

Douglas Library seeks support for accessibility renovations

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS — The Simon Fairfield Public Library in Douglas has slowly been making improvements for 20 years, including the addition of a gravel parking lot, new carpet, weatherization, and modernized climate control. But despite years of an uphill battle, the library is still not fully accessible. Library staff are encouraging residents to consider a donation

toward the cause in the year 2020. Library Director Justin Snook said the library’s needs come down to four items, including an accessible entrance to the building, code-compliant paved parking connected to this entrance, an elevator to provide access to both floors, and an accessible public restroom. “I am strongly advocating that we collect enough capital to see the project through before

committing further funds to planning and design,” Snook added. “If at any point during this year you have the means and generosity, please consider contributing so that we can make this library accessible and move on to providing better service to the community.” In 2000, the Library Board of Trustees appointed a building committee charged with overseeing the development of plans for the renovation and expansion

of the library. However, according to Snook, the library is still not close to ADA compliance. “Mothers still have to leave their strollers outside. Children in wheelchairs have to be carried into the basement and told there is no restroom for them,” he said. “The occasional patron still has to be guided or even carried up the stairs. Children with disabilities in town have been born, grown up, and entered their adult lives

without an accessible library.” When Snook was hired as director in 2015, he met with an architect to understand the design rationale behind the proposed project at the time. The project was estimated at around \$2.3-\$2.5 million. “In 2016, we could have taken those plans to town meeting for a debt exclusion article,” Snook said. “After feeling the political pulse of the town, however, I advised not

doing so. I was learning about the community at the time, getting to know people, and discussion kept coming back to doing things the Douglas way—no-nonsense, economical, and functional.” In 2018, the Library was on the chopping block and would only continue to exist if an override to stabilize the town budget passed—which it did by 14 votes. Snook said that 2018

Please Read **LIBRARY**, page **A6**



Courtesy Photo

STEPPING STONE PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Registration is now open at Stepping Stone Preschool at Whitinsville Christian School. This dynamic, growing program supports the whole child so that they are well-prepared for kindergarten. Our caring staff provides a multisensory approach to learning to inspire students with varied learning styles. Stepping Stone offers a wide variety of programs for three and four-year-olds. Learn more by calling 508-234-8211, ext. 3246.

Millville police receive funding for eCitation program

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

MILLVILLE — The Millville Police Department has recently announced that it has received funding for the Motor Vehicle Automated Citation and Crash System Implementation Project, which will help facilitate electronic citations and motor vehicle accident reports. According to a statement from the department, Police Chief Ronald Landry announced that the funding was received from the Department of Criminal

Justice Information Services. “With benefits including increased revenue and satisfaction among the officers with their increased work performance, it is difficult to find a downside to implementing an electronic citation system,” said Landry in the department’s statement. In coordination with local law enforcement agencies, vendors, and various state agencies, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security—with funding from the National Highway

Please Read **ECITATION**, page **A6**

Uxbridge students collecting donations for community project

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

UXBRIDGE — Two eighth-graders from Uxbridge High School are working on a community service project that they hope will create positive change in their community. Jalyn Gingras and Jillian Luton have started planning and are collecting donations for a nonprofit thrift store that would be held at the high school for local residents and classmates. “A lot of people don’t have as much as other people, so it would benefit them for the better,” the students said. “People get rid of things every day, and we wanted a place where they could donate these items.” Donations that are currently being accepted include: clothes of any size, appropriate toys, school supplies, toiletries, jewelry, shoes, and more. The students are asking that donated items be in good conditions for use by others. “We are still figuring out specific details with our principal, but right now, we’re collecting as many donations as we can,” Gingras said. “I’m particularly proud of the efforts made by our two grade eight social studies teachers, Brian Grady and David Halacy, in completely revamping a curriculum for this school year,” said Uxbridge High School Principal Michael Rubin. “The civics project forms the basis of a year-long exploration for every grade eight student, and we are so excited about the different ways that our students are engaging with the community to make a difference.”

Luton said that the entire eighth-grade class is required to complete a civics project for school, and herself and Gingras were inspired with the thrift store idea by a local church—Blackstone Valley United Methodist—which has hosted clothing swaps in the past. “This would be the same thing but for our peers in our school because we know that some people can’t afford stuff that they might need in school, plus other things that they can bring home,” Luton said. The students added that the thrift store will likely take place during after-school hours at the high school, but final details are still pending. “It makes us feel great. A lot of people we know have done a lot of nice things for our families. People in the community have helped us, and we just want to give back and make sure we can do the same for others,” they added. Luton said that she hopes to inspire others with the project. “I would recommend that if people want to do something, they should definitely persevere and do it. I think people should spread positivity and be more positive toward others,” she said. “This project is just one example of how students—when given real-world problems, the opportunity to take action, and inspiring educators—can make a real difference for our community,” Rubin added. “As a principal, it’s not a matter of whether or not to support these projects, but how.” Questions regarding donations can be directed to 774-280-0501 or 508-439-7685.

UniBank contributes to Uxbridge Quaker Meetinghouse campaign



Courtesy Photo

UniBank CEO Michael W. Welch (right) presents a donation of \$10,000 to (right to left) Uxbridge Quaker Meetinghouse Association President Philip Wheelock, Treasurer Allan Hanscom and Association member Jayne Hanscom. The group gathered at the historic meetinghouse; the soon-to-be-rebuilt carriage shed can be seen in the background.

UXBRIDGE — Uxbridge Quaker Meetinghouse Association president Philip Wheelock recently accepted a donation of \$10,000 from UniBank CEO Michael W. Welch on behalf of the Association’s 250th Anniversary celebration. “The generosity of our neighbors at UniBank is so appreciated,” said Wheelock. “Our current campaign to rebuild the

carriage shed on the property and to upgrade some of the main building’s outdated and unsafe systems has received a huge boost with this gift.” The historic brick meetinghouse at the corner of Quaker Highway and Aldrich Street was built in 1770 on land donated by Moses Farnum. An active Quaker community thrived there for many years, but the

formal meeting was disbanded in the early 20th century. By the mid-1950s, the structure was in serious disrepair. A small group of volunteers determined to save the building formed the non-profit Uxbridge Quaker Meetinghouse Association, and set about restoring and rebuilding. The meetinghouse was listed on the

Please Read **UNIBANK**, page **A6**

SENIOR SCENE

Millbury Senior Center

LIONS CLUB DINNER
The Annual Dinner for the Seniors is sponsored by the LION'S CLUB and will be held on Valentine's Day, Thursday February 13th 6P.M. at the Millbury Senior Center. A Turkey Dinner will be

served. Please call or stop by the Center to reserve your seat. (508) 865-9154
Foxwoods Trip!
Monday, March 2nd
The bus leaves the Millbury Senior Center at 7:30 A.M and returns at 4:45 P.M.
Cost is \$28.00. Call or stop by the Senior Center to reserve

your seat! (508) 865-9154
MEMORY CAFE"
Please join us!
Tuesday, February 25th from 2:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.
A Memory Café is a monthly gathering for people with memory loss / challenges and their care partners. It is a time to socialize, make new friends, and have a good time.
Fourth Tuesday of each month, refreshments will be served.
Our Outreach worker, Julie Fitzgerald, is happy to answer any questions, call to RSVP 508-865-9154!

Millbury Senior Center Transportation Services
Residents can travel on Monday through Friday 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.
ADA clients and job assignments (disabled) 7 A.M. to 4:45 P.M.
We require a 48 hour Reservation for rides
One - way van ride in town is \$1.50; one town out \$1.75
ADA ride costs are \$2.75 in town and \$3 for one town out.
All rides to the Senior Center are 25 cents
Escorts are also available!
Our service is curb to curb, call for more Information or a Reservation!
508-865-9247

THE MILLBURY SENIOR CENTER IS NOW ACCEPTING SNAP APPLICATIONS (Food Stamps)

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Call for an appointment & required documentation 508-865-9154
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Craft Classes
Wednesday's from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM
Plan what you would like to make & pay for the materials you use!
For more information call us at 508-865-9154
RMV Transactions EVERY WEDNESDAY 10 - 12 P.M.
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• REGISTRATION RENEWALS
• CHANGE OF ADDRESS
• DUPLICATE LICENSE OR REGISTRATION
• HOW TO REPORT A LOST OR STOLEN DISABILITY PLACARD AND HOW TO REQUEST A REPLACEMENT
Call us at 508-865-9154 for an Appointment!

ACTIVITIES

MONDAY
8:30 A.M..... Walking Club
9:30 A.M..... Light Exercise
12:00 noon..... Lunch
12:30 P.M..... Wii Bowling
12:45 P.M.....Mahjong Game
1 : 00 P. M.... Cribbage
1:00 P.M....Game Day, including Cribbage, Scrabble, Chinese Checkers , Scat & Wii Bowling
TUESDAY
9 : 00 - 10.00 A.M... Blood Pressure
9:30-10:30 A.M.....Tai Chi
10:45-11:30 A.M.....Zumba
Noon...Lunch
1:00 P.M....Cribbage & Scat
WEDNESDAY
9:30 A.M..... Craft Class
12:00 noon..... Lunch
1:00 P.M..... Social Bingo
THURSDAY
9:00 A.M.....Cards
10:00-11:30 AM...Adult "Coloring Class"
12:00 Noon..... Lunch
12:45 PM.....Whist
2:30-3:30 P.M...Computer & Cell phone class,
Reservations required 508-865-9154
FRIDAY
9:00 A.M.....Shopping
9:30 A.M.....Light Exercise
10:30 A.M.....Yoga (NEW CLASS!)
12:00 noon..... Lunch
12:30 P.M..... Bridge & Scat



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Endicott College announces local Dean's List students

BEVERLY, Mass. — Endicott College, the first college in the U.S. to require internships of its students, is pleased to announce its Fall 2019 Dean's List students. In order to qualify for the Dean's List, a student must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5, receive no letter grade below "C," have no withdrawal grades, and be enrolled in a minimum of

12 credits for the semester. Madison Murray of Douglas and Kiara Griffith of Uxbridge met these requirements.

About Endicott College
Endicott College offers doctorate, master's, bachelor's, and associate degree programs at its campus on the scenic coast of Beverly, Mass., with additional sites in Boston, online, and at U.S. and international locations. Endicott remains true to its founding principle of integrating professional and liberal arts education with internship opportunities across disciplines. For more, visit endicott.edu.

TRIBUNE ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

BLACKSTONE

\$405,000, 39 Elm St, Porfido, Leah K, and Caracino, Edward D, to Hazlett, Patrick J.
\$345,000, 9 Rocco Dr, Pervez, Qadir, and Qadir, Yasmeen, to Moore, Judith.

NORTHBRIDGE\$3,000,000, 508-510 Church St, TSE Development LLC, to Stone Hill Partners LLC.
\$660,000, 132 Eben Chamberlain Rd, Morrison, Eric, and Morrison, Kimberly, to Goldberg, Richard, and Giusti, Ann.
\$357,000, 626 Sutton St, Graham, David W, and Graham, Donna M, to Wagner, Scott R, and Daigle, Nicole A.
\$322,500, 870 Main St, E& B Enterprises LLC, to Parrotta, Nicola.
\$305,000, 405 Church St, Bogolea, Benjamin, and Bogolea, Shannon, to Homicil, Carl E.
\$259,900, 32 Northern Ave, Rehbein, Linda M, and Rehbein, Glenn E, to Mccarthy, Erica.
\$182,750, 359 Union St, Gallagher, Paul N, and Bayview Loan Servcing LLC, to Vangos, John E.
\$177,000, 177 N Main St #177, Jenkins, Erica L, to Breese, Lindsay M.

UXBRIDGE

\$660,000, 130 Stanphyl Rd, Stratos, David B, and Stratos, Joanne M, to Elsbree, Christopher N.
\$515,000, 676 Hartford Ave E, Knapik Builders Inc, to Coffey, John, and Coffey, Carol.
\$290,000, 189 E Hartford Ave, Dorr, Jonathan A, and Potts, Sarah, to Anderson, Thomas, and Lalakidis, Nancy L.
\$131,000, 256 Mendon St, Brodeur, Cheryl A, and Wells Fargo Bank NA Tr, to On The Flip Side LLC.

DOUGLAS

\$570,000, 48 Crescent Ln, Ackley, Adam, and Ackley, June, to Hounsell, Frank B, and Hounsell, Beverly A.
\$430,000, 21 Hemlock St, Bardier, Robert, and Bardier, Christine, to Gallant, Paul E.
\$415,000, 13 Cottage Colony, Collins, Dermot, and Collins, Diana M, to Mackenzie, Emma J.
\$135,000, 7 Cardinal Dr, Tusino, Louis C, to Gallant, Raymond H, and Gallant, Margaret A.
\$110,000, 78 Maple St, Mbacon Realty LLC, to Corcoran, Richard.



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Cornerstone Bank donates \$10,000 to Worcester County Food Bank

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank is pleased to announce its recent donation of \$10,000 to the Worcester County Food Bank (WCFB). This financial contribution will go toward expenses associated with their Food Sourcing and Distribution Program.

The Worcester County Food Bank provides donated food to a network of partner agencies that serve neighbors struggling with hunger throughout Worcester County. In addition to pro-

viding food to those in need, the WCFB also advocates to create a hunger-free and healthy community by supporting policies and programs that work to decrease hunger by improving access to healthy food.

“The Worcester County Food Bank plays an important role in providing food to our neighbors in need,” stated Cornerstone Bank President & Treasurer Todd M. Tallman. “We’re pleased to support their mission in cre-

ating a hunger-free community.”

The Worcester County Food Bank is the largest hunger relief organization in Worcester County. In 2018, the WCFB and their network of 118 partner agencies donated over 6.5 million pounds of food and assisted over 81,000 people, with 33 percent of that food provided to children. For more information about the WCFB, please visit them online at www.foodbank.org or by calling 508-842-3663.

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving the residents, businesses, and communities throughout Central Massachusetts from offices in Charlton, Holden, Leicester, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Warren, Webster, and Worcester.

Deposits are insured in full by a combination of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Depositors Insurance Fund. The Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Equal Housing Lender, and SBA Preferred Lender. For more information, visit online at cornerstonebank.com, on Facebook or call 800-939-9103.



Courtesy Photo

Worcester County Food Bank Director of Communications & Development Joni Kusminsky with Cornerstone Bank President & Treasurer Todd M. Tallman.



ACCURACY WATCH

The *Blackstone Valley Tribune* 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 A3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake, email news@stonebridgepress.news or call (508) 909-4106 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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Get creative for a cause with Art Heals

UPTON – Calling all artists... let your art speak for those who can't find their voice and help build awareness and support for teen suicide prevention.

As an artist, you intuitively know that creating a visual image through any medium can produce physical; and emotional benefits for you, the creator, as well as those who view it. This healing power of art is what the Art Heals: Chalk Festival is all about. On Saturday, May 9 (rain date May 16), the Blackstone Valley Tech campus will come alive with color, creativity, and meaning as artists of all ages and experience levels create unique chalk murals on the theme “Art Heals.”

Artists can work solo or in pairs on a five-foot-by-five-foot pavement square starting at 8:30 a.m. The festival is free and open to the general public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is required by April 9th. The \$20 registration fee covers chalk and a reserved space to create your masterpiece with proceeds going toward teen suicide awareness charities.

There will be first, second, and third place prizes

awarded in each category: Youth (Ages 12 & Under), Young Adult (Ages 13-17), and Adult (Ages 18 and up). Please keep in mind that this is a family-friendly event when deciding on your concept. BVT's Visual Arts instructor, Ashley Maclure, requests that concept drawings be submitted to her via e-mail at amaclure@valleytech.k12.ma.us before the event.

This event is made possible in partnership with the Blackstone Valley Tech's Visual Arts program and supported in part by a grant from the Upton Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, and a grant from the Cummings School Service Fund at Tufts University.

For more information about the Art Heals: Chalk Festival, and to register, please visit <https://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/artheals>.

University of New Hampshire announces December graduates

DURHAM, New Hampshire — The following students graduated from the University of New Hampshire in December 2019. Students who received the honor of summa cum laude graduated with a GPA of 3.85-4.0; students who received the honor of magna cum laude graduated with a GPA of 3.65-3.84; and students who received the honor of cum laude graduated with a GPA of 3.50-3.64. Students are only graduated after the Registrar's Office has certified that all degree requirements have been successfully completed. Participating in the commencement ceremony is the act of honoring and celebrating academic achievement.

Allison Grann of Douglas
Rebecca Griffin of Douglas
Austin Franzosa of Uxbridge
Students who received the honor Summa Cum Laude graduated with a

GPA of 3.85-4.0: Students who received the honor of Magna Cum Laude graduated with a GPA of 3.65-3.84; and students who received the honor of Cum Laude graduated with a GPA of 3.50-3.64.

Students are only graduated after the Registrar's Office has certified that all degree requirements have been successfully completed. Participating in the commencement ceremony is the act of honoring and celebrating academic achievement.

The University of New Hampshire, founded in 1866, is a world-class public research university with the feel of a New England liberal arts college. A land, sea, and space-grant university, UNH is the state's flagship public institution, enrolling 13,000 undergraduate and 2,500 graduate students.

PLACE MOTORS IS PROUD TO SPONSOR

Friday's Child



Ashlynn
Age 11

Hi! My name is Ashlynn and I love to draw!

Ashlynn is a kind girl of Caucasian descent who likes to please and make others happy. She can start off shy with new people but warms up quickly. Ashlynn enjoys music, drawing, spending time with her friends, and swimming. She loves to spend time with her siblings and is very protective of her younger brothers. Ashlynn is in the 5th grade and has friends at school. She does well in class with extra supports.

Legally freed for adoption, Ashlynn will thrive in a home that can provide her with her own space and individualized attention. Her social worker is open to exploring homes

with a mother and a father or two mothers. Ashlynn will do best as the youngest or only child in a family. Ashlynn has four brothers and two sisters in Massachusetts, and it is extremely important that she maintains a relationship with them.

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 617-964-6273 or visit www.mare-inc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have “a permanent place to call HOME.”

Summer Fun Program

Memorial School in Upton

Time for laughing, running, playing, creating projects and having fun making new friends! The Summer Fun program, located at the Memorial School in Upton, will run for 5 weeks. We have air conditioning, a fridge, microwave, and water cooler in our room. Students will need to pack a lunch and bring a water bottle. The students have fun riding their bikes during the day. Camp weeks will be theme based with activities including swimming and special guests. Depending on the activity, some trips may have an additional cost not included in your daily tuition, they may vary between \$10.00- \$30.00. llaczka@mursd.org

Hours of operation: Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Location: 69 Main Street Memorial School in Upton.
Full day rate: \$60.00 Half day rate: \$30.00, Sibling Discount 10%
The weeks are as follows:
Week One: July 6, 2020- July 09, 2020 **Week Two:** July 13, 2020 - July 16, 2020
Week Three: July 20, 2020-July 23, 2020 **Week Four:** July 27, 2020- July 30, 2020,
Week Five: August 3, 2020 - August 6, 2020

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LEARNING

Uxbridge High School Students of the Month



Nathaniel Holden



Ashley Greene

UXBRIDGE — Uxbridge High School congratulates its Students of the Month for December.

