

New Cumbys anticipated by September

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — If all goes according to plan, Cumberland Farms will be opening its new Winchendon store by Labor Day, Sept. 4. That's the word from Town Manager Keith Hickey.

Hickey and other town officials met last week with the project manager for the convenience store chain for a briefing on the project, which has been in the works for at least a couple of years. Cumberland Farms will be demolishing the former Joseph's Variety building and the adjacent Fairbank house to make way for the new store and gas station. The new outlet has been designed to resemble the Joseph's building, which was constructed in the mid-19th century, as was the Fairbank house.

Before the building at 24 Central St. housed the variety store, it was home to a bookstore and a shoe store.

In preparation for the demolition of the two buildings, asbestos mitigation work has been under way since last month. The roofing material on the Joseph building contains asbestos and there is asbestos on pipework in the basement. Because the basement was found to have near-



Greg Vine photo

Slowly, the once elegant Fairbank mansion is being dismantled

ly two feet of water in it, it too must be handled as though it were contaminated with the carcinogen. Most of the asbestos in the Fairbank House is contained in framing around the windows.

Exactly when the work of razing the two buildings will begin has yet to be determined.

"They've asked for a pre-destruction meeting for next Thursday," said Hickey. "They aren't choosing a contractor for doing the job

until later this week. The did indicate that once they start razing the buildings they're going to raze everything at once."

Hickey said he was unsure if the underground has tanks will be installed before demolition begins.

"They're going to fence the entire property off," he said. "They're going to work closely with us to make sure things go smoothly. The appropriate

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Courtesy photo

Molly Martorella during an educational trip to Costa Rica

Where Are They Now?

DREAM OF HELPING OTHERS COMING TRUE

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

NEW YORK — She had unarguably the greatest high school track career any female ever had at Murdock. Molly Martorella graduated in 2010 having compiled the first, second, third and fifth fastest cross country times in school history. Indoor? How about the 14th fastest two-mile time in the United States that winter? Plus, the nation's 19th fastest time in the 1,500 meters. School records in the 600 meters, the 800 meters, the mile, the two mile and the 1,000 meters all belonged to her at one time or another too. Those represent one legendary high school career.

But that all happened

a while ago and while Martorella looks back fondly on those amazing years, her focus now is on something far bigger.

Molly's in her first year of a combined MD/PhD program at Columbia University in New York.

"I'm really interested in gene-environment interactions and their role in mental illness," she explained and before the inevitable question "what's that?" could be raised, she had the answer.

"I'm pursuing an MD with a PhD for a couple of reasons. One reason is because working with patients will give me an accurate perspective of the environmental factors and symptoms asso-

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The jungle comes to Toy Town

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — The show must go on...and that's just what it did. Despite a snowy weekend, students at Toy Town Elementary School still managed to put on three performances of Disney's "The Jungle Book Kids." Last Friday night's performance was postponed until Sunday afternoon, due to the snowstorm that swept through the region, but the audience for the matinee was no less receptive.

In the story, a human boy named Mowgli is banished by Shere Khan, the jungle's ferocious tiger. Mowgli and his friend Bagheera, a panther, take to the depths of the jungle to avoid the tiger and, while on their journey, the meet up with Kaa, a sinister snake, as well as a herd of elephants and the giant bear, Baloo. Mowgli

and Bagheera are forced to flee for their lives following a dangerous encounter with a band of monkeys. But when Shere Khan returns, Mowgli, Bagheera, and all the other animals must rally to bring peace back to the jungle by defeating and humiliating the tiger.

A young girl, Shanti, who has been hiding in the jungle all along, finally reveals herself to Mowgli and offers to return him to the "man village." Before he leaves, however, he tells his friends that the jungle will always be his home and that, someday, he will return.

The production was supported by Winchendon Public Schools, the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation, and Murdock Friends of Music. The program committee con-

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Greg Vine photos

Shere Khan (Ethan Van Hillo) comes to make sure Mowgli has fled the jungle, as the ferocious tiger demanded. More photos page 9

Wolski, Ross assume new jobs at WPD

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

When Winchendon Police Officer Alan Ross was asked if he'd like to move into the position of detective, his response was: "Absolutely."

The post of detective opened up after then-Sergeant Kevin Wolski was promoted to the rank of lieutenant.

"It's a different responsibility," he said. "I'll no longer be going out to the calls as they come in. I'll be in more of what you'd consider a follow-up position. I'll be going out to talk to witnesses after the fact, perhaps collecting some evidence. I'll be doing

Turn To **WPD** page **A11**



Greg Vine

Alan Ross and Kevin Wolski have earned new promotions.

Recommended pay raise in budget for DPW director

BY KEITH KENT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Town Manager Keith Hickey is recommending a \$10,000 per year pay raise for DPW Superintendent Albert Gallant effective July 1 to bring Gallant up to what he said the job should pay, based on his performance and comparative area compensation rates.

Gallant officially became superintendent Aug. 10, 2015 at a salary of \$75,000 per year. Gallant has now served for 1.75 years as a salaried employee and currently makes \$76,700.

The proposal for the raise by Hickey is part of the FY18 budget, to be reviewed by both Selectmen and the Finance Committee.

Hickey clarified, "The public works director is being paid far below the current market with the responsibilities he has. He started at a lower rate under the previous acting town manager at the time, to see if he could do the job. Gallant has done a tremendous job for the community, and I am trying to compensate him equitably for the work and the responsibilities that he has, and it's also important to be competitive with your surrounding communities."

Hickey said a "Class & Compensation Plan" for the town is slated to be done later this spring. Class & Compensation

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LOCAL

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SPORTS

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WEEKLY QUOTE

Men love to wonder, and that is the seed of science.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

CLYDE'S CORNER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

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

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

ANNUAL BIKE GIVEAWAY: Kiwanis will be at the basement of the Old Murdock Senior Center, 9-11 a.m. to give away the refurbished bikes available. This may be the last time this event takes place, so if you need a bike, be sure to take time to come. All bikes are free to anyone who needs one.

MAY BASKET WORKSHOP: FREE workshop, open to everyone. Keep the tradition going! 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the GALA Arts Gallery, 135 Front St. Please register so we have enough materials: www.galagardner.org.

ZUMBA GOLD: Unlimited Zumba from 7-9 p.m. with some of the best Zumba instructors in the area. Saturday April 8 at the Winchendon School's Trustee Hall, 172 Ash St. \$15 per person. Tickets available at the Clark Memorial YMCA front desk, or email Charlotte Rheault at saddleup2000@hotmail.com. All proceeds will help fund The Clark Memorial YMCA's annual campaign, **BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES.** Our annual campaign supports our Scholarship Fund that assists individuals and families with memberships, programs and Before & After School.

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY! At the United Parish from 7:30-9:30 a.m., Pack 193's annual Pancake Breakfast! All you can eat pancakes plus sausage, eggs, orange juice and coffee! Come visit with the Easter Bunny and have pictures taken. Adults - \$7 Kids 10 and Under - \$5 Families of 4 or more - \$20. All proceeds benefit local Cub Scouts.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

DINNER WITH THE EASTER BUNNY: Come enjoy dinner and crafts with the Easter bunny 5-7 p.m. at the Winchendon McDonalds! Have your picture taken with the bunny for free and enjoy a little family fun.

LEARN: Computer classes for adults are offered on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at Beals Memorial Library and are open to adults ages 18 and older.

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

GOLDEN AGERS: the Golden Agers hold a meeting at 2 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room at American Legion Post 193, 295 School St. K9 Clyde, with Officer Jim Wirmonen and Chief David Walsh intend to be hand.

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

BOOK DISCUSSION: Beals Memorial Library has a book club that meets at 5:45 p.m. the second Thursday each month, the next meeting is Thursday April 13 Books are available at the library.

OUR NEIGHBOR'S KITCHEN: Our Neighbor's Kitchen will be at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 52 Spruce St. this week for special Maundy Thursday supper. We'll be working with volunteers at IHM to make a delicious traditional Maundy Thursday chowder supper for Holy Week. Following the supper, you're welcome to attend the service upstairs

in the church. If you'd like to volunteer, get in touch with us for details, or just ask when you arrive for the supper.

TRIVIA CHALLENGE: every month it's Franco O'Malley's trivia challenge at Zoe's Restaurant beginning at 8 p.m. Bring a team or join a team and try your memory at this intriguing game of wits. Open to everyone, come on down.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21

OUT OF DARKNESS: We are ready to rock the second annual Out of the Darkness Campus Walk/Suicide Prevention Benefit with special guest, Ryan Hood, on keyboards. In addition to some classic rock from the 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s that will be getting you on the dance floor, there are going to be some BIG raffles, a door prize and a 50/50. Donation is \$10 per person, or \$15 per couple at the Winchendon American Legion, 8 p.m.-midnight. We will also be doing our TBR Jukebox Karaoke...where you get to choose a song from our list for \$5, and for \$5 more, you and your friends can sing it with us! All proceeds from this event will go to Team Silver Linings, led by Brittany LaPointe, and Team Peace of Mind, led by Mariah Ackert. Let's make sure no one has to walk alone in the darkness...end the stigma!

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

GALA ART EXHIBIT: opening reception and art awards at Old Murdock Senior Center 2nd floor auditorium, 52 Murdock Ave. 2-5 p.m. More Info: www.galagardner.org

EARTH DAY: in Winchendon, roll off dumpster will again be sited on Pleasant Street 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Seeking volunteers and donations toward drinks and snacks for workers. Clean up a street, clean up an acre, help keep our town green.

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

VETERANS: Working Wonders in Winchendon is holding a free Veterans' Lunch in the basement back room at the American Legion between 1 and 5 p.m. on April 23. Veterans and their

families are invited for an Italian buffet and dessert. There will also be a free raffle for veterans. For more information, visit workingwondersinwinchendon@gmail.com.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

OPEN MIC: at the American Legion Post 193, 295 School St. Beginning at 9 p.m. Like to sing? Play an instrument? Willing to jam with a few other musicians? Then come on down and join us at the lower level. Always a good time. Open to everyone! Non-smoking venue.

OUR NEIGHBOR'S KITCHEN: On Thursday, April 27 at Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon for a hearty dinner of scalloped potatoes and pork chops, with peas and dessert, cooked by Rev. Inanna Arthen and assistants. Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. We can always use more volunteers! If you'd like to help with set-up, come to the church around 4 p.m. If you want to help with serving, come at around 5:15 p.m. so we can go over any special protocols for the night's menu. Clean-up starts around 6:15 p.m. and is usually done shortly after 7 p.m. Volunteers have a chance to sit down to socialize and enjoy the meal.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

ANNIVERSARY BLOW OUT: the 10th anniversary of Fire & Iron will be celebrated with the annual spring blow out at American Legion Post 193, 295 School St. beginning at 7 p.m. Come help us celebrate!

FRIDAY, MAY 19

OPENING NIGHT: GALA 2017 annual spring Art Show with live music opening reception and art awards 6-9 p.m. Show and reception at the American Legion Post 193, 295 School St. Show runs May 19-21. More info and to enroll, www.galagardner.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

COLLAGE WORKSHOP: Instructor: Jill Pottle will teach a class on collage 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the GALA Arts Gallery, 135 Front St. For more information and to register visit www.galagardner.org.

Crafters make a mirror fixture while discussing town topics

BY TARA VOCINO
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Winchendon — Four women were huddled around the table, discussing the Cumberland Farms renovations, to make a wooden stone mirror wall hanger, at Beals Memorial Library on Tuesday.

The library hosts an adult craft hour, providing a place to meet and to do crafts. People bring in crafts they are working on, and can get help on knitting, crocheting, quilting, and to discuss different ideas.

"It's a night out," crafter Vickie Morin said. "We get to get out of the house and enjoy each other's company. It's more than just a craft night."

Senior Library Technician Linda Bredberg said they form a bond, sharing each other's problems and stories.

The ladies grabbed a foam brush and wooden stain so that the wood lasts longer, let the stain dry, and then placed blue and green glass accents around the heart freestyle, securing the accents with Gorilla Glue.

Bredberg said the library

welcomes craft donations at the front desk. The crafters group approaches the Friends of the Library for funding, or the crafters pitch in a few dollars themselves.

Crafter Jean Bogli suggested to make clay pot lighthouses next Tuesday. The other crafters welcomed her suggestions unanimously Bogli will go to the craft store to buy supplies, and Bredberg will donate her acrylic paint that she has at home.

"We like to pick up ideas from other people in the group," Morin said, adding they made origami last week.

As they were placing the glass accents onto the stained wood, they also discussed the estimated April 15 start date

to build an elevator and handicapped-accessible bathrooms at the library. The current room seats around 10 people.

"We have 1 to 2 ladies in the group with leg problems, so we meet downstairs for now," Bredberg said. "Once that's built, we'll meet upstairs in a bigger space."

After they completed the craft, crafter Racheal Brimberry was double stitching a red velvet and purple felt throw pillow, turning the rough side inside out.

"I chose the colors since I started it near Mardi Gras around Feb. 28," Brimberry said. "I prefer to put a zipper to secure it, but I'll stitch the edge to make it more basic. It's like Sewing 101."

Morin said Bogli has taught the girls to knit, including hats, mittens, and pocketbooks, joking that she is the knitting expert. She donates afghans to homeless people, particularly in less fortunate communities, such as Fitchburg, and bakes cookies for her neighbors.

Morin said they often base their crafts around the time of year. The crafters made a Yule log centerpiece for Christmas. Crafters do not have to be library members to join the group.

"We get to meet some nice people," Morin said.

Tara Vocino may be reached at printjournalist1@gmail.com.

