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Friday, April 19, 2019

Local teen earns Eagle Scout rank



Kevin Flanders Photos

Alexander MacMillan receives his Eagle Scout certificate.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – After achieving the highest honor available in Scouting, a local teenager celebrated his accomplishment with the community last weekend.

Boy Scout Troop 201 member Alexander MacMillan was recently confirmed as an Eagle Scout, joining an elite few Boy Scouts nationwide to earn the honor. On April 7, he was joined by family, friends, fellow Scouts, and several community guests in celebration at Spencer Country Inn. Among the attendees were State Representatives Donald Berthiaume and Peter Durant, as well as Senator Anne Gobi.

For local elected officials and Scouting leaders, it meant a lot to watch MacMillan's project take form last summer at St. John

the Baptist Church in East Brookfield. MacMillan led several improvement projects at the site, including landscaping, adding new concrete, and cleaning a statue.

"I'm a part of St. John the Baptist Church, and I'm close to my priest, Father Don Ouellette," MacMillan said. "One day, I spoke to him about the project and he gave me the idea of cleaning up the rectory. The most rewarding part was looking at the final product and being proud of myself."

MacMillan, a senior from Spencer who attends Bay Path High School, has been involved in Scouting since he was six years old. After countless fun memories and learning experiences, he now serves as an inspiration to younger scouts.

Please Read **SCOUT**, page **A6**

Forum tackles state school funding issues

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Residents learned about state level school finance operations during a public forum last week.

On April 9, Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee members teamed up with selectmen and Finance Committee members in both towns to host the joint forum. The goal was to inform residents about the often enigmatic inner workings of public education systems and school finance operations at the state level.

Also in attendance at the forum were M. J. Handy, of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, as well as Department of Elementary and Secondary Education representative John Sullivan. Several topics were discussed, including strategic planning, tax rates, funding formulas, and Chapter 70 assistance.

It's especially important for residents of towns with regional school districts to understand the many factors involved in funding, officials said.

"The evening was designed to educate and inform the public on how Massachusetts public school finance works for the communities we serve and for regional school districts like ours," said SEBRSD Superintendent Paul Haughey.

Attendees also discussed what it means to be a minimum aid district, as well as statewide trends in funding and char-

ter school tuitions. Officials stressed the importance of strong communications at all levels of the district and within both communities.

"The meeting emphasized the need for us to work together at the local level now more than ever, as state revenues are fluid and always changing," Haughey added.

For officials in both towns, it was helpful to provide elected leaders and residents alike with an opportunity to learn more about state level operations. There are often questions that arise related to funding formulas, but few opportunities exist like the one last week to hear directly from state officials.

"I'm grateful to Superintendent Haughey for organizing this informative session with officials from the Department of Revenue and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education," said Spencer Town Administrator Thomas Gregory.

The program also provided a thorough review of Chapter 70 funding as it relates to the SEBRSD and other rural regional school districts. Officials in both towns said it is important to have venues like last week's event where Chapter 70 can be discussed at length.

"It brought School Committee members, selectmen, and Finance Committee members together to learn about this

Please Read **FUNDING**, page **A2**

Students help Leicester return to MMEA festival

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – It has been nearly two decades since the town was represented at a regional music festival, but three Leicester Middle School students are ending the drought in resounding fashion.

Held by the Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA), the annual Central District festival includes students from several area com-

munities. The competition to earn a spot in the festival is intense, as a limited number of student musicians per district can take part.

After LMS eighth graders Jacob van Lingen and Cole Delage were overlooked for the festival last year, the young musicians came back even more determined to make the cut. And they recently learned that they'll be joining schoolmate Jillian Morrison at the

2019 festival set for April 28.

"This festival has been going on for many years, but no Leicester students have made it in since 2003," said LMS music teacher Kristina Looney. "This year, we had six band students audition and three were accepted. This is a very competitive process that requires the students to prepare advanced audition material in the form of etudes,

Please Read **MMEA**, page **A7**



Courtesy Photo

Three Leicester Middle School students were selected to take part in a regional music festival. From left, Jillian Morrison, Cole Delage, and Jacob van Lingen.

Asparagus Festival returns May 18

BY RUTH M. LYON

WEST BROOKFIELD — Spring is springing all around us, and this town's green harbinger of the season, the welcoming, happily celebrated Asparagus and Flower Heritage Festival is fast



Courtesy Photo

Girls can be blacksmiths, too, at the West Brookfield Asparagus Festival. Blacksmith Rob Lyon assists.

approaching. The event, the one we all know and love, will be here, its green and lovely self, on Saturday, May 18.

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., more than 100 juried vendors of all things earthy, artisanal and artistic will provide food for thought and the senses - history, gastronomy and the pleasure of your company, all of you, as you meet and greet the thousands of friends of Diederick Leertouwer. In fact, perhaps you'll meet the man who, tradition informs us, brought asparagus to America in 1794, right here in small, scenic, and altogether remarkable West Brookfield.

And there's free transportation to the common - no long walks necessary. To make your visit pleasant, there's a free shuttle bus all day, from ten to four. You may park your vehicle at the town highway department area (at the junction of Ware, Front and Central Streets). From there, you'll be

Please Read **ASPARAGUS**, page **A7**

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Hope Rudzinski of North Brookfield, three's not a crowd

DUDLEY — Hope Rudzinski of North Brookfield was the last of three siblings to choose Nichols College, but she was not following in the footsteps of an older brother or sister who were already at the College or had graduated.

In fact, she and her brother Zach and sister Carlie are triplets, and all currently juniors.

"I was the last one to decide to come here," said Hope Rudzinski. "I didn't know if I wanted to go to college right away." The 1,200-member Nichols student body represented a huge increase over North Brookfield Senior and Junior High School, about 20 miles away, where she graduated with a mere 35 classmates.

"It's worked out," Rudzinski said of her three years at Nichols, in great part because of her own efforts. "When I went into my junior year, I stepped out

of my comfort zone. I got two campus jobs (one of which, by the way, is with Nichols College Public Relations), met more people around campus, and made more connections."

In another departure from her comfort zone, she has become less dependent on her brother and sister, although the three stay in touch.

"You know they're going to be there," she said. "If I'm in a stressful situation, I could just go walk over to their dorms and see them."

There's no mistaking the three Rudzinskis for each other. Aside from the fact they are not identical, they have each travelled their own roads through their college careers.

"When you're a twin or triplet, always being together comes naturally," Hope pointed out. "That's the hard part. When you get older, you realize,

'Wait, I can't do everything with them.' You have to separately navigate to be your own person and be independent."

The three are majoring in different areas: Carlie chose hospitality management; Zach, sport management; and Hope, English-which has fit with her journalistic and literary interests. Hope is vice president of Windfall-the Nichols literary magazine and works as a reporter for Nichols Public Relations, for which she covers events around campus and profiles its inhabitants.

"Everyone has a story," she said. "And connecting with someone on a personal level is important."

About Nichols College
Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the class-

room, and through impactful research and professional education. Founded in 1815, Nichols transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Within a supportive community, Nichols offers and experiential business curriculum with a strong liberal arts foundation that is enhanced by the scholarship of practice and pedagogy; integrates research and scholarship into the student experience programs and activities that cultivate and enhance professional skills and readiness; and develops the communication and critical-thinking abilities, the ethical and cultural perspectives, and the necessary teamwork skills that are required of leaders in a global economy.

MassDOT reminds drivers of drone rules

REGION — Following the public reports of drone use over Fenway Park in Boston last night during the ninth inning of the Red Sox game, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Aeronautics Division is reminding members of the public of their responsibility to know the rules of the "Drone Road." Whether you're a novice drone pilot or have many years of aviation experience, rules and safety tips exist to help you fly safely and to ensure the safety of everyone.

"We are strongly urging drone owners to become aware of the rules for operation as outlined on the website of the Federal Aviation Administration," said Aeronautics Administrator Jeffrey DeCarlo. "Drones are not a toy. They should be operated only under specific circumstances and for specific purposes in order to ensure the safety of the public."

Please note the following safe-

ty protocols:

Never fly near other aircraft, never fly over groups of people, public events, or stadiums full of people

Never fly near emergencies such as fires or hurricane recovery efforts

Never fly a drone while under the influence of drugs or alcohol

Respect privacy and stay within an appropriate operational area - drones should not be flown above private properties, such as a neighbor's backyard

Do not fly in bad weather conditions or during low visibility

Operate drones only during daytime hours and within sight. To maintain visual contact, do not rely on binoculars or try to follow a drone by traveling inside a moving vehicle.

Do not fly the drone higher than 400 feet.

In addition, please note that the FAA has implemented registration requirements:

- Registration is necessary for drones weighing less than 55 pounds and more than 0.55 pounds. Additional requirements must be adhered to for drones weighing more than 55 pounds. Visit the FAA online at FAA.GOV for more information on registering your drone.

- As a drone operator, you are required by the FAA to properly mark your drone for identification. All drone operators must now place their registration number on the outside of the drone. The FAA has posted a new rule in the Federal Register requiring small drone owners to display the FAA-issued registration number on an outside surface of the aircraft. Owners and operators may no longer place or write registration numbers in an interior compartment as allowed previously. The rule was effective on Feb. 23. The markings must be in place for any flight after that date.

Public Safety Day planned in Spencer

SPENCER — Guests will have a chance to meet the men and women who protect and serve, as Camp Marshall is teaming up with local first responders for a Public Safety Day.

Set for Saturday, May 4, the event will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Programs on the schedule include a display of emergency vehicles, an appearance from Worcester Police horses, visits from multiple local nonprofit organizations, and family activities.

Camp Marshall will also hold plenty of fun events for children of all ages. The Public Safety Day program is free and open to the public, so be sure to check out the camp's many offerings.

"We will have a wide variety of camp activities that kids and families can expect to see during our summer camp programs, such as archery, low ropes area, farm barn area, arts and crafts, and pony rides and hay rides," said Jordan Desilets, the events and program coordinator for Camp Marshall.

Event organizers are partnering with Spencer Police Sgt. James Murray to coordinate the public safety aspect of the event. Information on a number of emergency operations for various departments will be available to guests, and youngsters will be thrilled by the vehicles on display.

"We will also have many of our public safety organizations here as well, such as an ambulance, fire trucks, SWAT team, K-9 units, and a few more that are in the works," Desilets added.

Camp Marshall is located at 92 McCormick Road. For more information about upcoming events, visit www.CampMarshall.net or send an email to campmarshallvents@gmail.com.

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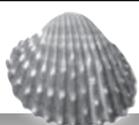
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FUNDING

continued from page 1

complicated yet important law that has serious implications for the students and taxpayers of both towns," said Spencer Selectman Ralph Hicks.

Officials throughout the Route 9 corridor have long advocated for increased state funding for rural regional schools, especially pertaining to transportation. State representatives and senators at the local level have also held multiple discussions with state leaders.

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SPENCER

\$279,000, 228 N Spencer Rd, Caruso Construction Corp, to Grenier, Amanda L.

\$232,500, 18 Cottage St, US Bank NA Tr, to Robinson, Laura A.

\$226,000, 60 Valley St, Property Group Inc, to Atti, Nagy.

\$217,000, 8 South St, Scudder Bay Capital LLC, to Zona, Tanner J.

BROOKFIELD

None.

EAST BROOKFIELD

None.

WEST BROOKFIELD

\$100,000, 216 Ragged Hill Rd, Deward, Aaron, and Deward, Katherine E, to Carroll, Steven A, and Carroll, Kelly.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

\$205,000, 43 Saint John St, Siciliano, Angela P, to Jackson, Gregory B.

\$114,210, 8 Walnut St, Wells Fargo Bank NA Tr, to Yarber, Kevin.

\$84,707, 40 Gilbert St, Eaton, Forrest A, and Prindle-Eaton, Barbara R, to Canada, Timothy, and Broke-Canada, Elizabeth.

\$25,000, 14 Grant St, Laflamme, Robert A, and Laflamme, Susan B, to Pietrzak, Steven J.

LEICESTER

\$300,000, 710 Main St, Rapid Transit LLC, to Santrum, Jacqueline, and Guzman, Jose.

\$270,000, 184 Rawson St, Cole, Michael A, and Cole, Linda J, to Woodworth, Briton, and Bobo, Samantha.

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Cornerstone Bank celebrates employees



Courtesy Photo

Front Row (L to R): Nicole Earle - 5 years; Heather Goguen - 20 years; Amber Thomas - 15 years; Valerie Korzec - 5 years; Sarah Clarke - 15 years; Linda LePage - 40 years; Kerri Lee - 5 years; Maria Martinez - 5 years; Jessica Johnson - 10 years; Meredith Nordstrom - 5 years. Back Row (L to R): Todd Tallman, Cornerstone Bank President & Treasurer - 20 years; Michael Sullivan - 15 years; Susan LaCroix - 25 years; Deborah Clark - 30 years; James Sandagato - 20 years; Stacie Partlow - 5 years; Thomas Langmeyer - 5 years; Lucille Newton - 35 years; K. Michael Robbins, Cornerstone Bank Chairman & CEO; Lisa Chaffee - 30 years; Daniel D'Amico - 5 years; Kyle Hill - 20 years; Scott Auen - 5 years. Missing from photo: Kimberly Fritze - 10 years; Sandra LaMay - 15 years.

WORCESTER—Cornerstone Bank employees were recently recognized for their dedication, as part of the Bank's yearlong commitment in honoring the longevity of its employees. In total, 24 employees were awarded for their service during the annual Years of Service Awards Ceremony that was held on March 28 at The Barn at Wight Farm in Sturbridge.

Cornerstone Bank has a long history of serving customers in its communities. The Bank strives to build lifetime relationships, whether an employee, business or personal partnership. The employees share in this commitment with their coworkers and have created life-long friendships and memories while also providing excellent service to customers.

"Cornerstone Bank's growth is and has always been fueled by a commitment to our values of trust, respect, integrity and excellence," said Chairman and CEO of Cornerstone Bank K. Michael Robbins. "These 24 employees, through their collective mission to make a positive difference in the lives of individuals and business in our communities, have helped us to successfully deliver on our mission and to sustain contin-

SPENCER NEW LEADER

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) 909-4130 or email news@stonebridgepress.com. 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.

ued growth." "We appreciate the passion and commitment our employees bring to the workplace every day," stated President and Treasurer of Cornerstone Bank Todd M. Tallman. "Congratulations to this year's recipients. We thank you for your dedication and loyalty."

About Cornerstone Bank
Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving the residents, businesses, and communities throughout Central Massachusetts from offices in Charlton, Holden, Leicester, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Warren, Webster and Worcester. Deposits are insured in full by a combination of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Depositors Insurance Fund. The Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Equal Housing Lender, and SBA Preferred Lender. For more information, visit online at cornerstonebank.com, on Facebook or call 800-939-9103.

Cultivate Holdings looks to expand

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Officials from Cultivate Holdings, Inc. are in discussions with town leaders on the potential to expand their business.

Cultivate, a retail and medical marijuana dispensary located at 1764 Main St., is seeking to operate a second facility in town at 22 Burncoat St. Following the recent signing of a host community agreement between the company and the town, there are several additional approvals that must be gained this spring in order for the project to move forward.

"The next step for Cultivate is to have its community

outreach meeting – which is scheduled to take place within the next few weeks – and file its plan for the parcel with the Planning Board," said Town Administrator David Genereux. "They will be seeking site plan review, which should take approximately 60 days."

Several planning studies have already taken place on how the facility would operate. Cultivate leaders have spoken at length with Genereux's office and selectmen. If approved, the new facility would be used for marijuana cultivation and office space. Company officials are also currently evaluating a property in Uxbridge, which

could also be used for cultivation.

In November 2018, Cultivate became the first recreational marijuana business to open in the state. The company's already existing status as a medical marijuana dispensary allowed it to have a head start over competitors.

Five months later, as other retail cannabis businesses get off the ground throughout the Commonwealth, Cultivate is already eyeing its expansion. Business has remained strong since its retail launch last fall, when thousands of eager customers flooded Leicester and caused significant traffic backups. Although the number of

customers has dipped in recent months with increased competition, the business continues to thrive and is hoping to expand.

Currently doing business in the former Leicester Tool building, Cultivate has created more than 20 jobs for area residents while providing a new revenue stream for the town.

"We really liked the area, and the town saw the benefit of us coming here and creating tax revenue and jobs," Cultivate president Sam Barber told the New Leader during a previous interview.

Officials have not announced how many new jobs the second facility would create if it receives approval this spring.

For more information about the business, available products, and hours of operation, visit www.cultivatemass.com.

Paxton COA hosting return trip to Friesians of Majesty

PAXTON — Brought back by popular request, the May 14 bus trip sponsored by the Friends of Paxton COA was the most spoken about by those who went on the earlier trip.

The Friesian Horses were beautiful and the show was fabulous.

The Friesians of Majesty equestrian tour and performance creates a magical experience in Southern Vermont! Friesians of Majesty invites us to visit their farm for a unique tour experience. Interact with their beautiful, majestic horses in a guided tour of European style barns. Meet their spectacular stallions, Othello & Mathijs! Interact with their babies in the mare/foal barn. Watch a captivating show as dressage freestyle is exhibited, driving is demonstrated, and a beautiful Friesian with her baby runs at liberty, all to inspiring

music!

They are located in the heart of Vermont's Green Mountains in Townshend, Vt., on a 650-acre full-service breeding and training facility. They are the largest Friesian breeding farm in the US dedicated to the promotion and development of the Friesian and Friesian crosses as modern sport horses.

The motor coach will leave the Paxton Senior Center, 17 West St. at 9 a.m. and travel to Brattleboro, Vt. for lunch at the Marina Restaurant, which overlooks the West River just before it joins the Connecticut River just north of downtown Brattleboro. Nice spot for a restaurant.

The lunch menu consists of New England Clam

chowder, a choice of New England Haddock, Flat Iron Steak, Chicken Teriyaki or Butternut Ravioli, followed by a dessert of Chocolate Brownies with Fresh Strawberries and whip cream and of course Coffee, Tea or Soda.

Following the Friesian Horse performance, we will leave for home.

For more details, please call Bob Wilby at 508-792-4662 or rwilby@charter.net

Reservations, choice of Luncheon Entree and payment are due May 1.

Please make your check payable to the Friends of Paxton COA and mail to Bob Wilby, 11 Tanglewood Rd., Paxton, MA 01612.

**NOTICE HYDRANT FLUSHING
TOWN OF SPENCER**

The Town of Spencer Water Department will be flushing fire hydrants throughout the distribution system starting April 8th thru April 30th 2019. Flushing removes sediment from the water mains to help maintain water quality. When the Water Department staff is in the immediate area, residents could experience loss of pressure and short periods of rusty water. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact the Water Department office at 508-885-7525. Thank you.

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Country Bank reports record earnings



Courtesy Photo

Pictured: Rob Crain, SVP Marketing, Worcester Red Sox, Shelley Reglin, SVP, Marketing, Country Bank, Paul Scully, President and CEO, Country Bank and Jack Verducci, Vice President of Corporate Partnerships, Worcester Red Sox.

WORCESTER — Country Bank President and CEO, Paul F. Scully, announced the appointment of Maura C. McCaffrey, Former CEO, Health New England, and Keith E. Blanchette, Partner, Stolberg, Ebbeling and Blanchette, LLP to its Board of Trustees at its recent Annual Meeting held at the

AC Marriott in Worcester.

