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Friday, December 20, 2019



Kevin Flanders Photo

Officer Todd LaPorte started this year as the school resource officer in Spencer.

# School Resource Officer fulfills longtime vision

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – A longtime vision for Police Chief David Darrin finally became a reality this year, with the hiring and installation of a school resource officer.

Spencer Police Officer Todd LaPorte started in October as the resource officer for David Prouty High School, Knox Trail Middle School, and Wire Village School. The position was approved by voters at the Annual Town Meeting, and another officer was hired over the summer to maintain full department staffing levels.

For LaPorte, it has been a busy but enjoyable immersion into his new role. No two days are ever the same, as he travels to all three schools daily to assist school administrators with student safety and security issues within the buildings.

"I enjoy the interactions I have with the students and

staff. It has been great to be able to connect with the administrators and the kids," LaPorte said.

LaPorte attended a summer training program in Chelmsford presented by the National Association of School Resource Officers. The 40 hours of training helped prepare him for the challenge of working with students of all ages, as well as administra-

Please Read **LAPORTE**, page **A5** 

# Selectmen urge community to Shop Leicester First

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – As last-minute holiday shoppers scramble to check off items from their lists, officials are hoping they will consider local businesses for those final items.

The Leicester Board of Selectmen once again declared the month of December as Shop Leicester First Month. The rise of online purchases has made it a challenge for local businesses, especially around the holidays. But even though delivery vans can be found at every intersection this time of year, business owners have benefited from the shop-local mentality in recent years.

"I'm hoping people, when they shop this holiday season, will consider Leicester businesses first. When thinking of gifts to buy, please think if Leicester has a business where it can be purchased and support them," said Selectman John Shocik.

Area business owners have also enjoyed the increase in craft fairs held during the holiday season, including the 17th annual Holiday Craft Fair hosted by the Leicester High School Art Club. The Dec. 7 event drew thousands of guests to LHS in support of local vendors. Additionally, Leicester always gets the busy shopping season started with its annual Harvest

Festival in September. The event helps showcase products from an array of local vendors.

Officials have also been encouraged by the long-term effects of shopping local. Prospective business owners are always searching for vibrant town centers with thriving businesses.

"Supporting existing businesses in town not only helps them out, but new business could be attracted here if there's a good, loyal customer base," Shocik told the New Leader. "Everyone wants new business in town, and one of the best ways to get it is to support existing ones."

Officials thank all residents who shopped Leicester first this year, either by visiting the businesses directly or stopping at their craft fair booths. Many businesses draw in more revenue during the holiday shopping season than the rest of the year combined.

Restaurants in town also benefit from an influx of holiday shoppers, and local business owners have seen numbers trending in the right direction since selectmen began proclaiming December as Shop Leicester First Month.

For more information about the announcement and how you can Shop Leicester First this holiday season, visit www. Leicesterma.org.

# Brookfield Fire Department announces grant awards

BROOKFIELD — The Brookfield Department has received a \$4,850 Washer-Extractor Equipment Grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) and the Department of Fire Services (DFS). This funding will be used to purchase a washer-extractor to effectively clean firefighter turnout gear after it has been exposed to smoke, ash, or other hazardous materials so that firefighters do not have to wear contaminated gear.

A national standard set by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) on the care and cleaning of structural firefighting gear delineates specific types of machines that should be used to effectively remove cancer-causing chemicals after each exposure to smoke or fire. This grant will enable Brookfield Fire personnel to clean their gear in a compliant manner after each exposure, and respond to the next emergency in gear that they know has been cleaned properly.

"This gear will protect our firefighters from receiving repeated exposure to the cancer causing chemicals they encounter on a daily basis," said Chief Peter Martell. "The ability to clean our gear regularly will prevent contaminants from building up in the protective clothing that our firefighters depend on" he added.

In addition, the department received \$2,840.00 to purchase gloves and protective hoods. This will work to ensure that firefighters will have spare equipment to use during emergencies, if they're primary equipment needs to be laundered.

"We now know that the risk of being diagnosed with occupational cancer is amongst the greatest threats faced by modern firefighters, and establishment of an NFPA-compliant gear washing program is critical to mitigating that risk," said State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey. "We are thankful that the Commonwealth has made this a priority and invested in the advancement of the ongoing cancer prevention efforts of fire departments across the state.'

Funding for these grants program was made available through the Baker-Polito administration for fire departments across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

# Record-breaking year for Second Chance Animal Services



EAST BROOKFIELD

— The year isn't over yet, but Second Chance Animal Services has already helped more pets in 2019 than in any other year since they were founded in 1999. The nonprofit projects it will help more than 40,000 pets by year's end, surpassing the record of

37,400 pets which was set last year.

Second Chance helps pets in many different ways, all aimed at keeping pets in their homes (and out of the shelter.) Three full-service veterinary hospitals in North Brookfield, Springfield and Worcester provide access to veterinary care for all. Subsidized pricing is available for qualified households, giving low- and fixed-income pet owners an affordable option to care for their pets. The hospitals also

Please Read **SECOND CHANCE**, page **A6** 

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# North Brookfield Savings Bank announces digital banking learning lessons

NORTH BROOKFIELD — As a part of their commitment to their core values, North Brookfield Savings Bank frequently offers educational resources and learning opportunities to empower customers and help them to ultimately have the best possible financial experience. The Bank recently announced their upcoming learning opportunity, Digital Banking Learning Lessons, in an effort to introduce and help customers to understand the life-simplifying digital banking services they can take advantage of through the Bank.

The North Brookfield Savings Bank Digital Banking Learning Lessons are being held throughout January and February 2020 and are scheduled at each branch location to make the lessons accessible to all current and future customers. Experienced and friendly Bank representatives will be available for lessons, personalized demonstrations and will cover the topics of online banking, bill payment, mobile banking app, mobile check deposit, eStatements and direct deposit.

"It is important for us as a local community bank to be available as a financial learning resource for our customers and communities, which is why we are launching our Digital Banking Learning Lessons," said Patty Ostrout, NBSB Senior Vice President of Retail Banking. "We are happy to help simplify our customers' already busy lives by introducing them to all of the valuable tools that come along with our collection of digital banking services. Overall it is our hope this will eliminate some of the stress that can be associated with handling their finances."

Digital Banking Learning Lessons will take place on the following listed days during banking hours.

To schedule a private lesson contact Cheryl Orne at corne@banknbsb.com or 508-637-7401.

Thursday, January 16: North Brookfield Branch, 9 Gilbert

Thursday, January 23: East Brookfield Branch, 100 West

Main Street, Rt. 9 Thursday, January 30:

West Brookfield Branch, 128 West Main Street, Rt. 9

Thursday, February 6:

Ware Branch, 40 Main Street, Rt. 9 Thursday, February 13:

Belchertown Branch, 4 Daniel Shays

Thursday, February 20: Palmer Branch, 1051 Thorndike

Thursday, February 27: Three Rivers Branch, 2060 Main

If you are not able to make any of the scheduled Digital Banking Learning Lesson days, no problem!Anyone can contact any North Brookfield Savings Bank branch location to schedule a private lesson when it better suits their schedule.

North Brookfield Savings Bank's established core value of "Commit to

# ACCURACY WATCH

The Spencer New Leader is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although

numerous safeguards are in place to ensure

accurate reporting, mistakes can occur.

Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page 3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4106 or email news@stonebridgepress. news during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call or email.

Excellence" concentrates on elevating everyone up through growth and learning for success. In addition to this most recent outreach effort, the Bank provides various other helpful educational opportunities to customers, employees and community members. To view the Bank's upcoming educational opportunities visit NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com/

# Victim of Sturbridge collision identified

STURBRIDGE – A West Brookfield man was identified as the victim of last week's fatal pedestrian collision on Main Street.

Peter Morin, 67, was struck on Dec. 13 at approximately 5:40 p.m. The incident took place in the area of 173 Main St. (Route 131) near the intersection of Fairview Park Road. Morin was walking on the westbound side of the roadway when he was struck by a passing vehicle, police said.

Investigators believe several factors may have contributed to the collision, including poor lighting and

"This area of roadway is not a well-lit area, there is no sidewalk, and the weather was raining with patchy fog present," read a statement released by the Sturbridge Police Department.

With assistance from the Sturbridge Fire Department, officers administered treatment to Morin before he was rushed to Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge. He was pronounced dead upon arrival at the hospital.

Route 131 was closed for three hours during

the initial investigation. Members of the Central Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council's accident reconstruction team continue to investigate the collision along with members of the state medical examiner's office.

No criminal charges have been filed, police said. The driver who struck Morin stayed at the scene following the wreck.

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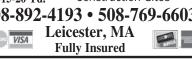
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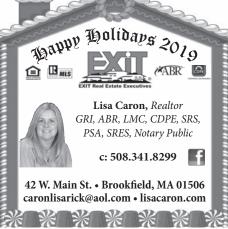


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# **Second Chance pioneers** lifesaving protocol for prematurely born kittens

EAST BROOKFIELD Second Chance Animal Services has spent the past two years developing a lifesaving protocol for prematurely born kittens that is dramatically improving the survival rate for helpless young kittens.

Second Chance studied 21 premature orphan kittens, increasing the survival rate at the six-week mark by 33 percent using the protocol developed by their veterinary staff. This is a remarkable improvement for the fragile underage kitten population facing a survival rate near 0 percent without the protocol.

Continued study and additions to the protocol are expected to produce even greater success. The survival rate with recent changes has already increased. Further study is expected to advance the protocol, increasing survival rates and the success of these kittens long term.

The new protocol focuses on the biggest challenges faced in hand rearing kittens: dehydration and over or underfeeding. Weighing the kittens twice a day is critical to ensure the babies are getting proper nutri-

Kittens are placed with trained veterinary technicians who care for them as a mother cat would. The techs tube feed kittens every two hours, stimulate them for elimination, and keep them warm in special incubators. Time between feedings increases as they age, and they are transitioned from tube feeding to syringe feeding to a bottle when able. Canned food is introduced around three or four weeks, but they continue to receive kitten replacement milk until they are fully weaned, generally around 6 weeks of age.

"We are optimistic with the results" says Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato. "We will continue to advance the protocol for this very fragile segment of animals in need."

The results of the study, funded by a grant from Maddie's Fund, were published on the Maddie's Fund website so that other animal welfare groups can use the protocol to save more lives. Second Chance will be

available to help other groups that adopt the protocol to save this segment of the population.

# Santa helps police spread holiday cheer



Local police officers recently assisted Mr. and Mrs. Claus during an early visit to Spencer.

SPENCER - Local police departments teamed up with Santa and Mrs. Claus last week to spread holiday joy at Wire Village School.

The Dec. 10 event featured members of the Spencer Police Department and East Brookfield Police Department. Officers helped Santa and Mrs. Claus distribute gifts to eager youngsters during the annual event.

For more than 40 years, the Spencer Police Association has hosted the annual Christmas party. The event is made possible by gift donations from businesses and residents in Spencer and East Brookfield.

In recent years, every student in grades three and lower has been provided with a gift as part of the program. Students

also enjoyed a meetand-greet Santa and a holiday-themed magic show.

# SPENCER ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

# **SPENCER**

\$406,204, 26 Thompson Pond Rd, Robertson, Paul R, and Robertson, Denise B, to Donohue, Brian T.

\$390,000, 6 Garrett Ln, Grenier, Felix E, and Grenier, Cathie J, to Molloy, Brittany, and Molloy, Michael J.

\$312,946, 103 N Spencer Rd, Demeter RT, and Gove, Brendan, to HA Spencer Road LLC.

\$282,500, 43 Hastings Rd, Next Level Real Est Sltns, to Joubert, Jennifer R, and Hicks, Jacquelyn

\$279,900, 15 Early St, Sisco, Leonard O, and Kauppila, Robin L, to Gilbert, Denise M.

\$240,000, 26 Old Farm Rd, Huston, Jeffrey J, and Huston, Karen, to Elie, Robert, and Murphyey, Krystal.

# BROOKFIELD

\$178,400, 26 Central St, Terry, Michelle, to Button, Patrick.

EAST BROOKFIELD

\$396,000, 188 Stone Rd, Sandoli, Marie T, and Nelson, Carl F, to Beale, Edward K.

\$306,000, 633 Howe St, Walcott, Pearl, and Perkins, Diane, to Demoura, Alexsandro M, and Demoura, Marilia.

\$240,000, 144 Maple St, Smith Wood R G Est, and Wood, Richard J, to Field, Brandon, and Field,

\$205,000, 132 N Brookfield Rd, Berthiaume LT, and Berthiaume, Priscilla R, to Adjoian, Eva.

\$164,000, 111 Drake Ln, Ramsdell, Lisa R, and Freedom Mortgage Corp, to Freedom Mortgage Corp.

# NORTH BROOKFIELD

\$255,000, 5 Chase Rd, Laudon, William J, and Laudon, Dena, to Miller, Barbara, and Heath, Laura

\$200,000, 29 Mount Pleasant St, Doherty, Lisa A, and Doherty, John C, to Austin, Jonathan J.

\$195,500,48 Ward St, Matasavage, Steven, to Macmillan, William L, and Macmillan, Stacey R.

\$179,000, 14 Ayers St, Fleck, Paul L, and Fleck, Amy R, to Rhault, Yvette M.

\$90,000, 28 Bell St, Cornerstone Bank, to Frekey, Michael P.

# WEST BROOKFIELD

\$195,900, 109 Wickaboag Valley Rd, Smith, Douglas F, and Smith, Sara J, to Walsh, Mark P, and Tremblay, Pamela R.

# LEICESTER

\$329,900, 41-43 Boyd St, Truong, Ahn X, to Valchuisio, Andrew, and Valchuisio, Jennifer E.

\$305,000, 39 Mccarthy Ave, Garshman, Howard, and Reposa, David, to Suprenant, Pamela L, and Suprenant, Richard A.

\$304,900, 32 Hyland Ave, Bullis FT 2019, and Bullis, Patrick, to Cundiff, William J.

\$294,000, 119 Mannville St, Samantha Rob LLC, to Alves-DaCruz, Claudionor, and Cruz,

\$229,000, 5 Brookside Dr, Doan, Thuy T, and Doan, Xuan V, to Scopetski, Jake, and Scopetski, Katelyn.

\$109,900, 75 Huntoon Memorial Hwy #2-5, Gaulin Norman E Est, and Gaulin, Robert, to Mahan, Michael P, and Mahan, Marie L.

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Keighan Age 10

Hi! My name is Keighan and I like to tell jokes!

Keighan is a funny 10-year-old boy of Caucasian descent who enjoys telling jokes. Those who know Keighan describe him as a polite and engaging child. He enjoys quiet activities such as reading books, coloring and going to church. Keighan is also an adventurous child who likes to try new things and enjoys outdoor activities such as bike riding and going to the park. Keighan recently went camping for the very first time where

he enjoyed fishing, swimming and making s'mores.

Legally free for adoption, Keighan is in need of an active two-parent family. Keighan has requested his future family have a mother, father and older siblings. He would like to continue visiting with his foster family and his brother once his future placement is identified, therefore his social worker is exploring in-state families at this time.

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

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have "a permanent place to call HOME."



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# Spencer residents celebrate the holidays

SPENCER - Residents celebrated the holiday season with several events this year, including the second annual Olde Fashioned Holiday Craft Faire. Held on Dec. 7, the event featured nearly 40 crafters, delicious treats served up by volunteers, and raffle items. Guests also helped local families stay warm this winter by donating to the event's mitten tree.

The celebration continued later that night, with the town's annual Parade of Lights departing from David Prouty High School. The previous week, residents enjoyed caroling and a tree lighting outside the Sugden Block building. Kevin Flanders photos.



Three generations of the Monette family enjoy the fair.



Holland's Amy Grossi introduces guests to her hand-crafted jewelry.



Local crafters and their families enjoy a day at the fair.



Jim Brink, of Webster, attends fairs throughout the area.



It's been a long, fun day of crafting for vendors like Michelle from Francine's Fancy.



Liz Sullivan, of Charlton, greets guests at the fair.

LAPORTE continued from page 1

tors, teachers, parents, coaches, transportation officials, and members of the district leadership team.

The training was excellent. They have had this system implemented for many years," LaPorte said.

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Superintendent Paul Haughey has been impressed with LaPorte's daily approach. The resource officer even took the time to learn bus routes by riding along with students on their way to school.

"School Resource Officer LaPorte has established excellent relationships with our students, and in turn, truly gotten to know our parents and families in a different way," Haughey told the New Leader. "He has strengthened our relationships as a school department with the community. We are very fortunate to have Officer LaPorte serve in the role and responsibility of SRO.'

At all three schools, Officer LaPorte is an integral resource for enforcing the district's anti-bullying policies and helping to keep drugs and alcohol out of school. Moreover, the resource officer position is an important tool to help students develop a deeper understanding and respect for law enforcement.

We are very pleased with how everything has gone. We've gotten a great reception from the staff and school leadership," Chief Darrin said.

LaPorte has also completed extensive ALICE trainings, which provide law enforcement personnel, school officials.

"Every Town Deserves a **Good Local Newspaper**"

and students with defense tactics for active shooter situations. SPD officers train regularly in ALICE, and they have brought their expertise to local schools and businesses.

For police department leaders, school officials, and parents, it means a lot to have a well-trained resource officer on duty in the schools for added security. Moreover, all officers in the department have completed training on maximizing efficiency during incident responses at schools.

"I have been working on getting this position ever since Columbine," Chief Darrin said, describing the 1999 massacre as an event that revolutionized police strategies for active shooter training and responses. "Even before that, many colleges and universities already had their own police departments. I thought it was important to have an

officer in public schools as well."

Last year, the district launched

First Meeting

an ALICE informational assembly for students in grades 5-12. In addition to LaPorte's work, other officers regularly visit the schools for assemblies on bullying prevention and the dynamics of addiction. Later this school year, police department officials hope to introduce a program on the dangers of vaping.



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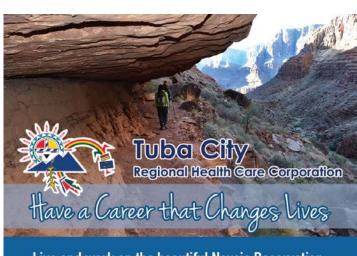
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# Leicester resident Nicole Escobar returns following intensive research project

Leicester, a member of the class of 2021 majoring in aerospace engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), was a member of a student team that recently completed an intense, handson research through the WPI project center in Japan. The project was titled Sustaining Kyoto Arts & Heritage: Digital Platform.

In their project summary, the students wrote, "Kyoto is losing its culture and heritage to natural disasters and the modernization of the city. The goal of this project was to help Kyoto VR, an immersive media company seeking to digitally preserve Kyoto's culture, discover sources of possible funding opportunities.'

At WPI, all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies

WORCESTER — Nicole Escobar of science and technology to addresses an important societal need or issue. About two-thirds of students complete a project at one of the university's 50-plus off-campus project centers, which are located around the world. A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, the project-based curriculum offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to develop thoughtful solutions to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives-and make a difference before they graduate.

"The WPI project-based curriculum's focus on global studies brings students out of the classroom and their comfort zones and into the global community to apply their knowledge and to solve problems," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, interim dean of the WPI Interdisciplinary and Global Studies

Division. "Students are immersed in all aspects of a different culture, from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference in their host community; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application.'

About Polytechnic Worcester Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 50 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 14 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu

# The Philippines comes to dinner

BROOKFIELD – Many parts of the world are represented within the membership of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' local congregation, with its chapel located in North Brookfield but its membership encompassing a large area from Ware to Leicester, from Barre to Southbridge, and all the communities in between. Several of the women were

born in the Philippines, and on a recent evening they hosted a rich and wonderful feast of Filipino food for the women of the church, young and old.

But it was not just the food that was fascinating and fun; the manner of eating it was fascinating and fun too. Steamed banana leaves were spread across the tables giving the meal a festive flair. Then, various foods from rice to spring rolls and empenada were placed directly on the leaves while piping hot.

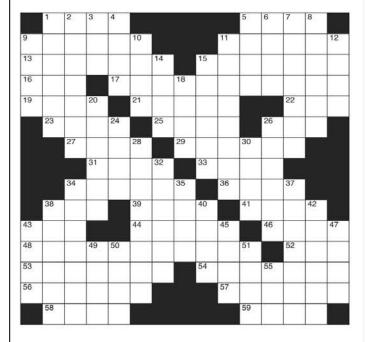
True 'finger food' was the order of the day as everyone practiced reaching for a mouthful of a tasty treat with one hand, the 'serving hand', then transferring the food to the other, 'eating hand' and into the mouth it went. Yum. It actually took most of the participants a little time and quite a few giggles to get used to the 'one hand and then the other' approach but no one missed out on a great meal.

One of the hosts, Violeta of Sturbridge,

explained that this fun method of eating is sometimes called a Boodle Fight. Historically, a Boodle Fight draws its name from the military circumstance where because of time constraints and the absence of utensils common to being in the field of battle, soldiers would often set out the food on readily available banana leaves and, without major concern for military rank, all would eat equally fast in order to end with a satiated stomach. Thus the term 'Fight' is used even though the only fighting that went on at the meal was an energetic reach for a particular piece of food. Some sources attribute the word 'Boodle,' perhaps military slang, as a

way of referring to contraband sweets that were placed along the center between soldiers and on a signal all were invited to eat whatever they could grab. Whatever the source of the term for the method of eating with the hands, a good time was had by all.

Other women brought additional finger food representing their particular areas of national origin. All in all, the sense of sisterhood and gratitude for learning more about each other's gastronomic heritage was a perfect dessert for a wonderful meal.



# CLUES ACROSS

- 1 No longer on the market
- W. African language 9. A way to open
- 11. A type of pigeon 13. Japanese warrior
- 15. Pelvic areas
- 16. No seats available 17. Not working
- 19. In a way, soaks
- 21. Growing outward 22. Ritzy local \_\_ Air
- 23. Telegraphic signals
- 25. Metric units 26. Large wine cask
- 27. Fiber from the husk of a
- coconut
- 29. Gets up 31. French river

# CLUES DOWN

- 3. Romanian monetary unit 4. Form of Persian
- 6. Leave out
- 8. A little off
- 9. Soviet Union
- 12. One who speaks Gaelic
- 15. Jackson and Townshend
- are two 18. Soldier in an airborne unit
- 20. Taken illegally
- 24. Capital of Valais

33 Witnesses

- 34. They make great neighbors 36. The sun does it 38. Used to store ashes
- 39. First Chinese dynasty
- 41. Network of nerves
- 43. Word element meaning ear
- 44. Metric unit of length (Brit.) 46. Tributary of the Danube
- 48. Off-limits
- 52. Appeal earnestly
- 53. It's good to have them 54. Commercial flying company
- 56. Acted out in protest 57. Took to the sea
- 58. Cuckoos
- 59. Drove fast

- 1. Trapped
- 2. About osmosis
- 7. Small vehicle
- 10. A narrow path or road
- 11. Contrary beliefs
- 14. Private school in New York

- 26. Male reproductive organs
- 28. State capital
- 30. One with supernatural insight
- 32. Starts all over again 34. Jai alai arena
- 35. Star Wars antagonist 37. Freestanding structure
- 38. The ideal place
- 40. The extended location of
- something 42. Made level
- 43. Distinctive smell
- 45. Greek goddess of discord 47. Got older
- 49. Type of monkey 50. Travels to
- 51. Geological times
- 55. Edge

## T N O a 0 9 SOLUTIV M 0 H Я A R E N O P E $\forall$ 8 3 d I W O H S

# North Brookfield Savings Bank invites teens and parents to Financial Literacy course

NORTH BROOKFIELD -North Brookfield Savings Bank knows the important of setting a strong foundation of financial knowledge and how starting that foundation from a young age can increase a person's overall lifetime financial success. That is why it has always been their mission to provide financial education resources to the youth of their local communities through their Financial Literacy Programs and School Banking programs.