Thereafter, the APR (Annual Percentage Rate) will be set on the first business day of each month at the prime rate published in the Wall Street Journal on the last business day of the previous month, minus .25%, (the current Wall Street Journal Prime is 4.00%). Maximum rate is 18% with a floor rate of 3.990%. No closing costs, a \$50 annual fee will apply. 10 year draw with interest only repayment, after the first 10 years, repayment is interest plus principal. Maximum 80% loan to value and \$100,000.00 line limit. Offer applies to new lines only on an owner occupied primary residence. GFA checking account with direct deposit is required for this promotion, other rates are available. Homeowners insurance is required. Early termination fee will be charged if line is discharged within the first three years of closing. Offer may be withdrawn without notice and is subject to normal credit requirements.

Bethany Bible Chapel
727 Spring St.
bbchapel.com
(978) 297-1493

Maundy Thursday, April 13
The evening begins with the Chapel Leaders serving you a lasagna meal then we will remember the sacrifices Jesus made for us by partaking in Communion together. The Maundy Thursday Service will follow at 7 p.m. upstairs in the Sanctuary.

Easter Sunday, April 16
Sunrise services, 6 a.m. at

HOLY WEEK

the Smith Community Pavilion, GAR Park (across from Old Murdock Senior Center).

Breakfast will be served downstairs in the Chapel, 9-10:15 a.m. Easter Celebration service begins at 10:30 a.m.

Cornerstone Church
Assemblies of God
122 Gardner Road
cornerstoneag.net
(978) 297-3125

Easter Sunday
Service times are 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

United Parish Church
39 Front St.
unitedparish.com
(978) 297-0616

Palm Sunday April 9 10 a.m.

Parade of Palms. Come and receive your palms, as we learn about Jesus' journey into Jerusalem! Followed by coffee hour after service for fellowship!

Boy Scouts Breakfast 7:30-9:30 a.m.: the boy scouts are serving a breakfast before Palm Sunday service. Includes egg, sausage and all you can eat pancakes with coffee and juice provided. For adults cost \$7 and kids (10 and under) \$5.00; family of 4 or more \$20. Please come and enjoy a wonderful breakfast and support our Boy Scouts Troop 193 before listening to the word of God with a

full belly!
Good Friday April 14 7 p.m.

Our choir director, Jayne Thompson, has been working tirelessly with the Choir for our annual Easter Holy Week production of: "The King Is Coming" Cantata by Russell Mauldin. This emotional and spiritually filling cantata will lead us on the path of Christ's final days here on earth and help us to understand the beauty of His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Please join us and watch this wonderful and uplifting performance!

Easter Day April 16
Sunrise Service 6 a.m.
Olde Centre Church Top of High Street

Worship with Jesus' followers as they discovered the empty tomb during the dawn of Easter Morning. The Rooster has been known to cock-a-doodle-doo during the service to alert everyone that the dawn is breaking!

Easter Service 10 a.m.
United Parish Church
Please join us to hear a re-performance of The Easter Cantata "The King Is Coming" by the United Parish Choir and listen to Pastor Cal's message of Jesus' Resurrection! We hope you leave with the feeling of Gods Love in your heart.

* Following the service with an Easter Egg Hunt outside for the little ones!

Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon
Central Street

Thursday, April 13

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HOW TO USE: THE WINCHENDON COURIER

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photo by Keith Kent

THREE MILE BACK-UP

How do you move a chunk of steel more than 100 feet long down a country road?
Carefully, very carefully.
On Tuesday, April 4, High Transport

of Lancaster, PA delivered the new support beams for the Harris Street Bridge, which crosses over Tarbell Brook. The caravan of four oversized load combination vehicles carried one-115 foot bridge

support beam each, and measured 130 feet total in length a piece. As the loads were far too large to turn around, all four operators were forced to back up their vehicles nearly three

miles from the intersection of Front and School streets, and then all the way to the intersection of Harris and West streets.

Another solar array planned

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The Winchendon Planning Board convened a public hearing at its Tuesday meeting to consider plans to construct a solar array off Happy Hollow Road. The project is a proposal of Borrego Solar Systems of Lowell. The array would be located on the site of an existing gravel pit. The property is in area zoned rural/residential.

David Albrecht, the civil engineer for BSS, said the facility would consist of 19,764 solar panes, which would generate 7 megawatts of electricity. They would be mounted on racking approximately 6 feet high, and the area would be fenced in.

“Basically, it’s an Erector Set built on top of that,” he said, “We have short legs in the front, long legs in the back. The area inside the fence is a little over 24 acres.”

“The fence would be about six feet high,” Albrecht said. “For security reasons, we have three strands of barbed wire one foot above that.”

He added that two electrical equipment areas would each be home to a transformer, a switch gear, and data accessing systems, “which is how we remotely monitor the production and the activity when it’s up and running; we can do all that remotely.”

“I know you asked about lighting,” Albrecht continued. “We’ll be using 10-foot tall, motion activated lights. They’re pointed downward and away from any sensitive receptors, which would be the homes along the north side of Happy Hollow Road. Our maintenance and operations crews, they actually turn the lights off if they ever have to be there at night because it never seems to shine on the things they have to look at, so they all wear head lamps if they’re out there at night.”

The engineer said that power generated by the solar panels run first through an inverter, which is mounted on the back side of each rack. In response to a question from board member Burton Gould, Jr., Albrecht said the inverters generate sound in the range of around 55 decibels. The closest home, he said, is about 400 feet from the proposed array and that, by the time the noise reaches the home, it would be similar to the amount of noise generated by a whisper.

“All the conduits and the cabling is all underground,” said Albrecht. “It’s all underground in a trench.”

“The area is virtually flat,” he said. “It really is an ideal site for solar.”

He also pointed out that Otter River runs through the eastern side of the property, with a creek to the west. According to Albrecht, there are no

plans for any work to take place within the 100-foot wetlands buffer zone, although a small amount may occur within the 200-foot riverfront area.

Board member Cailte Kelley asked if construction equipment moving to and from the site is likely to cause substantial damage to the road leading into the property.

“If it’s really wet are we going to end up with deep grooves?” he asked. “Is that going to affect the people down there?”

“I would say if we were driving semi-trailers up there today,” said Albrecht, referring to the heavy rains on Tuesday, “I’d say we’d have a problem. We’d have a lot of ruts. A lot of our sites don’t have paved access, so it’s a fairly common practice in these situations where we will go back in and work with the town – the DPW or highway department – to remedy the situation.”

Board Chairman Guy Corbosiero wanted to know if the plans included 20 feet of clearance around the array.

“We did include in these drawings what the fire chief asked for,” Albrecht replied. “He had asked for a 20-foot wide clear area accessible through the entire perimeter, so he we have included that.”

The board took not action on the proposed array and continued the public hearing until its meeting on April 18.

ACCURACY WATCH

The *Winchendon Courier* 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 three in a timely manner. If you find a mistake, call (978) 297-0050 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor’s voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call. Or contact the editor at the following email: ruth@stonebridgepress.news.

Email Us!



What’s On Your Mind? We’d Like to Know.

Email us your thoughts to: ruth@stonebridgepress.com

NEWS BRIEF

Alternatives hosting annual night out

Grab your friends, family and coworkers and join Alternatives for the second annual SpringVIBE Saturday, April 22 from 7-11 p.m. at the Leominster Eagles located at 456 Litchfield St.

Last year, more than 100 people of all ages came together to enjoy this night of live music and fun while giving back to the community all at the same time.

Performing this year is popular country rock band Rattlesnake Alley. The event will also feature door prizes, complimentary snacks, a cash bar, a variety of raffle items and a silent auction. A few of the prizes guests will have the opportunity to take home include a one-night stay at Mohegan Sun, tick-

ets to see that Patriots during their 2017 season, and a “Dine About for a Year” package of gift cards to 52 different area restaurants.

SpringVIBE tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased online at SpringVIBE2017.eventbrite.com or at the door the night of the event. All proceeds from the event will support Alternatives, a nonprofit organization that provides services to people with psychiatric or developmental disabilities through a network of 60 residential, employment, and day programs, many of which are located in the communities of Leominster, Fitchburg and Gardner.

SpringVIBE is sponsored by Applesed Personnel Services and Solid Benefits Group. It is organized by Alternatives’ North County Advisory Council, a group of volunteers

dedicated to building awareness about Alternatives and creating opportunities for the people with disabilities Alternatives’ serves.

For more information about SpringVIBE or to learn more about Alternatives’ services, contact Liz Mirabelli Nye at Liz.MirabelliNye@AlternativesNet.org or (508) 266-6541.

Alternatives helps individuals with disabilities build meaningful lives in the community – lives that include real homes, real jobs and real relationships. Last year, Alternatives provided services to over 1200 people in 60 residential, employment and day programs throughout Central Massachusetts. For more information about Alternatives, call 508-234-6232 or visit www.AlternativesNet.org

The Narragansett Theater Company Proudly Presents

SHREK THE MUSICAL

Directed by Michael Dickkopf
Produced by David Auer

April 7, 2017 7:30 pm
April 8, 2017 2:00 pm (Sensory Sensitive)
April 8, 2017 7:30 pm
April 9, 2017 2:00 pm

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Apply Online at Colonial4Banking.com

Colonial Cooperative Bank
6 City Hall Ave., Gardner
1 School Sq Winchendon

TheHeartOf Massachusetts.com

WINCHENDON COURIER

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER: FRANK CHILINSKI
EDITOR: RUTH DEAMICIS

VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

EDITORIAL

Due diligence

When the budget begins to be scrutinized by boards in town, it becomes an object of fascination for the newspaper as well. It is our job to notice costs going up or down, programs being adjusted or cut, positions changing...all that sort of thing; and then ask questions.

Because most citizens don't have the time to do that. Even though they may see the same things and wonder about them.

That's what we did this week. We noticed a big chance in the salary lines for the DPW. So we asked, why? What changed? Are we hiring or changing or what?

And the answer makes perfect sense once we know. So we told you too.

The increase of \$10,000 is to Superintendent Al Gallant to bring his salary in line with the position and what he is required to do. The comparison found with others in his position justifies the number. He does indeed, do the work and oversees five departments.

The work is the work.

We may not have the same opinion of the people who hold positions; we may like or dislike them for various reasons; and being a boss is hard work. Some people are better at it than others. But if at the end of the day the work is done, that needs to be recognized too.

There you have it. For that number. We're sure there will be others. And we will ask questions about those too.

To shift gears, tomorrow and we hope there's no snow, the Kiwanis will again open the blue door at the side of the building at Old Murdock Senior Center to give away bicycles to anyone who wants one. From 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. come on over and see if there is a bike for you. However...But...

This may be the LAST bike giveaway. Why?

Because there is no one to do the repairs any longer. We have quietly asked, now we need to shout.

The wonderful people who volunteered their time have moved on to other things, and we have lost those talented bike mechanics. The workshop is still there, with tools and equipment and parts and bobbles and bits. The shop is in the basement of the Senior Center, and with very little fanfare access to the shop can be arranged when the Center is open.

If no one steps forward, Recycle-A-Bike will have to end, because for safety reasons we cannot give away the bikes without a thorough check up first.

Yet another victim of the strange malady affecting the state of volunteerism in this day and age.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Haddad: thanks to all who helped

To the Editor:

Hello! The Toy Town Elementary School drama program recently presented the musical *The Jungle Book*. It was a wonderful show and the students performed amazing song and dance routines.

We have so many wonderful people to thank for all the help that went into this performance.

Our drama instructor, Ms. Kristi Iannacone and her assistant Alex Aker worked for weeks with the students and we are so grateful to have them on board. Ms. Carolyn Hendricks and Ms. Danelle Mallard were so supportive and took care of much of the needed office issues. Our custodians moved and cleaned and prepared for us.

Many thanks go to the parents and teachers that helped our students and donated, and especially Ms. Cindy Darcy our lead program teacher. Special thanks to Mrs. Michele Michelson, our Parent Volunteer Coordinator and all of her volunteers.

Many thanks to Ms. Maureen Provost for all her assistance and presentations.

The following high school students were a great help at the concession and raffle tables: Victoria Lemire, Victoria Swanson, Maria Polcari, Nicole Lemire, Elissa Boucher, Andrew Burns, Brooke Harris, Breanna St. Pierre, Aidan Provost, Phebe Shippy, and Will Iannacone.

We would also like to thank To Each His Own Design and Dunkin Donuts of Winchendon for their generous donations.

And one special thank you to Mr. Steve Haddad for all his help and support.

I apologize if I have missed anyone, and I am truly appreciative of all the assistance we received.

Our next district musical is *Seussical Jr. the Musical* at the Murdock Middle School on May 6th and 7th. Hope to see you!

Sincerely thankful to all.

JENNIFER HADDAD
EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM
COORDINATOR

Indivisible Winchendon:
new group forming

To the Editor:

A movement is growing in Winchendon, and it needs you.

Since the Women's March in January, this movement has been gathering individuals and families of all classes, identities and beliefs. Its purpose is resistance: resistance to the new agenda of extreme funding cuts for human services, discrimination against minorities, the dismantling of our democratic government and the assault on our environment. This movement is inspired by the leadership of Senator Bernie Sanders, and by *The Indivisible Guide (Indivisible: A Practical Guide for Resisting the Trump Agenda)*. There are now more than 6,000 Indivisible groups organizing around our nation. Their goal is to restore and preserve democracy, and to demand that the Trump administration either act like American citizens, or step aside.

Indivisible Winchendon began meeting in February, merging a Women's March Huddle and an official Indivisible group. Our initial purpose was to support each other and share fears and emotions. Many members suffered from nightmares, and had difficulty focusing on daily routines. We shared our grief and frustration over the complete breakdown in civil discourse — the anger and hostility destroying conversations both online and face to face. We're working to bridge the "communication gap" suddenly separating us from family, friends and neighbors, to overcome the idea that we're in battle with "the other side."