The Bank also appointed five new Corporators to include: Nancy Crimmin, President of Becker College, Cherylann Gengel, Co-founder of Be Like Brit, Michael Myers, President of the Worcester Railers, Peter Dawson,

Partner, Mirick O'Connell and Mark Donahue, Partner, Fletcher Tilton.

At the meeting, Country Bank reported its 2018 earnings resulted in another highly successful year with record-breaking profits. Net income was reported at \$12,853,000 with total assets increasing to \$1,624,000,000. Deposit balances increased to \$1,083,182,000 and total loans increased from the prior year to \$1,240,421,000. Capital was reported at 14.06 percent maintaining the Bank's esteemed position as one of the higher capitalized banks in the Commonwealth.

"While each of our markets offer a unique value proposition, we are making strategic decisions to focus our efforts on the areas that will provide us with the most growth opportunities," stated Scully. "In 2018, Worcester business leaders provided Country Bank the opportunity to participate in the financing of several notable projects in the city to include the \$59,500,000 recapitalization of 100 Front Street known as Mercantile Center and the \$16,000,000 financing of Harding Green in Kelly Square."

As part of its ongoing Worcester expansion, the Bank partnered with the Worcester Red Sox as one of the team's twenty-one founding partners in anticipation of its move to Worcester in 2021. The meeting's keynote address included a video of the site of Polar Park narrated by Worcester Red Sox President, Dr. Charles Steinberg along with remarks

regarding the team's decision to relocate to Worcester and Country Bank's partnership by team members Rob Crain, Senior Vice President of Marketing and Sales and Jack Verducci, Vice President of Corporate Partnerships from the Worcester Red Sox.

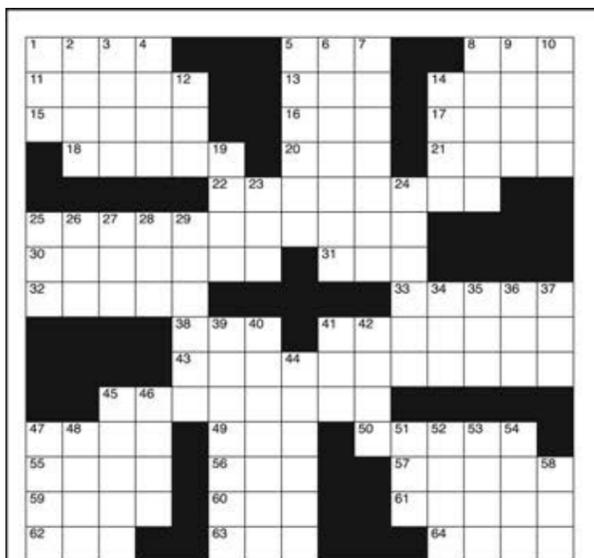
In his remarks, Scully noted the Bank's founding principles and core values of integrity, service, teamwork, excellence and prosperity continue to serve as the foundation for its success and community involvement 169 years since its founding in 1850.

"Back then, the founding fathers of Country Bank envisioned the role of the community bank to assist hard-working residents in providing for their families, growing their businesses, achieving their financial dreams and enriching the local community," he said.

Those principles, noted Scully, resulted in the Bank providing over \$1,000,000 of charitable donations and community support in 2018.

About Country Bank

Country Bank is a full-service mutual community bank serving central and western Massachusetts with fourteen offices located in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton and Worcester. Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached at 800-322-8233 or online at country-bank.com.

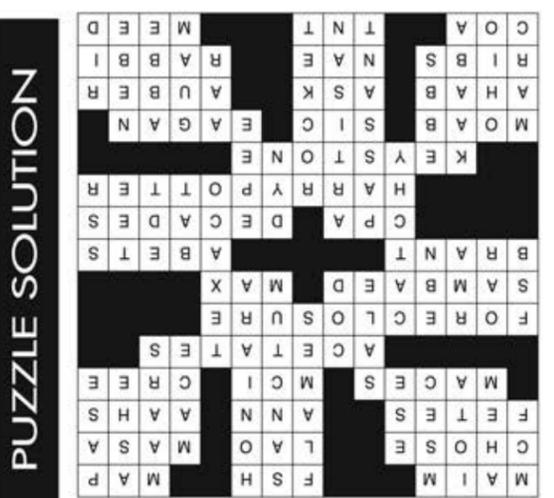


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A way to wound
- 5. Hormone secreted by the pituitary gland (abbr.)
- 8. Shows the world
- 11. Decided
- 13. Indigenous person of NE Thailand
- 14. Dough made from corn flour
- 15. Honors
- 16. Political commentator Coulter
- 17. Expresses pleasure
- 18. Heavy clubs
- 20. Defunct phone company
- 21. Algonquian language
- 22. Salts
- 25. Act of the bank
- 30. Danced
- 31. Drummer Weinberg
- 32. Small goose
- 33. Helps evade
- 38. Certified public accountant
- 41. Periods of time
- 43. Kids' book character
- 45. Type of beer
- 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 49. A way to attack
- 50. Talk radio personality Margery
- 55. Whale ship captain
- 56. Request
- 57. Large underground railstation in Paris
- 59. BBQ dish
- 60. No (Scottish)
- 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Tool used to harvest agave
- 63. Explosive
- 64. A reward (archaic)

CLUES DOWN

- 1. One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
- 2. Polite interruption sound
- 3. Extremely small amount
- 4. Very short period of time (abbr.)
- 5. Fires have them
- 6. Sacred place
- 7. Island capital
- 8. Volcanic craters
- 9. Arthur __, Wimbledon champion
- 10. Bullfighting maneuver
- 12. Midway between east and southeast
- 14. A ceremonial staff
- 19. Cheap prices
- 23. North Atlantic fish
- 24. Oil company
- 25. A federally chartered savings bank
- 26. Paddle
- 27. Where UK soldiers train
- 28. One point north of due east
- 29. Attention-getting
- 34. Ballplayer's tool
- 35. Sun up in New York
- 36. Where golfers begin
- 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 39. Represented as walking (animal)
- 40. Craftsman
- 41. Unit of force (abbr.)
- 42. Dueling sword
- 44. Houston hoopster
- 45. Stone building at Mecca
- 46. __ and flows
- 47. "Beastmaster" actor Singer
- 48. American state
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. U.S. island territory
- 53. German physicist
- 54. One point east of northeast
- 58. Get free of



Brookfield Memorial Day parade plans

BROOKFIELD — The Town of Brookfield, Massachusetts will hold its annual Memorial Day Parade Monday, May 27 in memory of all veterans of all wars.

Memorial Day calls upon a united nation to appropriately mark the last resting place of our sons and daughters who saw service while following the flag in times of war.

Fellow citizens, Comrades of any military organization, all Comrades of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or returned Comrades of the same, Veterans of all wars, all Service Men and Women, Town of Brookfield Police, Firefighters, First Responders, Civil Defense, Emergency Medical Technicians, Sons of the American Legion and V.F.W., Scouts, 4-H Youths, Recreation Teams, Students and Parade Units are earnestly invited to join us in a proper observance of this day.

Order of March:

Brookfield Elementary School, 35 Central St., Start 10 a.m. Brookfield Cemetery, assembly 10:30 a.m. Town Common, Memorial Square, assembly 11:30 a.m. Dismissal noon.

In the event of rain, assembly will be at the Brookfield Elementary School cafeteria and gymnasium.

If you have any questions or would like to be in the parade line up, please contact: Bill Simpson at 508-867-9233, Jeanne Lytle at 508-867-6705, or Barbara Wilson at 508-867-8080.



Courtesy Photo

Members of Cub Scout Pack 138 recently visited the Spencer police station.

A LESSON IN POLICE WORK

SPENCER — Youngsters learned about several law enforcement operations earlier this month, as the Spencer Police Department welcomed them for a tour.

Members of Spencer-based Cub Scout Pack 138 took part in several activities during their visit to the police station. SPD Det. Chris Inzerillo showed the kids how to lift fingerprints, in addition to many other programs.

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P.A.L. of the Week

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Name: Simon
Breed: DSH Black
Sex: Male
Age: Young Adult



My name is Simon. I was found as a stray in a local town. Tasha was found with me. The shelter staff is not sure if she is my sister or just a good friend. We do seem to like each other. I am a little shy when I first meet new people. But once I get to know you, I love attention. I give the shelter staff "head butts" until they get a headache. I am very content being an indoor companion. Once I bond with my new "human" companion; I will shower them with love.

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Dr. Colm P. Scanlon
Veterinarian

Guest speaker warns LHS students about danger of bad choices

LEICESTER — Juniors and seniors at Leicester High School attended an assembly last week focused on the importance of good decision making during the upcoming season of celebration.

The April 11 presenter, Sarah Panzau Evans, a former collegiate all-American volleyball player, has shared her message with students across the nation since 2005.

Once an outstanding student-athlete with a promising career, Evans spiraled down a

destructive path of drugs and alcohol. After a night of partying in 2003, the then 21-year-old decided to drive home and was involved in a wreck that left her clinging to life. Without a seatbelt, she was ejected from the vehicle and thrown onto the roadway, her left arm severed. Toxicology tests revealed that she had a blood-alcohol level nearly four times the legal limit.

The crash ended her stand-out volleyball career, which included freshman of the year

honors at Southwestern Illinois College and a two-time selection to the National Junior College Athletic Association women's volleyball All-America team. She was also a dominant four-year starter on her high school team.

But with one bad decision, her dreams were shattered and her life was forever changed. As a result of her accident, Evans endured more than 30 surgeries over the past fifteen years. But even though her sports dreams were derailed, she took up a new mission of

communicating her story to students.

In 2005, she became a member of the Anheuser-Busch Speakers Bureau, and after only a year of speaking regionally in the Midwest, she decided to visit schools nationwide and spread awareness.

On April 11 in Leicester, she talked with juniors and seniors about underage drinking, drunk driving, making smart choices, and respecting parents, among other topics. Her presentation schedule is particularly busy during

the spring season when high school seniors are celebrating their accomplishments, often with parties.

Local schools regularly host members of police departments for cautionary springtime assemblies, but LHS officials knew that Evans's story would resonate strongly.

"As we enter into prom and graduation season, we hope our students take away valuable lessons from her personal experiences," the LHS administration wrote in a statement on Evans' presentation.

MHS hosts regional Student Council conference

WINCHENDON — The process began three years ago, when the Murdock High School Student Council applied to host the regional association of Student Councils, and last Friday, that effort reached fruition when more than 400 student representatives from 29 schools descended on MHS to take part in the conference.

"We've been working all year on the theme 'Adventure is Out There,'" said MHS Student Council advisor Stephanie Rondeau.

"Our kids created the decorations and planned activities," she noted.

As the SC year ended that meant the end of terms for MHS

students secretary Cassidy Stadtfelt and spring conference chair Nicole Lemire.

That duo also serves on the Murdock executive board and they were joined in planning for the event by fellow board members Chloe Lawrence, Lindsey Quinn, Ryan Thira, Izzy Alcantara, and Maria Polcari.

Seniors who pitched in included Phebe Shippy, Lindsay Gemme, Emily Smith, Timothy Quinn, Ryan Thira, Izzy Alcantara, and Maria Polcari.

In addition to nominating candidates for regional offices, participants attended seminars and workshops.

Rondeau also offered thanks to "Murdock staff Faye Wheeler, Heidi Bevacqua, Sherri

Fairbanks, Candace Frye and Andrew Collins for helping with setup and supervising students. Our custodial staff was outstanding."

Schools who sent delegates included Abby Kelly, Assabet, Auburn, Bartlett, Blackstone Millvale Regional, BMV, David Prouty, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Leominster, Lunenburg, Marlborough, Medfield, Nipmuc, North Brookfield, North Middlesex, Oakmont, Oxford, Shrewsbury, Sutton, Tahanto, Tantasqua, Uxbridge, Wachusett, West Boylston, Westborough and Worcester Tech.

LEICESTER HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

LEICESTER — Leicester High School has released its honor roll for the second quarter of the 2018-2019 school year.

High Honors

Grade 12: Megan Gaucher, Emily Oliver
Grade 11: Madison Hippert, Adam LaBombard, Tej Patel, Ava Richard
Grade 10: Delaney Sherman, Jacob Stolberg
Grade 9: Rian Fadden, Erin Gerber, Shannon Tuson

Honors

Grade 12: Ryan Bahingire, Mark Bugbee, Hannah DiPilato, Taylor Fontaine, Juliana Golemo, Miranda Gustin, Jordan Hellstrom, Michaela Hippert, Hanna Hom, Caitlin Kemp, Emma Knight, Olivia Lachapelle, Nicholas LeBoeuf, Elise Leveillee, Mary Lopprione, Olivia Maracuso, Melanie May, Katelyn McKay, Bryan Miranda, Emily Moughan, Alyssia Peloquin, Thomas Perro, Lydia Petit, Evgenia Psarras, David Ranucci, Jacquelin Robidoux, Natahsa Rollo, Jack Soucie, Meaghan St. George, Brenna St. John, Eric Stevens, Samantha Walsh, Hannah Wickson

Grade 11: Jenna Albro, Giselle Boateng, Riley Brunelle, Adam Carpenter, Hannah Cleveland, Haylee DiLiddo, Meaghan Dupuis, Samuel Griffiths, Aaliyah Hernandez, Jack Larson, Marena Matavao, Daniel Mero, Brenda Nguyen, Riley Ncholson, Connor Niddrie, Ally O'Neill, Jack O'Neill, Nolan Power, Zoe Rice, Joslyn Rutter, Antonia Santana, Erika Sciascia, Abigail Snow, Rileigh Spaulding, Katheryn Stapel, Riley Whalen

Grade 10: Kya Birtz, Sydney Brooks, Matthew Brown, Sean Brown, Spencer Cote, Marissa Gebhardt, Tyler MckAY, Mckenzie Monroe, Liam Pataky, Kaitlyn Rutter, Jenna Soden
Grade 9: Fathia Agbaje, Nicole Berard, Riley Boisvert, Sarah Brouillard, Erin Brown, Bryson Bujak, Richard Cichowski, Maria DiMeglio, Victoria Ditranto, Breana Escobar, Morgan Flodman, Liliana Glass, Alexis Goodney, Grace Guinee, Matthew Heffernan, Thomas Heffernan, Deanna Herbert, Abigail Johnson, Seth Larson, Connor Linehan, Casey Macaruso, Allyson Mahoney, Morgan Merrell, Nicholas Michaelian, Theodore Miller, Abigail Morrison, Meghan Niddrie, Eden Riel, Lindsey Salek, Jada Smith, Timothy St. John, Jane Toohil, Juliana Torres, Taylor Torres, Brady White, Lindsey Wickson

Grade 11

High Honors:
Leicester — Katelyn Lepard
Oxford — Abigail Duval
Webster — Jessica Gardner

Honor Roll:

Auburn — Anna Pyche, Nathalie Soto
Charlton — Janelle Schulman
Spencer — Sophia Sullivan
Sturbridge — Rebecca Kowal
Uxbridge — Carolie Adam, Krista Sullivan
Webster — Jason Lin, Nicholas Paul, Ashley Wentworth
Whitinsville — Lindsey Sanderson

Grade 12

Honor Roll:
Charlton — Emma Bailen, Kenneth Graff
Spencer — Morgan Wooldard
Uxbridge — Matthew Worthington
Webster — Morgan Richardson, Alexandra Sobczak
Whitinsville — Marcos Morrissette, Michael Wickstrom

Douglas — Seth Boudreau
Dudley — Madeline Grenier, Kaitlyn Nguyen
Oxford — Benjamin Duval
Spencer — Makenna Barrows, Elizabeth Manfield
Webster — Cole, Fitzgibbons, Emilia Kreidler

Grade 10
High Honors:
Douglas — Adam Scannell

Honor Roll:
Auburn — Matthew Card, Ashley Deneault, Kevin Ly, An Nguyen, Binh Phan
Charlton — Mary Graff
Douglas — Amanda Scannell
Leicester — Christian Rivera
Northbridge — Acadia Tucker
Oxford — Cienna Barszcz, Daniel Depatie, CJ Elliott, Danielle Frasco, Christopher Mahler, Julianna Warman
Southbridge — Amy Loin
Spencer — Kalli McCutcheon
Uxbridge — Kira Sullivan
Whitinsville — Mateo Morrissette, Robert Pingeton

HOLY NAME HONOR ROLL

WORCESTER — Holy Name High School has released its latest honor roll.

Grade 7
High Honors:
Charlton — Chase Brush

Honor Roll:
Charlton — Colin Brush
Whitinsville — Natalie Overstreet

Grade 8
High Honors:
Auburn — Ryan Mechery
East Brookfield — Ronald Pataky

Honor Roll:
Auburn — Chloe Diguette, Adam Toscano, Ashley Wilbur
Northbridge — Emma Ronan
Webster — Connor Paul

Grade 9
High Honors:
Auburn — Claudia Symonick
Douglas — Hayley Houston
Webster — Anna Richardson

Honor Roll:

Berthiaume announces local office hours

REGION — State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume will hold office hours at the following locations:

Tuesday, April 9 — In the town of North Brookfield, at the Senior Center 11 a.m.-noon

Tuesday, April 16 — In the Town of West Brookfield at the Senior Center 11 a.m. — noon

Thursday, April 18 - In the Town of Brookfield at the Town Hall

9 — 9:45 a.m.

Thursday, April 18 — In the Town of East Brookfield- Senior Center — 10-10:45 a.m.

Thursday, April 18 — In the Town of Spencer at the Town Hall, 11 a.m. — noon

Constituents and town officials are invited to meet with him to express any concerns, ideas, or issues that they may need assistance with. Please feel free to contact Donna if you would like a private meeting at 774-402-4742.

Garden Club meets April 28

BROOKFIELD — The Brookfield Garden Club will host a lecture by the Master Gardeners' association on Sunday, April 28. The topic is "House Plant Success."

This presentation explains the many things that can go wrong for house plants and how to address the problems that can occur. We talk about the things that are most important to your house plants and the best ways to provide for their needs. We discuss light, watering, and temperature requirements. We also cover pests and diseases and their treatment.

The Garden Club meets in the Congregational Church, Brookfield at 2 p.m. Free to all members; \$5 for guests. Refreshments will be served.

Veterans invited to Knox Trail for Memorial Day

SPENCER — The students and staff at Knox Trail Middle School respectfully request the honor of the presence of any veteran or first responder at our annual Memorial Day Program.

This year's celebration will take place Thursday, May 23 with breakfast at 8:30 a.m. followed by the program at 9 a.m.

Please RSVP by calling 508-885-8550.
Knox Trail Middle School is located at 73 Ash St., Spencer, MA 01562.



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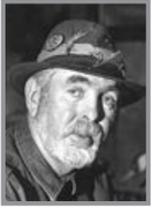
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Springtime anglers hit Wallum Lake



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This past weekend, fishing took center stage for many anglers. The opening at Wallum Lake had a light turnout. Mass. Fish & Wildlife continued to stock local lakes and ponds in the valley, and some rivers also received a good stocking of fish. The big news was the size of the brown trout that were stocked at Webster Lake this past week. One local angler had a Mass. Fish & Wildlife stocking truck roll up to the ramp at the town beach in Webster, & stock some heavy duty brown trout. After the truck left, he started fishing and caught and released more than a dozen browns. He brought home a couple of them to cook, but not before he called this writer to come over to take a look at the super size browns.

