

CHARLTON VILLAGER

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Friday, January 4, 2019

Local first responders thanked for saving life



Courtesy

Charlton first responders pose for a photo with resident Bill Water whose life was saved on Nov. 14

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON – The town of Charlton has honored numerous first responders for their quick action resulting in the resuscitation of a local citizen prior to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Charlton Fire Chief Ed Knopf appeared before the Board of Selectmen on Dec. 18 to

recognize several members of his own department and the Charlton Police Department for their quick response that helped save the life of Charlton resident Bill Waters who was on hand for the ceremony as well. Knopf detailed to selectmen the series of events that played out nearly a month earlier.

“On Nov. 14 at approximately quarter of

Please Read **FIRST RESPONDERS**, page A2

Charlton selectmen put EDC Director hiring on hold

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON – It appears Charlton’s search for an interim Economic Development Director has come to a standstill after selectmen debated how to fill the position throughout several meetings in December.

Following a meeting on Dec. 4 where Charlton resident and perpetual public servant Richard Vaughn made his interest in filling the vacancy known the Board of Selectmen has decided to leave the EDC Director position in the hands of the Economic Development Committee instead of making an appointment themselves.

During the early December meeting, the discussion about hiring an interim EDC Director resulted in some heated debate among selectmen, and Vaughn stepping up to defend his qualifications for the job. Selectman David Singer had noted there were two other volunteers who had approached him about filling the position without financial compensation and selectmen decided to open the position up for applications. Since that meeting, they had received no news of anyone other than Vaughn interested in the job, and on Dec. 18, the board read-dressed how they planned to move forward.

Selectman Singer said

despite no applications being submitted for the position he still believes the two volunteers that approached him, which remained unnamed, are interested in the job.

“I did speak to both of the people in question. One of them is currently an EDC member and that person told me they would happily voluntarily at no charge take on additional roles and responsibilities and do a lot more on behalf of the EDC while we are without a director. Their only concern was by themselves they would have to do a lot more for free, but we’re just concerned about how much more,” Singer explained. “I also heard from another person who said they also couldn’t do it as a full time but would also happily volunteer to cover for the first person. So, between the two of them on a voluntary basis at no cost to the town they felt they could do a lot of the extra work on behalf of the EDC without having to hire anyone.”

Singer said the two volunteers were not identified and did not step up because of the controversy that had arisen concerning the position. The volunteers informed Singer they wanted to await news on how the selectmen wanted to pro-

Please Read **EDC**, page A8

Wojnar reflects on term as President of Police Chiefs Association

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY – It’s been a busy year for Dudley Police Chief Steve Wojnar, as he not only served as the leader of law enforcement in his small town, but also served a much larger role in the commonwealth as the President of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association.

The position is a yearly rotating office that chiefs from across the state get the honor of filling for single-year terms as they move up the ranks of the association over time. Chief Wojnar had his turn in 2018, and officially

relinquished the post with the closing of the year calling it a tremendous experience.

Wojnar, who has served as chief of police for 15 years, said he was proud to add a new chapter to his long career and that he learned a lot as President of the Chiefs of Police Association as he traveled throughout the state working with other chiefs and state lawmakers to help improve law enforcement practices and resources throughout the year.

One of his biggest accomplishments, according to Wojnar himself, is that he and others were able to advocate for and successfully establish a new funding

resource that will help with law enforcement training.

“Probably the biggest thing was working with a number of the other chiefs on getting a dedicated revenue source for police training passed. That was something we’d been trying on for about 20-plus years and we were finally able to get that going. It took a lot of hard work for a lot of people. We are hoping that will be a lasting resource for many years to come,” Wojnar said.

Wojnar said his experience working with lawmakers and other law enforcement leaders

Please Read **WOJNAR**, page A2



Courtesy

Left to right: Chelsea Police Chief Brian Kyes, 2018 / 2019 President - Massachusetts Major City Police Chiefs Association, Dudley Chief and 2018 Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association President Steve Wojnar, Governor Baker, Lieutenant Governor Polito, and Hamilton Police Chief Russel Stevens, 2019 President of Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association.

Traffic stop leads to seizure of drugs and illegal firearm

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON – A pre-Christmas motor vehicle stop resulted in quite a find by state police in Charlton, who arrested individuals on several charges.

The Massachusetts State Police released details of the incident in a press release after officers stopped a vehicle on Route 90 on Sunday, Dec. 23 at around 11:30 p.m. The suspects were seen traveling westbound near the Charlton Service Plaza in a white Lexus when Trooper William Doogan from the State Police Charlton Barracks recorded several motor vehicle violations and pursued the vehicle.

Trooper Doogan proceeded to identify the driver as 40-year-old Springfield resident Omar Brown and noticed him mov-

ing his hands across his body seemingly attempting to conceal something from the officer. Brown was asked to exit his vehicle and during a pat own search attempted to kick Trooper Doogan in the leg an elbow him in the chest. Doogan was uninjured and proceeded to pursue Brown as the suspect fled on foot. The chase took Brown and Trooper Doogan toward the Charlton Service Plaza, down two ravines, through two water culverts and over a jersey barrier. Brown refused to stop on Trooper Doogan’s command. Brown eventually ran along the exit ramp from the service plaza before being apprehended by Trooper Doogan.

A search of the vehicle result-



Courtesy

A traffic stop on Dec. 23 resulted in two arrests and the seizure of 132 grams of marijuana, a fully-loaded Taurus .38 Special snub nose revolver with 5 rounds in the cylinder, \$570 in US currency and 30 grams of cocaine.

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WOJNAR

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showed him that the state has a good base for the future of law enforcement. One of the most surprising lessons he took away from his time as president was that communities big and small have a lot of similar problems they have to manage and that teamwork and utilizing a network of communication can help with those endeavors.

"We wanted to form some kind of base and common ground, whatever we could work on together as a profession. We worked closely with the gover-

nor's office, the legislature and the senate and house. We wanted to get some common-sense things going and work on particular priorities and needs as well as justify why we need these resources. We have a good group going forward and we worked hard to try and bring others along in the elected chairs to help them be aware of the needs of the state and law enforcement for the future. I'm really pleased at where we're at right now," Wojnar said. "The biggest thing I've realized is I got to meet chiefs from large organizations and small two-man departments and everyone in between and we all have similar issues. We

don't all necessarily deal with the same volume of problems but most of us have common themes that we look at from time to time. I think the big thing on my end was learning about different parts of the state and some of the common issues we all face."

As Wojnar leaves his duties as President of the Chiefs of Police Association behind, he thanked his wife Christine, the rest of his family and the town of Dudley for supporting him over the last year. Chief Wojnar said he sees a great future for the commonwealth and hope to continue to be part of the conversation as his career continues.

FIRST RESPONDERS

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six in the evening, Mr. Waters returned home to his house. His son was home at the time, and his son found him on the floor in the upstairs of his house not breathing. He'd called 911. The dispatchers did a great job initiating CPR with the individuals on scene. Our guys luckily were here in town. One was on the road and was able to respond almost immediately. We had in total five fire members there and we had four police officers who arrived on scenes," Knopf said.

Utilizing CPR and other first

response tactics the firefighters and police officers were able to successfully resuscitate Mr. Waters in a life or death situation that few tend to survive. Mr. Waters acknowledge how lucky he was when he took the time to speak and thank local responders for saving his life joking that he had "won the lottery."

"I've got to thank the people of this town who saved my life, especially my son who did the beginning. I put my head through the wall on the way down and then my son heard and came downstairs he didn't really panic, I guess. He called 911 and they talked him through the first few minutes and then

the fire department came and did their thing. I'm hearing it was a four percent survival so that's pretty cool," Mr. Water said.

Chief Knopf concluded the ceremony acknowledging each individual who responded to the scene to help with certificates and a round of applause and a showing of gratitude from those present and the Board of Selectmen. Among those acknowledged were Capt. Dean Babineau, Capt. Mike Bjorn, Capt. Brian Ouellette, FF Ben Locke and FF Justin Mui. Charlton Police officers Gary Wood and Derek Gaylord were also recognized during the ceremony.

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Selectmen postpone pipeline decision in light of Valley Green Grow developments

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON – Selectmen in Charlton have decided to put off making a decision on a proposed natural gas pipeline installation as they await the results of several meetings concerning the proposed Valley Green Grow project at Charlton Orchards.

The Charlton Board of Selectmen played host to a discussion with Liberty Utilities New England Natural Gas Company Corporation on Dec. 18 where they were presented with details about the company and its proposed project before deciding to hold off on making an decisions while Valley Green Grow continues to go through state and local application processes for their proposed marijuana cultivation facility.

The Valley Green Grow, or VGG, project has been one of the biggest stories in Charlton over the past year as the company seeks to erect an 860,000 square-foot greenhouse on the property of Charlton Orchards. The project has been the subject of numerous town meetings and even a petition that successfully led to a bylaw change in the fall. The project would include a 10,000 square-foot, 18-megawatt co-generation

facility to be fueled through natural gas with Liberty Utilities being the middle-man of sorts helping organize a connection to the Tennessee Gas Pipeline.

R.J. Ritchie, the Senior General Council for Liberty Utilities, detailed the plans for the pipeline and how it would not only benefit Valley Green Grow, but also allow opportunities for other entities to utilize natural gas in Charlton in the future.

“This is a discrete and dedicated project that’s going to be designed to expedite service to Valley Green Grow at Old Worcester Road while at the same time being designed in such a way that it will be able to accommodate potential future expansion into the rest of Charlton,” Ritchie told selectmen. “This part of the project is for the interconnection to a single contracted customer who will be responsible for all reasonable costs. The meter station and the pipe are conveniently located on private property and that should minimize any safety or environmental issues.”

After a brief presentation, selectmen had their chance to chime in on the subject leading several members of the town’s highest board to suggest taking no action until future discussions on the VGG project are concluded.

Selectman Joe Szafarowicz said he didn’t feel it was right to make any motion on a natural gas installation for a project that itself has yet to receive proper approvals.

“There’s a lot of unknowns right now with that particular project. I’m not sure how that affects this, but I’m also very hesitant to act on anything in regard to that,” Szafarowicz said.

Selectman Karen Spiewak agreed saying that Liberty Utilities may have approached selectmen a bit too early for a concrete decision.

“There are a lot of moving parts as to what’s going on right now. VGG intends to purchase the land. They don’t have that. They don’t have any licenses or permits. So, it would appear it’s a bit premature to have (Liberty Utilities) here right now,” Spiewak said.

Mark Smith, President of Liberty Utilities of Massachusetts, said that the company was trying to be proactive by approaching selectmen when they did and took into consideration the lengthy process they will have to undergo in order to receive the approvals they need to begin their project of or when Valley Green Grow is ready to break ground.

“We had hoped for the approval now only because like any kind of filing it

CHARLTON VILLAGER

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takes a while,” Smith said. “If we’re going to begin the process we’ve got to do designing and send out a proposal for the design and the engineering and what that looks like. There’s a lot of lead time in the process. That’s kind of why we were hoping to move along now.”

Selectmen decided nonetheless to hold off and await the summary judge hearing and the results of a planning board meeting on the Valley Green Grow project which were both scheduled for the first week of January. Officials from Liberty Utilities said they would be more than happy to appear again before selectmen in January or February after those decisions were made to further discuss their portion of the project.

School district approves partnership with MARS

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON – After several months of debate, the Dudley Charlton Regional School District has agreed to partner with the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools, or MARS, to explore reorganization of the district offices and other improvements over the next year.

The School Committee began seriously considering utilizing the services of MARS in October and while some members felt it would not be appropriate to examine major changes to the district before hiring a new superintendent, others were curious to see what MARS had to offer and how much it would cost. On Dec. 12, the committee finally played host to representatives of the organization to have a face-to-face discussion of the costs and benefits of partnering with MARS.

Steve Hemman, the Assistant Executive Director of MARS, laid out some details of their proposal to the district and what they would offer through the partnership.

“What we would propose is we would take a look at what your structure is now, interview everyone in the central office and we’d want to look at job descriptions,” Hemman told the School Committee. “We’d also want to discuss some priorities and goals with the School Committee at a meeting and then how the

district budget relates to the organization. We would get an analysis and provide those things.”

One of the major details that MARS would look at is the leadership format in the district and possibly the addition of an assistant superintendent. Hemman noted that right now fourteen people, including seven principals, report directly to the superintendent which creates a lot of traffic and responsibility for the leader of such a large multi-town district. MARS would look at central offices as well and explore any needs in terms of new hires or consolidating positions.

“We would be doing central office support staff. We would be interviewing and working on the job descriptions and organization. We’d work on technology and facilities. We’d be on site and coming back to the School Committee with reports,” Hemman said.

All of this would be at a lower cost than originally anticipated. In November, Interim Superintendent Dr. Kristine Nash revealed that the estimated cost of MARS’s services would be \$12,000 on the low end. The cost presented in December was \$11,850 at \$90 an hour. While this lower cost was good news for supporters of the partnership it wasn’t enough to earn the support of naysayers on the committee.

Committee member Catherine Kabala and Committee Chair Pauline Aucoin both voiced their continued disagreement with the proposed partnership. While Aucoin argued that the district should wait for a new permanent superintendent to come on

board and be a part of the restructuring Kabala said she could not justify the spending of more money from the district’s contingency account.

“It seems that every week, we seem to be using contingency,” Kabala said. “Now it’s another almost \$12,000 with this study. From what I’m hearing, I think proposals are going to come forward that there needs to be another person in the central office to take some of the heat off the superintendent. To me, that sounds like another \$100,000-plus job, so I cannot support this at this time. I think we’re nickel and diming ourselves.”

Committee member Elaine Rabbit, who had shown herself to be on the fence during past discussions on the topic, seemed more supportive in December and made the motion to proceed with the partnership.

“I know that this is something that has been a topic of discussion for quite a while and I feel that it’s a proposal that will allow us to create an operation that allows for better utilization of our superintendent, allowing more systematic approach to how the central office runs,” Rabbit said. “I think that it will allow us to have very defined functions within our operation and I think the cost investment in it will provide a foundation for us to work with our new incoming superintendent for a better future for the district.”

In the end, the vote to partner with MARS was approved in a 5-2 decision with Aucoin and Kabala the only dissenting votes.

Karl Storz recognized by state officials and ENB for English classes in the workplace



Courtesy

From left to right: Claudia Green, Executive Director of English for New Bostonians; Nam Pham, Assistant Secretary of Business Development and International Trade at Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development; Christine McNally, Business Services Specialist at Quinsigamond Community College; Myle Nguyen, Associate at Karl Storz Endovision; Jessica Barnes, Human Resources Manager at Karl Storz Endovision; and, Mary Truong, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants.

