for you, and you can do the same for them by helping bolster their long-term security through financial gifts and legacy planning.

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

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Googans and commercial fishermen: sometimes just move on



THE GREAT **OUTDOORS** RALPH TRUE

"Googans." What does the word really mean when describing a person that is a recreational fishermen? It is not in the dictionary, but has been heard daily on the Wicked Tuna program aired on the History channel. During the seasonal tuna fishing, conflicts between commercial fishermen and women, and the recreational anglers, Googans, often referred to an inexperienced angler, as a person that has little respect for the commercial anglers and will often follow or encroach on their daily fishing areas that they have been fishing for years. The recreational angler will often shout back to the commercial fishermen the phrase "You do not own the ocean!," which often infuriates the commercial fishermen. Shouting matches between the two continue throughout the day and climaxes when a boat hooks into a large tuna and they become entangled in the recreational anglers' anchor rope. Wicked Tuna is a reality show made for entertainment, but it happens in real

life, every day life, fishing. This is supposed to be fun fishing, but numerous recreational anglers always in some way irritate the commercial boats on a daily basis. That is not to say that some commercial boats are also out of line this guy just wanted to move at times. All other saltwater fishing also has problems with commercial anglers and the recreational fishing public.

I have found fishing for many years on both salt and freshwater, that there is always someone that has an attitude problem, and is just looking to irritate other fishermen. It is best to move away and find another spot to fish. It is a big

One incident that I remember well in my younger years, is a day on the saltwater, fishing with my neighbor Roger Gill. We were anchored up fishing for tautog just outside the Center Wall at Point Judith Rhode Island when we noticed a large dragger heading our way. Roger called my attention to the large vessel that was quickly bearing down on our position. The large vessel slowed to a crawl, and his first mate shouted to us to move out of the way?

"What the heck is his problem?" I shouted back at him to go around as we were anchored up! I guess the mate told his Captain what I had said and he did not like my response.

Suddenly a cloud of smoke poured out of his stack and he was headed at us at full speed.

"Roger, grab the anchor rope!" I shouted. I quickly started the motor and hit the throttle. We just got out of the way in time, as the draggers steel cable came within inches of the stern of our boat.

Roger tried to blame me for the close call with the commercial boat, but I told him that large boats do have the right of way in most situations; but us out of the way, as we were in one of his favorite fishing holes. He had plenty of room to go around us on either side. This situation caused me to lose a good fishing buddy, as he never went fishing with me again.

Some commercial anglers think that they do own the ocean, but getting into a confrontation with them is not worth the aggravation. A ruined day of fishing and possibly being hit by one of these vessels could become deadly.

With striper fishing about to blow wide open, short tempers and confrontations in hot fishing spots are sure to happen, as they do every year. Boat ramps become clogged up and again tempers flare if someone takes too long to launch a boat. A little courtesy goes a long way. Do not put your family at risk of having your day on the water ruined by some inconsiderate whacko! With Memorial Day only a few weeks away thousands of families will be heading out to enjoy a day on the water. Stay safe!

A report from Archie's Bait & Tackle in Rhode Island reported very slow fishing. Reports of some baitfish in the river could not be substantiated, but a lot of small stripers are being caught. A report from Al Conti at Snug Harbor Marina reported slow action with tautog and fluke fishing very slow. Al blamed the cold water for the slow fishing. Another week or two should shift all fishing into high gear.

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club will be sponsoring a members' youngster to



Tautog caught in the Westport River kick off a great spring season.

Massachusetts Junior Summer Camp this year. The camp will be Aug. 7-17. The camp will be open to youngsters ages 13-17. For more information contact the club.

Tautog fishing has busted wide open as this week's photo shows. Steve Mercure and his son had a great time catching tautog at the Westport River

using green crabs this past weekend. Poaching the fish in a combination of one quart of water and two tablespoons of white vinegar for a couple of minutes provides some of the best eating fish ever. It is called poor man's lobster. Delicious!

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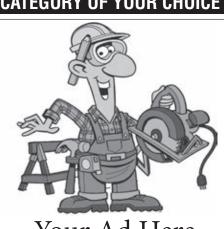
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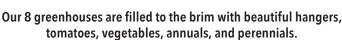


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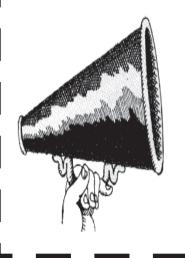
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Undeterred by loss to Grafton, Tantasqua lacrosse a 'resilient bunch'



Tantasqua's Cody Robert looks down the field as he releases a pass.



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua's Tom Muir sends a pass over to a teammate.

BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE - A 10-4 lossto Grafton High at the Cage on May 1 was not what the Tantasqua Regional boys' varsity lacrosse team drew up, but head coach Gregg Anderson thought that his team played better than the final score indi-

"It was pretty tight all the way through," he said, as the Warriors trailed 3-2 at halftime and 8-4 with four minutes to play. "I think this was a really hard-fought game. I thought our defense played great. There were a couple of shots that hit pipes — if those three [shots] go in we're right in the game."

Tantasqua scored first when Sean Farland's shot got past Grafton goalie Tom Nicalek with 6:22 remaining in the opening quarter. Tom Muir got

The Indians scored next as the game was deadlocked at 1-1 after the first quarter and, after Grafton opened second quarter scoring with two more goals, the Warriors responded with a strike with 6:58 to go until intermission. It was Muir who beat Nicalek this time, weaving his way through the defense before scoring.

Tantasqua's Drew Darger, a starting attackman, was hurt in the second quarter, though, and didn't return. Darger injured his left knee on a defensive play.

"I think having Darger go down really hurt us," said Anderson. "I think we had trouble kind of adjusting to that a little bit. It's hard, you see a teammate of yours go down and it kind of affects you.

Grafton won second half scoring, 7-2, to pull away. The Warriors' Austin Varney and Cody Robert had the third and fourth quarter goals.

Anderson is excited for his team to get another crack at the Indians, who he called "one of the best teams in Central Mass.

The rematch is set for May 29 at 3:30 p.m. in Grafton.

"We get them again, and we can't wait," said Anderson.

The loss dropped Tantasqua's record to 4-2, but Anderson isn't all too concerned about the setback.

'They're a resilient bunch," he said of his team.

The Warriors proved that a week prior when they hung tough but lost to Nipmuc Regional in overtime, 9-8, and then bounced back on Saturday, April 28 when host-



Bryce Iller of Tantasqua races away from a Grafton defender while maintaining possession of the ball in his stick.



Justin Guillette of Tantasqua avoids a stick-check from a Grafton defender.

ing Northampton High.

"We got behind by five goals and our guys didn't give up," said Anderson. "They kept chipping away.'

Tantasqua was now trailing by just a goal in the final minute when defenders Tyler Mills and Nick Stagias double-teamed a Northampton player with possession of the

"He gave up the ball and Sean Farland went down and put it in with less than a second to go," recalled Anderson of the play that saw Mills send a long pass down the field before Farland finished it off.

Muir then scored the winner in OT to defeat Northampton.

Tantasqua Regional Youth Soccer — U10 Division 3 girls smile despite loss



Courtesy photos

Emily Cooley feels no pressure taking on five Grafton players

When kids play soccer for the pure fun of it, one can't help leaving the field with a smile, regardless of the score. That was the case this past Saturday, May 5 when Coach Paul Wengender led his U10, Division 3 Tantasqua Regional Youth girls up against Grafton at Brimfield Elementary.

Grafton has perennially fielded strong teams in the league, and this day was no different. Grafton would leave as the victors, but the youthful Tantasqua girls didn't let the loss dampen their spirits and played hard

throughout the match. With his full complement in attendance.



Rosie Wengender moves a Grafton player off the ball.

Coach Wengender was able to rotate a full line of subs through his 3-3 formation. The Tantasqua girls included Riley Brodeur, Emily Cooley,

Sophia Ezzo, Jordan Field, Megan Holm, Madeline Kadlik, Fiona Knott, Addison Oxman, Savannah Sheerin and Rosie Wengender.



Sheerin moves in to support.

Addison Oxman races to a 50/50 ball while Savannah

Grafton scored three goals in the first half, exhibiting strong on-theball skills and aggressive midfield play. In the second half, the play was more back-and-forth as

Tantasqua seemed to gel better, but Grafton was still able to net two additional goals, including one long looping shot from outside the box that no goalie could save.

SPORTS

More Mortimer magic leads Northbridge past Warriors, 5-0



Tantasqua catcher Jillian Dunn sees the ball into her glove after the pitch gets past Northbridge's batter.

BY KEN POWERS SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

NORTHBRIDGE — A far as encores go, this one was pretty special.

On Wednesday, May 2, pitching for the first time in 11 days, Northbridge High's Shannon Mortimer fired a one-hitter and struck out 16 to help lead the Rams past Tantasqua Regional, 5-0, at Lasell Field.

The last time Mortimer pitched, back on April 21, she fanned 20 Nipmuc Regional batters in a 4-3 Northbridge win over the Warriors. Mortimer missed the Rams' games against Leicester High and Blackstone Valley Tech — both losses — the week of April 23-29 with pain and tightness in her knee.

"I had some pain around the front of my knee and tightness in the back of my knee, too. I didn't want to push it and we only had two games last week and I knew we had four games coming up this week," said the senior, who's headed to Iowa State University in the fall to play softball on a full athletic scholarship. "So rather than push through those two games last week and hurt myself further, I decided to rest the knee a little bit.

The day before Northbridge's win over Tantasqua, Mortimer played first base for the Rams in a win over David Prouty Regional. The Rams improved to 6-4 with the win, while the Warriors dropped to 4-2 with the loss.

"Last week was a good week for her to rest," Northbridge head coach Dave Mills said. "Not to compare it to Major League Baseball, where you talk about the marathon and not the sprint, but we only play 20 games, so you can't afford to have four, five, six games where you get off track. It didn't appear to be

an injury that was going to be serious; we thought with some additional rest it would start to feel better and that's what happened."