North Brookfield Savings Bank, in conjunction with the Palmer Public Library and Top Floor Learning, Inc., is inviting all teens and parents to attend a FREE 5-week Financial Literacy for Teen & Parents program which will take place for 5 consecutive Tuesdays, from 4:30-5:30 p.m., beginning January 7th in the Palmer Public Library Community Room. Each week will include a lesson plan covering designated financial topics such as personal finance, the importance of saving, learning about credit, further education,

careers, and renting verses owning a home. North Brookfield Savings Bank will have Jennifer Board Member and Joe Ribeiro. North Brookfield Supervisor and IRA Specialist teaching the program to attendees.

Financial Literacy for Teens & Parents Palmer

Public Community Room

5 Tuesdays from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, January 7 Tuesday, January 14

Tuesday, January 21 Tuesday, January 28 Tuesday, February 4

To register, contact Bridget Kennedy at bkennedy@palmer. lib.ma.us or call (413)-283-3330, ext. 128.

"North Brookfield Savings Bank is happy to welcome teens and their parents to register for this useful, informative but digestible 5-week Financial Literacy program to build on

your teen's financial knowledge foundation," said Patty Ostrout, Senior Vice President of Retail Plassmann, Palmer Branch Banking. "Our relationship with Manager and Top Floor Learning our community members and customers is far beyond transactional. We are a dedicated and engaged banking partner and we are proud to be a resource of empowerment for the next generation of our communities.

> North Brookfield Savings Bank provides various educational opportunities for customers and community members which can be viewed on the Bank's Web site at NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank. com/blog. Through these opportunities the Bank stays true to their "Commit to Excellence" core value by delivering support for growth, learning and continued success.

If you would like your local organization or school to have a Financial Literacy Program with North Brookfield Savings Bank please

contact marketing@banknbsb. com or 866-711-6272.

# East Brookfield

# Elementary\_ **SCHOOL** HONOR ROLL

BROOKFIELD EAST East Brookfield Elementary School has released its honor roll for the first trimester of the 2019-2020 school year.

Grade 4

High Honors: Roman Whitcomb Honors: Zachary Boisvert-Turpin, Cameron Brousseau, Kayley English, Cameron Lemanski, Hunter Morin, Angelina Pereira, Talon St. George,

Parker Starr

Honors: Lucas Bastien, Bryn Carey, Henry Rokes, Dylan Strzelewicz, Liam Vosnakis

Honors: Willow Anderson, Keegan Blood, Dylan Cormier, Martina Ethier, Lilyan Mateucci, Aubrey Messier, Cole Pattee, Taylor Richard, Lillian Spahn

# SECOND CHANCE

continued from page 1

offer weekly walk-in vaccine clinics, low-cost spay/neuter clinics, community vaccine and microchip clinics and veterinary program for the elderly and homebound.

Second Chance also has an adoption center, two satellite adoption facilities, and Project Good Dog in local correctional facilities working to help find homes for homeless pets. The organization operates a pet food pantry that distributes pet food to area food pantries and a well-established educational outreach program aimed at educating tomorrow's pet owners.

Second Chance CEO and founder Sheryl Blancato attributes part of this year's increase to the expanded services at Springfield Community Veterinary Hospital, stating "There's a great need for access to veterinary care in the Springfield

area."

The hospital hosted two critical vaccine clinics after a parvo outbreak earlier this

The North Brookfield Community Veterinary Hospital also contributed to the increase, aiding more patients in need of emergency surgery and critical care.

"We are able to help more pets than ever in need of medical care. We are grateful to be able to give these pets a "second chance' thanks to the support of generous donors,' added Blancato.

As Second Chance prepares for a new year of helping pets in need, they are asking for the public's help. Anyone interested in making a donation can donate online at www.secondchanceanimals.org, through the organization's Facebook page, or by mail to Second Chance Animal Services, PO Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Increasingly desperate Left revealed in letters

To the Editor:

How inconsiderate and sad, their selfishness. For at least the last two Christmas seasons, readers of this great weekly paper have been subjected to disturbing anti-Christian, anti-Christmas and pro-abortion letters undersigned by a few different names here. Their authenticities I now question as well, thanks to the keen observance and dogged determination of my good friend John McRae, of East Brookfield, to "smoke 'em out" into the great wide open, so far, apparently, to no avail... While I'm not an advocate of censorship, nor hypocritical as to expect the New Leader to not publish disrespectful, poorly timed and in-poor-taste attacks against Catholics and other Christians, it would be nice for that person(s) with the poison pen(s) to refrain from such divisive and belligerent submissions at least during the Holy Advent Season, out of respect for the many observant Jews and Christians celebrating Hanukkah and Christmas, respectively. It is, after all, a time of reflection and the advancement of peace on earth, goodwill toward men (gender inclusive use here, of course!). Jesus is the Prince of Peace, the reason for the season, if you will. This is a time when we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. Jesus, the Christ child, and what His birth, death and resurrection can mean to us, personally, and to unify the world in peace and commonality under His majesty, grace and atoning sacrifice on the cross. He did it all in perfect obedience, for us (for every Jew and Gentile, and Jesus was himself a Jew in His earthly life), out of the Father God's love for us, ourselves all unworthy in our sin, a terrible debt Jesus paid for all repentant sinners, a debt He did not owe!

Next, a sincere thank you to Christine St. Peter of Spencer for her wonderful letter/response in the December 13th Viewpoint to a horrible and mixed-up rant undersigned by Esther Cohen in the Dec. 6 Viewpoint that itself missed the point on nearly every topic addressed therein. The fourth and very valid definition of "Holocaust" in my dictionary is "any reckless destruction of life." This clearly applies to the deliberate death and dismemberment of the most innocent and defenseless members of the human race—the unborn children killed by the millions via abortion since Roe v. Wade became law in 1973. It is a national disgrace and bloodstain on our country. It is even worse than the Dred Scott decision in 1857 that denied the Negro a right to sue in Federal court for freedom, finding them inferior to the White man, essentially deeming them "property." It didn't, however, order their execution, as terrible as slavery was for as long as it lasted here. With the Holocaust of mainly European Jews—a terrible and astonishing 85 percent thereof under Hitler from 1939-1945, at least some of those targeted for concentration and death camps were eventually released, or in some

instances escaped capture through their own wit, bravery and with help, including some local Christian clergy and others willing to hide them out and help them escape persecution and death at great risk to themselves and their own families. Truly, the pre-born baby has no voice but the prevailing law and the moral integrity of the adults around them. They are "most vulnerable" of all humanity. Ronald Wilson Reagan was our first modern Conservative Republican President, No. 40, elected in November of 1980, this after the historic first attempt by U.S. Senator Barry M. Goldwater in 1964. A great pro-Life Irish-American, on the subject of abortion, Reagan famously observed that "...everyone who is for abortion has already been born!" Truly, does Esther Cohen or any other pro-abortion advocate who uses that old worn "viability" argument really think it through? How long does it take for any baby/infant to be "viable" to the point it doesn't rely on its Mother (or another older human being) for life sustenance, lest it die without same? That time is way beyond even a year of age following birth, to add to Ms. St. Peter's excellent points and letter.

Generally, I've enjoyed reading these pages over these last few months without contributing, but enjoy the combat letters and the vibrant exchanges—to a point. It has been a busy fall season for me, and I smiled when both Richard Taylor and David Rosenberg, and perhaps others, lamented the absence of local Trump supporters to respond to what is in reality the Democrat's/ Left's latest insane and desperate attempts to destroy our great and effective President via impeachment, because the Mueller investigation failed and they know, deep in their black little hearts, that they cannot beat him at reelection time next year. So guys, thanks, it's nice to be missed and sought after (along with the other pro-Trumpers you prodded for a reply), but the Commander-in-Chief is doing just fine, despite the empty howls from the Left in these pages. He will not be impeached (removed) by the U.S. Senate, and will handily win reelection next year, supported by the smarter and alert voting Americans with 2020 vision and beyond. Further, how about that fantastic Boris Johnson/Conservative victory in Great Britain this past week? Here too, the Democrats will pay an awful yet well-deserved political price for their psychopathic persecution of the outsider man who beat Mrs. Clinton her second time up and is not a member of the insider ruling political class. In other words, President Trump is exactly what America needs. Keep America Great! God Bless You All, Happy Hanukkah/Merry Christmas/ Season's Greetings to you and your

> Dana George Reed SPENCER

# Earthly to heavenly transformation

To the Editor:

When God came to earth as a man, He transformed Himself [incarnate] in the body of Jesus. God can do the same for us if we let Him. God can transform us from this earthly body to a heavenly body.

To obtain that transformation, we needs must confess, profess Jesus is the Savior of our lives, heart, soul, that Jesus is the only way to God. [John 10: 9] [John 14: 6] How do we obtain this transformation? Through fundamental principles from God, Jesus [John 14: 8] believing in Jesus and becoming born again in the spirit of God, Jesus, becoming an adopted child of God from our heart. We need and must accept Jesus in our heart, confessing, professing obedience and faith to God, Jesus.

Unless we make a confession, profession of faith to Jesus from our heart, any claims of being a Christian is deception and illegitimate, Jesus is the only way to God and it is not a one time confession, once saved always saved, it is a daily, day by day, commitment, submission to Jesus.

The choice is ours, God wants us, God desires us, God does not wish for anyone to perish [2 Peter 3: 9] and

Please Turn to A8 &A9 For more Letters to the Editor

it can only come through accepting Jesus.

Make that choice today from your heart and Jesus will transform you, me to heaven when our days on earth are complete who have made that profession to Jesus.

This is as much a daily challenge, process for me as it is for anyone. We cannot obtain heaven by our self, we need God's help, God's grace and that can only come through Jesus. Amen! ROLAND BLAIS

BROOKFIELD

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# The history behind a hymn

To the Editor:

Another year, another Christmas, my favorite holiday of them all. The earliest memories of life, as well as the happiest times of our family's history when the children were young and filled with anticipation of the great day, Christmas Eve, the excitement of the next morning, the gifts, the food, the tree with its lights and favorite ornaments----all of it still comes flooding back to me despite the kids being grown and gone, despite the horror which never goes away of Burl Ives' "Have a Holly Jolly Christmas" or, just as painful, "The Christmas Song" by Alvin and the Chipmunks."

But, for me, the music, especially the old carols, are, next to contemplating the certainty that you-knowwho is "...the reason for the season" is what gives me the deepest sense of inspired gratification that I have lived to see yet another glorious Yuletide

I love all the carols, and the stories behind them and of the men and women who wrote the lyrics and composed the music has, of late, become a source of interest to me.

As a student of history, one Christmas hymn, in particular, has caught my attention, and I am embarrassed to admit I never knew the compelling story behind its origin. Let me tell you the tale, which should be familiar to any proud New Englander, but I don't think it is:

We all know, and can probably sing, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day." The words are from the pen of the great Cantabridgian poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, who lived on Brattle Street (in the very house which Gen. Washington used as his headquarters in the winter of 1775-76) hard up against Harvard Yard when he wrote the poem on Christmas Day,1863 during the darkest depths of the Civil War. The music would be provided by John Baptiste Calkin, an English organist, in 1872.

In 1861, Longfellow's wife of 18 years and mother of their several children, Fanny, to whom he was completely devoted, was in the kitchen of their home when her clothing caught fire and was horrifically burned in the blaze. Longfellow heard her screams, rushed into the room and with nothing at hand to help, threw her onto the floor and attempted to extinguish the flames by smothering them with his body. She would die an agonizing death the next day, and he would be badly scarred himself for the rest of his life---scars he would attempt to hide by growing a full and flowing

Two years later, his 18-year-old son, Charles Appleton Longfellow, very much against his father's wishes. would run away to join the Union Army to fight for abolition for which the friends of Henry (Sumner, Shaw, Howe, Stowe, Beecher, Garrison, Holmes, and other blue bloods) had agitated for decades. Before long, the boy ended up in a Union Army hospital suffering from typhoid fever which would carry off many Yankee blue belly soldiers during the course of the war. Henry and another son rushed to Washington, D.C. to nurse the lad back to health. Undaunted, young Charlie eventually returned to his unit only to be severely wounded in the Battle of New Hope Church, in Virginia. Once again, Henry and another son trekked to the Old Dominion State to bring the boy home to Massachusetts to see to his recovery, but his fighting days

You will understand, then, that our man, Henry, was in the greatest throes of depression on that crisp Christmas

morning in 1863 when he stepped out of his home and "heard the bells of Christmas Day" from the steeples of the churches of Cambridge. Not only had he suffered great personal tragedies, but it looked at the time that the South was simply unbeatable, and that the great cause of emancipation was doomed to failure.

The poem has six stanzas, two of which are virtually never sung or recited as they speak directly to his barely contained rage at the southern states for, in his view, causing this calamity to occur in the first place. I give you then, the poem; you can determine for vourself which lines have been quietly expunged from most versions of the carol:

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

I heard the bells on Christmas Day

carols play,

Their old, familiar

And wild and sweet The words repeat Of peace on earth,

good-will to men!

And thought how, as the day had come,

The belfries of all Christendom

Had rolled along The unbroken song Of peace on earth,

good will-will to men!

Then from each black, accursed mouth

The cannon thundered in the South,

And with the sound The carols

drowned

Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

It was as if an earthquake rent

The hearthstones of a continent,

And made forlorn The households born

Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And in despair

I bowed my head; «There is no peace on earth,"I said;

«For hate is strong,

And mocks

the song Of peace on

earth, Good-will to

men!» Then pealed

the bells more loud and deep: dead, nor doth he sleep;

The Wrong shall fail,

The Right

prevail, With peace on earth, Good-will to

men.»

W. Longfellow, 1863

We have a wonderful literary, spiritual, and cultural legacy; don't let them take it away from us. Sorry, it's not the insipid, bloodless "Happy Holiday." It is, and must ever remain: "Merry Christmas!"

«God bless us, every one!» (T.

JOHN MCRAE EAST BROOKFIELD







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> FRANK G. CHILINSKI PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

Brendan Berube

**EDITOR** 

# EDITORIAL

# Breaking the ice

It's holiday party season, and for most of us, that means enjoyable times ahead. We get together with friends and family, enjoy some eggnog and a plethora of our favorite appetizers. Oftentimes, however, we find ourselves invited by our significant others to attend a work soiree, invite them along to one at our own place of work. Being in a room where you only know one or two people can seem like a daunting task for our introverted readers, but have no fear. We have some ways for you to have memorable conversations that you may end up actually enjoying.

Instead of discussing the weather or asking the mundane questions such as 'Where are you from?' why not shakes things up and make the conversation interesting by asking, 'What's your story?' Other conversation starters include, 'How do you know the host?', 'What was the highlight of your week?' or 'Are you working on anything exciting?'

If you're shy or feeling a bit awkward, you can keep the conversation going by talking about the food being served or the venue where the event is taking place. Asking a person what they have tried so far, and how they liked it is an easy conversation starter. If you research the history of a place, you can always begin with the 'Did you know?' questions. We know everyone loves a good history story and bits of local trivia.

If the person you are speaking with is from the area, ask them what they do for entertainment in town, including where and what their favorite restaurants are. Looking up recent sports standings is never a bad idea, even if you don't particularly care for sports. This way when you nod and smile, you can have some confidence in knowing that you are at least somewhat in the loop. If you've bumped into a fellow skier, discussing snow conditions and ski hills is an easy topic. Look up a recent odd news story that is interesting and humorous — that way, during a lull, you can say, 'So I was reading about a man who appeared before a Dutch court and requested that he legally be made 20 years younger.' (Yes, that actually happened. If you see one of us out and about at a holiday gathering, tell us you read about it here and we'll give you the details.)

Most conversations remain on the surface which is appropriate when you don't really know someone. However, if you feel comfortable and are enjoying the conversation don't be afraid to go a bit bolder. Generally, most people like to talk about themselves, not necessarilv for selfish reasons, but who doesn't want to be known and appreciated? We all have unique personalities that are worth sharing.

Such questions that go beneath the surface may include, 'What is your biggest fear?' 'When you were growing up, what was your dream job?' 'Have you been to any interesting places lately?" 'Have you learned anything this week, that you weren't aware of last week?.'

The easiest thing to do while in conversation this month is to ask how a person celebrates the holidays. Asking about traditions and the best holiday a person has ever had brings up fond memories and positive energy.

These questions tend to snowball naturally and voila a solid, meaningful conversation has been had and you could even make a new comrade along the way.



Opinion and commentary from Spencer, Leicester and the Brookfields

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# The truth about God

To the Editor:

Dallas Willard (philosopher 1935-2013) wrote, "acting on false or ungrounded beliefs or inadequate information leads to destructive encounters with reality." If, while driving, someone tells you the light is green and you are not looking but proceed, you find out exactly what that means!

May we reasonably suppose the same must be said about God? This piece does not address the arguments for and against theistic belief over against atheism. Though the atheist may yet enjoy a scrap from the table. No, the challenge is, there is such a being we call God. What is true about that being? What if we get it wrong? Are there theistic beliefs that are false or ungrounded? Are they the byproduct of inadequate information? Is there a reality to God that eventuates in a destructive encounter with that reality for those that persist in acting on those false beliefs and inadequate information?

Religion, every religion, is committed to a particular response to that challenge. There are perhaps five major religions, yet there are easily as many as 4,000 religions! Oprah Winfrey, getting into it with some in her show audience argued with one, "there are many paths to what you call God...There can't be just one way to God." Many others have made similar pleas. But is true? Are there many paths to God? Is it true that "there can't be just one way to God?"

Each of those statements is a truth claim. They are not merely opinions. Oprah and others are saying that the reality is, there can't just be one way to God. And if you disagree, you are wrong! By the way, there is nothing wrong with saying that. Anytime you make a truth claim, you of necessity exclude any other claim that contradicts the one you are making. Not sure why or when that ever became controversial; it shouldn't be. The claim however can be challenged by those who believe it to be an untrue report of the way things "actually are." Perhaps though, we had best deal with a really odd and popular statement in our culture. It goes something like this, "that's your truth, someone else has a different truth", or "true for you but not for me". In the process of demonstrating the irrationality of such statements, we simultaneously get a firmer grasp on what truth "is."

Butter pecan is the best tasting ice

cream. That is an opinion. You may say, "no way, chocolate fudge swirl is the best tasting ice cream". That butter pecan is my favorite ice cream is true for me and it's true for you. In other words, it is true that Pat's favorite ice cream is butter pecan. It is also true for me that chocolate fudge swirl is your favorite ice cream. Consider again, "that is your truth"; the statement behind the statement is "that is ONLY your truth." Yet that same person who says such things also, even while not seeing it, is insisting that the claim "you have your truth and I have my truth" is itself a truth that always applies to everyone everywhere. After all, he or she is not saying, "it is only my truth that you have your truth and I have my truth." Their statement implodes on itself. It is self-refuting, and therefore irrational and certainly not true.

Now back to the truth about God. Many religions simply are not true. In other words, they do not access and proclaim the truth about God. How do I know that? Because many religions contradict one another on essential beliefs. If two things contradict one another, one can be true and the other false, but they cannot both be true. Christianity and Judaism cannot both be true. Why? Christianity claims among other things, that Jesus Christ is the incarnation of God and that he was alive again three days after dying by Roman crucifixion. Judaism claims Jesus in not the incarnation of God and was not alive again three days after Roman crucifixion. Both cannot be true. Remember, it can't be said, "true for you but nor for me." Now one could be mistaken insisting something is true, in which case that which he thinks is true is not true. So, he wrongly believes something to be true which is not. This happens all the time. Note though, it is untrue for everyone, not just him—whether he sees it or not. Truth is just that wayit is not dependent on one accepting it to be so. Which of course could lead to a destructive encounter with reality.

What is true about God? Well, it is open to investigation. But whatever is true about God, is true for everyone, everywhere and always and in all places. Whether we like the truth or not. Perhaps in another article, I will suggest how we ought to investigate the truth claims of any religion.

> Patrick Lacaire EAST BROOKFIELD

# Christmas break reading

To the Editor:

Christmas is a time when we gather our families far and near to be together and celebrate the birth of Jesus, God's only son. We thank the Lord for all he has given us, the love, the guidance, and the sense of community the greatest Christian nation that ever existed. As we say "Merry Christmas," we can know that the Kingdom of God has triumphed over the "Happy Holidays" secularists. Christmas is the time of year and day specifically when we can feel most American because Americans celebrate Christmas. This is the day when the outsiders among us have it hammered home that they are not "one of us" while they eat Chinese food and go to the movies.

Once Christmas is over, the country is functionally shut down for at least a week. This year, we get about two weeks of shutdown because Christmas and New Year's will both be on Wednesdays. Personally, I like to use this time to catch up on my reading, and so should you. Nothing is better than the white snow slowly falling on the nation, with my feet on the hearth of the wood stove which is supposedly destroying the planet, while I read.

The first book on any patriot's list should be "The Camp of the Saints." This book has been recommended by Stephen Miller, senior advisor to the President. It depicts a dystopian world where Western civilization is destroyed through unbridled mass migration. While originally published in the 1970's, it has recently become a best seller again and is available from Amazon both as a paperback and Kindle edition.

Another great read is the 1978 novel, "The Turner Diaries." This book is set in the year 1999, but begins with a foreword set in the year 2099 describing a revolution in the United States which leads to the overthrow of the federal government. The story starts soon after the federal government confiscated all civilian firearms in the United States, and I'm sure you can figure out the rest.

If there's still time, I would suggest "Paved With Good Intentions," "The Bell Curve" and "Mississippi in Africa" which explains the trials and tribulations of post-civil freedmen establishing a colony and building a future. All of these titles are on Amazon. I firmly believe our path to a more cohesive nation is through education and reading. If you have time take a look at some of the titles that Amazon recommends after reading those.

The Christmas-New Year's national shutdown is a time to spend with friends and family but also a time to reflect on who we are. We are a Christian nation that established a calendar that elevates Christmas to its righteous centrality. We are a nation with a history, language, religion, and culture. As any nation must, we must protect ourselves both from invasion and dilution. We are one people, indivisible, and under God.

Merry Christmas! God Bless America, and no place

NORTH BROOKFIELD

# Financial moves for life's 'Inflection Points'



FINANCIAL Focus **JEFF** BURDICK

You've probably heard or read about inflection points. The term has specific definition in mathematics,

but it's also used widely to describe historical or technological events, such as the Industrial Revolution or the creation of the internet – events that changed human existence in some important way. However, you have personal inflection points, too – and when they occur, you'll need to make the right financial moves.