CHARLTON — Karl Storz Endovision, Inc., a medical technology provider in Charlton, was recently awarded the English Works Campaign Certificate of Recognition for their civic leadership in support of English language classes for their immigrant employees. The award was presented as part of the English for New Bostonians’ Raising Our Voices breakfast at Northeastern University, an event that highlights the private sector involvement and investment in the English language skills of the immigrant workforce in the Commonwealth. Karl Storz Endovision began a pilot basic ESOL class with 10 students in partnership with Quinsigamond Community College in September 2016. The company-funded program now enrolls 24 participants and offers both beginner and intermediate levels. The program curriculum is customized to the organization so that participants can use their new proficiency consistently, which can translate into increased

opportunity to advance within the organization.

Other businesses also recognized at the ENB Raising Our Voices breakfast for their support to the English language acquisition by the state immigrant workforce were: All Saints Development, LLC (Boston), Bon Me Foods, Inc. (Boston), Distron Corporation (North Attleborough), International Shoppes (Boston), Distron Corporation (North Attleborough), MIT’s Division of Comparative Medicine (Cambridge), Turning Point, Inc. (Newburyport), and Unifirst Corporation (Boston and Springfield).

English for New Bostonians works closely with employers to help them apply for funding available through the

Workforce Training Fund and to identify partners that can conduct English classes that are customized to the needs of the business.

“With a tight labor

market and over half a million Massachusetts residents who have limited English skills, there’s a strong case for businesses to invest in the English skills of their workforce. The results are better workplace communication, increased retention and greater ability to promote from within,” said Claudia Green, ENB’s Executive Director. “There is also a strong moral imperative, particularly given today’s climate: English classes pave the way to hope and opportunity for immigrant families.”

Businesses interested in learning more about organizing an English class in the workplace should contact Franklin Peralta at fperalta@englishfornewbostonians.org or 617-982-6863.

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Running down a dream

STURBRIDGE NATIVE TRAINS FOR LONDON MARATHON

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE – Having traveled the country and the world to run in marathons, Mary Galonek-Langevin is excited to raise money and awareness at her next stop in London.

A lifelong Sturbridge resident, Galonek-Langevin has logged countless miles in airplanes and on marathon courses around the globe. She is currently training and fundraising for her next event, the London Marathon, in April of 2019.

A member of Team Endure to Cure, Galonek-Langevin and her teammates are each hoping to raise \$8,500 for children and families battling pediatric cancer. The training process for any marathon is an arduous experience, but she is determined to continue assisting families in need.

“It’s not very fun running in frigid temperatures or snow and ice, but it’s an easy price to pay when you know it’s for a really important cause,” Galonek-Langevin said. “In order to be a successful marathon runner, you have to be dedicated and disciplined.”

Galonek-Langevin understands exactly what it takes to succeed in marathons. After participating in the Boston Marathon, the New York City Marathon, the Chicago Marathon, and the Berlin Marathon in Germany, the Sturbridge mother of two has

perfected her training routine. She also knows that the fundraising component of a marathon can be just as demanding as the physical training.

After Galonek-Langevin takes part in the London Marathon, she will have participated in five of the six major world marathons. In the process, she has helped raise thousands of dollars for several teams and organizations.

“Since my early 20s, running a marathon was on my bucket list. Being native to Massachusetts, I had attended the Boston Marathon as a spectator and was always so impressed by the runners that I told myself that would one day be me,” said Galonek-Langevin, a Tantasqua Regional High School graduate.

Of all her marathons, Galonek-Langevin posted her fastest time in Boston (3:59), while raising \$10,000 for her team. She then moved on to Chicago and Berlin before setting her sights on London, although the approval process for that event is extremely strict.

“Similar to Boston, the London Marathon is very competitive and difficult to get into. I had applied to the lottery three years in a row and was never chosen,” Galonek-Langevin recalled. “This year, I was determined to run the race and pursue other charities and causes that were import-

ant to me.”

The Endure to Cure organization provides financial support for families with children battling cancer. Funds raised by the organization help cover the costs of treatments, travel expenses, and gifts for kids to enjoy during their procedures.

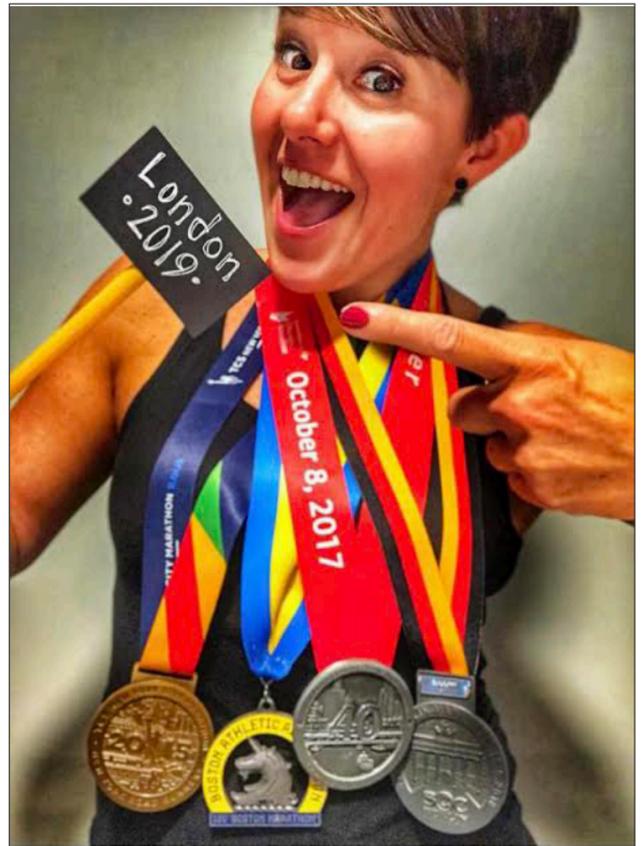
Like all of her previous marathons, Galonek-Langevin will once again rely on the support of friends, family and the community for fundraising. Working full-time as a clinical social worker while taking care of her two children, there isn’t much free time available after her training sessions. To help promote her cause, she has relied heavily on social media and other local opportunities.

“I need all the help I can get. I am also looking for companies that would be willing to participate in corporate matching of donations,” Galonek-Langevin said. “Knowing that the money raised will help children and their families at their most stressful and difficult times makes me feel I can make an impact. If I can chase my dreams and make a difference at the same time, that’s priceless to me.”

If your business would like to donate gift certificates, game tickets, gift baskets, electronics, and other items as raffle prizes, please contact Galonek-Langevin. She thanks all of the people who supported her in the past, and she is eager to see the community rally around her once more.

“I can’t meet my fundraising goals without the kindness and generosity of those who have been willing to support me and the causes that I run for,” Galonek-Langevin said. “It is so easy to see the bad in this world. This process reminds me of the opposite – it has helped me see the goodness in people.”

After receiving her Bachelor’s degree in art therapy at Anna Maria College, Galonek-Langevin obtained a master’s degree from Boston College in clinical social work. She has been employed by the Department of Youth Services as a clinical social worker for



Courtesy

Sturbridge’s Mary Galonek-Langevin is excited to run in the London Marathon in April.

12 years, working daily with young people involved in the juvenile justice system.

And after long days at work, while most people head home to relax with family, Galonek-Langevin spends time training and fundraising.

“Training for a marathon is a huge time commitment. It’s four months of your life that you have to commit to a strict running plan,” she said. “I work 40 hours a week, and I have two school-aged sons and a family that also need me. We all make sacrifices for my training.”

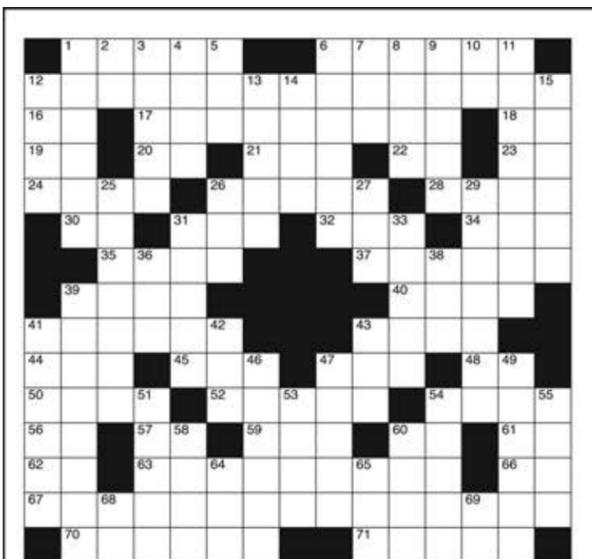
Galonek-Langevin regularly sets her alarm clock for 5 a.m. to make room for training, and she’ll often squeeze in sessions long after putting her sons to bed. But the end result of helping families is always well

worth the challenges along the way.

“Running has changed my life in the best of ways. It has taught me I am capable of so much more than I ever thought, and, mostly importantly, has set a great example for my sons.”

Endure to Cure is dedicated to assisting the 15,000 kids who learn they have cancer each year, in addition to 30,000 more children who are already being treated. To learn more about the organization, visit www.EndureToCure.org.

If you would like to assist Galonek-Langevin’s fundraising quest and help children as they fight cancer, visit www.EndureToCure.org/Mary. You can also send an email to MGL.EndureToCure@hotmail.com for more information.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Class
- 6. Husband or wife
- 12. All the same
- 16. Exclamation of surprise
- 17. Lived in
- 18. Hawaiian entertainer
- 19. Of I
- 20. Belonging to me
- 21. One thousandth of an inch
- 22. Midway between south and east
- 23. Article
- 24. Pitchers have them
- 26. Steps
- 28. Mars crater
- 30. ___ route: on the way
- 31. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- 32. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- 34. These three follow A
- 35. Frail
- 37. Platforms
- 39. Level
- 40. Computers
- 41. Where spiders live
- 43. An enemy to Batman
- 44. Mineral
- 45. Body part
- 47. Give
- 48. Atomic #21 (abbr.)
- 50. European tax
- 52. Bleated
- 54. Capital of Norway
- 56. Pa’s partner
- 57. Stephen King’s clown tale
- 59. Atomic #50
- 60. Military policeman
- 61. One quintillion bytes
- 62. Where impulses manifest
- 63. Offers as a candidate
- 66. Spielberg film
- 67. Great job!
- 70. Live in
- 71. Cares for

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Form a whole
- 2. Indicates position
- 3. Moves in water
- 4. Diminutive
- 5. Old English letter
- 6. “Save the Last Dance” actress
- 7. Dab
- 8. Digits
- 9. Female cattle’s mammary gland
- 10. Yes
- 11. Improves
- 12. We all have one
- 13. Book of Esther antagonist
- 14. Invests in little enterprises
- 15. Organs that produce gametes
- 25. Mediterranean city
- 26. Peter’s last name
- 27. Unhappy
- 29. Swollen area within tissue
- 31. “No ___!”
- 33. Soap
- 36. Chop or cut
- 38. “Atonement” author McEwan
- 39. Bullfighter
- 41. Of the universe
- 42. Founder of Babism
- 43. Not good
- 46. Large, flightless bird
- 47. Punitive
- 49. Makes less messy
- 51. Belts out a tune
- 53. Aboriginal people of Japan
- 54. An eye protein
- 55. Broad sashes
- 58. Actress Spelling
- 60. Distribute
- 64. Unpleased
- 65. Body art
- 68. Midway between north and east
- 69. Overdose

East Brookfield officials look to keep a close eye on marijuana retailers

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD – Special Town Meeting voters last month approved a zoning bylaw governing where recreational marijuana establishments can be located.

The town’s moratorium on retail pot proposals expired on Dec. 31. Prior to the expiration, officials wanted to have a bylaw on the books that allows for town control of retail marijuana siting. The bylaw does not affect medical marijuana proposals; it specifically regulates recreational proposals and limits the siting to commercial zones.

At the Dec. 17 Special Town Meeting, voters unanimously supported the bylaw.

“It is important to have this bylaw in place so the town can restrict [recreational marijuana siting] by special permit,” said Selectman Theodore Boulay. “This gives the town the ability to regulate the location and hours of operation.”

The bylaw was supported by both the selectmen and the Planning Board. Its appearance on the Special Town Meeting warrant represented the end of a long process that began with two public hearings last January. A collaboration between multiple officials and boards ensued, with several months dedicated to securing additional input, conducting research, and drafting the bylaw.

Officials spent the entire spring of 2018 analyzing input received from residents and studying retail marijuana bylaws in surrounding communities. Town Counsel was then brought in to help refine the language for the bylaw.

“It’s critical for the town to have the ability to regulate this. An establishment would only be able to be located in a commercial district,” said Planning Board Chairman Mark Violette.

Complicating an already lengthy review process for town leaders last year were new regulations unveiled incrementally by the state’s Cannabis Control Commission. Proceeding cautiously in its implementation of recreational marijuana, the state revised its regulations in stages throughout 2018.

“This has been a moving target as new regulations were created. We incorporated all of those new definitions into our bylaw,” Violette told Stonebridge Press prior to the Special Town Meeting.

Even though the state regulation process has often been ambiguous, town officials worked hard to educate residents on the situation. In addition to the two public hearings held last January, officials have regularly made themselves available

to answer questions from residents and business owners.

Residents received additional information on the zoning bylaw during a November public hearing that included the Finance Committee, Zoning Board, selectmen, and the police department.

Now that the bylaw has been approved, a recreational marijuana company hoping to operate in town would require a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals. In order for a proposal to be considered, it would first need to enter a public hearing process.

The bylaw also outlines several other requirements of the special permit, and these conditions would likely limit the town to one retail marijuana facility. The bylaw conditions do not place a cap on the number of marijuana cultivation facilities that can operate in town.

The town has not yet received any proposals from retail marijuana companies. Located two towns over in Leicester, Cultivate Holdings, LLC, remains the only recreational supplier in the area.

TRAFFIC STOP

continued from page 1

ed in the location of 132 grams of marijuana, a fully-loaded Taurus .38 Special snub nose revolver with five rounds in the cylinder and \$570 in US currency. State Police K9 Trooper John Doherty and his canine partner also tracked Brown’s escape route and found a small black pouch containing 30 grams of cocaine. Trooper Doogan was further assisted on scene by Sergeant Matthew Simpson and Troopers Jonathon Bray, Kevin Delgado, Patrick Bosworth, Nicholas Allen, and Aaron Boyden.