But more than anything else, Indivisible Winchendon members worry about the impact of the Trump administration's policies on our community. This region will suffer from severe cuts in programs like Meals on Wheels, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, housing subsidies, fuel assistance, SNAP and many others now on the chopping block in Washington. Resources to help families fighting substance abuse and opioid addiction are marked for elimination. Our schools, library, Department of Public Works

and other institutions rely on federal funds that are now redlined for deep cuts. We just fought a long and hard battle to stop the natural gas pipeline. Now we fear the pipeline will come roaring back, as regulations protecting our beautiful environment are repealed wholesale.

All this austerity is being imposed by a President who takes money from foreign governments and entangles his personal businesses with taxpayer-funded government work. He goes on weekly vacations, sends family members on business trips and maintains multiple households, all on the taxpayers' dollars — millions and millions of dollars. Winchendon has always demanded accountability on the local level — it has recalled Selectmen, replaced its town manager and examines every nickel that goes to its own school department. We should hold our federal government, and most especially our President, to at least as high a standard.

We know that hundreds of Winchendon voters supported Bernie Sanders in the primaries. We're reaching out to those voters, but also to everyone in Winchendon who is concerned about where the country is headed and how to protect the best interests of our community, our neighbors and our nation. We're dedicated to reasonable and civil discussion and active problem-solving. How we voted yesterday is moot; what matters is what we do tomorrow, recognizing that "the other side" is really both sides.

Indivisible Winchendon meets every Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m. in the Parish Hall of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St. We're on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/381174492262359/>. We invite you to bring your thoughts and energy and join us!

LUCINDA ELLERT
INANNA ARTHEN
APRIL 4, 2017

DOG WAGGING

It has been quite a week politically.

Everybody thought Putin liked Trump. Evidence now suggests he just did what voters did, he tried to help the person running against someone he hated, Hillary Clinton. If her opponent had been someone other than Trump, that person would have the beneficiary of Putin help.

There are elections coming up in Europe and there seems to be evidence Putin is messing with them, too.

It is OK to be mad at Putin and the Russians but remember the information her provided was led to him by Americans. We would do well to find out who they are.

The GOP captured both houses of Congress and The White House but could manage to control enough of their own caucus to pass the party's signature bill: repeal and replace Obamacare. And if that wasn't enough they had to take the bill down rather than suffer a defeat on the floor.

On the Democrat side, not one vote for the new healthcare bill. Hard to believe that out of all those Democrats not one liked it better than Obamacare at a time when they just suffered huge losses at the polls because of Obama programs the people didn't like.

On the GOP side, the extremists would not provide the votes needed for a bill arguably better than Obamacare, because it wasn't extreme enough.

You don't have to be very intelligent to understand something so simple: if you hate one bill (let's call it Bill C) and you really want Bill A why would you not vote for Bill B and get some



NOTES OF
CONCERN

JACK
BLAIR

of what you want. Instead you make certain you stay stuck with Bill C.

Someone once called that kind of thinking: "biting your nose off to save your face."

Then the president announces that it is really Senator Shumer and Representative Pelosi who

lost, not him, because they now own Obamacare in the eyes of the people and when it implodes all the unhappiness will be directed at them.

I don't think so.

There will be a small group of incalculant Republicans who are going to take the blame for this.

At a time long ago, the Democrats held both the Senate and the House and those two bodies were run by tough guys like Lyndon Johnson and Sam Rayburn. The GOP held the presidency, in the form of General Eisenhower. These guys traded, compromised, and worked things out. During those eight years, they controlled their party. They knew how to get things done. And history remembers that time as an Era of Peace and Prosperity.

Today you would have to look long and hard to find people like them in Washington. Both parties are in disarray. The tail has been wagging the dog for far too long.

The president is humiliated. The speaker is weak. The opposition, along with a band of Republicans, put politics ahead of the health of the nation.

There is going to be a very large bill to be paid down the road. Payment will not be in dollars but in the health of the people. There is a lot of shame to go around in our capital these days.



...AND
ONE MORE
THING...

GREG
VINE

I find myself in the uncomfortable position of having to disagree with one of my colleagues — and my friend. In his column in last week's Courier, Keith Kent asked readers if the time had come to examine the advisability of placing "limitations on members of the Free Press regarding personal donations (to political campaigns) and subject coverage, especially regarding campaigns."

He then opined the answer to the question is "yes."

Sorry, Keith. I love ya, man, but I must dissent.

Call me naïve (I heard you, Keith), but I'd like to believe the vast majority of people who become journalists do so out of a sincere desire to provide accurate, objective reportage, defined by Merriam-Webster as "writing

intended to give an account of observed or documented events."

When a freshman in high school, my parents gave me a transistor radio (yes, that makes me old). No big deal, I suppose, but that radio would — for better or worse — put me on a path I have followed for the past five decades.

At night, the atmospheric were just right. The 50,000-watt signal of all-news radio station WTOP in Washington, DC, would bounce off the ionosphere and into my little radio. When I crawled into bed, I couldn't wait to feel and hear the click of the radio's "on" switch. I knew I'd soon be hearing what was happening all across this crazy globe, whether in Alexandria, Virginia or Alexandria, Egypt; Vermont or Vietnam.

Before long, I decided that I, too, wanted to bring news to the people; to become a latter-day "town crier." I have had the priv-

ilege of doing just that for, oh, 41 years now.

Over those four-plus decades I've covered a wide variety of stories, including elections.

When I first started in the business, I was definitely a conservative, politically speaking. Over the years, for a variety of reasons, I've grown increasingly liberal. And, over the years, I've given a few bucks to a political campaign or two, including one or two upon which I had to report.

It's fair to say I have some pretty strong political and ideological convictions.

I would, however, like to believe, regardless of my own beliefs, that I have been fastidious in maintaining my objectivity. When I decided as a 15-year-old kid that I wanted to be a reporter, I did so because I wanted to tell people what was happening in their town, their state, their nation, and to relate that

information accurately. I didn't then — and never have — had an agenda.

Every reporter has a political viewpoint, a political bias. Whether they report for the Winchendon Courier or the Washington Post, for WGAW or CNN, they make personal judgments about what is right or wrong. If any journalist tells you they're politically ambivalent, well...they're lying.

But the vast majority, the true professionals — and I honestly believe this — do their best to keep their personal biases out of their reporting. Unfortunately, journalists are people and, therefore, sometimes fall victim to the curse of being human.

To prohibit them from contributing to any political campaign, even one they may be covering, would be to deny them a fundamental Constitutional right. If a reporter consciously slants their coverage to fit their political

views, a contribution to a political campaign won't make their breach of journalistic ethics any worse. And most people aren't stupid; they can tell when they're being fed a big pile of steaming, um, slop.

Frankly, given the current political climate, I would say journalists could well be forgiven for contributing to the candidate or political action committee of their choice.

When our nation's leader expresses admiration for a tyrant who has virtually stamped out the free press in his nation; when the man in the White House berates reporting that shows him in an unflattering light as "fake news"; when our president tweets (what else?) the free press is "the enemy of the American people," I would say it's probably a damn good idea for journalists to open up their wallets and "give, baby, give!"

I Beg to Differ



Education... and more...

Random thoughts while hoping the crane and bulldozer obliterating the buildings next to our office to make way for the new Cumberland Farms don't swing in the wrong direction:

As is forever the case, the local school budget is very much bare-bones. Notice I said "local", not "Winchendon." This is because I could be writing about anywhere. I've read a lot this winter about school budget woes in big cities and small towns alike and I've come to what I think is an irrefutable conclusion which indicts us as a society — we do a great job talking about how much we value education but, bottom line — we're not doing anything but paying ritualistic lip-service attention to the subject. We're certainly not paying teachers what they deserve. We certainly don't teach enough about civics, though we're getting a lesson these days. We haven't figured out how to get more girls to sign up for engineering and technology classes, not just here but everywhere. The number of girls majoring in those fields is abysmally low and that's in part because they're



JOURNEY OF THE HEART
.....
JERRY CARTON

not getting the foundation in the subject in high schools. We sure haven't solved the funding disparity between wealthy white suburban schools and poor minority inner city ones which, as everyone knows, inevitably leads to vastly different job prospects. Have you ever looked at the unemployment rate for African-American males in big cities? And we do exactly what about it?

We talk. And we talk. To be sure individual school systems are doing impressive and forward-looking things. I write often about the very cool engineering programs at Murdock which I hope you read about on page one last week and I've read about innovative efforts at other schools across the country, but these seem often to be the exceptions and not the rule.

During his speech emphasizing that "schools should be palaces," the West Wing's Sam Seaborn stressed, "education is the silver bullet." Fictional TV? Sure, but Aaron Sorkin was right when he penned those words. Our collective society does a great job of talking the

talk about education but a non-existent job of walking the walk. We can do better, can't we? Don't we owe our kids that much?

Meanwhile, last week, Donald Trump, who every day like he's having an absolutely miserable time in his new job, even more miserable than he looked the day before, called investigations into the whole Russia mess a "witch hunt." So that made me wonder — what's the difference between a "witch hunt" and a "third-rate burglary?" For that matter, is it just me, or is Sean Spicer morphing into Ron Ziegler more and more every day? Yes folks, April 2017 feels very much like April, 1973 except back then there was actual bipartisanship and instead of Devin Nunes being a spear-carrier for the White House, we had Sam Ervin heading a panel of Democrats and Republicans working together.

Then there was Interior secretary Ryan Zinke who apparently discovered that talking about building a wall is a lot easier than, well, doing it, regardless of who's going to write the check. Secretary Zinke evidently looked a map and, damn, there was the Rio Grande. Not only that, there are thousands of acres of private property along the

route. Campaign speeches in October sure do make policy sound easy, don't they? Apparently, we should teach more geography as well as more civics. Maybe the, ahem, policy advisers failed to check out a map last year? I grant that geography can be confusing. I had to teach a year of it during my time at Beth Tfiloh day school because the person who was supposed to teach that class quit in mid-August and I guess I drew the short straw mostly 'cause I just happened to be in the office at the time and principal Mike Papa saw me and asked, "hey, Jerry, you know anything about geography?" and before I could say no, he said, "great, you're taking that class." Huh? When I found my voice, I think I offered to trade bus duty for picking up that class. Anyway, I managed to stay a couple pages ahead of the kids and some of it was a little bewildering but trust me, it wasn't at all hard for 16 year-olds to look at a map and see a big famous river in Texas. The geniuses in the Trump campaign couldn't? Or chose not to? What can I tell you?

At least it actually is spring, right? Finally. See you next week.

NEWS BRIEFS

Local artist exhibits work in NYC retrospective.

Winchendon poet James Pelletier's artwork will be presented as part of the Public Art Fund's 40th anniversary celebration in New York City. His work joins world renowned artists, such as August Rodin, Louise Bourgeois, Jean Dubuffet, Alexander Calder, Isamu Noguchi, George Rickey and many others

In 1979, the Public Art Fund co-sponsored the presentation of Pelletier's monumental creation of NIGHT/LIGHT. The lightwork took place on the night of the 100th anniversary of Thomas Edison's invention of the light bulb. Other sponsors include: the International Centennial of Light (Thomas Alva

Edison Foundation), with assistance from the New York Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Downtown-Lower Manhattan Association, Inc. and Consolidated Edison. The artist received a Lumen award for his contribution to the Art and Science of Lighting. Pelletier is the first artist in history to transform an entire cityscape into a work of art.

The first edition of NIGHT/LIGHT took place on the night of NYC's Fourth of July Bicentennial celebration. Pelletier received a commendation from President Gerald Ford for his contribution to the nation's 200th birthday. NIGHT/LIGHT appears in the 1976 remake of the movie, King Kong.

To create NIGHT/LIGHT, Pelletier utilized the lighting systems of the skyscrapers along the East River in the Financial District of lower Manhattan: Chase

Manhattan Bank, American Express building, Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, Chemical Bank, 77 Water Street building, Citibank, 120 Wall Street building, Wall Street Plaza, 160 Water Street building, 130 John Street building, 127 John Street building, and 55 Water Street building. With the help of a crew of men in each building, geometric patterns of light were created by turning lights on and off and by pulling shades down or up. The result produced a spectacular composition of light that was reflected in the East River. Pelletier's homage to the miraculous legacy of electricity last-

ed three hours. The artist states that, "Electric light is the poetry of modern technology."

Pelletier is currently working on creating a new edition of NIGHT/LIGHT to take place in NYC on the country's 250th anniversary in 2026.

The Public Art Fund's celebration will be held on April 20, at Metropolitan West, 639 West 46th Street, NY, NY at 6:30 p.m.

DPW continued from page A1

Plans clarify job titles and descriptions, responsibility, competitive pay scales based on comparative or local communities, and what jobs or positions should pay.

The position, previously held by John Deline, was compensated at a rate of \$1,651.70 per week, or \$85,888 annually as provided by Hickey.

Gallant's raise, if approved, would see the increase of \$10K bring him to \$86,700 annually.

Neighboring geographic communities were contacted to establish competitive pay scales based on responsibilities.