Here are four of the most important of these inflection points, along with suggestions on dealing with them:

Marriage - When you get married, you and your spouse will need to discuss a variety of financial issues: What assets and liabilities do you each bring to the marriage? Should you combine your finances or continue with separate accounts? Is one of you a "saver" while the other is a "spender?" Do you share similar investment philosophies, or is one of you much more aggressive than the other? You don't necessarily have to agree on everything, but you should at least try to gain enough knowledge so you can avoid unpleasant surprises, such as hidden debts, and find enough common ground so your household can advance toward your common financial goals.

New child - When you welcome a new child into your family, you'll need to make sure you have adequate life insurance. You'll also want to review the beneficiary designations on any existing insurance policies, as well as on your IRA and 401(k). And if you can afford it, you may want to start contributing to a college fund, possibly using a 529 savings plan, which can provide you with tax advantages as you put money away for your child's higher education.

Divorce – It's unfortunate, but true: Divorce is still pretty common, and it's neither pleasant nor cheap. You might not be able to avoid some of the costs, such as lawyers' bills, but if you and your ex-spouse can work together amicably, you both may be able to avoid serious financial disruptions. You'll need to work out how to divide your financial assets, paying attention to beneficiary designations, which you may well need to change. Also, as a newly single individual, you may need to review and revise your long-term investment strategy to accommodate changes in your goals and your retirement income.

Retirement – By the time you retire, you will have hopefully been investing in your IRA and 401(k) or other retirement plan for several decades. But once you do retire, you'll need to determine how much you can afford to withdraw each year from your various retirement accounts. Your withdrawal rate will depend on your age, your asset level and your retirement lifestyle. And you'll also want to consider other issues: Are you prepared to deal with health care costs? Even with Medicare, these costs may be higher than they were when you were working. And how about your estate plans? Are they up to date? Have you protected your family from the possibility of your estate going through the time-consuming, expensive and public process of probate? You may need to work with your financial, tax and legal advisors to develop an effective estate strategy.

By making smart decisions following your own inflection points, you can ease the transitions in your life - wherever life takes you.

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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# GEORGE GRAHAM

Please Turn to A9 For more Letters to the Editor

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# The Green New Deal

To the Editor:

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and her co-sponsor Ed Markey propose the "Green New Deal" to reduce man made carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions as a means to control global warming or climate change. Because I'm skeptical of most big government programs and because the past predictions of climate catastrophes have not occurred, I have looked into this climate change, global warming issue. What I have found is:

•The Green New Deal's primary focus relative to climate change is to reduce man made carbon dioxide (CO2) from the atmosphere because it is a green house gas that traps solar energy thereby increasing the earth's average temperature.

•Greenhouse gases (GHG) are 99.72 percent natural (only .28 percent are

 Natural water vapor accounts for 95 percent of all GHG affects.

•Without GHG affects earth's temp. would be about 0 degrees Fahrenheit and no life could exist on earth

•With all GHG affects earth's temp. is about 57 degrees Fahrenheit (57 degrees difference)

•U.S. production of co2 is .02 percent (2/100 of 1 percent) of all GHG affects Removing all U.S. man made co2 would reduce earth's temp. .02 per-

cent x57=.0114 degrees Fahrenheit Removing the entire world's man made co2 would reduce earth's temp. .117 percent x57 = .066 degrees Fahrenheit

In order to make CO2 the issue the Green New Deal advocates conveniently ignore water vapor when discussing greenhouse gases. Perhaps that is why none of the past predictions have occurred.

See www.geocraft.com/WVFossils/ greenhouse\_data.html as the source

The American Action Forum's (AAF) published a report exploring the potential cost of six elements of the Green New Deal (GND) as follows:

**Estimated** 

·Low carbon electrical grid \$5.5 trillion Zero transport emissions \$1.3 to

\$2.7 trillion Guaranteed jobs \$6.8 to \$44.6 trillion

•Universal health care \$36 •Guaranteed green housing \$1.6 to

\$4.2 trillion Food security \$1.5 billion Total

- \$93 trillion (A cost that would destroy or country)

Could these people possibly be this foolish, or do they have another agenda? Is it possible that they are attempting to scare people with these catastrophic predictions in order to advance their controlling policies? It appears that way when you look at the elements of this GND? What does a government guaranteed job, free education for life, a healthy diet, a house, and free money have to do with reducing carbon dioxide? Nothing!

Here's the truth; there is no crisis and no significant man made global warming or climate change. This is just another attempt by big government people (primarily Democrats) to impose their policies on you. Why, because they don't think you're smart enough to make your own decisions. Show them you are capable of making vour own decisions and vote all the foolish Green New Deal advocates out

> LEN IVEL LEICESTER

# Abuse of power and obstruction of Congress

To the Editor:

There was clearly a quid pro quo with Ukraine, and it is clearly an impeachable offense. All the people who say Trump is guilty have testified under oath. All the people who say Trump is not guilty have refused to testify under oath.

As for the actual articles of impeachment, I'm not a fan. Abuse of power and obstruction of congress while he is clearly guilty are both vague constructs and are too easy to attack. I would have preferred "bribery," "extortion," "contempt of Congress," "obstruction of justice," even "racketeering." The vague articles, as written, take the focus off of the crimes that clearly happened. Instead of debating what we do with a criminal president we will instead debate what these vague concepts mean. The Democrats have made the case but didn't frame it well.

Let's compare this criminal president to a prior one, Richard Nixon. With Nixon, there was no comporting with a foreign power and no attempt to bring foreign influence into our elections. Nixon tried to influence his reelection improperly, tried to cover it up, and ended up resigning over it. With Bill Clinton, there was no foreign influence and no rigging of an election. Clinton was having consensual sexual relations with an intern and lied about it to defend himself in a civil trial – not exactly putting the future of America and American elections at risk.

Bill Clinton's defenders acknowledged that he had done something wrong, just that it didn't rise to impeachment. Richard Nixon's defenders acknowledged that there had been a break-in. The Republicans today are just in a state of denial. Senators such as Lindsey Graham are now declaring that they aren't even going to pretend to be impartial jurors. Mick Mulvaney tells us to wake up, grow up, and accept

Back to Donald Trump, he used resources of the United States government already appropriated by congress to enlist a foreign power to torpedo his chief opponent in the upcoming election in 2020 by using a country under duress, facing an external existential threat from Moscow, and in need of our assistance. This was the president trying to rig the upcoming 2020 election and the deplorables think this is defen-

I honestly believe no Republican will be able to explain to his or her grandchildren why they voted against this impeachment, why this behavior was defensible or acceptable for the President of the United States. Given that impeachment and removal would leave the country with Mike Pence they won't be able to pivot to a "but the Democrats..." argument.

In the past, politicians of both parties used to speak of the shining city on a hill, hope, what we can do together. what we owe each other, etc. Today's Republican politics is the antithesis of that. It is the politics of grievance. It is not about being surrounded by those we can work with, they are now spreading the thought that our adversaries is not mistaken or ill informed. The thought now is that my opponent is my enemy, is evil, hates the country, and hates you. Trump has spawned protégés: They hate us, they're out to get us. It is a terribly bleak, dismal, and dark America and this President is fanning the fire.

One third of Americans oppose impeaching Donald Trump. Let's not forget though, a third of Americans opposed the Civil War. A third of Americans opposed abolishing slavery. A third of Americans opposed voting rights for women. A third of Americans opposed the Civil Rights Movement. What can we glean from all of this? A third of Americans are always wrong.

DAVID ROSENBERG SPENCER

# In response to Esther Cohen

To the Editor:

I must first apologize to Ester Cohen for not making clear my response (SNL, Nov. 29) to her essay in the SNL of Nov. 15. I will sincerely try to better this time. In dealing with the reproductive capacity of the human cell I presumed that it was understood that the female cell would be fertilized by the male cell; thus, the conception of another human being. This is not to be confused with the skin cells that fall off during sleep. Therefore, humans still conceive humans and the destruction of that conceived cell is the destruction of a human being.

In reference to a comparison of abortions to the Holocaust, the thought sincerely never crossed my mind. The whole point was to emphasize that laws are not always created for the benefit of humanity, and in such cases, those laws should be changed. However, your idea about comparing the Holocaust to the of some comparatives. The victims of the Holocaust were surely innocent and defenseless. Does not the abortion process effect the unborn in the same way? Numerically the Holocaust claimed six million lives throughout most of Europe. Since the enactment of Rowe V. Wade, there have been over 60 million abortions in the United States alone. I believe that number of deaths also qualifies as genocide.

Now, to the area of the Pope's infallibility. Catholics believe the Pope's decisions on matters of faith (Catholic) and morals (stemming from the Judeo heritage of the 10 Commandments) are correct and in the best manner to gain eternal salvation. As an example, on Monday (Dec. 9), Catholics celebrated

the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. In 1854, Pope Pious IX declared that the conception of Jesus was accomplished through God's intercession while Mary still remained a virgin. Catholics have believed this dogma of our faith ever sense. When it comes to morals (postulated by the 10 Commandments) the Popes' stance against abortion comes from adherence to the fifth commandment "Thou shall not kill." Morality is the common thread of humanity that creates the innate conscience within each of us. Going outside the concept of "faith and morals", if the Pope were to say that the Patriots are the best team in professional football he would not be speaking infallibly and would be open to possible contradiction (even more so lately).

Ms. Cohen you did make a valid point when you said "almost all of your adherents ignore the Pope when it's inconvenient." I would not go as far proclamations on faith and morals but some do and that is their free will at work. In my last response I stated that "being a Catholic is not easy and nothing good usually comes easy.'

Hopefully, I have clarified my thoughts for you. I have enjoyed our public correspondence and in the future maybe we can turn to some lighter subjects like climate control, trade war with China, nuclear talks with N. Korea, U.S. status in NATO, the impeachment of the President, Russian interference in our elections, or possibly boarder security. And, I'll say a little prayer for both of us.

JAMES FOYLE NORTH BROOKFIELD

# The art of digital deception

To the Editor:

The recent cavalcade of pretentious, pompous, patronizing, elitist academics pandering to the do-nothing Democrats and the Stepford media during the impeachment hearings reminds me of a similar ruse being perpetrated by the Spencer New Leader editorial pages for the past two years. The only difference is, we know their real names and we have seen their faces!

Pam Karlan and Noah Feldman are not credible witnesses! They are bloviating academics relieving themselves of indoctrinated dogma and repressed anger and whose testimony before the house judiciary committee was nothing more than a failed attempt to attack Trump's character as an inferior being! Stanford and Harvard rank in the top five as public pedestal pushers of myopic mania! Does the private sector population really care what these activist tenured public employees think?

At the local level, readers of the Spencer New Leader editorial pages have been experiencing the same loony lefty, liberal deluge from the faux five and/or synthetic six for two long (too long) years! Their diatribes drone on and on, assaulting with invective, lambasting with criticism and admonishing with lectures of superiority! Sound familiar?

The readers of the Spencer New Leader editorial pages have been being duped and masqueraded by the faux five and/or synthetic six charade pages for as long as the country has been

subjected to this insane impeachment imbroglio.

One does not have to possess multiple degrees from Harvard or Stanford to comprehend the obvious monopoly of content, style and obsession that have dominated these editorial pages for the past couple of years.

Approximately 18 months ago, I embarked on a sleuthing expedition and uncovered some interesting facts. I spent hours in various surrounding towns, including Spencer, researching legal records and questioning local officials. My findings were then communicated to my feeble, geriatric friend and frequent contributor to this publication, a scary fellow by the name of John McRae, and a few other confidants.

It is time that I come out of the closet and go on the record. I, Jennifer Gaucher, do solemnly challenge others to find/locate and speak face to face with Fred Bagg, David Rosenberg and Terrence Washington of Spencer, Esther Cohen of West Brookfield, Edith Miller of Leicester and Omar Har-Yarok of East Brookfield!

Digital technology has been both a boom and a bust to innovation and creativity. All that glitters is not gold, just as all who can link an address and a phone number to a name are not necessarily genuine! The art of digital deception continues to be exhibited weekly under the auspices of The New Leader.

> JEN GAUCHER SPENCER

# Remembering Dickie Fiscke

To the Editor:

An incredible man passed away a few weeks back, and I needed to write a letter acknowledging this amazing man. His name was Dickie Fiske, and if you live in North Brookfield, you know who he was. He passed away at 95, leaving a huge legacy.

Dickie started the Heart to Heart foundation at 69 years old. Heart to Heart is an organization that raises money for families of children suffering from severe illnesses. Dickie showed me many letters from parents whose children had passed away thanking him for the money his organization gave them, making it possible for a family trip for just time together without work before their child passed.

Fifteen years ago, Dickie came into my store for clothing and we started talking, and he mentioned how he ran an organization that did shows to raise money, and I mentioned how I had just started doing Neil Diamond tribute shows. I had the honor of performing at many of Dickie's shows and developing a friendship with him. He played softball until he was 90, and continued mowing people's lawns into his 90s. If people couldn't pay him, he'd say that was okay because they were elderly, even though they were younger than

Dickie wasn't a wealthy man in

terms of money. He drove a dented-in truck to mow his lawns, but in terms of a large adoring family and countless friends, he was the wealthiest man I've ever known in what truly counts in this life.

REST IN PEACE, MY FRIEND. CHARLIE LASK WARE





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# Reflections on bare bunting



THE GREAT **OUTDOORS** RALPH TRUE

With the shotgun deer season over, hunters that still have antlerless deer permits to fill are finding many opportunities to use their deer tags. The snow that was predicted for this past Tuesday made tracking conditions ideal. The final few days of the shotgun deer season had great tracking conditions and resulted in a huge harvesting of deer, making up for the slow start at the beginning of the deer season due to heavy snow.

Because hunters did not need to bring the harvested deer to a checking station during the second week of shotgun



deer online, results will not be available for a few weeks. The two week black powder season for deer in Massachusetts requires all deer harvested to be reported on line

A local sportsman and his buddies reported on a piebald buck they shot this past hunting season. The inherited genetic problem can leave a with numerous problems. The genetic mutation which can leave a deer with spots of white

having almost a one hundred percent white They are often coat. called albino which they are not. Piebaldism is a rare genetic abnormality in whitetails that can include a range of potential deformities, from coat coloration to skeletal alignment, which can be mild to severe. Over the years, numerous piebald deer have been harvested in the valley area by hunters.

In talking with a few archers this past week

for a new homeown-

er or gardener. Clean them up, sharpen

the blades and bun-

dle them with a bow.

Add a gift card from a

nearby garden center

if your budget allows.

area of the state. I found that hare hunting in the area was still being enjoyed by a few hunters that own beagles. This is the time of year, back 40 or 50 years ago, hare (rabbit) hunting was enjoyed by many local sportsmen. Local sportsmen's clubs in the area bought hare from a trapper in Canada. The rabbits were transported live to the valley area, and were distributed to local woodlands and swamps. The rabbits did very

well and provided local sports the opportunity to run their beagles throughout the summer months. It was a great pastime listening to the hounds trail the elusive rabbit through the swamps and woodlots for hours. We often had as many as 15 hounds trailing the hare, which provided us with music only a rabbit hunter could

Every hound had a different bark or yodel as they trailed the rabbit, allowing each dog owner the opportunity to know where his dog was. As the hounds came close to our group of hunters, the hare often crossed a path or road allowing us to visually see the hare and observe which dog was leading the pack. The rabbit seemed to enjoy the hunt as much as we did, often running down the road and quickly running back over his track trying to mislead the hounds. It often worked, but it was not long before one of the hounds picked up the trail baying loudly and the others soon joined in, and the hunt

was on again. Unfortunately, the hare program was stopped by anti-hunting groups, and now the valley has lost another species of wildlife in our forest, not to mention the great pastime local sportsmen

enjoyed for years.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday sea-

It is hard to believe that there are only a few days left till Christmas, and shoppers are trying to finish their Christmas shopping for that special sportsman or woman. A Massachusetts hunting or fishing license makes a great idea, but gift cards are the easiest way to get the shopping done fast. The gift cards will also allow that special sportsman to do his own shopping after Christmas during huge sales at most all stores, making the gift card worth a lot more.

Take A Kid fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending.

Wishing all of our servicemen and women a very Merry Christmas and thank you for keeping us safe.

# Affordable gift ideas for anyone on your list

The holidays are upon us and busy schedules often send us into a panic when looking for the perfect gift for those on our list. No matter your budget, there are affordable gift options your friends and family will love.

Tools are always a welcome gift. Most garden-

ers are reluctant to invest in that cool new hand trowel, shovel or rake. And that's what makes them a great gift. Or create a starter kit from your extra tools

GARDEN MOMENTS

**MELINDA MYERS** 

Help your favorite gardener avoid skin cancer and protect their hands when working in the garden by creating a garden basket with

gloves, a hat and sunscreen. Clean up a corner of the basement or



Melinda Myers Photo

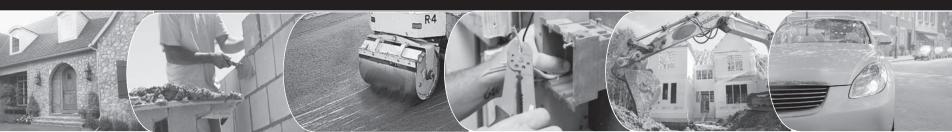
Create a tropical paradise in a terrarium as a unique gift for a loved one.

spare bedroom to create a seed starting station. Purchase the lights and fixtures or set a table in front of a sunny window. And if your budget is limited, scour the garage and shed or talk to gardening friends to secure items that can be cleaned and reused.

Or give your favorite gardener all they need to start a windowsill herb garden or terrarium. Purchase or recycle the containers and take cuttings, make divisions or purchase the plants

Turn To GARDENING page A14

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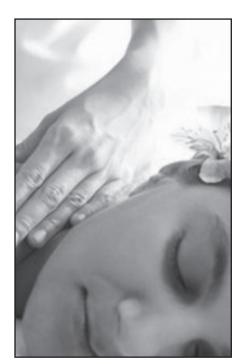
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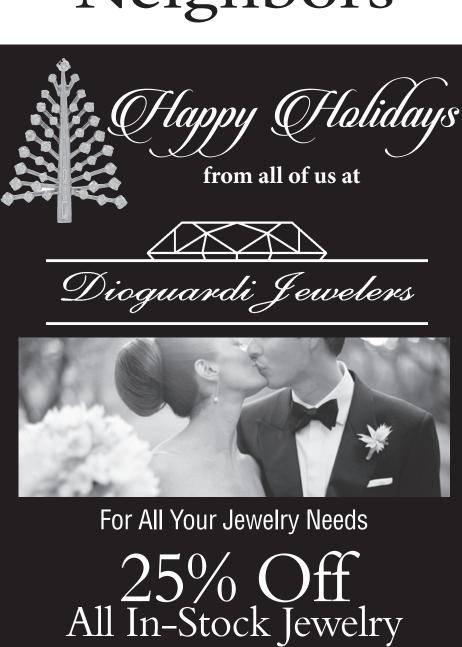




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# **SPORTS**

# Tantasqua opens season by taking care of Indians



Jason Mckay photos

Tantasqua's Haley Courtney heads down the court with the ball.

Y KEN POWERS

WEBSTER — Juniors Ainsley Way and Emerson Cherry scored 11 points each, and senior Lydia Boland added 10 to lead the Tantasqua Regional girls' varsity basketball team to a dominating season-opening win on the road, the Warriors defeating Bartlett High, 63-29, on Monday, Dec. 16.

The Indians, who won their season-open-

er on Thursday, Dec. 12 — an 81-36 victory over Southbridge High — saw their record level off at 1-1

Tantasqua took control of the game midway through the first quarter, scoring the final 10 points of the period to lead, 17-7, as play headed to the second quarter. The Warriors outscored Bartlett 17-4 in the next frame to take a 34-11 lead into halftime.

Tantasqua picked up in

the third quarter where it left off in the second, scoring 20 points in the period to lead 54-20 after 24 minutes of play.

24 minutes of play.
Cherry opened the scoring with a right-side 3-pointer 13 seconds into the game. She finished with three 3-pointers and looked to have hit on a fourth, but the officials ruled she had a foot on the line when she took the shot.

The Warriors, as a team, hit seven 3-point-



Christina Ghantous of Tantasqua looks to make an interior pass while being well-defended by Bartlett.

ers in the game. Boland canned a pair of shots from beyond the arc, while Way also hit a trey, as did freshman Haley

Courtney (seven points).

"I thought we played pretty well tonight," said Boland, who has been a starter for Tantasqua since her freshman year.

"We didn't make as many turnovers as we usually do in the first game of the season and we didn't have any jitters in the beginning of the game. I thought we played well as a team. Everybody is well conditioned and it

showed."
Sophomores Sophie
Law and Shea Coleman
added 7 points each
to help the winning
cause while classmate
Bridget Bellezza added
6. Another pair of sophomores, Alexxis Cutler
and Christina Ghantous,

scored 2 points apiece.

"We have a lot of new players on the team this year; a lot of girls who have come up from the junior varsity, and I think they're ready to work hard and be a part of this team," Boland said. "In practice we play as a team. It's not five and five or first team and second team. Everybody plays with everybody; we're all interchange-

able. Everybody can be a starter on this team. Everybody fights for a starting spot every week in practice. I like it; I think it pushes us to be better."

Tantasqua head coach Tom Goyette was pleased with his team's performance in its 2019-2020 season debut, especially defensively.

"I was really happy with the defense tonight," Goyette said. "The kids played some good lockdown defense. Bartlett came into this game after scoring 81 points their first game, so we knew we were going to have to play some good solid defense out there and I definitely think we did."

Goyette said he thinks the versatility of his offense is a strength of the team.

"We've got multiple weapons, we have an inside and outside game; we're not one-dimensional," Goyette said. "We can score multiple ways. A lot of our kids are multithreats. We don't have kids that are one-dimensional. We can shoot the 3, but we can take it to the hoop as well, and we can score from the post. I think we're going to be tough to defend because it's tough to concentrate

on any one thing we do or any one player."

Sophomore Cam Heenan, who scored a game-high 13 points, led Bartlett. Junior Kayla Berthiaume and sophomore Samantha Tremblay added 4 points each while senior Brittany Ward and freshman Victoria Spitz added 3 points apiece.

"There are a lot of things that we have to work on and right now we're just focusing on getting better day by day," Kashawn Hampton, Bartlett's first-year head coach, said. "I want the girls to get used to things. I want them to get used to the system and get used to the level of speed we're working at. Overall they're doing well. We won our first game by 45 points, but against a competitive team the girls still have to learn about the little things.

"We've got a young team, a lot of freshmen and sophomores, but they're going to get it. If they keep working hard every day, they're going to get it, I guarantee it," Hampton added. "Come see us at the end of the season, we're going to be a much-improved team."





Shea Coleman of Tantasqua attempts a free throw from the foul line.



Tantasqua's Lydia Boland runs into the lane looking to attempt a shot.

# HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Thursday, Dec. 12

Sabis 45, Tantasqua 34 — Playing in their first game after just one practice, the Warriors' boys' freshman basketball team couldn't get their shots to flow. Jace Phillips led Tantasqua with a points

with 8 points. Friday, Dec. 13

Wachusett 104, Tantasqua 66 — Despite the loss to the Mountaineers in girls' swimming, the Warriors had some great first swims. Sarah Kersting-Mumm was a double winner in the 200 IM and the 100 Freestyle.

Wachusett 84, Tantasqua 82 — In a very close match, the Warriors lost to the Mountaineers' boys' swim team. If the meet had been in Sturbridge, Tantasqua could have won because diving results would have been factored in. The medley relay team of Andrew Wade, Adon Osimo, Eben Mazieka Cameron Chisholm placed first, as did Dan Sickenberger in the 200 Freestyle, Wade in the 500 Freestyle, Eli Currier in the 100 Backstroke, and the 400 Freestyle relay team of Sickenberger, Jonah Green, Currier and Wade.

# **SPORTS**

# Dufries' dramatics sends Wolverines into win column over Prouty, 44-42



The Leicester girls' basketball team celebrates together after stunning David Prouty.



Jenna Petruzzi of David Prouty pushes past a Leicester defender.



David Prouty's Liv Pepin slashes to the basket in front of a Leicester defender.

BY KEN POWERS

SPENCER — Of the game-high 21 points Lexi Dufries scored in Leicester High's girls' varsity basketball game with David Prouty Regional at the Edward R. McDonough gymnasium on Friday, Dec. 13, none were bigger than the three she scored with 4.6 seconds remaining in the game to lift the



David Prouty's Raquel Ortiz receives a pass from Erin Parenteau.

Wolverines over the Panthers, 44-42, in

the season-opener for both teams. With nine seconds left, Dufries ed the ball to Maddie who quickly passed it back to Dufries on the right wing. Dufries, with Prouty's Raquel Ortiz running at her, managed to set her feet and take a 3-point shot that banked off the backboard and dropped through the hoop.

"I didn't think about it; I got it and I released it," Dufries, a junior, said. "I just felt like someone needed to step up at that point. I had the ball and I knew I needed to make a play. I felt it was going in right when it left my hand."

Leicester head coach Dave Padavano said the plan on the inbound play was to get the ball to Dufries.

"I played for Tom Blackburn at Worcester Academy and he said to me once, 'always know enough to give the ball to your best player," Padavano said. "So, the ball was definitely going to Lexi; there was no one else.'

After Dufries' only 3-pointer of the game put Leicester ahead, David Prouty quickly inbounded the ball to sophomore Gabby Soter (13 points, 6 steals, 6 rebounds, 3 assists) whose half-court shot at the final buzzer, while being defended by Hippert, came up short.

"I'm very pleased with the way we played, but I'm bummed out by the loss," Panthers' head coach Johanna



While being guarded heavily by the defense, Jahmaira Pye of Leicester keeps the ball over her head before passing it away.

Annunziata said. "It's never easy losing, especially against Leicester, which is such a powerhouse. Just competing with them is a compliment to us on our hard work.

Prouty led 6-5 at the end of the first quarter, 24-19 at the half and 34-29 after three quarters. Dufries gave Leicester its first lead since the second quarter with 47 seconds to play, 41-40, on a right-side jumper with one foot on the 3-point line.

David Prouty re-claimed the lead, 42-41, with 16.7 seconds remaining on a put-back basket off an offensive rebound by junior Serena Roberts. It was Roberts' only basket of the game.

"Serena has come a long way since last season. Through the summer you could tell she put in the extra work to get better," Annunziata said. "That's the culture we're trying to build. Last year Serena was a learner, this year she is going to play a role for us.'

Dufries said the dramatic cone-frombehind-win was a wakeup call for the

'We came out slow and we weren't really on our toes that much on defense for the first three quarters," Dufries said. "This [having to work this hard to win] was good for us. It showed us, after the success we had last year, that we have to work harder, in practice and in games."

Junior Jenna Soden added nine points to Leicester's winning effort while sophomore Abi Johnson scored six points and freshman Avya Connor

"Hand it to Prouty; they came out tough and they wanted it," Padavano said. "They were a tough defensive team. I don't know if we had first-game jitters or what it was. I was pleased we found a way to win the game."

For David Prouty, freshman Olivia "Liv" Pepin made the most of her varsity debut, scoring a team-high 14 points before fouling out with 4:22 to play. Sophomore Jenna Petruzzi, like Soter, pulled down six rebounds to go along with four points. Senior Erin Parenteau added seven points.

"Olivia brings another dynamic

to the floor for us," Annunziata said. "When Leicester went to a box-and-one defense on Gabby, Liv was able to step up and relieve the pressure on Gabby a little bit.

"I can't ask for a more fun game to coach in," Annunziata said. "The girls were in the right spots and the right positions in the right situations. I can't wait to play them again."



Erin Parenteau of David Prouty drives the ball hard into the lane.



The Leicester High junior registered a game-high 21 points, and none were more important than her game-winning 3-pointer in the final seconds of a 44-42 victory versus David Prouty Regional on Friday, Dec. 13.

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# **SPORTS**

# Bartlett starters shine, beat Bay Path to open season



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Cam Hafner lines up a straightaway 3-point attempt.

BY NICK ETHIER

WEBSTER — After the first few minutes had passed in the Bartlett High boys' varsity basketball team's season opener versus Bay Path Regional on Friday, Dec. 13 — the Indians held a slim lead of 5-3 — their starting five of seniors Wilson Aybar and Logan Paranto, juniors Brandon Boucher and Dylan Grandmaison, and sophomore Colin Minarik really began to click.

In the blink of an eye Bartlett embarked on a 25-4 run to lead after the opening quarter, 30-7. The Indians then won second-quarter scoring, 35-9, to lead, 65-16, at the

Bartlett won in convincing fashion, 93-57.

'We've got a veteran team coming back," said head coach Tony

Paranto, who returned four starters from last year's squad. "We shot the ball well. We finally got our tempo going. We picked it up and figured out our pace."

Coach Paranto was also pleased to see his team come away with numerous turnovers, which led to transition offense and easy baskets.

"Defense will dictate our offense this year," he said. "We know we can score, we can score with anybody, we've got a lot of kids that can put the ball in, but for us to go any place this year we've really got to concentrate on our defense."

The camaraderie shown by the Indians was the same exhibited over the summer when they won the league in Auburn.

'That's what sports are all about, especially in basketball: it's about how you can create chemis-Tony Paranto said. "These kids played a lot of basketball over the summer and bought into

Boucher was the first Bartlett player to get hot versus Bay Path. He finished off an inside basket, buried a 3-pointer, converted a three-point play and made a lefty layup for 10 points in the first quarter. He then scored 11 more points in the second period to finish with a game-high 21 points. He didn't play in the second half due to foul trouble and the game's outcome having already been decided.

Grandmaison Minarik had matching stat lines of 17 points and 8 rebounds. Grandmaison did the bulk of his work early, scoring 15 of his points and pulling down



Dylan Cotton of Bay Path keeps his eyes glued to the basket while dribbling toward it.

7 of his rebounds in the first half.

"He's a main cog in our offense, and our defense. He's our biggest kid at 6-foot-2...he's a stretch player that will create more space," Paranto said of the importance of Grandmaison, who emerged as a rising star over the summer.

Aybar added 14 points for the Indians, and while Logan Paranto scored just 5 points, he added 8 rebounds and was an efficient facilitator of the ball.

Add all that up and Bartlett's starting five was lethal versus Bay

"To me, they're one of the best teams in Central Mass. this year. They're an all-around, complete team," said head coach Al Greenough. "They've got guys that can shoot, penetrate off the dribble, their bigs can play, they play well as a team — so we knew this was going to be a tough task.'

To make matters worse for the Minutemen, their team lacked the experience that Bartlett had with just three seniors and two juniors.

"We lost seven seniors last year. It's going to take some time to get to where we want to get, said Greenough. "We have a lot of individual talent, but whether we can bring it together as a team will be the test.'

Cory Cotton, Minutemen's leading scorer from a season ago, has graduated. But his brother Dylan, a sophomore, stepped up and led the team with 13 points in

a starting role. Bay Path's bench, though, impressed Greenough the most in the second half. They outscored the Indians over the final two quarters,

41-28. "I was looking for something to take solace in tonight, and that was definitely it," said Greenough while pointing out the play of sophomore Jomar Torres (13 points), sophomore John Schramm, junior Ty Millette and the entire second team. whole unit that was out there at the end, I give them credit."



Bay Path's Xavier Edmonds takes control of the ball and



Evan O'Malley of Bay Path reaches out to grab the ball before it can bounce out of bounds.



Wilson Aybar of Bartlett lays the ball in for two points.

# Tri-Y Torpedoes-NE swim All-Stars announced at postseason banquet



Local swimmers from the Torpedoes-NE team attended a banquet at Leicester Country Club on Nov. 24. The banquet celebrated all swimmers that made the top-three in each individual event at the Championship Meet. These All-Stars from the Tri-Community YMCA team posed for this picture.

Below is a list of the All-Stars from the Tri-Y Torpedoes-NE swim team: Molly Bilodeau, 13-14, Sturbridge Neave Bilodeau, 8 & Under, Sturbridge

Brynn Boucher, 8 & Under, Southbridge

Nathaniel Cute, 13-14, Charlton Evan Dambly, 11-12, Sturbridge Kira Dambly, 13-14, Sturbridge Jack Davis, 15-18, Dudley Jade Desmond, 13-14, Woodstock Kylie Formigal, 9-10, Sturbridge Sonia Ganski, 11-12, Dudley Adrian Ignatovich, 15-18, Dudley Dominik Ignatovich, 9-10, Dudley Sarah Kersting-Mumm, 15-18, Oxford

Abbey Korenda, 9-10, Sturbridge Ethan Korenda, 13-14, Sturbridge Hailey Mathurin, 8 & Under, Eben Mazieka, 13-14, Sturbridge Ryan McKenzie, 15-18, Charlton Sam Merchant, 11-12, Sturbridge Thomas Morrison, 15-18, Fiskdale Abigail Morse, 13-14, Woodstock Miles Oprica, 9-10, Brookfield Emily Owens, 13-14, Fiskdale Maria Piekarczyk, 15-18, Dudley Jonah Scherer, 11-12, Sturbridge Keenan Scherer, 9-10, Sturbridge Ava Serrano, 9-10, Dudley Axel Soderquist, 13-14, Sturbridge Katelyn Spillane, 9-10, Fiskdale Jack Šullivan, 9-10, Sturbridge Max Sullivan, 13-14, Sturbridge Quinn Sullivan, 11-12, Sturbridge Akshat Viswanath, 13-14, Charlton Sunday Voraraj, 11-12, Dudley Andrew Wade, 15-18, Sturbridge Ethan Zhu, 11-12, Fiskdale Zoey Zhu, 13-14, Fiskdale

# **GARDENING**

continued from page 10

A trip to the basement or thrift store may provide the perfect vessel for your terrarium. Convert an old aquarium into a tropical biodome. A large clear glass serving dish, salad bowl or vase may make a unique terrarium sure to intrigue the recipient and their guests.

Help your favorite indoor gardener dress up their favorite hanging plants. Macramé is back in vogue and adding flare to indoor gardens. Create a few plant hangers from jute and beads.

Preserve a garden memory with a photo of your or the recipient's garden or favorite plants. A collection of photos can be made into a calendar for a gift that keeps giving all year long.

Share a bit of your garden. Pass along some seeds you saved or start a few cuttings from your favorite heirloom houseplant. Dress up your gift with a painted pot or basket.

And don't forget to share some dried herbs and flowers or preserves made from your garden harvest. Nothing tastes better or is more beautiful than when it's homegrown. Don't have extra this year? Make a note on next year's calendar and plan ahead.

Give the gift of time. Most of us can use an extra set of hands at certain times of the garden season. No dusting required and it's a great way to ensure time together.

Put your artistic skills to work and create a garden journal. A simple notebook dressed up with some photos, artwork or stickers can provide an attractive and inviting place for your favorite gardener to record their gardening successes, failures and other useful garden information.

As you can see, the possibilities are endless. And getting friends and fam-

ily involved in creating these gifts is a great way to enjoy time together while preparing for the holidays.

Melinda Myers has written numerous books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and her web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



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# Hints to Fix Holiday Hassles

Decking the halls, trimming the tree, and prepping for the holidays is a seasonal tradition - but the tasks are not always the joyous chores of Christmas carols. If the hustle and bustle of the holiday has you frazzled as you rush to get everything done right and on time take heart. The following problem solvers offer quick and inexpensive fixes to save precious time and money this holiday season.

Problem: Christmas light strings are a tangled mess!

Solution: First make sure you have lots of room to spread out the snaking lights; the floor is an ideal space. Locate the plug and work your way from there to the other end. Gently spread the strings and work the plug in and out of the tangles. Using a chopstick, bamboo skewer, or pencil, work any knots out of the strings. Untangled lines should be laid straight along the floor.

prevent this hassle next Wind each string around a stiff cardboard; tape the end and place into a plastic grocery bag. Place into a plastic grocery bag (only one string per cardboard) and stack to store.

Problem: Wreaths are a fire hazard, especially when hot lights are strung

Solution: Here is a flame retardant that can help prevent a fire on your decorative wreath and boughs. It does not totally fireproof the fresh greens, so continue to use standard fire precautions. To make: Mix together five tablespoons Borax and four tablespoons Epsom salts in two quarts of water. Fill a spray bottle and spritz the tree or wreath completely, then allow to dry.

Problem: Christmas dinner requires perfect gravy, but it's a challenge to get it right.

Solution: Why not go to the source of "foolproof" gravy, Betty Crocker? After all, the cooking icon's recipe has been at America's holiday table for decades!

Ingredients: 1/4 cup turkey drippings (fat and juices from roasted turkey); 1/4 cup all-purpose flour; 2 cups liquid (juices from roasted turkey, broth, water); 1/2 teaspoon salt; 1/2 teaspoon pepper.

Directions: Pour drippings from roasting pan

into bowl, leaving brown particles in pan. Return 1/4 cup drippings to roasting pan. (Measure accurately because too little fat makes gravy lumpy.) Stir in flour. (Measure accurately so gravy is not greasy.)

Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture is smooth and bubbly. Stir in liquid. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly. Boil and stir 1 minute. Stir in a few drops of browning sauce. Stir in salt and pepper.

Problem: Commercial spray on "snow" for windows is messy and expensive.

Solution: This DIY version of artificial snow is inexpensive and easier to clean up! Best of all this faux frost can create a crystal ice painting on even the most insulated windows!

Ingredients: A few tablespoons of Epsom salts; one can flat beer; cotton

Instructions: Use a cotton ball to dab the mixture onto clean windows. Treat only the corners for a realistic look.. As the mixture dries, it crystallizes.

Problem: You love that delightful pine scent of your Christmas Tree and wish you could extend the fragrance throughout the season.

Solution: You can! This homemade Pine Potpourri offers a fresh, evergreen scent any time of year! To do: Mix together: ½ cup bayberry leaves; ½ cup snipped balsam needles; ½ cup miniature pine cones; ½ cup rose hips; 2 tsp orrisroot; 2 drops pine-scented fixative or oil.

> the "transverse flute held side-

> ways to the right

of the player."

They were used

in Ancient Greece

and Etruria in the

second century

BC. They were

then played in

India, followed by

China and Japan.

flutes combined

a tenor flute, des-

the 17th century.

cant flute,

bass flute.

century

and

Take THE HINT

**KAREN** TRAINOR Mix the bayberry, balsam, pine cones and rose hips in a large bowl. Add the orrisroot and fixative and stir gently. Store in a jar with a tight fitting lid. Note: To rejuvenate and extend your pine potpourri, try this economical trick: Put some

ground corn cob material (sold as cellulose or litter material at the pet store) in a jar. Add several drops of essential oil, place lid on jar and shake. Shake the jar every day for about a week or so. Add it to your potpourri, to give it body and hold the scent.

Problem: You want to give a holiday present to your mail carrier, but heard there are strict gift regulations:

Solution: For reference: Mail carriers working for the United States Postal Service are allowed to accept the following items during the holiday season:

Snacks and beverages or perishable gifts that are not part of a meal.

Small gifts that have little intrinsic value (travel mugs, hand warmers, etc...) and are clearly no more than \$20 in value.

Perishable items clearly worth more (large fruit baskets or cookie tins) must be shared with the entire branch

Mail carriers working for the United States Postal Service may not accept the

Cash gifts, checks, gift cards, or any other form of currency.

Problem: Old fashioned flaming pinecones for fireplaces are not readily available and when found are costly.

Solution: Make your own! The traditional firestarters of days of yore are easily crafted. Best of all, pinecones not only add a great seasonal scent to a cozy fireplace, they can also add some delightful color with the addition of a few pantry ingredients. Here's how to make your holiday hearthside flames fabulous: Dip pinecones in wax (recy-

cle candle stubs) and roll in table salt for bright yellow flames; If you use a no-salt substitute, you'll be treated to violet flames. For green flames, dip the pinecones in borax (found in the laundry aisle). Baking soda will reward you with bright yellowish orange flames, and Epsom salts will result in white flames. For hot pink flames, dip or roll pinecones in plaster of Paris. For more economical and natural looking pinecones without the wax properties, simply marinate the fire flashers. Dissolve eight ounces of one activator(salt, borax, etc) in a half gallon of water. Soak pine cones for about six hours. Dry them in a warm, dry place for a few days. For giftgiving, fill up a cellophane bag, add a bow, and attach a tag with the color codes. Pinecone Pointer: To prompt tight pinecones to open fully, heat them in a 220 degree oven on a foil lined cookie sheet. Caution: Make and use firestarters and flamers with care and at your own risk. Do not mix activators.

Win Dinner for Two

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

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

# Silver flutes

auction antique and vintage musical instruments found in local homes and estates. Musical instruments are often overlooked by the owners, but some can be very valuable. Rare violins can sell for six figure sums and Stradivarius violins have sold for millions. We sold a Hawaiian steel guitar that brought figures in the low thousands. A cello fetched \$1,300. A sterling silver flute sold even better when it brought a figure in WAYNE TUISKULA

the mid-thousands. Flutes have a very long history. In 2008, a flute was discovered at Hohle Fels Cave in Germany that dates back at least 35,000 years, according to Britannica.com. The flute has five finger holes, is eight and a half inches long, and was made from the bone of a vulture. Other flutes of similar age have also been discovered in Southwestern Germany.

Britannica.com notes that the flute we typically see in



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

the Hotteterre family of Paris created a conical flute "made in separate joints, the head joint being cylindrical, the others contracting toward the foot." There were some other advancements before Theobald Boehm replaced "closed chromatic keys with open-standing keys, devising for their manipulation a system of ring keys on longitudinal axles" in 1832. Boehm continued his work to

16th

Western music is refine the instrument. In 1847 he created a flute with a "cylindrical bore (having a contracting or parabolic head)" which is the design that has been used

Flutes made from silver can be very valuable. The silver flutes look similar to common nickel-silver flutes. You can look to see if it is marked sterling (92.5 percent pure silver) or Ag 998 which are 99.8 percent nure silver

Many craftsmen and manufacturers have made silver flutes that have sold well at auction. A silver flute made my Wm. A Haynes sold for \$3,000 in 2008. A Verne Q Powell flute went for \$4,250 in a 2014 auction. A John Lunn flute sold for \$5,600 in 2011. A Louis Lot silver flute reached \$8,000 at an auction in 2011. A Boehm system silver flute also sold for \$15,000 in 2011.

Custom flutes can be made from even more valuable materials. William S. Haynes of Boston currently offers flutes made of silver and 5 percent



gold, 10-karat, 14-karat and 19.5-karat gold along with platinum. A 9-karat antique gold European flute struck a note with a bidder and sold for \$18,000 at auction in 2013.

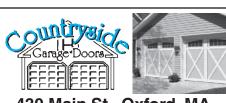
A Lillian Burkart 99.8 percent silver flute will be among the offerings in our Jan. 30 antique estates auction in Worcester. I'll be teaching my "Evaluating your antiques" class on March 3 at the Bay Path Adult Education program

in Charlton. Other events are being scheduled. Please see www.centralmassauctions. com for details on these and other events.

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

# Police seek public's help identifying robbery suspect

LEICESTER — Police are seeking assistance from the public in identi-



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fying a bank robbery suspect.

On Dec. 12 at about 5:45 p.m., police responded to a report of a robbery at the Cornerstone Bank branch located on South Main Street. Upon arrival, officers were told that a suspect of medium build entered the bank wearing a black shirt, black bandana, black hat, and black gloves.

The suspect fled the area on foot with an undisclosed amount of money. An Environmental Police K-9 unit

tracked a scent to an area where the suspect likely got into a vehicle. Officers searched the vicinity, and surveillance footage from nearby buildings was reviewed.

No injuries were reported during the robbery.

Anyone with information on the incident is asked to call the Leicester Police Department at 508-892-7010 (option #4000).



Courtesy Photo Police in Leicester are searching for this

bank robbery suspect.