Diligently striving to do her best in everything she undertakes, Ashley Greene has been selected as one of December’s seniors of the month. Her unwavering optimism is infectious, and her ability to always see the good in others is truly uplifting for those around

her.

Currently ranked number one in her class, Ashley does not shy away from challenges. She has taken the most rigorous course of study available at UHS. She thrives in classes that allow her to use her critical thinking skills. Some of Ashley’s favorite courses are science and math. Caring deeply for others and with her abilities in science and math, as well as a personal reason and experience, Ashley’s ambition is to become a doctor. She is a member of the Science

Olympiad Team.

Ashley is actively involved in her community and giving back. She has been volunteering her time at the senior center helping the elderly with anything they need. She takes the time to speak with each person and leaves them with a smile.

An accomplished athlete, she is a member of the girl’s varsity soccer program and has held captainship the past two years, as well as being voted All-Star Varsity Girls Soccer player. Ashley also enjoys music and theater and is a member of the UHS Spartones and Drama.

Ashley has received many awards for her accomplishments: The Harvard Book Award, the Bronze Medal in the National Spanish Exam, Chorus Academic Achievement award, and the Math Academic Achievement Award.

A hardworking student, whose authentic character is apparent from first interaction, Nathaniel Holden has been chosen as one of December’s seniors of the month.

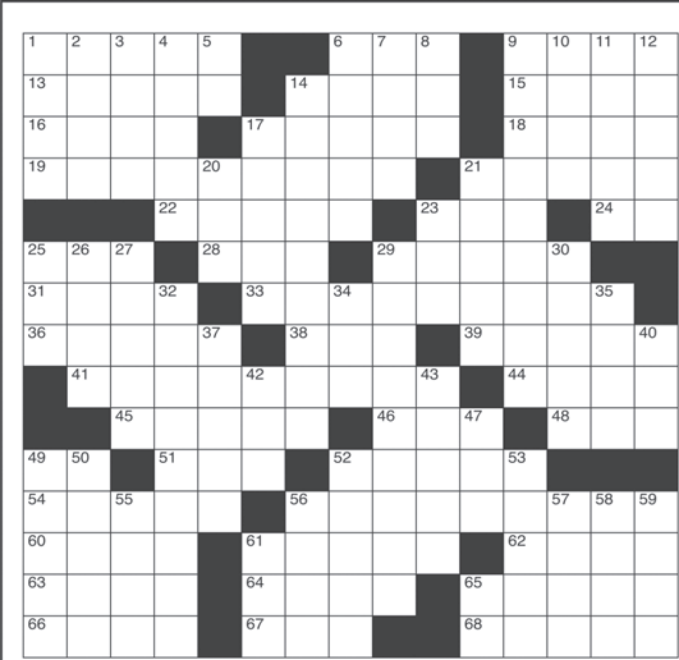
Whether it’s his music, academics or extracurricular activities, once Nathaniel commits to something he gives it his all.

Nathaniel was selected to play in the Worcester Youth Orchestra, given his dream to be a professional oboist. He traveled overseas to the Czech Republic and played alongside many of the most talented young musicians in Worcester County. He was recognized at the district level for his performances and has played during the MME District Band and Orchestra Festival. Nathaniel is a self taught oboist whose hard work and discipline has paid off tremendously.

Nathaniel is a high honors stu-

dent and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is a member of the Science Olympiad Team. He is the Tri-M President – a position to which he is elected by his peers. He also participates in general band, jazz band, pep band, plays oboe in the community band, and is part of the vocal group – Spartones.

Nathaniel also plays Soccer and is a member of the Indoor and Outdoor track teams. He works hard and lives a full and productive life, while still finding time and energy to give to others.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Indicates number of days

6. When you hope to get there

9. Hairstyle

13. Black (Spanish)

14. Expresses pleasure

15. Away from wind

16. Tech pros organization

17. Wile E. Coyote is familiar with it

18. Clean

19. Saints’ signal caller

21. A way to hunt

22. Poetries

23. Automobile

24. Secondary school (abbr.)

25. Indicates before

28. Male parent

29. Short-billed rails

31. It pays to keep yours

33. On occasion

36. David __, US playwright
38. Slang for cigarette

39. Vaccine developer

41. Returned to health

44. Toni Morrison novel

45. Period between eclipses

46. Veterans battleground

48. Gang

49. A radio band

51. Jaws of a voracious animal

52. Elaborate garments

54. Chinese province

56. Checks

60. Horizontal passage

61. Steep hillsides

62. Fertility god

63. Dried-up

64. Signs a name

65. __ Winger, actress

66. German river

67. Gov’t lawyers

68. Take something somewhere

CLUES DOWN

1. __ Blyton, children’s author

2. Colleague

3. “The African Queen” writer

4. Crater on the moon

5. Toward

6. Overhang

7. Identifies something close at hand

8. Sign language

9. Unbroken views

10. Ancient Greek City

11. Stretch out to grasp

12. Alcohols that are unfit for drinking

14. Humorous stories

17. Long song for a solo

20. Barrels per day (abbr.)

21. City of Lights

23. A place to sleep

25. Advanced degree (abbr.)

26. The back

27. Furniture-makers Charles and “Ray”
29. Songs to a lover

30. Gland secretion

32. 10 meters

34. Disfigure

35. Stores grain

37. Sacred book of Judaism

40. Catch

42. Promise

43. Challenges

47. Russian space station

49. Banking giant

50. Served as an omen

52. Drenches

53. Type of sword

55. Minor planet

56. Messenger ribonucleic acid

57. Japanese ankle sock

58. Obtain in return for services

59. Waste matter

61. A proposal to buy at a specified price

65. Unit of loudness



Douglas schools offer free and reduced meals

DOUGLAS — The Douglas School Food Service Department offers healthy meals every school day. Free and Reduced Meal Benefits are available to qualifying families.

For a Free and Reduced Meal Application contact Lisa Leon, Director of Food Services, at 508-476-3332, ext.2253 or by email at lleon@douglasps.net. You may also print an application from the district website at www.douglasps.net and click

on the Food Services tab under District. You may apply for Free and Reduced Meals anytime throughout the school year. All children in households receiving benefits from MA SNAP, MA TAFDC, or specific categories of Medicaid are eligible for free meals. Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals. Children participating in their school’s Head Start program are

eligible for free meals. Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals. Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household’s income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on the chart.

FREE FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2019-2020			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$16,237	\$1,354	\$ 313
2	\$21,983	\$1,832	\$ 423
3	\$27,729	\$2,311	\$ 534
4	\$33,475	\$2,790	\$ 644
5	\$39,221	\$3,269	\$ 755
6	\$44,967	\$3,748	\$ 865
7	\$50,713	\$4,227	\$ 976
8	\$56,459	\$4,705	\$1,086
Each additional person:	\$+5,746	\$ +479	\$ +111

REDUCED FEDERAL ELIGIBILITY INCOME CHART For School Year 2019-2020			
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$23,107	\$1,926	\$ 445
2	\$31,284	\$2,607	\$ 602
3	\$39,461	\$3,289	\$ 759
4	\$47,638	\$3,970	\$ 917
5	\$55,815	\$4,652	\$1,074
6	\$63,992	\$5,333	\$1,231
7	\$72,169	\$6,015	\$1,388
8	\$80,346	\$6,696	\$1,546
Each additional person:	\$+8,177	\$ +682	\$ +158

Families who are Directly Certified as eligible to receive benefits via the State’s Virtual Gateway are notified prior to the start of the school year, or during the school year as new

information becomes available. Benefits are extended to all children within the household. We ask that the family contact us with this information to ensure all children in the household receive the benefit when one child has been determined eligible.

School District prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees and applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status or sexual orientation.

The Douglas Public

It's Happening in THE last green valley™

Soar Thru Winter!

Join us for programs to help you enjoy the National Heritage Corridor all season!

860-774-3300

theLastGreenValley.org

DON'T MISS A BEAT

CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

LEARNING

MARIANAPOLIS PREP SCHOOL ANNOUNCES QUARTER 2 AND SEMESTER 1 HONOR ROLLS

THOMPSON, Conn. — Below are the students who have earned their place on the Quarter 2 and Semester 1 Honor Rolls.

Q2 Head of School List

Ali Abdel-Jalil, Bayan, Kuwait; Olivia-Mae Acquah-Harrison, Charlton, MA; Lily Alessandro, Pomfret Center, CT; Owen Alicandro, North Oxford, MA; James Alves, Uxbridge, MA; John Barnwell, Danielson, CT; Cassandra Belsito, Millbury, MA; Abigail Boria, Charlton, MA; Benjamin Bouchard, Douglas, MA; Vincent Bourgeois, Thompson, CT; Campbell Braun, South Grafton, MA; Stephen Canavan, Ashford, CT; Hansen Cao, Shenzhen, China; Francesca Capalbo, Worcester, MA; Marielle Caparso, Worcester, MA; Shaylan Cashman, Charlton, MA; Panachai Chauychoo, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Pannawat Chauychoo, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Dominika Chmielewski, Webster, MA; Spencer Courville, Charlton, MA; Anna Czechowski, Webster, MA; Anh Dao, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Alexandra Delano, Charlton, MA; Joseph DiPietro, Worcester, MA; Danielle Doiron.

Danielson, CT; Olivia Pisegna, Oxford, MA; Morgan Polinski, Webster, MA; Bronagh Power-Cassidy, Dublin, Ireland; Sara Powers, Grafton, MA; Sophia Raboritor, Dayville, CT; Jill Reardon, Fiskdale, MA; Grace Rhoads, Stafford Springs, CT; Lucas Rhoads, Stafford Springs, CT; Thomas Santos Soares, Porto Alegre, Brazil; Elizabeth Schoemer, Oxford, MA; Trinity Semo, Dudley, MA; Ashley Smith, Holden, MA; Alex Stawiecki, Thompson, CT; Zachary Stoddard, Pomfret Center, CT; Maya Summiel, Dayville, CT; Thang Tran, Da Nang, Vietnam; Daniel Twohig, Douglas, MA; Rachel Ullstrom, Auburn, MA; John Vigliotti, Worcester, MA; Caroline Villa, Auburn, MA; Tram Vo, Phan Thiet, Vietnam; Mary Wall, Northborough, MA; Emily Walsh, Thompson, CT; Mary Walsh, Thompson, CT; Yunpeng Wang, Shenzhen, China; Zhenlin Wei, Shenzhen, China; Kyle Woodruff, Southbridge, MA; Haipai Yang, Nanjing Jiangsu, China; Wenyang Yuan, Beijing, China; Jianghan Zhang, Beijing, China; Zihan Zhang, Jinan, China; Xingyu Zhu, Wenzhou, China.

Q2 Dean's List

Michael Acquaaah-Harrison, Charlton, MA; Kaitlin Baca, Webster, MA; Morgan Beaudreault, Dayville, CT; Callista Bibeau, Danielson, CT; Nicholas Boligan, Thompson, CT; Rayliana Bonnell, Oxford, MA; Payton Booth, Webster, MA; Samuel Bouchard, Douglas, MA; Amiah Brown, Willimantic, CT; Hayden Buzzell, East Brookfield, MA; Jessie Calkins, Charlton, MA; Kara Corriveau, Brimfield, MA; Paul Davey, Oxford, MA; Brendan Donegan, Charlton, MA; Xianzhou Du, Shenyang, China; Benjamin Duquette, Webster, MA; Olivia Duquette, North Grosvenordale, CT; William Engle, Plainfield, CT; Nicholas Fennelly, Charlton, MA; Gilbert Fournier, Putnam, CT; Gabriela Fung, Colchester, CT; Zichen Gan, Kunming, China; Ruiyi Gao, Hohhot, China; Lily Givner, Oxford, MA; Ethan Gosper, Danielson, CT; Timothy Hall, Plainfield, CT; Audrey Hammond, Sutton, MA; Emily Hammond, Sutton, MA; Alyson Hartman, Douglas, MA; Kiersten Haviland, Plainfield, CT; Lily Hayes, Danielson, CT; Donovan Hendrick, Willimantic, CT; Garret Hippert, Brooklyn, CT; Madeline Hollett, Charlton, MA; Ge Jia, Baoding, China; Kualim Johnson, Auburn, MA; Thomas Joiner, North Grosvenordale, CT; Doyoon Kim, Seoul, South Korea; Ayana Kobayashi, Nagoya, Japan; Haruna Kobayashi, Nagoya, Japan; Avery Kurzontowski, Shrewsbury, MA; Ava LaRoche, Stafford Springs, CT; Andie Lee, Charlton, MA; Lauren Lemire, Southbridge, MA; Alyssa Leveille, Thompson, CT; Alana Lorusso, North Oxford, MA; Evan Lundt, Woodstock, CT; Yihui Luo, Lian Yun Gang, China; Ian Martin, Moosup, CT; Ryan Martin, Douglas, MA; Salvatore Masciarelli, Northbridge, MA; Sydney Masciarelli, Northbridge, MA; Laurelyn Mayen, Dudley, MA; Conner McLeod,

Q2 Honor Roll

Grace Booth, Webster, MA; Patrick Brooks, Worcester, MA; Nicholas Buoniconti, Dudley, MA; Jasmine Creighton, Webster, MA; Anthony DeFusco, Worcester, MA; Courtney Fleming, Douglas, MA; Elan Johnson, Auburn, MA; Caroline King, Rochester, MA; Camille Larson, Charlton, MA; Michael Levesque, Narragansett, RI; Alexander Litke, Brooklyn, CT; Katerina Looney, Dudley, MA; Sophia Maloney, Sutton, MA; Valentina Mena Munch, Merida, Mexico; Olivia Montione, Dudley, MA; Hugo Ndizeye, Kigali, Rwanda; Niamh Raftery, Thompson, CT; Ashley Robert, Plainfield, CT; John Sarantopoulos, Pomfret Center, CT; Sara Soares, Putnam, CT; Maggie Vo, Worcester, MA.

S1 Head of School List

Ali Abdel-Jalil, Bayan, Kuwait;
Olivia-Mae Acquah-Harrison,
Charlton, MA; Lily Alessandro, Pomfret
Center, CT; Owen Alicandro, North
Oxford, MA; John Barnwell, Danielson,
CT; Cassandra Belsito, Millbury, MA;
Benjamin Bouchard, Douglas, MA;
Vincent Bourgeois, Thompson, CT;
Campbell Braun, South Grafton, MA;
Marielle Caparso, Worcester, MA;
Shaylan Cashman, Charlton, MA;
Panachai Chauchoo, Ho Chi Minh City,
Vietnam; Pannawat Chauchoo, Ho Chi
Minh City, Vietnam; Spencer Courville,
Charlton, MA; Anna Czechowski,
Webster, MA; Anh Dao, Ho Chi Minh
City, Vietnam; Paul Davey, Oxford,
MA; Joseph DiPietro, Worcester,
MA; Danielle Doiron, Charlton, MA;
Fiona Doiron, Charlton, MA; Sophie
Elustondo, Burwood, Australia;

Chiara Faiola, Auburn, MA; Ashley Giorgio, Millbury, MA; Serena Godin, Glendale, RI; Madelyn Grundstrom, Moosup, CT; B Hannon, Putnam, CT; Angelina Hargrave, Charlton, MA; Mai Hasegawa, Osaka-shi, Japan; Sophie Hendrick, Willimantic, CT; Thu Hoang, Hai Phong, Vietnam; Maura Hoban, Millbury, MA; Patrick Hoban, Millbury, MA; Kaylynn Horan, Putnam, CT; Mackenzie Jutras, Greenville, RI; Claire Kelleher, Auburn, MA; Julia Kilroy, Upton, MA; Zachary King, Plainfield, CT; Kate Landis, Brooklyn, CT; Molly Landis, Brooklyn, CT; Abigail Leahy, Leicester, MA; Jyhyoung Lee, Seoul, South Korea; Suhyoung Lee, Seoul, South Korea; Chenxi Liu, Changzhou, China; Ian MacKenzie, Woodstock, CT; Szymon Mamro, Webster, MA; Remonda Mankarios, Webster, MA; Laurelyn Mayen, Dudley, MA; Benjamin McGarry, Thompson, CT; Emma McQuiston, Webster, MA; Kate Melnick, North Grosvenordale, CT; Sara Michailides, Chepachet, RI; Ayame Mizuno, Nagoya, Japan; Linh Nguyen, Hanoi, Vietnam; Nhi Nguyen, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Abbie O'Brien, Plainfield, CT; Declan O'Connor, West Boylston, MA; John Perveiler, Oxford, MA; Brendan Phaneuf, Danielson, CT; Sara Powers, Grafton, MA; Jill Reardon, Fiskdale, MA; Grace Rhoads, Stafford Springs, CT; Thomas Santos Soares, Porto Alegre, Brazil; Elizabeth Schoemer, Oxford, MA; Ashley Smith, Holden, MA; Alex Stawiecki, Thompson, CT; Zachary Stoddard, Pomfret Center, CT; Thang Tran, Da Nang, Vietnam; Daniel Twohig, Douglas, MA; Caroline Vigneault, Southbridge, MA; Caroline Villa, Auburn, MA; Mary Wall, Northborough, MA; Emily Walsh, Thompson, CT; Mary Walsh, Thompson, CT; Yunpeng Wang, Shenzhen, China; Zhenlin Wei, Shenzhen, China; Kyle Woodruff, Southbridge, MA; Haipei Yang, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China; Wenyang Yuan, Beijing, China.

S1 Dean's List

Nicholas Boligan, Thompson, CT; Stephen Canavan, Ashford, CT; Alexandra Delano, Charlton, MA; Ava Fabiano, Killingly, CT; Gilbert Fournier, Putnam, CT; Lily Givner, Oxford, MA; Donovan Hendrick, Willimantic, CT; Madeline Hollett, Charlton, MA; Avery Kurzontkowski, Shrewsbury, MA; Ava LaRoche, Stafford Springs, CT; Andie Lee, Charlton, MA; Lauren Lemire, Southbridge, MA; Alana Lorusso, North Oxford, MA; Riley Martin, Moosup, CT; Ryan Martin, Douglas, MA; Joshua Mobley, Webster, MA; Olivia Pisegna, Oxford, MA; Emma Raps, Webster, MA; Jonathan Reardon, Fiskdale, MA; Hannah Schoemer, Oxford, MA; Kaeleigh Sullivan, Douglas, MA; Christian Terwilliger, Lebanon, CT; Lucas Yash, Webster, MA; Yutian Zhu, Hangzhou, China; Xingyu Zhu, Wenzhou, China.

*Nichols College
students named to Fall
2019 Honors List*

DUDLEY — Many hard-working students at Nichols College in Dudley have achieved Dean's List or President's List honors during the fall 2019 semester.

The Dean's List and President's List give recognition to those students who achieve high grades during a single semester. In order to be included on the Dean's List, a student must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and must have received no grades below B- during the semester. Students whose semester grade point average is 3.85 or higher for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and no grades below B- will receive President's List honors.

Chelsea Africa of Whitinsville.

Dylan Marra of Whitinsville.