After looking at the fish, my first remark was that I hope they stocked some of the browns into Wallum Lake. Most of the browns were in the 16 to 17 inch class. My hopes were dashed when I visited Wallum this past weekend and talked to a few anglers that had just got done fishing. Not only did they not catch any brown trout, but a few did not catch a single fish. In talking with a ranger at the park he mentioned that a couple thousand rainbow trout were stocked by both Mass. & Rhode Island prior to opening day. Reports of many trout feeding on the surface on the Rhode Island side of the lake were hard to catch. Trolling a black wooly bugger fly should have done the trick, but most anglers were using lures, power bait, and live bait.

As mentioned in previous columns that the state could not stock rainbow trout because of the high acidic levels in the lake more than 20



years ago, the introduction of tons of lime corrected the problem and has continued to stay at levels needed to sustain the rainbow trout stocking. Unfortunately for sportsmen, they are losing out on some great brown trout fishing at Wallum because of Mass. & Rhode Island unwillingness to work together to make Wallum Lake a trophy brown trout pond. It is still not too late for Wallum Lake to receive some big browns this year from either state, and I do hope that they are planning to do so. Sportsmen deserve no less. Reports of huge schools of alewives (baitfish) at the lake this past summer will provide the feed necessary to grow big browns.

Reports of tick bites in the area during the past week on dogs and residents is a sure sign that they are on the move. Most outdoorsmen now realize that deer tick bites can be very serious for both animals and humans, and are a constant threat to their health. Most tick bites are not found before the 24 hour time for most infections, and require immediate attention to insure the infection does not spread to other parts of the body. Lyme disease has caused the death of many humans and pets over the past 20 or more years and it is becoming a larger problem every year. All insect bites are serious, including bee stings and spider bites.

This past week, the Uxbridge

Rod & Gun Club honored the late Wally Pasickniak of Uxbridge during a brief ceremony at the club's trout pond prior to their fishing derby this past Saturday. A granite seat was placed at the big oak tree on the South side of the pond engraved with his name, to remind all members of the club of the sacrifices Wally made during his many years at the club. Without these hard working dedicated members we all would not be enjoying the club as we do today. Many other club members in the valley now enjoy the hunting and fishing opportunities today because sportsmen like Wally realized their sport may not survive in the coming years, if Rod & Gun Clubs did not exist. Thanks Wally and all

of the other members that kept the club together during hard times.

This week's picture shows Wally Pasickniak, Jr. with his wife Donna & family member Mark Kuras.

Opening at Wachusett Res. this past Saturday had a lot of small lake trout being caught, with one six pound being registered. The Laker's stomachs were full of small perch, small bass, but no smelt. The Quabbin Res. opens this Saturday. Be sure to have your boat washed at a registered site prior to fishing.

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending.



Sen. Anne Gobi and State Representative Donald Berthiaume, right, speak during Alexander MacMillan's Eagle Scout celebration.

SCOUT

continued from page 1

"People don't often realize how much hard work goes into Scouting. We congratulate Alex on everything he has accomplished," Gobi said.

Added Berthiaume, "You worked very hard during every step of this process."

During the April 7 celebration,

MacMillan took part in several rituals to embrace his status as an Eagle Scout. A handful of other local residents who earned the rank were in attendance to congratulate him, each fellow Eagle listing one of the core Scouting values. Only four percent of all Boy Scouts attain the Eagle Scout rank, which was established in 1911.

Looking back on his years in Scouting, MacMillan has plenty of great memories and friendships to reflect on. Local leaders

hope younger Scouts will use the example he set to help reach their own goals.

"Some of my favorite memories involved going on survival trips, going to New York City, and having fun while doing white water rafting," said MacMillan, who advanced to the Boy Scouts at age eleven.

In more than 100 years of Scouting, two million Boy Scouts nationwide have earned the Eagle Scout rank.

LeBoeuf announces April office hours

REGION — State Rep. David LeBoeuf today announced April office hours to be held in various parts of the 17th Worcester District.

Friday, April 12, 10 a.m.-noon
Leicester Senior Center, 40 Winslow Ave., Leicester

Saturday, April 20, 9-11 a.m.

Pleasant Street Diner, 310 Pleasant St., Leicester

Any constituents unable to attend this month's office hours that are interested in meeting with Representative LeBoeuf can schedule an in-district appointment by calling 617-722-2425 or emailing David.LeBoeuf@mahouse.gov

The 17th Worcester District includes Worcester's Ward 7, precincts 2, 3, and 4 of Ward 8, and the Town of Leicester.

Trout Unlimited announces fly fishing tournament

AUBURN — The Central Massachusetts chapter of Trout Unlimited is holding its third state high school fly fishing championship on April 27 at noon on the Auburn Sportsman Club pond.

Any high school fly fisher in the state can compete. There is no charge, and this is a fun event. The pond will be stocked with rainbows, brookies, and brown trout.

This is a catch and release derby, so bring your nets. After the derby Trout Unlimited will be holding their annual banquet in the hall. Derby winners will be presented with awards then. The banquet also has raffles and a silent auction and great food. The price is \$25 for the banquet, and can be purchased in the club lounge or at the door on the night of the banquet Auburn Sportsmen Club is located at 50 Elm St., Auburn.

The Special Moments



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Make every occasion special by designing and growing containers for summer holidays, weddings, anniversary parties or other special celebrations. Pick a color scheme appropriate for the occasion or a variety of colors and shapes sure to add a festive touch.

Look for opportunities to include edible and flower filled planters. Set containers at your front entrance to welcome family and guests. Use smaller containers to line a pathway and decorate each table. Fill large pots with tall plants and ornamental grasses to provide privacy and define spaces.

Boost your confidence and eliminate the guesswork by including winning varieties trialed and proven for their performance in gardens and containers. All-America Selections (AAS) is a non-profit trialing organization with test sites across the U.S. and Canada. Volunteer judges rate entries based on their improved performance, flavor and unique qualities. Visit the AAS Web site for help selecting edibles and flowers suitable for container

gardening. (all-america-selections.org)

Then pick a color theme. Red, white and blue combinations are perfect for patriotic holidays like the fourth of July. Or pick one color and display it in patriotic pots. For reds consider Summer Jewel red salvia, Viking XL Red on Chocolate begonia and Double Fire Zahara zinnia. Add a light airy touch with Sparkle White guara and Gypsy White Improved baby's breath. Evening Scentsation petunia, Strata salvia and Lavender Lady lavender provide the blue. Add an explosion of texture with fiber optic grass or Fireworks penstemon.

Host a sports event using flower colors or containers of your favorite team. Add to the festivities by growing them in a football, baseball or soccer shaped planter.

Gold is always a great choice when celebrating anniversaries, golden birthdays or any special occasion. Dress up the tables with the plump blooms of Marigold Big Duck Gold or the feathery blossoms of Fresh Look Gold celosia. Let them know they're special by including Super Hero™ Spry marigold. The maroon and golden yellow flowers top 12-inch tall plants and the name says it all. All these golden beauties will continue to flower and thrive

long after the party ends. Combine them with other bright colors like South Pacific Orange canna, and Calliope® Medium Dark Red geranium to create a festive atmosphere.

Bring the garden to the party with a few edible containers for a bit of interactive dining. Encourage guests to harvest herbs and vegetables as they create a salad, season their dinner or flavor their favorite drink. Then dress up the meal with edible flowers like calendulas and Baby Rose nasturtium with its peppery flavored flowers and leaves.

Make any outdoor wedding, reception or rehearsal dinner at your home memorable by creating planters that complement the bride's color scheme. Include white flowers, like Summer Jewel White salvia, Mont Blanc nierembergia, Starlight rose zinnia and Gypsy White Improved gypsophila. White is the perfect neutral and lights up any evening celebration.

Once you experience the difference specially-designed containers can make, you'll be looking for more opportunities to host events and grow more planters.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How



Courtesy Photo All-America Selections

Begonia Viking XL Red on Chocolate is a striking plant great for container gardens. Its large vibrant red flowers are contrasted with chocolate brown leaves.

to Grow Anything" gardening DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio

segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by

AAS for her expertise to write this article. Myers' web site is www.melindamyers.com.

MMEA

continued from page 1

scales, and sight reading."

For Delage and van Lingen, it means even more to be selected this year after overcoming the adversity of last year's disappointment. Now they are looking forward to performing among several other outstanding student musicians.

"Getting into Central Districts was not an easy task. I auditioned last year, but unfortunately I did not make it," said Delage, an eighth grader

who has played the clarinet for four years. "I worked hard and practiced more because I really wanted to be selected. It is an honor to have been chosen. I can't wait for the concert to showcase our talent."

Morrison, a seventh grade bass clarinetist, earned a spot in the competition after her impressive debut audition.

"Getting into Central Districts is a huge accomplishment and a way to look back and see how far I've come from the first day of picking up an instrument," Morrison said. "I have had amazing help from

my teachers, peers, friends, and family. I would especially like to thank my music teacher, Ms. Looney, and the David Prouty music teacher, Mr. Fazio, for all of their help and support."

Jacob van Lingen, an eighth grade percussionist, had to prepare materials on snare drum, bass drum, suspended cymbal, and triangle, among others. Knowing exactly how difficult it would be to earn a spot, he arrived for his audition prepared and focused.

"It means a lot to me to be a part of this moment in history.

I practiced really hard and put my best efforts into it," van Lingen said.

Looney and other LMS teachers are excited about the lessons the students have learned at a young age. Facing an obstacle that might have discouraged some students from competing again, the students worked hard and elevated their performances.

"As their music teacher, I am extremely proud of their dedication," Looney added. "Cole and Jacob both auditioned last year and did not make it into the band, so they knew

how much harder they needed to work to prepare for this year. Each of these three students has been taking private lessons on their instruments and are excellent members of the Leicester Middle School Symphonic Band."

Last week, the three students began attending four-hour rehearsals with other local musicians representing central Mass. towns. They will perform at Franklin High School on Saturday, April 28.

ASPARAGUS

continued from page 1

whisked to the common, no parking problem at all. You'll be welcomed by the festival committee and walk right in to the party of the year, free of charge and open to all.

Throughout the day, there's a lively agenda in place. Bring the kids, the grandparents, the whole family or neighborhood, to browse for plants and pleasurable things, enjoy the music, and of course, venture down enticing Asparagus Alley. There you may savor the tasty and tasteful delights of notable vendors, including, of course, a variety of offerings dedicated to the delicate, delectable green star of the show. Meanwhile, the church ladies serve up their home baked pies while the men stay busy serving up the chowder. We modestly state - well, actually brag a little - that this year's array of foods and vendors is especially diverse, featuring variety and creativity to accommodate all tastes. Lunch and munch to the music of the Stable Hands as you witness the joy of this day.

Artisans will demonstrate - kids of all ages may wish to help the blacksmith make a nail and stamp it with their initials, or watch a lowly burl of wood or lump of clay being turned into a treasure. There are photographers and potters and artists, all pleased to discuss their work whilst providing affordable art you can take home. There's plenty of food and growers; you'll find handmade jewelry, soaps, body products, candles, garden items, honeys and jams. Authors with

books to sign, and did we mention the food? Pull up a hay bale and munch as you enjoy the music and the spectacle of a town kicking up its heels in honor of a venerable vegetable and a Dutchman who lived among us for a few short years.

Ed the Wizard is will be bring his usual bag of tricks and mystify the kids with his wily wizardry. Youngsters and the young at heart will be charmed by the Clowning for Kidz bus full of clowns, ready to amaze and amuse with frolicsome entertainment throughout the day. And yes, The Frogs Will Be Jumping at 1 p.m. Line up by then to register, near the fountain, for the contest. There's an art contest for first graders from the elementary school. The winners will receive gift certificates from Michael's; just for fun, two winning entries will be made into postcards available free at the festival. All day long, there are free kids' games, face painting, and clever arts and crafts - the fun is in discovering what's new and different to do this year. Additionally, there are asparagus festival tee shirts, cookbooks, and fresh asparagus to be had.

The popular festival began as a friendly, small town happening, sponsored by the Quabog Historical Society and the West Brookfield Historical commission, eighteen years ago. A famous cook volunteered to cook her special chowder. Pies were baked, other savories served. Growers brought plants, flowers, honeys and jams and so on. Artists, artisans and crafts people brought unique and lovely items to

purchase and admire. Animals, raised for food, fun or textiles abounded - they still do. Music accompanied the myriad activities, the bustling, busy happy day of celebrating the earth's goodness and its promise. And when the day ended, everyone knew the event was a treasure, to be savored anew each year.

And so it has been. In the ensuing years, word has spread, offerings and participants have multiplied. This year welcomes a pleasing blend of returning and new vendors, something fresh and appealing for everyone. Ask the blacksmith to tell the terrifying tale of St. Dunstan - the patron saint of blacksmiths - and the Devil, and why we hang a horseshoe over our door. Stroll the splendid village green and admire the stately surroundings, the church and bandstand. Enjoy a wagon ride around that classic New England common. Greet old friends, make new ones. You'll know them by their smiles - everyone always smiles at everyone else at the asparagus festival - they just can't help it.

As you approach the common, at the junction of Routes 9 & 67, where all roads will surely lead on May 18, be sure to admire the beautiful forms of "our ladies" arrayed and adorned just as they were when George Merritt

Rice donated the town's lovely centerpiece in 1885. Rest awhile on the benches, donated by appreciative townspeople in memory of loved ones. Witness the colorful whirl of families enjoying a quintessential event in this very special place. Perhaps you should mark the date on your calendar right now; you won't want to miss it!

There is no rain date. There is no ATM on the common; if you think you might like to purchase a trinket or two (or how can you resist the superb display of plants) bring cash or checks. There's an ATM in the center of town, a brief walk away. And of course, you can enjoy the day without spending a dime, if that's your style. There is some parking around the common, but the shuttle is constant, convenient and free. Feast your eyes on the graceful fountain, the colorful, creative, displays, the flowers, the food, the fun, and sally forth to a joyous day.

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VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No collusion!

To the Editor:
 The Mueller report is in, and it is with the Attorney General of the United States. The determination we have all known for weeks is that there was no collusion, no obstruction, and a total exoneration. Keep America Great! The mainstream media was playing the people. For two years, they pushed the Russian Collusion Delusion when they always knew there was no collusion. They are truly the enemy of the people and the real opposition party!

It started with Nancy Pelosi before the Mueller report even came out – she is not entertaining impeachment. Dems on the hill are walking back their talk of collusion now that it has been disproven. Democrats and others have gone back to their pre-witch hunt phase in their lives before the Collusion Delusion took over. Others are pretending that their former hero, Bob Mueller, no longer exists!

The Radical left Democrats in congress are now trying to re-examine the no-collusion Mueller report when the real crime was committed by Crooked Hillary, the DNC, and Crooked cops! The Attorney General has states publicly and in front of congress that the prior administration spied on the Trump campaign in 2016. Now that the collusion witch hunt is behind us, the AG needs to turn his focus towards the true criminals of 2016. Who approved spying on an opposition party campaign? Who launched a 2 year \$35M witch hunt in an attempted coup d'état? What about the emails? Uranium One?

There are a lot of people who the AG should put in a cell, or somewhere in North Dakota breaking rocks. Hillary? Comey? Ilhan Omar? American co-conspirators providing legal and material assistance to those who wish to invade from our southern boundary?

We have a crisis on the border, and the fault lies squarely with Democrats who refuse to

change our laws to make a better deterrent. We need to change our immigration laws, and fast. We need to eliminate asylum as a thing and treat the invasion force accordingly. In the meantime, our detention facilities are full. Releasing illegal immigrants into sanctuary cities to deal with the detention overcrowding problem seems like a win-win... Red areas of the country don't want them, blue sanctuary cities say we do want them and can take care of them. Let's make everybody happy and bus them to the sanctuary cities where they are wanted!

Finally, the pardons Trump offered. The pardon power of the President is absolute and often used in circumstances where the violator may have violated the letter of the law but they had the best interests of the nation at heart. The pardon power is used as a final check and balance against a government persecuting people who are either innocent or heroes. Sherriff Joe Arpaio, Scooter Libby, and Dinesh D'Souza, and the Hammonds are good examples of deserving recipients. If any Homeland Security Officials inadvertently violate the letter of the law in the pursuit of preventing a demographic catastrophe or if any officials end up with federal charges simply for following the Presidents orders – then they too deserve pardons. These things should go without saying.

Now the Democrats want the President's personal tax returns in an obvious an apparent hit job! If the readers of this publication have nothing to hide, why don't they publish their tax returns for all to see!

Now that the Russian hoax is behind us, it is time for Trump to fire on all cylinders and remake the Executive branch and the USA in his image. God bless America, and no place else!

GEORGE GRAHAM
 NORTH BROOKFIELD

Free speech and the obscene

To the Editor:
 Through the various Viewpoint letters to the editor, I never thought I would find myself in agreement with Mr. McRae on anything, however in the April 12 edition of the New Leader ("The Holdcraft sign case could have consequences for us all") it seems we have common ground. The matter of the Holdcraft sign in Brookfield should be a concern to all of us – not just Mr. Holdcraft or the town officials he antagonizes.

The Holdcraft sign is ugly. It is antagonistic. It is a stain on the town of Brookfield to all who drive by on Route 9. But it is also a symbol of property rights and freedom of speech. The only explanation for how such an ugly and embarrassing sign could be so prominent in the minds of all who live here is that the sign is protected – because anybody besides Mr. Holdworth would want to take it down. I have seen that sign countless times and never understood the messaging – but it remains a landmark and symbol of free speech.

Mr. McRae mentioned that the sign is not "employing obscene," seeming like an emergency ripcord should the Christian Taliban not like the speech. I don't think "obscene" should be a criteria at all in free speech cases. Obscene in whose opinion? How do we define obscene? You'll know it when you see it? I would venture to say that the local burghermeisters consider Mr. Holdworth's sign obscene. How would Mr. McRae feel if I put up a sign on private property next to a church and elementary school that said, "GOD ISN'T REAL. JUST SKIP CHURCH, IT'S ALL FAKE NEWS?" I could rotate it to say, "SANTA CLAUS ISN'T REAL. YOUR PARENTS ARE LYING TO YOU" in December and "THE EASTER BUNNY IS YOUR FATHER AND

HE BOUGHT THE CANDY AT WALMART" for the Easter season. How would Mr. McRae feel if my sign said, "NOBODY RISES FROM THE DEAD. FAKE NEWS." or "MARY WASN'T A VIRGIN. BABIES COME FROM HAVING SEX."

All of those statements are factually accurate (or at least nobody could prove me wrong), not threatening nor libelous. I would venture to guess many people in this area would find the statements above obscene and would do an about-face on their defense of the 1st amendment and find a way to twist themselves into a pretzel to say that free speech can't be blasphemous. Allowing "obscenity" to invalidate the First Amendment merely gives the arbiter of obscene the power to decide what can be spoken and what can't.

Mr. Holdcraft's case does raise a valid point with zoning regulations. Zoning regulation very purpose is to control how private property is used. It is absurd to think that local town officials in a one horse town don't put their thumbs on the scale for a particular outcome. If there is only one ugly sign in town and they pass an anti-sign zoning ordinance or an anti-shed-close-to-the-road ordinance it is clearly targeted government action. The power of zoning boards is corrupt and all members of them are absolutely corruptible – they sign off on variances for their friends and not for their enemies.