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# POLICE REPORTS

# **Spencer Logs**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

12:08-1:23 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:27 a.m.: mv stop (Clark Street), 2:54 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address/2; 4:54 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 5:09 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 5:12 a.m.: mv complaint (Church Street), info taken; 5:23 a.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Street), tenant issued; 6:38 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 7:06 a.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 9:08 a.m.: 209A service (Bixby Road); 9:19 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), misdial; 9:36 a.m.: medical/general (Wilson Avenue); 9:54 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 9:58 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 11:11 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:12 a.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 11:20 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:33 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:44 a.m.: m stop (Main Street); 11:47 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 12:01 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 12:10 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 12:35 p.m.: fraud (Pleasant Street), SS scam call; 2:13 p.m.: animal complaint (Lincoln Street), dead cat; 3:16 p.m.: animal complaint (Holmes Street), barking dog; 3:42 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 4:57 p.m.: missing person (West Main Street), father missing; 5:02 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Tarkanian Drive), accidental; 5:26 p.m.: LTC issued/3 (West Main Street), assisted; 6:01.p.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist; 6:04 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), escort/retrieve belongings; 6:26 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Brookfield PD bolo; 6:46 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:47 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:08 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 9:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), harassment; 9:20 p.m.: mv stop (Meadow Street); 9:27 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), loose dogs; 11:00 p.m.: medical/ general (Lincoln Street), lift assist; 11:53 p.m.: building checked, secure.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28 12:09-12:50 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:56 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 1:31 a.m.: disturbance (Howe Village), info taken; 2:05 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 2:45 a.m.: DPW call (Brooks Pond Road), tree across road; 5:04 a.m.: medical/ general (Smithville Road); 6:31 a.m.: building checked, secure; 7:24 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Southbridge PD bolo; 7:34 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Leicester PD bolo; 7:47 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Southbridge PD bolo; 8:02 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist; 8:34 a.m.: medical/ general (Church Street); 10:29 a.m.: 911 call (Bay Path Road), no contact; 10:48 a.m.: 911 call (Vine Street), accidental; 11:38 a.m.: 911 calll (McCormick Road), open line; 11:39 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:04 p.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), unwanted party; 1:27 p.m.: 911 call (Wire Village Road), hangup; 5:10 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 5:48 p.m.: 911 call (Lake Street), accidental; 6:02 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operation; 6:33 p.m.: 911 all (West Main Street), accidental; 6:43 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; 7:38 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Village), unwanted party; 8:29 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:31 p.m.: medical/general (Grove Street); 9:17-9:18 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:10 p.m.: burglary (Main Street), German Duarte, 28, 15 Lake Street, Spencer, breaking & entering in the nighttime, larceny from a building, larceny under \$1200, trespassing, arrest; Jessica A. Freehart, 15 Lake Street, Spencer, breaking & entering in the nighttime, larceny from building, larceny under \$1200, trespassing, arrest; 11:56 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

12:01-12:16 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:17 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street) 12:17-2:17 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:13 a.m.: parking complaint (Northwest Road), truck in travel lane; 9:38 a.m.: fraud (Meadow Road), ATM card compromised; 9:43 a.m.: medical/general (Kingsbury Road); 10:23 a.m.: mv stp (Greenville Street); 10:59 a.m.: lost/found (Pleasant Street), monitor found; 11:17 a.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 11:42 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), traffic hazard; 12:08 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 2:25 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), dog left in mv; 3:08 p.m.: 209A service (Howe Village); 5:35 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), shoplifting; 6:12 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 6:33-6:38 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:10 p.m.: animal complaint (Linden Street), barking dog; 7:18 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 7:28 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 7:38 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), escort/retrieve belongings; 7:47-7:57 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:01 p.m.: medical/general (Grove Street); 9:07 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:44 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:56 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:59 p.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 10:08-10:15 p.m.: buildings checked, secure. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

12:07-12:14 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:26 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 12:31

a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:32-12:36 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 12:36 a.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), spoken to; 12:39 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Auburn PD bolo; 12:46 a.m.: suspicious persons (Greenville Street), spoken to; 12:48 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:07-1:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:13 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street); 1:30-1:34 a.m.: buildings checked, secure: 1:40 a.m.: suspicious persons (North Spencer Road), spoken to; 1:52 a.m.: mv sop (Bond Street); 2:36 a.m.: building checked, secure; 4:30 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 6:45 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 7:56 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street), lift assist; 9:03 a.m.; DPW call (Lake Street), water main break; 9:25 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), found driver's license; 10:15 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), accidental; 11:57 a.m.: parking complaint (Northwest Road), info taken; 12:52 p.m.: abandoned 911 cal (Main Street), disconnected; 1:10 p.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 1:25 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Paxton Road), accidental; 3:15 p.m.: 911 call (Cherry Street), misdial; 3:32 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 4:12 p.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 4:18 p.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 4:23 p.m.: mv stop (Man Street); 4:41 p.m.: medical/overdose (Condon Drive); 5:36 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (McDonald Street), illegal bonfire; 5:57 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:46 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 6:54 p.m.: accident (Main Street), info taken; 7:05 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 7:52 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 9:56-9:57 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:05 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operation; 10:20 p.m.: medical/general (Temple Street).

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

12:39 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 12:52 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:56 a.m.: suspicious mv (Valley Street), spoken to; 1:06-2:42 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:50 a.m.: accident (Main Street), info taken; 9:12 a.m.: officer wanted (Sunset Lane), welfare check; 9:20 a.m.: officer wanted (Salem Street), poss. disturbance; 10:04 a.m.: illegal dumping (Howe Road), info taken; 10:43 a.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), item found; 11:20 a.m.: vandalism (Maple Street), car thru fence; 11:46 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), misdirected mail; 11:52 a.m.: mv stop (East Charlton Road); 12:19 p.m.: fire alarm (Pleasant Street), faulty alarm; 12:22 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist; 12:28 p.m.: accident (Main Street), Salvador Joel Masoller, 37, 63 Wilson Street, Spencer, OUI liquor, op w/suspended license, negligent operation, arrest; 12:37 p.m.: officer wanted (School Street), parking inquiry; 2:20 p.m.: accident (Northwest Road), report taken; 3:15 p.m.; animal complaint (McCormick Road), loose dog; 3:47 p.m.: RV complaint (Wall Street), noise complaint/dirt bikes; 4:41 p.m.: wanted (Maple Stree lights switched; 4:54 p.m.: DPW call (Maple Street), icy conditions; 4:57 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 5:11 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 5:29 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), slippery conditions; 6:16 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 6:35 p.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), mv stuck; 7:43 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), gunshots heard; 9:12 p.m.: DPW call (Bacon Hill Road), slippery conditions; 11:51 p.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered,

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

12:06 a.m.: mutual aid (Smithville Road), East Brookfield PD request; 12:36 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), cruiser stuck; 1:10 a.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), mv stuck; 1:19 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), transport; 1:40 a.m.: building checked, secure; 2:48 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 6:27 a.m.: fire alarm (Thornberry Circle), CO alarm; 7:14 a.m.: accident (North Brookfield Road), report taken; 9:11 a.m.: medical/general (Grove Street); 9:47 a.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; 10:49 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 11:18 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 12:22 p.m.: warrant service (West Main Street), Steven L. Collette, 32, 73 Maple Street, Spencer, warrant arrest; 12:31 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Road); 1:41 p.m.: medical/ general (Thompson Pond Road); 2:36 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 2:47 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), misdial; 3:09 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), icy conditions; 3:42 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), dangerous sledding; 4:11 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 4:12 p.m.: animal complaint (Kingsbury Road), loose cows; 4:18 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), icy conditions; 4:24 p.m: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 4:25 p.m.: medical/ general (Main Street); 4:27 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 5:02 p.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), report taken; 5:20 p.m.: accident (Maple Street), report taken; 5:32 p.m.: disabled mv (North Spencer Road), assisted; 5:49 p.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), assisted; 6:24 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 7:06 p.m.: accident (Church Street), hit/run; 10:28 p.m.: accident (East Charlton Road), report taken; 10:37 p.m.: accident (Barclay Road), mv vs deer; 10:38 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), noise complaint; 11:23 p.m.: building checked, secure.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3 12:41 a.m.: disabled mv (Wire Village Road), assisted; 1:36-2:12 a.m.: build-Street, Worcester), transported to hos-

ings checked, secure; 2:27 a.m.: medical/general (Crestview Drive): 5:24 a.m.: DPW call (Temple Street), mvs stuck; 5:39 a.m.: parking complaint (Roys Drive), info taken; 6:19 a.m.: disturbance (Brown Street), neighbor dispute; 7:59 a.m.: accident (Prospect Street), report taken; 8:03 a.m.: parking complaint (Howe Village), blocking plow; 8:56 a.m.: disabled mv (Charlton Road), assisted; 9:17 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted: 9:22 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 10:42 a.m.: DPW call (Mechanic Street), UPS truck stuck; 10:46 a.m.: medical/general (Norcross Road); 10:49 a.m.: disabled mv (Howe Road), jackknifed tanker; 10:57 a.m.: disabled mv (Maple Street), assisted; 11:48 a.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), accidental; 12:13 p.m.: disabled mv (Wire Village Road), mv off road; 12:56 p.m.: 209A service (West Main Street); 1:04 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist; 1:17 p.m.: elderly matter (Paxton Road), welfare check; 1:23 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 1:27 p.m.: disabled mv (South Spencer Road), tanker stuck; 1:52 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), info taken; 2:28 p.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 2:45 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 3:27 p.m.: parking complaint (School Street), tow request; 4:03 p.m.: LTC issued/3 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:05 p.m.: suspicious mv (Cranberry Meadow Road), investigated; 4:30 p.m.: accident (Greenville Street), report taken; 5:36 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Mechanic Street), hangup; 5:43 p.m.: DPW call (South Spencer Road), icy conditions; 5:45 p.m.: accident (Browning Pond Road), report taken; 6:28 p.m.: DPW call (Oak Lane), requests plow; 7:57 p.m.: parking complaint (Church Street), dway blocked; 9:49 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Olga I. Santiago, 31, 56 Mechanic Street, Spencer, OUI liquor, negligent operation, failure to notify RMV of name/ address change; mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operation.

# Leicester Logs

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

12:42 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 7:09 a.m.: runaway (McCarthy Avenue), report taken; 10:40 a.m.: illegal dumping (Brook Street), report taken; 11:12 a.m.: ambulance (Olney Street), transported; 11:51 a.m.: assist citizen (Paxton Street); 12:18 p.m.: fire/CO detector (Huntoon Memorial Highway), false alarm; 12:22 p.m.: assist citizen (Soojians Drive); 4:43 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:06 p.m.: ambulance (Dale Court), trans-

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

1:23 a.m.: ambulance (Rawson Street), tansported; 9:49 a.m.: threats (Pleasant Street), no action required; 10:14 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 10:27 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), mv towed; 10:53 a.m.: abandoned mv (Stafford Street), mv towed; 11:04 a.m.: Street) wr ing; 11:28 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 12:45 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 12:51 p.m.: mv stop (King Street), verbal warning; 2:07 p.m.: ambulance (Salminen Drive), transported; 7:20 p.m.: suspicious mv (Marshall Street), no action required; 10:08 p.m.: suspicious mv (Parker Street), services rendered.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

12:00 a.m.: noise complaint (Church Street), no action required; 12:28 a.m.: ambulance (Grove Street), transported; 12:57 a.m.: residential alarm (Charles Street), false alarm; 3:25 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 8:10 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), services rendered; 9:02 a.m.: property found (South Main Street), services rendered; 9:47 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:53 a.m.: mv stop (Man Street), citation issued; 11:38 a.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), unfounded; 11:59 a.m.: assist other PD (Stafford Street), services rendered; 12:06 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 1:55 p.m.: ambulance (Mayflower Road), transported; 2:00 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 4:34 p.m.: suspicious activity (White Birch Street), unable to locate; 8:35 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

8:30 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), no action required; 9:02 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street), mv found; 9:35 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 9:57 a.m.: illegal dumping (Bond Street), services rendered; 11:47 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 1:53 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 2:11 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, criminal application issued; name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, criminal application issued; 4:05 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), services rendered; 4:41 p.m.: disabled mv (Rawson Street), mv towed; 5:26 p.m.: accident (Main Street), mv towed; 5:37 p.m.: disabled mv (Rawson Street), services rendered; 7:26 p.m.: disabled mv (Rawson Street), services rendered; 7:37 p.m.: parking complaint (Washburn Square), mv towed; 7:49 p.m.: accident (Paxton Street), transported; 8:02 p.m.: ambulance (Rawson Street) transported; 8:06 p.m.: accident (Sargent Street), mv towed; 8:56 p.m.: mv off the road (Auburn Street), unable to locate; 9:14 p.m.: mutual aid (Stafford

pital; 9:20 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 10:41 p.m.: disabled mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), assisted; 11:43 p.m.: accident (Marshall Street), my towed.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

12:18 a.m.: suspicious activity (Soojians Drive), gone on arrival; 12:31 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), gone on arrival; 11:15 a.m.: accident (Marshall Street), mv towed; 12:41 p.m.: ambulance (Watch Street), transported; 12:47 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), no action required; 1:54 p.m.: assist other PD (Main Street, Worcester), message delivered; 3:50 p.m.: investigation (Henshaw Street), services rendered; 4:01 p.m.: investigation (Pleasant Street), investigation; 4:17 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 4:29 p.m.: mv off the road (Main Street), services rendered; 5:50 p.m.: mv off the road (Henshaw Street), services rendered; 7:52 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 9:24 p.m.: mv stop (Pine Street), verbal warning; 11:27 p.m.: accident (Main Street), mv towed. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:27 a.m.: accident (Stafford Street), report taken; 10:33 a.m.: disabled mv (Marshall Street), assisted; 10:58 a.m.: disabled my (Marshall Street), unfounded; 11:18 a.m.: disabled mv (Marshall Street), assisted; 12:32 p.m.: suspicious person (Merrick Street), services rendered; 1:19 p.m.: larceny (South Main Street), report taken; 2:21 p.m.: ambulance (Brown Street), assisted; 5:06 p.m.: school incident (Paxton Street), report taken; 5:46 p.m.: runaway (McCarthy Avenue), report taken; 8:37 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Waite Street), services rendered; 10:00 p.m.: erratic operation (South Main Street), unable to locate. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

9:19 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 9:31 a.m.; trespassing (Parker Street), spoken to; 9:46 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 10:00 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 10:21 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 10:35 a.m.: assist citizen (Paxton Street); 10:41 a.m.: accident (Main Street), mv towed; 11:16 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 12:57 p.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 1:48 p.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 1:56 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 5:24 p.m.: malicious mischief (Clark Street), report taken; 5:50 p.m.: disabled mv (Mannville Street), mv towed; 6:22 p.m.: ambulance (West Street, Worcester), transported; 6:38 p.m.: welfare check (Henshaw Street), unfounded; 7:01 p.m.: welfare check (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to; 9:00 p.m.: ambulance (Mayflower Road), transported; 9:34 p.m.: restraining order service (Gleason Way), no service; 9:56 p.m.: fire/CO detector (Huntoon Memorial Highway), investigated.

# Worcester man arrested after evading police



SPENCER - A Worcester man is facing several charges after repeatedly resisting officers' attempts to detain him. Andriedy

of is Courtesy Photo the

A Worcester man ing charges: is facing several assault and charges ing an incident in a dangerous Spencer.

Worcester, facing followfollow- battery with weapon; operating a motor

Frias-Ortiz, 23,

vehicle with a suspended license; resisting arrest; failing to stop; speeding; and following too close.

The Dec. 7 incident began shortly after 8 p.m., when police responded to a report of erratic operation. The suspect's vehicle, a 2015 Mercedes-Benz SUV, was located and stopped on Bixby Road.

After questioning the suspect, officers decided to remove him from the vehicle due to safety concerns. Frias-Ortiz refused that effort and began to struggle, resulting in a Taser deployment. The suspect then sped away from the scene, fracturing an officer's hand in the process.

Frias-Ortiz drove down the streets of the Bixby Trail Apartments, eventually veering off the road and careening over a retaining wall. The suspect fled on foot into the woods, requiring local K9 units to join the search. Members of the Sturbridge Police Department and the State Police also responded.

After checking records for the registration of the suspect's vehicle, police responded to one of the apartment buildings. Frias-Ortiz was later found hiding in the basement of a neighboring apartment. He was arrested after a brief struggle.

The suspect was released on \$10,000 cash bail pending his arraignment in East Brookfield District Court on Dec. 9.

# Family Dining Guide Eat In or Take Out

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Merry Christmas to all our customers, family & friends and best wishes for a Healthy & Happy New Year.

Please join us for a fun Christmas Eve with Karaoke by DJ Kelly O from 2pm-6pm. Closing at 6 pm 12/24.

#### **Gift Certificates Available** Party with us New Year's Eve from 5pm-midnight

Special Chinese Menu available from 5-10 (dine in or take out) Made fresh with all your favorites including won ton soup Teguila Mockingbird performing 8pm-midnight • Champagne Toast & Party Favors at midnight! Come ring in the New Year with us at Statz!

Gift

-

Holiday Hours: Christmas Eve 6am-6pm; Closed Christmas Day, Open Thurs., Fri., Sat. 6am-11am; Sunday 6am-10pm; Monday 6am-11:30pm New Years Eve 6am-midnight; Closed New Years Day.

Regular hours resume Thurs. 1/2/20

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Happy Holidays from all of us at



Prime Rib Every Friday Night (While it lasts)



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A big thank you to all our customers and guests, past and present for your loyalty and support, and to our employees who have become like family to us.

It has been an honor and privilege to have served you and to have been part of your community the past 14 years.

It is with bittersweet emotions that we announce our hand at retirement by transferring ownership of E.B. Flatts in 2020.

Your friendship and memories made will always be held dearly to us.

E.B. Flatts' new owner, Jeremy, has been employed with us this past year, learning the E.B.

Flatts way. We hope that you embrace him and his girlfriend Sarah as you have embraced us.

Scott and Grace

All gift cards will continue to be honored by the new management.

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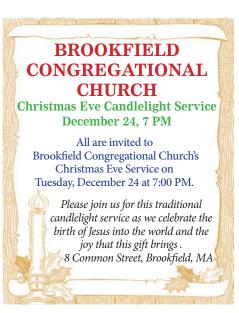




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Friday, December 20, 2019 Section



# BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

#### **December 19 ~ 7:00 PM**

It's the Christmas season and many folks are busy preparing for the holidays and the festivities that surround this time of year.

Meanwhile, there are others who are struggling because a loved one has been lost recently or in past years during this bustling time. Brookfield Congregation Church offers a time of remembrance for families who have suffered such a loss

On the Common

Please come and join us for our Blue Christmas Service **Brookfield Congregational Church** Brookfield, MA 01506

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Merry Christmas! I don't know about you, but it just feels like we should have a couple more weeks to prepare for the holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus

and, of course, the arrival of Santa Claus. I hope you've done at least a portion of your shopping locally...check out the last week of Tis the Season on page 2 for some gift ideas, and the Purple Onion and Whitco's ad on the Front of Section B. A gift or gift card/ certificate would be appreciated from any of these local businesses.

This is the week that I normally list all the people whom I've done business with during the year. Unfortunately, a new computer has made it impossible for me to do so this year. I am grateful to each and every one of my customers...from the occasional 2x2 to the full-page advertiser...you all trust me to help you promote your businesses for which I am eternally humbled. In my wildest dreams did I ever think that I would become a salesperson. I began my career working in doctors' offices in hospitals and thought that would be my lifelong career. As much as I loved it, I chose a 10-year hiatus to raise my family, which I highly recommend if you can do it. This brought me to a part time job at the Spencer New Leader's Spencer office, assistant to a wonderful salesperson, Fran Leppanen, whom I'm sure many of you remember. We shared an office with a great friend and mentor, Jeannette Durant, and then editor, Laurie Griggs, and reporter Stephanie Jarvis. We had a great team and a lot of laughs in the Spencer office. When Fran left a full-time position open, I decided it was time to get back into a full-time career and, with Fran's guidance, felt that I was

ready for it. That was almost 20 years ago. So Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Joyous Kwanza, and Happy Hanukkah to all that I've had the pleasure to work with this past year and, of course, to our loyal readers. May you all experience good health, much prosperity, true joy, and new adventures in the upcoming year. I look forward to assisting new and established businesses to help you become the very best that you can be in 2020. That's what my customers do for me and I thank you!

Peace, love, and God's blessings always,

June Simakauskas jsima@stonebridgepress.news









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\*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year\*



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# **OBITUARIES**

# Doris L. Young, 89



LEICESTER- Doris L. (Turpin) Young, 89, of Marlboro Dr., died Monday, December 16 at her home after an illness.

She was the wife of Frederick A. Young, Jr. who died in 2015. She leaves two

daughters, Sheila M. Young of Webster and Marcia L. Besse of Leicester, three grandchildren; Glenn E. McCallum, Jr., Mark A. and Brian A. Besse, four great-grandchildren; Kiana, KayLee, Edmund and Christa Besse, two brothers, George Turpin of Grafton, Raymond Turpin of East Brookfield and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sister, Stella Mastrogiovanni.

Born in Worcester, she was the

daughter of Ashton & Viola (Acker) Turpin.

Doris along with her late husband, was a realtor and owner of F&L Realty in Worcester for forty years, retiring in 1995.

She was a member of All Saints Episcopal Church in Worcester. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting and

A Funeral Service was held on Wednesday, December 18 at 6 P.M. in the MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main St., Leicester. Calling hours preceded the service from 4-6 P.M. on Wednesday. Burial will be at a later date and at the convenience of the

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the VFW Post 7556 Rochdale, P.O. Box 47, Rochdale, MA 01542-0047

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

IN LOVING MEMORY

Lorraine St. Martin

6/27/34 - 3/20/19

May 14, 1973-July 28, 2019

# Rosa Bultte, 96





Bultte, 96, passed away at home while surrounded by her loving family December 12, 2019; She was born in Puerto

ROCHDALE- Rosa

Rico on October 15, 1923 daughter of the late Juan Ortiz and Monserrate Madera. Rosa enjoyed dancing and music; she was a loving mother, grandmother,

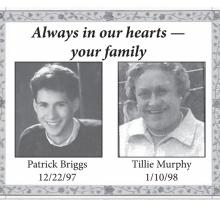
great-grandmother who loved to cook and sew for her family.

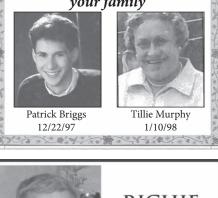
Rosa is survived by her son Jorge Sulsona of Puerto Rico; three daughters: Aracelis Hernandez of Webster, Carmen M. Cruz of Rochdale, and Rosa Sulsona of Puerto Rico; sixteen grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

Private funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street Webster, MA.

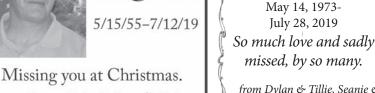
A guest book is available at www. shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle of remembrance.

# Christmas in Heaven Memorials

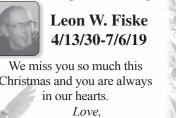












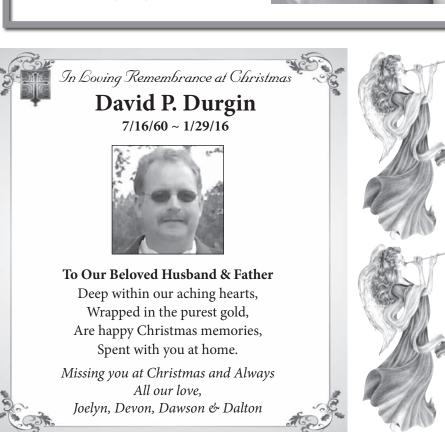
Hazel, Elaine & Sharon

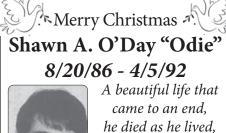
In Loving Memory







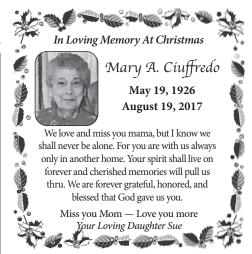




he died as he lived, everyone's friend. In our hearts a memory will be kept, of one we loved, and will never forget.

Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by family and friends









Paul Burke

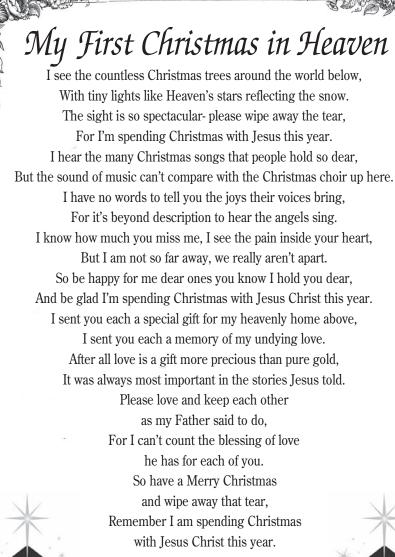
June 28, 1948-February 5, 2019



Lisa **Burke** 

April 16, 1974-October 11, 2005

Paul & Lisa, you are in our thoughts daily. We miss you both so much. Our love to you this Christmas & always. — Love Mom & family





# **OBITUARIES**

# Kathleen (Beck) Adams, 68

OAKHAM-Kathleen (Beck) Adams,68, passed away peacefully at home on December 8,2019 of complications from ovarian cancer.