Winchendon, with a population of 10,300, utilizes a supervisor who oversees five departments: Highway, Water, Sewer, Cemetery, and the Transfer

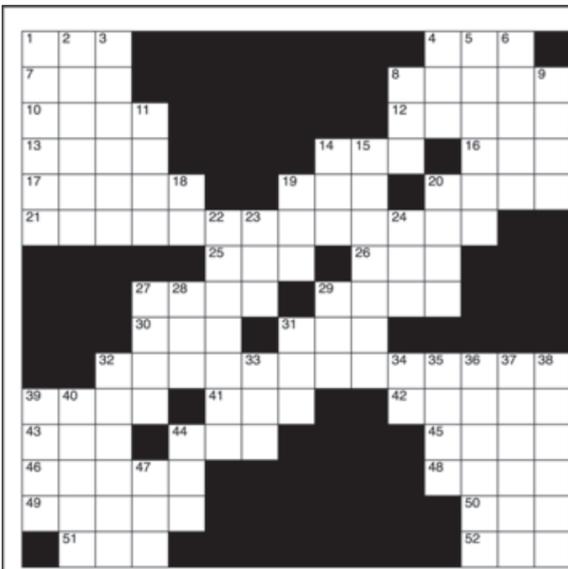
Station. Templeton has a population of roughly 8,300. While it does not have a DPW superintendent, uses a comparable position of a Highway/Parks & Cemetery Superintendent, with water falling under the light department. The position pays \$72,000 annually. Templeton's new superintendent while managing 60 percent of the departments, earns 94 percent of Gallant's current pay.

The town of Athol has a population of about 11,500. Its Superintendent of Public Works oversees the same departments as his Winchendon counterpart and has served as superintendent for one year with two previous years of experience as the former assistant superintendent, a position which has now been eliminated. While the towns are nearly the same population, Athol's superintendent is compensated at \$99,127

annually or \$22,427 per year more than Gallant's current salary.

The city of Gardner has a population of slightly over 20,000 residents with its public works divided in to Highway, Forestry, Cemetery, Water & Sewer, and Parks and Recreation, also five departments. Its director earns \$94,320 annually.

In closing Hickey added, "He (Gallant) did not ask for this. This is something which I thought was appropriate looking at other department heads, their levels of responsibility, and their pay. It is important to pay your staff a fair wage, and I feel I can justify what I have proposed as Mr. Gallant has done a tremendous job for this community saving the town money in a lot of different areas. He has done a great job, and needs to be treated and compensated fairly."

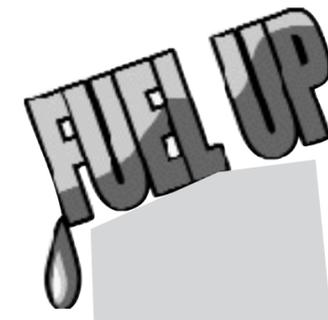


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. "Be back later"
- 4. Hoover's office
- 7. Brew
- 8. Philo and Reglis are two ("Star Wars")
- 10. Actress Remini
- 12. Moghul emperor
- 13. Alaskan glacier
- 14. Constrictor
- 16. Prohibit
- 17. Ancient Brittonic tribe
- 19. Chinese pastry
- 20. Razorbill is of this genus
- 21. Beloved holiday decoration
- 25. Dutch football club
- 26. Aggressive dog
- 27. Small piece of glass
- 29. "South Park" creator __ Parker
- 30. Leisure activity
- 31. Someone's story
- 32. Record-setting swimmer
- 39. Hillside
- 41. Unit of measurement
- 42. Famous for its potatoes
- 43. Insect secretion
- 44. Gate in Marrakesh
- 45. Cain and __
- 46. A set of moral principles
- 48. Repair
- 49. Two-terminal semiconductor
- 50. Strongly alkaline solution
- 51. Former CIA
- 52. Satellite laser ranging

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Sea
- 2. Cleans things
- 3. More skinny
- 4. Supervises flying
- 5. Talk rapidly and excitedly
- 6. Intestinal
- 8. Don't know when yet
- 9. Soluble ribonucleic acid
- 11. Chinese and Vietnamese ethnic group
- 14. Wild cattle genus
- 15. Rock formation
- 18. Makes up
- 19. Resembles a pouch
- 20. Having an aerial quality
- 22. Windpipe
- 23. Million barrels per day (abbr.)
- 24. Bitterly regret
- 27. Soft creamy white cheese
- 28. Renamed when EU was incorporated
- 29. * __ death do us part
- 31. Sound unit
- 32. Men proud of their masculinity
- 33. Clergy member's vestment
- 34. Hello
- 35. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
- 36. Marks
- 37. Derived from benzene
- 38. Low-melting alloy
- 39. Lost blood
- 40. Quantitative relation
- 44. Academic degree
- 47. Many subconsciouses



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OBITUARIES

Geneva C. (Sanborn) Carter, 86

GARDNER — Geneva C. (Sanborn) Carter, age 86, of 50 Pine St., died peacefully Monday, April 3, 2017 in UMass Memorial Hospital, Worcester.



She was born in Keene, NH on July 18, 1930 and graduated in 1948 from Orange High School. She lived in Winchendon for 10 years and lived in Gardner for most of her life.

Geneva worked as a school bus driver for 45 years. She had worked for the city of Gardner, town of Templeton, Fred's School Bus in Winchendon and MART Transportation in Gardner. She was an avid dancer and had a hug for everyone. Geneva enjoyed sewing and spending

her summers in Maine. Her greatest enjoyment was spending time with family. She was well known for her friendly and gregarious nature.

Her husband of 25 years, Roland A. Carter, died in 1989. She leaves two daughters, Sonja Laferriere of Winchendon and Anita Fohy of Florida; two granddaughters, Amy Sherzai and Dawn Costin and four great grandchildren. A brother, Farrell Sanborn, preceded her in death.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, April 8, 2017 at 3 p.m. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon.

There are no calling hours. Memorial donations may be made to Ahimsa Haven Animal Rescue, 381R Baldwinville Road, Templeton, MA 01468

Robert Carl Casperson, 59

DANBURY CT — Robert Carl Casperson, age 59, of Danbury, CT passed away Friday, March 24, 2016 at Regional Hospice Center for Comfort Care and Healing in Danbury. He had been waging a long, hard-fought battle with cancer and finally succumbed to the disease.



Robert was born in Greenwich, CT on Dec. 3, 1957, to Grace Elizabeth "Betty" (Humphreys) and Roland Carl Casperson, later of Westport, CT. He was the youngest child of a family of five siblings.

He had the good fortune of being raised in bucolic Westport, CT. Robert graduated from Staples High School in 1975 and went on to pursue a liberal arts education at Sacred Heart while beginning, in 1976, his lifelong career at MBI in Norwalk, CT.

MBI turned out to be the center of Robert's professional and personal life. In 1977, he met Linda Magini, a new addition to the MBI family, and they became lifelong soul mates. They married in 1995 at the Highland Lighthouse in Truro. They were the loves of each other's lives and were dedicated to each other through the last hour of Robert's passing.

Robert was an animal lover and doted on his family of cats, the most famous being their Norwegian longhair, Askem, whom Robert actually trained to do dog tricks. He dedicated himself to the care and rehabilitation of injured local wildlife. He was an outdoor enthusiast as well as an inventor known as Mr. Fix-It. Robert filled several positions at MBI over the years but he was the unofficial master of ceremonies and humorist there and in his personal life. Robert was always

the funniest guy in the room. He was famous for his observations, imitations, and pranks, challenging his friends, family, and coworkers to lighten up and not take life quite so seriously. Anyone that knew Robert smiled at the mention of him. His mantra was, "We don't make a lot of money but we have a lot of fun."

Robert leaves behind his devoted wife Linda and her family; his brother-in-law Mike Magini; his wife Leslie of Southbury; and their children Jake and Melissa; his brother-in-law Paul Cassella, husband of his late sister Betsy, and their sons Christopher and Gregory of Sandy Hook, CT; his sister Lee Rogers, her husband Barry, and their sons Eric and Brent all of Delafield, WI; his brother Peter Casperson and stepdaughter Grace of New York City and Truro; and his brother James Casperson, his wife Nancy, and their children Anika and Hunter of Winchendon.

Friends are invited to attend a memorial service directly at the Lawncroft Cemetery 1740 Black Rock Turnpike, Fairfield, Ct. on April 21, 2017 at 10 a.m.

The family expresses their gratitude to the MBI family for their care and support through Robert's ordeal (the MBI flag was seen flying at half-mast the day he passed), the Whittingham Cancer Center staff, Norwalk Ambulatory staff, and their neighbors whose constant support was a godsend.

Robert will be dearly missed by all who loved him; his loving, kind and humorist nature was a gift to us all. God bless and keep his beautiful soul at peace.

Donations in Robert's memory may be made to Danbury Animal Welfare Society, 147 Grassy Plain St, Bethel, CT (<http://www.daws.org>) or the Whittingham Cancer Center, 24 Stevens St, Norwalk, CT 06850 (<http://norwalk-hospital.org>).

Gould H. 'Bud' Coleman, 97

GARDNER — Gould H. "Bud" Coleman, age 97, of 81 Bickford Hill Road, died peacefully Sunday afternoon, April 2, 2017, surrounded by his loving family.



Bud was born in Gardner on March 7, 1920, the son of Philip and Irene C. (Humphrey) Coleman.

He graduated from Gardner High School in 1938, where he was a member of the baseball and basketball teams, the president of his class for all four years and was class valedictorian.

In 1942, he graduated from Yale University, where he became a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Upon graduation, he enlisted in the

United States Army. After basic training, he graduated from Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. He was assigned to the Signal Intelligence Operation at its headquarters in Arlington, VA where he participated in the decoding of the Japanese High Command communications.

In 1944, he was sent to North Africa and Italy, where he was a member of an intelligence group decoding the German field code communications.

After the war, he immediately entered Yale Law School and graduated in 1948. He then served for a year as law clerk for Judge George Sweeney in the Federal District Court in Boston.

He opened his law practice in Gardner in 1949. For many years, he developed land in New England and Florida and continued his law practice until his retirement in 1985.

He was a founder of the Gardner Lions Club, was director of and attorney for The Knowlton Foundation for many years and was a member of Hope Lodge of Masons.

In 1946, he was married to Elizabeth D. Keyworth. A son, Peter K. Coleman, was born in 1948 and a daughter, Nancy Coleman Weststrate, was born in 1957. His wife Elizabeth predeceased him in 1995. Betty and Bud celebrated 49 wonderful years together. As a couple, they exuded a love of life, took tremendous pride in their city and showed great compassion for others.

In 1996, he married a life-long friend, Jane Greenwood Heywood. Bud brought light heartedness and fun, security and

comfort to his marriage with Jane. They especially enjoyed traveling and socializing with family and friends.

A brother, Philip L. Coleman, predeceased him in 2007.

In addition to his wife Jane, he is survived by his son Peter, a resident of Palm Beach, FL; his daughter Nancy and her husband Jacob "Jack" Weststrate, residents of Keene, NH and Peter's twin children, Jay Gould Coleman and Sarah Elizabeth Coleman, also of Palm Beach, FL.

He is also survived by a nephew, Michael Coleman and his wife Josephine, residents of Westport, and their family, a niece Elizabeth "Beth" Coleman and her husband Peter Mellalieu of New Zealand, a cousin Maureen Carey of South Dartmouth and her family.

He is also survived by his step-children, Jennifer Heywood of Gardner and her family, Karen Greenlaw of Lynchburg, VA and her family, and Jeffrey Heywood of Golden, CO and his family.

Bud enjoyed playing golf most of his life and was proud of having made five holes-in-one. When the Gardner Municipal Golf Course opened in 1936, he enjoyed several years of caddying there. He would walk the course early in the morning and remain there until one of his parents would pick him up at the end of the afternoon. When Bud wasn't golfing, he was always thinking about it.

He also enjoyed Dixieland, ragtime and classical music, in particular Mozart. An avid reader of biographies and historical works, Bud was known to read multiple newspapers daily. Bud was also a fan of Bombay gin.

Spending time with his family was his greatest joy. He took special pride in his grandchildren, Sarah and Jay, and delighted in showcasing their musical talent to friends and neighbors. He thoroughly enjoyed Jane's grandchildren, Chris and Katie, and took a keen interest in their pursuits and encouraged them to follow their passion. His was a life well lived.

Note: Bud wrote a very proper obituary; this version was enhanced by his children.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, April 8, 2017 at 10 a.m. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon. There are no calling hours.

Burial with military honors, will follow in Green Bower Cemetery, Gardner.

Following the burial, a reception will be held at Colonial Hotel, 625 Betty Spring Road, Gardner.

Robert N. Kimball, 84

TEMPLETON — Robert N. Kimball, age 84, of 12 Water Wheel Circle, died peacefully Tuesday, March 28, 2017 in Quabbin Valley Healthcare, Athol, with his family at his side.



He was born in Beverly on Dec. 4, 1932, son of the late Elmer and Enid (Ayers) Kimball and was a 1951 graduate of Beverly High School. Following his high school graduation, Rob entered the Navy,

serving as a machinist's mate during the Korean War.

Rob worked for Textron Defense Systems in Wilmington for ten years as a supervisor in quality control. He later worked part time for BJ's in Hyannis for two years. Rob was a member and past high priest of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and was a member of

Amity Lodge of Masons in Danvers. His hobby was model ship making and his daily walks along Baldwinville Road.

He leaves his wife of 40 years, Doris L. (Dahlgren) Kimball; two daughters,

Cheryl Ann Migneault of Auburn and Debra Louise Munn of Mississippi; three stepchildren, Robert S. Button of Croydon, NH, Mark E. Button of North Andover and Doreen P. Bosworth of Athol; seven grandchildren, six great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a daughter, Shirley Ellen Kimball and his brothers and sisters, Phyllis Doone, Milton Kimball, Priscilla Lindley and Philip Kimball.

Funeral services were held Friday, March 31, 2017 in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon.

Burial will be in Puritan Lawn Memorial Park, Peabody.

Memorial donations may be made to MSPCA or Ahimsa Haven, 381R Baldwinville Road, Templeton, MA 01468.

Harold F. 'Spike' Grasmuck, 72

WORCESTER — Harold F. "Spike" Grasmuck, age 72 of Worcester, formerly of Winchendon, died Saturday morning, April 1, 2017, in UMass Memorial Medical Center, University Campus, Worcester.