Why is it my neighbor's business if I build a porch on my property? Why should the town tell me if I can or can't have a trailer on my private backyard? Is the very concept of zoning constitutional? Is this what the founders had in mind?

OMAR HAR-YAROK
 EAST BROOKFIELD

Our so-called President

side of a magic line in the sand and be white.

It is now coming out that the purge we have been seeing in the Department of Homeland Security is because Trump is pressuring officials to act illegally. Luckily, for now, they are resisting. It is only a matter of time before he finds his "yes man." Trump pushed the acting DHS Secretary, Kevin McAleenan, to break the law and offered to pardon him if he were to act illegally and prevent migrants from entering. This past week, he purged the DHS Secretary, Secret Service Director, DHS Acting Deputy Secretary, and ICE acting director. There are now six agencies with 'acting' leaders. This is beyond an idiotic so-called-president just saying words, this is a tyrant. He is trying to be King Donald not President Trump.

The presidency and the White House, above all else, at least historically, is a place of preeminently moral leadership. This administration has none. As much as Trump blames the Democrats for the crisis, it is worth a short history lesson. Twice in the past 10 years the Senate when controlled by Democrats passed overwhelmingly comprehensive immigration reform with 14 Republicans. Of the

Republicans who voted for it many are gone: John McCain, Jeff Flake, Dean Heller, Lee Ayotte. They haven't been replaced by pro-compromise or pro-consensus people, they have been replaced by Trump lemmings. When George W. Bush pushed immigration reform the Republican controlled house wouldn't even vote on it. We have a problem in this country and it's a moral problem which has become a political problem, and there is only one orange man at the top.

William Barr, the guy who Trump picked as AG because in his public audition said Presidents can't be indicted, has now accused the previous administration of spying and considering a witch hunt of his own. It was irresponsible to feed into the conspiracy theories of both Trump and his armed supporters.

This so-called President, his so-called Administration, and his deplorable supporters are an embarrassment. It is hard to be proud to be an American when half of America supports this.

DAVID ROSENBERG
 SPENCER

Earth Day offers valuable lessons to investors



On April 22, millions of people will observe Earth Day by participating in events that support environmental protection. As a citizen, you may want to take part in a local celebration. And as an investor, you can learn a few lessons from the themes of Earth Day.

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Here are a few of them:

Avoid a toxic investment environment. A recurring topic of Earth Day is the necessity of reducing toxins from our air, water and land. And, while you might not think of it in those terms, your portfolio can also contain some "toxic" elements in the form of investments that may be hindering your progress, or, at the very least, not contributing to it. For instance, you might own some investments that, for one reason or another, have consistently underperformed, or are now too aggressive for your risk tolerance, which can change over the years. In these cases, you might be better off selling the investments and using the proceeds for other, more appropriate ones.

Look for sources of renewable energy. Efforts to protect our environment include a push for more renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind. As an investor, you, too, can look for "renewables" in the form of investments that keep paying you back in one way or another. Of course, the most basic example would be a bond, which pays you regular interest until the bond matures and you get your principal back, provided the issuer doesn't default, which is generally unlikely with an investment-grade bond. However, you also may want to consider another type of renewable – dividend-paying stocks. By reinvesting these dividends, you can increase the number of shares you own – and share ownership is a good way to help build your portfolio. Some companies have paid, and even increased, their dividends many years in a row, but keep in mind they're not obligated to do so.

Plant seeds of opportunity. Some Earth Day events involve planting trees – many of which won't be fully grown for decades. When you invest, you are planting seeds in the form of investments you hope will grow over the years. Of course, you will likely see some volatility along the way, but over the long term, investments with strong fundamentals may reward you for your patience.

Apart from these ideas, you also can connect the idea of helping protect the environment with investing for your goals. Through socially responsible investing, you can screen out investments in companies whose products you find objectionable, while supporting businesses whose work you believe helps contribute to a better world. And you can find investments, such as mutual funds that emphasize social responsibility, whose returns are competitive, so you don't have to sacrifice growth potential for your principles.

In the nearly 50 years since Earth Day celebrations began, we have taken steps to improve many aspects of our physical world, although the work continues. And by following some of the same techniques, you can improve your investment environment, too.

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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EDITORIAL

First signs of spring

It's here. It finally happened. Against all odds and the polar vortex, spring has come to the Northeast.

Time to get out with the rakes and garden spades and bags of mulch. Time to say hello to neighbors you haven't seen since the last snowstorm, when waving shovels served as a greeting because it was too cold to talk. Time to sweep off the deck, fire up the lawnmower and rediscover your yard.

The "firsts" are what make the season of spring so much fun. First cookout; first softball game; first trip to the garden center; first crocuses and daffodils and tulips blooming in the yard. The first seeds planted in the garden promise a summer salad harvest in just a month or so. The first time the weather forecast displays "humidity" instead of "wind chill" is almost a reason to stand up and cheer. There are endless reasons to celebrate.

So why is it that by mid-June, we're already complaining about the same things we found so thrilling in early April?

The lawnmower we so eagerly traded for the snow blower becomes the subject of family discussions – the kind that start with "It's not MY turn this week..." The thrill of the grill has waned a bit and those neighbors we were happy to see just seem to constantly have their music up loud and the windows open at all hours. The garden, site of so much TLC and attention in early spring, is now taking off in wild, weedy directions and is honestly just a bit creepy. And there are bugs.

So, before our human nature takes over and ruins the party, let's enjoy these first, delicious, fleeting moments of the very, very beginnings of our spring season. Keep the windows open even when the evening chill sets in. Take that walk instead of staying put. Wear the spring jacket. Haul out the patio chairs. Enjoy the trees without leaves, because in this very first part of spring, the sunshine can reach you better that way.

To the Editor:

The President was on Tweeting about immigration this week (surprise!). Reports leaked that Trump wanted to bus immigrants to sanctuary cities, then Trump denied it, then he tweeted that he was indeed considering it, calling it political retribution, then he called it fake news. Which is it? It isn't even clear if this is a Twitter prank or trying to use human beings as pawns. Both are unbecoming of the president.

We have chaos on the border. We could be trying to get the situation under control – expand the detention centers, send more judges to take care of the backlog, give counselors to the people, do what we can to address what is driving them out of Central America and into our chaotic detention centers (jails) instead. If an American jail is better than home, it might not take much for us to make their homes better. We could be doing a lot of things to make the situation better and functioning. That is what a normal president would be focused on. That is what governors and mayors are doing.

Instead of doing actual policy, our so-called-President is treating it as a Twitter game to make him and his base feel good about themselves. How meritorious of them to be born on this

Dipping with a Difference: Egg-stra Special Easter Eggs

Easter is right around the corner, and the religious holiday, steeped in tradition, often creates the best family memories. Easter morning candy hunts, family gatherings around tables heaped with ethnic foods, and the ritual of tinting eggs all help make this spring celebration one of the most enjoyable holidays ever.

Few family traditions are more enjoyable than the much-anticipated egg coloring event. Whether you decorate your eggs with intricate wax designs or plopping crayoned eggs into overfilled dye cups, the annual ceremony is always filled with fun and a sense of family togetherness.

The following easy projects take egg dyeing beyond the standard pastel dyes. They reveal simple and enjoyable ways to add a little something extra to your egg coloring efforts. You'll discover all it takes is a bit of patience, and a lot of enthusiasm to produce an impressive basketful of colorfully decorated Easter eggs!

Easy Waxed Eggs
This technique allows you to create two or more colors on an egg by creating designs with wax to block and add the different colors.

You will need: Wax crayons; paper towels; egg dyes in assorted colors.
To do: Draw a heavy crayon pattern on hard boiled egg. Dip egg in egg dye, preferably a dark color. Leave in dye until desired color is reached. Remove with slotted spoon and place in 200 degree F oven for a few minutes until wax is melted. Wipe away the melted wax with paper towel, to reveal undyed egg design. Dip egg again in lighter dye

to fill in pattern where wax was. Polish finished eggs with cooking oil and soft cloth.

Etched Eggs
This is a simplified method of an old world technique to embellish Easter eggs. It's not difficult to master, and the end result is quite impressive, but this hot wax project is best left for grownups.

To do: Dye your egg any color you wish. This will be your background color. Melt paraffin carefully in a double boiler. Dip dry, colored egg into the melted paraffin wax. After the wax is dry, etch a design by scratching through the wax with a darning needle. Geometric designs or freeform spirals are easy and impressive for beginners to try. Then dip the egg into another color of dye. Because of the wax coating, only the lines you scratched will pick up the new color. Remove the wax by heating the egg slightly in hot water, and polish the surface by rubbing in any remaining wax.

Magic Spotted Eggs
To do: Add about two teaspoons of cooking oil to each dye cup. (You might want to do this after you have finished dipping your eggs the traditional way.) When you dip in your egg, the dye won't adhere to the oil, creating mysterious spots on the egg! Allow to air dry completely in an empty egg carton or in an egg stand.

Tie Dye Eggs
To do: Make up several colored dye cups in strong solutions (about two



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

tablespoons of water to a tablet of dye). Add two or three drops of vinegar to each color. Dip a piece of cotton cloth in water, wring out until damp. Wrap cloth around the egg. With an eye dropper, drop spots of assorted dye colors on the cloth. Then twist the cloth tightly around the egg so the colors blend together, forming a tie dye effect. Gently unwrap the egg and let it dry.

Marbled Eggs
Materials: Large glass jar; crayon stubs; vegetable grater; hot water; waxed paper or newspaper, empty egg carton, clear acrylic spray (optional, for blown eggs).
Instructions: Grate peeled crayons over waxed paper. Fill jar with very hot water (or use the water you boiled eggs in). Drop bits of grated crayon into water. Add hard boiled or blown egg as soon as crayon begins to melt. Twirl egg in water with a spoon. The wax should make a design on the egg. Carefully remove egg and set upside down in egg carton to dry. Note for blown eggs: Use above method with blown out eggs; spray with clear acrylic when dry.

Mosaic Easter Eggs
Materials: Tissue paper in several colors; water, hard boiled eggs, small bowls or cups.
Instructions: Tear the tissue paper into small pieces. Pour some water in a bowl. One at a time, soak pieces of tis-

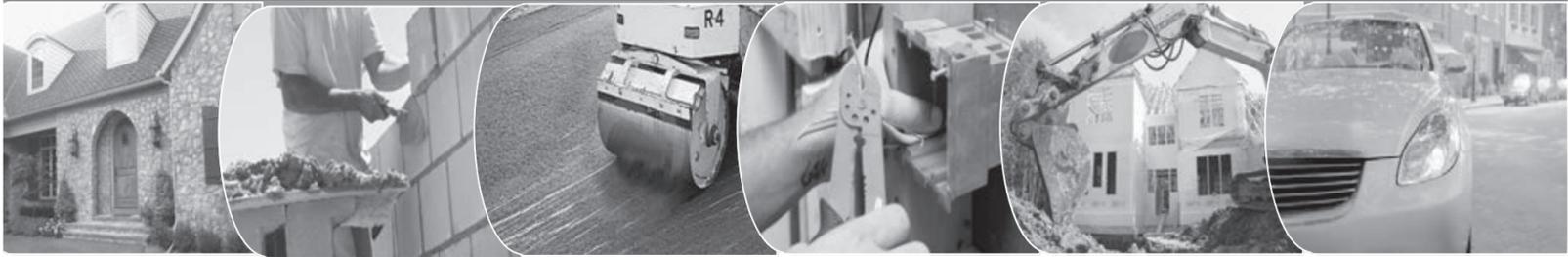
sue paper in the water. Then stick the wet pieces onto the surface of an egg. Keep placing tissue on the egg until it is covered. You may want to overlap the tissue pieces a little to cover the entire egg, or leave spaces to create a mosaic effect. After the entire egg is covered, place it in an egg cup to dry. When the tissue is dry, peel it off of the egg. The color of the tissue paper will have transferred to the egg.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

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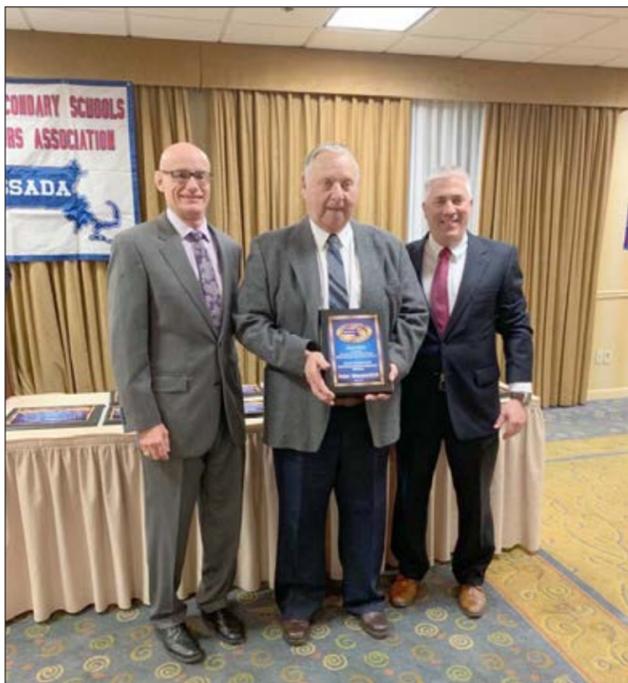


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SPORTS

Simonovitch, David Prouty's longtime basketball scoreboard operator, honored with Distinguished Service Award



Courtesy photo

Pete Simonovitch, center, was recently honored by the Massachusetts Athletic Directors Association as the District E recipient of the Joao Rodrigues Distinguished Service Award. Simonovitch has been David Prouty's scoreboard operator for the boys' basketball team since 1951 and hasn't missed a single game.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

SPENCER — In 1951 gas cost 27 cents a gallon, milk was 18 cents a gallon, bread was 30 cents a loaf and the average cost of a new car was \$1,500. This trip back in history has been provided to put in perspective just how long ago 1951 was — 68 years.

That was also the year Pete Simonovitch began keeping the clock at David Prouty Regional home basketball games, a labor of love that is still going strong. In all that time the 85-year-old

Simonovitch has never missed a Panthers' boys' basketball game.

That's never, as in never-ever.

"It was my junior year of high school. I was 5-foot-7, 154 pounds and although I tried out for the team, I didn't make it," Simonovitch said in a recent phone interview. "I still wanted to go and be a part of it all somehow, though. One of the coaches, Roland Aucoin, asked me if I would like to run the clock. In those days we didn't have the automatic clock on

the wall. We had something like an alarm clock and the visiting team had to send someone over to sit with me while I was timing.

"So I started running the time machine for the boys' varsity games and I've been doing it ever since," Simonovitch continued. "I've done it for 68 years and I've never missed a game."

David Prouty Athletic Director Chuck Fahey was so impressed by Simonovitch's consecutive games streak — which is well over 500 games — that he nominated Simonovitch earlier this year for the Joao Rodrigues Distinguished Service Award, presented each year to one deserving member of each athletic district in the state. The award is presented to a member of the community — it can't be an employee of the school district — who has gone above and beyond.

"It's kind of hard to wrap your head around when you say it out loud," Fahey said. "Sixty-eight years. That's much longer than I've been alive. It's pretty amazing."

Simonovitch was the recipient of the District E award, which is sponsored by the Massachusetts Athletic Directors Association (MSSADA). He received the award last month at the annual MSSADA conference, which was held in Hyannis.

Fahey said Simonovitch was surprised when Fahey told him he would be presented with the award.

"He and his family were quite taken aback when I told him he had won the award because he didn't even know I had nominated him," Fahey said. "He was very, very appreciative that the MSSADA was

acknowledging him for this accomplishment."

Simonovitch said he was stunned to learn he would be receiving the award.

"I was really pleased MSSADA acknowledged what I have accomplished," said Simonovitch, who has been the clock operator for Prouty's home girls' basketball games for the last 20 years as well. "I don't know of anybody who has dedicated themselves to any sport like I have to basketball. I just love the game."

Simonovitch said there have only been a few situations where he ran the risk of missing a game.

"One time I was involved in an accident on a Thursday and was in the hospital overnight, but I told them on Friday I wanted to get out because I had a game that night and I couldn't miss it," said Simonovitch, who is now retired after a career in sales. "Another time I was working out in Springfield and it was snowing like hell and there was a game in Spencer that night, so I left early to make the game."

In the early 2000s when schools, including David Prouty, were funding athletics with the help of user fees, Simonovitch donated his pay from being the clock operator to players whose families couldn't afford to pay to play.

"When I heard about that I went to Gene Hurley [a long-time Prouty booster] and Paul Archambault [the athletic director at the time] and told them to give my pay to the families of the kids that needed it in order to play," said Simonovitch.

Even though he

didn't make the David Prouty boys' basketball team back in 1951, Simonovitch was an accomplished athlete; he was signed by the old Boston Braves following his graduation from David Prouty. He was a member of the Braves minor league system for 6-1/2 years.

"I traveled a lot playing minor league baseball; the only states I didn't go to as a ballplayer was California, Oregon and Washington," said Simonovitch, who traveled the country during a time when Alaska and Hawaii weren't even states. "I played ball in a lot of different leagues in Florida, Texas, Idaho and Kentucky. I even played for a year in Canada."

Among the coaches that were at David Prouty during his tenure Aucoin, Joe Early, Edward McDonough and Dan Guerin stand out. The player he was most impressed with over the years was Will Sasseville.

"I may be prejudiced of course, but I think Will Sasseville was one of the best to ever come out of David Prouty," said Simonovitch, who was born on a farm in Wire Village and has never permanently lived anywhere other than Spencer. "Will was about 6-1 and he could dunk. He couldn't throw the ball in the ocean, but he could dunk. That was something special for a high school kid from Spencer."

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Sturbridge Legion Baseball to hold player signups, tryouts

Baseball players interested in playing for the Sturbridge American Legion team that are born on Jan. 1, 2000 or later are eligible to play. The final signup date will be held April 27 between 10 a.m. and noon at the Champeau-Vilandre Sturbridge Legion Post (507 Main Street in Fiskdale). Players should bring a photocopy of their birth certificate when they register at signups to insure your eligibility. All players that live in Sturbridge and/or attend Tantasqua Regional High School are eligible for the Sturbridge team; also players from other surrounding towns may also be eligible to play. The team will conduct tryouts May 18, 19 and 25, with times from 10 a.m. to noon on all three tryout dates at Tantasqua Regional's varsity baseball field. For more information contact team manager Jim Rosseel at (774) 230-1784 or jimrosseel@hotmail.com, or Coach Ray Sullivan at (508) 736-7770 or raysull_2@yahoo.com.

All-Star Basketball Tarentino fundraiser a success

The recent Tarentino fundraiser was a big success as the Leicester, Auburn and State Police All-Stars defeated the Leicester Men's League All-Stars on the basketball court, 56-49.

Award winners were:
Ron Tarentino award — Sarah O'Connor
William McGrail award — Jeremy Ledbetter
Offensive MVP — Derrick Ruth
Defensive MVP — Frank Bulman

Oxford secures early-season win over Panthers

OXFORD — Behind the pitching of Joel Erickson, the Oxford High varsity baseball team defeated David Prouty Regional, 10-2, on Wednesday, April 10 to improve to 1-1 in the early portion of

the season.