About Nichols College

Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

Seton Hall University names Anna Alves to Dean's List

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. — Seton Hall University is pleased to announce Anna Alves of Uxbridge, MA has qualified for the Fall 2019 Dean's List.

After the close of every semester, undergraduate students completing all courses with a GPA of 3.4, with no grades lower than "C", qualify for the Dean's List.

As one of the nation's leading Catholic universities, Seton Hall has been showing the world what great minds can do since 1856. Home to over 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students and offering more than 90 rigorous majors, Seton Hall's aca-

democratic excellence has been singled out for distinction by The Princeton Review, U.S. News & World Report and Bloomberg Businessweek.

One of the country's leading Catholic universities, Seton Hall University has been a catalyst for leadership - developing students in mind, heart and spirit - since 1856. Home to nearly 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students and offering more than 80 rigorous majors, Seton Hall's academic excellence has been singled out for distinction by The Princeton Review, US News & World Report and Bloomberg BusinessWeek.

Seton Hall, which embraces students of all religions, prepares its graduates to be exemplary servant leaders and caring global citizens. Its attractive main campus is located in suburban South Orange, New Jersey, and is only 14 miles by train, bus or car to New York City, offering a wealth of employment, internship, cultural and entertainment opportunities. The university's nationally recognized School of Law is prominently located in downtown Newark. For more information, visit www.shu.edu.

Danielle Rocheleau of Whitinsville named to University of Hartford Dean's List

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. — The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Danielle Rocheleau of Whitinsville has been named to its Dean's List for Fall 2019.

Spread across seven dynamic schools and colleges, the University of Hartford has been guiding the purpose and passion of students for over six decades. On our 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut's capital city, approximately 4,800

undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students representing all 50 states and 51 countries come together for a common purpose: to collaborate across different disciplines, diversify perspectives, and broaden worldviews. We're a four-year private university focused on advancing the public good through meaningful connections within our communities. Our unique approach to comprehensive education gives us the critical perspectives that lead to impactful change, regionally and beyond. With degree programs spanning the arts, humanities, business, engineering and technology, education, and health professions, we focus on doing the work that matters.

Blackstone Valley Tech celebrates SkillsUSA Week

UPTON – Students and faculty at Blackstone Valley Tech will join others across the nation to celebrate SkillsUSA Week, Feb. 2-8. The annual celebration represents over 365,000 SkillsUSA members nationwide and promotes career and technical education (CTE). The week highlights the benefits of the SkillsUSA program in developing personal, workplace, and technical skills grounded in academics. It also provides schools with an opportunity to demonstrate how CTE helps prepare local students for college and high-wage, high-demand career fields.

“Our SkillsUSA students continuously impress me with

the work they perform on a daily basis, and they continue to be exceptional advocates of Career and Technical education,” said SkillsUSA Advisor, Robert Jordan. “These students use the multitude of skills they have learned to illustrate how CTE programs truly prepare them for success in the workplace and as future leaders. Our students also demonstrate an understanding of the importance of giving back and serving the community through their frequent volunteerism and leadership at service events.”

Raising awareness about SkillsUSA is important to the BVT SkillsUSA Chapter Officers. They will share on

Advocacy Day, February 4th, through social media channels, their personal stories showcasing how a Career and Technical Education (CTE) has positively impacted their high school careers.

Included among the special activities planned that week, thanking their teachers for their leadership and help in becoming career-ready, and chapter members for their hard work and self-motivation throughout that week and year. They will give back to their community through service orientation, partnering with the Student Council, the BVT SkillsUSA Chapter will distribute letters of hope and teddy bears to patients at Milford

Hospital. The SkillsUSA officers will serve the Be Like Brit organization, which is the SkillsUSA Massachusetts official charity, by delivering the collected items from their two-week drive to their collections warehouse that week as well.

“I am very proud of our SkillsUSA Chapter members and the work that they do. Serving as role models and effective spokespersons for the mission of quality vocational-technical education,” said BVT Superintendent-Director Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick. “Honing their leadership skills and strong work ethic will continue to serve our community and SkillsUSA well in the coming years.”

SkillsUSA Week activities nationwide include presentations to administrators, business leaders and legislators; school open houses; community service events to benefit local charities and organizations; interviews with the news media; student-led events and campus outreach, and industry partnership development. SkillsUSA Week is held the second full week of February each year in conjunction with Career and Technical Education Month.

Additional information about SkillsUSA is available at <https://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/skillsusa>.

St. Patrick’s YNIA hosts recycling event, Fish & Chip dinners

WHITINSVILLE — St. Patrick’s Church, Whitinsville YNIA (Young Neighbors in Action) will be heading to Tacoma, Washington for week long service ministry this summer, where they will serve the poor and less fortunate. In order to subsidize the trip, these dedicated teens participate in fundraising events. Two of the major fundraisers are the Lenten Fish & Chip Suppers and the St Patrick’s Spring Recycling Event located at 7 East, Whitinsville.

Delicious Fish & Chips

Please join us on Ash Wednesday & Fridays during Lent beginning on Feb. 28 from 4:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. in the Parish Center. Orders are available to take out or eat in. You may phone orders ahead starting at 4:30 p.m. at 508-234-3232. Complete meals of Fried Haddock & Chips or Baked Haddock w/ Baked Potato - \$10, Mac & Cheese with Fries - \$5. All meals come with Cole Slaw. Dine in includes beverage & dessert. Clam Chowder- \$3 per cup / \$5 per bowl. Come enjoy great conversations as well as a wonderful meal.

The second annual St. Patrick’s Spring Recycling Event will take place on Saturday, May 16 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Church parking lot, 7 East St.

Paper Shredding - 11am - 1pm only. \$7/per copy paper size box. No binders, hanging folders, notebooks, plastic, cardboard.

Electronics Recycling - No batteries, light bulbs, propane tanks. All equipment must be bone dry of oils/liquids.

Bottles and Cans - Please rinse.
Textile Collection - Clothing, accessories, linens, shoes, blankets, window treatments, etc. No rags. Items must be gently used, and in a condition to be resold. Help us to meet our 3500# goal! If you cannot make it on May 16, please call office to donate.

Please keep items for each station separate. For more information & electronics pricing, call 508-234-5656 or email officesupport@mystpatrickss.com.

Local University of Rhode Island students named to Dean’s List

KINGSTON, R.I. — The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that more than 6,000 undergraduates have qualified for the fall 2019 Dean’s List. The students represent nearly all of Rhode Island’s cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and nations.

To be included on the Dean’s List, students must have completed 12 or more credits during a semester for letter grades with at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 credits with a 3.30 quality point average. The list includes students who have not yet declared their majors as well as those from all of the University’s undergraduate academic colleges.

The following students from your area have been named to URI’s fall 2019 Dean’s List:

Jacob Bliss of Whitinsville
Allison Cotter of Uxbridge
Meghan Ferraro of Northbridge
Maddy Green of Whitinsville
James Haggerty of Whitinsville
Jordan Howard of Uxbridge
Cailee King of Uxbridge
Emma Kraich of Uxbridge
Anders Lafortune of Douglas
Taylor Lennox of Uxbridge
Harrison Mansfield of Uxbridge
Alex Matkowski of Uxbridge
Sarah McGee of Uxbridge
Abby Nigro of Whitinsville
Julia Vanelli of Uxbridge
Eric Vario of Uxbridge
Shannon Walthall of Douglas
Connor Zisk of Douglas

Note: Students who qualified for the Dean’s List, but have restricted access to their information under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines, are not included on this public listing. Students may adjust these restrictions on eCampus.

The University of Rhode Island’s pioneering research extends the University’s influence well beyond its coastal borders, while its unique interdisciplinary courses provide its 16,800 undergraduate and graduate students with global opportunities in an intimate environment. In May 2019, more than 3,400 undergraduate and about 700 graduate degrees were awarded. The University now has more than 120,000 alumni worldwide.

Area residents named to dean’s list at Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, Conn. — Maxwell Potsma of Douglas, Shelbe Turpin of Northbridge, and Lydia Mason and Kevin Wagner of Uxbridge were named to the dean’s list for the Fall 2019 semester at Quinnipiac University: To qualify for the dean’s list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester.

About Quinnipiac University
Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational, nonsec-
tarian institution located 90 minutes north of

New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 7,000 full-time undergraduate and 3,000 graduate and part-time students in 110 degree programs through its Schools of Business, Communications, Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and the College of Arts and Sciences. Quinnipiac is recognized by U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review’s “The Best 385 Colleges.” The Chronicle of Higher Education has named Quinnipiac among the Great Colleges to Work For(r). For more information, please visit qu.edu. Connect with Quinnipiac on Facebook at [facebook.com/quinnipiacunews](https://www.facebook.com/quinnipiacunews) and follow Quinnipiac on Twitter @QuinnipiacU.

LIBRARY

continued from page A1

taught him two things.

“First, the Library has a lot of support out there. Of the three successful overrides in Douglas history (and only one in recent history), the Library was on the hook for two. The Library is one of the few things that the majority—albeit a very slim one—is willing to fund by increasing their taxes,” he explained.

Second, Snook said he will likely never propose funding a library building project through debt exclusion.

“I don’t want to be responsible for putting the community through something like the 2018 override campaign ever again,”

he said.

So now, in 2020, the library has an opportunity to restart and refocus the scope of the project. An accessible entrance to the building, code-compliant paved parking, an elevator, and an accessible public restroom can all be accomplished with minimal alteration and invasion of the library’s existing space, Snook added.

Preliminary estimates would put the project somewhere around \$500,000, Snook said, adding that this number is a “very loose, wildly preliminary estimate.”

“If we can come up with a good chunk of that, we might be able to get the town to contribute the remainder through financial vehicles that do not involve

increasing taxes,” he said.

Right now, the library has \$90,430.29 set aside for renovations.

“What I want to avoid at all costs is another situation like what happened between 2001-2006, and then again between 2012 and the present. In both of those instances, a significant amount of money was spent to go through planning and proposal processes with no end-game besides a debt exclusion article on the ballot to fund them,” he added.

Donations can be made through the Friends of the Library Web site, mysfpl.org/friends, or in person with a check made out to the “Library INT Building Fund.”

death to the officer,” the department added.

On the contrary, the average time it takes to issue an eCitation is only a few minutes. Electronic ticketing offers the officer the opportunity to clear a traffic stop three to five times faster, which dramatically increases officer safety, the department added.

released in its statement, adding that it generally takes an officer 10 to 15 minutes to issue a moving violation, multipart ticket.

“Danger increases the longer an officer is on the side of the road issuing a citation. And the more time that passes, the higher the chances of a distracted or unaware motorist causing an accident involving injury or

share its history with the community.

“UniBank, having been founded 1870 right here in the Blackstone Valley, understands the value and importance of preserving and protecting our past,” stated UniBank CEO Michael W. Welch. “We are proud to support a fellow historic institution, The Uxbridge Quaker Meetinghouse Association, and

the important work being done to conserve history in the Blackstone Valley.”

“We are probably best known for the wonderful ecumenical service that we host each Thanksgiving morning,” commented Association Treasurer Allan Hanscom. “But this is our 250th anniversary year and we hope to expand our summer Open House program with

a few special events. We are so grateful to the community for the support we are receiving.”

If you would like to contribute to the Association’s 250th Anniversary Campaign, donations may be mailed to UQMHA, 11 Washington Court, Uxbridge, MA 01569.

UNIBANK

continued from page A1

National Register of Historic Places in 1974. The Association continues today, with a mission to maintain and preserve the legacy of the property and to

Global warming is for real



Global warming is sure showing the nonbelievers that it is for real. The unbelievable weather conditions that we are now experiencing are sure nice to see, but the overall picture is not good for our planet. Ocean water temperatures continue to rise, which have some species of fish migrating into new England waters that we rarely see. On the positive side, seabass numbers are increasing annually as well as their size in our coastal waters, but at the same time fish that are native to our waters are moving out. Lobsters are also heading out to cooler waters.

The effects of climate change are staggering, and are sure to change the planet in a negative way for many years to come. We depend on our elected politicians to make sensible changes in the laws that will slow down the threat of global warming. Emissions from cars and factories are the large-



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

est polluter. The way we dispose of our waste is another big problem. Hazardous waste is a serious threat to our planet. Plastic bottles and bags need to be phased out and replaced with reusable bags. All plastic bottles need to have a nickel deposit on them including water bottles, detergent bottles, etc.! Tons of plastic end up in the ocean every year. Our fresh water lakes and ponds are becoming so polluted that eating fish from them could cause serious health risks. Lead in our drinking water supply in many states is unacceptable. I sure hope that we start cleaning up the mess that previous generations left behind, as well as our own continued dumping of waste today.

With all of the warm weather we are experiencing, ice fishing has been put on hold by most anglers. There are a few anglers taking the risk to fish on unsafe ice, but most sensible anglers are playing it safe. This past week, an 11 year old girl fell through thin ice locally, and was fortunate enough to

be pulled from the icy waters by rescue teams. Most fishing derby's have been canceled in the valley until further notice. Inviting anglers and their family's onto unsafe ice would be foolish and dangerous. If you want to go ice fishing bad enough, head North. Maine has plenty of ice. Start getting the fishing rods and reels ready! It is going to be an early spring, no matter what the groundhog predicts.

The Big "E" Sportsmen's show (OSEG) will open their doors on Feb. 21-23, and is the largest show in the Northeast. Doors open at noon on Thursday. Hunting and fishing guides from all over the United States will be on hand to take reservations for their upcoming seasons. Numerous seminars by hunting and fishing professionals will be held all three days. For a complete list of seminars and other activities, go to their Web site at osegsportsmen.com!

Striper fishermen are anxious to hear the final regulations on the 2020 striper season in Mass. & Rhode Island, which should be finalized by March. Big changes are expected to include a slot size

limit this year, with a one fish per day limit. Taking the big trophy size stripers could be off limits this year. The circle hook regulation required to fish for stripers with chunk or live bait, will not take effect until 2021.

This is the time of year for Rod & Gun Club membership renewals. Every year, members at some clubs forget to pay their annual dues. Do not let it happen to you! Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club started taking renewal memberships this past Sunday. The next three Sundays will be the last chance for renewals at Uxbridge starting at noon to 4 p.m. After that date, the club will start to take in members on the waiting list.

This week's picture shows Earnie Lavalley of Uxbridge in front of a huge mount at the Springfield show last year. The second picture shows another huge bear mount at the show. There is a lot to see and the kids will also enjoy the show, so take them along.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Keep houseplants healthy while keeping pets safe



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

You love them both – your pets and houseplants – but it can be challenging to safely raise them together in the same house. Reduce the risk by selecting pet-safe plants and safely managing houseplant pest problems.

Avoid problems by selecting plants suited to your home's growing conditions and gardening style. Then narrow the list further to plants that are non-toxic specifically to the type of pets you own. Consult with your veterinarian and visit the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) website for a list of pet-safe and toxic plants.

Create a list of all the plants you are growing. Include both common and botanical names for accurate identification. Do a bit of research on the care they need and their toxicity to your pets. If you suspect your pet has ingested a toxic plant, you'll have the proper plant name when contacting your veterinarian.

Match the pet-friendly plants you select to their preferred light conditions. An east- or west-facing window provides enough light for most indoor plants. Keep those that need



Melinda Myers Photo

Baby tears plant (Soleirolia) is safe for pets and should be grown in brighter light conditions.

brighter light within two feet of the window. Those that prefer lower light can be grown near a north-facing window or up to six feet back or off to the side of an east- or west-facing window.

For low light situations, consider cast iron plant, Lady palm, and parlor palm or add artificial lights when growing other pet-friendly plants in lower light situations.

Grow grape ivy, spider plants, baby tears (Soleirolia), peperomias, prayer plants, Boston ferns, ponytail palm, and hoyas in brighter locations. Save the brightest locations for Norfolk Island Pine, lipstick plant and haworthia.

Add some color to your indoor garden with popular flowering plants like African violet, Christmas cactus and moth orchid. These are also listed as non-toxic on the ASPCA Web site.

Water plants thoroughly as needed. Tropical plants prefer slightly moist soil, while cacti and succulents like it drier. Always pour off any excess water that collects in the saucer. Allowing plants to sit in water can increase the risk of disease and lead to root rot.

Regularly groom and wipe dust off the leaves of your indoor plants to help reduce the risk of insect damage. Remove spotted leaves when they appear and adjust watering. This is often enough to correct fungal disease problems.


When pest problems require control, always select pet-friendly options. Start with a strong blast of water

to dislodge pests like aphids and mites. Follow with an application of a lightweight horticulture oil such as Summit Year-Round Spray Oil (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com). This organic spray controls aphids, mites, immature whiteflies and all stages of scale and mealybugs.

And if those tiny fruit-fly-like gnats are too annoying to tolerate, consider treating the potting mix with a Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis product such as Summit Mosquito Bits labeled for controlling fungus gnat larvae. Just sprinkle it on the soil surface and this naturally occurring soil bacterium kills the fungus gnat larvae in the soil. It's an organic insecticide safe for people, pets and plants. No matter the product you select – organic, natural or synthetic – be sure to read and follow label directions.

Proper plant selection and maintenance can help keep your indoor plants healthy and pets safe from harm.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series* and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.melindamyers.com.



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EDITORIAL

Keeping the coronavirus in perspective

With the recent headlines surrounding the coronavirus outbreak, many Americans are petrified that they will somehow contract this disease that originated in China. Despite all the press being given to this new threat, however, the fact remains that many more Americans are likely to contract and die of the regular flu.

To date, the coronavirus has infected eight people in the country. Just this year alone, there have been roughly 19 million cases of the flu reported, resulting in 10,000 deaths. Across the globe, the flu takes roughly 650,000 lives per year, according to the World Health Organization. Compare that with the roughly 400 confirmed coronavirus fatalities to date, and it certainly puts the situation in perspective.

Doctors are telling those with concerns that if you have not traveled to Wuhan, China, or have not come into contact with an individual who has come from there, your chances of contracting the disease are extremely low.

So far this year, 68 children have passed away from complications stemming from standard influenza, including eight in the state of Tennessee. Many schools across the country have had to shut down, sterilize the facilities and give students time to recover.

Confirmed cases of the coronavirus in China number just over 14,000, resulting in 360 deaths as of our press deadline for this week’s edition. Of the eight cases confirmed in the U.S., none have proved fatal. A 35 year old from Washington with a confirmed case of coronavirus did develop pneumonia, but has improved and is left with a mild cough.

Flu season is at its peak between December and February, and can take the lives of roughly 61,000 Americans each year. Medical professionals are quite rightly reminding people to be more concerned with flu prevention than the coronavirus — again, not to diminish its seriousness, but to be realistic about the magnitude of the threat it currently poses. While even one death is one too many, it is vital to avoid panic, and to remember that the overwhelming majority of those diagnosed with coronavirus, both in China and elsewhere, have been able to beat it back.

Vulnerable citizens are advised to get the flu shot; however, there are other ways to prevent the flu. Washing your hands regularly, avoiding those who are sick, covering your mouth when you cough, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth as germs are spread easier this way and to clean and disinfect surfaces.