He was born in Winchendon on June 16, 1944, son of the late William F. and Roseanne Yvonne (Ashmore) Grasmuck and grew up in Winchendon. He was a 1962 graduate of Murdock High School. He proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

Spike had worked for many years as a packer at New England Wooden

Ware. He was a former member of Winchendon Rod and Gun Club. For the last 30 years, Spike had lived in Worcester. His hobby was taking trips to Foxwoods.

He leaves a daughter, Heather Haley and her children; a brother, William F. Grasmuck Jr. of Winchendon; two sisters, Jean V. Rivard of Winchendon and Brenda Kelly of Colorado Springs, CO and many nieces and nephews. Two sisters, Barbara Desaulniers and Rose Marie Jean, predeceased him.

Military funeral services were held Thursday, April 6, 2017 in Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, 111 Glenallan St., Winchendon.

There are no calling hours. Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon is directing arrangements.



STONE-LADEAU FUNERAL HOME

343 Central Street
Winchendon, MA 01475

Tel: 978-297-0077 • Fax: 978-297-0075

SEND OBITUARIES at no charge to Editor Ruth DeAmicis, by faxing (978) 297-2177, or by e-mailing the editor at ruth@stonebridgepress.news.

We also invite funeral directors and families to e-mail us a JPEG photograph to print, at no cost, alongside the obituary.

OBITUARIES

Susan D. Peal, 50

WESTMINSTER - Susan D. Peal, 50, of 12 Franklin Avenue, Westfield, formerly of Westminster, died Monday, March 20, 2017 in Baystate Noble Hospital, Westfield.



Susan was born in Gardner on Oct. 13, 1966, daughter of Bruce A. Peal of Gardner and Sandra J. (McMilleon) Peal of Winchendon. She grew up in Westminster and graduated from Oakmont Regional High School in 1984. She enjoyed singing and listening to music and the beauty of the

ocean.

In addition to her parents, she leaves two sons, Michael Deslauriers and his wife Tabitha of Templeton and Tyler Keough of Gardner; a granddaughter Briana Keough; two sisters, Debra Dahlgren and her wife Linda Bouchard of Phillipston and Tracie Clark and her husband Robert of Gardner; one brother, Bruce E. Peal and his wife Chandra of Gardner and several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon were Saturday, March 25, 2017.

J. Elizabeth Webb, 58

SEBRING FL — J. Elizabeth Webb (nee Joyce E. Lahikainen) died in her home in Sebring, Florida on March 30, 2017. She was 58 years old. She was born in Gardner to Edwin and Carolyn (Fisher) Lahikainen.



In her early years, she attended Gardner public schools. Later, she attended high school at The Stony Brook School, Stony Brook, NY, graduating in 1976. She attended Westminster Choir College and graduated from Anna Maria College in 1981 with a dual degree in piano performance and business administration.

For many years, she worked as an executive administrator in New York City for several firms before moving to Tappahannock, VA where she married, taught elementary school and enjoyed life along the Rappahannock River. When her husband, Guy Webb,

predeceased her in 2003, she retired to Florida.

She is survived by two sisters, Linda Overton and her husband Ronald of Lake Grove, NY and Jane Martin and her husband Ralph, of Simsbury, CT. She leaves behind two nieces, Carolyn Martin and Eve Overton and her husband Rollin Say, and three nephews, Michael Martin, of Simsbury, CT, Ned Overton of Lake Grove, NY, and Peter Overton and his wife Sherry and their son Fisher Overton. She also leaves many dear cousins and is survived by her beloved partner, Alan Schunk of Sebring.

A service in celebration Elizabeth's life and her joyous reception into the presence of her Lord will be held on Saturday, April 8th at Faith Lutheran Church, 627 Green St., Gardner at noon. All are welcome to the service and a luncheon following in the church.

Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon is directing arrangements.

Loretta M. (Lefebvre) Stewart, 69

WINCHENDON — Loretta M. (Lefebvre) Stewart, age 69, formerly of 79 Hyde Park Drive, died peacefully Thursday, March 30, 2017 in Baldwinville Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, with her family at her side.



She was born in Winchendon on May 25, 1947, daughter of the late Roland R. and M. Rachel (Dodier) Lefebvre and resided in Winchendon for most of her life.

Loretta worked for the former Fred's School Bus as a driver of handicapped children. She enjoyed jig saw puzzles and playing games on her computer. Her greatest enjoyment was spending time with her family.

Her husband of 34 years, Rawford Lee Stewart, died in 1998. She leaves four children, Brian L. Stewart of

Winchendon, John R. Stewart and his wife Joy of Winchendon, Darlene Nelson and her husband Erik of Winchendon and Sheryl A. Stewart of Winchendon; two brothers, Robert H. Lefebvre and his wife Janice of Amherst, and Paul U. Lefebvre of Jaffrey; four sisters, Ann R. Perley and her husband Eugene of Winchendon, Jeanne I. Cote and her husband Jeffrey of Canyon Lake, TX, Marie D. Szymcik and her husband Scott of Swanzey, NH and Theresa M. Paciencia and her husband Robert of Allen, TX; seven grandchildren, Timothy, Ashley, Maranda, Austin, Kira, Kurtis and Khloe, one great grandson Wyatt and many nieces and nephews. A son, James R. Stewart, predeceased her in 1966.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, April 5, 2017 in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon. The Rev. Howard Underwood officiated.

Robert A. Vaillancourt, 79

WINCHENDON — Robert A. Vaillancourt, age 79, of 129 Ipswich Drive, died peacefully at his residence Saturday, April 1, 2017.

He was born in Peterborough, NH on June 28, 1937, son of the late Albert and Mary (Bosley) Vaillancourt and lived in Winchendon for most of his life.

Bob worked as a woodworker for many area furniture companies until his retirement. He loved fishing and the outdoors and had been a member of Winchendon Rod and Gun Club. Bob also enjoyed taking bus trips to Atlantic City and Hampton Beach.

His wife, Lorraine (Champagne)

Vaillancourt, died in 2012. He leaves six children, Brian Cutler of Fitzwilliam, Albert Vaillancourt of Winchendon, Pamela Vaillancourt and her companion Wayne Jarvenpaa of Royalston, Greg Vaillancourt and his husband Joe of Florida, Jonathan Vaillancourt of Winchendon and Elizabeth Nolette and her husband Mike of Winchendon; his long time companion Lucille Corkum of Winchendon, many grandchildren, two great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Two children, Michael Vaillancourt and Angela Vaillancourt, predeceased him in death.

Funeral services were held Thursday, April 6, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon.

Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery at a later date.

Wanita Lee Parmenter, 43

WINCHENDON — Wanita Lee Parmenter, age 43, of 285 Hale St., died unexpectedly at her residence Saturday, April 1, 2017.



She was born in Leominster on Dec. 16, 1973, daughter of Robert M. and Jane (Patria) Parmenter Jr. of Winchendon and was a lifelong resident of Winchendon.

Wanita was a loving mother to her six children, with whom she treasured her time. She enjoyed writing and had written a book of short poems.

In addition to her parents, she leaves her children, Tyler G. Peterson, Tristan

J. Peterson, Brandon L. Peterson, Taylor J. Peterson, Naomi R. Peterson and Laura B. Parmenter; a brother, Jesse Parmenter of Worcester and several aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. A brother, Gino Parmenter, predeceased her.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 4 p.m. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central St., Winchendon.

Calling hours in the funeral home will Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. preceding the service.

Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery later this spring.

Memorial donations may be made to gofundme.com/parmenter or may be left at the funeral home.

COURIER CAPSULES

DINNER WITH THE EASTER BUNNY: Come enjoy dinner and crafts with the Easter bunny 5-7 p.m. at the Winchendon McDonalds! Have your picture taken with the bunny for free and enjoy a little family fun.

Winchendon Public Schools Preschool Screening packets have been mailed to Winchendon residents with children who will be age 3 or age 4 by Aug.31, 2017. Screening looks at a child's development in the areas of language, fine and gross motor skills, cognition and social emotional skills. This optional screening will take place on May 3, and May 10, 2017. If you have concerns about your child, suspect your child may have a disability or if you did not receive a packet in the mail, please call the Winchendon Pre-K office

at 978-297-3436.

LITTLE LEAGUE 2017 WINCHENDON AREA LITTLE LEAGUE REGISTRATION: Winchendon Little League is still accepting registrations for the 2017 softball and baseball season all levels of play. Visit our website or Facebook page or email for more information: www.facebook.com/winchendonll or winchendonLL@gmail.com.

TWILIGHT LOUNGE Thanks to a grant given by the Templeton Cultural Council the Templeton Senior Community Center will be having singer Dan Kirouac perform on Friday April 7th from 7-6 p.m. This is a free event with limited seating so please call 978-894-2780 to reserve.

TheHeartOfMassachusetts.com

POLICE LOG

Winchendon Police Department

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 28

12:08 a.m.: building check, secure; 12:12 a.m.: mv stop (Water St.), spoken to; 12:25 a.m.: mv stop (Central St.), verbal warning; 12:28-2:44 a.m.: building checks, secure; 5:13 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), citation issued; 5:37 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), citation issued; 9:20 a.m.: investigation (Ready Dr.), spoken to; 10:41 a.m.: summons service (River St.), served; 10:42 a.m. mv stop (Gardner Rd.), written warning; 10:45 a.m. extra patrols (No. Vine St.), services rendered; 10:54 a.m.: summons service (Royalston Rd. No.), unable to serve; 11:15 a.m.: fire alarm (Glenallan St.), false alarm; 11:45 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), verbal warning; 12:00 p.m.: mv stop (Glenallan St.), verbal warning; 12:27 p.m.: Section 12 (Mill St.), removed; 2:03 p.m.: mv stop (Baldwinville State Rd.), citation issued; 2:59 p.m.: officer wanted (School St.), report taken; 3:02 p.m.: accident (Central St.), assisted; 4:11 p.m.: assist citizen (Bosworth Rd.), assisted; 5:07 p.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), verbal warning; 5:44 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), verbal warning; 6:03 p.m.: summons service (Belmont St.), served; 7:26 p.m.: 911 info/general

(Western Ave.), report taken; 10:15 p.m.: suspicious (other) (Spring St.), removed; 10:15 p.m.: disabled auto (Front St.), info taken; 11:49 p.m.: investigation (Central St.), secure.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

12:17 a.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), verbal warning; 12:30-12:31 a.m.: building checks, secure; 12:39 a.m.: extra patrols (Veterans Cemetery), secure; 12:40-12:54: building checks, secure; 12:59 a.m.: registration check (Spring St.), secure; 1:05 a.m.: mv stop (River St.), spoken to; 1:42-1:49 a.m.: building checks, secure; 1:51 a.m. transport (River St.); 2:02-2:36 a.m.: building checks, secure; 2:55 p.m.: info/general (Central St.), spoken to; 4:31 a.m.: burglar alarm (Elmwood Rd.), secure; 4:54 a.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), verbal warning; 5:20 a.m.: mv stop (Baldwinville Rd.), verbal warning; 6:34 a.m.: burglar alarm (Krantz Rd.), accidental; 7:27 a.m.: tree down on wires (Glenallan St.), referred; 7:58 a.m.: house check (Forristall Rd.), secure; 9:54 a.m.: harassment order service (Front St.), unable to serve; 10:13 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd. and Spring St.), citation issued; 10:27 a.m.: harassment (Benjamin St.), report taken; 10:28 a.m.: assist other dept. (Eagle Rd.), unable to locate; 10:32 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), spoken to; 11:08 a.m.: summons service (Linden St.), served; 12:39 p.m.: investigation (Spruce St.), report taken; 12:40 p.m.: summons service (Juniper St.), unable to serve; 12:49 p.m.: animal complaint (Alger St.), report taken; 1:30 p.m.:

summons service (Franklin St.), served; 1:52 p.m.: vandalism (Maple St.), report taken; 2:27 p.m.: registration check (Central St.), verbal warning; 2:30 p.m.: animal complaint (Central St.), referred to ACO; 3:18 p.m.: summons service (Juniper St.), unable to serve; 3:21 p.m.: summons service (Juniper St.), served; 3:26 p.m.: summons service (Royalston Rd. No.), unable to serve; 3:43 p.m.: info/general (Central St.), info taken; 3:48 p.m.: ambulance (Harrisville Ct.), removed; 4:11 p.m.: mv stop (Mechanic St.), spoken to; 4:47 p.m.: assist citizen (Spruce St.); 5:29 p.m.: 911 hang up (Ash St.), spoken to; 5:38 p.m.: animal complaint (Mill St.), referred to ACO; 6:44 p.m.: assist other agency (Baldwinville St. Rd.); 7:19 p.m.: panic alarm (Eli Dr.), cancelled; 7:48 p.m.: mv stop (Central St.), verbal warning; 7:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main St.), verbal warning; 8:00 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), written warning; 8:07 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), verbal warning; 8:10 p.m.: mv stop (Murdock Ave.), verbal warning; 8:19 p.m.: mv stop (School St.), verbal warning; 8:29 p.m.: mv stop (School St.), citation issued; 8:41 p.m.: investigation (Mechanic St.), spoken to; 8:48 p.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), verbal warning; 9:01 p.m.: mv stop (Spruce St.), verbal warning; 9:35 p.m.: FD call (Central St.), services rendered; 10:09 p.m.: investigation (Front St.), secure; 10:38 p.m.: fight (Ready Dr.), services rendered; 11:11 p.m.: accident (Maple St.), services rendered.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

12:03 a.m.: building checks, secured; 12:08 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), verbal warning; 12:14 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant St.), removed; 12:22-12:23 a.m. building checks, secured; 12:23 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), written warning; 12:24-12:52 a.m.: building checks, secure; 12:52 a.m.: investigation (Summer Dr.), secure; 12:53-3:03 p.m.: building checks, secure; 3:08 a.m.: extra patrols (Neighborhood Crime Watch area), secure; 3:13 a.m.: extra patrols (Benjamin St.), secure; 3:15-3:32 a.m.: building checks, secure; 8:28 a.m.: harassment order service (Front St.), unable to serve; 8:41 a.m.: 911 call non-emergency (Gardner Rd.), no service necessary; 8:50 p.m.: ambulance (Central St.), removed; 9:59 a.m.: mv operating erratically (Forristall Rd.), advised officer; 10:11 a.m.: ambulance (Monadnock Ave.); no fire service necessary; 10:17 a.m.: burglary (Beachview Dr.), report taken; 10:50: FD call (Glenallan St.), services rendered; 11:11 a.m.: ambulance (Ready Dr.), removed; 11:21 a.m.: burglary (Beachview Dr.), info taken; 11:28 a.m.: investigation (Benjamin St.), info taken; 1:00 p.m.: fraud (Glenallan St.), spoken to; 2:32 p.m.: suspicious (other) (Old Gardner Rd.), services rendered; 2:35 p.m.: wires down (Front St.), referred; 3:42 p.m.: mv stop (Maple St.), verbal warning; 3:57 p.m.: mv stop (Glenallan St.), verbal warning; 5:10 p.m.: animal complaint (Mill Glenn Rd.), services rendered; 5:22 p.m.:

SERVICES

continued from page A2

5:30 p.m.: Our Neighbor's Kitchen will be at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 52 Spruce St. this week for special Maundy Thursday supper. We'll be working with volunteers at IHM to make a delicious traditional Maundy Thursday chowder supper for Holy Week. Following the supper, you're welcome to attend the service upstairs in the church. If you'd like to volunteer, get in touch with us for details, or just ask when you arrive for the supper. On Thursday, April 27, we'll be back at UUCW for a hearty dinner of scalloped potatoes and pork chops, with peas and dessert, cooked by Rev. Inanna Arthen and assistants.

Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. We can always use more volunteers! If you'd like to help with set-up, come to the church around 4 p.m. If you want to help with serving, come at around 5:15 p.m. so we can go over any special protocols for the night's menu. Clean-up starts around 6:15 p.m. and is usually done shortly after 7 p.m. Volunteers have a chance to sit down to socialize and enjoy the meal.

Sunday, April 16
11:00 a.m.: Easter Sunday worship with Rev. Inanna Arthen

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SPORTS

All in the family

TALKING
SPORTSJERRY
CARTON

Yes, the North Carolina Tar Heels won their sixth national championship Monday night in a dog of a game that slogged along dazzling ONLY in its ineptitude and sketchy officiating. Yes, everyone had a bad night. At least it was close all the way. UNC and Gonzaga had excellent regular seasons. The 'Zags title game loss was only their second of the year but under the brightest of lights neither team shone. So be it. The team ranked first in most pre-season polls ended the season cutting down the nets. Some years we savor chaos. This year was more formful. I suppose Gonzaga can take

mild comfort in knowing more of its athletes graduate than do those in Chapel Hill. Oh yes, that academic cheating scandal. Carolina would like us to forget about it. Not so fast. It's still there, simmering just under the surface. Let's see if it's ever really resolved with disciplinary measures.

Anyway, arguably the larger story Monday came out of DC where Georgetown kept the coaching job in the family by hiring a guy who's never been a head coach at any level. I suppose Big John had to be placated when JT3 got the pink slip so the Hoyas reached back into their misty but genuinely glorious past and named their greatest player ever as the new head coach.

I have no idea, you have

no idea, no one has any idea if Patrick Ewing can coach or recruit. Granted, he's been a respected NBA assistant for almost two decades but that's not the same as being the head guy at a college program. There's utterly no track record on which we can even begin to guess. Here's what we do know. Those clamoring for G-town to make a clean break from 40-plus years of Thompson dominance were living in a fantasy world. Big John IS Georgetown hoops, right down to the statue and the \$65 million practice playpen named after him. If the supposed powers that be on the Hill had decided JT3 had to be sacrificed, going outside the family was a non-starter. It just was and everyone on campus must have known it.

Sometimes these things work. Roy Williams at UNC is a prime example but the difference is ol' Roy had a successful track record at Kansas before returning home and he took over only after two other family members, Bill Guthrie and Matt Doherty both failed to come anywhere close to emulating Dean Smith. Gary Williams was a success at his alma mater at Maryland but again, he had a long proven record at AU, BC and Ohio State. Joey Meyer was a wash-out at DePaul compared to his father, Ray. The jury is out on Chris Mullins at St. John's, though it'll be fun to watch when SJU faces G-town next year. Mullins and Ewing were, shall we say, fierce competitors back when they were playing and the Big East was the Big

East. So we'll see about Ewing. Give Georgetown this - family matters there.

The Masters heads into its second round today. Tiger Woods isn't there and who knows if he ever will be again. Does it even matter, at least from a historical perspective? Woods, the second best player ever behind Jack Nicklaus, is 41, has a bad back and young kids. I'm sure that being competitive he'd like to be out there but he obviously has nothing to prove. As for the Tour itself, all those guys owe him a rich debt of gratitude for being the catalyst for purses soaring through the stratosphere. There are a lot of really good players these days. The game is hardly in a death spiral. See you next week.

Softball aiming for post season once more

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — When the Murdock Lady Devils varsity softball teams hosts Sizer school to open the 2017 season this afternoon, field conditions permitting (3:30), coach Mike Fontaine's squad will be aiming for a ninth post-season berth in the last ten years. That's a fact, but Fontaine, while cautiously optimistic, points out the Lady Devils are "very young."

"We've only got one senior" (Sydney St. Pierre, third base/pitcher), noted Fontaine, "and our first pitcher (Emily Smith) is just a sophomore."

Smith might be just a sophomore but whether you're talking major league baseball or high school softball, the primary keys to success are pitching and defense, and as a freshman last spring, Smith displayed a lot of poise and threw a lot of innings, returning this year with a repertoire of several pitches, including some new ones and that full year of var-

sity experience under her belt.

"She works really hard in the off-season as well as during the season," said Fontaine.

"Every season is different," he reflected.

"We've got a lot of offense to replace," noting sluggers Deanna Polcari and Haley Jandris graduated last year. "We're going to run more this year, manufacture some runs and not wait for the long ball," Fontaine said.

One big-time hitter who's returning is junior Molly Murphy, who will patrol left field. She produced offense last year too and Fontaine noted it's going to be crucial for her to do again this spring.

"We're going to be counting on her bat a lot," he said.

Emily Kiberd-Pervier and Vicky St. Hillaire are the two other juniors on the roster. Pervier is likely to see lots of action at first base and St. Hillaire will be the designated hitter most of the time. Soph Maria Polcari will be the starting catcher.

Infielder Jocelyn Garner, (shortstop) Kelly Murphy (second base) and Smith and sister Lindsey (center field/catcher) are the other sophs with Cassidy Stadtfeld the lone freshman.

"I'll play everywhere. I'll play anywhere," she enthused.

Middle schoolers Kenzi Druin (backup infield) and Meghan Knight complete the roster. Knight has pitched on lower levels and in Little League and may well prove to be the starter of the future but for now, she'll be in the outfield with Emily Smith and occasionally St. Pierre in the circle.

Fontaine has been around school and travel ball for a long time and acknowledged one of the keys to Murdock's long run of success doesn't exist anymore. The town used to have a thriving Little League softball program, arguably the best in the state, but the allure of other programs prompted area towns to opt out which impacted Winchendon as well.

"But it's not just us. It's everyone," said Fontaine, adding most schools are

teaching fundamentals at levels they weren't doing a decade ago.

"That's just how it is," he remarked. "We're going to focus on things we do well and take every game as they come along."

He waved off a suggestion his team faces more pressure than any other MHS squad because of its history.

"That doesn't win games for us now," he shrugged.

MHS has compiled a 123-63 regular season mark since 2008, which was the program's first playoff appearance in a while. Though the Lady Devils were one-and-done that year, they got a win the following season. In 2010, Murdock ran off 11 straight wins enroute to the school's first ever trip to the state championship game. Playoff berths were secured the next four seasons as well and in 2012, there was a 13-game winning streak.

In '15, the program slipped a notch but returned to Districts last spring.

"That's where we want to stay," noted Fontaine.

Jinn medals at swimming championship

BOSTON — Murdock High School freshman, Timothy Jinn, competed on March 9-12th, at the 2017 New England Swimming 11-14 Age Group Championships hosted by the Bluefish Swim club at Boston University. The four day championship had 58 teams in attendance from all over New England. Qualified swimmers competed in their events in the preliminary session in hopes of achieving one of the top twenty fastest times for the finals session. Jinn qualified to compete in seven individual events, as well as, manning five relay teams over the course of the meet.

Jinn began day one by racing the morning prelims in the boys 13/14 100 yard freestyle, as well as, the 1650 yard freestyle.

With an impressive start of the morning, Jinn placed 21st and took off 1.16 seconds in his 100 yard freestyle with a final time of 51.65.

Jinn just missed qualifying returning to finals by three-hundredths of a second. The last event of the morning was the boys 13/14 1650 yard freestyle, in which Jinn is a strong competitor.

Jinn, along with his coach, Diana Pimer, and his brother, Brandon Jinn, a sophomore and collegiate distance swimmer on the Tufts University men's swim team, planned his strategy on how to race his mile. Big brother was Jinn's lap counter at the turn end of the pool, and would shake the number card in the water to keep Jinn on pace with his race, while his coach from the side of the pool would keep track of his 50 yard split times. Jinn had an amazing race in the mile, and took fourth place in his heat, whilst achieving a personal best time of 16:58.91.

Jinn improved his time by over 18 seconds, which is a lot in this distance event. Jinn's final time placed him fifth over-

all and received his first medal on the podium.

Jinn returned to finals to swim on his Greenwood Swimming's relay team. The Greenwood boys had two relays to compete in, and were up to the challenge. Beginning of the finals the team competed in the boys 13/14 200-medley relay. Jinn manned the first leg of the relay for the backstroke, while teammates, Ron Finkelberg manned the breaststroke, Sam Folger the butterfly leg, and Alex Minickiello as anchor for the freestyle. The boys' team took sixth place out of eighteen teams.

The last relay for the evening was the boys' 13/14 800 yard freestyle relay. Jinn again, was the lead off swimmer, with Peter LaFrance the second, Sam Folger the third, and Alex Minickiello as the anchor. Jinn exploded off the block at the start and kept a fast pace during his 200 yards while giving his team a strong lead. Jinn's 200 yard split of 1:51.39 was a personal best time for him, bettering his fastest time by almost three seconds. The boys' team bettered their time by over

three seconds and earned a silver medal on the podium.

Day two, Jinn continued to race strong in his 200 yard freestyle achieving yet another personal best time of 1:50.60 beating his time from the 200 yard freestyle split time in the 800 free relay the night before. Jinn made the top twenty for finals and placed sixteenth overall.

Jinn capped off the evening with another relay swim in the boys 13/14 400 yard freestyle relay. Jinn once again manned the first leg for his team, followed by teammates, Ron Finkelberg, Alex Minickiello, and Sam Folger.

Jinn raced a solid 51.66 in the first 100 yard freestyle, again, giving his teammates a strong lead. The boys' team took off ten seconds with a time of 3:25.39, earning them a bronze medal on the podium.

Jinn with half the meet behind him, was now psyched to race his favorite event, the 50 yard freestyle. A true sprinting event, it is the most exciting race to swim, as well as to watch. It is an event

Turn To **JINN** page **A10**

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Polcari in the dugout for third season

BY CHRIS MARTIN
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

With the season in the offing, it is time to get the reaction of Murdock baseball coach Bob Polcari on the upcoming season. Polcari will be entering his third season as head coach.

He said, "We're coming in with a philosophy at the plate we hadn't had last year, so we're going to have a different approach. I think we'll be better prepared at the plate, and I think we'll put more balls in play."

"More balls in play should lead to more runs and more runs should lead to more wins; that's one thing."

"The other thing," he continued, "Is depth in pitching. We've probably got eight guys that should be able to throw for us. Depth on the team in general... we have everybody with the exception of a couple of kids who have played here last year and the year before."

That, he said, means continuity. "Going with the last couple of years, we've had a lot of kids just come back out after a few years of being off. I think we have a lot more experience on the team than we've had in the past."

And that includes working on himself

as well, doing the job that needs to be done.

"I've tried to become a better coach, went out to a clinic to try to learn some stuff; so it should carry over."

"It's a matter of being disciplined about it, but I think that should carry over and help us be a more competitive team in general."

Due to graduation last spring, the Blue Devils lost Collin Boyden, Calvin Clinkscale, Justin Lundin and Sean Sutton, and Polcari agreed the loss would be felt.

"Sean and Calvin certainly played a lot and Calvin and Sean pitched quite a bit so that will hurt some; not having them available. Calvin was a great utility player."

"But I think this is going to come around and as I said earlier, we have more depth in the pitching this year, and we do have pitching coming back from last year; people who will be much better like Zach Richards, he's potentially our number one guy."

Beyond Zach, who's been working quite a while and looking pretty good, we have pitching from Joe

Turn To **POLCARI** page **A10**



Greg Vigne photos
A chorus line of jungle creatures belting out a song at last week's production of The Jungle Book Kids at Toy Town Elementary School.

Baloo (Sadie Michelson) giving some advice to Mowgli (Spencer Robichaud) after the boy is banished by the tiger, Shere Khan.



The king of the monkeys, King Louie (Raymond Chapman) makes demands.
MUSICAL 7 CUTLINE: King Louie (Raymond Chapman) has his say on Mowgli's future.



Baloo (Sadie Michelson) exchanging words with the Old Monkey (Madison Eldredge).