Mortimer appeared to be her usual dominant self from the start, striking out eight batters in the first three innings, including the side in both the second and third. She walked a batter in each inning, too, but came back and shut the door on the Warriors' potential scoring opportunities in each frame by ending the threats with a third-out strikeout.

In the first inning, with two out, Tantasqua's Jillian Dunn walked and stole second base, but was stranded there when Emily Locke swung through a Mortimer fastball. In the second inning the Warriors' Jenna Casine walked with one out and then stole second and third. Casine couldn't get home, however, because Mortimer fanned Rachel Flamand and Eve Boyd to get out of trouble.

"I thought Shannon looked good today," Mills said. "She came up with key strikeouts when she needed them early, when they had runners in scoring position and that was important because we know that Tantasqua is a good hitting club. Shannon was able to reach back and get those strikeouts with runners on base.

"Those are the things that, as a pitcher, set you apart," Mills continued. "Can you come back from 3-1 to a batter and get the strikeout? Can you keep the ball playable for the catcher when you have runners on second and third? She can do that, and she did that today."

Northbridge got all the runs it needed in the bottom of the third inning, scoring five times after the first two batters went quietly. Hailey Bober got things started with a walk and then scored to make it 1-0 when Gracie Hogan followed with a double to center field. Emilee Angell was then hit by a pitch and both Rams moved up to third and second, respectively, when Mortimer walked. Hogan scored to make it 2-0 on an infield single by Maeghan Kelly and Angell came home behind her on a Tantasqua throwing error to make it 3-0.

Jenn Guilbeault, who was inserted into the game as a courtesy runner for Mortimer, made it 4-0 when she scored from third on an infield single by Chloe Frabotta. Kelly made it 5-0 when she scored on another Tantasqua throwing error.

In the top of the sixth Mortimer got out of some self-induced trouble. With one out Locke hit a comebacker to Mortimer, who had time to make the throw but inexplicably threw the ball wide of first, allowing Locke to reach base. With two out Locke motored to third on a single — Tantasqua's only hit of the game — by Casine. Mortimer shut the door on the potential rally by getting Flamand to look at strike three to end the inning.

Flamand pitched well in defeat, allowing just five hits while striking out nine and walking three.

"Rachel works very hard at her game; she's only a sophomore," Tantasqua head coach Phil Desroches said. "Obviously she doesn't have the speed some other pitchers have, but she moves the ball in and out and up and down and she is very poised for a young kid. She has a lot of fun playing the game.

"We're looking at this game not so much as a loss, but as a speed bump on the road to success," Desroches added.



Tantasqua's Rachel Flamand generates pitching power during her windup versus Northbridge.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Bay Path Education Foundation Benefit Golf Tournament set for May 12

The 12th annual Bay Path Education Foundation Benefit Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, May 12 at Heritage Country Club in Charlton; registration begins at noon, shot-gun start at 1 p.m. This year, the Education Foundation will award over \$22,500 to our graduating seniors for scholarships or tools and equipment for their trade area along with a \$4,000 faculty minigrant. We need your help to make this event a success! If interested in golfing, the cost is \$125, which includes a steak dinner. If you would like to donate, sponsors are as follows: Dinner \$500, Green \$250, Hole \$150, Patron \$75 or a Placemat sponsor for \$50 [all sponsorships will be included on our placemat]. Come support our students and have a fun day of golf. Questions, please call Sue Foskett at (508) 248-5971 X1703, email business cards or artwork/ logos for all signage to SFoskett@ baypath.net. Please double click on our Save The Date on our website at www.baypath.net to access the golf brochure.

Sturbridge American Legion holding baseball signups

Baseball players interested in playing Sturbridge American Legion Baseball that are born on Jan. 1, 1999 or later are eligible to play. All players that live in Sturbridge and/or attend Tantasqua Regional High School are eligible for the Sturbridge team, also players from other surrounding towns may also be eligible to play. Team will conduct tryouts May 19, 20 and 26, times will be 10 a.m. to noon on all three tryout dates at Tantasqua Regional High School. For more information contact team manager Jim Rosseel (774) 230-1784 email jimrosseel@hotmail.com or Coach Ray Sullivan (508) 736-7770 email raysull_2 @yahoo.com.

Annual BB5k Festival set for May 26

The 13th annual BB5k Festival, supporting melanoma research and education, will be held on Saturday, May 26 at Hyland Orchard and Rapscallion Brewery this year. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the 5k will start at 10:30. A Kids Fun Run will follow the 5k. Come enjoy the afternoon! You can also pre-register at www. bb5k.com.



On the course for a cause

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Tri-Community YMCA will host its fifth annual Charity Golf Tournament, benefitting the LiveSTRONG at the YMCA program, at Cohasse Country Club in Southbridge on Thursday, May 31. The shotgun start time will be at 9 a.m.

The cost is \$500 per foursome (individual can sign up for \$125 per person) and includes: green fees for 18 holes of golf — using best ball format — drive cart, lunch and a buffet dinner after play. There will be contests held throughout the day in addition to raffles during dinner. Sponsor packages are also available.

LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA is a free 12-week program designed for adults affected by cancer, and a safe, supportive environment to participate in physical and social activities focused on strengthening the whole person.

For more information or to register or sponsor, please visit tricommunity YMCA.org or call (508) 765-5466.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

May 1

Tantasqua 4, Uxbridge 1 — Jillian Dunn hit a pair of two-run homers to account for the Warriors' offense in their varsity softball win over the Spartans. Rachel Flamand pitched well and finished with seven strikeouts for Tantasqua.

Tantasqua 5, Uxbridge 0 — Morgan Mascolo, Pai Thanasrivanitschai and Jessica Williams were singles winners for the Warriors girls' tennis team, as were the doubles pairings of Rebekah Bennett/Victoria Kirkland and Elizabeth Harrell/Ava DeBruin. The win propelled Tantasqua's record to 6-1.

Uxbridge 5, Tantasqua 0 — The Warriors' Hayden Peterson and Luke Hall (No. 1 doubles pairing) were the closest to gaining a point in their boys' tennis matchup with the Spartans, but Tantasqua was shut out and fell to 2-4.

May 2 Northbridge 3, Tantasqua 2 — Michael Herrmann (No. 1 singles) and Mark Charron (No. 3 singles) both grabbed points for the Warriors, but it wasn't enough in their boys' tennis loss to the Rams. Tantasqua is now 2-5.

Tantasqua 4, Northbridge 1— The Warriors kept winning in girls' tennis, improving to 7-1 after beating the Rams. Pai Thanasrivanitschai (No. 2 singles), Julia Matton

(No. 3 singles), Rebekah Bennett/Victoria Kirkland (No. 1 doubles) and Ava Cooper/Ava DeBruin (No. 2 doubles) all won for Tantasqua.

May 3

Worcester 10, Tantasqua 9 — Worcester's girls' lacrosse team held a 6-5 halftime lead kept the one-goal advantage as the final horn sounded, giving the Warriors a slight loss. Tantasqua's Maddy Lowell and Liz Beaumont both scored two goals, while Maddy Varney (three assists), Grace Seguin, Rachel Godek, Rachel Hayden and Cami Freeland all scored once.

May 4

May 4
Tantasqua 6, Assabet 5 — Molly Ryan hit a hard grounder to second base, which was mishandled to give the Warriors' varsity softball team a victory in the seventh inning. Marie Stewart and Jillian Dunn hit back-to-back solo homers in the first inning. Eve Boyd was 3 for 3 and Rachel Flamand was 2 for 3, scoring two runs. Flamand

scattered nine hits and struck out 12.

Northampton 8, Tantasqua 7 — The Warriors girls' lacrosse team lost their second straight one-goal game. Jayne Jennings and Maddy Varney were two-goal scorers for Tantasqua, while Lila Laporte, Maddy Lowell and Rachel Hayden each scored once. Goalie Mandy Burns made 11 saves.

OBITUARIES

Luva Mead Hoar, 96



Luva Mead Hoar, Brimfield, Massachusetts, passed

away on April 13, 2018, after a brief illness.

was born Luva in Quinebaug, Connecticut

October 16,

1921, the daughter of Earle Benjamin Mead and Cecelia Ellen Gaboury. Her father was a farmer, millwright, and carpenter. Growing up in the depths of the Great Depression of the 1930s in the Quinebaug section of Thompson, CT, even as a child Luva was determined "to make an impact" with her life. She decided

a teacher would be the way to do it. With a loan of \$50 from a family member, she was able to enter Willimantic State Teachers' College (now Eastern Connecticut State University), Class of 1942, and begin a long career as an educator and public servant.

Luva began her career in Middle Haddam, CT, teaching fifth and sixth graders in a two room schoolhouse. She taught there for four years, before taking a short hiatus to marry Marc Baker and have two children, Jonathan and Pamela. During that time she also taught in an adult literacy program. After five of six years she returned to teaching, first in East Hampton and later in Portland, where she began 22 years of teaching children in second grade and kindergarten. She also worked for some time as a speech therapist in the Portland School System. Her first husband passed away in 1969. Luva married Col. John L. Hoar iin 1974 and retired from teaching in 1977.

During those years Luva also led and active civic lfe, which she continued after her retirement from teaching. In Portland, she was involved with the Democratic Town Committee, the Historical Society, the Portland Land Trust, and the Long-Range Capital Planning Commission. She served on the Library Building Committee for the new Portland Public Library, served as Chairman of the Library Board and helped with the Friends of the Library.

in 1994 Luva was named Middlesex County Distinguished Citizen of the

Her public service extended outside of Portland as well. From 1955 to 1980, she served on the Board of Directors of the Eastern Connecticut State University Alumni Association. including two terms as president, from 1966 to 1969 and 1973 to 1975.