Erickson pitched five innings and struck out 10 Panthers to pick up the victory. Erickson was also 2-for-3 with a double and three RBIs.

On the flip side, David Prouty slipped to 1-2. Cam Dubey pitched for the Panthers and went the first five innings, striking out a pair. Offensively, Colin Nosek hit a two-RBI double.



Jason Mckay photos

David Prouty's Zack Paine sits back on the pitch as it approaches the plate.



Trevor Gemei of David Prouty snaps the ball over to first base to record an out.



Sawyer MacPherson of Oxford patiently awaits the pitch at the plate.



David Prouty pitcher Cam Dubey clutches onto the ball before whipping it to the plate.

SPORTS

Senior-laden Warriors too much for underclassmen-heavy Northbridge



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua's Austin Varney separates himself from the Northbridge defense while possessing the ball.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

NORTHBRIDGE — Drew Darger and Sean Farland each scored four goals and Mike Lucas recorded 10 saves as the Tantasqua Regional boys' varsity lacrosse team defeated Northbridge High, 14-6, on Thursday, April 11 at Northbridge High.

For the Warriors the win was their second straight after beginning the season 0-2 and they improved to 2-1 in Mid-Mass. League games in the process. Northbridge (2-3 overall) dropped to 0-2 in league play.

"We faced two tough opponents, Grafton and Shrewsbury, to start the year," said Tantasqua interim coach Tom Mills. "We didn't get any scrimmages in, so Grafton was a tough first game and they really laid the lumber on us, beating us 10-1."

Mills was serving as Tantasqua's head coach against Northbridge because the Warriors' official head coach, Gregg Anderson, was away,

attending the NCAA Division 1 men's hockey's Frozen Four, which was held April 11-13 in Buffalo, N.Y.

Two days before the win over Northbridge, Tantasqua earned its first win of the year, defeating Worcester 16-7.

"We've been really controlling the ball; our faceoff guy, Sean Farland, has been real good the last two games. He's dominated possession time for us," said Mills, who pointed out that the Warriors are a senior-laden team with no fewer than 16 upperclassmen on the roster. "We love to win the faceoff, possess, get into our offense, control the rock and spin it. Our last two games we've owned the possession time, which helps us do what we want to do."

Darger, Farland and Lucas are all seniors.

Thanks to goals by Darger, Farland and Donovan Mawhinney (two goals in the game), Tantasqua jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the opening minutes of the first quarter and

stretched that lead to 4-1 at the end of the first period and 6-1 at halftime.

"Northbridge is young and they're up and coming; they have some good talent. Because of that we felt it was very important that we got off to a quick start," Mills said. "A young team like Northbridge, if you let them hang around it gives them some confidence and helps them grow even faster."

"Getting off to a quick start was the emphasis in practice [Wednesday] and when we got off the bus before the game we told the kids to get off to a fast start and break [Northbridge's] will," Mills continued. "You give a team like Northbridge some confidence they'll raise their level of play and the get dangerous."

Tantasqua kept pressuring the Northbridge net in the third quarter, scoring five times to take an 11-2 lead into the fourth quarter. The Warriors opened the fourth period with three straight goals to extend the



Tantasqua's Quinn McHugh uses a pick set by Cam Dungey to move the ball down the field.

lead to 14-2 before Northbridge scored the final four goals of the game.

Also scoring for Tantasqua in addition to Darger (who also notched three assists), Farland and Mawhinney were Chase Freeland (two goals), Austin Varney (two assists, too) and Spike Austin.

Leading the way offensively for Northbridge was Joey Consigli, who finished with two goals and an assist, and Brian Wildman, who also scored twice. The Rams other two goals were score by Rory Schofer and Jayden Consigli.

As experienced as Tantasqua is, that's how young Northbridge is.

"We're rebuilding; we're very young. We have an

eighth-grader, nine freshmen, two sophomores, two juniors and four seniors on the team," Rams' head coach Colby Brochu said. "It's like being in a boxing match against a guy who is 10 times more experienced than you. You're just trying to hold your own. This is a tough game for us because it is a senior versus freshmen type of game."

"We're young and we've got to keep plugging away. We've got to keep doing the little things right — groundballs, playing help defense, keeping our heads up," Brochu continued. "Offensively it seemed like we weren't moving off-ball. Their goalie and their poles [long pole defensemen] are very athletic."

Potential rally killers spell doom for Tantasqua in loss to Indians

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

GRAFTON — Tyler Dupuis tossed a four-hit, complete-game shutout and went 2-for-4 at the plate with a pair of RBIs to help lead the Grafton High varsity baseball team to a 9-0 season-opening win over visiting Tantasqua Regional on Wednesday, April 10.

The Warriors fell to 1-3 overall and 1-2 in Southern Worcester County League (SWCL) play with the loss, but bounced back the next day to beat SWCL foe Millbury High, 6-0.

Tantasqua started strong, putting its first two hitters on base in the top of the first inning. Dominic Brown reached base after being hit by a pitch and the Warriors No. 2 batter, Nolan Kingman, reached base on a Grafton error, Brown moving to second on the play.

The would-be rally by Tantasqua sputtered to a stop at that point, Ryan Bonja striking out, Deven Kingman popping out to second base and Andrew Parker grounding out to the Indians' shortstop.

Like the Warriors before it, Grafton opened the bottom of the inning by getting its first two hitters on base. Charlie Farrah was hit by a pitch and Ben Waitkevich walked. Unlike Tantasqua, however, the Indians' No. 3 hitter, Matt Holbrook, also reached base, singling to left field to load the bases.

After Farrah scampered home on a wild pitch during Jack Martin's at-bat (Martin ended up striking out, as did No. 5 hitter Jake Maynard) to give Grafton a 1-0 lead, Dupuis singled sharply to right-center field, scoring Waitkevich and Holbrook to push the Indians lead to 3-0.

"We thought we had [Dupuis] rattled early but he ended up getting out of that two-on, no-out situation," said Pete Casine, Tantasqua's interim head coach. "Then they did the same thing to us in the bottom of the first, but they converted their scoring chances, picked up those runs and put us in the hole."

Casine was filling in for Jon Leroux, Tantasqua's second-year head coach, who was away on a field trip with teachers and children from East Brookfield Elementary School, which is where Leroux teaches.

"Part of the agreement when they hired Jon [at East Brookfield Elementary] was, because he is the only male teacher at the school, he would be the male chaperone on their annual weeklong field trip, which happens to be this week," Casine explained.

Tantasqua had a few other chances to cut into or erase the Grafton lead. In the second inning Roger Leland (3-for-3) reached base on a one-out infield single to third base, but got no further. Deven Kingman led off the fourth inning with a double to left field, but was unable to advance any farther.

In the top of the fifth inning Leland led off with a single to center field for the Warriors but was stranded there. In the top of the seventh inning two of Tantasqua's first three hitters reached base, but that potential final at-bat rally ended when the Warriors hit into their second double play of the game.

"After we got through the batting order the first time we started putting more balls in play and kids had better at-bats but we could never dig out of that first-inning hole," Casine said. "We took a lot of pitches early and then we got behind. I thought we tensed up at the plate a little bit."

Grafton doubled its lead — to 6-0 — in the bottom of the fourth inning, scoring three times on a pair of triples, a single and a walk. The Indians extend its lead to 7-0 after five innings and 9-0 after six.

Right-handed pitcher Deven Kingman got the start on the bump for Tantasqua and went four innings, allowing six runs, all earned, on seven hits. He walked three and struck out five. Deven Kingman was relieved by Ben Kelley to start the fifth. Kelley finished the game, allowing three runs,

all earned, on three hits, two strikeouts and two walks.

"After the first inning I thought Deven settled in and threw strikes," Casine said. "Here in the early part of the season we've been giving up too many free bases with walks and errors. When we held them at 3-0 for a couple of innings we gave ourselves a shot to rally and tie the game or go ahead but we couldn't get anything going offensively."



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua's Darren Laprade collects a groundball hit his way at second base.

ATHLETE of the WEEK

Alyssa Bettencourt, Hannah D'Angelo, Jordan D'Angelo, Morgyn Astrella, Natalie Page, Emily Gibeault, Paisleigh Atwood

The seven Quaboag Regional student-athletes all contributed to the Cougars' 5-0 victory over the David Prouty Regional girls' tennis team last Thursday, April 11. Quaboag is now 3-0 to open the season.

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SPORTS

Minutemen can't solve Worcester Tech's pitching in 1-0 defeat



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path left fielder Andrew Flanagan tracks down a fly ball hit his way.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

CHARLTON — The good news for the Bay Path Regional varsity baseball team was that they surrendered a single run in the season-opener versus Worcester Tech on Tuesday, April 9. The bad news for the Minutemen was that they mustered just a single hit en route to losing a 1-0 decision.

The run Bay Path allowed came in the top of the first

inning and it was unearned. The Eagles' Jose Curet and Kyle DiPilato both reached base on errors and Cruz Lopez delivered a one-out RBI single up the middle to plate Curet for what turned out to be the game's lone run, as Minutemen pitcher Dom Esposito was the hard-luck loser.

"We muffed a couple of plays in the first inning and it just ended up costing us," said Bay Path head coach Mark Sansoucy before speaking of potential lessons learned by his defense. "You have to play every out — every out counts — especially when you're playing a team like this. Worcester Voke is always a good team and you can't make mistakes."

Esposito, a crafty southpaw, was flawless the rest of the way. Aside from the unearned run Esposito pitched an eight-hitter, struck out three and walked two.

"The good thing we got out of it was that Dom pitched great and [Worcester Tech] can hit," said Sansoucy. "He pitched great and pitched out of innings. He's very good at mixing up his pitches and he's got a bunch of them."

One pitch that stood out in Esposito's arsenal was his knuckleball, which kept Worcester Tech hitters frus-

trated in the outing.

"He keeps people off-balance and he outsmarts them," Sansoucy said of Esposito.

Sansoucy was also pleased to see how his team's defense became a brick wall following that first inning.

"They played really good," he said, before singling out shortstop Andrew Fritze. "Fritze played great at short and that's really the first time he's played short. He's a great second baseman and we had to move him to short because our shortstop [Dylan Brien] is hurt. He's one of the best fielders we've had in a long time."

Fritze tightly secured all four balls hit his way.

Bay Path's lone chance to score off Tech — who had Lopez pitch a complete game fresh with seven strikeouts and no walks — came in the bottom of the fifth inning with two outs. There, Andrew Flanagan singled up the middle. He was stranded at first, though, when Fritze grounded out.

Flanagan was the only base-runner Lopez allowed all game.

"I think this is one of the teams that's there in the end and we can play with them," Sansoucy said of his lasting impression of the first game of the season, as it was also the



Bay Path's Dom Esposito delivers a pitch to the plate versus Worcester Tech.

Eagles' as they moved to 1-0.

The game was played at the Town Field instead of at the high school because of the normal field's wetness.

The Minutemen then played Assabet Valley (a 4-1 loss) and

Abby Kelley Foster (a 10-5 win) to round out the week before embarking on their annual Cape Cod trip to play two games over the school vacation week, a trip that Sansoucy says helps bond the team together.

Rockets get the better of Bay Path, a first-year program, 15-0

By Ken Powers
Sports Correspondent
AUBURN — Senior Caleb Mackin and sophomore Eric Paine each scored four goals, and Manny Rosario added three more as the Auburn High boys' varsity lacrosse team shut out Bay Path Regional, 15-0, on Monday April 15 at Memorial Field.

The Rockets improved to 2-3 with the win while the Minutemen, a first-year co-op program with Southbridge High playing at the varsity level, fell to 1-4.

Mackin, a senior captain who plays attack, and Paine, a sophomore

midfielder, both also recorded two assists each. Rosario, a senior midfielder, notched three assists. Also scoring for Auburn were freshman Brendan Crowley (two goals) and sophomores Billy Erickson and Thomas Cowden. For Cowden the goal was the first of his varsity career.

After a slow start the Rockets found their rhythm and scored five goals in the final 10 minutes of the first quarter. Auburn increased its lead to 11-0 at halftime and 13-0 after three quarters.

"We were a little sleepy at the start of the game,

but once we settled down we started moving the ball, finding the open players and getting off some quality shots," Auburn head coach Mike Jarvis said. "I thought our balanced scoring came from moving the ball around. We've got some good offensive players and so we want to pass the ball around and get everybody some scoring chances."

Mackin said quality ball movement is a key part of the game for the Rockets if they hope to be successful.

"The biggest thing really is just listening to coach Jarvis. Coach Jarvis knows what he's talking about and when we listen to him we do well," Mackin said. "A lot of our success does come off ball movement. If we're patient and we keep working the ball around it creates scoring opportunities."

"A big part of my game is passing," Mackin continued. "I like passing because a lot of times my teammates are open because they've been working hard making cuts and getting open. I try to reward their hard work by getting them the ball when they're in a position to score. It was nice to put a couple in today, but I really like to pass the ball and set my teammates up."

Jarvis said the Rockets, now in their third year as a varsity program, have a lot of experienced play-

ers. "We've got a good amount of seniors this year [10], so we've got a good amount of experience," Jarvis said. "We're still building from a program standpoint; still developing, but we've got a little more experience available to us now. It definitely helps us to keep plugging away."

Unlike Auburn, which played a junior varsity schedule in its first year of existence back in 2016, Bay Path decided to jump right into the varsity level fray in its first year fielding a team.

"We'll figure it out on the run; that was our thinking when we decided to field a varsity team here in Year 1," Minutemen head coach Matt Fall said. "We're going to take a few lumps; we kind of figured that coming into it, but I think the kids have a pretty positive attitude and are able to handle the situation. We've made them mentally prepared that this kind of stuff [lopsided losses] can happen."

Bay Path did collect its first win in the history of the program in its first game, a victory over the Sizer School.

"I think we have the athletes and senior leadership to handle the varsity load and that we can use their athleticism, their talent and their knowhow to be competitive in games while we develop our freshmen and sophomores in the



Bay Path goalie Dean Maestro attempts to make a save versus Auburn.

JV program," Fall said. "I think over the course of the next couple of years we'll see that come to light."

When talking about his team's senior leadership, Fall specifically mentioned Nick Hamilton, Dean Maestro and Ryan Vigeant.

Despite allowing 15 goals, Maestro played solidly in net, making a dozen saves, several on shots that appeared head-

ed into the goal.

"Dean is making stops on some shots that I can't even believe he's getting to," Fall said. "Here in the early going he's been averaging 20-25 saves a game. He played great today and he's been playing that way since Day 1. Dean has really owned that position. He keeps the defense engaged. He is a fun player to watch. He's entertaining to say the least."



Nick Ethier photos

Brady McCann of Bay Path hustles past Auburn's Caleb Mackin while possessing the ball.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

April 9

Tantasqua 3, Notre Dame Academy 2 — In a tight girls' tennis matchup, the visiting Warriors edged the Rebels for their first victory of the season (1-2). Tantasqua's winners were Sarah Scott (No. 2 singles), Ava DeBruin (No. 3 singles) and Ava Cooper/Nina Ellison (No. 1 doubles).

Tantasqua 14, Worcester 8 — Cami Freeland's monster game of six goals and an assist propelled the Warriors girls' lacrosse team past Worcester. It was Tantasqua's first win of the season, as they now stand at 1-3. Other goal scorers for the Warriors were Liz Beaumont (four), Maddy Varney (two), Addie Ellithorpe and Ainsley Way.

April 10

Tantasqua 3, Grafton 2 — The singles play of the Warriors boys' tennis team led to a victory over the Indians. Wade Woolley (No. 1), Ryan Shanahan (No. 2) and Tim Taudel (No. 3) were Tantasqua's winners.

Grafton 8, Tantasqua 5 — The superb start to the season by the Warriors' Jillian Dunn continued, she had three hits and a pair of RBIs for the varsity softball team, but it wasn't enough as they lost to the Indians. Niya Talcott, Erin McCarthy and Shannon Dunn all added two hits for Tantasqua.

Grafton 5, Tantasqua 0 — The Warriors were blanked by the Indians in a girls' tennis matchup at Grafton, as Tantasqua's record slipped to 1-3. The Warriors' Sarah Scott, at No. 2

singles, was the closest to a victory, losing (6-4, 6-3) to Jenna Lee.

April 11

Quaboag 5, David Prouty 0 — The hot start of the Cougars girls' tennis team continued with a shutout victory over the Panthers. Quaboag is now 3-0. Alyssa Bettencourt (No. 1 singles), Hannah D'Angelo (No. 2 singles), Jordan D'Angelo (No. 3 singles), Morgyn Astrella/Natalie Page (No. 1 doubles) and Emily Gibeault/Paisleigh Atwood (No. 2 doubles) were all victorious.

Shepherd Hill 3, Tantasqua 2 — In a tight contest, the Rams edged the Warriors in boys' tennis. Winners for Shepherd Hill were Ryan Moore (No. 1 singles), Ben Martin-Jaffe/Andrew Kallanian (No. 1 doubles) and Nikolas

Goulas/Declan Cronin (No. 2 doubles). Ryan Shanahan (No. 2 singles) and Tim Taudel (No. 3 singles) took home the wins for Tantasqua.

Millbury 14, Tantasqua 3 — A 16-hit attack was more than enough for the Woolies to dispatch the Warriors' varsity softball team. Marie Stewart was 2-for-3 with 3 RBIs for Tantasqua.

Tantasqua 4, East Longmeadow 1 — The Warriors inched closer to .500 in girls' tennis after another victory, as they improved to 2-3. Morgan Mascolo (No. 1 singles), Sarah Scott (No. 2 singles), Ava Cooper/Nina Ellison (No. 1 doubles) and Parker Riley/Emily Anderson earned the points for Tantasqua.