JUNGLE

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sisted of Jennifer Haddad, extended day coordinator, Toy Town teacher Cindy Darcy, volunteer organizer Michelle Michelson, Toy Town Principal Mary Aker, and Friends of Music President Maureen Provost.

Sponsors included To Each His Own Design, the National Honor Society, the Massachusetts Association of Student Councils, and Winchendon Dunkin Donuts.

The cast included: Spencer Robichaud as Mowgli; Sadie Michelson as Baloo; Alyshia Richard as Bagheera; Raymond Chapman as King Louie, Kyleigh McConnell as Colonel Hathi/jungle; Sofia Boisvert as Baby Elephant/jungle; Ethan Van Hillo as Shere Khan; Olivia Hasting as Kaa; Cassidy Lauziere, Alivia Martin, Madison Eldredge, Sofi Davidson, and Regan Kelley as the snake's coils/jungle; Giuliana Adonteng as Coconut Tree; Emily Michaud as Shanti/jungle; Madison Eldredge as Old Monkey, jungle; Emma Bourque as Vulture/jungle; Arriane Daigle and Liliana Lewis as Wolves/Monkeys/jungle; Baile



Mowgli (Spencer Robichaud) contemplates his next move.

McKinnon and Corwin McConnell as Monkeys/jungle; Makayla Amoako, Joslyn Vautour, Jolie McMaster, and Lorelei Lewis as Elephant Troop/jungle.

The musical was directed by Krisi Iannacone and Alexandra Aker.

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JINN
continued from page A8

that just shaving off a hundredth of a second at the finish of the race determines if you make it back to finals or not. At the deck referee's whistle command, Jinn in the far outside lane, stepped up onto the blocks, and waited for the final whistle where he would take his starting position. Jinn bolted off the blocks at the start and tore through the water with a vengeance, taking the lead in his heat, winning with a personal best time of 23.93. Jinn took off sixty-five hundredths of a second, which may not sound a lot, but in a sprinting event, it is a big deal.

his events, Jinn returned to the blocks to swim another distance event, his 500 yard freestyle. Jinn finished in fourteenth overall and added another personal best time to his resume of swims, by shaving off 8.92 seconds with a final time of 4:58.30. Jinn's goal for this meet was to break the five minute mark.

Jinn returned to finals seeded sixteenth for his 50 freestyle and was ready to give it his all. Jinn achieved another personal best time of 23.68, besting his preliminary time by twenty-five hundredths and finishing fourteenth overall.

On the last day of champs, Jinn had two more individual events left, the 100 yard backstroke and the 1000 yard freestyle, in

addition, to two more relays in finals. Jinn and his coach decided to scratch him from the 100 backstroke so he could get more sleep at the hotel and be rested for his distance event. Jinn arrived at prelims an hour and half before he was scheduled to contest his event, and with the direction from his coach, he did his warmup practice in the side pool, giving him enough time to warm up his muscles and mentally prepare for his race. The 1000 yard freestyle, like the 1650 free, is an endurance race that also requires the swimmer to pace their race and to push them not on physically but mentally as well. Jinn did just that, and picked up his pace on the last 250 yards, and finished with a

time of 10:15.76, shaving off 6.08 seconds and placing 11th overall.

This championship was scored both individually and as a combined team score. Jinn contributed a total of forty-seven points for his Greenwood Swimming team and ranked 23rd amongst 66 competitors. Jinn's swimming contribution earned his swim team a fifth place finish with a total score of 1105.05 points. Qualifying for this championship was Jinn's goal this season, as he has been training very hard for the past year to get the opportunity to compete. Jinn had an excellent training season, and not only qualified for this championship, but now has also qualified to compete at the New England Long Course

Meter Seniors Championship at Brown University this summer, and also the New England Short Course Seniors Championships this coming December.

Jinn has returned to the pool for training after a short break, and will be training for the long course season, with the goal to add more events to his resume of the culminating championships. Jinn is a USA swimming registered swimmer and trains six days a week after school at Keene State College with his coach Diana Pimer, who is also the assistant coach of the Keene State University women's and men's swimming and diving team.

POLCARI
continued from page A8

Curtain who also pitched a lot last year. We've got Connor Clinkscale who was injured for the bulk of the season last year; so these three guys will probably get a lot of innings."

And they have back up. I've got Austin Barrows, Guerin Lovett, Dakota Girard, who's coming after not playing a couple of years, I've got Logan Knight; and both of these guys are coming back this year. I have Jack (Polcari) who has been working on his pitching."

"I think I have more depth at the pitching end of things, so I'll be able to use more kids versus last year. I really had to watch it last year, who I put in because I didn't have that many arms and I'd have to save them for the next start."

As for the rest of the positions, Coach

feels he's in good shape there too.

"From an infield perspective we're looking pretty solid, I've got shortstop, third base is in pretty good shape, second base is between Guerin and Connor and first base I've got three or four options there and I think each will give us something special. One guy may be slightly better defensively, and one guy may be better offensively but I think each will find their niche throughout the season."

"In the outfield Sam Drake will be back, Alex Marshall and Zach Richards will be playing out there. Morhei Castro, Jack...so I'm feeling pretty decent about outfield."

"Some of them, Alex, Zach, and Sam, they are first year players after being off a few years, so I think that experience will help. Plus the Middle Schoolers coming up off last year's team is going to boost our experience level quite a bit. They went 11-2 or 12-2 last year, an amazing season, so it will give us added

depth."

As for the season, Polcari sees a lot of challenge.

"The league is always a very big challenge, with Maynard, West Boylston, Tahanto, Ayer-Shirley, all four of those teams went to playoffs last year; then Narragansett joined our league and they also went to playoffs."

"All our opponents are contenders, so I think that's a big challenge. I'd like to get a couple wins right away at least, and we were close last year. I think with the depth this year and the pitching, we can pull this off."

In non-league he sees the team as "quite competitive, so I'm hoping to get to the 10 win plateau."

"I'm not looking ahead, I'm taking one game at a time and we'll make adjustments along the way."

"I expect to have a 14 man bench; I have 16 on the team and they will all find time and we may be moving pieces in and out to keep people hot. I'm look-

ing forward to this season."

"I think we're in good shape, I can't guarantee we can go 20-0 but we're much more competitive than last year. If you score five or more runs in a game, you win 80 percent of them, so that's our goal; and we struggled at that last year."

"I think we'll be ok."

He's pleased with the program developing at Murdock, seeing the future as bright as the program continues.

"Between high school and middle school we've got the number of kids I've anticipated. I was hoping we had enough for JV, we're not going to be able to do that. We're going to have a young middle school team made up of primarily seventh graders and some eighth graders; but that's a builders program."

"We have to keep working on this to keep more kids involved in baseball."

NEWS BRIEFS

Commuter station serving its purpose and its clientele

FITCHBURG — It's been six months since it opened for business and the Wachusett stop on the MBTA commuter rail line is off to a promising start with officials anticipating ridership continuing to grow.

"The numbers are improving," noted MART administrator Mohammed Khan.

"People are coming from Winchendon and Athol to work in Boston. We're saving them money on gas and parking", he added.

The facility at 55 Authority Drive just off Route 31 was built to have room for

360 parking spaces and handle traffic of 400 riders on a daily basis. For now, Khan said as many as 85 cars are being left for a full day as people go to work or other destinations. He said January saw just under 200 riders, an uptick from December.

"That's good news," he remarked. "People are starting to use the station more and more. It will take time to build ridership. We've only been open full-time since late November and as the weather improves, we believe the station will be used more."

Khan pointed out there's also a regular shuttle bus between Wachusett and the City Hall bus stop in Gardner.

"Using us is much easier than taking Route 2 with the traffic there," he stressed.

The very existence of the station has been a long time in coming. The Fitchburg railroad was part of the original Massachusetts/Vermont line when railroads were first coming into their own in the 1850s. A Westminster station about a mile west of the current site operated until 1945 and a successor line a half mile east ran for 15 subsequent years. Between 1980 and 1986, there was commuter service between Fitchburg and Gardner but the run made no intermediate stops.

In 2000, the state legislature approved a feasibility study to look into the practicality and economic value of re-establishing a line to Gardner and Athol but that idea was shot down because Gardner is 64 miles from North Station in Boston and Athol 81 miles. Instead, a

proposal was made to build a station on the existing line to West Fitchburg.

The federal Department of Transportation awarded an initial \$55 million grant in 2010 with an anticipated completion date by 2014 but environmental issues surrounding the layover yard delayed the project. That was resolved in time for a do-over groundbreaking in August, 2013 and the station opened to limited service last September with full-service launched Thanksgiving week last year.

The partial September launch was required or the state would have risked losing the more \$59 million eventually put up by the federal government. In the end, the project cost \$93.3 million.

"A good investment," assured Khan.

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LOGS

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burglar alarm (Beachview Dr.), accidental; 5:39 p.m.: officer wanted (Brown St.), spoken to; 6:00 p.m.: larceny (River St.), report taken; 8:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Spruce St.), spoken to; 8:35 p.m.: mv stop (Maple St.), verbal warning; 8:43 p.m.: extra patrols (Beachview Dr.), secure; 9:19 p.m.: mv operating erratically (Gardner Rd.), unfounded; 9:21 p.m.: burglar alarm (Spring St.), cancelled; 10:18 p.m.: accident (Royalston Rd. No.), report taken; 11:02 p.m.: ambulance (Oak St.), referred; 11:14 p.m.: intoxicated person (Central St.), transported.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

12:29 a.m.: building check, secure; 1:01 a.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), secure; 1:12 a.m.: info/general (Gardner Rd.), referred; 1:15 a.m.: ambulance (Front St.), removed; 1:43-2:38 a.m.: building checks, secure; 5:44 a.m.: animal complaint (Murdoch Ave.), referred to ACO; 6:29 a.m.: mv stop (Central St.), false alarm; 8:56 a.m.: assist other agency (Otter River Rd.), Lawrence Doucette, Jr., 42, warrant arrest; 10:23 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), verbal warning; 11:00 a.m.: ambulance (Hyde Park Dr.), no service necessary; 11:00 a.m.: ambulance (Brown St.), removed; 2:14 p.m.: welfare check (Duval Ct.), assisted; 2:18 p.m.: DPW call (Central St.), referred; 2:50 p.m.: accident (Baldwinville State Rd.), gone; 3:26 p.m.: accident (Spring St.), service rendered; 3:57 p.m.: disabled auto (Spring St.), removed; 4:07 p.m.: intoxicated person (Duval Ct.), detained; 7:12 p.m.: disabled auto (Gardner Rd.), spoken to; 7:50 p.m.: investigation (Emerald St.), 209A issued; 8:57 p.m.: burglar alarm (Elmwood Rd.), secure; 10:58 p.m.: accident (Baldwinville Rd.), assisted; 11:14 p.m.: officer wanted (Central St.), spoken to.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

1:30-4:13 a.m.: building checks, secure; 4:23 a.m.: suspicious auto (Elmwood Rd.), transport; 5:14 a.m.: parking vio-

lation (Academy St.), towed; 6:08 a.m.: abandoned auto (West and Pearl streets), secure; 7:24 a.m.: accident (Gardner Rd.), report taken; 9:33 a.m.: assist citizen (Banner Pl.), canceled; 9:40 a.m.: unattended death (Hale St.), report taken; 10:59 a.m.: ambulance (Central St.), removed; 12:23 p.m.: property damage (Glenallan St.), report taken; 12:38 p.m.: extra patrols (Royalston Rd. No.), info taken; 1:50 p.m.: burglar alarm (Front St.), secure; 2:46 p.m.: assist other police dept. (Hale St.); 3:57 p.m.: officer wanted (Central St.), report taken; 4:38 p.m.: ambulance (Pearl Dr.), removed; 4:46 p.m.: fire alarm (Eli Dr.), false alarm; 4:51 p.m.: assist other agency (Hale St.); 6:34 p.m.: unattended death (Ipswich Rd.), report taken; 7:18 p.m.: investigation (West St.), info taken; 7:34 p.m.: investigation (Jackson Ave.), spoken to; 9:19 p.m.: mv stop (Front and School streets), verbal warning; 9:28 p.m.: mv stop (Jackson Ave.), verbal warning; 9:53 p.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), written warning; 10:01 p.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), written warning; 11:06 p.m.: larceny (Mechanic St.), report taken; 11:08 p.m.: animal complaint (Madison Ave.), gone; 11:23 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), verbal warning.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

2:42-2:46 a.m.: building checks, secure; 3:01 a.m.: extra patrols (Pearl Dr.), secure; 3:14-3:29 a.m.: building checks, secure; 8:05 a.m.: animal complaint (Spring St.), returned to home; 8:38 a.m.: ambulance (Central St.), removed; 9:26 a.m.: house checks (Royalston Rd. No.), secure; 9:29 a.m.: traffic hazard (West St.), referred to DPW; 9:45 a.m. (Front St.), info taken; 11:10: property damage (No. Ashburnham Rd.), no cause for complaint; 11:26 a.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), citation issued; 11:33 a.m.: extra patrols (Front St.), secure; 12:54 p.m.: atv complaint (West St.), info taken; 3:21 p.m.: atv complaint (Teel Rd.), spoken to; 3:45 p.m.: tree down on wires (Mill Glen Rd.), removed; 4:47 p.m.: larceny (Rt. 202), referred; 5:32 p.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), verbal warning; 6:32 p.m.: custody

dispute (Linden St.), spoken to; 6:46 p.m.: welfare check (Teel Rd.), spoken to; 7:34 p.m.: officer wanted (Town Farm Rd.), assisted; 7:49 p.m.: structure fire (Spring St.), extinguished; 8:15 p.m.: suspicious person (Elmwood Rd.), secure; 8:37 p.m.: mv stop (Elmwood Rd.), verbal warning; 9:36 p.m.: harassment (So. Main St.), referred; 9:56 p.m.: mv operating erratically (Spring St.), spoken to; 10:12 p.m.: mv stop (Spring St.), verbal warning.