THE 411

CHECK OUT ALL THE LATEST IN LOCAL SPORTS!

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

Be still and know ...

As regular readers of my column know, I’m being challenged in my life by a life-threatening health problem. A Neuroendocrine tumor is a rare affliction that is hard to diagnose by the average unexposed physician and medical facility. It is often identified with the late Apple founder and CEO, Steve Jobs, as this is the disease that took his life.

Luckily, my diagnosis was made and I’m hard at work with my insurance provider and family doctor to find the medical team/facility with expertise and experience to help me beat this affliction ... and beat it, I will.

I’ll confess, that this health crisis challenges everything I’ve written and spoke of regarding the power of optimism. Yet it is my optimism, when I clear my mind, that helps me focus on the positive outcome that I believe I will achieve. My plan isn’t to survive but to thrive.

I’ll give you an occasional and short update now and then, but this health-obstacle will not dominate my column moving forward. I’ll go into some detail today because of the overwhelming response and well-wishes from readers, friends and family since my diagnosis. Make no mistake about this ... I will die some day because of something, but it’s not going to be this.

Of all the incredibly supportive communications I’ve received, there was one short and negative response to last week’s column. The reader said ...

“I am a three-time cancer survivor and the premise you can will it away is insulting. It doesn’t just take your life away: it takes everything.”

I responded that she should read the column rather than just reacting to the headline. I don’t believe you can ‘will away’ cancer or really anything. My point is always that optimism gives you a better chance of overcoming obstacles because an optimistic view gives you the encourage to fight. If you pessimistically believe you cannot overcome, why would you go to the trouble of fighting?

There are more studies that I can count, verifying the powers of a positive mind in the treatment of disease. Believing in a positive outcome gives you the drive to have an increased focus on being part of the solution. With only 700 words available to me in this space, I won’t take the time

POSITIVELY SPEAKING

By GARY W. MOORE

to list or footnote the studies, but if you go to the search engine of your choice, you will see countless studies by many of the most revered institutions in the world, showing the power of optimism on successful outcomes.

Once again, I’ll say that there are some medical realities that optimism cannot overcome. And in the case of almost every illness, optimism alone will have little positive impact. The power of optimism comes into play in partnership with modern medicine. You don’t have to really do any research other than asking your doctor. Optimism will always give you greater chances for success than pessimism.

Vince Lombardi was often quoted as saying, “Fatigue makes cowards of us all.” I’ve learned over the last few weeks how true this is, as my mind works overtime with my diagnosis. When I’m rested, optimism is easy, but as fatigue sets in, my resistance to pessimism weakens. I’m finding two solutions. The first and obvious remedy is to get lots of rest. The second isn’t as easy but even more powerful and that is to quiet your mind.

Depending upon your belief system or faith, you may look at this from different points of view. I’ve heard some say that only in silence your soul or inner self will speak to you. Others say that through a quiet mind you can only create the solutions you seek. All good and I believe true. My experience in life takes me to Psalm 46:10. “Be still and know that I am God.” It is those moments where I can force all the thoughts and words that I allow into my head back out, that I hear the voice that provides direction, comfort and healing.

So enough on cancer. Next week we’ll return to my mission of helping others lead a more optimistic life. I’ll keep you posted, and prayers are appreciated, but again, I’m not focused on just surviving, I plan to overcome this and thrive.

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, “Playing with the Enemy.” Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMoore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.

Flower Power: Legends and Lore of Blooms

With Valentine’s Day around the corner, this week’s column will focus on the symbolism of flowers. From romance to luck, flowers have long played a role in our everyday lives and according to folklore, perhaps even our futures. Read on for a review of the old fashioned legends and lore of beautiful blooms!

The “magical” power of blooms is legendary, as the following superstitions suggest:

Romance:
Daisies: Perhaps the most familiar floral “predictor” of love is the daisy. Plucking off petals one by one while reciting “He (or she) loves me, he loves me not,” has long served as an amusing indicator of requited love.
Bachelor Buttons: Folklore may explain how these bright blue and purple cornflowers earned their name. Legend has it that young suitors would place freshly picked flowers in their pocket while courting. If the “bachelor buttons” remained fresh and unwilted for the duration, it was a sure sign the relationship is on a steady course of success!
Roses: Romantic lore claims rose petals helped young ladies of earlier eras choose between two or more suitors. Writing the name of each prospective husband the petals and



TAKE THE HINT

KAREN TRAINOR

tossing them to the wind, it is said the last petal to hit the ground holds the name of the one she shall marry.

Luck:
P r i m r o s e
Etc.: Superstition has it that bouquets

of flowers should always contain an odd number of blooms, lest bad luck be lured. This belief especially applies to primroses, as the English believed the flowers should be only be brought into the house in groups of 13 to ensure good fortune.

Daffies: Perky yellow daffodils can be an instant mood booster, but according to Welsh folklore the flower can also bring wealth. It is said the first person who spots a spring daffodil will be rewarded with prosperity throughout the year!

Roses: To bring good luck into a home in days of yore, rose leaves were tossed into the fireplace flame.

Health and Well Being:
White Flowers: White blooms are beautiful, but they can carry a melancholy message, according to age old folklore. Think twice before you send a bouquet of white flowers to a sick friend in the hospital as legend claims whites with a strong fra-

Be aware of Social Security myths



FINANCIAL FOCUS

DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

Social Security can be one source of retirement income for you and your spouse. To maximize your benefits, you’ll need to make some key decisions and be aware of some common myths.

- **Myth 1:** Always take Social Security early. You can file for Social Security benefits as early as 62, but you could get 25 to 30 percent more if you wait until your “full” retirement age (likely between 66 and 67). You can receive even more if you wait until 70, at which point your benefits will “max out.” However, there’s no right time to file for everyone – it depends on your situation, including factors such as your life expectancy, employment, financial need and spousal considerations.

- **Myth 2:** When you claim Social Security won’t affect your spouse’s benefits. This is not true. How much you receive in Social Security can affect your spouse’s benefits while you are alive (spousal benefits) and after you’ve passed away (survivor’s benefits). Your spouse could receive up to half of your retirement benefit, offset by his or her own benefit, so the longer you work before collecting Social Security, the greater the potential spousal benefits. For survivor benefits, your spouse would receive 100 percent of your benefit or his or her own, whichever is larger, so when you file affects how much your spouse would receive if you pass away early. In any case, you’ll want to consult with the Social Security Administration about how much your spouse can receive, as his or her own benefits can also affect your decision-making.

- **Myth 3:** You can’t work during retirement and collect Social Security. Yes, you can. But if you start receiving Social Security before your full retirement age (likely between 66 and 67), you can only earn up to \$18,240 in 2020 and still get your full benefits. Once you earn more than this, Social Security deducts \$1 from your benefits for every \$2 you earn. But during the year you reach full retirement age, you can earn up to \$48,600 without your benefits being withheld. If you exceed this amount, \$1 will be deducted for every \$3 you earn during the months before you attain your full retirement age. Social Security will increase your benefits when you do reach full retirement age to adjust for the previous work-related withholdings. So, if you plan on working and receiving Social Security, it may not make sense to file if most of your benefits will be withheld. Once you reach full retirement age, you can earn any amount without losing your monthly benefits, although your benefits could still be taxed.

- **Myth #4:** Social Security will provide for all my needs in retirement. Social Security will provide about a third of pre-retirement income, on average, according to the Social Security Administration. Consequently, you’ll probably still need other sources of retirement income because Social Security alone most likely won’t be enough to meet your needs. So, throughout your working years, contribute as much as you can to your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. Combining these income sources with Social Security can help improve your chances of enjoying the retirement lifestyle you’ve envisioned.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com.



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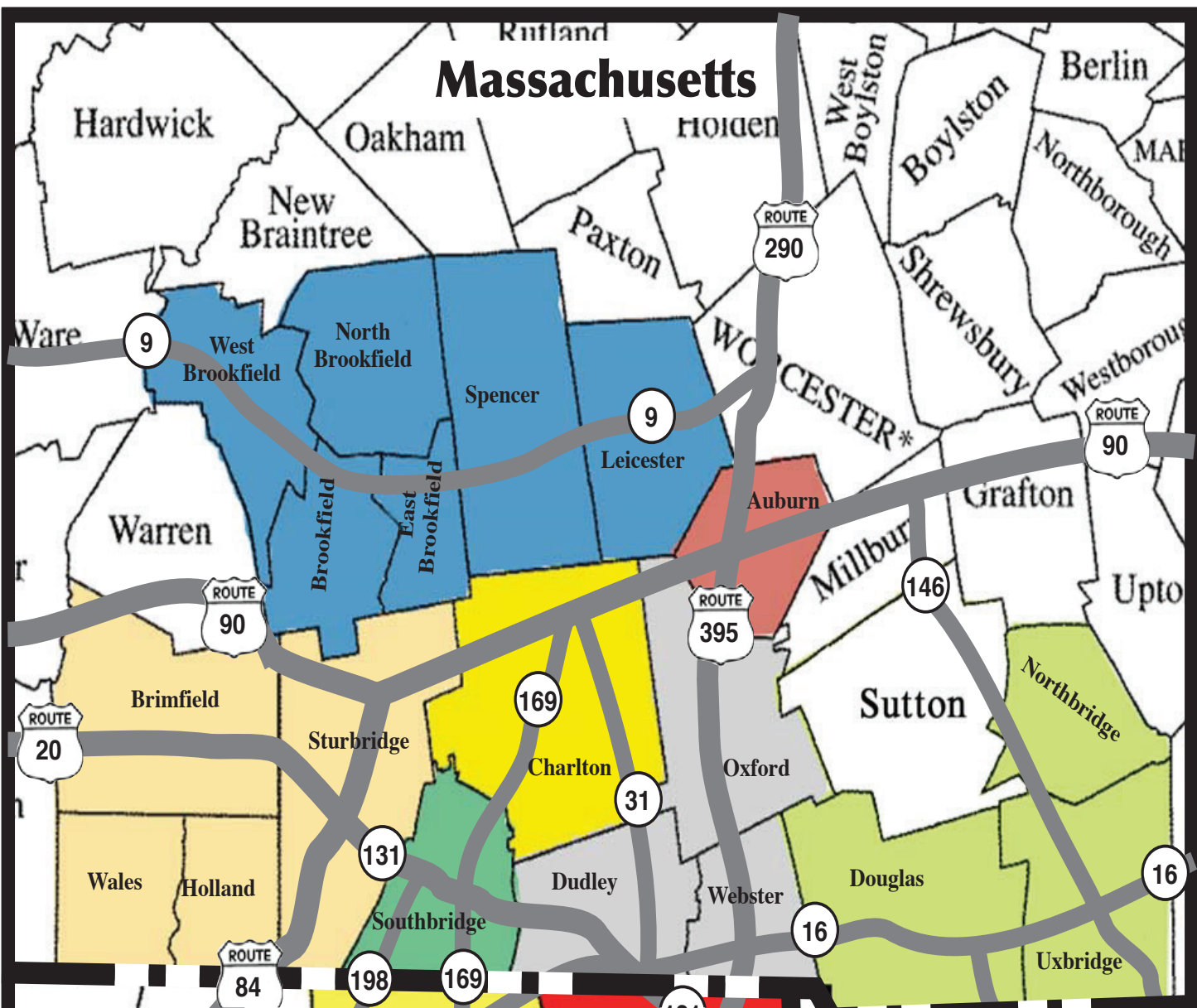
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CALENDAR

Saturday, February 8

PORK ROAST DINNER: St. Peter's Parish in Northbridge will be hosting a Pork Roast dinner on Saturday, Feb. 8, starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Tickets are \$10 adults/\$9 seniors and kids ages 4-12/ \$35 per family. Bring your family for a wonderful meal & meet some new friends. All proceeds from the dinner will help fund the Mission Trips for our Middle School & High School

kids in July. Tickets for the dinner must be purchased in advanced. Please call 508-234-2156 or email parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org to purchase tickets or if you have any questions.

Sunday, February 9

CANAL WALK: 1-2 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Join us on a guid-

ed walk along the Blackstone Canal. Find out about the canal's historical and cultural significance and its role in the farm to factory transformation of the Blackstone Valley. All walks end at start location. If conditions permit, bring snowshoes and hiking poles. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult.

NEW ENGLAND COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB DANCE: 1-5 p.m., Progressive

Club, 18 Whitin St., Uxbridge. Featuring live country music by Rhode Island Rednecks. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/NECountryMusicClub.

Tuesday, February 11

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Turn To **CALENDAR** page **A15**




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Blackstone Valley Tech's Jason Fowung drives past Bay Path's defense during an attempted layup.



Jason McKay photos

John Furno of Blackstone Valley Tech pushes through Bay Path's defense to be able to get to the basket.



Josh Mateo of Blackstone Valley Tech begins to fly through the air while being guarded by Bay Path's Cam Hafner.



Blackstone Valley Tech's Shea Finnegan pulls up and takes his shot against Bay Path.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — The Blackstone Valley Tech (BVT) boys' varsity basketball team may have lost the 3-point shooting contest in its game with Bay Path Regional on Tuesday, Jan. 28, but the Beavers still managed to defeat the Minutemen 91-75 in a game where the teams combined to make 23 shots from beyond the arc.

Bay Path, by the way, easily captured the three-point contest, hitting 17 long-range jumpers while BVT was "only" able to connect on six of its attempts from distance.

The Beavers, who improved to 6-5 overall and 5-1 in Colonial Athletic League play, were led by the three-headed monster that is junior Shea Finnegan and sophomores Josh Mateo and John Furno. Mateo finished with a game-high 27 points (one 3-pointer), while Finnegan checked in with 26 points and three 3s. Furno added nine points to the winning cause to go along with a game-high 23 rebounds.

In a game that, at times, looked more like an indoor track meet, BVT started quickly, opening leads of 11-6 and 22-17 before finishing the first quarter with a 27-22 advantage. Just when one thought the pace of the game couldn't get any faster, Valley Tech slammed its offense into another gear, the result of which was a 46-36 halftime lead.

"In the first quarter we did shoot well, however we did not defend well," explained Brew Cupid, BVT's second-year head coach. "The message going into the second quarter was to increase our pace of play because we knew coming into this game that Bay Path is a team that enjoys shooting 3-pointers; that's how they want to play."

"But, as is the case with any shooter, if you're having to defend speed on the other end of the floor, speed kills," Cupid added. "If you have to defend speed it doesn't matter how great a shooter you are, when your mind tells you you're fatigued, your body slows down and you start to

miss shots. So, our defensive approach after the first quarter was to play faster on offense."

That concept was fine with Mateo, who scored 20 points in the first half, and Finnegan, who scored 21 points in the second half.

"We played a little sloppy in our last few games, so we came into this game wanting to get back to playing basketball the way it's supposed to be played — fast, strong and physical," Mateo said. "That's the way we've been playing for most of the year."

Finnegan credited Mateo for his offensive pyrotechnics in the second half.

"The first half started a little slow for me, but in the second half Josh found me for some open shots and that helped me get back in my groove," Finnegan said. "Basketball is really all about mental toughness. If you miss a shot, you can't get down on yourself. That's where my teammates really help my game; they're always bringing me up and keeping me up."

When either team missed

shots, it seemed like Furno was there to snatch the ball out of the air. He was simply a rebounding machine, grabbing seemingly every uncontested rebound as well as several contested ones.

"Rebounding is all about effort, and I'm all about effort," the 6-foot-4, 240-pound Furno said. "I like crashing the boards and being as tough as I can be underneath the basket. I've played that way my whole life and it's worked, so why change it?"

The Beavers continued to push the tempo of the game in the third quarter and led 68-53 as play headed to the final period. BVT led by as many as 24 points, 90-66, with three minutes remaining in the game, which is when both teams liberally subbed in their reserves.

Cam Hafner led Bay Path, pouring in a team-high 26 points and hitting four 3-pointers. Dylan Cotton added 17 points and Jomar Torres 16 points. Cotton and Torres each drained five treys.

"We're very young, but these kids can play," Bay Path head

coach Al Greenough said. "I know our record is 2-10 but every single game that we've had this year — except the first one, at Bartlett where we just weren't ready to play — we've been right there, in the game. We've lost a lot of games in the fourth quarter that have been tied with a minute to go or two minutes to go."

"But being young and inexperienced, sometimes what comes with that is not being able to make that big play to win the game and get your team to the next level. That's what my team is learning right now, the hard way, with losses," Greenough added. "The development this team has shown through the course of this year is actually ahead of where I thought they'd be. I'm excited about this team going forward, but we need to play better defense as a team. We're giving up too many points. We're scoring a lot, but we're giving up too many."

SPORTS

Whitinsville Christian toughens up on defense in second half to take down Tigers



Whitinsville Christian's AJ Gorman inches his way toward the basket on a baseline drive.



Brian Doyle of Douglas looks to create space against Whitinsville Christian defender Seth Massotti.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS — When Brady Bajema, head coach of the Whitinsville Christian School (WCS) boys' varsity basketball team, and his star player, Justin Vander Baan, walked off the court at halftime of the Crusaders' Dual Valley Conference (DVC) game with Douglas High on Wednesday, Jan. 29, the pair looked like they were part of a team that was down a dozen points, not ahead by that margin.

"We weren't executing like we wanted to defensively. We weren't communicating and they were hitting shots and making plays," Bajema said. "That's what I talked about at halftime, the fact that we needed to communicate with each other. We just weren't doing that."

Bajema spoke and his WCS players listened. After allowing the Tigers to score 30 points in the first 16 minutes, the Crusaders held them to just 11 in the second half and went on to win the game, 70-41.

With the win Whitinsville Christian improved to 10-3 (4-2 in the DVC) and qualified for the Central Mass. Division 3 Tournament.

Vander Baan, the Crusaders' Boston College-bound 7-foot senior center, led the way, pouring in a game-high 33 points — 22 in the first half — and pulling down 16 rebounds. After the game he didn't want to talk about his offensive exploits, which included a dunk and three 3-pointers, but focused instead on his defensive deficiencies.

"We didn't play well defensively in the first half. All of us, including myself.

I got beat on a lot of plays in the first half. I needed to step up defensively and I felt like I did that in the second half," said Vander Baan, who scored the 1,000th point of his career two games later at Cardinal Spellman High on Monday, Feb. 3. "I thought I played better defensively in the second half, but it wasn't just me, everyone stepped up. We played defense in the second half the way we should have played defense the whole game. We've got to start out games playing defense the way we played it in the second half."

Whitinsville Christian's only other double-digit scorer against Douglas was freshman Nic DeNorscia, who finished with 14 points. Junior Ben Johnson added 9 points to the winning effort.

"He's going to be really good," Bajema said of DeNorscia, who is averaging 9.1 points per game for the Crusaders. "He plays in control and he is very efficient. He has a high basketball IQ."

After grabbing a quick 2-1 lead on a baseline jumper by senior Matt Smith (8 points), Douglas (2-11, 0-7 DVC) was unable to find the bottom of the basket for four minutes, after which it trailed 11-2. The Tigers were not discouraged, however, and battled back. After a 3-pointer by sophomore Steve Willand (a team-high 11 points) and a free throw by Smith, Douglas trailed by just five, 11-6, with 3:09 left in the opening period.