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Tri-Valley, Inc. - May 2019

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Dudley 508-949-6640, Franklin 508-520-1422, Milford 508-478-8102, Northbridge 508-234-2002, Oxford 774-289-2600, Southbridge 774-289-9438, Spencer 508-885-3904, Sturbridge 508-347-5063, Sutton 508-234-0703, Upton 508-529-9094, Uxbridge 774-482-6174, W. Brookfield 508-867-1411		1 Potato Crunch Fish Herbed Potatoes Peas & Onions Gingerbread Diet = Half Piece Pumpnickel Bread	2 Baked Ham Sour Crm & Chive Mash. Pot. Carrots Fresh Fruit Corn Muffin	3 Garlic Herbed Chicken Bread Stuffing Roasted Brussels Sprouts Vanilla Mousse Whole Wheat Bread
6 Stuffed Pepper Casserole Mashed Potatoes Carrots Lorna Doones Marble Rye Bread	7 Hot Dog Baked Beans Coleslaw Fresh Fruit Hot Dog Bun Mustard	8 Ranch Chicken Potatoes Au Gratin Peas & Carrots Baked Apples Pumpnickel Bread	9 Mother's Day Meal Roast Pork Loin with Gravy Cranberry Herb Stuffing Country Blend Vegetables Cream Puffs Italian Bread	10 Braised Beef Gemelli Pasta Roasted Broccoli Pears Marble Rye Bread
13 Chicken Pesto Red Bliss Potatoes Scandinavian Vegetables Vanilla Pudding Diet = Diet Vanilla Pudding Peasant White Bread	14 Beef Stir Fry Steamed White Rice Oriental Vegetables Pineapple Fortune Cookie Marble Rye Bread	15 Lemon Pepper Haddock Seasoned Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Pear Crisp Diet = Applesauce Whole Wheat Bread	16 American Chop Suey Roasted Broccoli Bread Pudding Peasant White Bread	17 Jambalaya Rice Pilaf Green Peas Mandarin Oranges Cornbread
20 Shepherd's Pie Carrots Peas Lemon Pudding Diet = Diet Tapioca Marble Rye Bread	21 Greek Chicken Steamed White Rice Roasted Brussels Sprouts Peaches Pumpnickel Bread	22 Turkey Supreme Mashed Sweet Potatoes Roasted California Blend Fresh Fruit Italian Bread	23 Meatloaf with Gravy Garlic Mashed Potatoes Chuckwagon Corn Birthday Cake Diet = Half Piece French Bread	24 Burger with Chili & Cheese Sweet Potato Fries Strawberries & Whipped Topping Sandwich Roll
27 Memorial Day No Meal Served	28 Vegetable Cheese Bake Seasoned Potatoes Green Beans Mandarin Oranges Italian Bread	29 Chicken Milano Wild Rice Spinach Strawberry Cup Pumpnickel Bread	30 Salisbury Steak w/ Gravy Mashed Potatoes Herbed Carrots Brownie Diet = Small Piece	31 Potato Crunch Fish Potatoes Au Gratin Mixed Vegetables Fresh Cut Melon Marble Rye Bread

TRIPS OFFERED

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

CHURCH PILGRIMAGE

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

CHARLTON SENIOR CENTER

Trip Coordinator Dotti Murphy - Please call 978-424-7010
Sign up sheets & flyers available at the Senior Center / Flyers also available on our web page www.townofcharlton.net Click on Departments then click on Council on Aging/Senior Center
Pick up is from St. Joseph's Church 10 H Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton
2019 Day Trips
June 18 (Tues) 3 Redneck Tenors - Musical comedy with downhome laughs and big city music - Davensport Yacht Club - \$92.00
July 16 (Tues) Lobsterbake at Fosters with Michael Minor singer, comedian, celebrity impressionist and ventriloquist performing - \$99.00
July 25 (Thurs) Gloucester Harbor Lobsterbake Cruise- fabulous day on the water with two dance floors, indoor & outdoor seating and buffet (1 lobster each) \$119.00
August 28 (Wed) Ultimate Tribute Show - Experience some of the greatest hits from some of the greatest entertainers of all times - Lake Pearl, Wrentham - \$92.00
Sept 17 (Tues) Atlantic City Boys - Four dynamic lead singers perform an exciting mix of world class vocals and interactive comedy - Davensport Yacht Club - \$92.00
Sept 24 (Tues) Simon Pearce Glassblowing Studio and King Arthur Factory - Fall foliage, tour glass blowing factory, and King Arthur factory after lunch - \$119.00
Oct 9 (Wed) New Hampshire Turkey Train - Foliage train ride, Harts Turkey Farm Luncheon, Mystery stop and sightseeing - \$99.00
Nov. 14 (Thurs) Ricky Nelson Remembered - Ricky Nelson's twin sons perform their father's hit songs - Venus DeMilo, Swansea \$95.00
Dec 3 (Tues) Johnny Mathis Christmas Tribute - Ultimate tribute to Johnny

Mathis with Christmas songs and some of his biggest hits - Davensport Yacht Club - \$92.00

2019 Overnight Trips
June 9 - 11 Bar Harbor, Boothbay Harbor & Arcadia National Park - 3 days, 2 nights - \$459pp double, \$599 single

Sept 20 - 22 Lake George Balloon Festival - 3 days, 2 nights - \$449pp double, \$599 single

Please call Dotti Murphy at 978-424-7010 for details if interested in any trips.
DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

The Daughters of Isabella proudly present our 2019 Fantastic Worldwide Tours!

April 30-May 2: Atlantic City Resorts Casino \$249
Atlantic City's original casino!
7 a.m. Webster, 7:30 a.m. Southbridge. Slot play/\$60 food credit/two Casino Revue shows. Right on the Atlantic City boardwalk!

May 19: Newport Rail \$92
Enjoy beautiful Newport on an elegant luncheon train. 8 a.m. Southbridge, 8:30 a.m. Webster. Sightseeing & visit to the Brick Marketplace. Get on track for the Newport Rail!

June 9: Gloucester Lobster \$102
New England's finest cruise lobster luncheon! 8:30 a.m. Southbridge, 9 a.m. Webster. Enjoy a relaxing cruise & great cuisine with your friends. The best summertime trip ever!

July 14: Essex Steam Train \$102
Great summertime tour in Connecticut. 9 a.m. Southbridge, 9:30 a.m. Webster. Delicious luncheon, train ride & Connecticut River cruise. Make tracks for the Essex Steam Train!

Aug. 11: Newport Playhouse Show & Lobster Fest \$102
Special lobster feast! 8:30 a.m. Southbridge, 9 a.m. Webster. Terrific "Funny Money" show & cabaret. Lobster feast & Newport's best show!

Sept. 15-17: Atlantic City Resorts Casino \$259
Atlantic City's original casino!
7 a.m. Webster, 7:30 a.m. Southbridge. \$25 slot play/\$60 food credit/Casino Revue Show. Atlantic City! The 'Shore' Thing!

Oct. 6: NH Turkey Train \$92
Scenic rail tour round Lake Winnepesaukee and lunch! 9 a.m. Southbridge, 9:30 a.m. Webster. Spectacular New England footage! New Hampshire awaits!

For reservations contact Jan Caouette at (508) 887-2215. Make checks payable to Bernadette Circle #709 and mail to Bernadette Circle #709, PO Box 201, Webster MA 01570. The Daughters of

Isabella is a nonprofit and charitable Catholic women's organization

DUDLEY SENIORS

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

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

LEICESTER SENIOR CENTER

Friday, April 19: Trip to Foxwoods Casino and Captain Jack's. Bus leaves at 8 a.m. Cost is \$79. Free buffet and \$10 for free slot play. Choice of lobster or prime rib at Captain Jack's.

Friday, April 26: Trip to Foxwoods Casino and Captain Jack's. Bus leaves at 8 a.m. Cost is \$79. Free buffet and \$10 for free slot play. Choice of lobster or prime rib at Captain Jack's.

Thursday, May 16: Trip to Newport Playhouse for "Clothes Encounter." Bus leaves at 9 a.m. Cost is \$89 for show, buffet and cabaret.

Monday-Thursday, June 1-13: Trip to Wildwood Crest & Cape May and a day at Resorts Casino in Atlantic City. Bus leaves at 7 a.m. Cost is \$599, including driver's tip and all one-day guides.

Wednesday, June 12: Trip to the North Shore Music Theatre to see "Oklahoma" and lunch at the Danversport Yacht Club. Cost is \$119. The bus leaves at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, July 12: Trip to the Gloucester Lobster Cruise with clam bake and buffet aboard the ship. Bus leaves at 9 a.m. Cost is \$99. On the way home, we can enjoy ice cream at Kimball's Farm.

Wednesday, Aug. 14: Trip to the Summer Theatre for "Saturday Night Fever" and Hart's Turkey Farm. Bus leaves at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$99.

Friday, Sept. 13: Trip to Lake Winnepesaukee Cruise. Buffet luncheon & scenic sights and a visit to Moulton Farm Market. Bus leaves at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$99.

Thursday, Oct. 17: Trip to Twin Rivers and Wright's Chicken Farm. Bus leaves at 9 a.m. \$7 food credit and \$10 slot play. Cost is \$59.

Wednesday, Nov. 13: Indian Head

Christmas Spectacular and Luncheon. Bus leaves at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$89.

MARY QUEEN OF THE ROSARY PARISH

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

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

PAXTON SENIORS

Paxton's bus tour season starts Wednesday, April 24, on the Maine / New Hampshire seacoast topped off with a visit to a Winery. First stop is the Kittery Historical & Naval Museum where you will wander through Kittery's past as you browse the exhibits, from colonial times to grand hotels, shipbuilding and lighthouses, up to the present day. Find out what makes Kittery special... at the Museum!

Next stop is lunch at Warren's Lobster House in Kittery, Maine. Our prior visits to Warren's have always been wonderful. Warren's has the Seacoast's Finest Salad Bar, which offers over 60 selections and homemade pumpkin bread, soup and rolls — For an entrée you may select from; Seafood Casserole, Fried Baby Shrimp, Ritz Filet of Haddock, Crab Crusted Salmon, Top Sirloin Steak and Chicken Parmesan. Beverages and dessert will be included.

After a delightful lunch on the River separating Maine and New Hampshire, we move on to Zorvino Vineyard. A family-owned and operated winery, that originally started as a hobby. Jim and Cheryl Zanello purchased the 80-acre lot in Sandown, NH in 2000 after retiring. Four years later Zorvino Vineyards was established. The "Zor" in Zorvino comes from the original family name Zorzanello and "Vino" means wine. Family and Wine, the perfect pairing.

In the first years, 150 cold climate vines, mostly hybrids, were planted. To date, there are roughly 2,000 vines on site. The bulk of the grapes are brought in from Italy, California and South America. They are mostly known for their "off dry" fruit wines. blends and unusual 100% fruit or vegetable wines like Pumpkin, Beet and Rhubarb to name a few. New favorites include their red wines and white wines aged in American White Oak.

Our bus trip leaves the Paxton Senior Center, 17 West St., at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, April 24. Baring any traffic concerns on Route 495, we plan to be back in Paxton around 5 p.m.

The cost of the trip is \$82 per person. Reservations, payment and your choice of entree at Warren's should be mailed to Bob Wilby, 11 Tanglewood Rd., Paxton, by Monday April 15. Checks should be made payable to the FRIENDS OF PAXTON COA.

TRIPS

continued from page A16

For more details, please contact Bob at 508-792-4662.

Are you interested in joining another wonder trip in 2019?

A group of Seniors from Paxton and surrounding towns are planning a trip this year to Italy. The group plans to leave Paxton on Sept. 9, with transportation provided to Logan and return. Our flight will take us to Rome, Italy for 10 days visiting many historical sites of Italy. Rome has many beautiful attractions that many of us have not seen on previous visits. After two nights in Rome, we will move on to one night in Perugia where we will have the opportunity to visit Assisi, the birthplace of St. Francis of Assisi. Following our stay in Perugia, we move on to Florence, "the Cradle of Italian Renaissance," where we will view Michelangelo's incredible statue of David. After two nights in beautiful Florence, we will move on to Venice. On the way to Venice, we will stop at a 12th century castle and learn about the famous Tuscan wines and enjoy a cooking class and lunch. Next we are off to Venice for two nights. During that time, we have an opportunity to visit many of the wonderful sites of the Canal City.

After Venice, our next and last night will be Milan where we will have an opportunity to visit and shop at the "Quadrilatero della Moda," Milan's high-fashion district. We will depart for home from Milan.

SOUTHBRIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

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

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

SOUTHBRIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS 2019 TRIP SCHEDULE OPEN TO PUBLIC PAYMENT DUE AT SIGN UP

March 12, 2019 - Tuesday - Foxwoods \$25 - 8:30 - AM bus.

For \$25 You get a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino to gamble or PLAY BINGO as the bus will leave Foxwoods at 3:30 PM.

You will receive \$10 for gaming and \$15 meal voucher.

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

You will get 2 nights on the boardwalk. You also get a \$25 in slot play and \$60 food credit and see 2 stage shows. Trolley's available.

For details call Jan at 508 887 2215

May 19, 2019 - Sunday - Newport rail tour.

Tour ocean drive: board the excursion scenic dining car for a 90 minute tour along Narragansett bay. Enjoy a full course lunch on the train when you book give choice of meal - chicken Marcella - or Atlantic Cod.

For details call Jan at 508 887 2215

June 9, 2019 - Sunday - Gloucester Beaufort princess cruise.

Board the ship for a New England clam bake including clams, lobster chowder BBQ chicken and more finish with chocolate mousse. Cruise the harbor for 2 1/2 hours with music on board. Visit the Salem visitor center and shops.

For details call Jan at 508 887 2215

July 23, 2019 - Tuesday - Mohegan Sun \$25 - 10 AM Bus

For \$25 You get a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino as the bus will leave Mohegan Sun at 4 PM. You will receive \$10 for gaming and \$15 meal voucher.

August 28, 2019 - Wednesday - Diamonds and Pearls the ultimate tribute show.

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

September 17, 2019 Tuesday - Atlantic City Boys For \$95 you will get a deluxe motor coach to Danvers Yacht Club in Danvers MA. where you will hear the music of the Beach Boys, The Drifters, the Bee Gees and more. You have a choice of baked stuffed chicken or schrod.

October 8th - 15th, 2019 - ALL INCLUSIVE ARUBA Happily Full - I am taking names for standby on this

trip and for 2020 trip

November 12, 2019 - Tuesday - Foxwoods \$25 - 10 - AM bus.

For \$25 You get a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino as the bus will leave Foxwoods at 4 PM. You will receive \$10 for gaming and \$15 meal voucher.

Trips are open to the public! Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association.

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon senior center Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00 AM or call 774 922 4049, or e-mail me jimtrips@yahoo.com

FRIENDS OF STURBRIDGE SENIORS

We are proud to announce the following upcoming Bus Trips which are open to everyone age 21 and over. The following One Day Bus trips are 92.00 which includes a Deluxe Bus Transportation, Delicious Lunch, Tax, Gratuity and Fabulous Entertainers.

Sunday May 19th See The Edwards Twins, the Best Impersonators of all the Biggest Stars.

Tuesday June 18th See The 3 Red Neck Tenors, Down Home Laughs + Big City Music, Pop to Opera.

Wednesday August 28th Tribute Show hear Songs of Neil Diamond, Carole King, Johnny Cash, Janis

Tuesday Sept 17 Atlantic City Boys, 4 Dynamic Lead Singers perform World Class Vocals and Comedy

We also have the following 2 to 5 Day Overnight Trips for Singles and Double Occupancy.

Saturday June 29 to Wed July 3 Nova Scotia, Bay of Fundy, Royal Nova Scotia International Tatoo

Military Festival, Halifax Saint John plus more 1299 Double occupancy

Saturday August 3 to Sunday August 4, Boston Red Sox vs NY Yankees game, Statue of Liberty, Ellis

Island, 399.00 Double Occupancy Tuesday 8/27 to Thursday Spectacular Saratoga NY Raceway, Lake George Cruise, Tour of Saratoga

Battlefield, Norman Rockwell Museum. 499.00 Double occupancy

Tuesday December 3 to Thursday Dec 5th Pennsylvania Dutch and The Miracle of Christmas Show,

Hershey's Chocolate World and more 459.00 Double occupancy

For more information, please contact Dick Lisi at 508 410 1332 or at lisirichard15@yahoo.com

ST. ANDREW BOBOLA PARISH

TRIP TO USA NATIONAL PARKS St Andrew Bobola Parish, is organizing a special TRIP TO THE NATIONAL PARKS 11 DAYS, May 12-23 2019. Total cost: \$2,000

PILGRIMAGE TO ISRAEL AND JORDAN

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

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

UNION SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE CHAPTER 12

Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Chapter #12, Southbridge, is sponsoring a variety of excursions for all to enjoy in 2019. We are a non-profit family oriented Franco-American fraternal society since 1900. As always, you do not have to be a member to participate in any of the scheduled events. All are welcome. Gift certificates purchased in any amount can be used by the recipient to any event at face value. For information or reservations contact Ted at (508) 764-7909.

2019 2019 is the Society's 27th anniversary in providing members and non-members alike the opportunity to experience excursions of a day or extended days. All are welcome to travel with our organization.

April 27 - Dinner and concert with noted French-Canadian singer Josee Vachon. The Saturday evening event will take place at the La Salle Reception Center, 444 Main St., Southbridge. The cost and additional details to be announced soon. (508) 764-7909

May 4 - "A Spring Day in New York City" - to do as you wish - a day of sightseeing, shopping, visiting a museum, dining at a special restaurant, attending a Broadway matinee performance or visit the 911 Fountains and the new museum via a ticket through 911museum.org. The possible activities are many. Departure from Southbridge is 6:30 a.m., and the return

departure from New York City is 6:30 p.m. Included are comfort travel stops to and from New York City. The cost per person is \$59. Reservation deadline is April 30. For early reservation and for information, please call (508) 764-7909. New York City is our 24th annual visit in 2019.

June 14 - "Evening at the Boston Pops" features a musical journey to European countries with a noted conductor leading the Boston Pops Orchestra, with each concert piece a selection of stirring 19th century anthems by Romantic-era composers, including Greig, Smetana, Strauss, Berlioz, Elgar, Wagner and Verdi. Each piece honors a particular nation, while the finale, Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" (Europe's official anthem) pays homage to the continent's motto of "United in Diversity." The concert is enhanced by a montage of evocative video images curated by Rick Steves, America's leading authority of extensive knowledge of European history and culture and of PBS fame. All considered, this promises to be an extremely entertaining night, and please reserve early. The cost is \$59 per person for the 8 p.m. concert, with reserved second balcony center seating and motor-coach transportation. Departure is 5:30 p.m. from the RMV, La Rochelle Way in Southbridge. This is the 37th annual excursion to the "Pops."

Aug. 11 - "A Sunday Afternoon at Tanglewood" - a noon luncheon at the Red Lion Inn followed by the 2:30 p.m. concert with reserved seating in the Koussevitsky Music Shed. Thomas Ades, conductor, leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra with the music of Ives and Beethoven and guest pianist Inon Barnatan. The cost is \$127 (an inclusive luncheon, concert and motor coach transportation). A payment plan is available. The reservation deadline is July 30. Departure is 9 a.m., RMV parking lot, Southbridge.

Sept. 23-25 - A three-day excursion to Cape May, N.J. The cost and all of the details to be announced soon in this listing of trips.

Nov. 16 - "Do As You Wish Day in New York City" - shop for Christmas, do some sightseeing, visit a museum, attend a Broadway matinee, dine at a special restaurant, a visit to the aircraft Intrepid, visit the 911 Memorial complex. There is much to do and enjoy. Departure is 6:30 a.m. from the Southbridge RMV parking lot, and the return departure from New York City is 6:30 p.m. Included are rest stops to and from New York City. Cost is \$59 per person. The reservation deadline is Nov. 6. For information and reservations, call (508) 764-7909. To avoid disappointment, call early.

Dec. 7 - "Festival of Christmas Lights" at Our Lady of La Salette Shrine, seasonal concert with Fr. Pat, the singing priest, visit the International Museum of Creches, Gift and Book Shop, Chapel of Light, a Bistro for refreshments and snacks, a Carousel for the children, an optional trolley ride for a small charge to view the display of more than 400,000 lights and a complete inclusive luncheon at Wright's Farm Restaurant. Cost is \$54 per person, \$44 for children three to 10, under three free. Departure is 10:45 a.m. from Southbridge and 11:15 a.m. in Webster, with the return about 7:45 p.m. Reservation deadline is Dec. 5.

UXBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER

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

The Silver Club BUS TRIPS for 2019 Please call Sue at 508-476-5820 for more information.

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

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

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

Kentucky w/ARK, horses and more \$869. 7 day trip! March 31-April

6. Includes 12 meals, 2 shows; Loretta Lynn's homestead; Hatfield & McCoy tour; Toyota Tour; tour of Wheeling, WV; cut-through project in Pikeville; horse farm tour; "Grand Canyon of the South" and other fun highlights!