Brown was charged with numerous offenses including trafficking cocaine, possession with intent to distribute class D substance, possession of a firearm, carrying a loaded firearm, possession of ammunition without an FID Card, possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony, a firearm violation with three prior violent or drug convictions, assault and battery on a police officer, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct and a marked lanes violation.

A second arrest was also reported. The passenger of the vehicle, identified as 40-year-old Springfield resident David Brown, was also arrested for trafficking cocaine, possession with intent to distribute Class D substance and conspiracy to violate drug laws. Both suspects were arraigned in Dudley District Court on Christmas Eve day.

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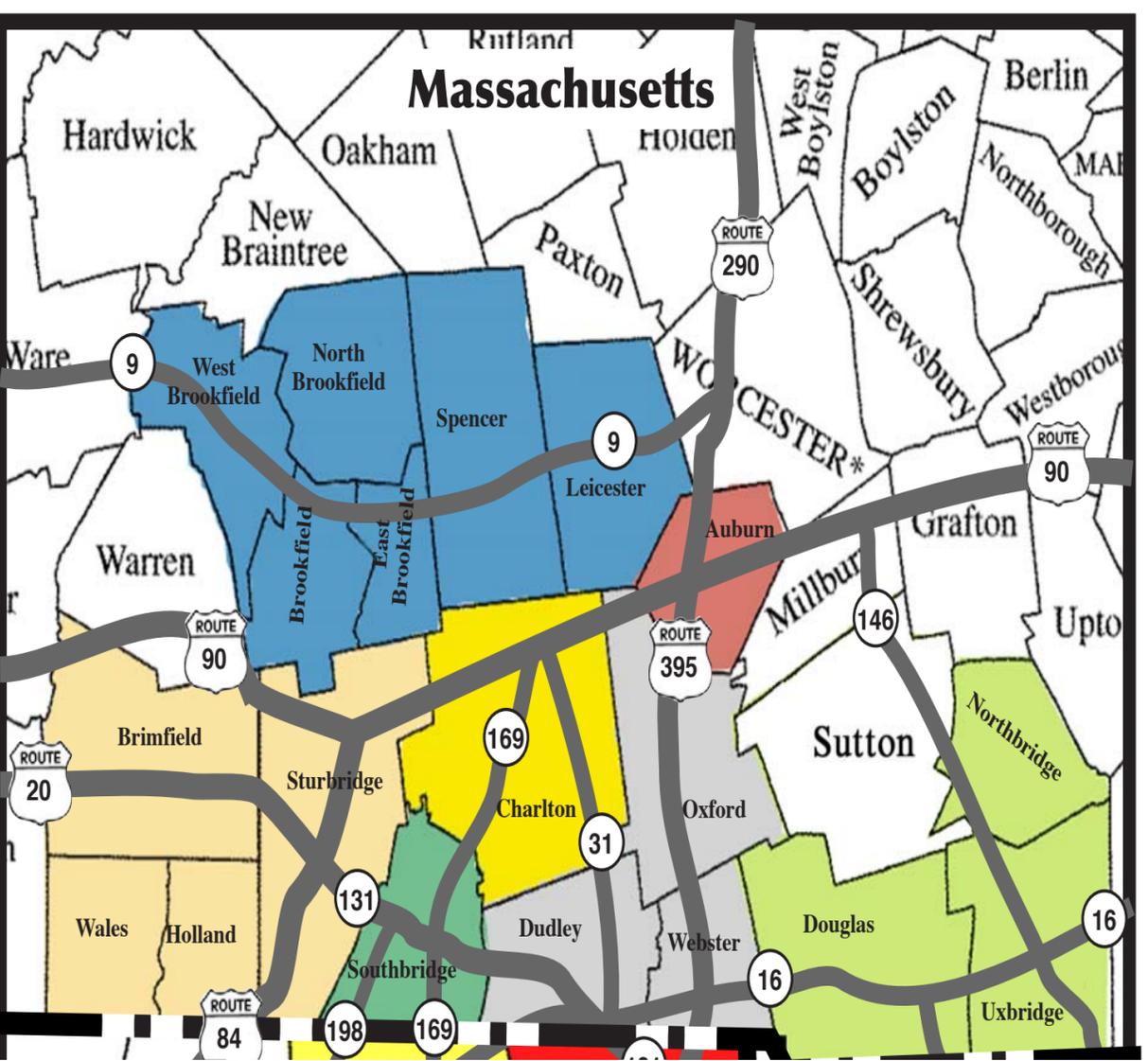
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EDITORIAL

The truth behind some lunar legends

Is there any truth to the old legends inspired by the sight of the full moon? Does our closest celestial neighbor actually exert enough influence on the human body to turn people into lunatics? We're not so sure, but science has much to offer on the topic. With the latest full moon coinciding with Christmas — for the first time since 1977 — our curiosity on the subject was piqued, so we set out to investigate some of these lunar legends.

Some people claim that they become inexplicably moody for a few days whenever the moon enters its full phase, or have trouble sleeping. Some say they experience breakouts on their skin or other aches and pains that affect the joints. Typically, when people are observed acting slightly less than normal, you will hear the phrase "it must be the full moon."

Logic would seem to dictate that since the tides are higher during the full moon phase due to the pull of gravity, our bodies, which are made up of 80 percent water, would experience similar effects. Such does not appear to be the case, however. According to experts, the gravitational influence exerted on the human body by the cup of morning coffee you hold in your hand at this very moment is thousands of times stronger than any such force exerted on us by the moon. So much for that.

Some myths claim that the full moon can incite epileptic seizures in people; however, a study in 2004 showed no such connection.

As far as the age-old tales of psychotic outbursts coinciding with periods of the full moon, one study in 2014 showed an increase of emergency room visits within 24 hours of the full moon; however, a study in 1996 showed no significant difference. The term 'lunatic' is derived from the word 'Luna,' the name of the ancient Roman goddess. Aristotle and Hippocrates once implied they thought the moon was at fault for abnormal behavior. Alas, that also does not appear to be the case if the scientific evidence gathered on the topic is to be believed.

Worthy of note is a study that took place in Colorado, where researchers found that the risk for pet injuries increased by 23 percent during the full moon phase. We have proof that animals behave differently during the full moon, in that the increased nocturnal light affects their hunting habits.

As for sleep deprivation, we all know that before modern times, the moon provided light during the nighttime hours. During the full moon, the increased amount of light was said to have wreaked havoc on those with bipolar or seizure disorders. Many people say they have trouble sleeping during a full moon; however, no studies have indicated a scientific correlation as of yet.

As far as myths go, the claim that a full moon increases fertility and births is as old as time. The truth, however, is that fertility methods based on moon phases have proven as inconclusive as the evidence for gravitational pull influencing human behavior.

February is the only month that may not experience a full moon because each full moon appears every 29.5 days. A super-moon takes place when a full moon coincides with the moon's closest approach to earth. The last time we witnessed a super-moon was in 2015. The next one will occur in 2033. Some say that the full moon is an unlucky sign if it happens on a Sunday. Interesting to note is that the word 'Monday' is derived from the Old English word 'Monandaeg,' which means 'moon day.' Another fun fact is that on March 28, the Royal Air force used the light from a full moon to attack Lubeck in Germany during WWII.

When there are two full moons in one month, the second one is called a 'blue moon.' This occurrence takes place every three years. A red moon happens when the full moon phase occurs during the same time as a lunar eclipse.

The man on the moon that we often see during a full moon is nothing more than a trick of the light playing across dark areas called basaltic plains, which contrast with the lighter colored highlands of the moon's surface. Interesting is that between 1765 and 1813, the Lunar Society of Birmingham, England met during the full moon because the extra light made the walk home safer.

June is said to be the best month to get married because it falls between the planting and harvesting of crops. The term 'honeymoon' is named after the first full moon in June for this reason.

Lastly, of course, we can't wrap up this discussion of full moon mythology and not mention werewolves. European folklore claimed for centuries that if you slept outside under a full moon on a Wednesday or a Friday, you risked being turned into a ravening werewolf. Once again, however, this myth appears to be just as fanciful as the notion of Lon Chaney, Jr. — star of Universal's original "Wolf Man" film in 1941 — being the long-lost son and heir of a British aristocrat.

The werewolf myth has, however, made for some entertaining fare at multiplexes over the decades, from Chaney's original "Wolf Man" to the astonishing transformation sequence in "An American Werewolf in London" to Michael J. Fox's comedic take on the legend in "Teen Wolf." Rather than venture out into the nighttime in search of real werewolves during the next full moon, we recommend putting on one of these classics and settling in for the night with a heaping bowl of popcorn.

But remember to keep some silver close at hand...just in case.

OPINION

VIEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM CHARLTON, CHARLTON CITY, CHARLTON DEPOT AND BEYOND

Creative Multipurpose Tips Save Money

Saving money is tops on many New Year Resolutions lists, and one of the easiest ways to pinch pennies is to get the most use out of the products you buy. Thanks to some creative repurposing, many ordinary items can do double duty all around the house. Read on for some unusual uses for everyday things.

And remember, readers, send in your best tips and you'll be in the running to win a three course Dinner for Two at the Publick House!

Bamboo Skewers: Not just for shish kabob or fruit arrangements, a package of inexpensive wooden skewers come in handy! Use them to test the doneness of cakes; to easily turn doughnuts and other foods when deep frying; and insert into cake layers to invisibly stabilize a crooked confection.

Wooden skewers are also useful in the workshop. To camouflage a narrow nail hole, dip the end of a skewer in white glue, push it into the wall, break it off and paint over.

The most creative use of all? I once caught my niece using one of the wooden sticks as a hands-free Oreo dipper. She just stabbed the middle cream and dunked the whole cookie into milk!

Aluminum Foil: Hate to iron? Place a sheet of tinfoil under the ironing board cover (above the foam but below the cloth) to boost the heat of the iron and get the job done more efficiently and quickly!

Run out of steel wool pads? Crumple up a ball of tinfoil and use to clean pans (not non-stick).

And sharpening dull scissors is as simple as making several cuts through a double layer of aluminum foil!

Vodka: Is your potpourri losing its scent? Toss in a capful of vodka and mix it up to renew fragrance in the dried flower mix. Want your fresh flowers to last a bit longer? Simply add a few drops of vodka along with a teaspoon of sugar to the water in the vase. The vodka kills bacteria, extending the life of the blooms.

And you can whip up an effective air freshener with vodka.

To do: In a spray bottle, mix together six ounces water (distilled if possible), one ounce of vodka, and your choice of essential oil (about 20-30 drops). Shake up and spray!

Dental Floss: Hanging a picture and don't have any wire? Doubled up dental floss is strong enough to substitute on lightweight pictures; Are photos stuck together? Instead of pulling apart, lessen the risk of damage by gently shimmying the floss between the photos to pry them off. Swaging holiday greenery? Green mint dental floss serves as a strong (and invisible) tie to wind around garlands to



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

hang down stairways or along a mantle. And unflavored dental floss can also be used to truss a turkey.

Dental floss even works as a quick fix to restring beaded jewelry. And if you happen to snap your fishing line, a length of dental floss can serve as a temporary substitute.

Here are some additional multipurpose ideas:

• Have extra roof shingles? Stow a few in your trunk during winter weather. If you get stuck, wedge the shingle under the tire for traction.

• For a quick and inexpensive car air freshener, simply place a few drops of essential oil on a cotton ball and put in your car's open console niche (or ashtray) to discreetly refresh the whole car.

• Save plastic newspaper sleeves. The long bags are the ideal size and shape to protect shoes from other clothing when packing a suitcase.

• Wet boots from winter weather? Take a tip from the past: Stuff newspaper inside your shoes and they'll dry out faster.

• Newspaper also works to prevent odors in thermos bottles between uses. Just pack crumpled newspaper into the bottle before closing to store.

• Stuff Styrofoam packing peanuts into a bean bag chair to puff it back up without spending a dime!

• Rejuvenate a grungy sponge with ordinary salt! Just soak sponges (and mop heads) in a solution of one quarter cup salt to one quart of water.

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

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

Consider some New Year's financial resolutions



FINANCIAL FOCUS
JEFF BURDICK

As the year winds down, you may want to look ahead to see which areas of your life you can improve in

2019. Perhaps you'll decide to exercise more, eat healthier foods, reconnect with old friends or volunteer at a school or charitable organization. All these goals are certainly worthwhile — but you also may want to add some New Year's financial resolutions to your list.

Here are a few ideas to consider:

Boost contributions to your employer-sponsored retirement plan. Good news! Contribution limits will be increasing for many employer-sponsored retirement plans. For 2019, you can contribute up to \$19,000 (up from \$18,500 in 2018), or \$25,000 (up from \$24,500 in 2018) if you're 50 or older to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. It's usually a good idea to contribute as much as you can afford to your employer's plan, as your contributions may lower your taxable income, while any earnings growth is tax-deferred. (Keep in mind that taxes are due upon withdrawal, and withdrawals prior to age 59 and a half may be subject to a 10% IRS penalty.)

At a minimum, put in enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered.

Try to "max out" on your IRA. Even if you have a 401(k) or similar plan, you can probably still invest in an IRA. For 2019, you can put in up to \$6,000 in a traditional or Roth IRA (up from \$5,500 in 2018), or \$7,000 (up from \$6,500) if you're 50 or older. (Income restrictions apply to Roth IRAs.) Contributions to a traditional IRA may be tax-deductible, depending on your income, and any earnings growth is tax-deferred. Roth IRA contributions are not deductible, but earnings growth can be withdrawn tax-free, provided you don't start taking withdrawals until you are 59 ½ and you've had your account at least five years. You can put most types of investments — stocks, bonds, mutual funds, government securities and so on — into an IRA, so it can expand your options beyond those offered in your 401(k) or similar plan.

Build an emergency fund. Try to build an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money held in a low-risk, liquid account. This fund can help you avoid dipping in to your long-term investments to pay for unexpected costs, such as a major car repair.

Control your debts. Do what you can to keep your debts under control. Ultimately, the less you have to spend on debt payments, the more you can invest for your future.

Don't overreact to financial market volatility. In 2018 — especially the last few months of the year — we saw considerable market volatility, with huge drops and big gains in rapid succession. What will 2019 bring? It's always difficult — and usually futile — trying to forecast the market's performance over the course of an entire year. But, in any case, try not to overreact to whatever ups and downs we may experience. Instead, continue pursuing an investment strategy that's appropriate for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

Following these suggestions can help you become a better investor in 2019 — and beyond.