She had been a member of the Board of Directors of the ECSU Foundation since 1975 and served as president She received from 1981 to 1983. the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1984, the ECSU Presidential Medal for Service to the University in 1989 and the ECSU Foundation Distinguished Donor Award in 2009. At the statewide level, Luva devoted a great deal of her time and energy to the whole Connecticut State University

System. On its Board of Trustees from 1975 to 1995, she served on many of its committees and eight search committees for campus presidents and executive officers. Luva also was a member of the Standing Advisory Committee of the Board of Governors for Higher Education.

In 1985, the Hartford Courant recognized Luva as the driving force behind volunteer efforts to help more of Connecticut's students afford a college education. The next year, she established the Luva Mead Hoar Endowed Scholarship at Eastern; it is presented to a junior or senior who has demonstrated commitment to the community as well as to the University.

In 2001, the University recognized and thanked Luva for her years of service and unstinting support of Eastern and education in Connecticut by naming one of the then newest residence halls on campus Luva Mead Hall.

Luva's service in all of these areas arose from her belief in the ordinary citizen as the foundation of society. She worked to maximize the opportunities for individual citizens to learn, to act, and to participate fully in a public life and society in which she never lost faith. Her legacy is those many students, readers, and citizens who benefited from her commitment to public service and her belief in the "common man." She would want you all to know that in her last days, her confidence in you and in the world you help to build remained unshaken.

Luva was predeceased by husband Marc Baker (1969), her son Jonathan (2002), and husband General John L. Hoar, as well as seven brothers and sisters. She is survived by her sisters Phyllis Tarullo and Cynthia Champion, her daughter Pamela Engberg and sonin-law Jim Engberg, her stepchildren Jackie and husband Joseph Lovett, Paul and wife Kathy Hoar, Elizabeth Doherty, Margaret and husband Mike Eck, Ann Adams, and Marilyn and husband Keith Emery, as well as many nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

In lieu of flowetrs, memorial donations may be directed to the Luva Mead Hoar Endowed Scholarship at Eastern (see http://www.easternct.edu or call McGann at (860) 465-4514) with the checks made out to the ECSU Foundation, or to the Portland Public Library (http://portlandlibraryct.org/ GettingInvolved/Donations.aspx (860) 342-6770).

Calling hours will be from 10 to 11 AM on Saturday, May 19, 2018 at the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main Street, Portland, CT, followed by interment at Center cemetery, 55 way Drive, Portland, Ct. Guests are invited to a reception at at the clubhouse at Quarry Ridge Golf Course, 9 Rose Hill Road, Portland, following the

Georgette T. (Desaulnier) LeBoeuf, 94



Southbridge: Georgette (Desaulnier) LeBoeuf, formerly Roosevelt Dr., passed away on Thursday, May 3rd, in the Overlook Masonic Healthcare Center, Charlton, after an ill-

Her loving husband of 71 years, Roger "Buster" J. LeBoeuf died in 2017. She leaves her son, Lawrence LeBoeuf and his wife Donna of Webster; his daughter, Susan Vallee and her husband Normand of Southbridge; five grandchildren, Eric LeBoeuf and his wife Wendy of Woodstock, CT, Jennifer Orsi of Florida, Tobe McLeish and her husband Bruce of Southbridge, Craig Vallee and his wife Amy of Brimfield and Cristy Morgan and her husband Jeff of North Easton; 14 great grandchildren; several great great grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

She was born in Worcester the daughter of Raoul and Leona (LeBoeuf) Desaulnier.

Georgette worked for many years as a secretary at Boniface Tool and Die. She enjoyed traveling and wintering in Florida. Georgette loved her large family and cherished her time spent with her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grand-

Her funeral was held on Tuesday, May 8th, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass at 10:00am in Notre Dame Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 446 Main St., Southbridge. Burial was in New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Monday, May 7th, from 5-7pm.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 480 Pleasant St., Watertown, MA 02472. www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Cleo R. Proulx, 90



SOUTHBRIDGE-Cleo R. Proulx, 90, died at home Sunday, April 22, 2018, surrounded by his loving family. He leaves his wife of nearly 68 years, Annette M. (Benoit) Proulx. They were married June 17,

1950.

He also leaves 2 sons, David Proulx and his wife Heidi of North Brookfield, Ronald Proulx and his partner Steven Demar of Sturbridge, and 6 daughters, Ann Marie Mandeville and her husband Roger of Southbridge, Paulette Fontaine of Sturbridge, Claudette Hardy and her husband Steven of Maynard, Michelle Donais and her husband Edgar of Brookfield, Madeleine Saunders and her husband Guy of Southbridge, Monique Kopas and her husband David of Thompson, CT, and 16 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. He also leaves his daughterin-law Sharon Proulx of Southbridge, many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his son Paul A. Proulx, Sr. (2009), his son-in-law Harry Fontaine, Jr, and an infant daughter Susan Proulx, 5 brothers Claudio, Harry, Roland, Roy, Clarence, and 5 sisters Florence Levesque, Lottie Earls, Alice Christian, Dorothy Proulx, and Helen Proulx.

He was born in Southbridge, son of Arthur and Yvonne (Lamothe) Proulx, and lived here all his life. He was a member of St. John



League of Sacred Heart. Mr. Proulx was a US Army veteran of World War II, and was a member of the VFW Post 6055. He retired from the American Optical Company, where he worked for over 40 years. He was an avid Red Sox fan, bowled on the senior league and played baseball for the American Optical Co. league.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, and the

The funeral was Thursday, April 26, 2018, from Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy St., Southbridge with a Mass at 10AM at Saint Mary's Church, 263 Hamilton Street, Southbridge, MA 01550. A calling hour was held prior to the mass from 8:30-9:30AM at the funeral home. Burial will be private.

Donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O.Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8517

www.sansoucyfuneral.com

Barry F. Smith, 75



STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT- Barry Smith, 75, of Springs, Stafford CT passed away on Monday, April 30th, with his family by his side in the Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge, after a

long illness.

He leaves his loving wife of 37 years and together for 50 years, Francine A. (Surprenant) Smith, who he adored. He also leaves his daughter, Amber L. Start of North Brookfield; his three grandchildren, Bryan Start, Sarah Start and Terry Lytle; his brother, Brian Smith and his wife Arlene of Stafford Springs, CT; his brother-inlaw Joseph Poirier of Bradenton, FL; along with a very large extended family. He was predeceased by his sister, Geraldine Poirier. Barry was born in Ware, MA the son of the late Francis B. and Ruby E. (Frink) Smith. He was

a graduate of Tantasqua Regional High School in Sturbridge, Class of 1961.

Barry worked at the Wm. E. Wright Co. in West Warren, MA for 46 years, his entire career, retiring in 2007. Barry was an avid outdoorsman who loved working around his farm and being with his family and friends. He will be missed dearly and will always be remembered for his bright blue eyes, big smile and sense of humor.

Calling hours were held on Friday, May 4th, from 5:00 to 8:00pm in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, May 15th, at 10:00am in the First Congregational Church of Brimfield, 20 Main St., Brimfield, MA. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the National Pancreatic Cancer Foundations, P.O. Box 1848, Longmont, CO 80502.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Dagny M. (Holm) Carlsen, 90



OXFORD - Dagny M. (Holm) Carlsen, 90, formerly of Wild Rose Street, died peacefully on Friday, April 27, 2018, surrounded by her family. She was predeceased by her husband of 45 years, Robert J. Carlsen Sr.

who died in 1994; and a son, Richard P. Carlsen who died in 1988. survived by four children, Robert J. Carlsen Jr. and his friend John P. Sawicki of Auburn, William T. Carlsen and his wife Doreen of Sturbridge, with whom she lived, Thomas A. Carlsen and his wife Sue of Leicester, and Laurie J. Andrews of Webster; a brother, Robert Holm and his wife Jan of Worcester; fourteen grandchildren, Timmy, Matt, Courtney, Eric, Christina, Ashley, Amanda, Lynne, Cameron, Callie, Colby, Caleb, Corey, and Cassidie; 15 great-grandchildren; many nephews and nieces; and the children whom she always considered her grandchildren, Kelly, Kimberly, and Franny. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Sanfrid and Elsa (Johnson) Holm, and lived in Worcester before moving to Oxford in 1959. She graduated from Commerce High School in Worcester

Mrs. Carlsen was a wonderful homemaker and mother who dedicated her life to caring for her family. She was involved in many activities that her children and grandchildren participated in, including Boy Scouts and youth sports. She participated in many community activities, town politics, and worked at the election polls for many years. Dagny was an angel on earth. She was loved and admired by everyone who knew her.

The family would like to thank Central MA Hospice for the exceptional care and compassion given to Dagny and her family during her illness.

At Mrs. Carlsen's request, a private graveside service will be held at St. Roch's Cemetery in Oxford. are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Joslin Diabetes Center, One Joslin Place, Boston, MA 02215, or to Autism Speaks, 85 Devonshire St., 9th Floor, Boston, MA 02109. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

paradisfuneralhome.com

Renee D. Pollack, 54

CHICOPEE/ INDIAN ORCHARD -Renee D. Pollack age 54 died at the Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, MA. She leaves a son Aaron Wrobeo of Ware, three daughters Angela Pollack of Perkinsville, VT, Amy Pollack of Ware, Ariel Pollack of Springfield, MA. She also leaves a brother Brett Minney of Brimfield and 5 grandchildren. Renee leaves her mother, Barbara M. (Holbrook) Minney and her husband David Minney of Ware. She was born in Ware, MA. She was predeceased by

two brothers, David J. Minney Jr. of Granby and Allan Beauregard.

She was employed as an aid at the Belchertown State School, Belchertown, MA. There are no calling hours and a celebration of life will be announced. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with the arrangements. A guest book is available at www. shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Saturday May 12

CONCERT PLANNED: Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sturbridge will present singer-songwriter Blumenfeld at 7:30 p.m. Saturday May



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12 in a revival of his one-man show "Red Angel: The Book of Esau". The show is based on the biblical tale of the two brothers Jacob and Esau, and how Jacob cheated his older brother out of his birthright.

Hugh Blumenfeld, a resident of Coventry, CT is formerly the Connecticut state troubadour. He has released five compact discs of original music since 1988. Tickets will be on sale at the door on the night of the concert and refreshments will be served during intermission.