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

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

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

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

June 17 - "On Golden Pond" at the Winnepesaukee Playhouse w/lunch at Hart's Turkey Farm. Choice of turkey, haddock, or roast beef. \$89. Leaves Whitinsville at 8:45, Home around 7

July 3 - "Singing in the Rain" - Theatre by the Sea, Wakefield, RI Lunch at The Bistro right at the theatre! Choice of Tuscan chicken, fish, and vegetarian option. \$104. Leaves Whitinsville at 10AM, home at 6:00

July 12 - "The Odd Couple" at New London Barn Playhouse w/Italian buffet lunch. Leaves Whitinsville at 8AM, home around 6:30 or 7. \$84.

Sept. 20- Sun, Sept. 22. - Balloon Festival \$549. made out to Conway Tours. (trip full - waiting list)

Oct. 1- Return of Turkey Train! Train ride along Lake Winnepesaukee with turkey dinner on board. \$81; leaves Whitinsville at 8:30; Home 6:30

Nov. 12- Aqua Turf Club ~ lunch & show, "Crooning the 70's". \$79. Family style meal of Penne ala Vodka, Beef Burgundy, & Salmon

It's not too early to think about Christmas! Join the Silver Club for Boothbay Harbor, "Christmas by the Sea" in Portland, ME, or Reagle Players Christmas Show for Christmas 2019!

Nov. 21-22-2 day Boothbay Harbor w/lunch at the Harraseeket Inn in Freeport. - 2 days w/"Gardens Aglow" (beautiful light show at the botanical garden) at the Boothbay Harbor Botanical Gardens. 1 lunch, 1 breakfast. \$199. double occupancy, \$259. single.

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

Dec. 8 - Reagle Players Christmas show.... TBA

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

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

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Family Dining & Gift Guide

Easter Sunday is April 21st

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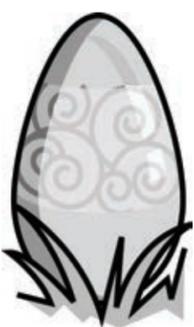
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Friday,
April 19, 2019

Attention North Brookfield Water Users:
WATER MAIN FLUSHING
April 22, 2019 through May 11, 2019

The North Brookfield Water Department will be flushing water mains throughout town beginning Monday, April 22 through Saturday, May 11, 2019.

The purpose of the flushing is to remove sediment buildup in the mains. The flushing may result in temporary discoloration of the water, caused by small particles dislodged during the flushing. This discoloration might stain your laundry, especially white materials.

Flushing is performed between the hours of 7:30 AM and 3:30 PM. We post our daily flushing schedule on the North Brookfield Water Department's Facebook page. If you would like additional information, please call the Water Department at (508) 867-0207.

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SPENCER NEW LEADER

Ad Libs by June

This is the week that our **HEALTH & HOME** special supplement is distributed through our 7 Mass papers. Thank you to the local businesses who supported this section by advertising and submitting articles as well. Please take time to look through the supplement, read the informative articles, let our advertisers know that you saw their ads in this section, and please support these businesses!

If you haven't made plans yet for Easter, check out our Dining Guide for many options, and to see which restaurants are not open on Easter Sunday. Still need a hostess gift for Easter Dinner? The **PURPLE ONION** is the perfect place to pick up something special for the hostess with the mostess!

Also on this page you will find an ad for **CORMIER JEWELERS & ART GALLERY** with a \$25 coupon off \$100 more on new purchases, custom designs, or new lay-aways, valid until the end of May. Wedding season is upon us and they have beautiful engagement and wedding rings and great gifts for the bridal party. Or maybe you just need a new piece of jewelry to wear to an upcoming wedding.

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If you're paying too much for oil or propane, check out **CHARLTON OIL'S** ad in this issue for their prices for oil and propane. No longterm contracts to sign, and 24-hour emergency service. For all your heating needs, sales and service call **CHARLTON OIL** at 508-248-9797.

With all the rain we've had, it's a good idea to protect your car's interior from muddy shoes with **WeatherTech** floor mats. Find these for all makes and models starting at \$109.99 at **NAPA AUTO PARTS**, 117 West Main Street (Rt 9), in West Brookfield. Call 508-867-9947 for more info!

MEET YOUR MERCHANTS is coming in June. If you want to introduce yourself or re-introduce your business to our communities, please contact me for pricing info. This section is running in our 7 Mass papers! Have a great week and a **HAPPY EASTER!**

June Simakauskas
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Brian M. Fitzsimmons, 59



N O R T H GROSVENORDALE - Brian M. Fitzsimmons, 59, loving companion, friend and soulmate passed away peacefully Tuesday, April 2, 2019 surrounded by his loving family.

Born in Worcester, he was the son of Edward and Thelma Fitzsimmons.

Brian leaves his soulmate and best friend of 27 years, Christine Sullivan of N. Grosvenordale; his stepdaughter, Cheri Sullivan and her partner John Martel of Gales Ferry, CT; his brother Robert and his wife Linda of Holden, MA; his sister, Carol Farmer of Leicester, MA; extended family Burt and Deborah Congdon of N.C.; good friends Yvonne and Paul Cote; and his cat Sylvia. He was predeceased by his brother Walter Fitzsimmons.

Brian was a devoted NASCAR fan and a huge Miami Dolphins fan. His great joy was his Ford F-150 pick-up. He was a Veteran of the Army National Guard, serving with the 3rd Platoon. He was a loyal delivery driver for the

Granite Plumbing & Heating Company of Worcester, MA for 33 years and leaves many friends there.

Christine would like to thank her extended family, a wonderful group employed by Jeff at Tasse Fuel Corp. where she was allowed countless days off and dedication that her associates put in to cover for her for 12 years while Brian went through dialysis, kidney transplant, countless medical tests and surgeries and finally bladder cancer and chemotherapy treatments. The "Man with Nine Lives" had a strong will to live. Also, a big thank you goes out to Dr. Stoeff & Caitlen and his kidney transplant team.

A private graveside service for Brian will be held at a later date in the Worcester County Memorial Park, 217 Richards Ave, Paxton, MA 01612. Flowers are omitted and memorial donations may be made in Brian's name to the National Kidney Foundation, 3000 Witney Ave #121, Hamden, CT 06518. Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory has been entrusted with his arrangements.

For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

OBITUARIES

Helena G. Bland, 77



W E S T B R O O K F I E L D - Helena G. (Nelson) Bland, 77, of West Brookfield died on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester.

She leaves her loving husband of 47 years, Philip E. Bland of West Brookfield, her daughter Nicole Bland of Pelham and her granddaughter, Renee O'Brien. Helena was predeceased by her first husband, Army Captain Rodney Rieger, who was awarded a bronze star medal before his death in Vietnam in 1967. She was born in Schenectady, New York, daughter of the late Authur and Lulo Mae Nelson. Helena's father was awarded a purple heart medal during World War I and later went on to serve in the Schenectady NYPD.

Helena was a homemaker and enjoyed taking care of her family. She loved living on the lake and entertaining at her home. Helena was an avid reader, loved crossword puzzles, tuned into Jeopardy each night and was everyone's first pick to play Trivial Pursuit. After the birth of her granddaughter Renee, the family vacationed annually at the Union Bluff

hotel in ME.

Helena once owned a bookstore in Enid, Oklahoma, appropriately named Helena's Bookstore. She volunteered for years at the West Brookfield Public library and the Trinity food pantry. She was also a member of a century old women's study group called The Tuesday Club. The 12 members met once a month and each member had the opportunity to host and present a topic or theme. Saying that Helena loved her Christmas Tree and its ornaments was an understatement. The thoughtfully decorated tree went up on Black Friday every year and reluctantly came down every February. She adored her loving family, wonderful friends, her cats and Jimmy Buffet - she proudly called herself a Parrot Head.

A Funeral Service for Helena will be held on Friday, April 12, 2019 at 11:00AM in the Trinity Episcopal Church, 17 Park Street, Ware. Calling hours will be held Thursday, April 11, 2019, from 5:00 to 7:00PM in the Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., in West Brookfield. Burial will be in the spring in Pine Grove Cemetery in West Brookfield.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be sent to Socks for Siberia, 122 Long Hill Rd. Brookfield MA 01506.

Eileen G. "Gramma Nelson" Nelson, 91



SPENCER: Eileen G. "Gramma Nelson" (Bugbee) Nelson, 91, of Wilson Street died peacefully, Saturday April 6 in her home surrounded by her family.

Her husband, Walter T. Nelson, Jr. died in 2001. She leaves a son; David R. Nelson of Charlton, four daughters; Audrey L. Benoit of Worcester, Dianna L. Winders and her companion Rick Mauch of Spencer, Gail L. Lacroix and her husband Brian of Spencer and Roberta L. Nelson of Southbridge, 6 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a son Daniel R. Nelson in 1961 and a daughter Sharon L. Nelson in 1995.

Mrs. Nelson was born in Worcester, daughter of Ralph F. and Lucille E. (Phillips) Bugbee. She was a mem-

ber of the First Congregational Church of Spencer. She was a former member of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary Post 138 in Spencer. She enjoyed playing cards, cribbage, Chinese checkers, fishing and listening to old time country music. She was fun and vivacious, always the life of the party she loved spending time with her family and was always on the go. The family would like to sincerely thank all the nurses and caregivers at the Overlook Hospice.

The funeral was held on Wednesday, April 10 at 11:00 AM in J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer. Burial will follow in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton. Calling hours were Tuesday, April 9 from 5:00-7:00 PM in the funeral home. In Lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Overlook Hospice, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton, MA 01507. www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Beverly A. Gagliardi, 88



SPENCER - Beverly A. (Rivers) Gagliardi, 88 passed away peacefully on Monday February 18, 2019 with her loving family around her, at Southbridge Rehab and Nursing Home.

Beverly was born on August 12, 1930 in Keene, New Hampshire, the seventh of fifteen children to Wilfred P. and Harriet S (Viets) Rivers and was raised and lived her whole life in Spencer, MA.

She worked for many years at Klevens Shoe Co. until it closed and then worked at American Optical in Southbridge until her retirement in 1992. After retirement she helped out at the Economy Shop of the First Congregational Church in Spencer for many years.

Beverly is survived by her daughter Sandra Tibbetts and her husband Harlod of West Brookfield and sons Dennis Gagliardi of Spencer and Michael Gagliardi of Troy, MO. She also leaves three grandsons, Kurt, Gagliardi, and his fiance Brittany of Waltham, Jack Gagliardi of North Brookfield and Jarrod Rumley of Brooklyn, NY and her niece and Goddaughter Linda Beaudry of Warren. She is also survived by a brother Robert Rivers of Spencer

and four sisters, Harriet Moore of Auburn, Ida Lizak of Warren, Cecelia Dufault of Holly Hill, FL and Mary Jane Alexander of Auburn. Two sisters in law, Nancy Rivers of Grafton and Elvira Siana of West Brookfield and her good friend Jan Girourd of Spencer and many nieces and nephews. Beverly was predeceased by her husband John J Gagliardi in 1990, her brothers Peg, Roger, Richard, Henry, Donald, and William and sisters Helen, Betty Lou and Iona.

The family would like to thank the staff on the third floor of Southbridge Rehab and Nursing Facility for the wonderful and compassionate care that they gave to her for the ten months that she was there. We would also like to thank the homecare she received from Sue and Kayla and Leslie and the ladies at Astorwood for their kindness and help.

A grave side service will be held on Wednesday April 24, 2019 at PineGrove Cemetery in West Brookfield at 11:00 am. Followed by a time for visiting, reminiscing and luncheon at the American Legion in Spencer.

Please omit flowers. Donations may be made in her name to the First Congregational Church U.C.C. Of Spencer, PO Box 187 Spencer, MA 01562 or the Spencer Ambulance. Pillsbury Funeral Home, 163 Main St. Spencer.

Evangeline M. Gallant, 88



ROCHDALE - Evangeline M. (MacQuarrie) Gallant, 88, died Friday, April 12, 2019, at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester, surrounded by her family. She was predeceased by

her husband of 66 years, Steven J. Gallant Sr. who died in 2015. She is survived by five children, David W. Gallant Sr. and his wife Joan of Oxford, Charlene M. Sampson and her husband Robert of Rochdale, Cynthia L. Orrell and her husband Steven Potter of Rochdale, Mark S. Gallant and his wife Julie of Spencer, and Daniel C. Gallant and his wife Tammy of Rochdale; her daughter-in-law, Kathleen Gallant of Ocala, FL; her son-in-law, John Yolda of Danielson, CT; her brother, Charles MacQuarrie of California; her sister, Margaret LaFleche of Charlton; 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by a son, Steven J. Gallant Jr. who died in 2002; a daughter, Barbara L. Yolda who died in 2011; four sisters and

four grandchildren. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Charles and Margaret (Mullins) MacQuarrie, was raised in Charlton and lived in Oxford for several years before moving to Rochdale in 1952.

Mrs. Gallant was a homemaker who enjoyed caring for her home while raising seven children. She was very involved in politics throughout her life. She was a den mother for the Blue Birds, a member in the Rochdale 4-H Club, and a volunteer at the Nazareth Home for Boys. She crafted dolls and loved spending summers at the family camp in Maine. Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family.

A funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17, 2019, at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. Burial followed at St. Roch's Cemetery in Oxford. Calling hours were Wednesday from 9-11 a.m. prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-1942. paradisfuneralhome.com

Virginia L. "Ginger" Camarda, 84



NO. BROOKFIELD - Virginia L. "Ginger" (Johnson) Camarda, 84, of Grant St., died peacefully at her home on Saturday, April 13th.

She was the wife of Joseph J. Camarda who died in 2005. She leaves her daughter; Linda M. Lusignan and her husband David of No. Brookfield, her sons; Michael F. Camarda of FL., Peter J. Camarda of Spencer and Bruce A. Camarda and his wife Lisa of Warren, a brother Warren E. Johnson and his wife Carol of Purcellville, Va., 7 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Born in Worcester, she was the daughter of Frank and Alice (Bohlin) Johnson and graduated from Leicester

High School and later Green Mt. College in Vt.

She was a longtime member of Our Lady of the Angels Parish and the Leicester Lions Club. Most recently, she frequented the No. Brookfield Senior Center and was past President of the Friends of the Senior Center.

A funeral mass was held on Tuesday, April 16 at 10 a.m. in Our Lady of the Angels Church, 1222 Main St., Worcester. Burial will follow in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton. A calling hour preceded the services on Tuesday from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main St., Leicester.

Memorial donations can be made to: Leicester Lions Park of District 33A Sight & Hearing Fund, c/o Leicester Lions Club, P.O. Box 307, Leicester, MA 01524. www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Shirley A. Brown, 84



SPENCER - Shirley A. (Leary) Brown, 84 of Bixby Rd., died Saturday, March 30 in Suncoast Hospice, St. Petersburg, Fl., while on her annual Red Sox spring training vacation.

She leaves her husband Harry Brown of Spencer, MA, her daughters Cindy Meersman and her husband Dean of Rochdale, MA, Sharron Peters and her husband John of Lyndonville, VT, her five grandsons Jake Meersman and his wife Tara of Rochdale, MA, Jeffrey Meersman and his wife Kristin of Shrewsbury, MA, Joseph Peters and his wife Tanya of Denver, CO, Ben Peters of South Royalton, VT, and Dave Peters of Lyndonville, VT.

She is predeceased by her sister Florence McKeown, her niece Kathy McKeown and her close friend Kate.

Born in Worcester, MA, she was the daughter of James and Florence (Scott) Leary. She graduated from South High School in Worcester, MA and later received a certificate as a Lab Technician from Northeastern University in Boston, MA.

Shirley worked in the lab at Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge, MA for many years before retiring in 2006.

She loved spending time with family and close friends. She loved traveling especially to see her beloved Red Sox.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, April 19th at 10:30 AM in the

J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer. Calling hours will be held from 9 to 10:30 AM, prior to the service. Burial will be immediately following at Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the charity of your choice. www.morinfuneralhomes.com



*In Loving Remembrance
on your Birthday
Gordon Amos Gregory
April 25, 1960 - May 7, 2014*

Dear Gordon,

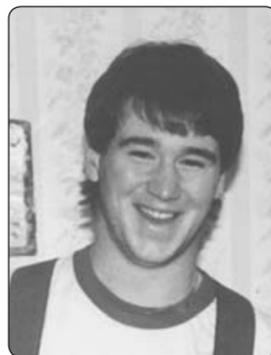
If we could just have one more day with you, but one more day would not be enough to hear your laughter, see your smile, and most of all, to tell you how much we love you. We want a lifetime with you. If we could only have known when we talked to you that fateful day, it would be the last time we would hear your voice... oh dear God, if we only knew, if we only knew.

Gordon, you are forever in our hearts. Someday all of our family with be together with Christ.

*Till then, with all our love,
your sister Linda, brother-in-law David,
nieces Angie and Lori, and all your family and friends.*

*In Loving Remembrance
27th Anniversary*

Shawn A. O'Day "Odie"
April 15, 1992- April 15, 2019



*A beautiful life that came
to an end,
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

OBITUARIES

Wilfred R. Arsenault

STURBRIDGE- Wilfred R. Arsenault of Sturbridge passed away April 10, 2019 after a long illness.

Wilfred leaves behind his mother Adrienne Arsenault of Sturbridge and two sisters, Diane Chamberland and her husband Thomas of Sturbridge and Rosemary Dion and her husband Robert of West Brookfield, several nieces and nephews.

Wilfred is predeceased by his father Arthur Arsenault, Sr. of Sturbridge and his brother Arthur Arsenault, Jr.

of Coaldale, PA.

Wilfred loved fishing, gardening, woodworking and the Charlton Flea Market.

Funeral arrangements are under the care of Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA 01550. There are no calling hours and burial will be at the convenience of the family. Donations may be made in Wilfred's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 500 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-1905.

Hazel M. Doherty, 93

LEICESTER- Hazel M. (Hemstead) Doherty, 93 of Cherry Valley, died Saturday, April 13 in St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester.

She was the wife of William D. Doherty who died in 2007. She leaves her sons; Jay P. Doherty and Daniel E. Doherty both of Cherry Valley and Ross W. Doherty of Worcester, two grandchildren; Jake and Aimee Doherty of Worcester, a great granddaughter; Amelia Doherty. She is predeceased by her daughter in law Polly-Sean Doherty earlier this year.

Born in Stowe, Vt. she graduated

from Stowe High School and later graduated from Becker Junior College Worcester in 1945. She enjoyed reading and her daily rides to get coffee.

Hazel was a longtime insurance adjuster for American Mutual Ins. Co., retiring in 1985.

At her request, no funeral services are planned. Donations may be made to a charity of choice.

MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main St., Leicester is assisting the family with arrangements.
www.morinfuneralhomes.com

George Vasil, 96



SOUTHBRIDGE- George Vasil, 96, passed away on Thursday, April 11th, in his daughter's home in Paxton after a brief battle with cancer.