MONDAY, APRIL 3

1:19-1:35 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:36 p.m.: extra patrols (Black Bridge), secure; 2:06-3:28 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:37 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), citation issued; 5:51 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), verbal warning; 6:02 a.m.: animal complaint (Lakeview Dr.), canceled; 6:12 a.m.: transport (Pearl Dr.); 6:43 a.m.: ambulance (Ready Dr.), removed; 7:24 a.m.: info/general (Glenallan St.), advised officer; 8:21 a.m.: harassment order service (Front St.), unable to serve; 8:44 a.m.: larceny (Main St.), Derek Yatko, 42, 11 Beech St., Winchendon, vandalism; 9:01 a.m.: attempt to locate (Juniper St.), unable to serve; 9:26 a.m.: extra patrols (Front St.), services rendered; 9:31 a.m.: mv stop (Front St.), verbal warning; 9:37 a.m.: mv stop (Front St.), verbal warning; 9:43 a.m.: mv stop (Front St.), verbal warning; 9:57 a.m.: mv stop (Front St.), verbal warning; 9:57 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Rd.), citation issued; 10:00 a.m.: mv stop (Front St.), verbal warning; 10:11 a.m.: mv stop (Front St.), verbal warning; 10:13 a.m.: suspicious auto (Court St.), spoken to; 10:35 a.m.: investigation (Otter River Rd.), spoken to; 10:48 a.m.: mv stop (Front St.), verbal warning; 10:52 a.m.: animal complaint (Brookside Dr.), info taken; 11:24 a.m.: ambulance (Benjamin Dr.), removed; 11:24 a.m.: investigation (Beech St.), spoken to; 12:39 p.m.: investigation (Royalston Rd. No.), spoken to; 1:02 a.m.: summons service (Royalston Rd. No.), unable to serve; 1:25 a.m.: ambulance (E. Monomac Dr.), removed; 1:34 a.m.: sex offender registration (Joslin Rd.), unable to locate; 1:42 p.m.: assist other dept.

(River St.), unable to locate; 2:22 p.m.: ambulance (Summer St.), transport; 2:34 p.m.: ambulance (Grove St.), transport; 3:09 a.m. ambulance (Central St.), transport; 3:49 p.m.: extra patrols (Front and Pleasant streets), service rendered; 3:59 a.m.: mv stop (Front St.), spoken to; 4:06 p.m.: mv stop (Front St.), citation issued; 4:22 p.m.: mv stop (Front St.), written warning; 4:31 p.m.: threats (Monadock Ave.), transport; 4:37 p.m.: suspicious person (Pond St.), gone; 5:09 p.m.: extra patrols (Front and Pleasant streets), services rendered; 5:13 p.m.: suspicious person (Summer St.), spoken to; 5:52 p.m.: mv stop (Front St.), spoken to; 6:04 p.m.: panic alarm (Eli Dr.), canceled; 6:08 p.m.: ambulance (Morse Ave.), transport; 6:57 p.m.: disabled auto (Glenallan St.), services rendered; 7:30 p.m.: animal complaint (Baldwinville Rd.), referred to ACO; 8:42 p.m.: mv stop (Maynard St.), Charles O'Malley, 59, Cedar Terr., Winchendon, operating with a suspended license; 10:12 p.m.: fire alarm (Spring St.), secured; 11:22 p.m.: assault (Glenallan St.), report taken; 11:57 p.m.: investigation (Gardner Rd.), secure.

POLICE REPORT

On Thursday, March 30, at around 10:15 a.m., Winchendon Police responded to reports that a house on Beachview Drive had been broken into. Officers Richard Oinonen and Det. Alan Ross responded to the scene.

Upon arrival, they learned that a total of three homes in the neighborhood had been broken into. The only item discovered missing was a 40-inch television.

State Police Crime Scene Services were called to process the scene for evidence.

Anyone with information regarding suspects or suspicious vehicles that may have been in the area are urged to call Det. Ross at (978) 297-1212.

MOLLY

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ciated with mood disorders, my personal area of interest, and that will better allow me to recapitulate these variables in the lab."

"The goal of this," she continued, "and the other reason I'm pursuing this degree is to be able to better understand anxiety, depression, etc. and ultimately develop alternative therapies to the ones we have now. Mental illness is pervasive in our society and living in New York City, you can't help but be aware of its presence in the homeless community and the criminal justice system.

"This year is my first in the program," said Martorella, who did her undergraduate

work at Oberlin College in Ohio, "and right now I'm in the middle of med school classes. This summer I'll be starting some of the PhD portion and I'll be doing a lab rotation, an 8-10 week preview of a lab," run by Lori Zeltser, who "studies childhood obesity and anxiety circuits in anorexia nervosa, both of which have strong gene environment connections and so I'm excited about working with her."

As one might imagine, Martorella has embarked on a challenging career path. But that's no surprise. When she was in eighth grade, during what was supposed to be a track interview, she told the Courier, "I'm going to go into something medical

where I can help people."

All told, it's a seven year journey — a year and a half in medical school, then four years in the PhD program, then back to med school for another 18 months of rotation.

Columbia, of course, is Ivy League, but Molly said she was swayed because, "it has one of the top psychiatry programs in the country and I was excited about the researchers."

Additionally, New York, where she lives with "a wonderful human being who also happens to be my partner in life-things (Jimmy Taylor)" is "pretty close to home," too.

"Being in the city for my 20s is great," she enthused. Nostalgia about track?

"I think I loved the small team we had" at MHS. "Being on a cross country team of 30 in college as opposed to 5-8 in high school was a really different experience and a good one but I did miss how much we relied on each other, how well everyone knew each other and just being goofy with a bunch of people you're really close with who are super supportive of you. So, yeah, I definitely miss the community," she said.

Martorella hasn't forgotten her roots and in fact is willing even eager to talk to anyone at MHS who might be interested in science.

"They can feel free to reach out to me on Facebook or email mollymartorella@gmail.com," she offered.

LEGALS

Legal Notice Winchendon Conservation Commission Lake Monomac Annual Drawdowns

Pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, and the Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw, the Winchendon Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 13th, 2017 at 7:05 pm to consider the Notice of Intent filed on behalf of the Town of Winchendon by Department of Public Works Superintendent Albert Gallant to conduct annual water level drawdowns of Lake Monomac. The hearing will be held in the Second Floor Auditorium of the Winchendon Town Hall, 109 Front Street.

The Notice of Intent is available for public review at the Land Use Office, Room 10 (first floor) of the Winchendon Town Hall on Mondays and Thursdays during the hours of 9am – 12noon (3pm – 6pm on meeting nights), or by calling the Conservation Agent for an appointment at 978-297-3537.

March 31, 2017

April 7, 2017

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Worcester, SS. SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT CIVIL ACTION No. 17cv423A

To The Heirs of Arthur R. Cullen Jr. Winchendon, Worcester County Commonwealth of Massachusetts AND TO ALL PERSONS ENTITLED TO THE BENEFIT OF THE SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' CIVIL RELIEF ACT OF 1940 AS AMENDED:

claiming to be the holder of a mortgage covering property situated at 314 Main Street, Winchendon, MA given by Arthur R Cullen, Jr to GFA Federal Credit Union dated September 16, 2010 recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Book 46336, Page 270, has filed with said court a Complaint for authority to foreclose said mortgage in the manner following: by entry on and possession of the premises therein described and by exercise of the power of sale contained in said mortgage.

If you are entitled to the benefits of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 as amended, and you object to such foreclosure you or your attorney should file a written appearance and answer in said court at Worcester in said County on or before the fourth day of May, next or you may be forever barred from claiming that such foreclosure is invalid under said Act.

Witness, Judith Fabricant, Esquire, Administrative Justice of said Court, this twenty-third day of March 2017.

Dennis P. McManus, Clerk
April 7, 2017

CUMBYS

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parties here will be having a weekly construction meeting on the site, just to discuss what has occurred, what may be coming up in the week ahead."

The town manager also said there may be times when work on the site necessitates the closing of a portion of Central Street.

"They'll coordinate that with the police chief," he said, "but we've offered Cumberland Farms the option of closing the entire section of Central Street in front of their store because there are very reasonable detour routes around that area. If they can close that part of Central Street completely and get the stuff off the site more quickly by doing so, and disrupting traffic for a shorter period of time, we would like to see that happen."

Hickey said any closure would likely

take place over the course of "a few days."

"But at this point," he added, "that's yet to be seen. When they start the demolition, they don't have a lot of room to move around in, so if it would help them to get the demolition material off site and have the disruptions be shortened, we'd like to at least have that discussion with them to see if that's viable."

Hickey said Cumberland Farms has completed the process of obtaining all the permits necessary to proceed with the work.

He also said the company has agreed to improve drainage on Central Street, in part to handle storm water runoff from the parking lot of the new store. Public Works Director Al Gallant said the work will be done from the store to just past the police station.

According to information provided to the Zoning Board of Appeals by

the company, Cumberland Farms is

spending some \$2.7 million on the project. Those same documents indicate improvements to the site will result in an increase in property taxes paid to the town, jumping from around \$11,500 annually to approximately \$52,000 per year.

The company also said in its impact statement that "an expansion of store space should result in a net increase in full-time employment of double the amount of current personnel, including four assistant managers." While work proceeds, current employees of the Winchendon store will be dispersed to stores in Athol, Gardner, and Westminster.

The store at the corner of Front and Central streets is slated to close its doors on April 17 or 18, according to Hickey. The new facility, he said, is set to open "just prior to Labor Day."

WPD

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that instead of going out in a police car."

When asked if he'd miss routine patrols in the cruiser, Ross replied, "No, not a bit."

Ross, who has been working in Winchendon for eight years, said, "I was in Fitchburg for 14 ½ years, so I've been on patrol almost my entire career, except for maybe two years in Fitchburg where I served in a different capacity."

"I've been on the job for about two and a-half weeks, so it's going to be a learning curve for me," he said. "In the past, I've been dealing with the victims of crime, the immediate victims

– right after a crime happened – I'm used to doing that. This is going to be a different role because I'll be going back and re-interviewing witnesses, re-interviewing the victims."

Ross said he's already attended one training course relative to his new position, and anticipates more such training over the next year.

For his part, Wolski said he'll miss serving as detective.

"I'll miss it for sure," he said. "It's by far, in my opinion, the best job in the department. You have some freedom and a little more leeway to do your investigations and follow them up."

As for his new position, Wolski says he, too, is still learning, even though he

has served as acting lieutenant for about 18 months.

"It's a new challenge," he said, "and I hope it becomes easier as the years go on. There's certainly a lot more paper work involved. But I'm feeling more comfortable."

Wolski also said he'll be a resource for Ross.

"I did the job for eight or nine years," he said. "I was in the drug task force, so I'll help train him regarding search warrants and dealing with informants. I'll also help in training him in dealing with other departments that are part of the task force."

Among his other duties, Wolski will serve as acting chief during any absences by Chief David Walsh. He also is responsible for super-

vising the detective, as well as being in charge of evidence and property, serving as court officer and records access officer, scheduling details, and supervising the officers on the day shift and the school resource officer. In addition, he will continue to serve as media liaison for the department.

"The chief really does need an executive officer to supervise these things," he said. "There's a lot do."

Wolski has been a member of the Winchendon Police Department for more than 20 years, 19 of them as a full-time officer. He's also a resident of Winchendon, as is Ross.

"I live right near downtown, so people know me," he said. "Most people know where I live."



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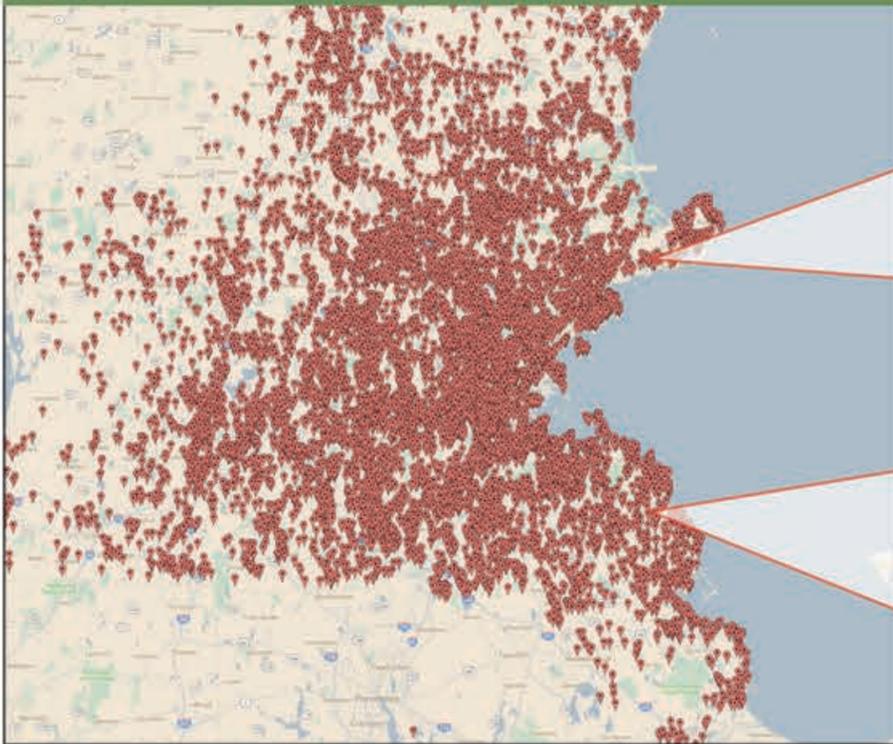
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