Proceeds from ticket sales for the performance will benefit St. Luke's Guest House in Southbridge.

Monday May 14

Charlton Garden Club Meeting. Dawn Pettinelli, from the UConn Home & Garden Education Center, will cover invasive earthworms in her presentation, When Good Worms Go Bad. 7 p.m. at the Charlton Federated Church, Charlton. \$5 donation suggested for non-members. For more information, contact Ginny Charette (508) 248-7300. Marcia Liedigk at (508) 434-0507.

Thursday May 17

FUNDRAISER: May 17 from 6-9 p.m. at Rapscallion Brewery. Please join us for an evening of fun to celebrate Sturbridge Cooperative Nursery School! Tickets are available for \$20 per person and include a flight of beer from Rapscallion Brewery, light refreshments and a small donation to the school. Get your tickets early-by emailing Laumac17@aol.com.Tickets will be \$25 on the day of the event and at the door. There will also be tickets available for sale for some fun raffle baskets including a scratch ticket "Bonanza". We hope to see you there!

Saturday May 19

CONCERTS: Quinebaug Valley Singers spring concerts, entitled "How Can I Keep From Singing" will be performed: Saturday May 19 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joachim Chapel, St. Anne/St. Patrick Parish 16 Church St., Fiskdale AND Sunday May 20 at 3:00 p.m. at

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EVENT

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within three minutes or die; you can go three days without water and three weeks without food, on average; and it takes three drops of chlorine bleach per liter of water to "kill all the cooties in there and it's safe to drink," Lancia said.

"We don't have to be doctors and nurses; it's just common sense," he said. "Do the best you can by thinking out of the box," and making sure you carry things that have multiple uses.

As an example, he pulled out something almost everyone carries while camping: a rolled sleeping bag pad. In an emergency, that can be an effective splint for a broken arm or leg, one that's far more comfortable than simply strapping a couple of sturdy sticks to the injured part. Similarly, if your camping partner can't walk or hobble out, a couple strong sticks and a couple of jackets or blankets can become a stretcher or travois.

"The best thing I can bring into the woods with me is not the hat, but what's under the hat. The more knowledge you have, the less stuff you need," Lancia said, later adding an important warning: "The further you are in the woods, the more you have to go out of your way not to get hurt."

To Lancia, one important skill is "bushcraft medicine," which he notes is "the way our ancestors lived before there were pharmacies." Besides some things still taught as basic first aid – how to quickly stanch bloodflow, splint and bandage; how to treat burns; and the like – he encouraged people to learn how to use several common plants as medicine. Most of them are edible

weeds found in most New England back yards if they haven't been poisoned out of existence.

He noted several have antibiotic properties, including plantain (the leafy, low ground plant, not the banana relative); comfrey will stop bleeding quickly; yarrow is a useful anti-inflammatory; and jewelweed can quickly counteract or prevent a poison ivy reaction – all of them when made into poultices. One woman from the audience added a strong tea or poultice of white pine needles can also have some antibiotic effect, although Lancia himself noted it's a good source of vitamin C.

"Get to know the ones you can find in the northeast," he added.

Down the sandy, sun-drenched dirt track from Lancia's spot was Outdoor Woodland Learners, a Berkley-based experiential school for ages 3-11. Their wigwam featured chances for kids to make crafts from wood and learn a bit about fire, among other things.

"To know and understand the world around them, children must have the opportunity to play in nature," OWL's website states. "During our time together, we learn about the unique history, environment, and natural world that is right outside our doors. Our hope is to inspire children to explore and discover their own backyards once they realize the wonders of nature."

On Lancia's other side, sat the Earthworks Program table, festooned with casts of animal tracks and Native American-style crafts in fiber and leather.

Uphill from all of them, the event's central plateau featured talks and workshops on tool maintenance, how to make fire with flint and steel and/or string-twirling, how to make and use slingshots, and similar events. To prac-



Steve Lancia, right, demonstrates how to use a sleeping bag pad as a splint on Don Medaris'

tice such skills, several stations around the grounds provided elements of the "Grizzly Adams Games" covering key aspects of food, water, fire, shelter, navigation and safety. For those who wanted to feel the wind in their hair, the tent for Ural Motorcycles even offered rides.

According to Wikipedia, the term "bushcraft" originated in Australia

and South Africa, with documented use in several books dating back to at least 1888. In the US, the term was trademarked in 2012 by a firm called Bushcraft USA, LLC, although the entry notes it was used years earlier, when Canadian Mors Kochanski published "Northern Bushcraft" in 1988.



Native American-style crafts cover the Earthworks Program table.



Don Medaris, left, and Steve Lancia demonstrate how to create and carry a makeshift stretcher with a volunteer from the audience.

ROYAL CREST FARM

continued from page 1

the best they've ever used," Moschini adds.

Fortunately, Royal Crest also sells from \$5 bags to truckloads of compost from the farm to the public.

Other popular products the farm produces are mulch and hay. Royal Crest's mulch is double ground, making it more uniform in shape, size, and consistency. Offerings are Hemlock Blend, Jet Black, Natural, and Red Cedar, available by the yard or by bag.

As for hay, the Royal Crest crew cuts over 700 acres of hay from fields located in Spencer, Charlton, and East Brookfield, leasing near 520 acres from other landowners. In fact, 500 acres of dry hay get delivered all the way to Foxboro, while the remaining large cut square hay bales from both the first and second cut are sold at the

Recently, within the last five years, the farm has also broadened into Angus beef production and sales. All the cattle reside right at Royal Crest, never leaving the farm until butchering season, and are raised on a quality balanced diet of corn silage, haylage, and grass (14,000 pounds per day!), also grown right at the farm. The USDA certified and twice inspected meat, available in many cuts at their on-site store, is flash-frozen, a process



sign on the barn

that avoids much air exposure, greatly reducing bacteria while still preserving nutrients. And, best of all, the price for such high-quality, high-nutrient meat is comparable to that of the local grocery store. For example, ground beef is sold at \$6 per pound.

"A lot of people like to know where their beef comes from and where it's been. Here, they can see the cows, see what they eat, see that the animals have a good life and support a local farmer," Moschini says.

Last but certainly not least the farm offers the only on-site farm store in Spencer where beef produced at the farm is sold, as well as other country and kitchen items from various Northeast vendors.

Besides individual or special

cuts of meat by special order, chic farmhouse décor and unique hand-made gifts adorn shelves and tables in the quaint lower level of the main building. Items from Brookfield Candles, Scaryman's BBQ and Hot Sauce of Spencer, Alicia's Homemade rubs, dips, and sauces, Li'l Bit Farm Honey, Organnie's Natural/Organic products for the body, and Spencer Abbey jellies and jams among many others are available for purchase during store hours: Friday 9:00am-5:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am-3:00pm, and Sunday 9:00am-12:00 pm. Jennifer Wysocki, Moschini's girlfriend, has been the driving force behind organizing and marketing the store and its products.

"We've changed the look of



Meg Moschini and Jennifer Wysocki in the store

the store and have received many compliments. It is now very inviting and welcoming. We really strive to support local producers and artisans, giving both them and us a way to market and sell our products directly from farm to customer," Wysocki adds.

Finally, Royal Crest Farm always offers, including specials for upcoming holidays, "Beef Bundles." These consist of various cuts of beef and come in a range of pounds, cuts, and prices. Look for their Memorial Day, Father's Day, and Fourth of July Bundles to purchase a unique, high-quality gift for the barbecue lover

ity gift for the barbecue lover.

Moschini closes with, "This

is the only industry where you pay retail and sell wholesale. Though it can be a very tough industry, it is also one I love. It takes passion to keep going. Farming is not just a job, it's a lifestyle. I love it: the animals, being outside, and being my own boss. I also appreciate the freedom and being able to help others through what I produce."

Spencer is lucky to have such a farm and passionate farmers still willing to work and produce from its land.

For more information, visit Royal Crest's website at www.RoyalCrestFarm.com, Facebook page, or better yet, stop by in person.

SECOND CHANCE

continued from page A4

the line streamed down the street. The staff stayed well past the scheduled hours, vaccinating hundreds of pets.

The organization has seen a decline in the number of donations in 2018. It's too early to know whether this is a temporary trend, but concern is mounting. Second Chance relies solely on donations and grants to operate. In 2017 they responded to the back to back hurricanes, sharing supplies with shelters in the

hard-hit areas and rescuing 120 pets from Florida and Puerto Rico. Many of those pets arrived with serious medical conditions that needed to be addressed before they could find new homes, placing a strain on the nonprofit's budget.

The need is great right now and Second Chance needs to be sure they are ready for anything that might come through the door. Anyone interested in supporting Second Chance can send donations to 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515 or visit www. secondchanceanimals.org to make an online donation

Second Chance is a nonprofit 501c3 tax exempt

organization that began in 1999 in East Brookfield and relies solely on donations and grants to operate. The organization operates an Adoption Center in East Brookfield, and three full-service Community Veterinary Hospitals North Brookfield, Springfield and Worcester. Second Chance helps over 34,000 pets a year through adoption, spay/neuter, veterinary care, community outreach, educational outreach programs, training, and a pet food pantry. For more information, visit Second Chance's website at www. secondchanceanimals.org. Follow Second Chance on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/secondchanceanimals.

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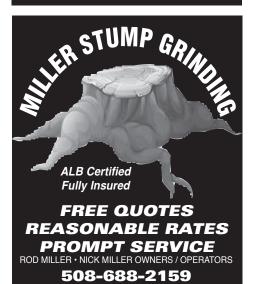
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CALENDAR

continued from page A14

Evangelical Covenant Church 24 Child Hill Rd., Woodstock CT. Free-will offering taken and refreshments will be served. For more information: http:// www.qvsingers.org

PORK ROAST SUPPER: Saturday May 19, the Charlton City United Methodist Men located at 74 Stafford St., will be serving their scrumptious Pork Roast Dinner. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS THE 3RD SATURDAY OF MAY. Tender roast pork with creamy whipped potatoes and gravy, sweet carrots, tender peas, homemade applesauce, roll & butter and let's not forget dessert brownie sundae and an assortment of beverages. Dinner is served from 5:30 till 7 p.m. and take-outs are available. Adults \$10, children 6-12 \$6 and children under 5 are free. Family maximum of \$40. Tickets may be purchased at the door, reservations are greatly appreciated, church office (508) 248-7379 for information and reservations. We are handicap accessible. Come and enjoy food and fellowship bring your family and friends.