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

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SPORTS

Minutemen defeat Pathfinder, march to 5-0 start to season

CHARLTON — The Bay Path Regional girls' varsity basketball team, in slow and steady fashion, defeated Pathfinder Regional, 50-22, back on Tuesday, Dec. 18, to start the year 5-0. Pathfinder scored the first basket of the game but, after a Nekelle Waskiewicz 3-pointer and six straight points from Madison Paulhus, the Minutemen grabbed a 9-2 lead and never looked back from there.

Bay Path led at all the stops: 13-2 after the first quarter, 30-9 at the half and 45-18 through three before winning by 28 points.

In all, eight Minutemen scored and 10 grabbed at least one rebound. Leading the charge were Kiara Coates (14 points, 12 rebounds), Waskiewicz (14 points) and Paulhus (8 points, 6 rebounds).

Bay Path completed the sweep with Pathfinder, having won a 30-14 decision in the season opener.



Bay Path's Emily Wong Kam eyes the basket while driving the ball into the paint.



Bay Path's Kiara Coates shoots the ball up and over the reach of Pathfinder's defense.

Nick Ethier photos

Rams win get-back game from Fitchburg to claim first victory of season

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — In team sports jargon, the Shepherd Hill Regional girls' varsity basketball team's home opener against Mid-Wach League foe Fitchburg High on Tuesday, Dec. 18, is known as a get-back game. A get-back game is where the clearly more dominant team, in this case the Rams, use the game to iron out some of the rough spots that's been troubling the team — and get back to winning in the process.

Shepherd Hill got back to its winning ways against the Red Raiders, scoring the first 12 points of the game en route to a 15-point lead at the end of the first quarter on the way to a dominating 66-26 victory. The win was the Rams' first of the young season, allowing them to improve to 1-2. Fitchburg dropped to 0-2 with the loss.

Senior captain Molly Springer led the way for Shepherd Hill, scoring a game-high 18 points, grabbing 13 rebounds and recording five steals. Springer, doing all of her damage down on the low block, was 10 for 12 from the foul line.

"Going in against Fitchburg we knew we had to get the win;

we had started out 0-2 and we're not used to losing in the beginning of the season," Springer said. "We started off the game really strong and once we got enough of a lead to know we were going to win the game we tried to work on our plays and prepare for the season. It took a little while, but I thought we started to execute better in the second quarter."

A big key to the Rams' fast start against the Red Raiders was the play of guards Grace Nellis and Carly Snyder. Nellis, a junior, and Snyder, a senior captain, each recorded six steals, harassing Fitchburg's ball handlers every time they crossed half-court. Nellis also found time to score 10 points, Shepherd Hill's only other double-digit scorer on what was a balanced offensive night.

"Grace and Carly are both really fast; probably the two fastest players we have on the team," said Springer, who goes up against the duo regularly in between games. "Grace and Carly, they're tough to practice against. Their speed allows them to jump everything and double-team the girl bringing the ball up. The way they play really flusters the opponents up top and it leads to a lot of steals and easy layups."

Often those steals end up in the hands of Springer and her frontcourt teammates, including Reese Hammond, another senior captain, and junior Paula Barbale.

"A lot of times, because the opposing guards are so flustered, they end up throwing passes to no one in particular, or just lobbing the ball inside hoping one of their teammates will get it," Springer explained. "That allows one of our down-low defenders to grab the ball and start us off on a fast break going the other way. The way Grace and Carly play defense really helps us to get going and push the pace."

Shepherd Hill, this year, is definitely a work in progress. The Rams are younger than they've been in a while. Of the 12 players on the roster, five are juniors, three are sophomores and one is a freshman. Springer, Snyder and Hammond are the only three

seniors on the team.

Because of that, combined with the always tough out-of-league schedule Shepherd Hill plays, longtime head coach Jim Hackenson knows the younger players on his roster will have to establish themselves as key pieces of the team.

"Our younger players have to become varsity players real fast; they can't be rookies anymore," Hackenson said. "As a coach you want to be patient and hope they develop, but playing the out-of-league teams we play — Holy Name twice, Tantasqua and Westford Academy — not to mention our league opponents like Shrewsbury, Wachusett and Leominster, you can't really just sit and hope they come along."

Shepherd Hill opened the 2018-19 season with an overtime loss to the Naps and a three-point loss to the Colonials on back-to-back nights on the

road.

"I'm not making excuses; playing teams of that caliber back-to-back with no recovery time to start the season, that's tough," Hackenson said. "We needed this game against Fitchburg; we needed it as a team."

Springer is confident the team will develop its identity as the season goes along.

"I knew coming in it was going to take us a little bit to get going, but I feel we're starting to progress into the type of team Shepherd Hill is used to having," Springer said. "Everybody on this team plays a huge part in our success; there is no girl on this team that isn't a key part of the team. Everybody on this team has a role. It's going to take a few more practices, but I think we'll be the team our fans are used to seeing once we really get into the rhythm of the season."

Charlton's Hackett named to AFCA All-America team

WACO, Texas — Hobart College sophomore Kyle Hackett is the first place kicker in program history to be named to the American Football Coaches Association All-America team. The native of Charlton earned a spot on the 2018 second team after a record-breaking 2018 season.

For the second season in a row, Hackett was the only kicker in NCAA Division 3 football to average at least one field goal made per game with a perfect field goal percentage. He was 9-for-9 on field goals this season, including a season-long 41-yarder. Hackett also converted all 37 of his PAT attempts and finished the year with a team-high 64 points.

Hackett also handled kickoffs for the Statesmen, averaging a league-best 56.3 yards and tying for the league lead in touchbacks with 13.

Hackett broke or tied several Hobart game records this season. In a 62-24 win over Morrisville State, he broke the program record for points by a kicker, logging 13 points on seven PATs and two field goals. In fact, Hackett accounts for six of the 13 times in program history that a Hobart kicker has scored 10 or more points in a game.

A week later in a 56-48 win at Shenandoah, Hackett tied the record for most PATs made with eight. In a 29-28 win over Union, he tied the record for most field goals made with three, including his 41-yarder. Hackett also holds the Hobart marks for most consecutive PATs made (48 through season's end) and most consecutive field goals made (19 through season's end).

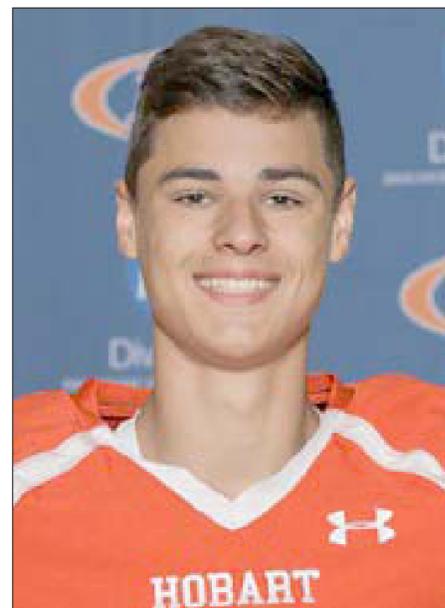


Photo courtesy Hobart College Athletics

Charlton's Kyle Hackett

In 19 career games, Hackett is 19-for-19 on field goals, tied for the most field goals made in a career, and is 80-for-82 on PATs. He is third in career PATs made.



Nick Ethier photos

Shepherd Hill's Grace Nellis collects the opening tip and heads down to Fitchburg's side of the court.

CALENDAR

Sunday January 6

CHRISTMAS CANTATA: The Christian Community Choir presents **EVERLASTING LIGHT**, a Christmas Cantata on Dec. 14 at The Congregational Church of Leicester, 5 Washburn Square, Leicester at 7:00 pm; Dec. 23 at East Brookfield Baptist Church, 262 Main St., East Brookfield at 5:00 pm; Dec. 30 Overlook-Masonic Hall, 88 Masonic Hill Road, Charlton at 3:00 pm; Jan. 6 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Blaine Avenue, East Brookfield at 2:00 p.m. The performance is free and open to all.

ONGOING

BUSINESS NETWORKING: Join us for a **FREE Business Networking Meeting!** Thursdays - 7am at Old Sturbridge Village Oliver Wight Tavern - Grecian Room, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Rd, Sturbridge, For more info call Tia @ 774-200-6740

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Please come join us for a fun evening of exercise and basketball at the Heritage School gym in Charlton. We play pickup basketball from 7-9 PM every Monday

evening from September to June based on the school schedule. There are no set teams and participation is free for women 18 years and older. Please contact Deb at 508-248-3600 for more information.

Pilgrimage to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje

St. Joseph's Church in Charlton is sponsoring a Pilgrimage Sept. 29- Oct. 9, 2019 to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje with Fr. Robert Grattatori. The cost is \$4,599; 11 days includes 4-5 star hotels, airfare, luxury transportation, and breakfast/dinner daily. A \$500 deposit is due at the time of registration. Please contact parishioner Dr. Karen Zaleski for trip details at karenzaleski42@gmail.com or you may call Proximo Travel directly for information and to register at 1-855-842-8001, or 508-340-9370.

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

information. Presented by Alzheimer's Association MA/NH Chapter, visit (800) 272-3900 or alz.org.

NUMISMATICS: Looking for a new hobby? Come learn about the hobby of coin collecting. Or maybe you are an old time collector. Our club, the Nipmuc Coin Club, has both. We learn from each other through our monthly guest speakers, show and tell presentations, monthly coin auctions and free attendance prizes. Our group loves to share their knowledge with each other. About half of our members also like to eat. Each month we have a simple dinner with dessert and refreshments just prior to our meeting, which allows us time to socialize too. We meet the fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Oxford Senior Center located at 323 Main St. in Oxford. It is the building directly behind the Oxford Town Hall building. For more information, please contact Dick Lisi at (508) 410-1332 or lisirichard15@yahoo.com.

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

emy.org or call 413-245-9977

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

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

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

Deer season comes to an end

2018 was a great year for sportsmen in the valley, and many hunting and fishing activities were reported by this writer in my weekly column. Unfortunately, the politicians and Mass. Division of Fish & Wildlife failed to get a crossbow and Sunday hunting bill passed, but the sportsmen will try again this year.

Ice fishing the past couple of weeks was spotty, and when the rain came it stopped all ice fishing activities locally. Ice fishing champ Dan Southwick managed to get in a few days of ice fishing at one of his hot spots as shown in this weeks picture.

The pike weighed in at 21 pounds, 14 ounces. Dan releases all of his fish to be caught another day. A few local club ponds had safe ice for a few days which allowed my brother Ken and others to catch a few trout before the ice disappeared. Anglers are hoping for a good freeze soon so that they can do some ice fishing, but the latest report of warm weather in the near future is not good. In the past few years ice fishing on some of the Cape ponds was also minimal.

The last segment of the Mass. deer season ended on Monday, Dec. 31, in Massachusetts. There did not seem to be much participation by local

deer hunters during the black powder season, but I am sure some impressive deer were harvested. Very little information by Mass. Fish & Wildlife on the deer harvest was released, and local sportsmen are waiting for the final numbers to be released to the press.

The new registration system of harvested deer is great, but it does stop writers from releasing the harvest numbers until the new year when they become available. Many reports of deer eating back yard plantings like strawberries and ornamental bushes is a daily conversation among residents at local coffee shops. You have not seen nothing yet!

With very little food for deer in the woods, they will be feeding in local back yards all winter long. Coyotes and beavers have become a daily nuisance, and reports by local residents about their encounters will continue for many years. Coyotes are here to stay, and have killed numerous family pets this year. Beaver continue to devastate local rivers and streams, flooding out private property. The destruction of trees along the river



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banks needs to be stopped. As I stated in previous columns, trapping needs to be brought back to Massachusetts. The little bit of trapping allowed by local towns annually will never solve the problem. Even the few beaver that are trapped, are killed, as relocation of the buck teeth tree choppers are not possible.

Residents need to make a decision to allow beavers to endanger the lives of humans or take action to preserve our natural forest and rivers and streams. Beavers also carry a disease that is transmitted to family pets and humans themselves. Diseases that can be transmitted to humans include the plague, leptospirosis, to mention a couple and can cause severe complications like swollen glands, rash, and flu like symptoms. Very few physicians are aware of the diseases, and often fail to administer the proper medications. Lyme disease is finally being

recognized by physicians, which for many years was overlooked and properly diagnosed for patients. Common sense and control of all wildlife is needed to ensure the public's safety.

This past week, a segment of the "60 Minutes" program was addressing the plastics problem in our country, as well as global warming. We need our politicians to wake up and address the problem soon. Our ocean is so polluted with plastics that reversing the problem will take many years. Fish and wildlife are dying from ingesting plastic. Global warming is real even though our President does not believe it. Tornados, hurricanes, massive fires, and many other major weather related problems are not normal. Melting of glaciers and weather changes are real. Our children and future generations are being left with major problems, that will impact their lives with disease and suffering! We can do a lot better!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!
Happy holidays to all!

EDC

continued from page 1

ceed before making themselves known and adding to the debate.

While selectmen did show appreciation for volunteers being willing to step forward not everyone was on board with taking that route. Selectman Joe Szafarowicz showed continued interest in hiring someone like Vaughn to do the job, which is in line with his statements from the Dec. 4 meeting.

"I appreciate (the volunteers) reaching out especially at no cost to the town. There's one thing that does concern me. I'm sure they would do a fantastic job, but it seems like they're both not committed to doing it full time and instead piecemealing it together. I think at this

time we'd benefit the best from having a point person, a single champion to work on it and really help us develop the goals and be that cheerleader that we need to get us started," Szafarowicz said.

Board of Selectmen Chairman John McGrath took the middle road between both arguments and requested that the town "go back to the beginning" and reset the process to where it was before Vaughn stepped up to fill the post. This would essentially put the decision on where the town goes from here in the hands of the Planning Board and the Economic Development Committee rather than selectmen.

"Let's wait until we get the town planner in here. Let the Planning Board hire the town planner, let's see what their skill set is and how fast they can pick up

on their side of it and then we try to find a person that matches up against their skill set for what I consider the 'sales' portion of the job," McGrath said. "My view of this is that the town planner and EDC would be the technical nuts and bolts type person and then the other person would assist the EDC and be the sales champion. They'd be the person going out and representing the community to talk to future businesses that may move to town."

After some further debate Town Administrator Robin Craver finally suggested that the selectmen not hire someone to fill the interim EDC Director position and instead turn over those responsibilities to the Economic Development Commission. She said this will allow the Planning Board to hire a new planner, a position that has

remained without a permanent hire for over a year, while the volunteers interested in the interim EDC position could make themselves known before the people primarily in charge of managing economic development in the community.