The teams, essentially, traded baskets for the rest of the quarter, after which WCS led, 18-10.

The Crusaders used an 11-1 run in the middle of the second quarter to build a double-digit lead, which they carried with them into halftime. In the third

quarter, having renewed their emphasis on defense, they outscored Douglas 17-7 to lead 59-37 as played headed to the fourth quarter.

"He's tough to stop; he's tough to guard. We threw everything but the kitchen sink at him and it didn't matter," Douglas head coach Dan Spring said of the Tigers' struggles trying to stop, contain or even slow down Vander Baan on the offensive end. "I've got to give my kids credit. They haven't quit, they've been playing hard all year. We're slowly getting better. That first quarter, the first half even, you could see it. We're coming. We're going to be OK as long as they keep at it."

Spring was clearly disappointed by

the loss, but that disappointment was tempered by the progress he sees in his team.

"Obviously you never want to lose. I hate losing, it stinks. But this year is different, this year the culture has changed," Spring said. "The kids have bought into it and they're trying hard and you can just tell that they're invested and that they care."

"Because of that you can tell that we're going to get better in the offseason and then be pretty good next year," Spring continued. "They listen, they pay attention, they execute, and they battle hard. They're also pretty intelligent, they work hard, and they seem to like each other. That always helps."



Douglas' Paul Smith fights through the reach provided by Whitinsville Christian defender Jake Bell and Josiah Graves.



Justin Vander Baan of Whitinsville Christian goes up for an easy two points.

SPORTS

Dube's 3-pointer does in Douglas, as Spartans emerge victorious in OT



Uxbridge's Sarah Johnston looks to make a move on Douglas' Morgan Berthiaume while driving the ball into the lane.



Morgan Berthiaume of Douglas searches for a teammate while Uxbridge's Brenna Neill defends.



Uxbridge's Grace Orr hoists a layup toward the basket versus Douglas.



Brenna Neill of Uxbridge tosses a pass over to her right side.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

UXBRIDGE — With the game winding down and the Uxbridge and Douglas High girls' varsity basketball teams engaged in a spirited tilt on Monday, Feb. 3, the Spartans needed unsung heroes to step up.

"Our two leading scorers fouled out," explained Uxbridge head coach Jeff LaCure of Grace Orr and Sarah Johnston. "Between them they average over 20 points. To play overtime and the end of the fourth quarter without them, we talk about the next girl up and I couldn't be prouder."

That's because reserve Ashley Dube, who had just one practice under her belt since returning to action from an illness, sank a 3-pointer from the right corner with 3.8 seconds remaining to lift the Spartans past the Tigers in overtime, 56-54.

"The kids know that Ashley has a nice shot. I said let's get our best early shot so that we can crash the glass and ideally we're looking for the 3," explained LaCure. "She does this every day in practice. That's why she was out there at the end."

Dube knew that she had to shoot the potential game-winning shot.

"I was open in the corner and there was absolutely no one on me, so I was like, 'let's just shoot it,'" she said. "It felt good to know that my teammates trusted me enough to shoot the ball."

And how did the shot feel coming off her fingertips?

"I knew it, I felt it — it felt so good," Dube said of the release and eventual swish, but she was quick to remember that the game wasn't officially over. "It felt really good until I realized there was still some time left. We couldn't get too excited, yet."

And Douglas nearly won the game at the buzzer. A play was drawn up that saw Ariana Sacco get open in the right corner, the same spot she had just hit a 3-pointer with 18 seconds to play to give the Tigers a 54-53 lead. But Sacco's final attempt hit the rim and bounced out.

"That was the play," Douglas head coach Ralph Quinn said. "She took her [defender] by the screen and popped back out — it was perfect."

The game itself saw Uxbridge race out to a 6-2 lead and they still led, 15-8, after the first quarter.

"Right from the beginning of the game we were stumbling a little bit early, but we didn't quit," said Quinn. "All of a sudden we were clicking, hitting the shots we're supposed to, so it was good."

The Tigers won second-quarter scoring by a 15-9 margin to get right back into the game, as the Spartans led 24-23 at the break.

Uxbridge still led through three quarters, 35-32, which set up a dramatic fourth quarter and overtime period.

When Douglas tied the score at 43-43, each team scored five more points to make it 48-48 through regulation. The Tigers' Morgan Berthiaume had a chance at the buzzer to win it, but her contested layup couldn't drop.

In the overtime Johnston hit a free throw and Berthiaume followed with a 3-pointer. Johnston then hit a layup to tie the score back up at 51-51.

Then, Uxbridge's Kathryn Cahill — another player LaCure cited as stepping up when called upon — grabbed two offensive rebounds and made the put-back to put her team ahead.

That's when Douglas retook the lead on Sacco's 3-pointer, which set the stage for Dube's heroics.

The loss dropped the Tigers'



While maneuvering on a fast break, Douglas' Allie Benedict begins to bounce a pass toward teammate Katie Peloquin.

record to 5-10, and since they play an 18-game schedule they are officially eliminated from postseason contention. Quinn is still proud of his team, though.

"We've had some tough losses where we've competed but can't get over the hump. But my god, the heart they play with, I'm pretty proud of them," he said.

Berthiaume (12 points, 11 rebounds), Allie Benedict (9 points, 6 rebounds), Jen Walker (8 points, 6 rebounds) and Sacco (8 points) led the way

for the Tigers.

Uxbridge, meanwhile, improved to 8-8. The Spartans play a 20-game schedule, so they must finish 10-10 or better to qualify for the Central Mass. Division 3 Tournament. Johnston (15 points, 6 rebounds), and Cahill (12 points) did their part scoring, as did Brenna Neill. She finished with a double-double total of 13 points (including three 3-pointers) and 14 rebounds.

"This is a kid — if she had three 3's, she's got nine or 10 this year — she had none

last year," LaCure said before touching on her hustle. "It's such an intangible, you can't teach it."

LaCure wasn't afraid to speak of this game's significance as the Spartans try to erase a three-year drought from the postseason.

"This was our tournament season right here. These kids have never played in the tournament, so they don't know what this process is like. They just learned a little bit tonight," he said.

OBITUARIES

Joseph W. Ross, 90



UXBRIDGE- Joseph W. Ross, 90, passed away at home surrounded by his loving family on Tues. Jan. 28, 2020. A loving husband and father of 8, he was the beloved husband of 49 years to Olive (Seagrave)

Ross.

Joseph is also survived by his children: William Ross and his wife Katherine of Uxbridge, Jo-Ann Brannan and her husband John of Blackstone, Irene Croteau and her husband Normand of Cumberland, RI, Brian Ross and his wife Beverly of Baltimore, MD, Paula James and her husband Kevin of Gainesville, VA, Glenn Ross and his wife Aaina of Randallstown, MD; also his two sisters: Lorraine Lavallee of Uxbridge and Shirley Griffith of Blackstone; 16 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren, as well as several nieces and nephews. Joe was also the father of the late Nancy Lanagan, and Alan Ross.

Joe was born in Uxbridge, the son

of the late Exziphir and Annette (Savage) Ross. He attended Uxbridge schools. Following his tour in the U.S. Navy as an Airplane Mechanic, he began his long career as an auto and small engine mechanic. He enjoyed woodworking, and tinkering with lawnmowers at home, going out to breakfast with his daughters on Sundays, and being a great-grand father. A family man, known for his great sense of humor, Joe was loved by all.

His funeral was held on Fri. Jan. 31st from Tancrell-Jackman Funeral Home, 35 Snowling Rd., Uxbridge with a service in the funeral home at 10:30 AM. Burial will follow in Prospect Hill Cemetery, Uxbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Thurs. Jan. 30th from 4-8 PM & prior to the funeral home service on Fri. from 9:30-10:30 AM. To leave a condolence message for his family please visit: <http://www.Jackmanfuneralhomes.com>



Lorraine P. “Lori” Sawash, 66



U X B R I D G E - Lorraine P. “Lori” (Kelley) Sawash, 66, passed away on Sun. Feb. 2, 2020 at home surrounded by her loving family. She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Raymond J. Sawash.

She is also survived by 3 children, Matthew J. Sawash and his wife Kacie of Mashpee, Kristin M. Sawash- Hartman and her husband Nicolas of Douglas, with whom she lived, and Danielle R. Carter and her husband Bruce of Milford; 8 grandchildren, Austin, Abby, Ryleigh, Brady, Damien, Ian, Brodey, Hailey, and a granddaughter Ava on the way. She also leaves 3 siblings, Kathleen Thelen and her husband Robert of Oviedo, FL, Paula Bresse and her husband Don of Grantham, NH, and Thomas Kelley III of Sarasota, FL, as well as many nieces, and nephews.

Born in Boston on Feb. 25, 1953 she was daughter of the late

Thomas Jr. and Dorothy (Brennan) Kelley and was raised in Framingham. She was a graduate of Marian High School in Framingham class of 1971, as well as Framingham State College where she earned a Bachelors degree in Education. Lori worked for many years as a home Daycare Provider. She enjoyed reading, crocheting, watching mystery shows, and vacationing on the Cape. She was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother and most enjoyed spending time with her family.

Her funeral was held on Wed. Feb. 5 from Tancrell-Jackman Funeral Home, 35 Snowling Rd., Uxbridge with a Mass at 11 AM in St. Mary’s Church, 77 Mendon St., Uxbridge. Calling hours at the funeral home were held prior to Mass from 9-10:30 AM. Burial will follow in Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne. In lieu of flowers, donations in Lori’s memory may be made to: Veterans Inc., 69 Grove St., Worcester, MA 01605. To leave a condolence message for her family please visit: <http://www.Jackmanfuneralhomes.com>

Mary C. Lamontagne, 91



DOUGLAS- Mary C. (Biros) Lamontagne, 91, of Palm Bay, FL formerly of Douglas died Sun Jan. 26, 2020 after a short illness. She was predeceased by her beloved husband of 62 years, Omer “Joe” Lamontagne –

the love of her life in 2012. She is survived by a son, Richard Lamontagne of Palm Bay, FL; a daughter, Lynn Syrek and her husband Al of Evans City, PA; a granddaughter, Janel (Somers) Edwards and her husband Matthew Edwards of Zelenople, PA; a great-grandson, Grayson Edwards, and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a sister, Anne Laine and 4 Biros brothers, Steven, John, Michael, and Frank.

Born in Douglas on November 12, 1928, she was the daughter of Mathia & Julia (Tolen) Biros and lived in Douglas until moving to Florida in 2005. Mary worked at the former Hayward Schuster Woolen Mills and Stanley Woolen Mills

before her retirement. She was a devout Catholic and a long-time parishioner of St. Denis Church in Douglas and of their Catholic Women’s Council. She was also a parishioner of Our Lady of Lourdes in Melbourne, FL. She was a member of Slovak Catholic Sokols in Douglas. She was a loving wife, a proud and caring mother, and an amazing grandma/great-grandma “GiGi”. She never missed a birthday, anniversary, holiday, or a chance to send a card to all her family and friends. She was the family historian, always snapping a photo or sharing her many “brag books”.

Her funeral was held on Sat. Feb 1st from Jackman Funeral Home, 7 Mechanic St., Douglas with a memorial Mass at 11 a.m. in St. Denis Church, 23 Manchaug St. Burial will follow in St. Denis Cemetery. Calling hours at the funeral home were on Sat. Feb 1st from 9-10:30 a.m. To leave a condolence message for the family, please visit: www.jackmanfuneralhomes.com



NORTHBRIDGE – Michael Paul Robarge, 63, passed away at his home on Thursday, January 30, 2020.

He is survived by his daughter, Sarah Anne Bowman and her husband Shawn of Buffalo, New York. Mike also leaves behind two grandchildren, Kylie Bowman and Alexander Bowman; his mother, Rita M. (Lamontagne) Robarge; his brother, David P. Robarge of Uxbridge; as well as aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and friends. He was predeceased by his father Paul A. Robarge, who sadly passed away in 1994. Though with him until the very end, Michael also leaves his best friend – his pride and joy – his rescue dog, Lexie.

Born in Milford, Massachusetts

on November 23, 1956, Mike grew up in Northbridge and was a graduate of Northbridge High Class of 1976. After living in Venice, Florida for nearly thirty years, Michael moved back to his hometown in August of 2019. It was in this area of New England that Mike had discovered his passions of working outdoors, maintaining his lawn, fishing, and hunting. These beloved hobbies were what led him be a member of both the Whitinsville Fish and Game and the Uxbridge Rod and Gun Clubs prior to his move to the south.

Though Mike worked many jobs over the years, he mostly worked in the construction industry building homes.

A Memorial Mass will be held at a later date in St. Patrick’s Church in Whitinsville followed by burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery in Uxbridge. To leave a condolence message for his family, please visit: www.Jackmanfuneralhomes.com

Robert A. Givner, 69



NORTH OXFORD/ UXBRIDGE – Robert A. Givner, 69, of Pleasant Street in North Oxford, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, February 1, 2020. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Gloria M. (Jacques)

Givner of North Oxford; two sons, Bryan J. Givner Sr. and his wife Eva of Oxford, and David M. Givner and his wife Diane of North Andover; his sister, Janice A. Fallows of Newburyport; and seven grandchildren, Bryan Jr., Lily, Calvin, Rose, Simon, Sadie, and Sawyer. He was predeceased by a sister, Patricia A. Kordas who died in 2012. He was born in Boston, son of the late Everett J. and Patricia R. (Showstead) Givner, and lived most of his life in Uxbridge before moving to North Oxford 15 years ago. He graduated from Uxbridge High School in 1969

and received a bachelor’s degree from Bentley College in 1973.

Mr. Givner was an accountant for Bernat Yarns in Uxbridge for many years, retiring in 1994. He was a former member of St. Mary’s Church in Uxbridge. He was an avid sports fan, loved puzzles, walking, reading, and vacationing in Maine. Most of all, he loved spending time with his grandchildren and attending their events.

A funeral will be held on Friday, February 7, 2020, from Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford, followed by a Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Roch’s Church, 332 Main St., Oxford. Burial will follow at North Cemetery in Oxford. Calling hours were Thursday, February 6, 2020, from 5-8 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 417005, Boston, MA 02241-7005. paradisfuneralhome.com

TRAINOR

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grance can worsen a sickness or even bring on death! Ditto for white flowers that show signs of wilting. And never pair white and red flowers in a bouquet for a sick person, as the combination is said to bring bad luck.

Day Lilies: These bright orange flowers, common to the New England landscape, were considered a lucky health charm when worn. It was believed wearing a lily would lighten one’s worries and lessen distress.

Poppies: While wearing a poppy in the lapel on Veteran’s day has long been a tradition to honor those who served and died for their country, poppies were also worn in the belief they help dispel worries and anxiety.

** Valentine’s Day: What does your gift of roses mean?

Roses, which are steeped in sentimental tradition, are the top choice for Valentine’s Day bouquets. The “language of flowers” can be traced back to the Victorian Era when the number and color of flowers were used to express love and to signify a romantic message.

Number of Roses:
*A single rose means “I love you” and symbolizes unwavering devotion
*Two roses intertwined can act as a marriage proposal.
*A half dozen roses in a bouquet mean “to love and cherish.”Six Roses signify a need to be
*Eleven roses confirm the recipient is truly and deeply loved. Thirteen roses indicate a secret admirer
*One dozen roses is a declaration of true love.

Color of Roses:
Red: Passion, Desire, love
Dark Red: Beauty and perfection
Pink: Romance and happiness
White: Innocence and purity
Yellow: Friendship and joy
Coral/Salmon: Desire
Purple: Devotion and enchantment
Red and Yellow mix: Falling in love
White and Red: Unity, endless love
**

Beneficial Blossoms
“Flower Power” takes on new meaning when you understand fresh flowers

have the capacity to alter our energy and emotions. Why not take the benefits of the flower garden one step further and plant specifically to improve both body and soul?

*Roses: No flower is more sentimental than the romantic rose. And it’s no wonder. The scent of roses evokes nostalgia, which can recall happy memories from the past.

*Violets: Research shows violets enhance learning speed by 17%, and also improve concentration when used in study rooms.

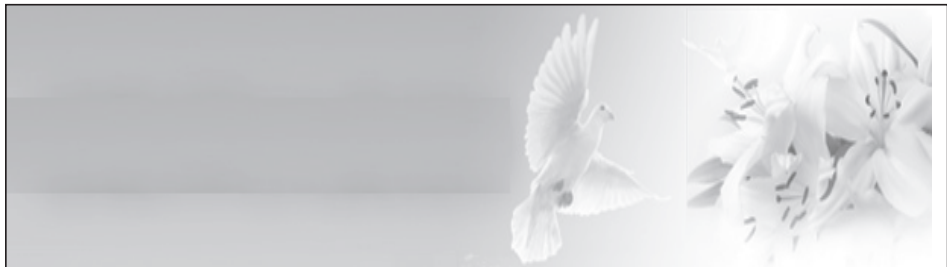
*Lilies: Need an energy boost? The scent of Lily has been proven to increase wakefulness and help you stay alert.

*Lavender: Want to relax? Plant lavender. The scent of lavender prompts calmness. It’s well known that studies report that the smell of lavender triggers alpha waves in the part of the brain associated with a relaxed state.

** Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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



Send all obituary notices to
Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90,
Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail
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CALENDAR

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READERS BOOK DISCUSSION: The next meeting of the Douglas Library book group will be held Feb. 11, 6:30 p.m. The Intrepid Readers, will be discussing Amarylis Fox’s Life Undercover. Fox was in an undergraduate at Oxford studying theology and international law when her mentor Daniel Pearl was captured and beheaded. Galvanized by this brutality, she applied to a master’s program in conflict and terrorism at Georgetown’s School of Foreign Service, where she created an algorithm that predicted the likelihood of a terrorist cell arising in any village around the world. Recruited by the CIA, she was fast-tracked into advanced operations training learning how to use a Glock and withstand torture. Deployed as a spy, Fox was sent to infiltrate terrorist networks in remote areas of the Middle East and Asia. This is her record of a life of service, passion, and courage. Call the Library 508-476-2695 for a copy of the book. New members always welcome. Homemade refreshments, inspired by the title being discussed, will be served.

Thursday, February 13

BROWN BAG ALONG THE BLACKSTONE: Noon-1 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Pack a lunch and join us in the River Bend Farm Visitor Center. We will watch an episode of “Along the Blackstone,” an award-winning series of videos by the National Park Service featuring the stories of the mill villages along the Blackstone River. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

BOOTS ALONG THE BLACKSTONE: 1-2:15 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Join an interpreter in a leisurely walk along the tow path while discussing the stories and history uncovered in the episode of Along the Blackstone watched during Brown Bag along the Blackstone! Approximately 2 miles. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

LIONS CLUB DINNER: The annual dinner for the seniors sponsored by the Lions Club will be held on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 6 p.m. at the Millbury Senior Center. A turkey dinner will be served. Please call or stop by the center to reserve your seat, (508) 865-9154.