Sunday, May 20

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

Friday, June 1

DINNER DANCE: The Sturbridge Rotary Club is hosting its fifth annual Dinner Dance at the Cohasse Country Club in Southbridge on Friday, June 1 from 6-10 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the St. John Paul II Food Pantry. Music by Sunshine Entertainment with DJ Chris Hookie. Tickets are \$50 per person or a table of eight for \$350. For tickets, please contact Austin Jenkins at 508-347-6511 or learn more at www.sturbridgerotary.org. Join us for a buffet, raffles and dancing for a fun evening and for a great cause!

Saturday, June 16

A HOOK IN: The Association of Traditional Hooking Artists Quiet Corner Chapter is hosting a Rug Hook In gathering on June 16 at the Woodstock Fairgrounds in Woodstock, CT. Registration fee of \$15 is required for this event and must be paid in advance by June 1. Registration forms for this event may be received by contacting treasurer Gretchen Gray at gretchg@ verizon.net, or call Whispering Hill at (860) 928-0162 for more information. To learn more about rug hooking and become a member of Atha Quiet Corner, individuals can contact Whispering Hill regarding membership. All are

Sunday September 9

STURBRIDGE PLANNING HALF-MARATHON: a half-marathon road race to honor Sturbridge resident and ESPN's ESPY award winner, Rick Hovt will be held on Sept. 9 at 10:00 a.m. Registration page can be found at: https://app.racereach.com/event/ the-rick-hoyt-sturbridge-half-marathon. If you have questions about the event or wish to participate, please contact Kevin Filchak at kfilchak@town. sturbridge.ma.us

ONGOING

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

272-3900 or alz.org. NUMISMATICS: Looking for a new hobby? Come learn about the hobby of Coin Collecting. Or maybe you are an old time collector. Our club, the Nipmuc Coin Club, has both. We learn from each other through our monthly guest speakers, show and tell presentations, monthly coin auctions and free attendance prizes. Our group loves to share their knowledge with each other. About half of our members also like to eat. Each month we have a simple dinner with dessert and refreshments just prior to our meeting, which allows us time to socialize too. We meet the fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Oxford Senior Center located at 323 Main St. in Oxford. It is

the building directly behind the Oxford Town Hall building. For more information, please contact Dick Lisi at (508) 410-1332 or lisirichard15@yahoo.com.

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

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

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

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

Dining & Entertainment

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For advertising information:

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Dinner: Wed, Thur, Fri, Sat 5:00-Close
Sim Brunch: 10am-1pm





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2 year lease 12k miles per year, \$3,999 down + tax + fees - \$5,889 total down. \$38,596 Capitalized Cost.



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2015 Toyota RAV4 Ltd

SUV. AWD. I-4 cvl. auto. 19K miles

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SUV, AWD, I-4 cyl, auto, 25K miles \$20,998



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\$25,998



RWD, V-8 cyl, manual, leather, 19K miles



SUV AWD, I-4 cyl, auto, 35K miles





I-4 cyl, CVT, FWD, 21K miles



SUV. AWD. I-4 cvl. auto. leather. 21K mi/



\$26,998



Sport, 4x4, V-6 cyl, auto, 9K miles \$32,998



I-4 cyl, auto, FWD, 40K miles \$16,998







SUV. 4x4. V-6 cvl. auto. 42K miles



\$26,998 2014 Toyota Highlander XLE





I-4 cvl. auto. FWD. 22K miles

\$17,998

2017 Subaru Impreza Sport

AWD, H-4 cyl, manual, leather, 19K miles

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SUV, AWD, V-6 cyl, auto, leather, 43K mi Crew Cab, 4x4 leather, 37K mi \$33,998



\$18,998

2017 Toyota Prius Prime



I-4 cyl, auto, FWD, leather, 12K miles \$24,998

2015 Cadillac CTS Performance

AWD, I-4 cvl. auto, leather, 18K miles \$29,998



\$34,598

2015 Toyota Highlander Hybrid Ltd



SUV. AWD, V-6 cyl, auto, leather, 46K mil \$34,998



Ext Cab, 4x4, V-8 cyl, auto, 9K mi \$37.998

2017 RAM 2500 Power Wagon



4x4, V-8 cyl, auto, Crew Cab, 21K mi \$42,998

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LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

Brimfield Zoning Board of Appeals The Brimfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on the request of Bernard C. Shea and megan S. Shuman for a determination and/or special permit regarding the property on Forest Road, Parcel ID Map 6A Block J Lots 3 and 4. The Board will consider whether the proposed changes to the non-conforming lots will be detri-mental to the neighborhood. The proposed changes will make the lots less non-conforming. Abutters are invited to consider the proposals and provide public input. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 29, at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall Annex. Pamela Engberg ZBA Clerk

May 11, 2018 May 18, 2018

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2016 FORD

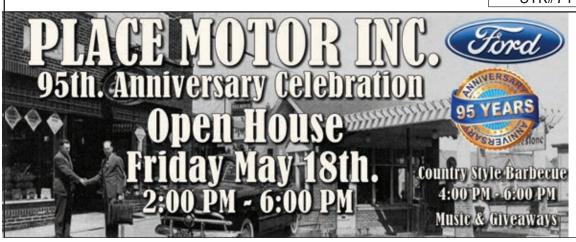
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Don't settle for poor-quality vinyl windows; our window's **Fibrex**® material is two times stronger than vinyl. Fibrex is a wood composite that has the rich, elegant look and feel of finely-crafted wood windows without the maintenance.*

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DETAILS OF OFFER - Offer expires 6/3/2018. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get \$325 off each window and \$700 off each patio door and 12 months no payments, no interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or pati doors between 5/1/2018 and 6/3/2018. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky* consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available only at participating locations. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details, License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2018 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2018 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *See limited warranty for details.



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NEW PRICE

WEBSTER – 9 Gore Gable! Custom 8 Rm Colonia!! 1/2 Acre Private Lot! Eat-in Kit w/ New Counters, Sink, SS Appliances, Paint & Flr! Formal Din Rm! Frplc Liv Rm! Gleaming

4 Spacious Bdrms w/Oak Flrs! Tile Bath w/Dble Vanity! 1.5 Baths! Screen Porch! Prof Landscaped! 2 Car Attached Garage

saped! 2 Car Attac

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ON DEPOSIT

THOMPSON — 1338 Riverside Drive!

8 Rm Colonial wGrand Entry Foyer! .94
Acre! Farmers Forch! Applianced Granite
Kit wIsl D in Area wPellet Stove & Slider
to Deck wJacuzzi Din Rm & Frpled
Cathedral Ceiling Liv Rm wHrdwds! Pen/
Office! 3 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths!
Finished Lower Level! C/Airl Garage!
\$369,900.00

NEW LISTING WEBSTER - 7 Vine St! 5+ Rm L

Shaped Ranch! Looking for Larger, this

May Be It! 10'6" X 19' Eat-in Kit! 27' Liv Rm! Entry Foyer! 3 Comfortable Bdrms w/Dble Closets! Huge Master! Hrdwds Flrs! Tile Bath! 1.5 Baths! Walk-out Lower

Level! Heat & Hot Water by Gas! Garage! \$229,900.00

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CHARLTON — 8 Chelsie Way! ANGALIE ESTATES! 2,500° 10 Rm Colonial! 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths! 3.02 Acres! Cul-de-sac! 2 Story Grand Fover! SS Applianced Kit w/ Isl! Huge Liv Rm! Formal Din Rm! 1st Fir Master w/Bath! 1^{\$I} Fir Laundry! C/ Air! In-ground Pool w/Poo! House! 3 Car Garage! \$488,000.00



WEBSTER - 53 Brookside Ave! 7 Rm Cape! .46 Acres! Applianced Eat-In Kit, Breakfast Bar, Din Area, Slider to Deck! Liv Rm w/New Carpet & Wall A/C! Full Bath! 2 1st Flr Bdrms! 2nd Flr w/2 Huge Bdrms Walk-in Closet & Skylights! Full Bath! Walkout Fam Rm! 2 Sheds! Fenced Play Area! \$305,000,00



WEBSTER - 11 Upper Gore Rd! Convenient 6 Rm Ranch! Fully Applianced Oak Kit! Frplc Din Rm w/Hrdwds! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdwd Firs! Spaciou: Liv Rm w/Brick Hearth! 1st Fir Laundry! Large Trex Deck! Updated Windows, Siding & Furnace! Garage! Shed! Sold w/Add .39 Acre Lot!



North Pond! 62' Waterfront! Panoramic Views! 8 Rm Colonial! Kit w/Double Oven! GLEAMING Hrdwd Firs! 4 Bdrms! 2 Full Baths! 14X20 Trex Deck! Newly Painted! Prof Landscaped! Fenced Yard! Plenty of Docks Included!