Selectmen made the decision to send Richard Vaughn a "thank you" note and inform him that the town will be heading in a different direction. It was further moved that the Economic Development Commission be the go-to board for volunteers interested in filling the director position in the interim. The Planning Board is expected to conduct interviews in early 2019 with the town planning to heavily advertise the career opportunity during a conference in March.

TRIPS OFFERED

The "Trips Offered" section is for non-profit organizations and will run as space allows. Mail your information to Trips Offered, c/o Ruth DeAmicis, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550; fax to (508) 764-8015 or e-mail to ruth@stonebridgepress.news.

CHURCH PILGRIMAGE

Pilgrimage to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje

St. Joseph's Church in Charlton is sponsoring a Pilgrimage Sept. 29- Oct. 9, 2019 to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje with Fr. Robert Grattatori. The cost is \$4,599; 11 days includes 4-5 star hotels, airfare, luxury transportation, and breakfast/dinner daily. A \$500 deposit is due at the time of registration. Please contact parishioner Dr. Karen Zaleski for trip details at karenzaleski42@gmail.com or you may call Proximo Travel directly for information and to register at 1-855-842-8001, or 508-340-9370.

BRIMFIELD SENIOR CENTER CHARLTON SENIOR CENTER

Call Elaine or Debra for more info at (508) 248-2231 ~ Sign up sheets & flyers available at the Senior Center. Flyers are available on webpage www.townofcharlton.net: click on Departments then click on Council on Aging/Senior Center. Pick up is generally from St.

Joseph's Church, 10 H Putnam Road Extension, Charlton.

March 12: Celtic Angels of Ireland & Celtic Knight Dancers at Venus De Milo.

Be transported to Ireland with some of the sweetest voices under heaven! The Celtic Angels: Victoria Kenny, Emily Carroll, Tammy Browne, Amy Penston and Ellie Mullane are Irish to the core and seasoned entertainer all.

The Celtic Knight Dancers feature two lead dancers of Riverdance. Their rhythm and artistry are astonishing.

The Trinity Band Ensemble of Dublin round out the show with flawless interpretations of authentic Irish traditional instrumental and their backing of both singers and dancers is perfection. \$92 includes: lunch, show and transportation. (Driver gratuity not included). Payment due Feb. 12, 2019. Make check payable to: Best of Times

April 25: Dancing Dream an ABBA tribute band!

Be transported back to a similar time when gas was under \$1 per gallon, when music was fun, inspiring and uplifting and disco was king! Performing ABBA's greatest hits from 1973 through 1983, DANCING DREAM, the Tribute to ABBA — precisely recreates all of the excitement and passion of their record-breaking 1979-80 world concert tour. With beautiful harmonies, elaborate costumes and exciting choreography, every show is to be remembered.

\$92 includes: lunch, show and transportation. (Driver gratuity not included). Payment due March 25, 2019 Make check payable to: Best of Times

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

For reservations contact Jan Caouette at (508) 887-2215. Make checks payable to Bernadette Circle #709 and mail to Bernadette Circle #709, PO Box 201, Webster MA 01570. The Daughters of Isabella is a nonprofit and charitable Catholic women's organization

DUDLEY SENIORS

For information and reservations contact Evelyn Grovesteen at (508) 764-8254

The next trip being offered is to Mackinac Island, next June 2-8. It includes transportation, lodging, 10 meals, tour of Mackinaw City, Mackinac Island with guided carriage tour, a boat ride through the Sault Locks, sight seeing in Sault Saint Marie, a visit to Mackinaw Crossings, Admission to Colonial Michillmackinac and the Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse. Tips for driver and step-on guides are included. Games, drinks and snacks will be provided on travel days. Cost is \$650 pp/double occupancy. Call Evelyn Grovesteen for info at (508) 764-8254.

Also next year, Sept.13-21, we will be going to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Included is transportation, lodging, 14 meals, guided tours of Acadia National park, Halifax, Peggy's Cove, Lunenburg, Prince Edward Island including Anne of Green Gables' home, admission to King's Landing Historical Settlement, admission to Hopewell Rocks, and a visit to St. John. Tips for driver and step-on guides are included. Games, drinks and snacks will be provided on travel days. Cost is \$1065 pp/ double occupancy. Call Evelyn Grovesteen for info at (508) 764-8254

EAST BROOKFIELD SENIOR CENTER

For information and reservations, please contact Judy Shute (508) 867-9224

LEICESTER SENIOR CENTER

Contact Leicester Senior Center, Joan Wall, (508) 892-3967 for information and reservations.

Friday, January 18: Trip to Foxwoods Casino. Bus leaves at 8 a.m.; cost is \$30. Free buffet and \$10 in free slot play.

Friday, February 15: Trip to Foxwoods

Turn To **TRIPS** page **A10**

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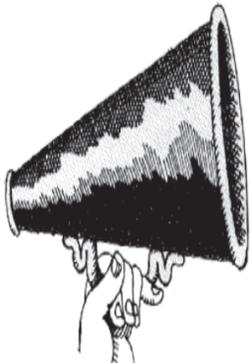
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if your business is in Charlton



TRIPS

continued from page A8

Casino. Bus leaves at 8 a.m.; cost is \$30. Free buffet and \$10 in free slot play.

Friday, March 15: Trip to Foxwoods Casino. Bus leaves at 8 a.m.; cost is \$30. Free buffet and \$10 in free slot play.

MARY QUEEN OF THE ROSARY PARISH

SPENCER — Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish, 60 Maple St., Spencer, is offering the following trips. For more information, call Bernard Dube at (508) 885-3098.

IRELAND: September 9-22, 2019
 USA: SPLENDORS OF THE NORTHWEST: May 20 to June 4, 2019
 JAPAN: March 26 to April 9, 2020
 JAPAN & CHINA: March 26 to April 22, 2020
 SPAIN & PORTUGAL: September 9-24, 2020

MILLBURY SENIOR CENTER

1 River St., Millbury, (508) 865-9154

NORTHBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER
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 www.northbridgemass.org/coun-
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SOUTHBRIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon Senior Center Monday, Wednesday, or Friday 9-10 a.m. or call (774) 922-4049 or e-mail jimtrips@yahoo.com.

Trips are open to the public! Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association, payment due at sign up:

SOUTHBRIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS 2019 TRIP SCHEDULE OPEN TO PUBLIC

Payment is due at sign up. Trips are open to the public. Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association.

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon senior center Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings from 9-10 a.m. or call (774) 922-4049, or email jimtrips@yahoo.com

Tuesday, March 12, 2019: Foxwoods \$25 8 a.m. bus.

For \$25 You get a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have five hours at the casino to gamble or PLAY BINGO as the bus will leave Foxwoods at 3 p.m. You will receive \$10 for gaming and \$15 meal voucher.

Tuesday, April 30-Thursday, May 2, 2019: Atlantic City

You will get two nights on the boardwalk. You also get a \$25 in slot play and \$60 food credit and see two stage shows. Trolleys available. For details call Jan at 508 887 2215

Sunday, May 19, 2019: Newport rail tour.

Tour ocean drive: board the excursion scenic dinning car for a 90 minute tour along Narragansett bay. Enjoy a full course lunch on the train when you book give choice of meal - chicken Marcella or Atlantic cod. For details call Jan at 508 887 2215

Sunday, June 16, 2019: Gloucester Beaufort Princess cruise.

Board the ship for a New England clam bake including clams, lobster chowder, barbecue chicken and more; finish with chocolate mousse. Cruise the harbor for 2 1/2 hours with music on board. Visit the Salem visitor center and shops. For details call Jan at 508 887 2215

Tuesday, July 23, 2019: Mohegan Sun \$25 10 a.m. bus

For \$25 you get a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have five hours at the casino as the bus will leave Mohegan Sun at 4 p.m. You will receive \$10 for gaming and \$15 meal voucher.

Thursday, August 22, 2019: Diamonds and Pearls the ultimate tribute show.

For \$95 you will get a deluxe motor coach to Lake Pearl in Wrentham where you will hear the music of Neil Diamond, Carol King, Janice Joplin and more. You have a choice of baked stuffed chicken or scrod

Tuesday, September 17, 2019: Atlantic City Boys

For \$95 you will get a deluxe motor coach to Danvers Yacht Club in Danvers. where you will hear the music of the Beach Boys, The Drifters, the Bee Gees and more. You have a choice of baked stuffed chicken or scrod.

October 8-15, 2019: ALL INCLUSIVE ARUBA

Happily Full. I am taking names for standby on this trip and for 2020 trip

Tuesday, November 12, 2019: Foxwoods \$25 10 a.m. bus.

For \$25 You get a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino You will have five hours at the casino as the bus will leave Foxwoods at 4 p.m. You will receive \$10 for gaming and \$15 meal voucher.

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TRIP TO USA NATIONAL PARKS St Andrew Bobola Parish, is organizing a special TRIP TO THE NATIONAL PARKS 11 DAYS, May 12-23 2019. Total

cost: \$2,000

PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL AND JORDAN
 St. Andrew Bobola Parish is organizing a Pilgrimage to Israel and Jordan March 17-28, 2019. All inclusive cost with breakfast, dinners is \$3,190.

Please contact: 508-943-5633. Registration forms are available on the website: www.standrewbobola.com

UNION SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE CHAPTER 12

Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Chapter #12, Southbridge, is sponsoring a variety of excursions for all to enjoy in 2018. We are a non-profit family oriented Franco-American fraternal society since 1900. As always, you do not have to be a member to participate in any of the scheduled events. All are welcome. Gift certificates purchased in any amount can be used by the recipient to any event at face value. For information or reservations contact Ted at (508) 764-7909.

2018

2018 is the Society's 26th anniversary in providing members and non-members alike the opportunity to experience excursions of a day or extended days. All are welcome to travel with our organization.

UXBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER

All trips leave from the Whitinsville Walmart and the Stop & Shop at 32 Lyman St, Westboro. Make sure to include entree choice, phone # (esp. cell) and an emergency # when sending payment. "Like" us on Facebook The Silver Club and The Uxbridge Senior Center. Please call Sue at (508) 476-5820 for more information.

The Silver Club BUS TRIPS for 2019

Please call Sue at 508-476-5820 for more information.

The Uxbridge Senior Center and its Silver Club travelling group is offering the following trips for 2019:

March 21, 2019 "THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA" at PPAC: Lunch at Mossimo's on Federal Hill. Please choose: eggplant Parmesan, salmon, or chicken piccata~ \$99.

April 9 JFK Library and museum w/wine tasting & Venezia Restaurant for lunch. \$81. Lunch choices: Baked Haddock, chicken parmesan, steak tips, chicken piccata, or pasta primavera

Kentucky w/ARK, horses and more \$869. 7 day trip! March 31-April 6. Includes 12 meals, 2 shows; Loretta Lynn's homestead; Hatfield & McCoy tour; Toyota Tour; tour of Wheeling,

WV; cut-through project in Pikeville; horse farm tour; "Grand Canyon of the South" and other fun highlights!

Hotel Frontenac ("bucket list" hotel!), Quebec: 5 days w/White Mt. Hotel, N. Conway, NH, April 27-May 1: \$999. 8 meals, show, and touring in Quebec. Come and stay at the famous hotel that's in all the photos of Quebec! True luxury!

April 9 is a trip to the JFK LIBRARY AND MUSEUM w/wine tasting and lunch at Venezia's . \$81. (\$2. discount if you're a veteran.) Lunch choices: Baked Haddock, chicken parm, steak tips, chicken piccata, pasta primavera. Make sure to include meal choices when you sign up. Besides lots of information about the life and legacy of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, there is also an extensive collection of first lady Jacqueline Kennedy's clothes, including the dress she wore when she gave a televised tour of the newly restored White House. You also don't want to miss the Freedom 7 space capsule, which took Alan Shepard into space in 1961. The Venezia is always a nice place for lunch with wonderful food! Leaves Whitinsville WalMart at 7:15 a.m., home around 4:30.

MONDAY, MAY 6 -- Trip to the Cape w/Daniel Webster Inn, the Sandwich Glass Museum, and the very interesting Cape Cod Canal visitor center -- \$71. There will be a buffet lunch at the lovely historic Daniel Webster Inn with its great food and wonderful atmosphere! Leaves Whitinsville at 7:45 a.m., home around 6:30 p.m.

Tues, May 28 -- the Lobster Bake Cruise returns! This has turned into a yearly tradition because everyone loves it so much! Don't wait to sign up or you'll miss out! Cruise around Gloucester harbor with music and dancing and white linen tablecloths while you dine. Lobster and baked chicken both. \$85. Leaves Whitinsville at 8:30 a.m., home around 7 p.m.

DEC.5-6 THE TRAPP FAMILY LODGE CHRISTMAS: \$379. dinner & breakfast at the Lodge; Quechee and Montpelier, meet w/a family member to hear the history, etc.

DEC 13-14: CHRISTMAS BY THE SEA: \$329. 1 breakfast, 1 elegant holiday buffet lunch, 1 dinner. "Magic of Christmas" Portland Symphony Orchestra plus Ogunquit's "Christmas by the Sea" celebration

All trips leave from Whitinsville Walmart, 100 Valley Parkway, Whitinsville. Make sure to always include entree choice, phone # (esp. cell) and an emergency phone number. Please call Sue at 508-476-5820 for more information or to reserve.

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OBITUARIES

Walter W. Clark, 84



STURBRIDGE- Walter W. Clark, 84, of Vista Lane, passed away on Friday, Dec. 21st, in the Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge, after an illness.

He leaves his long-time companion, Marilyn R. DiGregorio; his two sons, Larry Clark and his wife Theresa of Southbridge and Richard Clark and his wife Rose of West Brookfield; his two daughters, Diana Corriveau and her husband Russell of Brookfield and Jennifer Tanacea and her long-time companion John Colman of Port St. Lucie, FL; his former wife, Shirley Girouard of Palm Coast, FL; his three sisters, May Langlois of Inverness, FL, Anna Wolfenden of Charlton and Ruby Vitkus of Dudley; 9 grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren; and nieces and nephews. His son, Clifford Clark, passed away in 2011. He was also predeceased by his brothers, George Clark, Theodore Clark, Harry Clark and Charles Clark and his two sisters, Grace Mongeon and Dorothy Downs. Walter was born in Charlton the son of the late Harry and Minni (Beckwith) Clark. He was a graduate of the former Cole Trade High School in Southbridge and was a US Air

Force Veteran of the Korean War.