CREATING A SAFETY PLAN FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: Uxbridge Police Department, in collaboration with Uxbridge Public Schools, is launching a new program to enhance communication between first responders and individuals with special needs. Parents or caregivers will have the ability to provide some basic information that officers will be able to access in the event of an emergency or a call for service at the individual’s home. The hope is to benefit families and officers by reducing the possibility of misunderstandings or unnecessary stress for children and adults with disabilities when they come into contact with first responders such as police and fire rescue. There will be an informational workshop on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. in the Uxbridge High School Library presented by Lieutenant, Timothy Burke, Uxbridge Police Department and Heather Sawash Board Certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA), Uxbridge Public Schools. They will provide an outline of the program and review the materials and process to voluntarily register your loved one. The workshop is free an open to all members of the public. For additional information please contact Heather Sawash either by email hsawash@uxbridge.k12.ma.us or phone (508) 278-8640.

Saturday, February 15

KIDLEIDOSCOPE: 11 a.m.-noon, Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Join us in the conference room of River Bend Farm Visitor Center for a nature themed story time, followed by a short nature walk and a craft activity. Meets rain or shine, during inclement weather nature walk with be replaced with activity in the Visitor Center’s unheated hayloft. Appropriate for ages three to six, siblings are welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

Friday, February 15 to Monday, February 18

STORYWALK — “AT GRANDPA’S SUGARBUSH” BY MARGARET CARNEY: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Get outside and enjoy reading a story as you stroll along the park. The featured picture book captures the signs of spring and the old-fashioned way of making maple syrup. A short, easy, self-guided walk. This program is free and open to the public. Meet at the River Bend Farm Visitor Center at 287 Oak Street in Uxbridge. For more information, please call (508) 278-7604.

Sunday, February 16

CANAL WALK: 1-2 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Join us on a guided walk along the Blackstone Canal. Find out about the canal’s historical and cultural significance and its role in the farm to factory transformation of the Blackstone Valley. All walks end at start location. If conditions permit, bring snowshoes and hiking poles. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult.

NEW ENGLAND COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB DANCE: 1-5 p.m., Progressive Club, 18 Whitin St., Uxbridge. Featuring live country music by Crossfire. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/NECountryMusicClub.

ANNUAL GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT FOR CORNELL UNIVERSITY: Join your Blackstone River Valley National Historic Park volunteers and West Hill Team . . . come explore how winter resident and migrants are surviving. Unfrozen sections of rivers and ponds attract birds in the winter as they seek water. Join us at West Hill Dam on Sunday, Feb. 16 at 2 p.m. (rain or heavy snow, come on Saturday Saturday, Feb. 22 at 2 p.m). Meet at the office located at 518 East Hartford Avenue, Uxbridge, MA. Help collect data for the Annual Backyard Bird Count. Explore various habitats and the birds that migrate or make their home in the pine groves, marshes, and riparian (river) habitats of West Hill Dam. Participants should dress for the weather, be prepared to hike about a mile to the various sites, snow shoes or deep snow boots are recommended. All are welcome to bring binoculars, pack a snack and water. We will review our observations over warm beverages while supplies last. In event of heavy snow or rain, alternate date Feb. 22 at 2 p.m. Junior Rangers Level 2 –earn wildlife credit. Scout Troops, home schooled students welcomed (merit badge requirements). Youth under the age of 18 please bring an adult. For more information please call Park Ranger Viola at (978) 318-8417. Observations help researchers determine species decline and migration patterns. Thank you for taking Pride in America’s Wildlife!

Monday, February 17

FUN ON THE FARM: 10 a.m.-noon, Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Come and play the way they would have in the early days of River Bend Farm. Learn how to play nine men’s morris, hoop and stick, and other games from the 18th and 19th centuries. Program will take place in the unheated hayloft of the River Bend Farm Visitor Center. All ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. In case of inclement weather program will take place in the hayloft of the Visitor Center. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

Thursday, February 20

SNOWSHOE STROLL: 1-2 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Bring your snowshoes and enjoy this easy pace winter walk along the tow path and through the meadow at River Bend Farm. This is a two mile walk on a flat trail. If there is no snow on the ground, we will take a two mile nature walk. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

MAPLE SUGARMAKERS WEATHER WATCH: 1-2 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Is it maple sugaring season yet? Let’s talk about the weather and the science of maple sugaring to find out what conditions get the sap running, then head out on the trail for some hands on action as we measure and mark trees for tapping. Up to a 1 mile walk. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

Friday, February 21

MAPLE STORY TIME: 10:30-11:30 a.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Join us in the heated meeting room for a maple themed story time, followed by a short outdoor nature walk and a craft activity. Meets rain or shine; during inclement weather outdoor discoveries will be substituted by a scavenger hunt in the unheated hayloft of the River Bend Farm Visitor Center. Bundle up and get young children out to enjoy nature! All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

WINTER WILDLIFE: 1-2 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Stop by the River Bend Farm Visitor Center to learn about the different animals that live in the park and what they do in the winter. This program will have a hands-on activity and a short walk to look for signs of winter wildlife. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

Saturday, February 22

KIDLEIDOSCOPE: 11 a.m.-noon, Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Join us in the conference room of River Bend Farm Visitor Center for a nature themed story time, followed by a short nature walk and a craft activity. Meets rain or shine, during inclement weather nature walk with be replaced with activity in the Visitor Center’s unheated hayloft. Appropriate for ages three to six, siblings are welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

WINTER HIKING WORKSHOP: 12:30-1 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Want to get more comfortable hiking in the winter? Join us for a workshop about proper winter hiking safety, technique, attire, gear, and more. Program will take place in the River Bend Farm Visitor Center conference room. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please contact the park at (508) 278-7604 for more information.

WINTER RECREATIONAL HIKE OF THE GOAT HILL TRAIL: 1-2 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Join us on this three mile round trip easy hike with the Blackstone River Watershed Association. We will hike around Goat Hill past the Goat Hill Lock and along the Blackstone River. Hot chocolate will be served after the hike. This is a family friendly hike and dogs are permitted on a leash. Portions of the trail are hilly and may be more strenuous if icy or snow covered. This forest trail has roots and rocks along the path. Be prepared for cold weather, dress in layers and avoid cotton clothing. Appropriate footwear is required, consider bringing hiking poles. Carry drinking water and snack. Appropriate for all ages. We will hike unless weather creates unsafe conditions. Please call 508-278-6486 for weather updates.

Sunday, February 23

CANAL WALK: 1-2 p.m., Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge. Join us on a guided walk along the Blackstone Canal. Find out about the canal’s historical and cultural significance and its role in the farm to factory transformation of the Blackstone Valley. All walks end at start location. If conditions permit, bring snowshoes and hiking poles. All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday & Sunday, March 14 & 15

QUILT SHOW: The Thimble Pleasure Quilt Guild is hosting a Quilt Show March 14 - 15 at the Blackstone Valley Tech High School, 95 Pleasant St., Upton, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The cost is \$10, 18 and under are Free. There will be Silent Auctions, Boutique Table, Raffle baskets, Raffle Quilt, a Special Fundraiser for Guiding Eyes for the Blind, and Vendors.

ONGOING EVENTS & INFORMATION

PEOPLE’S COFFEE HOUR: Every Tuesday starting from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church of Douglas (289 Main St.), we are hosting a no Bible experience necessary study including coffee and refreshments. The study is called ‘Praying with Jesus’. Study guides are provided free of charge. This study will run to the end of May. All attendees are welcome to anything from our food and kid’s clothing closet. All are welcome. Call Jeanie (508-476-9978) for more information.

FARMERS’ MARKET AT DANIELS FARMSTEAD: Farmers’ Market begins July 7 and continue every Sunday, 11am to 3pm, though September 29, grill open 11:30 to 2:30 serving grilled franks, burgers (both Angus beef and veggie) Italian sausage with peppers & onions, cold beverages and all the fix-ins, Picnic tables, Homemade goodies, Tours, Music 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

KUNDALINI YOGA: To celebrate the New Year we are offering Wednesday morning yoga classes from Jan. 8 to Feb. 26, 2020 (10-11:15 a.m.). This eight-week session is at St. Peter’s Parish Center in Northbridge. Participants may sign up for the entire session or join us when it suits your schedule (walk-in). Proceeds benefit St. Peter’s Parish. Learn new skills to manifest your intention for a healthier you. For more information visit: <http://kundaliniyogacma.wix.com/site> or call 508-234-4185.

NEED EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE? The Salvation Army is here to help serve emergency needs in the Blackstone Valley area. Services include assistance with food, clothing, utility payments and heating needs. To find out how we can help with your emergency needs, call 508-342-7122. Leave your name and telephone number and your call will be returned.

FREE WILL DINNERS: The First Congregational Church of Sutton, 307 Boston Road, presents its monthly free

will offering of open seating dinners 4:30-6:30 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month. All welcome. Dinners served with bread, beverage and dessert. For information, call 865-6914.

SENIOR BREAKFAST: St. John’s Episcopal Church Senior Breakfast held first Friday of the month 8-9 a.m. at the church, 3 Pleasant St., off Route 122A, Sutton, and is handicapped accessible. Suggested donation is \$5. For information, call Cyndy Rogers, (508) 529-4437.

PARENT SUPPORT: Parent Support Group in Millbury sponsored by Parent Professional Advocacy League. Free and confidential Parent Support Group on the second (workshop) and fourth (sharing) Friday of the month 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Millbury Public Library. Call PPAL (508) 767-9725 for information. PPAL is a statewide network of parents and professionals and adolescents with emotional, behavioral and mental health needs.

CARING: The Caregivers Group meet in the library at the Northbridge Senior Center fourth Tuesday of month 3-4 p.m. If currently caring for a family member or close friend, come and join others who share your compassion.

AL-ANON: A “Serenity on The Hill” Al-Anon step meeting held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at Congregational Church of Grafton, 30 Grafton Common, in the fireplace room.. Support group for family and friends of problem drinkers. Newcomers welcome. For information: 508-366-0556.

YOGA GROUP: join the Sunshine Yoga Collaborative in our mission to bring community based yoga to Uxbridge and the surrounding communities! Classes are appropriate for just beginning to advanced student. Class is Sunday 7:30-8:30 a.m. at Alternatives, Unlimited, 50 Douglas Road, Whitinsville. Extra yoga mats, but most bring their own. \$5 donation per class, which given to local organization. Visit Facebook: Sunshine Yoga Collaborative.

RECOVERY: Every Monday, Celebrate Recovery, a Biblically based step program designed to heal a wide variety of habits and harmful behaviors, such as drug dependency, abuse, eating disorders, depression, anger, pornography, broken relationships. Group meets every week in two-part session, an open group followed by gender-specific small share groups. Starts at 7 p.m. and ends at 9. Come at 6:30 p.m. for coffee and conversation. Pleasant Street Church, 25 Cross St., Whitinsville, (508) 234-5268, ext. 14, or email howard@pscr.org.

BREAKFAST: The John 21 Community Breakfast at St. Patrick’s Church has been established as a response to the needs of many people in our community. Breakfast will continue each and every Saturday 8-10 a.m. in the Parish Center, 1 Cross St., Whitinsville. Our mission is to serve a nutritious breakfast, free of charge, every Saturday morning in the spirit of community fellowship and hospitality. Teams of volunteers prepare and serve breakfast on a rotating basis. All welcome. For information contact ministry coordinator at John21Breakfast@gmail.com. To make a donation contact St. Patrick’s rectory at 508-234-5656.

Legos Club: first and third Mondays of each month, ages six and up 3-5 p.m. at Whitinsville Social Library. Information about programming, visit the library’s website www.northbridge-mass.org/whitinsville-social-library.

PROJECT KIBBLE: In this tight economy, it can be tough to make ends meet. What about your four-legged friends? Project Kibble collects donations of pet food and supplies and distributes them to local food pantries. We accept dog and cat food, kitty litter, small rodent and fish food. All donations must be unopened and unexpired. For more information contact projectkibble@gmail.com or call Christine 508-234-8131.

12-STEPS FOR OTHERS: Adult Children of Alcoholics 12-step support group meets 7:30 to 9 p.m. Mondays at the Hopedale Unitarian Church, 65 Hopedale St. For information, Rose at (508) 234-9004.

KUNDALINI YOGA: The fall session for the Wednesday morning class is from Sept 11 to Oct. 30 (10-11:15 a.m.). This 8-week session is offered at St. Peter’s Parish Center in Northbridge. Participants may pay for the entire session or attend as a walk-in student. Proceeds benefit the Youth Ministry and St. Peter’s Parish. For more information visit: <http://kundaliniyogacma.wix.com/site> or call 508-234-4185. All are welcome to join us on a journey toward a more balanced life.

PEOPLE’S COFFEE HOUR: Every Tuesday starting Oct. 15 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church of Douglas (289 Main St.), we are hosting a no Bible experience necessary study including coffee and refreshments. The study is called ‘Pilgrim’s Progress, a guided tour by Derek W.H. Thomas’. Study guides are provided free of charge. This study will run to the end of May. All attendees are welcome to anything from our food and kid’s clothing closet. All are welcome. Call Jeanie (508-476-9978) for more information



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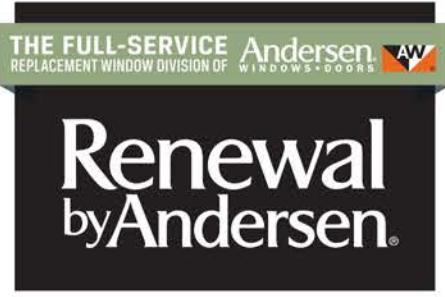
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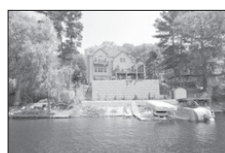


CHARLTON – 105' WATERFRONT! Baker Pond! 63 Lincoln Pt Rd! East Facing – Fantastic Sunsets! Custom 9 Rm Colonial! Beautiful 1/2 Acre Lot w/Lawn to Water's Edge! 2 Story Foyer! Natural Woodwork! Open Fir Plan! Applianced Granite Kit w/Is, Recessed Lights, Tile Flr & Water View! Din Area w/Slider to Deck! Sunken Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Water Views! Din Rm w/Hrdwd! 1/2 Bath w/Pedestal Sink! 2nd Fir w/4 Bdrms, 3 w/Water Views! Master w/Cathedrals, French Dr to Balcony, Bath w/Separate Tub/Shower, Walk-in Closet & Laundry! Hall Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w/31' Fam Rm! Full Kit! Full Bath & Laundry! Includes NEW A/C SPLIT SYSTEM! Enjoy Outside from the Farmer's Porch, Deck, Patio, Screened Porch or Dock! 2 Car Garage! Full Recreational Use! **\$524,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 50 West Point Rd! Killdeer Island! 4,700' Entertainers Dream! Magnificent Sunsets! Built 2016, Has It All! 2 Story Foyer! Granite Kit w/Center Isl, Dble Oven, High End Appliances & Walk-in Pantry! Din Rm w/Wet Bar, Sliders to 14x30' Deck! Bright & Airy Liv Rm w/Lake Views, Custom Built Cabinets, Gas Frplc! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry! An ELEVATOR to Service All 3 Floors! Upstairs leads to 3 Spacious Bdrms each w/Private Baths! Master w/Tray Ceiling, Walk-in Closet & Private Balcony! Master Bath, Soaker Tub & Large Tile Shower! Walk-up Attic w/Expansion Possibilities! Lower Level w/Full Kit, 1/2 Bath, Lake Facing Fam Rm, Media/Exercise Rm + Lake Facing Bdrm w/Frplc & Private Bath! Slider to Patio! 13 Zones! Oversized 2 Car Garage! Loaded w/Quality & Detail! **\$1,175,100.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 50 Union Point Rd! Panoramic Views of Middle Pond – South Facing – Tons of Sun! Principal Residence or as a Second Home! This 6+ Rm Gambrel Colonial will be Ready for You! You'll Appreciate its Easy Access and Taken Back by the Ever Changing Lake Vistas! Featuring Applianced Kitchen w/Island, Dining Area, Lake Facing Fireplace Living Rm with Custom Cabinetry, All with Hardwood Floors! Ideal Lake Facing 3 Seasons Rm w/Tile Floor & Anderson Sliders All Around! 3 Second Floor Bedrooms! Spacious Lake Facing Master w/Cathedral Ceiling & 2 Sliders to its Private Deck! 2 Full Baths! Central Air! Composite Decks & Flag Stone Patio for Your Enjoyment! 7,405' Lot with 50' on the Water! Sorry, Closing not before 9/10/2019! **\$624,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 68 W Point Rd! Western Exposure – Spectacular Sunsets! 75' Waterfront w/Expansive Views! 6 Rm Yr Rd Ranch! Ideal 2nd Home! Renovate or Enjoy As Is! Open Fir Plan! Applianced Cabinet Packed Kit! Lake Facing Din & Liv Rms w/Water Views! Sliders to Screen Enclosed Porch! Master w/Ceiling Fan & Dble Closet! 2nd Bdrm w/Dble Closet! Full Bath off Hall! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w/25' Fam Rm w/Door to Lakeside Patio, Bdrm, Full Bath & Utility/Storage Rm! 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths Total! Oil Heat! Covered Entry Ramp & Electric Chair Lift! Shed! Dock! Summer Will Be Back – Don't Delay! **\$499,900.00**



CHARLTON – 105' WATERFRONT! Baker Pond! 63 Lincoln Pt Rd! East Facing – Fantastic Sunsets! Custom 9 Rm Colonial! Beautiful 1/2 Acre Lot w/Lawn to Water's Edge! 2 Story Foyer! Natural Woodwork! Open Fir Plan! Applianced Granite Kit w/Is, Recessed Lights, Tile Flr & Water View! Din Area w/Slider to Deck! Sunken Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Water Views! Din Rm w/Hrdwd! 1/2 Bath w/Pedestal Sink! 2nd Fir w/4 Bdrms, 3 w/Water Views! Master w/Cathedrals, French Dr to Balcony, Bath w/Separate Tub/Shower, Walk-in Closet & Laundry! Hall Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w/31' Fam Rm! Full Kit! Full Bath & Laundry! Includes NEW A/C SPLIT SYSTEM! Enjoy Outside from the Farmer's Porch, Deck, Patio, Screened Porch or Dock! 2 Car Garage! Full Recreational Use! **\$524,900.00**

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WEBSTER LAKE – 506 Beacon Park! 1,280' Custom WATERFRONT Townhouse, Ideal End Corner Unit w/Panoramic Lake Views! Overlooks Lakeside Pool & Sandy Beach! From the Private Entry this Unit is Like No Other! Being Sold Fully Furnished & Appointed! 1st Fir w/Beautiful Maple Hrdwds! SS Applianced Silstone Kit! Recessed Lighting! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath! 2.5 Tile Baths! Recent A/C & Heat! Garage! **\$369,900.00**



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WEBSTER - 68 POLAND ST

4 BEDROOM COLONIAL! 2600 SQ FT, 2 FULL BATHS, 2 FIREPLACES, 2 CAR GARAGE, ABOVE GROUND POOL, 1ST FLOOR BEDROOM, UPDATES INCLUDE - RECENT WINDOWS, ROOF, UPSTAIRS BATH, FHW GAS HEATING SYSTEM!!!!