Brunarhan Custom Granite Kit w/Cherry Cabinets! 1st Flr Office! Master w/New Bath Frplcd Fam Rm! Deck w/Custom Bar! 2 Car Garage! **\$639,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 60 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 52' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 8 Rms 3 Bdrm 2 Baths A/C'd Ranch! Custom SS Applianced Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrdwds & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/Awning! Lake Facing Frolc Liv Rm w/ Cathedral, Skylight & Hrdwds! Comfortable Master Bdrm! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 2 Car Garage! \$729,900.00





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



WEBSTER - 24 Linwood St! Well Maintained 2 Family! Each Unit Consists Of An Eat-In Kit w/Gas Range, Pantry w/ Abundant Cabinets! 2 Carpeted Bdrms! Knotty Pine Heated Sun Room Or Den! Full Baths w/Laundry! 2nd Flr w/Screened Porch Newer Roof, Siding & Wir Furnaces! Garage! \$219,900.00



WEBSTER – 25 North Main St!
ATTENTION INVESTORS! 4 Family!
4/4/44 Rms! 2/2/2/2 Bdrms! Consists
of 4 Kitchens, 2 Bedrms Each Unit,
4 Living Rms One Unit with Built-Ins
& Fireplace! 4 Full Baths! Laundry In
Units! Full Basement w/Storage! Need
TLC! Walk Up Attic! \$169,900.00

ON DEPOSIT

WEBSTER LAKE - 412 Beacon Park!

End Corner Unit! Lake Views! Applianced

Galley Kitchen! Frolcd Liv Rm w/Hrdwds!

& Closet w/Skylight! 2.5 Remodeled Tile Baths! Central Air! Garage! Great Lakesid

Pool! Sandy Beach! \$279,500.00



King

DUDLEY – 34 West Main St! 10 Rm, 3,322' Antique Colonial! 87 Acre! Grand Entry Foyer! Frplcd Formal Liv Rm & Frplcd Library/Fam Rm w/Hrdwds! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwds & Tall Bay Window! Appliance Eat-in Kit w'tile Fİr & Walk-in Pantry! 1st FIr Laundry Rm! 1/2 Bath w'Dressing Rm! Grand Stairway to 2nd FIr! Spacious Frplc Master Bdrm w'Hrdwds, Walk-in Closet & Full Bath! 2 Additional Bdrms w/Built-ins & Hrdwd Flrs 1 Bdrm w/Access to Additional Full Bath! "Maids Qua ters" w/Snacious Bdrm w/Hrdwd Flr Full Bath & Senarate Stairway Access! 4 Bdrms 3.5 Baths 4 ти ораслов вили муними 1 г., гип ваш в серал асе заштмау досекз 4 вилия, 3.5 Валия, Fiplics! Lower Level Finished Fam Rm wFiple. & Abundant Sheking & Storage! 2 Car Detachec Garage wFull Loft! Fenced Yard wCircular Driveway! Commercial Zoned! **\$695,000.00**



SUTTON — 33 Old Mill Rdl West Sutton! Country Road! Fabulous Craftsmanship in this 4,592', 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 3+ Bath Custom Home! Entertaining is the Essence of this Open, Airy Fir Plan! Spacious Country Kit Surround the Sunken Liv Rm! Fripled Din Rm! French Drs to Deck and In-ground Pool! 2nd Fir Master Suite walvalled Ceiling, Spacious Windows for Natural Light, Whirlpool Tub, Separate Shower, Private Water Closet! You'll Enjoy the Fam Rm w3 TV's, Pool Table, LP Gas Frplc & Wet Bar! Oversized Garage for 6 Cars wCeiling Height for a Lift! Generator Hookup! 5.5 acres! Easy Access to 395, 146 & MA Pike! \$892,600.00



AUBURN - 13 Inwood Rd! Cute 6 Room Cape! 2-3 Bedrooms! All Hardwoods on Both Levels Under Carpeting! Finished 2nd Floor with Bedroom & Office! Lower Level Playroom! Vinyl Siding! Replacement Windows! Oil Heat! 8,276' Level Lot! Shed! 1 Car Garage! \$179,900.00



WERSTER - 32 Camile Rd! 9 Rm Cape w/Farmers Porch! Open Flr Plan!
Applianced Kit! Din Area w/Slider to Deck!
Frplc Cathedral Liv Rm! Den or Din Rm! Full Bath! 2nd Flr Master Suite w/Master Bath! 2 Add Bdrms! 3 Baths Total! C/Air! LL Fam Rm! Garages! Irrigation! Shed! \$349,900.00

SOLD

WEBSTER LAKE — 3 Lakeview Rd! Middle Pond — Reid Smith Cove! Ideal Summer or Yr Roundl Western Expo Deautiful Sunsests! 6 Rm Banch! New Quartz & Stainless Kit! 3 Remodeled Bdrms! 2 New Baths — Master Bath! Tile & Hrdwds! Pipel: Oil Heat! Unique Waterfront! \$575,000.00

ON DEPOSIT

WEBSTER LAKE - 109 Beacon Park!

Townhouse w/BOAT DOCK! 5 Rms!

Move-in Condition! Panoramic Lake Views! Applianced! Din & Frplcd Liv Rm w/Hrdwds! Lake Facing Master! Custom

Master Bath! 2 Bdrms! 2.5 Baths! CAir!

Garage! \$288,000.00

BENEROM ST

LWAYS SELLING

SOLD

WEBSTER LAKE - 3 Long Island!

Cottage" Ready to Rough It! Loads of

Potential! Water on 2 Sides! Panoramic

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



NEW PRICE

STURBRIDGE - 13 Main St! Work & Live

Here! Completely Remodeled! "Turn Key" 1st Fir Beauty Salon w/CAir, Handicapped Bthrm,

Kit, Gas Heat! 2nd FIr - Applianced Kit, Liv Rm, 2 Bdrms, 1.5 Baths, New Oil Furnace! 13 Parking

Spaces 2 Car Garage | Sen Utilities | Town

\$289,900.00

ices! Rte 20, 84 & 90!





WEBSTER - 47 Lakeside Ave! 2 Family! WEBSTER - 4/ Lakestide Avet! / Family!
66 Rmsl 38 Abrmsl 1/1 Bathsl Appliance
Kitchens! Recent Roof at 5 Yrs! Solar
Panels at 2 Yrs! Separate Oil Furnaces!
Walk to Lakeside Beach! Launch Your Boat
at the State Rampl Convenient Location!
\$249,000.00



OXFORD - 19 Wheelock St! 6 Rm Cape! Wel

VSlider to Stone Patio! Applianced Eat-in Kit

w/Hrdwds! Full Bath! 2nd Flr 3rd Bdrm w/Nev

Carnets! Full Basement w/Laundry! Attached

\$239,900.00

REDUCED

DUDLEY - 9 Page Ln! Newly Renovated

6 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Cape! 1 Acre Lot! Cul-de-sac! Hrdwds Throughout! Open Liv Rm, Kit & Din Area! SS Appliance Granite

Kit w/Isl! Slider to Composite Deck! 1st

Flr Master w/Walk-in Closet & Master

Bath! 2nd Flr w/2 Large Bdrms & Full Bath! Garage Under! **\$309,900.00**

Maintained! Level Lot! Knotty Pine Sur

Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr! 2 Sp















WERSTER LAKE - Access! 124 Gore Rd! 440' Waterfront! Great Location! Direct Highway Access! 3.4 Acres! UNDEVELOPED LAND w/EXOUISITE VIEWS! Explore the Opps! Build a staurant, Hotel, Condominiums! Cozy 4 w/2nd Floor! \$349.000.00







Fam Rm! CAir! Gas Heat! Trex Deck! Recent

Windows/Doors! Garage! 2 Boat Slips!

Heated Pool, Sandy Beach! \$349,000.00



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NEW LISTING

Applianced Granite Kit! 4/5 Spacious

Bdrms! 2 Full Baths! C/Air! Handicap

Detached Garage w/12'Ceiling & 3 Car

Dock! \$489.900.00

side Lifts! Overlooking & Short Walk to Lake &

Sharon Pelletier - Broker Licensed in MA, CT & RI





WEBSTER - 109 UPPER GORE RD Gorgeous brick faced, 3 bedroom, 2.5 Bath split entry on a beautifully

manicured yard! Location, location, location! Spacious home with many updates! Large dining area, inviting fireplaced living room with all new wall to wall carpeting and hardwoods! Both bathrooms are remodeled. Master has a luxurious jet shower and walk in closet. Sun porch overlooks patio & inground heated pool. Family room has new enchanted wood stove with large bar area, great for parties and \$311.900 entertaining! Huge 2 car garage

June Cazeault * William Gilmore II * Laurie Sullivan * Diane Strzelecki * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * Mark Barrett

NEW/LISTING

WESSTER LAKE – 8 Reid Smith Cove Road! Panoramic Lake Views! West Expo! Super Sunsets!

9,698° Lot! Gently Sloping! 2,254° Custom Contemp Cape, Built 09 as 2nd Home, Like New! Open Fir
Plan! Spectacular Lake Facing Great Rm w17° Ceiling, Recessed Lights, Silders to Trex Deck, Stone
Sac Frick, Surround Sound & Gleaning Hrodws! Granter Kit w1sl, SS Appliances, Soft Olse Cabinets,
Hrotwick & Recessed Lights! 1st Fir Master w7ile Bath, Whirlpool Tub/Shower, Dible Sink & Linen

1, State United States and Cabinets and Cabinets and Cabinets and Cabinets. The Cabinets and Cabine

Closet! Upstairs Sitting Area Overlooking Grand Rm w/Lake Views! Hrdwd Hall to 2 Bdrms w/Recessed Lights, Ceiling Fans & Dble Closets! Full Bath & Linen Closet! Lower Level Walkout Fam Rm w/Tile Flr.



Rooms, 4 BRs 3 Full Baths, 2 Full Kitchens, Dining Rm, 2 Lo Family Rms, Gorgeous Formal Living Rm w/ Fireplace. 2 - 3 Season Enclosed Patio Rooms! 3,235 SF+/- ONE LEVEL LIVING w/ 2 BRs. 2nd flr - 2 huge BRs & full bath! in-law setup w/ kitchen, family rm, full bath, garage.

WEBSTER -90 UPLAND AVE



NEW LISTING! Excellent home for 1st time home buyers! Cape that has 3 large bedrooms, 2 on the main level and one on the 2nd floor. 1 bath on the main level, 1/2 bath in the basement. Heated by oil - forced hot water baseboard! 1 car garage under \$134,900.