Walter was a service manager for A & M Tool & Die in Southbridge for 39 years, retiring in 1993. He was a member of the VFW in Southbridge and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Southbridge. He was as former Southbridge Little League Baseball coach. Walter was an avid golfer. He also loved going to Florida and the beach. He had a great memory and enjoyed telling philosophical stories. Above all his greatest love was for his family.

The family would like to thank the staff at Southbridge Rehab and Healthcare Center and the staff of the 3rd floor at Harrington Memorial Hospital for all of the care and compassion they gave to Walter.

Calling hours for Walter were held on Sunday, Dec. 23rd, from 4:00 to 6:00pm in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a funeral service following in the funeral home at 6:00pm. Burial in West Ridge Cemetery, Charlton, will be held at the convenience of the family. www.morrillfuneralhome.com



Matthew David Cote, 30



SPENCER/BARRE- Matthew David Cote, 30 passed away suddenly on December 20, 2018 after his longtime battle with PTSD.

Matthew was born on February 29, 1988, in Manchester New Hampshire. He grew up in Spencer Massachusetts where he attended David Prouty High School and enlisted into the Marine Corps after graduation in 2006. Matthew served proudly as an Infantryman and deployed twice to fight in the War on Terror, once to Iraq, and once to Afghanistan. Matthew was a proud Veteran, an avid Motorcyclist, loved fishing & loved his dog Lyla. He was a very loyal friend and was the type of person to give anyone the shirt off of his back. He always had a smile, a joke, and a hug readily available to share.

Matthew is survived by his father, Jeffrey Cote Sr. of Auburn; mother, Nancy (Piltzecker) Cote of Barre; a brother, Jeffrey Cote Jr of Rochdale; a sister, Chelsea (Cote) Quinonez of Spencer; nieces Angelina, Aliviah and Nataliah, a nephew Jeffrey III; 2 grandmothers, Marion Piltzecker of Charlton and Lucile Kasputis of Auburn; many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends who will miss him dearly.

Calling hours were held on Sunday, December 30, 2018 from 1-4pm in Pillsbury Funeral Home 96 S.Barre Rd. Barre,MA.. The funeral was held on Monday at 11AM in the funeral home. For an online tribute and guestbook please visit: Pillsburyfuneralhome.com



James "Jim" J. LaCerte, 78



James "Jim" J. LaCerte, 78, died Saturday, December 22, 2018 at the Webster Manor Nursing Home following an illness.

Born January 2, 1940, in Charlton, MA, he was the son of the late Philip and Mathe (Pare) LaCerte. Jim is survived by his sons, Brian LaCerte of Wales, MA, and Troy LaCerte of Thompson, CT; by his loving daughter and her family; his 2 grandchildren, including Jake LaCerte of Wales, MA; his brother, Peter LaCerte and his wife, Shirley, of Webster, MA; and his very dear friend, and the mother of his children, Cynthia Henrikson.

Jim was a Firefighter and EMT for the

Town of Southbridge for 20 years. Following his retirement, he ran and operated LaCerte & Sons Painting in Southbridge, MA for many years. He was a Vietnam Veteran, serving for four years in the US Air Force. He later served as a medic for many years in the National Guard. Jim enjoyed Ford Mustangs, swimming, the New England Patriots, and the beaches of Florida.

Calling hours for Jim were Friday, December 28, 2018 from 5-7PM at Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA. Military honors were at 7PM. Burial will be private.



Gladys E. Roberts, 63

CHARLTON- Gladys E. (Wetherell) Roberts, 63, of Saundersdale Rd., passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 18th, in the Spring Valley Center, Worcester, after a long illness.

She leaves her husband of 45 years, James R. Roberts; her daughter, Mandy Roberts Crowely of Sterling; her two brothers, Roger Wetherell of Italy and Steven Wetherell of California; her sister, Diane Gagnon of Southbridge; and her two grandchildren, Arden and Gwen. She was predeceased by her sister, Shirley Pey. Gladys was born in San Diego, CA the daughter of Wallace R. and Rita E. (Piche) Wetherell.

Gladys was a teacher's aide at the Charlton Street School in Southbridge for several years. She later worked for

Big Y Super Market in Southbridge, the Hampton Inn in Sturbridge, and the American Motor Lodge in Sturbridge. Gladys was an avid NASCAR fan.

Her funeral Mass was held on Thursday, Dec. 27th, at 11:00am in Notre Dame Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 446 Main St., Southbridge. Burial followed in New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge. There were no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Overlook Hospice, 88 Masonic Home Rd., Charlton, MA 01507.

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

Avis (Althen) Meskus, 82



CHARLTON- Avis passed away peacefully on the morning of December 15, 2018 at the Overlook Health Center, born March 11, 1936 in Ambler, PA., she and her family moved to Cheshire, CT. when she was

10; she lived an exciting life in many communities including San Francisco, CA., Detroit, Mich., Longmeadow, MA., Massapequa Park, Rhinebeck, N.Y., and Lexington, VA.

After caring for her mother Dorothy (LaChance, Althen) Basile, Avis moved to Charlton to be near her sons 20 years ago. She leaves behind her brother, Lee Althen of Centerville, Ohio, her sons; Curtis and his wife Cheryl, who she loved like a daughter along with grandson Kyle of Charlton, Roger and his wife Kathy of Charlton and Eric of Worcester. She also leaves her niece Heidi and her husband Paul Wilkens of Centerville, Ohio and her nephew, Mark Althen and his wife Jane of Mohnton, PA, along with grand nieces and grand nephews.

Avis was a homemaker most of her life, she was an artist who could pick out colors, most couldn't see, she had an eye for the abstract and contemporary and enjoyed painting with oils, sketching and quilting as she earned the designated Master Crafter in quilt

making. She was known to paint a room with bright colors just to liven things up, never falling into the trap of being conventional. Those who saw her style were always impressed with the outcome.

She raised 3 boys who loved her and thank her for always taking the time to entertain us whether it was making tie-dyed shirts in the 60's to going to the movies that were interesting or making us those elaborate Three Musketeer outfits for Halloween and just being the supportive woman, she was. She will be sadly missed by all who came in contact with her and that 'Things don't have to be symmetrical' creativity.

Avis never felt sorry for herself and fought a courageous battle the last few years with Lewy Body Dementia, always knowing that it would eventually claim her health.

We 'Thank' all that cared for her, the doctors, nurses, and especially the staff of the Overlook Communities Fieldstone and the 4th floor Skilled Nursing.

There are no calling hours, burial will be at the family's convenience.

Memorial donations may be made in her name to: The Lewy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Hill Rd., SW, Lilburn, GA. 30047.

The ROBERT J. MILLER-CHARLTON FUNERAL HOME, 175 Old Worcester Rd., is assisting the family w

Rebecca Marie Plourde, 29



CHARLTON - Rebecca Marie Plourde, 29, passed away December 13, 2018 at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, after a brief illness.

She leaves her mother, Marie Hebert Plourde and sister Summer Taylor of Charlton.

Rebecca was predeceased by her father, Jeffrey P. Plourde of Spencer who died in 2010.

She also leaves her loving step-mother, Denise Boudreau of Holden, her sister, Brittany Plourde of Holden, and her brother, Anthony Leblanc of Spencer, her grandfather, Donald Hebert of Charlton, and grandparents, Tomas and Holly Pluta of Beckett, MA., her grandparents, Paul and Gwen Plourde of Upton, and grandmother, Paula Robson of Spencer and also leaves her longtime

companion, Joshua Peltier of North Adams and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Becca was a painter, she loved the outdoors. She was a pistol, selfless, loving, and always put others needs before her own.

She was a free spirit, wildthing and was loved dearly, and by many.

She also enjoyed fishing, camping, horseback riding, and driving 4 wheelers with the big boys, and just being free.

There are no calling hours, Services will be Private.

The ROBERT J. MILLER-CHARLTON FUNERAL HOME, 175 Old Worcester Rd. is assisting the family with arrangements.

Whenever you see a Black Eyed Susan, or a Butterfly, think of Becca, they were her favorite.

To leave a message of condolence or Share a Memory of Becca, please visit: RJMfunerals.net

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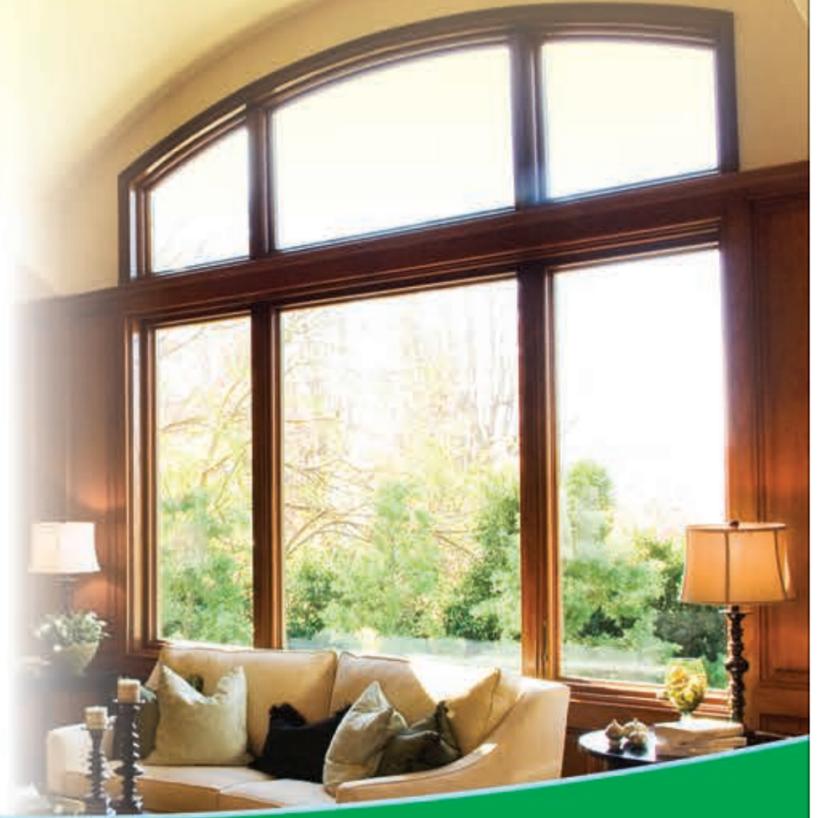
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Enjoy more time outdoors (even when it's cold)

The amount of time people spend outdoors has dramatically decreased, as the Environmental Protection Agency now reports the average American spends 87 percent of his or her time in a residence, school building or workplace.

Being outside is linked to better moods, more physical activity and less exposure to contaminants (concentrations of some pollutants are often two to five times higher indoors). Also, people who spend time outside may not come into contact with surface germs or develop various illnesses spread as often as those who spend a lot of time indoors.

Cold weather can make the desire to be outside less appealing, but it is important for one's mental and physical well-being to get outside. The following activities might coax people outside for some crisp air.

CREATE SNOW CRITTERS

Why do snowmen and women get all of the fanfare this time of year? Just about any living or fictional creature can be molded from snow and embellish landscapes. Use food-grade coloring in spray bottles to add even more creative flair to snow designs.

GO ON A NATURE HIKE

While many plants and animals hibernate in winter, there is still plenty to see. Bring along a sketch book or camera and capture nature in winter. White-washed hills can be beautiful to behold, and many small animals and

birds look even more vivid against the white backdrop of snow.

MAKE AN OBSTACLE COURSE

Turn an area of the yard or park into a homemade obstacle course. It's much more difficult, — and a great workout — to try to jump over snow mounds or run down paths when decked out in warm layers. Engage in lighthearted competitions with friends and family members.

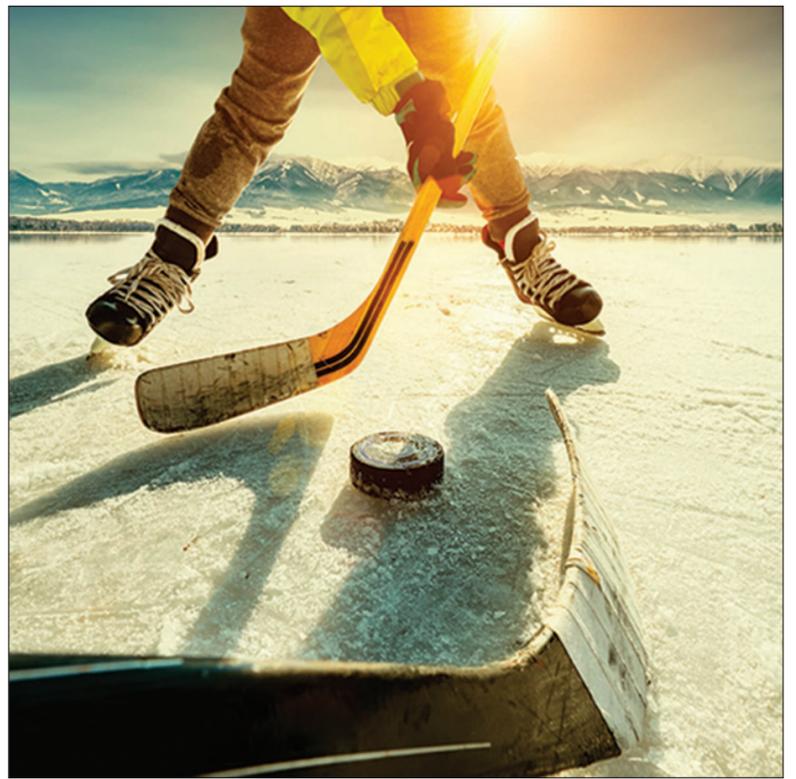
BUILD A BONFIRE

Children can set off in different directions to gather up firewood to craft a bonfire with adults in a safe location. S'mores taste equally delicious whether it's warm or cold outside, and in winter they can be accompanied by toasty mugs of cocoa.

GET SPORTY

Sledding, skating, snowshoeing, and ice hockey are just a few of the winter sports that can get the heart pumping and muscles working outside. These activities are entertaining and also great exercise.

When venturing outdoors in winter, dress in layers. This way clothing can be put on or taken off to reduce the likelihood of hypothermia.



Sports are the leading cause of youth eye injuries

Active children have the advantage of being in good physical shape and keeping their weight in check. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say one in five children are considered overweight or obese, but being engaged in a sport or other activity promotes exercise, which can be a good thing for both physical and mental health.

Although playing sports is beneficial for various reasons, there are some inherent risks to participating in them as well. Physical injuries, such as concussions and broken bones, can result from participating in sports. But perhaps surprisingly, eye injuries are quite common among young athletes. Such injuries often do not get the attention with regard to prevention that statistics suggest they warrant.