She leaves her husband Chris; brothers; sisters; many nieces & nephews; great nieces & nephews. She was born in Rhode Island and graduated from Holliston High School. She worked her entire adult life and retired from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in

Kathleen had many hobbies, went on many adventures and was a life long learner.

A celebration of Kathleen's Life will be held in the spring to be announced. Pillsbury Funeral Home 44 Gilbert St. North Brookfield is directing arrange-

# Sally Joan Earle, 90



CHARLTON- Sally Joan Earle, 90, passed away peacefully November 27, 2019 at home after saying goodbye to family and friends who had gathered and attended her last days.

She leaves her five children, Pamela Moller of Stafford Springs, CT, Sally Curtis and her husband James of Mattapoisett, Denison Earle and his wife Louise of Cherry Valley, William Earle and his wife Molly Marcum of Portland, OR and Amy McLean and her husband Kenneth McLean of Bolton; 10 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren. She was born on Feb. 2, 1929 in Needham the daughter of William and Helen (Crossthwaite) Gates.

Sally started college at Wilson College in Pennsylvania. In 1949, she married Thomas Earle III and later moved to Leicester, MA. In 1964 Sally returned to school at Worcester State College and then became one of the first women to receive a graduate degree in math from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (MA Mathematical Sciences, 1971). She taught high school math for many years at Tantasqua High School in Sturbridge. After retirement, Sally took part in the UMass Medical Center's Standardized Patient program, where actors simulate a broad range of medical conditions and communication challenges, and then evaluate learner performance as part of an assessment instrument in medical education.

Sally was very active in community theatre and shared in the Worcester theatre community's "15 minutes of

fame" when it had the world as its stage. She was in the cast of the oneact play "Chamber Music" by Arthur Kopit, directed by Bill Taylor for the Entr'Actors Guild. After winning multiple regional competitions, the production represented the US in the 1969 World Festival of Amateur Theater in the Principality of Monaco, hosted

by Princess Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier. The trip to Monaco was a pivotal event that also involved a tour of Italy and time in Florence, or as Sally would say with flair, "Firenze!" This fueled a love of travel and learning about other cultures, with subsequent travels to Europe, Africa, China, Russia, South and Central America. She also taught English to students in

China and Italy.

Throughout her life, Sally was a voracious reader with a love of literature. She had a keen interest and knowledge of Shakespeare and was involved in the Worcester Shakespeare Society for many years, serving as President. She loved lively conversation, particularly about current events, politics, and books of all kinds. She also loved keeping up with the lives of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

The family is deeply appreciative for care and support of the staff at Overlook Independent Living Community, where Sally moved in 2017.

A celebration of life will be held in the Spring of 2020 in Leicester. In lieu of flowers, please consider a remembrance to the Dana Farber Cancer

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

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

# Jon C. Merrill, 66



BROOKFIELD - Jon C. Merrill, 66, of West Brookfield, died on Thursday, December 5, 2019 at UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester following a brief illness.

He leaves two daughters, Kimberly Merrill and her husband Jesse Hyam of Jaffrey, NH, and, Erin Lopato and her husband Francis of North Brookfield; his son, Ryan Merrill and his wife Alicia of Barre; six grandchildren, Brayden, Blake, Damien, Peyton, Lucy, and Logan, as well as another grandchild on the way soon. He also leaves his brother, David Merrill of Warren, and three nephews. He was born in Ware, son of the late George and Ingrid (Kasparson) Merrill, and was a lifelong resident of the area.

Jon worked as a machine operator at Vibram, Inc. in North Brookfield for 27 years. He also worked as an auto mechanic both professionally and as a hobby. He enjoyed working on cars, and could fix anything - he just liked working on it more if it had an engine.

A Celebration of Jon's life with familv and friends is being planned for a later date. Burial in Pine Grove Cemetery in West Brookfield will be held privately in the spring.

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting his family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

# Christine Anne Aucoin, 56



SPENCER-Christine Anne (Dolezal) Aucoin, 56, of Spencer died peacefully, Wednesday. Dec. 11 in UMASS Medical Center in Worcester with her family by her side.

She leaves her husband of 22 years, Leo R. Aucoin, her son Jared R.J. Aucoin and her daughter Allisen V. Aucoin of Spencer, her parents Ralph and Alice (Stambaugh) Dolezal, Jr. of San Pierre, Ind., her sister Faye L. Stump of Mesa, Ariz., her mother in law Janeth V. Girouard of Spencer.

She was born in Knox, Ind., and later graduated from Culver Girls Academy in Culver Ind., Westminster College in Fulton Mo, and Indiana University School of Nursing in Bloomington Ind.

Christine was a longtime Registered Nurse and most recently worked for Aveanna Healthcare in Shrewsbury. She previously worked for 28 years at UMASS Memorial in Worcester. She was an exceptionally compassionate person who touched many lives, especially those of her children. She was also very fond of music, nature, and gardening. She was a member of St. Joseph's Church in Charlton and a was a committee member of Boy Scout Troop 201 in Spencer. She loved caring for her flowers at home and often worked alongside her husband in his work. She was greatly loved and will be greatly missed.

The funeral was held on Thursday,

Dec. 19 from the J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer with a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in St. Joseph's Church, 10 H.Putnam Rd.Ext., Charlton. Burial will follow in Mary, Queen of the Rosary Cemetery, Spencer. Calling hours were held on Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m. in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to St. Joseph's Church, 10 H.Putnam Rd.Ext., Charlton, MA. 01507.

# Herbert A. Viscetto, 78,



LEICESTER: Herbert A. Viscetto, 78, of Broad Street in the Cherry Valley section of Leicester, died Saturday, December 14 in his home surrounded by his loving family.

His wife Elaine J. (Maranda) Viscetto died in 2013. He leaves a son Christopher J. Viscetto of Worcester, a daughter Cindy J. Harrison and her husband John of Leicester, four grandchildren; Nicole, Angela, David & Michael, several great grandchildren, brothers and sisters and his dog Buddy. He was predeceased by two sons. David A. Viscetto and Herbert A. Viscetto, Jr.

Herbert was born in Worcester, son of Herbert A. and Dorothy (Amelott)

Viscetto. He was a truck-driver for Red Star Express in Shrewsbury for over 40 years retiring in 1989. He was a member of St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish and the Teamsters Local 170. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, construction projects and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

A Funeral Service was held on Thursday, December 19 at 4:00 PM in MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main Street, Leicester. Burial in Notre Dame Cemetery, Worcester will be private at the convenience of the family. Calling hours preceded the service from 2:00-4:00 in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn. 38105.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

# Christine Weeks, 90



NEW BRAINTREE Christine Weeks, 90, passed away peacefully on December 5 at home in New Braintree with her family by her side.

She is survived by her son, Kenneth weeks,

Braintree, and her daughter, Susan Weeks, of Reno, Nevada. She was predeceased by her son, Michael Weeks as well as her parents, Gaudias and Yvonne (Gauthier) Thivierge, and her brother, Roger Thivierge. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Amy Weeks Gray, Sarah Weeks, Alvson Weeks, Alex Weeks and their families, as well as her daughter in-law, Elizabeth Weeks. She had countless friends and extended family, each one holding a place in her heart.

Christine was born in 1928 and raised in Amesbury, Massachusetts. She loved growing up near the ocean, it became a part of her soul. She lived a life of charity and service to others as a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, social worker and active member of the Warren Seventh Day Adventist Church. She loved to travel and spent much of her retirement visiting countries all around the world. Her house is filled with photos of her travels, and she was always happy to share stories of the places she had seen and the people she met along the way. In addition to travel, she loved gardening, doing crafts, jig saw and word puzzles as well as watching her great grandchildren play.

Christine had a quiet strength and was determined to always do what was "right", regardless of adversity or popular opinion. Through her example, sne was a very loving and caring guide to her family and those around her, encouraging us all to display kindness, forgiveness and empathy for others. She mastered enjoying the simple things in life, like taking a walk in the sunshine or eating a bowl of Friendly's coffee ice cream, watching her birds at the feeder, or singing along with the musical programs on her tv. She was deeply insightful and wise; her practical, common sense manner will be missed by everyone.

Christine's family would like to express our thanks to Overlook hospice staff and to the private aids and many friends that assisted with her care. We are grateful for your help; we could never have cared for her at home without you.

A Funeral Service for Christine was held on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 11:00am in the Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main Street, West Brookfield. A Calling Hour was held prior to the service from 10:00-11:00AM. In lieu of flowers please send donations to the Worcester County Food

Pantry at 474 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury, MA 01545.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com.

# Donald Davis Suprenant, 91



STURBRIDGE Donald Davis Suprenant, passed away quietly in the early Friday, morning December 13,2019 The Overlook Rehabilitation Center in Charlton.

J. Sr and Ruth O. (Davis) Suprenant. He was born in Southbridge on February 1, 1928 and grew up in Podunk, Sturbridge. After years abroad with the Navy, he settled down and lived there the remainder of his life with his wife Lucia (Thomas), who passed away July, 2012. Donald was the third of eight children. He leaves his siblings Mary Ellen Abdullah, Lucy Ann Vanderhoof and Gerald Suprenant. He also leaves many sisters and brothersin-law as well as many beloved nieces and nephews; extended family and friends. He was predeceased by his siblings Oliver and George Suprenant, Doris Witkowsky, and Sylvia Gallagher as well as a number of his in-laws.

Donald was the son of the late George

Donald was a proud WWII veteran of the US Navy, and upon retirement from the Navy in 1968, worked for many years as a police officer for the town of Sturbridge. Upon retirement from the department, he kept busy working part-time for Old Sturbridge Village and then McDonald's as a handyman.

Donald loved his wife, his dogs, his

recently rehabbed home, bird watching, military history and the Navy, motorcycles and trains, McDonald's, Cracker Barrel, and his Native American ancestry. Donald and Lucia enjoyed taking day trips in earlier years and both were very patriotic Americans. Donald was very thankful for Prima Normand, who helped take care of him over the last year as well as Cheryl Brodak and the seniors at the East Brookfield Senior Center. It was

truly his "home away from home". Donald was very close to his wife's family. John and Idella Thomas were his second set of parents and he spent many beloved hours with them. He and Lucia were also very close to her sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and Robert Luukko and their children, Emily Twarog, Robert Luukko Jr, Deborah Cooper and their families. Amy Luukko was his primary care giver and closest family member since the passing of his wife in 2012. Her children, James and Idella Luukko were a light and constant entertainment in his life. Donald will be sorely missed.

All are invited to attend calling hours at Pillsbury Funeral Home, 3 West Brookfield Rd. Brookfield on Saturday, December 21,2019 9:30 -11am, followed by the funeral at 11am. Burial with military honors will be in Podunk Cemetery, East Brookfield. A celebration of life will follow services at the East Brookfield Senior Center.

To place a Card of Thanks In-Memoriam, Birthday or Anniversary Greeting,

the deadline is Friday noon for the following week.

(Memoriams will run on the Obituary pages)

Ad prices are \$15 for a 2x3 (actual size 2.4" x 3") or \$25 for a 3x4 (3.7" X 4") or 4x3 (5" x 3"). You can add a photo at no additional cost.

To send by mail, please mail or drop off to June Simakauskas, P. O. Box 90, 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550.

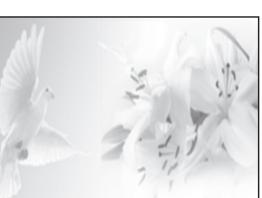
Personal checks, Visa, Master Card, Discover and AMEX are accepted.

For more information, please call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news and she'll be happy to help!





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



# CALENDAI

# Sunday, December 22

"HEAVEN REJOICES" — A HRISTMAS CANTATA: The CHRISTMAS Christian Community Choir will present a Christmas Cantata, "Heaven Rejoices," a Christmas musical in song and spoken word, today at 5 p.m. at the East Brookfield Baptist Church, 262 East Main St., East Brookfield.

# Sunday, January 5

"HEAVEN REJOICES" CANTATA: The CHRISTMAS Christian Community Choir will present a Christmas Cantata, "Heaven Rejoices," a Christmas musical in song and spoken word, today at 2 p.m. at Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church, Blaine Avenue, East Brookfield.

## ONGOING EVENTS

ECONOMY SHOP: The First Congregational Church's Economy Shop invites you to come in and see our Holiday items and our weekly specials. Our shop hours are Wednesday 8 a.m.-Noon, Thursdays 8 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m.-noon.

DEJA NEW: Art, Antiques & Collectibles Marketplace which is open in the St. Joseph's Rectory building at 759 Main Street Leicester. Hours are Tuesday 5-7 p.m., Wednesday 9 a.m.noon, Thursday 3-6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-noon, all proceeds going back into the town's Food Pantries, Hearts for Heat and programs for the needy. We are non-profit and run on volunteers. We are open May into December.

EAST BROOKFIELD LIBRARY PROGRAMS: The East Brookfield Public Library is currently conducting their fall registration for children's programming. Rhythm and Rhyme is for toddlers aged 18 mos. to 3 years. This program runs from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and includes lots of music, finger plays, physical activities and a story with a related craft.

Preschool story time is geared for children aged 3 to 5 years old. It runs from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30a.m. Seasonal songs, poems, and gross motor activities are part of this program, as well as a story and craft that encourages fine motor skills. Both programs are held on Thursday mornings. Parents and caretakers are asked to remain with their children. For more information or to register by phone call (508) 867-7928. You can also like us on Facebook and visit our website @ www.eastbrookfieldLibrary.com. We look forward to seeing you!

VFW MEETING: The Rochdale VFW Post 7556 will hold their monthly business meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the post at 713 Pleasant Street, Rochdale on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: On the third Wednesday of each month, 6-7 p.m. at the Overlook Independent Living Building, fourth floor Solarium, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. The intent is to build a support system, exchange practical information, talk through issues and ways of coping, share feelings, needs and concerns and to learn about community resources. Contact Kathy Walker at (508) 434-2551 or kawalker@overlook-mass. org for more information. Presented by Alzheimer's Association MA/NH Chapter, visit (800) 272-3900 or alz.org.

THRIFTY: St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish, 759 Main St., Leicester, 508-859-8083.New 2 You Thrift Shop. Hours: Tuesday 5 to 7 p.m., Wednesday 9 a.m. to noon., Thursday 3 to 6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to noon. We have added Thursday hours.

FREE FOR MOM & KIDS: There will be free weekly parent/child programs from 9 to 11 a.m. Fridays and Wednesdays at the North Brookfield Elementary School, New School Road, North. The program runs on school calendar and closes for vacation and inclement weather according to North Brookfield School calendar. This free program is sponsored by the Spencer, Wachusett, North and East Brookfield Coordinated Family Grant in partnership with the North Brookfield Elementary School. Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. For more information, please call CFCE at (508) 885-2934 or e-mail Wachusettcpc@hotmail.

SUPPER TIME: A free, community meal is held on the first Tuesday of the month at The Cross Roads Café Coffeehouse, from 4:30-6:30 p.m., at the Emmanuel Church, 25 Winthrop Terrace, Warren. All ages are welcome. There is no cover charge; however, a love offering is accepted as a gift to the band or musician as thanks to God for their sharing of their talent and gift for the glory of God (www. emmanuelorthodox.org).

STRE-E-E-TCH: Senior Exercises Classes are held every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Rutland Community Center, Glenwood Road. Enjoy an hour of fun and exercise to music to help stay strong, fit, healthy and independent. Classes are co-ed and all are welcome. The fee is \$4 per class. For more information, call Joyce Gamache at (508) 754-2821.

SIT AND KNIT: knitting group every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Merriam Gilbert Library, West Brookfield. Bring your sewing, embroidery, knitting or crochet and enjoy some socializing while you work on your project.

STAY HEALTHY: The VNA Care Network and Hospice is holding a free Keep Well Clinic to residents 60 and older from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Spencer Fish and Game Club on Mechanic Street. Local residents may have their blood pressure checked and learn about health concerns. Blood sugar, weight monitoring and other health assessments may also be available. VNA Care Network and Hospice clinics are funded in part by the United Way, local boards of health, private foundations. For up-to-date clinic information visit www.vnacarenetwork.org or call (888) 663-3688 x 5603.

IT'S A LUNCH DATE: The East Brookfield Baptist Church invites all senior citizens to a Community Lunch at 11:30 a.m. every second Thursday of the month in Fellowship Hall. A delicious lunch and great desserts will be served. Followed by a time of fellowship and games concluding with a devotional just before 2 p.m. Reservations are encouraged. Call (508) 867-7725.

SHARING CUPBOARD: First Congregational Church of W. Brookfield Sharing Cupboard - serving West Brookfield, Warren and West Warren. Located at 36 N. Main St., West Brookfield, is open Wednesdays 10-11:30 a.m. and Thursdays 7-8 pm. Call the church for more information (508) 867-7078.

BINGO at the Knights of Columbus is now at the Spencer Senior Center, 68 Maple St. in Spencer, every Thursday. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. The first game starts at 6:30 p.m. We have 20 regular games; two winners take all games, two 50/50 games and two progressive jackpot games with payouts of \$600 and \$500 respectively. Good food and soft beverages are available. Come and enjoy some good food, good people and hopefully win a little.

PITCH at the Spencer Senior Center will begin on Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. Cost \$5.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP IN W. BROOKFIELD: The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC has partnered with Faith and Family Hospice of Marlborough, MA to offer a local bereavement group for individuals who are living with the loss of someone they care deeply for. This program honors the reality that there is no perfect way to grieve or say goodbye to someone that we love—we each have our own process and our own time. Grief is not something that we "get better" from or that ever leaves us. Rather, we build coping skills to help us carry it through our lives. This group is open for all ages and all kinds of losses. It is a circle that strives to be mutually supportive and free of judgment. Sessions are held on Fridays at 5 pm in the church office at 36 North Main Street, West Brookfield, MA. Please call the church office to indicate you will be attending (508)867-7078 or email 1stcongo.westbrookfield@gmail. com. There is no charge for this group. This group has recently started and wishes to welcome others in joining them. Sessions will be offered for six weeks with a two-week break between the next. (There is no limit to the number of times any individual can sign up for this program.)

# HOLIDAYS

# Holiday hosting in small spaces



Gatherings of family and friends are a big part of the holiday season. Hosting such gatherings can be a great way to show loved ones how much you appreciate them, and hosting also saves hosts the trouble of traveling during one of the most hectic travel seasons of

When hosting a large crowd at home, space can be a difficult hurdle to clear. However, a few helpful strategies can help space-starved hosts pull off a holiday soiree where everyone is comfortable.

Pare down the menu. Holiday feasts don't have to resemble medieval banquets with excessive amounts of food and drink. Hosts with small kitchens and tiny dining quarters can pare down the menu, limiting offerings to just a single entree and a few simple side dishes, so everyone feels comfortable at the table and has ample room to eat. A small menu also gives hosts more time to spend with their loved ones during the festivities.

· Don't overdo it on drinks, either. When planning the drinks menu, avoid offering cocktails, which take time to prepare and often require guests to visit the kitchen for refrigerated ingredients. Limit drinks to wine, beer, water, and soft drinks, storing cold

beverages in a cooler kept outside on a front or back porch or in an area outside the kitchen so cooks can work without interruption.

• Move some furniture. If your main living space is small, consider moving some bulky furniture into a bedroom or office where guests won't be spending time. Then make better use of the open living space by placing folding chairs or other accommodations to ensure there's ample seating for everyone. A single recliner can only be enjoyed by one person, but removing it from a room may create enough space for as many as three folding chairs.

• Go small on decorations. If you know you'll be hosting in advance of the holiday season, decorate with guests in mind. That might mean skipping a six-foot Christmas tree in favor of one that takes up less space. Avoid leaving any fragile decorations out, as adults or overexcited kids may knock them over as they try to navigate a cramped space.

Holiday hosting can be fun, even in small spaces. A few simple tricks can make even the smallest spaces accommo-

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# All Ages Welcome! Open topics. Please share your creative writing and thoughts with us!

Thank you to our writers this month and to LAMOUREUX FORD for sponsoring this special section each month! I'd like to invite teachers and students, including home schoolers, tweens and teens, adults and grandparents to share your thoughts, funny anecdotes, poems, short stories, and essays.

For those of you who prefer suggested topics, here are a few for January:

- 1. Tell us about your recent Christmas holiday
- 2. Write a poem about winter
- 3. Tell us about your childhood winters
- 4. Topic of your choice

THE NEXT WRITE STUFF WILL BE PUBLISHED ON JANUARY 31.

Deadline is Friday, Jan., 24. Please email your submission to jsima@stonebridgepress.news. If sending your submission by mail, please send by January 17 to The Write Stuff, P. O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Thank you.

#### Christmas **BY EMILY JANES**

Christmas. it Comes once a vear. I start counting down from about 57 days! I get very excited about the holidays...I am 31 yet still a child at heart. I love everything about Christmas! The smells, the sounds! Everyone is in good Holiday moods. Christmas can change ones attitute, in a good way. Donating to Toys for Tots or Salvation Army is rewarding. I love picking a toy for a child and need, wishing I could see the look on their face on Christmas morning. I love the colored lights, the holly, decorating the tree! I love to make gingerbread houses and deck the halls! Christmas is really about the birth of Christ. I feel ŠO blessed to be able to spend the holidays with my family. I am blessed to have a warm home, clothes and a bed to sleep in. I just Love CHRISTMAS!!! Merry Christmas One and All!!

#### Auntie Visits BY SUZANNE VASHUGIN OF HOLDEN FOR THE SPENCER WRITERS' GROUP

My sister and I visit the last of our "Aunties" once a month at the nursing home. Auntie Doris is one hundred and two and is very "with it" for her age. We like to bring her flowers and cookies, and stay and chat for at least an hour.

Often she is asleep when we arrive. We gently wake her, and her face lights up with a smile as soon as she recognizes us. Auntie Doris begins to talk about our mother and how much she misses her. Sometimes, she thinks our dad is still alive, and my sister and I have to remind her that he passed almost four years ago.

Auntie Doris mentions that she still prays every day and says a rosary every night for our fam-Also, she talks about missing her apartment and about how she longs to go home. We try to make conversation about other things to get her mind off of it. "Let's sample those sugar cookies, Auntie, don't they look good?" I say. My sister asks her if she'd like a cup of coffee to go with them. She agrees.

As Auntie Doris nibbles at a cookie and sips her coffee, we show her pictures of our families on our phones. Also, I am able to get some old photos from Facebook, from our cousins' posts that she recognizes. "I can't believe they're all gone. I'm the only one left," she comments. 'You know, my older daughter has Alzheimer's. It's so sad.' she adds.