THOMPSON - 5 BEATTIE AVE



NEW LISTING! Under Construction! 1.31 acre +/- lot Close to I-395! Open flr plan, cathedral ceilings, hrdwd & ceramic tile flrs! Granite counters, center island! Dining rm w/ sliders to deck! 2 BRs, & Mstr BR suite w/private bath! 1/2 bath/laundry, 2-1/2 bath total! Central Air, 2 car

WEBSTER LAKE - 203 BEACON PARK



Webster Lake Condo in BEACON PARK! 10 acres of Park like Grounds!, Natural Sandy Beach! Excellent for Swimming! Do your early morning laps in the inground pool! 12004-st Living space! 2 large bedrooms, dining and living room! 2 sliders - Deck! BOAT DOCK INCLUDED! Buy now - enjoy the 4th of JULY FIREWORKS



full lender cooperation. A fantastic opportunity to own an affordable, move in ready, single family, 3 br, 1.5 Bath, split level style home with potential for a 2 family conversion! Appears to meet all criteria for conversion to a 2 family Municipal Water & Sewer.

WEBSTER - 41 THOMPSON RD SORRY, SOLD!

Business zoned 2 family! on a 1/4+ Acre lot. Oversized concrete block garage. 6 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, each unit. Walk up attics. Recent 2 Fuel Efficient gas fired heating systems. Originally built in year 1900 with remodeled improvements over time assisted sale \$224,900.



WEBSTER LAKE - 110 LAKESIDE AVE

Panoramic Views Define this Unique Webster Lake Waterfront Contemporary! 190' of water-frontage spanning the horizon from East To West! Pavilion sits at water's edge! Lakeside patio, fire pit & sandy beach for swimming! Huge waterside decks & aluminum docks! Contemporary style home offers 2,497 SF+/-, 9 Rms, 4 Bedrooms, 2-1/2 Baths including private master bath. Open concept w/kitchen/ dining/living & vear-round sun-room. Lake facing private master BR suite. Walkout lower level features a family room, half bath & lakeside 3 season room! 2 car attached garage! NEW PRICE \$739,900.



Desirable one level living with a long list of upgrades! pump, gas heat. New ss appliances, new kitchen and more! Hardwood flooring. Private, tree bordered - level lot! Shed which has garage door. Covered back porch for summer en-\$254,900

LAND! WEBSTER/THOMPSON BUILDABLE LOTS

Webster Lake - 16 Black Point Rd. Waterfront, Boat Access, Buildable w/Town Water & Sewer. \$59,900 Webster Lake - 22 South Point Rd.

Waterfront, Southern exposure! Town Water & \$229,900 Sewer **Thompson** - East Thompson Rd. White's Highway 23 acres! Abuts Mass. Line Beautiful \$99,900.

On The shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

WEBSTER LAKE - 93 BIRCH ISLAND RD



w listing! 2 Family on webster lake middle pond waterfront! Rare portunity! Great for the investor or home owner looking for additional ome. Views with a sandy shoreline! First floor has one bedroom - a condition is 2 bedrooms. Each unit has its own washer/dryer hook. S. Ouick access to i-395! Walkout basement & storage area. Paver in the condition of the condi





WEBSTER LAKE - 22 LAURELWOOD DR



1st Time Offered in Reid Smith Cove, Spectacular 3700+/- SF, 13 Rm/4.5 Bath Lake Home, Uniquely Designed for Lake-Style Living! Private Setting, Ideal Location, .68 Acres, 92' of Natural Shoreline, Prof. Landscape, Multiple Decks, Lakeside Cabana, 3 Mstr BR Suites w/Elegant 1st Flr Mstr ~ all w/ Private Baths, Finished Walkout LL w/Living & Billiard Rms & Summer Kitchen! Call Sharon at 508-954-7222 for More Information **\$1,150,000**.

WEBSTER LAKE - 705 TREASURE ISL.



Just in time for summer! Move in ready! This End Unit Condo is nice and bright with early morning natural light! Hardwood floors! Recent Energy Efficient Windows! 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 Baths, Fireplaced walkout Lower Level! Impeccable Park like grounds, Heated Pool! Boat Slip! Don't miss out! \$334,900

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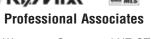
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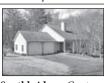
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Dudley: In-ground heated pool, 56' ranch with 1st floor 19'x18' family room., Hardwood floors, 24' updated kitchen, Heated lower level, partially furnished, Golf course view

59 Dudlev Hill Rd ~ \$279,900



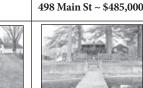
Southbridge: Contemporary, 2 Ba, 3 Levels, 2 -c-garage, unbelievable setting, water view, private yet convenient

426 Alpine Dr \$289,000



Webster Lake: Potential for 2nd lot, 46' deck, level lot, cathedral ceiling, 3 bdrm, 2 ba.

13 Bates Grove Rd \$1,475,000



\$799,900

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SATURDAY, SUNDAY

JULY 20, 21, 22

The world's premier canine

117 West Main St., Spencer,

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

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IN DOWNTOWN PUTNAM,

Theme: Greek-American

Live music! Food! Vendors!

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16 Pattison Rd



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7-10 p.m. ROB ADAMS Acoustic music in the bar 308 LAKESIDE

308 East Main St East Brookfield, MA 774-449-8333

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Quiet Corner Garden Club's ANNUAL PLANT AND FLOWER SALE

on Rt. 169 in Woodstock THE BAD TICKERS 308 LAKESIDE 308 East Main St East Brookfield, MA

FRIDAY, MAY 18 Second Chance Pet Adoptions At KLEM'S 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Come visit the dogs and cats available www klemsonline com

117 West Main St., Spencer 508-885-2708 (Ext. 104) COMEDY NIGHT AT

MAQUI'S BAR Presented by the Providence Comedy Factory

\$15 pp Tickets available at Maqui's

Or call 774-230-2520

Or 401-639-77226 61 Chestnut St., Southbridge

SATURDAY, MAY 19 5th ANNUAL RIDE FOR NICK'S HOUSE

With the American Legion Riders of Post 138 Registration 9-10:15 a.m. 175 Main St., Spencer, MA Raising money for local veterans \$20 per bike; \$10 general public

774-200-6459 for more info THURSDAY, MAY 31 SATURDAY, MAY 12 SPRING INTO HEALTH

FREE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Why Would You Need To at the Woodstock Fairgrounds See A Spine Surgeon? Christian DiPaola, MD Orthopedic Surgeon And from 7-8 p.m. The Clock Is Ticking

So Is Your Heart

Keep It That Way

Ira Ockene, MD Cardiologist Events held at Beechwood Hotel, Worceste Registration required To register or for more info www.umassmemorial.org/ healthseminars

FRIDAY, JUNE 1 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. FIRST FRIDAYS FESTIVAL music! Food! Vendors!

Or call 855-862-7763

IN DOWNTOWN PUTNAM, FRIDAY, JULY 20 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Theme: African-American Heritage At KLEM'S Live Music! Food! Vendors!

SATURDAY, JUNE 9 www.klemsonline.com 117 West Main St., Spencer,

9 a m - 3 n m SPRING CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR BAY PATH GOLF COURSE Free admission, live music Stroller friendly 191 North Brookfield Rd. East Brookfield, MA

FRIDAY, JUNE 15 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Second Chance Pet Adoptions At KLEM'S

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ATHA Quiet Corner HOOK-IN Traditional hooked rugs displayed 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Rte. 169 & 171, Woodstock,

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Join us for fun and good times Vendors/Raffle/ Door Prizes Snacks and Beverages \$15 for Hook-In All Day Pre-register by June 1, 2018 \$5 Vendor Shopping Only Contact: gretchg@verizon.net

American Heritage Live

Come visit the cats & dogs

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 FRIDAY, JULY 6 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. FIRST FRIDAYS FESTIVAL FIRST FRIDAYS FESTIVAL FIRST FRIDAYS FESTIVAL NIGHTS

IN DOWNTOWN PUTNAM, IN DOWNTOWN PUTNAM, Theme: French Canadian-Theme: Native-American

heritage Live music! Food! Vendors! FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Second Chance Pet Adoption

American heritage Live music! Food! Vendors

JUNE 6 THROUGH **AUGUST 29**

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WEDNESDAY NIGHT CRUISING Klem's DockDogs Days 2018 FOR CHARITY CAR SHOW 100% profits go to Masonic Children's www.klemsonline.com KLEM'S

> 117 West Main St., Spencer 508-885-2708(Ext. 104) JUNE 9 THROUGH

OCTOBER 20 KLEM'S FARMERS MARKET Every Saturday 10 a.m. - 2

Visit many local crafters, artisans & more! www.klemsonline.com Second Chance Pet Adoptions 117 West Main St., Spencer, MA

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

TRIVIA SATURDAY 7:00 p.m. register 7:30 p.m. start ur HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB 325 Pleasant St., Leicester,

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MA

Entertainment Listings 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

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1st table: 7:00 p.m. Auburn Sportsman Club ROADHOUSE BLUES JAM 50 Elm St., Auburn, MA

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107 Misc. Free

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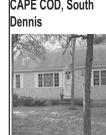


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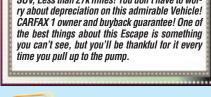
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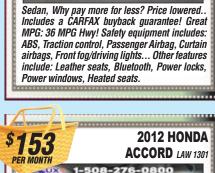
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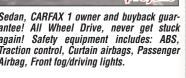


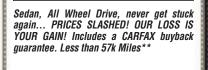






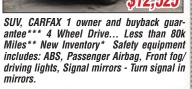






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Rembering Mom



Unique Mother's Day gift ideas



Select Mother's Day gifts that will make Mom feel special.

Mothers, stepmothers, grandmothers, and many more remarkable women often work tirelessly and without fanfare to provide for their families. Even though they may deserve to be recognized throughout the year, moms enjoy a special day nestled within the month of May when children, spouses and others celebrate Mother's Day.