\$339,000.

SEE YOU ON SATURDAY!

WEBSTER - 5 SURREY LN



BRAND NEW TO MARKET! Welcome Home! RARE FIND!! Gently Used 5 Bdrm Colonial, or 4 Bdrms & Game Room! This 24 x 28 3 Car Garage HAS HEAT! Radiant Heat in Floor, 8' High Garage Doors, Open Concept Kitchen, Dining & Living Room, Full bath, Beautiful Granite Counters w/Breakfast Bar, Newer SS Appliances – Slider off Din Rm to Deck & Patio – Second Floor – 5 Over-sized Bdrms! Bath & Laundry Rm! Walk up Attic for storage! **\$499,000.**

WEBSTER - 8 MAPLE ST



Updated 2 Family – Vinyl Siding – **1st Floor:** 6 Rooms, 3 bedrooms, 1 Full Bath, open kitchen, Fully Applianced, Washer & Dryer Included, New Carpeting, Hardwood Floors. **2nd Floor:** Open Kitchen with Gorgeous Kitchen Cabinets – 6 Rooms, 3 Bed, 1 Full Bath Hardwood Floors, New carpeting, Each Apartment has 1,200+ sq ft plus, Oil Heat – 2 New Oil Tanks, Circuit Breakers, Off street parking, Town Water & Sewer, 3rd Story Unfinished, Great Commuter Location. **\$237,500**

POMFRET, CT - 280 RIVER RD



Motivated Seller! Cape that has been completely re-modelled!, 3 Br, 1 bath, 1.7 acres. New kitchen cabinets w/granite counters and center island. New electrical/plumbing. Large Gambrel Post & Beam. 2 bay garage w/loft. New septic. **NEW PRICE \$244,900**

WEBSTER - 14 HIGHCREST #4



ON DEPOSIT

Ready to move in! 2 bedroom 1 1/2 bath condo. Large bedrooms with large full bath master bedroom private access. Skylight Hallway, extra large living area with separate dining! Access to private deck via sliders, fully applianced kitchen, loads of counter space, tons of storage. Full finished basement, brand new heat and a/c system. **\$134,900.**

WEBSTER - 212 SCHOOL ST



SORRY, SOLD!

Large 4 Family! 3 car garage! Off street parking. 2 bedrooms each unit! Walk-up attic with a lot of potential! Solar panels!! Fully Rented. **\$369,900.**

WEBSTER - 3 STEFANIAK AVE.



SORRY, SOLD!

Cute 2 Bedroom Ranch! All hardwood floors, gas fireplace living room! 2 baths. Appliances included. 2 zone heat. Large deck! Young asphalt roof. Walk out lower living level. Town Water & Sewer, City Gas **\$219,900.**

WOODSTOCK, CT - 64 LYON HILL RD



SORRY, SOLD!

Estate like long paved driveway! 3158 Sq Ft Colonial! Geothermal built. Open floor plan, ash flooring throughout! Granite and s/s applianced kitchen! Large master bedroom, coffered ceiling, master bath, W/Jetted tub! Walk in closets. Two car garage. Radiused walkout on upper level! Walk up attic. Walk out lower level! The third garage is accessed from the lower level. Generator hookup. One beautiful property! assisted sale **\$499,900.**

WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS



Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000 +/- Sq. Ft. Possible potential for a 2 family to be built! Town Water, Sewer, City Gas! Nice level lot. **\$70,000**
Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2-2.5 Acres of flat land that abuts Douglas State Forest \$132,900
Webster - 3 Lots Cooper Rd. **Attention Developers!** 3 abutting house lots, potential to divide into 5-6 Buildable lots! w/water/sewer access **\$129,400**
Webster - 85 Upper Gore! View of the Lake. 1+ acre,artesian well, Septic Design, Etc. **\$130,000.**
Oxford - 4 Leicester St. approx. 8.47 acres! River frontage! Highly possible to be subdivided. **\$99,900**

HOLLAND - 6 MAIDEN LN



SORRY, SOLD!

A nice place to call home! Houses situated perfectly on the lot to promote privacy on this .44 acre Lot! 6 room 2 bedroom 1-1/2 Bath. 2 brick fireplaces! Furnace and roof approximately 6 years old. Plus a guest house! assisted sale **\$229,000.**

WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD



ATTENTION DEVELOPERS

Available 10,000+ sq. ft. of Land. Zoned Lake Residential. Potential to divide into 2 Buildable Lots. Town Water & Sewer Available. **\$49,000.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagogggchaubunagungamaugg

WEBSTER LAKE - 118 POINT BREEZE RD



SORRY, SOLD!

Excellent Opportunity to Finally Own Your Own Webster Lake Waterfront Property! Prime Location, 5,697+/- SF Lot, 50' Rd & Water Frontage at a Great Price! Contemporary Ranch offers 996+/- SF of living area w/2 BRs & 2 full baths. Plus, convenient, indoor access to Walkout Lower Level w/tremendous potential for additional living area. Main level features Open Floor Plan w/sliders to full front deck! Spectacular Westerly views across Middle Pond! Additional land & shore frontage available. **NEW PRICE \$299,900**



SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER LAKE – 32 JACKSON RD

AN INTRIGUING OPPORTUNITY TO OWN AN EXTREMELY UNIQUE 3.32 ACRE WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT PROPERTY! Ch



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35 Lakeside Ave.
Webster Lake area. Attractive well kept 3brm, 2 bath cape located steps away from a neighborhood beach on Webster Lake for summer enjoyment or winter ice fishing? Features 2nd level master suite w/sitting room. 2 more brms on the main flr w/eat-in kitchen and living room. All appliance kitchen, washer/dryer included. Large lot w/deck and small fenced in area for a pet. Quiet neighborhood and minutes to Rt. 395 and shopping
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CAN'T FIND A HOUSE, BUILD ONE!! WE HAVE LOTS & BUILDERS! CONTACT US!

BROOKFIELD WATERFRONT PRISTINE PROPERTY on Quabog Pond 5 rooms 2 bedrooms 2 baths First floor has updated kitchen, livingroom, bedroom & full bath. Master suite on second floor with wonderful water views! Loaded with windows. Bedroom, full bath, walk in closet plus another room-big enough for family room and office. Full basement. Level lot with plenty of parking, easy access to water. Full recreational lake! **\$329,900.**

SOUTHBRIDGE: Spacious 8 room 4 bedroom 2 bath home for under \$200K! Updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances! Front to back family room with wood stove, bay window & sliders to deck. First floor bedroom and bath. Second floor has two big bedrooms plus sitting area. Replacement windows. New HW **\$189,900**

OPEN HOUSE 12-2PM SUN Weather Permitting 20 HARTWELL TER, SOUTHBRIDGE
Immaculately maintained Cape Cod Style home! 6 rooms 4 bedrooms 2 baths. Beautiful kitchen with appliances. Wonderful heated sun room with deck for barbecuing. Hardwood floors. Central Air. Updated boiler and hot water. Professionally landscaped yard. Located at the end of a dead end street. **\$219,900.**

STURBRIDGE: Desirable Double Wide Mobile Home in Sturbridge Retirement Center! Part 5 rooms 2 bedrooms 2 baths! EXCELLENT LOCATION being the last home on dead end! Privacy! Large master bedroom with master bath! Vaulted ceilings in living room/dining room combo. Eat in kitchen. Large enclosed porch totl Shd. **\$70,000** plus park share!

SOUTHBRIDGE: Wonderful 2 family on corner Lot with Yard! Many updating was done in 2008 including, roof, siding, 2nd story, electrical, plumbing, plus numerous interior upgrades. Fully rented with good income! **\$179,900.**

SOUTHBRIDGE: STOP RENTING and buy this! Inexpensive but move in ready home! 5 room 2 bedroom 1 bath! Open Porch. Vinyl sided. Full basement. No work needed. Off street parking. A little yard. **\$114,900.**

ACTIVELY SEEKING LISTINGS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:
SOUTHBRIDGE, STURBRIDGE, DUDLEY, CHARLTON, WEBSTER, HOLLAND. PLEASE CONTACT US!



Woodstock: 21 acres, Custom white cedar log home, Cathedral ceilings, Fireplaces, Enjoy amazing wildlife in the area. Showing by appointment!
480 Route 197 - \$600's

Subdivision opportunity: 18 lots, build homes \$420,000 +, Town water & sewer available, A great community for low taxes and desirable schools, 25 min. to Worcester, 1 hr. to Hartford, Boston & Providence
Jesse Rd - \$575,000

Szymczak Sells WEBSTER
SOLD
30 Stoughton Ave - \$269,000

Szymczak Sells WEBSTER LAKE
SOLD
16 Pattison Rd - \$735,500

Maureen Makes It Happen WEBSTER
SOLD
21 Third St - \$215,000

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SOLD
OXFORD, MA - \$234,900
44 Depot Road
3 Bedroom, Ranch
Recently Remodeled

PENDING
WEBSTER, MA - \$288,900
90-A Sutton Rd.
3 Bedroom, Raised Ranch.

PENDING
DUDLEY, MA - \$248,500
5 Fairview Ave
Under Priced, Needs Work

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WEBSTER, MA - \$1350/Mo.
6 Summit Street
3 Bdrm Apt., First, Last, Security. Completely remodeled, brand new appliances incl. W/D

FOR RENT
WEBSTER, MA - \$1100/mo
56 Chase Ave, Apt #2
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(C) Condo (B) Business (P) Land	(X) Condo (U) Duplex (L) Mobile Home	(M) Multi-Family (S) Single Family (A) Apartment	(T) Townhouse (D) Adult Community (W) Waterfront
ADDRESS			
STYLE			
TIME			
PRICE			
REALTOR/SELLER/PHONE			
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8			
WARREN			
59 Mechanic St.	S	Noon-1	\$269,900 Coldwell Banker/ Nathan Stewart 413-387-8608
WEBSTER			
56 Chase Ave. Apt. #2	A	Noon-2	\$1100/Mo Re/Max Professional Associates/ Patrick Sweeney 774-452-3578
68 Poland St	S	Noon-2	\$339,000 Hope Real Estate/ June Czeault 860-377-2077
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9			
DUDLEY			
71 Mason Rd	S	11-1	\$319,900 ReMax Advantage 1 / Joanne Szymczak 508-230-5044
SOUTHBRIDGE			
20 Hartwell Ter.	S	Noon-2	\$219,900 Aucoin Ryan Realty/ 508-765-9155
WEBSTER			
35 Lakeside Ave	S	1:15-3	\$269,900 Centerwood Realty/ Judy Colecchi 508-943-8844



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LEGALS

(SEAL) COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 19 SM 004310 ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Meaghan C. Walsh f/k/a Meaghan C. Skaggs and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. §§ 3901 et seq.: Wilmington Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as trustee for MFRA Trust 2014-2 claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Northbridge, numbered 57 Quaker Street, given by Meaghan C. Walsh f/k/a Meaghan C. Skaggs to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Nominee for HSBC Mortgage Corporation, dated May 7, 2007, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41142, Page 235, as affected by a Home Affordable Modification Agreement dated March 27, 2013 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds at Book 51337, Page 171, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before March 2, 2020 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of this Court on January 21, 2020. Attest: Deborah J. Patterson Recorder February 7, 2020

B.M.S.F. Tax Filing Barry McCloskey Scholarship Foundation LTD Will make available to interested parties its annual Private foundation tax filing for 2019 between the Hours of 8:00A.M. and 3:00P.M. on Friday May 15, 2020 at Uxbridge High School 300 Quaker Highway, Uxbridge, MA February 7, 2020 A.C. 92

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS WORCESTER, SS PROBATE COURT To John Patrick Murray of Uxbridge in the County of Worcesterand to all other persons interested. A petition has been presented to said Court by Deborah Ann Kindl of Uxbridge in the County of Worcester representing that she holds as tenant in common undivided part or share of lying in Uxbridge in said County Worces-

ter and briefly described as follows: EXHIBIT-"A" A certain lot or parcel of land withthe builings thereon, being shown as Lot# 1 on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Uxbridge, Mass for Proposed Sale of Land by Millicent P. Rior, scale 1" = 40", dated November 22, 1995 by Andrew Survey & Engineering, Inc., 104 Mendon Street Uxbridge MA" being recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 700 as Plan 90. BEGINNING at a drill hole set in the corner of walls on the southerly side of Hazel Street at land now formerly of James Racicot; THENCE N. 76° 59' 44"E., 162.68feet-toadrill.hole; THENCE N 54° 52' 41" E., 79..90 feet to a drill hole; THENCE N 59° 00' 12"E., 57.42 feet to a point, 'the last three coursed bounding Northerly on Hazel Street; THENCE S. 300 59' 48" E.; 283.00 feet to a point; THENCE S. 67° 10' 37" W., 338.65 feet to a point; THENCE N. 27° 55' 08" W., 145.00 feet to a drill hole set in the wall; THENCE N. 16° 11' 01" W., 139.19 feet to the point of the beginning. The last 2 coursed being by land now or formerly of James J. Racicot. Containing 2.01 acres of land, more or less. Said parcel being subject to a 2.0 foot wide grading easement along the east-erly sideline and a 30.00 foot Radius rounding easement as shown on said plan. Being the same premises conveyed by deed of Jacob S. Farrington et uxdated November 23, 2015 and recorded Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book 54623, Page 298. and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof. If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the Eighteenth day of February, the return day of this citation. Witness, Leilah A. Keamy, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this Seventh day of January 2020. Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate January 24, 2020 January 31, 2020 February 7, 2020

(SEAL) COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 20 SM 000209 ORDER OF NOTICE To: Charles Corbett a/k/a Charles M. Corbett Theresa A. Corbett a/k/a Theresa

Corbett and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq): Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Uxbridge, numbered 30 Glendale Avenue, given by Charles Corbett and Theresa A. Corbett to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for RBMG, Inc., dated July 11, 2003, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 31342, Page 33, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before March 2, 2020 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on January 15, 2020. Attest: Deborah J. Patterson Recorder 19-036344/ FC01 February 7, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Kenneth G. Wiersma and Karen L. Wiersma to Union Capital Mortgage Business Trust, dated July 14, 2005 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36893, Page 177 (the "Mortgage"), as affected by a Reformation Order dated July 16, 2018, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 59276, Page 268 of which mortgage US Bank National Association as Trustee for Structured Asset Securities Corporation Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-OPT1, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-OPT1 is the present holder by Assignment from Union Capital Mortgage Business Trust to Option One Mortgage Corporation dated July 14, 2005 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 38760, Page 140, and Assignment from Option One Mortgage Corporation to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for the Structured Asset Securities Corporation, Series 2005-OPT1 to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Structured Asset Securities


Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-OPT1 dated October 24, 2012 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 50247, Page 358, and Assignment from Union Capital Mortgage Business Trust to U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Structured Asset Securities Corporation Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-OPT1, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-OPT1 dated January 19, 2017 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 56835, Page 122, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 126 Fowler Road, Northbridge, MA 01534 will be sold at a Public Auction at 12:00 PM on March 6, 2020, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: Lot 31A as it appears on the "Plan of Land in Northbridge, Mass." dated July 18, 2001 and recorded with the Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 774, Plan 27. For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 19874, Page 169. The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession. Terms of the Sale: Cash, cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable in cash or by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. Other terms to be announced at the sale. US Bank National Association as Trustee for Structured Asset Securities Corporation Mortgage Loan Trust 2005-OPT1, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-OPT1 Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Wiersma, Karen, 14-017757 February 7, 2020 February 14, 2020 February 21, 2020

HERE & THERE

Local Events, Arts, and Entertainment Listings

"THE LAKE IN WINTER" EVENT.
2:30: Ken Ethier: Presentation on Ice harvesting
East Brookfield Town Hall
3:30: Bonfire, Music, Skating and S'mores with DJ and concessions. Lake Lashaway Town Beach
FREE -snacks for sale

PETTY LARCENY
9pm-12am
308 Lakeside
308 East Main Street
East Brookfield, MA 01515 774-449-8333

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9

6AM - 2PM FISHING DERBY - Details to come! See Facebook @EB100th or tinyurl.com/EB100th!

SATURDAY, MARCH 14
OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/RR/Art Guild/ Boy Scouts) 108 School Street FREE 1:00-3:00

TUESDAY, MARCH 24
RE-ENACTMENT of signing of town bill and unveiling of Anniversary Quilt Senior Center, Pleasant Street. 6:30pm FREE


SATURDAY, APRIL 4,
ROARIN' TWENTIES DANCE at Sturbridge Host Hotel \$35, 5:00pm Tickets @EventBrite.com or at the library

SATURDAY, APRIL 11,
OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield 1:00-3:00. FREE

SATURDAY, APRIL 18,
HISTORICAL TALK - Ed Londergan - The First and Second Settlements East Brookfield Town Hall 9:30 FREE

TOWN WIDE CLEAN-UP DAY
Meet at East Brookfield Town Hall 9:00

SATURDAY, MAY 2,
EAST BROOKFIELD NATURE WALKS at Pelletier Woods Howe Street, East Brookfield 2:00. FREE


SATURDAY, MAY 9,
OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR). 108 School Street, East Brookfield. 1-2:00 FREE

SATURDAY, MAY 16,
7K RUN AND FUN WALK Timberyard Brewery, East Brookfield 10:0am. \$30.00 adults, \$15.00 kids

SATURDAY, MAY 30
HISTORICAL TALK - Ed Londergan - Murder in the Brookfields (Spooner / Newton Murders) East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

SATURDAY, JUNE 6
HISTORY & DESSERT at Podunk Chapel, East Brookfield 2:00 & 3:30 seatings. \$5.00 pp

FRIDAY, JUNE 12
COAST GUARD BAND East Brookfield Elementary School, 7:00 FREE

SATURDAY, JUNE 13
OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield 1:00-3:00. FREE

SATURDAY, JUNE 20,
OPEN HOUSE
at Camp Frank A. Day (archery, boating, basketball, mini golf, lunch) Rain Date: June 21. 125 South

MONDAY, JULY 6
SUMMER READING KICK OFF - EB Library - continues for five weeks. East Brookfield Town Hall. FREE

SATURDAY JULY 25
HISTORICAL TALK - Heather Gablaski - East Brookfield: 100 Years a Town East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

SATURDAY, JULY 11
INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION Parade & Fireworks Connie Mack Field East Brookfield

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8
OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00. FREE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
PARADE AND FAMILY FUN EVENT! Route 9, East Brookfield, 9:30 -7:00. FREE. Rain date Sept 13

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00. FREE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 3:30
BUS AND CEMETERY TOUR, ending in dinner at Podunk Chapel. Meet at East Brookfield Town Hall. \$15-\$20.00 pp

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7
HISTORICAL TALK - Guy Morin- Central Massachusetts during the Revolution East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30 FREE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14
OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00. FREE

HISTORICAL TALK -
Ken and Tina Ethier - "Trolley Talk"
East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00. FREE

ONGOING

MARIACHI BAND
First Thursday of the month 5-8 p.m. MEXICALI MEXICAN GRILL Webster location 41 Worcester Rd., Webster, MA 508-461-5070

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

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT
HEXMARK TAVERN AT SALEM CROSS INN 260 West Main St., W. Brookfield, MA 508-867-2345 salemcrossinn.com

THE CENTRAL MA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED
meets the first Monday of every month from September through May. We discuss a variety of conservation programs to improve the local cold water fisheries, local fishing opportunities. Our annual High School Fly Fishing Championship (open to all MA high school students) And our annual fund raising banquet. Auburn Sportsman's Club 50 Elm St., Auburn, MA

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110 NOVENAS

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Qualifications:

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VALENTINE’S DAY

Tips for buying jewelry this Valentine’s Day

Valentine’s Day is rife with tradition. Couples may have their own unique traditions, but others, like Valentine’s Day date nights, are widely popular.