"Do you want another cookie Auntie?" I ask as our visit begins to come to an end. I think about how happy I feel when I come to visit Auntie Doris. It's comforting just sitting with her and holding her hand. My sister and I come to help her get through many lonely hours, but actually; she's the one who comforts us. It's a time we can just sit, relax and chat about our loved ones that are no longer here. It's a time we can enjoy the company of someone who has the wisdom of years and experience.

Soon, Auntie Doris will be gone as well, and there will be no one left from the older generation to hold the family together. I will miss her very much.

#### A Christmas Blessing BY EVA E. PERRON, EAST BROOKFIELD, MA

It was on the Saturday afternoon following Thanksgiving day. Gayle Summers was enjoying coffee while watching shoppers and passersby, all bundled up enjoying the decorations and carolers. The coffee shop was almost empty, only one other customer, a young man at another table. Gayle was surprised when he approached her. "Do you mind if I sit with you? It's so quiet in here."

Then he asked, "Are you Gayle Summers, the writer for the Chronicle?"

"Yes, I am," she answered. He went on, "We met about a year ago, don't you remember?" I'm on the police department, and I gave you and little Rita a ride around town looking for Mrs. Benson's house."

"Of course I do, and I never properly thanked you, so I can now, thank you for your patience that day.

He went on, "If you recall that day, the last thing I said to you was I hoped that we could have coffee some day; I didn't think it would take a whole year!"

Gayle added, "You have a great memory," and she smiled as she added, "better late than never."

Gayle learned that his name was Roger Roy and though he loved the town, he had to move. The Inn he rented a room in was sold, and as an officer, he had to live in town, and there was very little rental property.
"I want to visit Mrs. Benson

this afternoon; would you like to accompany me?" he asked.

Gayle answered, "Why not. I'd like to see how little Rita is

It was bitterly cold standing on the step ringing the doorbell. They could hear footsteps in the hallway. The smiling Mrs. Benson asked, "How can I help

Roger told her of their short visit the year before, and they were invited into her comfortable warm living room. The kind lady informed them that the beautiful fireplace was built by my Freddie, and he's been gone 10 years.

Roger and Gayle were sad to learn that little Rita and her ill mother had moved down south, but the good news was that Mrs. Benson had a room to rent out. Roger stated, "I'm in the process

of finding a room to rent."

"Well," stated the gracious lady, "if you agree to the price and the rules of the house, you can live here. You'll have your own bathroom and laundry privileges, etc." Mrs. Benson inquired, "Are you the writer for the Chronicle?"

"Yes, I am," Gayle answered. "Well, I cut out all of your sto-

ries. I have them in a scrap book and very often when I feel lonely or sad, I read your stories and I feel renewed and inspired."

"I am humbled and complimented, at the same time," she acknowledged.

Roger and Gayle were invited to stay for supper. "Saturday night has always been hot dogs and beans, and today I baked a brown bread, and I was wishing for someone to share my meal

"This turned out to be a Christmas blessing for all of us,' summed up Roger.

~The End

#### Santa Ob Santa BY LOUISE COTE, NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA

Santa oh Santa how have you been and Mrs. Claus? Have you finished all the toys

and goodies you will bring to our

I can see Santa's workshop now. Just full to the brim with wood, trinkets, baby dolls with many outfits that Mrs. Claus made. The elves making farm animals, lovable cats and dogs right down to easy games. How about new skates for the colder days when ice is safe. Maybe a mitt for when you can play softball or helmet. Oh what memories I have from way back. I can remember asking for a new bike. Well I got a bike pink with a pink basket and best of all a bell. I would ring it all the time. Oh the bike was a very old used one. My father painted it so it wouldn't look too old. I didn't care as it was mine. Always asked for a new baby doll, it had to have clothes and a bottle to feed her with. A raise in my allowance would be nice. Or even an allowance? How about a football. Socks for your skates, new socks specially made by Mrs. Claus just for you.

Maye the older generation would like a new board game, one to challenge their thinking. I can see Santa and the Elves getting the sleigh ready for the long trip. Santa says let us look at the map and be sure we are flying in the right direction. Also check all the harnesses so he doesn't leave any reindeer behind. Let's see now we have Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blixen, can't forget the most famous Rudolph the leader with the red nose.

I want to take this opportunity to wish Santa and Mrs. Claus a very Merry Christmas, and thank you for all your work along with the elves to make our Christmas merry. Have a safe journey as you make all your stops. P.S. There are twenty elves listed as his helpers, so I wish them all a Merry Christmas

Merry НОНОНОНОНО Christmas to all and to all a good night.

#### Papa Bear BY SHER MÖRSE, SPENCER, MA

Papa bear You were the Most important man In my life. You were My biggest influence, My greatest fan, My words of wisdom. You were My first love. A father-daughter bond Cannot be broken, Not even By death. And though we Are now separated By your passing, You are still Watching over me, Helping me through Each and every day. For a papa bear Never abandons His cub. He is always Close by. How I love you, My dear Papa bear.

#### LOVE BY SHER MORSE, SPENCER, MA

Sometimes,

When you're

Feeling down, It's very easy to Forget what you Are grateful for. Like love. If you have Love in your life, Live it, Show it, Believe it in. When you do this, Everything else Will fall into place For love is The basis of life It means You are not alone. It means You are able To fight your demons With someone By your side. It means You are alive. It means Everything.

#### **WORCESTER'S** *BRAVEST* BY SUE ANGELA HEALY, NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA

In December Fire Fighters James, Paul, Jerimiah, Thomas, Timothy, Jay, Jon, and Christopher received their final

They were sons - fathers uncles - nephews - brothers friends – loved by all.

How could this possibly be 20-8 - yet only 1 year since you've been gone?

In the distance playing "when vour heart finds Christmas' your favorite song
I look back of memories now

frozen in time Did you know it would be your

last day on earth - was there a

In the stillness of night I'm praying you'll be calling me on the phone

That in a matter of time you'll be coming home What a surprise to see you

walk thru our front door Rushing over for you I could

never ignore I miss you decorating our fam-

ily tree Sometimes it was all of us, other times just you and me Each ornament had to be per-

fect in your special way Quickly rearranging everyone without a delay

That old worn fire truck that you loved the most

Even when we were away from each other we still were close My eyes filled with tears as we

prepared a meal for a king Opening your gifts slowly – the happiness it would bring. Sitting around our overstuffed

table just enjoying the day Eating - drinking - relaxing just savoring what you'd say Daytime would wind up end-

lessly into the night Our Christmas tree lights blinking -what a magnificent

Every birthday – holiday – just quiet moments with you

Now I'm at a loss - not knowing what to do Christmas Eve was always

your favorite time of the year Yet for other fire fighters and their treasured ones I everyday

I wouldn't want to wish this emptiness on any human being Because now only in my dreams you I am seeing

Sometimes I find it difficult for

others to be strong When on December 3rd, 8th, and 9th years apart something

went wrong Going through details over and over in my head

The most lonely lying awake in bed

But in my heart I know you are with your hero brothers

With them up above with you there could be no other When I think about fire fighters – you are on the top of my list I can't believe how much each

and every one of you I missed. When others are running out – you are running into a fire Even though at time - condi-

tions are very dire You proved your heroic ways over and over again

And on the City of Worcester vou can every day depend

So to you we would like to say in the Heavens above Merry Christmas our Angels -

we are sending our devoted love Why God chose you – maybe it was just fate

But you shall forever be our heroes, our bravest Worcester's

#### HOME IS WHERE **YOU ARE** BY SUE ANGELA HEALY, NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA

Today 11-18-19 Firefighter Lt. Jason Menard was laid to rest It only proves God only takes

the best of the best Leaving behind his high school sweetheart Tina, his wife And 3 children Joshua, Hailee,

and Morgan the loves of his life There's not a single thing he

would not do for them A devoted husband -loving dad that's no pretend

Whether going to a dance competition – a softball or basketball

He truly belonged in the hall of fame

His passion for becoming a fire fighter started years ago Dedication to his job he would

certainly let show Working at the Greendale or

Park Ave Station Promoted to lieutenant assigned to ladder 5 will all

appreciation

Everyday started the same but yet brand new

What was gonna happen their shift - they hadn't a clue

They could hold a boot at the corner of a street Or battling a brush fire in 90

degree heat Driving beyond the speed limit to a victim of a heart attack

For a human life you could never get back Making supper for their com-rades with their hearts and soul

The greatest stories that were ever told You now Lt. Menard are with

our brothers eight All taken too soon – was it just

fate? Again Worcester lowers its flags – the community in sorrow From Boston to Quincy Cambridge to Shrewsbury – the

bridges lit in red A Jet Blue from New York changed its color instead

And even thought Lieutenant you are a fire fighter many never

You shall go down in history as "our hero" one we shall never forget

As all stood in the still of

The nation stood as one - it's time for us to part Freezing rain started to fall

silence with heavy hearts

from the now opened skies Thousands of your brothers

wiping teardrops from their eyes It's difficult to lose a family member especially in such a tragic way

But you and your loved ones will be in our hearts and prayers especially around the holidays Being remembered as a hus-

band – father – brother – uncle – nephew – friend for your brothers you did save

You are an angel Jason – the bravest of the brave Every time we see Pluto,

Mickey, or Minnie Mouse, we shall see your face. And you walking the shores of

Wells Beach Maine – memories can never erase A special fire fighter ornament

will be put on our Christmas tree

Every time someone mentions your name I know you are still with me Now saying our last goodbye

for you paid the ultimate price I'll always see you working in our yard – enjoying everything pumpkin spice

Gazing around our now empty house our craft stating, Home is Where our day begins

Playing board games with our children usually letting them

Maybe one day - sometime in the future I'll make a new sign and right

to you in heaven I will send Stating "Home is where our

day beings - and love for you. Never ends.



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# Seasons Greetings & Happy Holidays to All!







ON DEPOSIT

WEBSTER – 27 N. Main St! 3 Family!
5/5/3 Rms! 3/3/1 Bedrooms! 1st Fir w/
Eat-int Liv Rm! 3 Bdrms! Updated Bathrm!
And Fir Wiki Wibin Area Liv Rm 3 Bdrms!
Updated Bath! 3rd Fir w/Eat-in Kit! Liv Rm!
Bdrm! Full Bath! Long Term Tenants! Sep
Utilities! Wing! Sided! Laundry Hook Ups!
Freshly Painted Hallways! \$249,900.00

MILLBURY - WATERFRONT! Ramshorn Lake! 51 Davis Rd! Beautifully Landscaped & Private 1.22 Acres w/500' on the Water! One of Ramshorn's Premier Properties "Royledge"! Sprawling 3,117" French Country Villa w/Panoramic Water Views from this Perfect Peninsula! Ideal for Entertaining! Stonewalled Gated Entry, Long Private Drive to its Stately Appearance! Sprawling Stone & Slate 6+ Rm Masterpiece! Light Abounds! Cathedral & Tray Ceilings w/Skylights! Unique Country Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm! Frplcd Great Rm! Lake Facing Spacious Master Suite w/Everything You'd Expect! 3



OXFORD - 27 Rocky Hill Rd! Move Right Into this 6 Rm Ranch! Bright, Fresh Kitchen! Dining Rm! 20' Living Rm! 3 Comfortable Bedrms! Nice Bathrm! Deck w/Awning! All the Work has been Done! Roof, Siding, Windows, Insulation, Gas Furnace, Gas Hot Water Heater, AC, Front Porch Windows, Door, Living Rm Floor, Skylights, Kitchen, Bath & Dining Rm Floors! 2 Bedrm's Wall to Wall Carpeting & the Interior Freshly Painted 10/2019! Quick Closing Possible! \$269,900.00



THOMPSON - 299 Quaddick Rd! Beautiful Custom Cedar Log Home Privately Set on 5.47 Acres! Stone Wall Entry Leads Up the 700+\* Driveway! Nestled in the Woods! 6 Rms of Gorgeous Cedar! Applianced Granite Kit w/Soft Close Hickory Cabinets! Ideal Open Flr Plan w/Soaring Beamed Cathedral Ceilings w/Skylights! Gleaming Hrdwds! Liv Rm w/Spectacular Stone Frplc w Pellet Insert! 1st Flr Master w/Full Whirlpool Bath & Walk-in Closet! 3 Bdrms & 2.5 Baths Total! 3Z Buderus Oil Heat! 2 Car Garage! \$399,900.00



DUDLEY - 94 Tracy Road! 7 Rm 4 Bdrm Colonial On 1.24 Acres! Privacy! Many Upgrades! Hrdwds Throughout! Frplce Liv Rm w/Recessed Lights! Formal Din Rm! Eat-Sunroom w/Skylights, Hrdwd Flrs & Slider to Deck! 1st Flr 1/2 Bath w/Laundry! Master Bdrm w/Dble Closet & Full Bath w/Linen Closet! 2nd Flr Full Bath! Lower Level Game Rm/Office! Utility/Storage Rm! 16X21 Deck! Garage Under! Save on Your Electric Your Bills, 2015 Solar Panels! Level vard w/Shed! Call now! \$349.000.00



AUBURN — 16 Lorna Dr! 7 Rm Split Entry Ready for the Next Owner! Located on a Cul-de-sac! Many Recent Updates! Windows 2006! Roof 2010! Siding 2016! Water Heater, Garage Door & Opener 2017! Driveway & Deck 2018! Applianced Oak Cabinet Kit Wfile Floor! Dining Rm! Spacious Liv Rm! Master Bdrm w Hrdwds! 3 Comfortable Bdrms Total! Full Bath! Fnished Lower Level Fireplace Fam Rm w/Custom Bar, Recessed Lighting & 2nd Bath! Screened-in Porch to a Private Yard w/New Pressure Treated Deck is Ready for Entertaining! Nicely d! 1 Car Garage! Shed! Ideal Commuter Location! \$325,000.00



DUDLEY - 9 Nellies Way! TOBIN FARM ESTATES! 10 Rm Colonial Set on 1.2 Acres! Applianced Dine-in Granite Kit! 3 Season Sun Rm off Kit! Din Rm, 2 Story Fam Rm w/Pellet Stove, Bdrm, Full Bath w/Laundry & Gleaming Hrdwds Round Out 1st Flr! 2nd Flr Features an Open Balcony to the Liv Rm! Plenty of Space for an Office, Playroom or Reading Area, Use Your Imagination! Master w/Tray Ceiling & 3 Closets! Master Bath w/Dual Sinks, Shower, Whirlpool Tub & Makeup Counter! 2 Additional Bdrms & Full Bath! Huge Finished Walk-out Lower Level Perfect for Entertaining! Wet Bar wWine Cooler & Fridge! Half Bath w/Tile Flr! Irrigation! Shed! JD Riding Mower! Don't Miss Out! \$469,900.00







WEBSTER LAKE - 9 Pebble Beach Rd! Middle Pond - Winter Cove! Private Peninsula Protected from the Storm - Safe Harbor! Custom 3.179' 8 Rm Contemp Ready for Your Immediate Enjoyment! Grand Entry Foyer! Ideal Open Fir Plan w/Sky Lighted Cathedral Ceilings, Tall Windows & Hrdwd Firs! Beautiful Applianced Custom Granite Kit w Center Is!! Formal Din, Fireplace Liv Rm w/Water/Estuary Views! 1st Fir Laundry! Second Floor Master Suite, Ideal Full Bath, Huge Walk-in Closet! 3 Bdrms Total! 2 Full & 2 Half Baths! Walk-out Lower Level Fireplace Fam Rm!





**DUDLEY** - 7 - 9 West Street! Brick 4 Family plus a 2 Family! Side by Side! All with 5 Rooms and 2 Bedrooms! Gas Heat! All Separate Utilities 2 Car Detached Garage! The 4 Family with Beautiful Natural Woodwork! All Apartments are Empty and Work is Needed in Several Apartments! Excelle Potential! Will be a Good Investment for the Right One!



**DUDLEY** - 61 Townfarm Rd! Charming 7 Rm Cape Set 1.9 Acres! This 3 Bdrm Home Completely Renovated 2015! Updates Include - Roof, Windows, Sid ing, Kitchen, 2 Baths, Furnace, Electric Panel, Well, Septic, Driveway & More Ideal Open Flr Plan! Cabinet Packed Granite Kit w/Island & SS Appliances lst Fir wBeautiful Hrdwds! Frpic Liv Rm! Ist Fir Master Bdrm! Office or 4th Bdrm! Custom Tiled Bath wLaundry! Upstairs 2 Spacious Bdrms wHrdwds & 2nd Full Bath! Large Paver Patio! Shed! Gorgeous Views! \$299,900.00



SUTTON - LAKE SINGLETARY WATERFRONT! 5 West Sutton Rd! 8 Rn Cape! 3 Bedrooms! Screen House at Waters Edge! Gradual Access to the Water! Well Maintained! Kit, Formal Dining Rm! Spacious Fireplace Living Rm! Den! Sun Rm! Updated Windows! Brand New Furnace w/Hybrid Hot







\$910,000.00









CHARLTON - GLEN ECHO LAKE! 3 Sunset Dr! Western Exposure = Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic 105' Waterfront! Ideal 15,941' Gently Sloping Lot! Comfortable 9 Rm Ranch! Stainless Appliance Eatin Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Panoramic Water Views! 4 Bdrms, 3 Lake Facing including the Spacious Master! Full Hall Bath! Enjoy the Sun Rm w/Lake Views! 32' Walkout Lower Level Frplce Fam Rm w/Wet Bar & Convenient Half Bath! Nicely Landscaped Front & Back! Lake Level Deck, Dock & Rear Shed! Benefitted by Town Sewer! Start Packing! \$499,900.00







CHARLTON - 105' WATERFRONT! Baker Pond! 63 Lincoln Pt Rd! East Facing = Fantastic Sunrises! Custom 9 Rm \*\*EBSLE\*\* LABL\*\* — 100 Uniton Point Rdl Panotamic Views of Middle Poind — South Facing — Tons of Sulin Principal Readitful I/2 Acre Lot w/Lawn to Water's Edge! 2 Story Foyer! Natural Woodwork! Open Flynal. Appliance Granite Kit w/Isl, Recessed Lights, Tile Flr & Water Viewe! Din Area w/Slider to Deck! Sunken Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Water Views! Din Rm w/Hrdwd! 1/2 Bath w/Pedestal Sink! 2nd Flr w/4 Bdrms, 3 w/Water Views! Aster w/Cathedrals, French Dr to Balcony, Bath w/Separate Tub/Shower, Walkin: Closet & Laundry! Hall Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Finished Walkout Lower Level w/31' Fam Rm! Full Kit! Full Bath & Laundry! Includes NEW A/C SPLITS SYSTEM! Enjoy Outside from the Farmer's Porch, Deck, Patio, Screened Porch or Dock! 2 Car Garage! Full Recreational Use! \$524,900.00





WEBSTER LAKE - 250 Killdeer Island Rd! North Pond's Sandy Shore! 9 Rm Ranch in Meticulous Condition! Absolutely Beautiful 100' Waterfront Lot! Stainless Applianced Kitchen w/Cherry Cabinets, Granite Counters, Hrdwd Floor & Dining Area w/Slider to Deck! Formal Dining Rm w/Hrdwds! Front to Back Living Rm Overlooking the Lake w/Cathedral Ceiling, Custom

Built Cabinets, Gas Frplc & Hrdwds! 1st Flr Lake Facing Master Bdrm w/Slider to the Deck & Access to the Screened Hot Tub.

w/Walk-in Closet, Full Bath w/Whirlpool Tub, Separate Shower & Commode Closet! 1/2 Bath & Separate Laundry Rm Nearby

Walk-out Lower Level w/Full Kitchen, 22' Lake Facing Family Rm w/Sliders to the Patio/Lake! 2 Lake Facing Bdrms w/Sliders to

the Patio/Lake! Full Bath! Oversized 2 Car Garage! LP Gas Heat/Hydro Air! Generator! Private Boat Ramp! Docks! Don't Delay

WEBSTER LAKE - 50 Union Point Rd! Panoramic Views of Middle Pond - South Facing - Tons of Sun! Princi-



75' Waterfront w/Expansive Views! 6 Rm Yr Rd Ranch! Ideal 2nd Home! Renovate or Enjoy As 1s! Open Fir Plan! Applianced Cabinet Packed Kit! Lake Facing Din & Liv Rms wWater Views! Sliders to Screen Enclosed Porch! Master wCeiling Fan & Dble Close! 2nd Bdrm wDble Close! Full Bath of Hall! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w25' Fam Rm w/Door to Lakeside Patio, Bdrm, Full Bath & Utility! Storage Rm! 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths Total! Oil Heat! Covered Entry Ramp & Electri Chair Lift! Shed! Dock! Summer Will Be Back - Don't Delay! \$499.900.00



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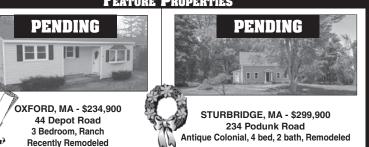
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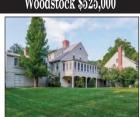
Remodeled in 2015 New electric & plumbing New kitchen. New walkout great room with large TV. Mary Collins 860-336-6677

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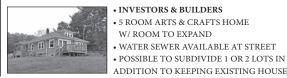
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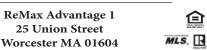
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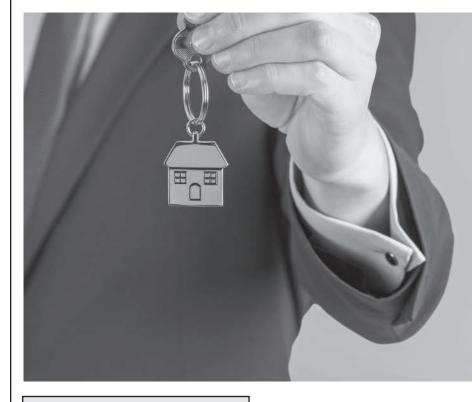
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from 2-4pm. Home for the Holidays! MOBILE ADOPTION UNIT is coming to Klem's! On the road to saving more lives! Be sure to stop by and say hi to some of the sweet dogs and cats looking for a new home! Let adoption help you find your next best friend. Let us know you're coming. Click here to RSVP at our Facebook Event Page. Please don't forget to share with your friends!





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

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





LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT HEXMARK **TAVERN** AT SALEM CROSS 260 West Main St.,

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Generator-Unboxed, never

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## **546 CEMETERY LOTS**

Worcester County Memorial Park Garden of Valor, Paxton Mass. 2 lots for sale. \$3,000 or best offer for both lots. (valued at \$8,500) Call 508-892-9843

WORCESTER COUNTY **MEMORIAL PARK**, Garden of Valor, Paxton, Mass, 2 lots for sale, \$2000 for both lots. Call Alan at 508-885-4381

## **575 VACATION RENTALS**

## CAPE COD **DENNISPORT** Clean 2 bedroom

Cable TV, Wifi, Close to Beaches, Golf, Bike Trail, Shopping, Restaurants and Amusements

\$700.00 A Week 508-280-8331 rwo12@aol.com

PHOTO REPRINTS AVAILAB

860-928-181

all for details

#### Ray for more details. 508-450-**Cottage**

2003 MERCURY GRAND **MARQUIS GS** Like New 21712 miles. 508-377-8729

**700 AUTOMOTIVE** 

715 Auto Services

\$100 CASH FLAT RATE for

any Junk Vehicle No title/no

keys OK. Free pick up. Call 401-

725 AUTOMOBILES

2002 BMW 525iA. \$3995. Call

648-9300

2006 MUSTANG GT-50k, 5sp fully modified. Call or email for details and photos. 508-476-2293. savianojohnt@yahoo.com 2007 TOYOTA COROLLA S

\$3995. Call Ray for more info. 508-450-5241 2010 MAZDA M3 iSV. \$6800.