Many people give heartfelt gifts on Mother's Day to express their love for the mothers in their lives. The perfect gift may focus on Mom's interests and the things that make her truly happy. With that in mind, the following shopping tips can help anyone find the perfect Mother's Day gift.

• Explore spa packages. What mother won't benefit from some rest and relaxation with a little pampering thrown in? Salons and massage therapists typically put together Mother's Day packages that cater to mothers. Packages may include massages, facials, hair treatments, manicures, and pedicures. Gift-givers can customize the services depending on their budgets.

• Dining out can be a treat. A meal at a favorite restaurant can be a welcome change from kitchen duty. Mother's Day is a busy day for restaurants, many of which have limited menus to better handle the crowds. As a result, if dining out on Mother's Day, Mom may not get the full menu she desires. To ensure mothers have full menus at their disposal, gift givers can cook a meal at

home on Mother's Day and then choose another day of the week to enjoy a meal in an upscale restaurant.

• Schedule a paint and sip. A paint and sip session is a unique gift. A session is typically two hours and includes step-by-step instructions. Patrons are encouraged to bring snacks and their favorite beverages. With the right planning, well-intentioned children can turn the evening into a "ladies night out" and encourage other moms to join in the fun. Or the entire family can paint masterpieces together.

• Give tickets to a show or sporting event. Whether Mom is a sports fan or she prefers the theater or live music, event tickets can make a wonderful gift. Unique gift ideas include tickets to Cirque du Soleil, Shen Yun or a Broadway play.

• Give the gift of wine tasting. Wineries can be found across the country and frequently open their doors to wine tastings and wine pairing events. A Mother's Day wine tasting can be special for the entire family and support local businesses. Check the vineyard's rules on guests. Many times those under 21 can attend but will not be permitted to consume wine, though other refreshments may be available.

Mother's Day offers the perfect opportunity to lavish attention on special women. Gifts that cater to Mom's interests will make the biggest splash.

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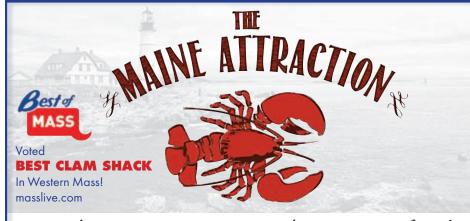






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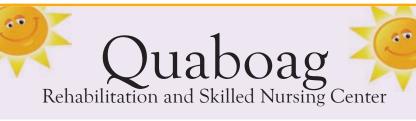
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MOTHER'S DAY

The 411 on Mother's Day flowers

Mother's Day is an annual holiday that honors mother-hood and provides an opportunity for men, women and children to show their mothers how much they appreciate them.

The tradition of Mother's Day in the United States dates back more than a century to 1908, when West Virginia native Anna Jarvis held a memorial service to honor her mother, who had passed away three years earlier, and all mothers in Grafton, West Virginia. Mother's Day would ultimately become a national holiday in the United States in 1914, thanks in large part to Jarvis' campaigning. As Jarvis, who never married and never had children of her own, grew old, she criticized Mother's Day as overly commercial, even trying to have it removed from the calendar. Those efforts failed, and Mother's Day remains popular now, more than 100 years after the idea for it was conceived.

While Mother's Day traditions have changed since Jarvis first proposed the holiday, many people feel it's customary to give mothers gifts on Mother's Day, when moms take the day off from chores and relax with their families. Flowers make for popular Mother's Day gifts, and well-wishers who want to give the special women in their lives flowers this year can consider a host of varieties.

CARNATIONS

Carnations are popular Mother's Day flowers, perhaps because they are available in a number of colors. That means it's highly likely sons, daugh-



ters, husbands and others gifting moms this Mother's Day can find some carnations in Mom's favorite color. Ask your florist about what each carnation color symbolizes, as each has its own unique meaning. Pink carnations, for example, are believed to symbolize a mother's love.

ROSES

Few mothers can resist roses, making them one of the

more popular flowers come Mother's Day. Roses are symbolic of love and make the perfect floral gift for mothers who like traditional flowers. If you want to spice things up, order a bouquet made up of roses of various colors.

DAFFODILS

Yellow is synonymous with spring, and daffodils can highlight the season in which Mother's Day takes place while also providing a cheerful look that's perfect for Mother's Day floral bouquets. Daffodils can be given on their own or added to mixed bouquets. Daffodils also last quite a while when cared for correctly, giving moms more than just a few days to enjoy their bouquets.

FREESIA

Like daffodils, freesia are

long-lasting, meaning mothers will still be enjoying them long after Mother's Day has come and gone. The inviting fragrance of freesia makes bouquets of these flowers popular choices for Mother's Day gifts. Freesia also come in many colors, proving Mother's Day gift givers a greater chance of finding flowers their mothers will

5 ways to commemorate Mother's Day when mom has passed away

Losing a loved one is never easy. Whether the loss is recent or not, many people find the void created by a loved one's passing never leaves them. Celebrating holidays or milestones can magnify feelings of loss, and such feelings may surface on Mother's Day among people whose mothers are deceased.

People approach Mother's Day in unique ways when their mother has been laid to rest. Such an experience is extremely personal, and there's really no right or wrong way to mark the occasion. It can be challenging scrolling through other's social media posts about happy brunches and thoughtful gifts. Some, particularly those for whom the wounds may be especially fresh, may opt to avoid the celebration or go through the motions for the benefit of children or spouses. Others may embrace the bonds they had with their mothers by reflecting on their memories.

Those opting to stay connected to their mothers this year can recognize that, although Mom may be gone, they are not motherless. While Mother's Day may be painful for people who have lost their mothers, the following are five ways to make the most of Mother's Day.

1. What would make her happy? Take a heartfelt moment to really think about what made Mom tick and brought joy to her life. Was it pouring over recipes in the kitchen? Did mom like to trek to the top of a mountain in her hiking shoes? Pay homage to her by walk-



Looking at family photos and sharing fond memories of one's mother can help focus Mother's Day on positive feelings.

ing in her footsteps and you may just feel a deeper connection.

2. Get together with siblings. If you are lucky enough to have siblings, you can share the day together. This way you can remember the happy times, comfort each other and laugh together. If you don't have siblings, consider a visit with an aunt or uncle or another close relative who may be feeling the loss, too.

3. Relay fond stories to others. Celebrate Mother's Day by doing things to ensure Mom's spirit and personality live on. Bring up fond stories of Mom with your spouse, friends or your own children. Help blur out the sadness of the loss by focusing on happy memories, such as those depicted in family photos.

4. Put mom front and center. Take out a beautiful photograph of your mother and display it in a prime location in the house. This way you may feel like she is sharing the day with you, and you can think about her fondly each time you see the photo.

5. Enjoy your favorite childhood meal. Whether Mom was a master chef or couldn't boil water, there's bound to be a meal you associate with her. If that special meal is Chinese takeout or a slow-cooked roast, enjoy it on Mother's Day in her honor.

Coping with loss on Mother's Day is seldom easy. With time and by focusing on the positive, people who have lost their mothers can enjoy Mother's Day.

www.StonebridgePress.com

MOTHER'S DAY

What various flowers can represent

learn more about what

certain blooms may sym-

· Amaryllis: This flow-

er symbolizes splendid

beauty and can be given to indicate worth beyond

· Aster: The popular

• Bird of Paradise: The

interesting shape and

rarity of these blooms

symbolizes joyfulness

and magnificence. It can

be an exciting flower, and

one that evokes feelings

• Black-eyed Susan:

These vibrant blooms

represent justice and can

be ideal for the person

who works in the legal

· Carnation: A less

expensive alternative to

roses, carnations repre-

sent pride and beauty.

Furthermore, the colors

of carnations represent

different meanings. Red

symbolizes love, while

pink is for a mother's

aster symbolizes wisdom



Customize Valentine's Day bouquets with flowers that have specific meanings.

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Flowers are popular come Valentine's Day, as various blooms can signify love and affection. Roses are one of the most popular flowers to gift on Valentine's Day, and according to Bankrate, men and women can expect to spend \$41.66 on a dozen roses.

Some gift-givers may want to deviate from the standard bouquet of roses and offer flowers that are more in tune with their recipients' preferences.

Flowers have long been used to convey certain feelings in many cultures. Folklore, poetry and mythologies have played a role in defining the various meanings associated with certain blooms.

Understanding the meanings behind various flowers can help Valentine's Day celebrants more accurately express their feelings toward the special people in their lives. Read on to love and white represents innocence and pure love.

 Daisy: Innocence and purity are the meanings behind the yellow and white daisy. This can be the perfect pick for new, young love.

· Freesia: Those wanting to evoke passionate feelings can choose freesia, which is also said to mean "joy."

Hydrangea: Hydrangeas symbolize heartfelt emotions and can be used to express gratitude for being understood. This may be the perfect "making amends"

· Lilac: Couples seeking tranquility and passion can turn to lilacs. The calming lavender hues also can be a welcome change in floral arrangements.

· Rose: Of course, no Valentine's flower roundup would be complete without roses. Roses represent love and passion, and, like carnations, their colors symbolize different things. Red roses represent desire, pink roses suggest happiness and white roses symbolize worthiness. Avoid yellow roses, which suggest fading love.

· Zinnia: Zinnias symbolize thoughts of distant friends and can make a thoughtful friendship arrangement to send to a faraway comrade.

Flowers are part of many Valentine's Day celebrations. By learning the meanings behind different flowers, men and women can make their feelings better known.



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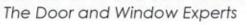


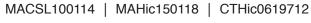




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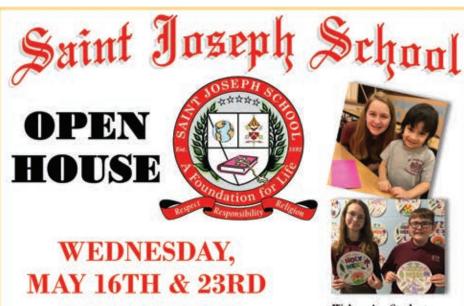








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