According to the National Eye Institute, eye injuries are the leading cause of blindness in children in America. Many eye injuries among school-aged children are attributed to sports. A study published in the journal JAMA Ophthalmology that was

based on research from Johns Hopkins University, Harvard and other institutions found about 30,000 sports-related eye injuries are treated each year at emergency rooms participating in the Nationwide Emergency Department sample, which compiles information about millions of emergency room visits to more than 900 hospitals around the country. Data indicates that a large majority of these injuries occurred in people younger than 18, and a sizable number in children younger than 10. The situation is similar in Canada.

"We believe that sports eye injuries are the largest cause of vision loss in children," said Keith Gordon, vice-president of research at CNIB, a Toronto-based nonprofit that provides support services for the visually impaired.

The NEI states that baseball is the sport responsible for the greatest number of eye injuries in children age 14 and younger. Basketball has the highest number of eye injuries for players between the ages of 15 and 24. Other sports that account for a high rate of

eye injuries include softball, soccer and cycling.

Players, parents and coaches must realize that, according to the Coalition to Prevent Sports Eye Injuries, 90 percent of sports-related eye injuries can be avoided with the use of protective eyewear. Protective eyewear is often made of strong polycarbonate, which is 10 times more impact-resistant than other plastics. All children who play sports should wear protective eyewear, warn sports medicine experts. However, currently many youth sports leagues do not require the use of such protection, making it the responsibility of parents and coaches to enforce this important safety protocol.

Protecting eyes when playing sports is of paramount importance for athletes of all ages. More information about sports-related activities and protective eyewear is available at Vision Council of America (www.thevisioncouncil.org) and Prevent Blindness America (www.preventblindness.org).

LEGALS

Brimfield Zoning Board of Appeals

The Brimfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on the request of Steve and Debby Lemay regarding the property at 75 Seventh Street, Brimfield, Parcel ID Map 5B-A-11. The Lemays seek approval to construct a storage barn on the property. The Board will consider whether the proposed change will require a variance or special permit, and/or whether the changes will be detrimental to the neighborhood. Abutters are invited to consider the proposal and provide public input. The hearing will be held on January 23, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall Annex.

Pamela Engberg
ZBA Clerk
January 4, 2019
January 11, 2019



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- 4 QUARTERLY PAYMENTS THAT SURFACE REGARDLESS OF DIET OR ELECTRICAL CONSUMPTION
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WEBSTER - 3 Blueberry Lane! Blueberry Hill - Stunning 9 Rm Colonial! Level Acre Lot! Sought after Neighborhood! Move-in Ready! Expansive Fam Rm w/Stone Frplc & Cathedral Ceiling! Slider to the Deck! Custom Kit w/Granite Counters and Island Opening to the Dining Rm! Great Living Rm for Entertaining! Large, Bright 4th Bdrm/Office w/Double Closets, Cathedral Ceiling & Private Slider to the Deck! Half Bath w/Laundry! Master Bdrm w/Hrs & Hers Closets, Master Bath w/Dble Sinks! Generously Sized 2 Additional Bdrms w/Large Closets! Halfway 2nd Full Bath! Partially Finished Lower Level - Great TV or Game Rm! Large Storage Area! Private Backyard w/Shed & Basketball Court! 2 Car Garage w/Plenty of Storage! Charm & Character that can't be Beat! Minutes from 395, an Ideal Location! 3 Z C/Air, Newer Windows & Furnace! This Could Be Yours! **\$359,900.00**

DUDLEY - 73 Tracy Rd! Majestically Perched on a Knoll, 1.47 Acres Beautifully Landscaped, Spacious 2,352' 8 Rm Colonial! Stainless Appliance Eat-in Country Kit w/Center Isl, Pantry Closet, Recessed Lighting, Tile Flr & French Dr to Deck! Formal Din Rm w/Hrwd Flr & Classic 3 Windowed Bumped-out Wall! Entry Foyer! Formal Living Rm w/Hrwd Flr! The Fireplaced Family Rm w/Wide Plank Hrwd Flr will keep the Family Close! Side Entry Hall Dble Closet, Half Bath w/Laundry Closet! Upstairs 4 Comfortable Bdrms, 2 w/Hrds, 2 w/Wall to Wall w/Plenty of Closet Space! 18' Master Bdrm w/Hrds, Ceiling Fan, Walk-in Closet, Master Bath w/Granite Vanity & Tile Flr! Off the Hrwd Hall the 2nd Full Bath w/Dble Sinks, Granite Vanity, Tile Flr & Linen Closet! Breakaway Attached 2 Car Garage! Quick Closing Possible, Start Packing! **\$369,900.00**

THOMPSON - 854 Thompson Rd! Appealing 9 Room Split! Beautiful, 63 Acre Lot! Appliance Granite Kitchen! Dining & Fireplaced Living Rm w/Hardwoods! 17x18 Cathedral Ceiling Great Rm w/Tile Floor! 3 or 4 Bedrooms, 3 w/Hardwoods! Fireplaced Family Rm! Updated Full Bath! 1.5 Baths Total! 2 Car Garage! Recent Furnace! 18x24 Deck! Shed! Convenient to 395 in both Directions, Close to Raceway Golf Course & Thompson Speedway! **\$249,900.00**

WEBSTER - 26 Spring St! 5 Rm Ranch on Quiet Side Street! Walk into the 3 Seasons Rm w/Tile Flr, Ceiling Fan & Slider to Deck! Cabinet Packed Eat-In Kit! Spacious Liv Rm w/Hrds! 3 Bdrms! Finished Lower Level w/Tile Flr, 10' Bar w/rop Lights! Vinyl Siding! Replacement Windows! **\$249,900.00**

<p>WEBSTER - 23 Lincoln St! 3 Family w/ Great Curb Appeal! Owner Occupied or Investor! 5/5/4 Rooms! 2/2 Bedrooms! Hardwood Floors in Most Rooms! First Floor Apart Freshly Painted! Replacement Windows! Off Street Parking! 2 Car Garage! Easy Highway Access! Conveniently Located! \$239,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 7 Oak St! 2 Family! 5/5 Rms! 2/2 Bdrms! Both Frs w/Eat-in Kitchens! Liv Rms w/Wall to Wall! Bdrms w/Wall to Wall! 3 Season Porches! Gas Heat w/Recent Buderus on 1st! Electric Heat on 2nd! Recent Roof, Siding & Windows! Off Street Parking! Owner Occupied or Investment! \$169,900.00</p>	<p>THOMPSON - 48 Smith St! 2 Family! 3/8 Rooms! 1/4 Bedrooms! 1/1 Baths! Major Rehab 2005 - Roof, Gutter & Downspouts, Vinyl Siding, Windows, Entry Doors! 2018 Electric Heat Conversion! Gas Hot Water! Off Street Parking! Garage! Town Services! \$139,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 5 Chestnut St! 6 Rm Ranch, 3 Bdrms, Remodeled Bath, Finished Lower Level! Corner Lot! Frplc Liv Rm w/Cathedral, Hrwd Flr, French Drs to 16x24 Deck! Din Rm w/Hrds! Remodeled Kit w/Cherry Cabinets & SS Appliances! Solar Hot Water! 1 Yr Old Roof! A/G Pool! Shed! \$269,900.00</p>	<p>AUBURN - 9 Lorna Dr! 2800' Split Entry! Appliance Oak Eat-in Isl Kit w/Corian Counters! Spacious Liv Rm w/Hrds! Sun Rm Cathedrals to Trex Deck! 3 Bdrms w/Hrds! Frplc Fam Rm! 2 Full Baths! 4th Bdrm/Office! Laundry! C/Air & Vac! Professionally Landscaped! 46 Acre Lot! 2 Car Garage! \$389,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 21 Spring St! 6 Rm Ranch! Eat-in Appliance Kit w/Mahogany Cabinets & Tile Flr! Liv Rm w/Carpet over Hrwd! 3 Bdrms w/Hrds! Master w/Walk-in Closet! Full Tile Bath! 14'x40' Fam/Game Rm! 2nd Bathrm w/Laundry! Workshop! Utility Rm! 2 Z Oil Heat! C/Air! 2 Car Garage! Porch! Don't Miss Out! \$219,900.00</p>	<p>DUDLEY - 13 Pineview Rd! 7 Rm Colonial! Tiled Foyer! Kit w/Din Area & Slider to Composite Deck! Din Rm! Liv Rm! Den! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry! 2nd Flr w/3 Carpeted Bdrms & Full Hall Bath! Master w/Walk-in Closet & Bath! Finished Lower Level w/Gas Frplc! Patios! Fire Pit! Roof 2017! Attached 2 Car Garage! Town Services! \$359,900.00</p>	<p>DUDLEY - 9 Page Ln! Newly Renovated 6 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Cape! 1 Acre Lot! Cul-de-sac! Hrds Throughout! Open Liv Rm, Kit & Din Area! SS Appliance Granite Kit w/Is! Slider to Composite Deck! 1st Flr Master w/Walk-in Closet & Master Bath! 2nd Flr w/2 Large Bdrms & Full Bath! Garage Under! \$309,900.00</p>
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<p>SUTTON - 30 Jones Rd! 9 Room 2,155' Colonial! 5.31 Acres of Privacy! Long Circular Drive! New Granite Kitchen! Dining, Living & Fireplaced Family Rooms w/Hardwood Floors! Year Round Sunroom w/2 Skylights! 24' Master w/Master Bath! 2.5 Bathrooms Total! 12x24 3 Season Porch w/3 Skylights! Expandable Attic! Wraparound Deck! 2 Car Garage! Central Air! Generator! Super Easy Access to Rte 146! \$464,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 15 South Point Rd! Waterfront Lot! Middle Pond - Panoramic Views! Conservation Approved! Build Your Dream! 100' of Shoreline! 53.94' Road Frontage! Land Area 8,147' Town Services Available! 2 Decked! Lots on Webster Lake a Rarity, Don't let this Slip By without Your Consideration! \$199,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 882 School St! Conveniently Located Charming 8 Rm Colonial w/ Natural Woodwork! Eat-in Appliance Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Hardwoods! Fireplaced Living Rm! 4 Possible Bedrooms w/Hardwoods! 2 Bathrooms! Detached Garage! Cosmetics & Updating Needed! \$141,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 15 South Point Rd! Waterfront Lot! Middle Pond - Panoramic Views! Conservation Approved! Build Your Dream! 100' of Shoreline! 53.94' Road Frontage! Land Area 8,147' Town Services Available! 2 Decked! Lots on Webster Lake a Rarity, Don't let this Slip By without Your Consideration! \$199,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 812 Beacon Park! Waterfront Lot! Middle Pond - Panoramic Views! Recently Appliance! Galley Kit! Frpld Liv Rm w/48" Smart TV & Hrds! Master Bath w/Recent Sighting! 2.5 Tile Baths w/Recent Vanities & New Toilets! 2013 AC & Heat! Garage! Great Lakeside Pool! Sandy Beach! \$284,900.00</p>
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<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 54 West Pt Rd! North Pond - Killdeer Isl - West Expo - Beautiful Lake Views & Sunsets! 2002 Built 6+ Rm Colonial! Ideal 2nd Home or Yr Rd Living! Appliance Kit w/Center Isl! Lake Facing Din Rm w/Panoramic Water Views & Recent Wood Flr! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/L Gas Frplc, Recent Wood Flr & French Door to Deck! 1st Flr Laundry & Half Bath! 2nd Flr w/3 Spacious Bdrms! Lake Facing Master Suite w/Fantastic Lake Views, Frplc, French Dr to its Deck, Dressing/Office Area & Full Bath w/Whirlpool Tub! A 2nd Full Bath off the Hall! Huge Lake Facing Walk-out Lower Level w/Gas Stove & Slider to Stone Patio is Ready for "Finishing"! Additional Lakeside Deck! Dock! \$559,900.00</p>	<p>DOUGLAS WATERFRONT! 36 Cedar St! Badluck Pond (110Acres) aka Cedar Lake or Laurel Lake! Western Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 2.74 Acres! 633' Waterfront! 471' Road Front! Beautiful Private Setting! Huge 2806', 2888' Custom 6 Rm Cedar Ranch w/Hrwd Frs Throughout! Spectacular, Open Din Rm & Great Rm w/Stone Frplc, Soaring Beamed Cedar Cathedral Ceiling, 6 Sky Lights, Recessed Lighting, 1/2 Bath & 3 Sliders to 96' Lake Facing Screened Porch! Custom Kit w/2 Skylights, Recessed Lighting, Slider to Porch, Wall Oven & Center Island w/Tripplc Bowl Sink, Cooktop & Dishwasher! Mud Rm Entry w/2 Dble Closets, Tile Flr, Door to Kit & Door to Full Bath! 2 Lake Facing Bdrms w/Walk-in Closets, Skylights & Sliders to Porch! Full Tile Bath w/Separate Shower & Whirlpool Bath w/Door to Master & Hall! Office w/Dble Closet! 2.5 Baths Total! Cedar Lined Closets! Full Basement! Plus 6372' 2 Story Heated Boat House/Garage/Work Shop w/Half Bath! Upper Level 5 Rm Caretaker/In-Law Apartment w/2 Full Baths! Game Rm w/Full Bath! 5 Full + 2 Half Baths Total! One of a Kind Waterfront Home! \$599,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 60 Bates Pond Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 52' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 8 Rms, 3 Bdrm, 2 Baths, A/C'd, Ranch! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrds & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/awning! Lake Facing Frplc Liv Rm w/Cathedral, Skylight & Hrds! Comfortable Master Bdrm! Frpld Lower Level Fam Rm! 2 Car Garage! \$729,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 209 Beacon Park! 1280' Townhouse! 5 Rooms! Spectacular Sandy Beach! Fantastic Lakeside Pool! Appliance Kitchen! Carpeted Dining Rm & Fireplaced Living Rooms! 2 Spacious Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Updated Tile Baths! Central Air! Garage! \$239,000.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 139 Killdeer Island - North Pond! West Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 6 Rm 3 Season Home! Add Heat & Use Yr Round! Great Potential! 4 Bdrms w/Hrds, 2 Lake Facing! Frplc Liv Rm w/Lake Views! Spacious Kit & Dining Area! 2 Baths! 55' of Sandy Beach! \$475,000.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 7 Point Pleasant Ave! Panoramic Lake Views! Eastern Expo Super Surprises! 9,000' Level Lot! 2,300' Custom Contemp Colonial! Built 2015! Like New! Open Flr Plan! Custom Granite Kit w/Island, Stainless Appliances, Gas Range, Soft Close Cabinets & Recessed Lights! Spectacular Lake Facing Great Rm, Stone Gas Frplc, Surrounded by Custom Cabinetry, Recessed Lights & Ceiling Fan! Dining Area w/Custom Ceiling! Full Bath w/Granite Vanity & Custom Tile Shower! Laundry Rm! "Wood Look" Tile Floors throughout the First Floor! 2nd Flr Features 3 Comfortable Bdrms w/2 Being Waterfront! Lake Facing Master w/Slider to Deck, Hrds, Recessed Lighting, Walk-in Closet & Bdrm Access! Lake Facing Bdrm w/Hrds, Dble Closet & Door to Deck! 3rd Bdrm w/Hrds & Dble Closet! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity & Tile Flr! C/Air! Gas Heat! 26x30 2 Story Detached Garage! Dock! Get Packing! \$789,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 37 Bates Grove Rd! South Pond! As a Second Home, Getaway or Expand it into Your Dream Home - Have Possible Plans! 4+ Bedrooms! Open Floor Plan! Appliance Kit! 2 Bedrooms! Bathroom! Covered Deck! Ideal Gradual Sloping Lot w/ Panoramic Lake Views! \$399,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 194 Killdeer Island! North Pond Views! Sandy Shore! 6 Rm Cape! Open Liv & Din Rm w/Newly Restored Fireplaced! New Lake Facing Windows! 2 1st Flr Bdrms, 1 Lake Facing! 3 Bdrms! 2 Updated Bathrms! Huge Composite Deck w/Vinyl Balis! Walk-out Lower Level to Courtyard! Garage Under! \$559,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 12 Kenneth Ave! South Pond! 5 Rm Ranch! 80' Waterfront! Completely Remodeled! 10 Yrs Ago! Kraftmaid Cabinet Kit w/Island & Silstone Counters! Bamboo Wood Flrs Throughout! Open Flr Plan! Composite Deck! Lake Facing Master! 2 Bdrms! Full Bath! Fam Rm! \$399,900.00</p>
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<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 202 Killdeer Island Rd! Panoramic View of North Pond! Natural Sandy Shoreline! Complete Rebuild Since 2002! Custom Center Island Appliance Kitchen w/Walk-in Pantry, Recessed Lighting, Hardwoods & 1/2 Bath! Open Floor Plan! Dining Rm w/Window Seat, 2 Closets & Hardwoods! 19x19 Lake Facing Living Rm w/Hardwoods & 2 Sliders to Deck w/Recent Awning! Upstairs to 4 Bedrooms or 3 Plus Office! Lake Facing Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Walk-in Closet & Master Bath w/Tile Floor, Huge Corner Shower w/Seat, Double Linen Closet! Full Hall Bath! Halfway Laundry Closet! Lake Facing Walk-out Lower Level Family Room, 2 Sliders to Patio! Full Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! 4 Zone Heat & 2 Zone C/Air only 2 Years Old! Start Packing! \$629,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 8 Reid Smith Cove Road! Panoramic Lake Views! West Expo Super Surprises! 9,688' Lot! Gently Sloping! 2,254' Custom Contemp Cape, Built 09 as 2nd Home, Like New! Open Flr Plan! Spectacular Lake Facing Great Rm w/Tl Ceiling, Recessed Lights, Sliders to Trex Deck, Stone Gas Frplc, Surround Sound & Grooming Hdrds! Granite Kit w/Is, SS Appliances, Soft Close Cabinets, Hrds & Recessed Lights! 1st Flr Master w/Tile Bath, Whirlpool Tub/Shower, Dble Sink & Linen Closet! Upstairs Sitting Area Overlooking Grand Rm w/Lake Views! Hrwd Hall to 2 Bdrms w/Recessed Lights, Ceiling Fans & Dble Closets! Full Bath & Linen Closet! Lower Level Walkout Fam Rm w/Tile Flr, 10' Ceilings, Recessed Lights, Ceiling Fans, Stone Gas Frplc, Surround Sound, Wet Bar & Slider! Full Bath w/Tile Flr! Utility Rm w/Laundry & Storage! Nice Deck! Get Packing! \$724,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 37 Bates Grove Rd! South Pond! As a Second Home, Getaway or Expand it into Your Dream Home - Have Possible Plans! 4+ Bedrooms! Open Floor Plan! Appliance Kit! 2 Bedrooms! Bathroom! Covered Deck! Ideal Gradual Sloping Lot w/ Panoramic Lake Views! \$399,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 104 Treasure Island! 1,874' Townhouse! Oak Cabinet Kit w/Breakfast Counter! Formal Din Rm! Frplc Liv Rm! Screened Porch! 1st Flr Master w/Walk-in Closet & Bath! 2.5 Baths! 2nd Level w/2 Master Bdrms & Bath! Recent C/Air! Attached Garage! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Sandy Beach! \$324,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 905 Treasure Isl! WATERFRONT Townhouse! 6 Rms! 1,874' Hrds! SS Appliance Quartz Kit! Open Flr Plan! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath w/Dble Vanity! 2.5 Baths! Frpld Fam Rm! Newer C/Air & Gas Heat! Trex Deck! Garage! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool, Sandy Beach! \$449,000.00</p>
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<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 60 Bates Pond Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 52' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 8 Rms, 3 Bdrm, 2 Baths, A/C'd, Ranch! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrds & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/awning! Lake Facing Frplc Liv Rm w/Cathedral, Skylight & Hrds! Comfortable Master Bdrm! Frpld Lower Level Fam Rm! 2 Car Garage! \$729,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 209 Beacon Park! 1280' Townhouse! 5 Rooms! Spectacular Sandy Beach! Fantastic Lakeside Pool! Appliance Kitchen! Carpeted Dining Rm & Fireplaced Living Rooms! 2 Spacious Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Updated Tile Baths! Central Air! Garage! \$239,000.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 139 Killdeer Island - North Pond! West Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 6 Rm 3 Season Home! Add Heat & Use Yr Round! Great Potential! 4 Bdrms w/Hrds, 2 Lake Facing! Frplc Liv Rm w/Lake Views! Spacious Kit & Dining Area! 2 Baths! 55' of Sandy Beach! \$475,000.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 7 Point Pleasant Ave! Panoramic Lake Views! Eastern Expo Super Surprises! 9,000' Level Lot! 2,300' Custom Contemp Colonial! Built 2015! Like New! Open Flr Plan! Custom Granite Kit w/Island, Stainless Appliances, Gas Range, Soft Close Cabinets & Recessed Lights! Spectacular Lake Facing Great Rm, Stone Gas Frplc, Surrounded by Custom Cabinetry, Recessed Lights & Ceiling Fan! Dining Area w/Custom Ceiling! Full Bath w/Granite Vanity & Custom Tile Shower! Laundry Rm! "Wood Look" Tile Floors throughout the First Floor! 2nd Flr Features 3 Comfortable Bdrms w/2 Being Waterfront! Lake Facing Master w/Slider to Deck, Hrds, Recessed Lighting, Walk-in Closet & Bdrm Access! Lake Facing Bdrm w/Hrds, Dble Closet & Door to Deck! 3rd Bdrm w/Hrds & Dble Closet! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity & Tile Flr! C/Air! Gas Heat! 26x30 2 Story Detached Garage! Dock! Get Packing! \$789,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 37 Bates Grove Rd! South Pond! As a Second Home, Getaway or Expand it into Your Dream Home - Have Possible Plans! 4+ Bedrooms! Open Floor Plan! Appliance Kit! 2 Bedrooms! Bathroom! Covered Deck! Ideal Gradual Sloping Lot w/ Panoramic Lake Views! \$399,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 194 Killdeer Island! North Pond Views! Sandy Shore! 6 Rm Cape! Open Liv & Din Rm w/Newly Restored Fireplaced! New Lake Facing Windows! 2 1st Flr Bdrms, 1 Lake Facing! 3 Bdrms! 2 Updated Bathrms! Huge Composite Deck w/Vinyl Balis! Walk-out Lower Level to Courtyard! Garage Under! \$559,900.00</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 12 Kenneth Ave! South Pond! 5 Rm Ranch! 80' Waterfront! Completely Remodeled! 10 Yrs Ago! Kraftmaid Cabinet Kit w/Island & Silstone Counters! Bamboo Wood Flrs Throughout! Open Flr Plan! Composite Deck! Lake Facing Master! 2 Bdrms! Full Bath! Fam Rm! \$399,900.00</p>
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*It is the life of the crystal, the architect of the flake,
the fire of the frost, the soul of the sunbeam.
This crisp winter air is full of it.*