Call Ray 508-450-5241 2016 CHEVY CRUZE LT. 79,000 miles. 1.4 liter engine, blue, remote start, Weather tech mats. \$9000. Call 508-234-

2016 CHEVY CRUZE LT. 79.000 miles, 1.4 liter engine. blue, remote start, Weather tech mats. \$9000. Call 508-234-

#### FOR SALE 1999 GMC 3500 8 foot bed. 454 cubic inch engine. New front and rear breaks.

New front routers. New radiator & water pump. Four general ten ply tires, 1 year old.Well maintained. \$2500 508-826-8891

VEHICALS FOR SALE 1999 F150 118k miles, 4x4 single cab stepside capt, chairs Loaded Red with Cap \$4,000. 2002 Chevy Silverado 2500 HD black long bedloaded with plow. Low millige, 67 thousand, \$7500. Would consider partial trade. Call Mike 508-752-7474.

**VEHICALS FOR SALE 1999** F150 118k miles, 4x4 single cab stepside capt. chairs Loaded Red with Cap \$4,000. 2002 Chevy Silverado 2500 HD black long bedloaded with plow. Low millige. 67 thousand. \$7500. Would consider partial trade. Call Mike 508-752-7474.

#### 740 Motorcycles 2014

DAVIDSON

(low rider). Accessories added: windshield, crash bar, saddle babied miles and care. Silver metallic. Recorded 100% mechanically sound by Sheldon's of Auburn. Bike is truly

condition. Call 508-414-9134 for showing. Firm \$12,000 as bike is MINT!

2014 Victory Vision Tour Loaded with options Only 2,000 miles, not even broken in Paid \$20,000. Asking \$13,500. Call 774-200-6387 email

2014 Victory Vision Tour Loaded with options Only 2,000 miles, not even broken in Paid \$20,000. Asking \$13,500. Call 774-200-6387 email

moehagerty@msn.com

# 760 Vans/Trucks

moehagerty@msn.com

2000 GMC 2500 SIERRA 4door cab & 1/2, 4-wheel drive, no rot, with plow + truck mount slide-in Fleetwood Alcorn camper (2001) w/bath, fridge, a/c, kitchenette. \$6300 508-341-6347

2000 GMC 2500 SIERRA 4door cab & 1/2, 4-wheel drive, no rot, with plow + truck mount slide-in Fleetwood Alcom camper (2001) w/bath, fridge, a/c. kitchenette, \$5100

508-341-6347

2000 GMC 2500 SIERRA 4door cab & 1/2, 4-wheel drive, no rot, with plow + truck mount slide-in Fleetwood Alcorn camper (2001) w/bath, fridge, a/c, kitchenette. \$5100 508-341-6347

8' PLOW - three cable hook, in good condition. \$700 or best offer. Call Jim at 774-317-0628. No texting please.

# Our local news coverage is Educational! Stonebridge **Press**

# **STERLING**

## **PLANTS**

10 Sterling Way,

Sorry, No Pets

Large Private Lot. Great for Children!

# **454 HOME**

FURNITURE DOCTOR: Have

# **505** Apartments for

NICE 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT conditioning

774-230-7640 or (508)943-1593

HOME - Highview Campground, West Brookfield. Season begins April 15th and closes Oct. 15th. New windows, furnace, refrigerator, and kitchen

# **LEGALS**

#### **Brookfield Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing**

In accordance with M. G. L., Chapter 40A, and the provisions of the Brookfield Zoning Bylaws Section 4.D, Use Regulation Table 6.c; Section 8.C., Site Plan Approval; and Section 12.C., Special Permits; the Brookfield Planning Board will re-open a Public Hearing on an application for the construction and operation of a commercial Fuel Storage Facility (Propane) on property owned by Jeff Tasse, and located at 14 Post Road, in a Business "A" District. The re-opened public hearing will take place on Monday, December 30, 2019 at the Town Hall, 6 Central Street, Brookfield, starting at 6:45 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard. A copy of the application may be inspected at the office of the Town Clerk at Brookfield Town Hall during normal business hours.

Sharon Mahoney, Chair **Brookfield Planning Board** December 13, 2019 December 20, 2019

#### **LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE** OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by David Martins and Jennifer Martins to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting solely as a nominee for Fremont Investment & Loan, dated January 17, 2006 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38225, Page 249 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for GSAMP Trust 2006-FM1 Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-FM1 is the present holder by assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fremont Investment & Loan, its successors and assigns to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for GSAMP 2006-FM1 dated December 15, 2011 recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 48304, Page 182 and by Corrective assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fremont Investment and Loan, its successors and assigns to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for GSAMP Trust 2006-FM1 Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-FM1 dated June 17, 2013 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 51087, Page 2, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 84 Ash Street, Spencer, MA 01562 will be sold at a Public Auction at 11:00 AM on December 30, 2019, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon in Spencer, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the Southeast corner of said tract on the West side of Ash Street, it being the Northeast corner of land, now or formerly of one Austin;

THENCE by said Austin land South 73-1/4° about 171-1/2 feet to a bound; THENCE North 3-1/2° East about 232-10/12 feet to the Southwest corner of land, now or formerly of O. T. Cantara; THENCE by said Cantara land and land now or formerly of C. W. Pierce about 165.0 feet to the West side of said street;

THENCE Southerly on same street about 157-1/2 feet to the place of beginning.

Containing about 100 square rods.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38225, Page 247.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cash, cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable in cash or by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this

publication.

Other terms to be announced at the

Deutsche Bank National Company, as Trustee for GSAMP Trust 2006-FM1 Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-FM1 Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Martins, David, 17-031211 December 6, 2019 December 13, 2019 December 20, 2019

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court** 

**Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court** 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO19P4009EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

**Estate of:** Clarence H. Prahm Date of Death: 09/18/2019 To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Wanda Prahm of North Brookfield MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Wanda Prahm of North Brookfield MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/31/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 09, 2019

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

December 20, 2019

#### **NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE** OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Paul B. Harding, Kathleen M. Harding to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Drew Mortgage Associates, Inc., dated July 30, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41601, Page 203, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated June 3, 2016, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 55983, Page 235, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Drew Mortgage Associates, Inc. to Federal National Mortgage Association, recorded on May 1, 2012, in Book No. 48901, at Page 276

Federal National Mortgage Association to Residential Credit Solutions, Inc., recorded on February 27, 2014, in Book No. 52071, at Page 66

Residential Credit Solutions, Inc. to Federal National Mortgage Association, recorded on October 28, 2014, in Book No. 52967, at Page 207

Federal National Mortgage Association to Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, recorded on May 9, 2019, in Book No. 60382, at Page 304

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on January 10, 2020, on the mortgaged premises located at 16 Sunset Lane, Spencer, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, TO WIT:

The land in Spencer, being on the westerly side of Sunset Lane and being shown as Lot 14, on a plan entitled

"Property transferred from Mrs. Agnes J. Antell to J.E. Antell & Sons, Inc, Spencer, Mass, April 1956, F.G. Antoll, C.E." said plan recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 214, Plan 89. Being bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the northeasterly corner thereof on the westerly line of Sunset Lane and the southeasterly corner of Lot #13 as shown on said plan; THENCE S. 1 degrees 16' W. by said Sunset Lane, 105 feet to the northeasterly corner of Lot #16, as shown on said plan; THENCE N. 88 degrees 44' W. by said Lot #16, 99.93 feet to land now or formerly of Robert Antell; THENCE N. 1 degrees 11' E. by said Antell land 105 feet to the southwesterly corner of said Lot #13; THENCE S. 88 degrees 44' E. 100.08 feet by said Lot #13, to the place of BEGINNING. Being all and the same premises conveyed in Book 6241 and Page 11. Subject to any conditions, covenants, easements and restrictions of record insofar as the same are in force and applicable.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 6241, Page 11.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced

at the sale. NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER Present holder of said mortgage By its Attorneys, HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St. Newton, MA 02458 (617)558-0500 14429

December 20, 2019 December 27, 2019 January 3, 2020

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS **LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF** THE TRIAL COURT 19 SM 005851 **ORDER OF NOTICE** 

TO: Steven M. Barry and Elise D. Barry and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act,

50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 et seq.: The Money Source Inc.

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in East Brookfield, numbered 128 North Street, given by Steven M. Barry and Elise D. Barry to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Nominee for 1<sup>St</sup> Alliance Lending, LLC., dated May 25, 2017, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 57166, Page 202, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before January 20, 2020 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief

Justice of this Court on December 3, 2019. Attest:

Recorder

December 20, 2019

#### **NOTICE OF INITIAL SITE INVESTIGATION AND TIER II CLASSIFICATION Commercial Property** 18 Elm Street; Spencer, Massachusetts MassDEP RTN 2-20745

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. As a result of this investigation, the site has been classified as Tier II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. On 13 December 2019, Cook Brothers Realty, Inc. filed a Tier II Classification Submittal with the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact Todd S. Alving, Engineering Geologist and Licensed Site Professional, T.S. Alving and Associates, 166 Winter Street, Hopkinton, MA 01748, (508) 435-3679.

The Tier II Classification Submittal and the disposal site file can be reviewed at the MassDEP Central Regional Office, 8 New Bond Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01606, (508) 792-7650. Additional public involvement oppor-

tunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404. December 20, 2019

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court** 

**Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family** Court

225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 Docket No. WO19P3712GD CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF **GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO** G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the matter of: **Devan J Durling** Of: Spencer, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Rober E Durling of Warren, MA Ruth L Durling Warren, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Devan J Durling is in need of a Guardian and requesting that

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this **proceeding**. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 01/21/2020. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

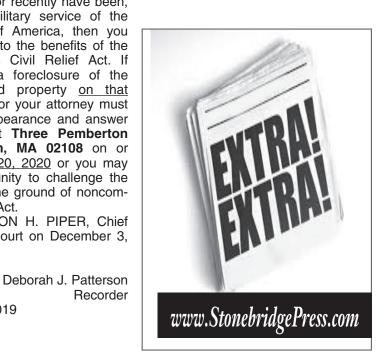
# **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

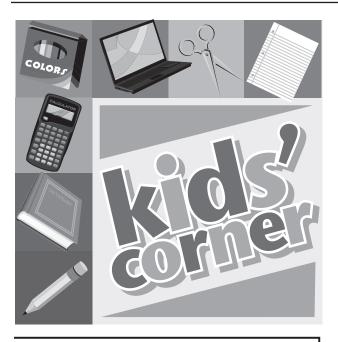
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the abovenamed person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 10, 2019

Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate

December 20, 2019



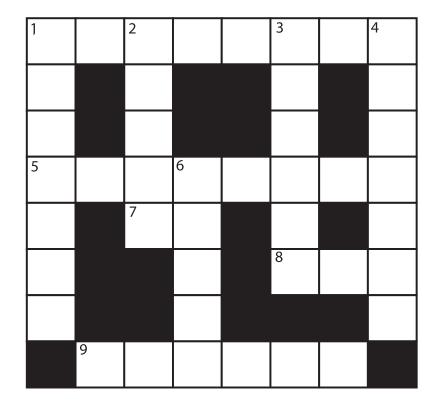




CHANUKAH MEALS ARE OFTEN
COOKED WITH THIS INGREDIENT,
WHICH REPRESENTS THE MIRACLE
THAT TOOK PLACE AT THE TEMPLE.

**YN2MEK: OIF** 

# **Crossword Puzzle**



# **ACROSS**

- 1. Festival of lights
- 5. Leads to outer door
- 7. Refers to the speaker and other people
- 8. Neither
- 9. Relatives

## **DOWN**

- 1. Burn for light
- 2. Shows direction
- 3. Young cat
- 4. Assistants
- 6. A kingdom

6. Realm

Down 1. Candles 2. Arrow 3. Kitten 4. Helpers

9. Family

1. Chanukah 5. Doorstep 7. We 8. Nor

Across

:s19MSUY



- 1773: THE BOSTON TEA PARTY TAKES PLACE IN BOSTON HARBOR.
- 1920: AN 8.6 LEVEL EARTHQUAKE HITS GANSU PROVINCE IN CHINA.
- 1991: KAZAKHSTAN DECLARES ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM THE SOVIET UNION.



# **MIRACLE**

surprising event not explained by natural or scientific laws

# Toward Selfarata...

ENGLISH: Light

SPANISH: Luz

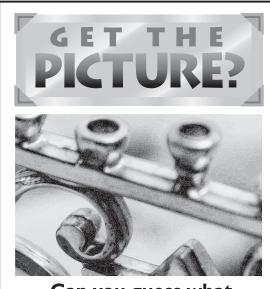
ITALIAN: Luce

FRENCH: Lumière

**GERMAN:** Licht



DESPITE ITS PROXIMITY
TO CHRISTMAS,
CHANUKAH IS NOT THE
MOST SIGNIFICANT
HOLIDAY ON THE
JEWISH CALENDAR.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: MENORAH

# 

# CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to philanthropy. Each number corresponds to a letter.

(Hint: 25 **= i**)

A. 3 12 24 23 25 14 2

Clue: Nonprofit

B. 16 18 15 24 14 25 18 15

Clue: Contribution

C. 10 25 6 25 15 10

Clue: Generous

D. 12 26 21 8

Clue: Assistance

# SUDOKU

		5		ognomos		8	2	
	3				8			
				2	6		7	
		6				4		
	9		ossosila		2			
	2	8	9	4		3		
			6	3				
		4				7		
3			4					5

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles?
Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

# Here's How It Works:

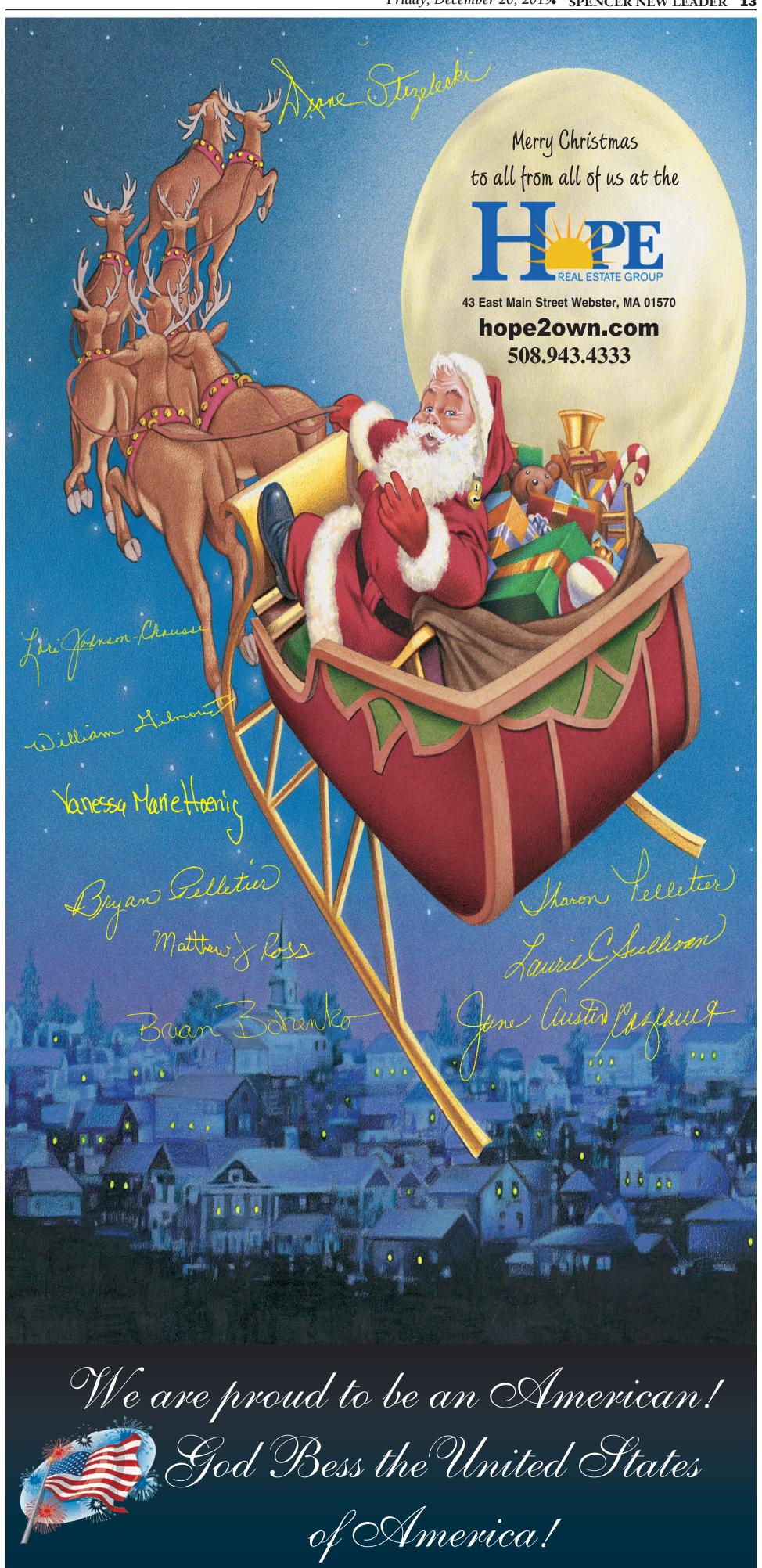
 $\Omega$ 

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

G	-	2	7	8	Þ	6	9	ε
9	3	L	6	G	S	unda	Þ	8
8	Þ	6	-	ε	9	L	ç	2
muli	9	3	ç	t	6	8	2	2
Z	8	ç	2	9	manda	ε	6	†
2	6	Þ	ε	Z	8	9	nemach.	9
3	L	work	9	2	9	Þ	8	6
Þ	G	9	8	6	2	2	3	suudi.
6	2	8	4	ф	ε	3	L	9

ANSWER:











We hope it's filled with an abundance

of cheer, prosperity, and health.





**Janet Jones VP/Branch Manager** NMLS# 408571

123 Auburn Street, Auburn, MA 01501 jjones@baystatesavings.com (508) 890-8980 | (800) 244-8161 508) 890-9090 (Español)



baystatesavingsbank.com

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APPLY ONLINE -800-526-AUT**o** 100% CREDIT APPROVAL

2017 CHRYSLER PACIFICA NEW Retail Price: \$38,650

#H9243A • ALLOYS, TOURING, V6, HEATED LEATHER, BACK-UP CAM PRICE: \$19,37 PRICE:

SAVE \$19,300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

SEASON

2018 JEEP CHEROKEE #D10308R • LATITUDE PLUS, 4X4, WHOLESALE \$2 BACK-UP CAM, HEATED SEATS

NEW Retail Price: \$30,180 PRICE:

**SAVE \$9,800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 

LIKE NEW NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$31,850

WHOLESALE PRICE: All-Wheel Drive, Power Moonroof, Back-Up Cam, Bluetooth, Alloy Wheels.

SAVE \$12,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2015 FORD ESCAPE SUV NEW Retail Price: \$34,475 #19-571B • TITANIUM TRIM, 4X4, WHOLESALE \$15,877 LEATHER, TURBO, BLUETOOTH

SAVE \$18,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT NEW Retail Price: \$30,340 WHOLESALE \$9 #40410L • 17" ALLOYS, TURBO, PREMIUM AUDIO, BLUETOOTH PRICE:

**SAVE \$10,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 

**2016 FORD F-150 4x4 NEW RETAIL PRICE:** 

41,985 WHOLESALE PRICE XLT, 4x4, Alloy Wheels, Bluetooth,

2.7L V6 EcoBoost, Back-Up Cam. SAVE \$13.600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE! 2018 JEEP RENEGADE #D10295 • LATITUDE TRIM, 4X4, BACK-UP CAM, BLUETOOTH

NEW Retail Price: \$27,120 WHOLESALE \$18,677 PRICE:

Take a test drive & we will

buy you a meal at the

Miss Mendon Diner!

more, so you

**SAVE \$8,400 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 

2017 CHEVY SILVERADO NEW Retail Price: \$35,996 #40414V • 1500 DOUBLE CAB, 4X4, WHOLESALE \$9 ALLOYS, 5.3L V-8, BLUETOOTH PRICE:

SAVE \$9,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

**ALL-WHEEL DRIVE** SPORT TRIM \$28,545 STARTING AT ONLY:

Back-Up Cam, Satellite Radio, Bluetooth, 17" Alloy Wheels! SAVE \$10,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 CHEVROLET CRUZE NEW Retail Price: \$23,140 #40215R • LT TRIM, HATCHBACK, WHOLESALE \$ ALLOYS, KEYLESS START, 7" LCD PRICE:

**SAVE \$8,800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 

**NEW RETAIL PRICE:** 



\$24.520 WHOLESALE PRICE:

SAVE S8.100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

**BAD CREDIT DON'T SWEAT IT! WE FINANCE YOUR** FUTURE, NOT YOUR PAST

> OPEN MON-THURS: 9-9, FRI & SAT: 9-6, SUNDAY: 12-6 800-526-AUTO

» ALL IMPERIAL CERTIFIED » FREE CAR FAX REPORT » 5 DAY EXCHANGE PROGRAM

**OPEN TO OUR RETAIL** CUSTOMERS ONLY

ALL PRICED WELL **BELOW KBB BOOK VALUE** 

2016 FORD EXPLORER NEW Retail Price: \$39,705 WHOLESALE \$25,877 #19-681A • XLT TRIM, 4X4, NAV, LEATHER, ALLOYS, MOONROOF PRICE:

2016 GRAND CHEROKEE NEW Retail Price: \$40,285 #H1095V • LIMITED TRIM, 4X4.

**SAVE \$13,800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 

WHOLESALE \$26,477 MOONROOF, NAV, ALLOYS, V6 SAVE \$13,800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2017 CHEVY SILVERADO



**NEW RETAIL PRICE:** \$45,100 WHOLESALE PRICE:

Satellite Radio, Nav, Back-Up Cam. SAVE S13.700 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2018 SUBARU LEGACY 2.5i NEW Retail Price: \$31,745 #H1240V • AWD, BACK-UP CAM, WHOLESALE \$22,871 LIMITED, MOONROOF, ALLOYS

**SAVE \$8,900 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 

2017 HYUNDAI TUCSON NEW Retail Price: \$28,015 #H1219 • SE TRIM, BACK-UP CAM, WHOLESALE \$ 17" ALLOYS, ALL-WHEEL DRIVE

PRICE:

SAVE \$9,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

**NEW RETAIL PRICE:** 



\$44,665 WHOLESALE PRICE:

Satellite Radio, Nav, Towing Package. SAVE \$17.800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

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