One Valentine’s Day tradition many couples embrace is the exchange of gifts. Shoppers might not need much advice when purchasing heart-shaped boxes of chocolates or flowers for their sweethearts. However, when shopping for jewelry, Valentine’s Day celebrants may feel as though they’re in over their heads. The following tips, courtesy of the Better Business Bureau®, can help shoppers as they navigate the potentially confusing process of buying jewelry.

DIAMONDS

The BBB notes that diamonds’ value is based on color, cut, clarity, and carat. Often referred to as the “4 Cs,” this criteria refers to the grade of the color (color), the way the diamond is finished (cut), how flawless the diamond is (clarity), and its weight (carat). When shopping for diamonds, the BBB advises



asking jewelers if they have the most up-to-date testing equipment, which makes it easier for them to distinguish between diamonds and lab-created gemstones. That’s important, as lab-created gemstones resemble diamonds and may not be detectable if jewelers are

using testing equipment designed to identify cubic zirconia.

COLORED GEMSTONES

Colored gemstones are very popular, and the BBB notes that various new stone treatments have been developed to

improve their appearance and durability. However, the BBB also notes that such treatments may adversely affect the value of the gem and necessitate special care in order to maintain the gem’s appearance. When shopping for colored gemstones, ask the jeweler if

an item has been treated and if there’s any special maintenance required. Imitation or assembled stones may look like natural stones, so shoppers should ask if a stone is natural, synthetic or imitation before purchasing anything.

GOLD

When used alone, the word gold implies an item is all gold or 24 karat gold. But the BBB notes that gold is naturally soft and, as a result, is typically mixed with other metals to improve its hardness and durability. The karat-quality marking indicates what proportion of gold is mixed with other metals. For example, the most common mark for gold jewelry is 18K of 750, which signifies an item is 75 percent gold. Lower-karat gold jewelry may include copper, silver, zinc, or other metals. Consumers should ask about these alloys and determine if the item’s ultimate recipient is allergic to certain metals or if he or she has a high acid content in their bodies. People with high acid content in their bodies may have their jewelry turn black as a result.

Buying jewelry can be intimidating. However, jewelry buyers can work with their jewelers to find a beautiful piece their sweethearts will be proud to wear this Valentine’s Day. More information on buying jewelry can be found at www.bbb.org.

Red gemstones for your sweetheart

The world is awash in red come Valentine’s Day. Red is considered a passionate and warming color, which is why it often is tied to the emotions of love and desire. Red also symbolizes heat, longing and strength. In some cultures, red is viewed as good luck and used to ward off bad spirits.

Gift givers who want to embrace red hues even further during Valentine’s Day can dote on their sweethearts with red-colored precious and semi-precious gemstone jewelry. Rubies may come to mind, but there are quite a few stones that offer rosy appeal.

- Agate: Red and red-banded agate can be attractive stones. They are a translucent variety of microcrystalline quartz. These stones have a smooth sheen and are relatively durable.
- Garnet: Garnets tend to be a darker red

than rubies and are not very expensive stones. They’re easy to find and can be beautiful in jewelry. Garnets are somewhat soft, so they can be scratched or damaged easily, necessitating caution with their handling.

- Red topaz: Like other stones, topaz comes in different shades. Red is one of the hues. Durability, being plentiful and possessing a vibrant luster make red topaz ideal in all types of jewelry.
- Red zircon: Pure red zircon stones are unique. Zircon is one of the oldest known minerals on Earth, so zircon stones in varying colors have been around for quite some time. Zircon is quite hard, so it can be worn daily, making it an ideal stone for rings.
- Ruby: Rubies are often expensive and highly sought after gemstones. Natural, untreated rubies are very rare. They are made of corundum and

are the red versions of sapphires. Rubies are hard and durable and will hold up to daily wear.

- Spinel: Much like fool’s gold looks like gold, spinel resembles a ruby so much that it is often mistaken. This stone often has high levels of clarity and a high refractive index.
- Tourmaline: This is another stone that comes in all different colors of the rainbow, including red. It has a pinkish-red hue, and may be called rubellite. Rubellite is commonly cut into long shapes, but it can be made into many common jewelry styles and faceted to maximize the reflection of light.

Red gemstones may be the perfect fit for Valentine’s Day. Always work with trusted jewelers to find quality, authentic stones that will retain their value.

Jewelry buyers’ guide



Jewelry is a common gift for Valentine’s Day. Customers should know before they buy to get the best value.

You can’t buy love, but on Valentine’s Day those in love certainly like to treat the special people in their lives to some lavish tokens of affection. According to the National Retail Federation’s Valentine’s Day Consumer Spending Survey, Americans spend an estimated \$19 billion on gifts, flowers, dinners, and more come Valentine’s Day.

In addition to chocolates and flowers, jewelry is a popular Valentine’s Day gift. Since jewelry is often a personal taste, much like a fragrance, it can be challenging to find the perfect item. With so many different styles, colors and pieces, it’s no surprise that so many jewelry shoppers feel overwhelmed. Some expert advice can make the process go more smoothly and ensure you’re getting the best value for your money.

The Federal Trade Commission suggests thinking before you shop. Since jewelry is a major purchase, shop-

pers should first establish a budget. Consider the gift recipient’s style and look at other jewelry he or she wears. The more informed you are before visiting the jewelry stores, the easier it will be to find a piece he or she will like and one that you can afford.

Take the time to become educated about diamonds and other gemstones. Diamonds’ value is based on four criteria: color, cut, clarity, and carat (often referred to as “The 4 Cs”). Color ranges from the diamond being nearly white to graded down to yellow. The cut is the way the stone is fashioned. Clarity informs consumers if the stone is flawless or has specs or scratches inside of it. Carat refers to the weight of the diamond.

Diamonds and gemstones can form naturally or be manufactured in laboratories. Lab-created gemstones may look like natural gemstones but be of lesser value.

Shop around and get referrals for reputa-

ble jewelry stores. You can consult the Better Business Bureau to see if any complaints have been lodged about a particular store. Many consumers are most comfortable purchasing jewelry made in-store so they can verify the merchandise and retailer.

Check for the appropriate markings on gold, silver and platinum jewelry that indicate their authenticity. Make sure the jeweler will include certification or a grading report with the jewelry and your receipt.

No matter how much research you do, realize that there’s a chance the jewelry you purchase will not prove the perfect fit. So make sure you understand the store’s return policy and if there is a charge to have rings or other items resized.

Jewelry is a classic Valentine’s Day gift. With the right approach, shoppers can make the process of buying jewelry a lot less intimidating.



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VALENTINE’S DAY

Top gifts for your valentine

Valentine’s Day is an opportunity to show the ones you love just how much you care about them. This is achieved through various gestures, including giving heartfelt gifts.

Research from Business Insider found that 51 percent of Americans now celebrate Valentine’s Day. While a recent poll from Insights West found that although many Canadians view Valentine’s Day as overly commercial, 75 percent still plan on celebrating it. People are still spending big bucks on making Valentine’s Day special. The National Retail Federation indicates Americans spent more than \$20.7 billion on the holiday in 2019 and forecasters predict similar spending in 2020.

Every Valentine’s Day, certain gifts emerge as the most popular. While certain gifts are common, there are ways to make them seem fresh and exciting. Here are some ideas for Valentine’s Day gifting.

FLOWERS

The National Retail Federation estimates that people spend around \$2 billion on flowers for



gifts. While roses are much sought after, thinking outside the bouquet can produce unique results. Choose different blooms, perhaps a loved one’s favorite flower or something regional. Potted plants also will last longer than cut flowers, giving them more staying power. Skip bouquets in favor of table

centerpieces, which can be eye-catching.

JEWELRY

Gifting jewelry can be tricky because it is such a personal gift that must tie into a sweetheart’s style. It may be tempting to go with something large and flashy or full

of diamonds, but a better option is to take inventory of what your loved one wears on a daily basis and try to mimic the size and scope in your gift. Other thoughtful jewelry gifts include understated pendant necklaces or bracelets engraved with key dates or the names of their children. Colored gemstones in lieu of dia-

monds also may be a striking choice.

ENTERTAINMENT

Dinner and a movie is a classic date night, but on Valentine’s Day restaurants and theaters may be overcrowded and only offer limited menus. An alternative can be to

arrange for a gourmet meal to be delivered and wrap up a new streaming movie/TV device already primed with a subscription to his or her favorite streaming service. Then all you need to do is snuggle on the sofa for a romantic night in.

CHOCOLATES AND CANDY

Roughly \$1.8 billion is spent on candy each Valentine’s Day, says the National Retail Federation. A box of chocolates certainly can fit the bill, but other options abound. Perhaps a sweetheart has a favorite candy that recalls his or her childhood or prefers a chocolate maker from his or her hometown. Purchase those items to add a bit of nostalgia. Make the holiday magical by setting up a candy bar right at home, where your sweetheart can pick and choose from candies displayed in eye-catching bowls and canisters. Another novel idea is to use candy molds to make your own sweet treats.

Thoughtful Valentine’s Day gifts can make the day even more special for sweethearts.

How did “XO” come to symbolize kisses and hugs?



Love letters are a great way for couples to express their affection and devotion to each other. The sentiments expressed in love letters are as unique as the couples who write them. However, love let-

ters often contain one particular turn of phrase regardless of their authors.

When signing a love letter, it’s customary for writers to include at least one “XO” near their names. “XO” is widely

recognized as symbolic of wishing “hugs and kisses” to a letter’s intended recipient. This tradition is such an ingrained part of romantic letter writing that few may stop to pause and wonder just how the letters

“XO” came to symbolize hugs and kisses.

The origins of “XO” are not definitively known, though many historians note that signing letters with “X” dates back to the Middle Ages. Few people could read and write in the Middle Ages, but signing “X” did not require either of those abilities. Christianity played a big part in many people’s lives during the Middle Ages, and “X” was seen as a representation of the Christian cross. So when people signed “X” on legal documents, they were essentially stating the contents of the document were true in the name of Jesus Christ.

While Jesus Christ’s teachings are rooted in showing compassion for one’s fellow man, signing a letter with “X” did not symbolize love in the Middle Ages. In fact, that development did not come about until much later. The Oxford English Dictionary attributes the first use of “X” to symbolize love and/or kisses in a letter to English naturalist Gilbert White. However, some historians debate the accuracy of that attribution, saying White’s use of the letter “X” in

his letter was likely meant to convey blessings on the letter’s recipient.

Researcher Stephen Goranson found many uses of the letter “X” to convey love and/or kisses in or after the 1880s, so it’s very likely that this was the first time that including the letter “X” at the end of a letter took on the meaning so many people give it now.

As for “O” symbolizing hugs, even less is known about how that came about. The late American writer Leo Rosten, whose writings included 1968’s “The Joys of Yiddish,” suggested that including “O” at the end of a letter might have a similar origin story to “X.” Rosten theorized that “O” was used by Jewish immigrants who did not want to sign a document with “X,” which they, like the people in the Middle Ages, interpreted as symbolic of the Christian cross.

Exactly when “O” was paired with “X” and came to symbolize hugs is unknown, though various historians suggest the two were not paired until the latter half of the 20th century.

8 sweets for your sweetheart

Few things can elicit “oohs and aahs” on Valentine’s Day as much as decadent desserts. Sweets and romance seem tailor-made for each other. That’s why heart-shaped boxes of chocolate and other sweets are snatched up in droves and handed out like, well, candies, come February 14.

According to Nielsen Product Insider, Valentine’s Day chocolate sales reached nearly \$11 billion in 2018, and candy generated \$695 billion in sales. In terms of baked goods, the top-selling items sold during Valentine’s Day included dipped/covered treats, message cookies, iced cookies, cupcakes, and two- to five-count doughnuts. Wine, chocolate and strawberries also are very popular Valentine’s treats.

Those pondering giving something sweet this year can consider the following desserts.

1. Bananas Foster: This treat is made from bananas and vanilla ice cream. A sauce made from butter, brown sugar, cinnamon, dark rum, and banana liqueur is placed over the cooked bananas and ignited like a flambé to create a caramelized dessert.

2. Black forest cake: This chocolate cake marries layers of chocolate sponge cake with a rich cherry filling. It is based on the German dessert, schwarzwälder kirschtorte. Whipped cream often tops off this rich cake.

3. Cannoli: These Italian pastries orig-



Dessert can be the way to that special someone’s heart this Valentine’s Day.

inated on the island of Sicily. They consist of tube-shaped fried pastry dough filled with a ricotta cheese-based cream.

4. Cheesecake: Cheesecake often is made with a crust of crushed cookies, graham crackers or sponge cake. A thick layer of batter made from sour cream, cream cheese, eggs, and sugar is cooked into a semi-soft consistency. Some cheesecakes are light and fluffy, while others are dense and decadent.

5. Chocolate truffles: Not to be mistaken for their fungi cousins, chocolate truffles are made by forming balls out of chocolate ganache (made from heavy cream and melted chocolate), and rolling them in cocoa powder.

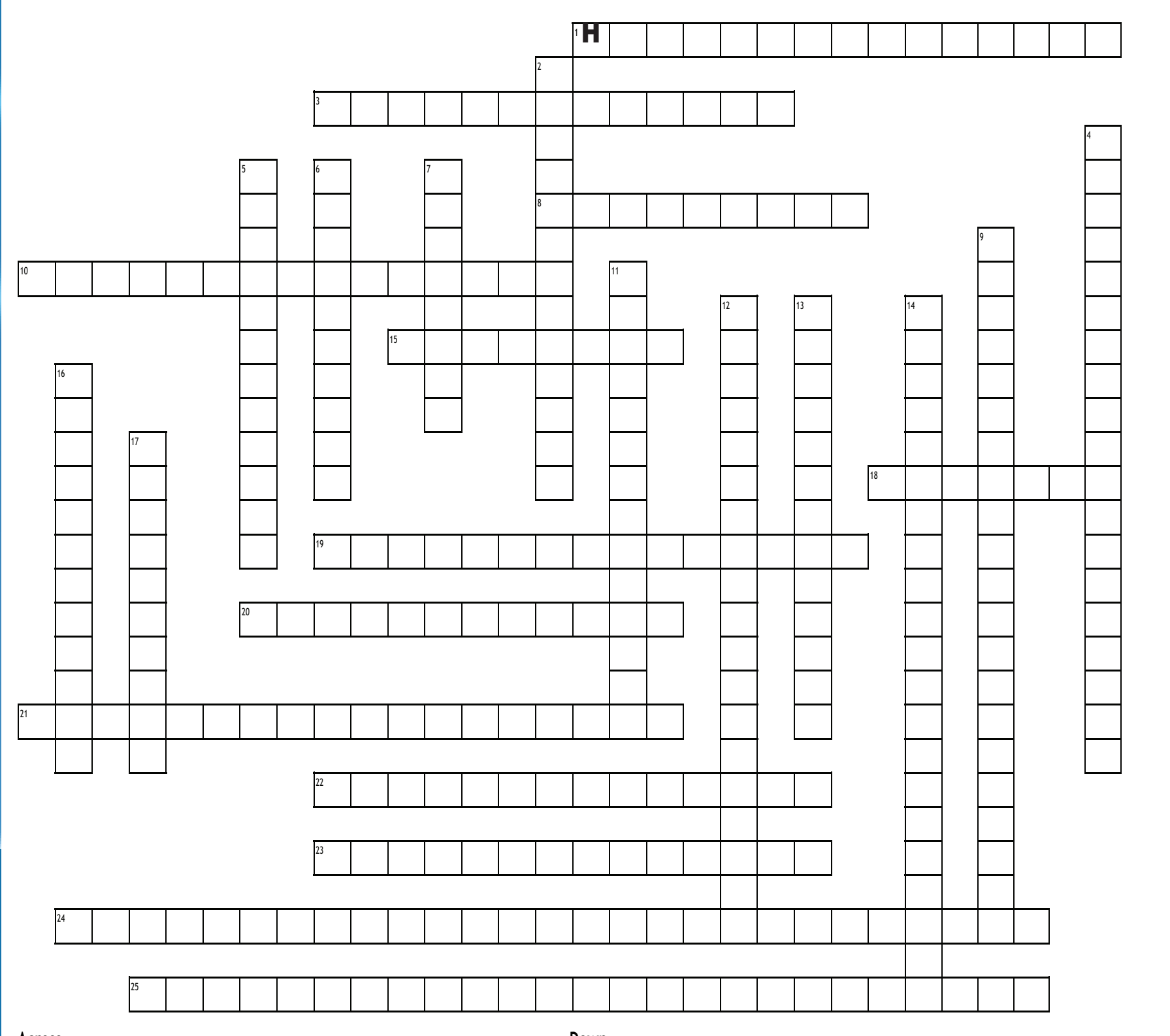
6. Cream puffs: These tasty morsels are made from a French choux pastry dough filled with a moist filling of sweet cream or custard.

7. Napoleon: The French offer a layered dessert, and it comes by way of mille feuille, also known as a Napoleon pastry. Puff pastry dough sandwiches vanilla custard or cream in various layers.

8. Tiramisu: Meaning “pick me up,” tiramisu is the Italian take on a layered dessert made from ladyfingers cookies dipped in coffee and a whipped mixture of mascarpone cheese and cream, topped with cocoa.

Dessert and other sweets are often a part of Valentine’s Day celebrations.

2nd Annual ABC's of the Seasons WINTER EDITION



Across

- 1. Winter clothing to cover you from head to foot
- 3. Best vehicle lineup!
- 8. Buyer and seller representation
- 10. 2nd item 50% off of equal or lower price with this ad
- 15. Book your ski clubs & proms now!
- 18. Winter service
- 19. Large selection of wall coverings and window treatments
- 20. I'll beat any of my competitor's prices
- 21. Home is not a place, it's a feeling.
- 22. Complete line of new appliances
- 23. Expert collision repair
- 24. Homecare at its best!
- 25. 508-892-8150

Down

- 2. 13 Central St., Southbridge
- 2. 25% off your entire purchase
- 4. One time treatments starting at \$125
- 5. Discover natural relief
- 6. 4 Course Dinner \$55
- 7. Wishing you a great morning
- 9. Experience, education, enthusiasm
- 11. Brand new facility in Brookfield
- 12. 20 cents off per gallon
- 13. Never be cold again
- 14. Warm up to a new career
- 16. Hair, nails, lashes, waxing, skincare, facials, massage
- 17. Call us today 508-868-4291

ABC'S OF THE SEASONS, WINTER EDITION

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