—John Burroughs



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Beautiful Southwestern style sectional sofa, gently used, L-shape 112" x 86" Please call to set up time to view 508-885-9962. \$150 firm.

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SNOW PLOW, Myers, 61/2' all controls and lights, great condition. Can be seen at Old Cider Mill, Rt. 9, West Brookfield or call 774-232-9382

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287 FEED

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298 WANTED TO BUY

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Town of West Brookfield Department Assistant Board of Selectmen's Office

The town of West Brookfield seeks applicants for a part-time position of Department Assistant in the Board of Selectmen's Office. This position reports to the Board of Selectmen and is responsible for a variety of administrative tasks and specialized functions for the overall operation of the office; will provide support to the Board, respond to public inquiries, maintain files, process mail, prepare correspondence and perform special projects as directed or needed. Position requires independent judgement, confidentiality and effective customer service techniques. An Associates Degree preferred, two years of administrative support experience required, preferably municipal office experience. Minimum qualifications include knowledge of confidential record keeping, modern office procedures, proficiency in MS Word and Excel, basic report/letter preparation, and customer service skills.

Please email a cover letter and resume to bos@wbrookfield.com or mail to:
Diane Vayda, Chair, Board of Selectmen, P.O. Box 372, 2 East Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585. The position will remain open until filled with priority given to applications received by January 18, 2019.

Automotive

700 AUTOMOTIVE

725 AUTOMOBILES

1971 Chevy Impala Convertible 400 2 barrel carb with 89,000 miles, 1 owner, runs smooth, new top in 2012, asking \$8,000 or best offer 508-885-6878

1987 BMW 325i Convertible, red with black leather interior, 153,000 miles and in good condition, no rust, newer top, needs a tune-up. \$4100 or B/O, Adam 508-735-4413

1988 Mercury Topaz, 73K miles, one owner, always garaged, showroom condition, white, 2 door, 4 cyl., auto, FWD, PS, PB snows on, driven daily, best offer. 774-232-0920 or 508-892-1462

1998 Mercedes Benz SL500 convertible and removable hard-top. Red to keep you young! Perfect condition. \$14,000 508-885-6988

2001 CAD EL DORADO TC 72,000 miles. Must see! \$11,000 7 Hartley Street, Webster, Mass.

2002 BMW 525IA. \$3995. Call Ray for more details. 508-450-5241

2007 TOYOTA COROLLA S \$3995. Call Ray for more info. 508-450-5241

2010 MAZDA M3 iSV. \$6800. Call Ray 508-450-5241

725 AUTOMOBILES

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2012 TOYOTA RAV4- 79,000 miles. Well-maintained, 3rd row seats, black, one-owner. \$11,000. 508-688-7666

Black 2011 Honda Fit Sport, 5-speed automatic 73,000 miles, very good condition. Asking \$8,000 508-341-7644

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740 MOTORCYCLES

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740 MOTORCYCLES

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2005 YAMAHA V-STAR 1100 CLASSIC, PEARL-WHITE Has all options- hardbags, windshield, custom seats/exhaust, backrest, floor-boards. 20,000 well-maintained miles. Great looking & performing bike. \$3500 OBO 774-289-4550

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745 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

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750 CAMPERS/ TRAILERS

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765 HEAVY EQUIPMENT

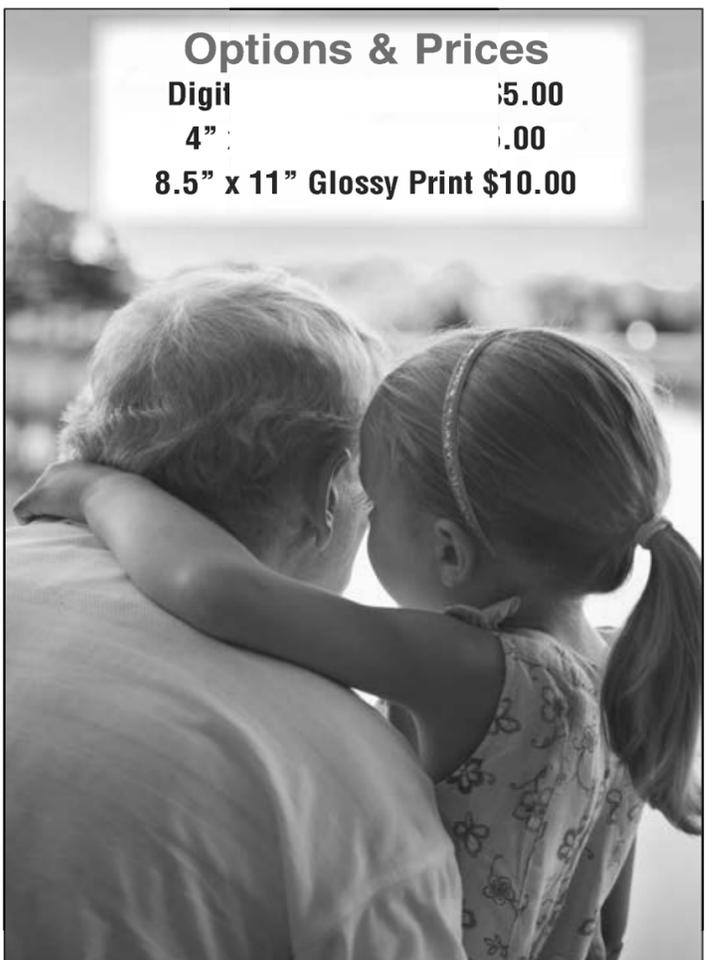
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<p>2016 CHEVY CRUZE LT</p> <p>#H8125A • TURBO, ALLOYS, HEATED SEATS, BACK-UP CAM</p> <p>NEW Retail Price: \$23,475 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$13,999</p> <p>SAVE \$9,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 DODGE DART SE</p> <p>#D9322R • PWR PKG, BLUETOOTH, EPA 34 MPG HWY/24 MPG CITY</p> <p>NEW Retail Price: \$20,395 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$9,777</p> <p>SAVE \$10,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 FORD ESCAPE SE</p> <p>#18694A • BACK-UP CAM, TURBO, ALLOYS, BLUETOOTH, SPOILER</p> <p>NEW Retail Price: \$24,845 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$16,355</p> <p>SAVE \$8,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>
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