His wife of 61 years, Evlogji "Jennie" (Boyatzis) Vasil, passed away in 2010. He leaves his son, James M. Vasil and his wife Mandy of Spencer; his two daughters, Diana V. Kocum and her husband David of Glastonbury, CT and Mary A. Baker and her husband Mark of Paxton; his six grandchildren, Tara M. Brousseau, Timothy J. Vasil, Arin L. Chick and her husband Lee, Jessica D. Hilemn, Mark J. Baker and Jennie E. Baker; two great grandchildren, Bishop Lopez and Aiyana Chick; and two nephews, Salvatore Vella and Michael Vella. He was predeceased by his infant sister, Mary Vasil. George was born in Natick the son of James and Thomaida "Eva" (Lazar) Vasil. He was a US Army Veteran of World War II.

George was forever devoted to his family, including his loving wife Jennie to whom he was married for almost 61 years until her passing in 2010. His endless love for his family and friends was evident in all he did and continued to the last day of his life.

In 1939, at 16 years old, he graduated from Mary E Wells High School and immediately went to work at the American Optical Company as an errand boy, and later lab technician, until he enlisted in the Army Air Corp Force in 1942 during WWII. He attended the USAF Aircraft Mechanic School and the Newark College of Engineering until he was deployed to Europe as

part of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division - the US Army Division that met the Russians at the Elbe River in Germany on April 25, 1945.

After the war ended, he returned to AO, where he worked for the next 37 years, the majority of which as a Production Supervisor in the Glass Plant. While employed, he embraced any service-oriented work that he had the opportunity to participate in. This included the United Way campaign in the tri-community area, where he later became chairman of the United Way campaign for AO.

George's love of people and dedication to community service never waned throughout his life. In his young adult years he was involved in the Jr. Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees) whose mission was to train 21-35 year olds in service-oriented work. The A.O. endorsed this organization and sponsored 10 of their own each year, believing that those experienced in leadership work could only strengthen the company. George remained involved in the Jaycee's from the time he was 28 until the age cap of 35.

His love of the Southbridge community was also evident in his ten years of coaching, including Little League and the YMCA basketball church league. In addition to coaching, he played Jr. and Sr. Church, Community, and Independent basketball leagues, softball, and community bowling. He also chaired the A.O. bowling and golf leagues.

Much of George's service work was through the Orthodox church and its related Albanian cultural groups. This included the Albanian American National Organization - where George was a founding member and one of the original 13 charter signees. He also

served as Past National President and Past President of the local Southbridge chapter.

He was very active in the Albanian American Orthodox Diocese of America, having served as comproller and trustee. He was ultimately recognized with the highest service award for a lay person - the Knights of St. George. His love of his church, St. Nicholas in Southbridge, continued throughout his life. During his 85 years of membership, he served countless terms on the parish council including positions of treasurer, president and chair of many fundraising events. He reorganized the Sunday school program and served as teacher and superintendent, and decades as choir director. Several years ago, the church tonsured him as a Reader (considered to be the first step toward priesthood), and most recently named their hall the "George Vasil Church Hall". Within the Albanian community in Worcester, he had also been a faithful member of the Sons of St. Mary's and represented St. Nicholas as a member of the Council of Eastern Orthodox Churches, including Board membership on the Holy Trinity Eastern Orthodox Nursing and Rehabilitation Center at its inception.

In his hometown of Southbridge, George had been a charter member of the VFW since 1946, where he served as Board Chair and Post Commander, following a lengthy term as Quartermaster. He had also been a member of the American Legion and in the recent past, was selected as Grand Marshall of the Memorial Day parade. He had also been a supporting member of the Jacob Edwards Memorial Library and many other charitable organizations. Finally, George

worked tirelessly

during the 83 years of membership for the YMCA, including the longest standing board member of almost 55 years. He was team captain during the fundraising campaign to build the new Y and his team placed second or third in raising the highest money per capita. In 2016, the YMCA honored him with the first annual George Vasil Community Service Award.

George's legacy will live on forever in those who knew him best. He was always positive and loving, saw the glass as half full and believed that people needed to be treated with love, kindness and respect regardless of the situation. His sincerity, humility and faith has been unmatched and he will be greatly missed.

The family would like to thank Bettina, Judy and Tina of Overlook Hospice for all of the care and compassion they gave to George during his illness.

His funeral was held on Tuesday, April 16th, at 11:00am in St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church, 126 Morris St., Southbridge. Burial will be in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Southbridge. Calling hours were held in St. Nicholas Church on Monday, April 15th, from 4:00 to 8:00pm.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church, P.O. Box 650, Southbridge, MA 01550.

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



LEGALS

Notice of Public Hearing

Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 07, 2019 in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Variance - Applicant: Jalbert Engineering; Owner: Ricci & Bree Hall. Location: 101 Clark Road, Spencer Assessor's Map U27/16. The applicant is looking for a variance under Sections 4.9.2 A-3 of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw as the lot does not meet the current zoning standards for minimum side setbacks to allow enlargement of a deck, garage addition, third floor addition, and extension to the front entrance. The property is located in the Lake Residential zoning district.

Interested Parties may review these applications at the Office of Development & Inspectional Services in Memorial Town Hall located at 157 Main Street Spencer, MA 01562, during regular business hours from 7:30am-4:30pm Monday-Wednesday and 7:30am-12:00pm on Thursdays. The ZBA is committed to ensuring that its public meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Should you require auxiliary aids, services, written materials in other formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, please call 508-885-7500 ext. 180 in advance of the scheduled meeting.

April 19, 2019

April 26, 2019

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Christopher M. Leck and Pamela J. Dunigan, n/k/a Pamela J. Leck to Spencer Savings Bank, dated November 18, 2008 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 43525, Page 62, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at public auction at 10:00 AM, on May 22, 2019 on the mortgaged premises being known as 149 Paxton Road, Spencer, Massachusetts, being all and singular the premises described

in said mortgage to wit:

The land in Spencer, Worcester County, Massachusetts located on the northwesterly side of Paxton Road and shown as Parcel "E" on a plan entitled "Plan of Property surveyed for Pamela Dunigan and Christopher Leck located on Paxton Road, Spencer, Massachusetts" dated August 28, 1989 drawn by Jalbert Engineering, Inc. and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 627 Plan 98 (the "Plan") and more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pipe on the northwesterly side of Paxton Road at the southeasterly corner of the land being conveyed, which iron pipe is located 200 feet, more or less, southwesterly from the southeast corner of land of Andrews as shown on the Plan; Thence North 74° 36' 36" West by other land of Lawrence L. Szivos, 321.97 feet to an iron pipe set; Thence North 43° 22' 47" West by said Szivos land, 472.53 feet to an iron pipe set; Thence North 46° 37' 13" East by said Szivos land, 361.93 feet to an iron pipe found; Thence South 03° 37' 00" West by land now or formerly of Andrews and a fence line as shown on the Plan, 283.47 feet to an iron pipe found; Thence South 64° 20' 00" East by said Andrews land, 152.08 feet to an iron pipe set in a stone wall; Thence South 64° 20' 00" East by said Andrews land, 441.61 feet to a drill hole found in a stone wall on the northwesterly side of Paxton Road; Thence South 46° 37' 13" West by a stone wall along the northwesterly side of Paxton Road, 166.92 feet to a point; Thence South 48° 55' 10" West by a stone wall along the northwesterly side of Paxton Road, 33.08 feet to the point of beginning. Containing, according to the Plan, 3.94 acres.

Being the same premises as conveyed to the mortgagor by deed of Lawrence L. Szivos, dated October 16, 1989, recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, Book 12406, Page 188.

The mortgaged premises will be sold **SUBJECT TO** a first mortgage to Spencer Savings Bank, dated April 2, 2008, recorded with Worcester County Registry (Worcester District) at Book 42659, Page 76.

The premises will be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, municipal or zoning regulations or requirements, outstanding tax titles, condominium charges, fees, or assessments, municipal or other public or governmental taxes, assessments, outstanding orders of condition or any municipal requirements, and any liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be, and the rights of tenants and occupants of the premises, if any there be. No representation is made as to the status of any improvements on the mortgaged premises and the Buyer purchases subject to all requirements related thereto.

The premises are being sold with the express acknowledgment that the Mortgagee makes no representation or warranty as to the presence or absence to any wetlands or environmental issue at all, or related to the septic or well systems, if any, or as to any contaminants or other substances, as noted under M.G.L. C21E or any other Massachusetts Statute, Code or Regulation does exist, the correction thereof will be at the Buyer's sole cost and expense, and shall be separate from the purchase price. The Buyer shall indemnify and hold harmless the Mortgagee from any and all costs, expenses or liability related to any of the aforesaid.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of \$7,500.00 DOLLARS shall be paid by the successful bidder to the Mortgagee in cash, by certified or by cashier's check at the time and place of the sale as a deposit. The successful bidder will be required to execute an Auction Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, by certified check, by cashier's check, or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney within thirty (30) days thereafter at the offices of BARSH AND COHEN, P.C., Attorneys for the Mortgagee, 189 Wells Avenue, Newton, Massachusetts, in exchange for which and at such time and place, the deed shall be delivered to the purchaser for recording.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to amend the foregoing terms of sale by written or oral announcement made before the auction sale, during the sale thereof or at the commencement of or

during any postponed sale, the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, and to postpone the sale up until the time the property is declared sold by the auctioneer.

The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in the Notice of Mortgagee's Sale or its publication. OTHER TERMS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE SALE.

Dated: April 5, 2019 Signed: Cornerstone Bank f/k/a Spencer Savings Bank

Present Holder of said Mortgage

By its Attorneys,

Barsh and Cohen, P.C.

Neil S. Cohen, Esquire

Attorney for the Mortgagee

189 Wells Avenue

Newton, Massachusetts 02459

(617) 332-4700

April 19, 2019

April 26, 2019

May 3, 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. WO19C0163CA

CITATION ON PETITION TO

CHANGE NAME

In the matter of:

Taylor Rachael Perron

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Taylor Rachael Perron of Spencer MA

requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Jay Milestone Perron

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/21/2019. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 16, 2019

Stephanie K. Fattman

Register of Probate

April 19, 2019

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\$309,000.

<p>WEBSTER - 5 JACKSON ROAD</p> <p>Beautiful corner lot Split Style Home, just waiting for you! Fireplaced living room w/Cathedral ceiling! Recently updated kitchen with Granite counters & recessed lighting. Updated bath w/ceramic floor, 1-1/2 baths total, 3 nice size bedrooms. Finished lower level with wet bar. Central air. Recent roof, with 50 yr Warranty. 40' X 26' detached work shop/garage. Heated Pool, Inground Sprinkler System. So much more! \$279,900.</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 44 BRODEUR AVE</p> <p>ON DEPOSIT</p> <p>Estate Sale! Well built 6 room, 3 bedroom ranch! Hardwoods through out! Recent Boiler yr. 2016 boiler! New oil tank. Recent vinyl siding, windows, and roof. Updated Electric. Kitchen and bath need some updating, huge basement ready to be finished, Town water and sewer! Detached garage. Level yard for all activities. \$204,900.</p>	<p>THOMPSON, CT - 7 JUNE AVE S</p> <p>Hip Roof Brick Ranch! 1550 Sq. Ft. of living area. Attached garage. Fireplaced living room with hardwood floors. 2/3 Bedrooms. Dining room. Finished Lower Level with Fireplace. Forced Hot Water by Oil. Owner Financing. \$204,900</p>	<p>THOMPSON, CT - 25 BONNETTE AVE</p> <p>Roomy 1300 sq.ft., Hip roof Ranch Attached 2 car garage! PLUS 32x32 Detached Garage! Eat in Kitchen, Fireplaced living room with bow window! 3 bedrooms, enclosed heated sun room, central air, Koi Pond, on .87 +/- acre! \$259,000</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 6 BOYDEN ST EXT</p> <p>BUYERS & OR INVESTORS TAKE NOTICE! A short sale offering! - A fantastic opportunity to own an affordable, single family, 3 br, 1.5 Bath, split level style home! Partially finished lower level. Young oil fired boiler municipal water & sewer. 12,000 Sq ft land scaped lot. Property being sold as is. \$149,900</p>
<p>WEBSTER - 12 ERNEST ST</p> <p>Welcome home to this Huge, Sprawling, Ranch Style Home! 2,848 SF +/- of Living Area on One Level! Level lot! In-ground pool, built-in hot tub, custom stonework & landscape w/irrigation! Carport/pavilion for entertaining! Separate wings for private family living & entertainment. BR suites, 10 rooms total! simply Amazing! \$329,900</p>	<p>WEBSTER - 12 COOPER RD</p> <p>This Older Home has 825 Sq Ft. of Living Space with 2 Bedrooms & 1 Bath + Located on its Own Deeded Land Area! No Park Fees! Needs Work. New Forced Air System. 2 Storage sheds. Minutes to the Webster Lake State Boat Ramp - Great for Boat launch, Fishing, Swimming, Kayaking! Close to Highway 1. Road is Private but Publicly Maintained. Zoning is Lake St Town Water & Sewer. Being Sold "As-Is!" \$60,000.</p>	<p>WEBSTER/DOUGLAS/THOMPSON BUILDLAND LOTS</p> <p>Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2-2.5 Acres of flat land that abuts Douglas State Forest \$132,900</p> <p>Webster Lake - 22 South Point Rd. Waterfront, Southern exposure! Town Water & Sewer \$250,000</p> <p>Thompson - East Thompson Rd. White's Highway 23 acres! Abuts Mass. Line Beautiful view! \$99,900</p> <p>Killingly - 37 Katherine Ave River Frontage 2/3rds acre. Town Water & Sewer \$55,000</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - BEACON PARK #802</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p> <p>WEBSTER LAKE at BEACON PARK! TOWNHOUSE overlooking the COURTYARD. 1230 SF +/-, Open Concept Living/Dining FIREPLACE & PRIVATE DECK. Freshly painted rooms, updated appliances. Upper level has 2 SPACIOUS BRs including a MASTER SUITE w/ SKY-LIGHTED, PRIVATE BATH, 2nd BR w/lg walk-in closet, 2nd full bath! ENJOY LAKE LIVING on the most desired lake in Central MA at an AFFORDABLE PRICE! \$264,900.</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD</p> <p>LAND FOR SALE</p> <p>Attention Developers! 3 abutting house lots, potential to divide into 5-6 Buildable lots! Lake Residential area, not on the lake. Priced to Sell! \$129,900.</p>
<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 118 POINT BREEZE RD</p> <p>Excellent Opportunity to Finally Own Your Own Webster Lake Waterfront Property! Prime Location, 5,027 +/- SF Lot, 50' Rd & Water Frontage at a Great Price! Contemporary Ranch offers 996 +/- SF of living area w/2 BRs & 2 full baths. Plus, convenient, indoor access to Walkout Lower Level w/Removable potential for additional living area. Main level features Open Floor Plan w/sliders to full front deck! Spectacular Western views across Middle Pond! Additional land & shore frontage available. \$345,000</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 54 KILLDEER RD</p> <p>KILLDEER ISLAND! A RARE OPPORTUNITY ON WEBSTER LAKE! ABSOLUTELY THE WATERFRONT PROPERTY YOU'VE BEEN WAITING/LOOKING FOR! 2.45 +/- Acres! 345 +/- road front, 336/364 +/- depth, 275 +/- Lakefront! Mature landscape provides unprecedented privacy, & a friendly level lot at water's edge - like very few waterfront properties! The possibilities for this property are only limited by your imagination. The 3700 SF +/- Mid-Century Modern Home is unique w/massive modern windows that invite your eyes to venture outside to spectacular 180 panoramic views across the lake to stunning Western sunsets and beautiful natural shoreline beyond! Relax & Entertain in the tiled, stone fireplaced family rm, wet bar w/sliders to an enormous outdoor patio! The house features a 36 +/- open concept combination living/dining area with a stone fireplace, an open stairway & interior 2nd flr balcony w/access to 5 spacious BRs that overlook the rooms below. A 30x32 +/- det'd garage w/summer kitchen, 1/2 bath & huge fireplaced patio! Family owned gem for 60+years! \$1,495,000</p> <p>SORRY, SOLD!</p>	<p>WEBSTER LAKE - 32 JACKSON RD</p> <p>AN INTRIGUING OPPORTUNITY TO OWN AN EXTREMELY UNIQUE 3.32 ACRE WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT PROPERTY! Charming, year-round, 2 BR, 2 bath Ranch, located at the Southern most end of Webster Lake's South Pond beyond Cedar Island! Extremely private w/direct Lake access. The home offers a full finished LL w/walkout access, a screened-in 18x20 patio, 18x26 det'd garage & 8x8 storage shed. Park like grounds! \$395,000</p>		

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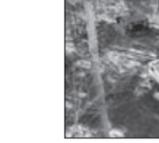
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HERE & THERE → Local Events, Arts, and Entertainment Listings

<p>FRIDAY, APRIL 26</p> <p>CHRIS BREAULT 7-10 in the bar 308 Lakeside 308 East Main Street East Brookfield, MA 01515 774-449-8333</p> <p>SATURDAY & SUNDAY APRIL 27 & 28</p> <p>ANNUAL FISHING DERBY Registration opens 6 am; fishing at 8 am Cash prizes & trophies Spencer Fish & Game Club 155 Mechanic Street Spencer, MA 01562</p> <p>FRIDAY, MAY 3</p> <p>MURDER MYSTERY DINNER 6:30 pm. An interactive dinner theater The Fashionable Murders Join us for a laugh-filled night, a great dinner, and a mystery we need help solving Advance ticket sales required sailemrossinn.com or call 508-867-2345 260 West Main Street West Brookfield, MA 01585</p> <p>FRIDAY & SATURDAY MAY 3 & 4</p> <p>65TH ANNUAL WINDHAM COUNTY 4-H AUCTION & TAG SALE at Windham County 4-H Outdoor Center, 326 Taft Pond Rd, Pomfret, CT. Auction - Preview at 5pm both nights, unique and antique goods and services, live plants, tickets to events. Venues and vacation spots for the whole family. Silent auction baskets and 50/50 raffle both nights. Auction starts at 6pm on Friday. New this year, auction of outdoor equipment and furniture starts at 5:30 PM on Saturday. Tag Sale Early bird buy in to 3,500 square feet of bargains \$5.00/person from 10:30 - 12:00 on Friday, May 3 (\$5/person). Tag Sale open free to all from 12:00 - 5:00 on Friday and 9:00 - 5:00 on Saturday. Mary's Kitchen open during all open hours both days.</p>	<p>SATURDAY MAY 11</p> <p>PLANT & FLOWER SALE 9am-2 pm sponsored by Quiet Corner Garden Club! In the Agriculture Building at Woodstock Fairgrounds FREE PARKING - NO PETS (except service animals) HUGE! SILENT AUCTION & RAFFLE</p> <p>BINGO NIGHT EVENT 6pm, \$20 admission for two 3-card strips Playing 12 games Four \$25 door prizes Raffles, snacks, daubers available for purchase. Cash bar For ticket info email cbingo511@gmail.com or call 978-339-3724 Under 18 not permitted Proceeds to benefit outreach ministries of Christ Church, Rochdale, MA Leicester Rod & Gun Club 1015 Whittemore Street Leicester, MA</p> <p>FRIDAY, JUNE 21</p> <p>SECOND CHANCE PET ADOPTIONS AT KLEM'S 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Come visit the dogs and cats available KLEM'S 117 West Main St., Spencer, MA 508-885-2708 (Ext. 104) www.klemsonline.com</p> <p>FRIDAY, JULY 19</p> <p>SECOND CHANCE PET ADOPTIONS AT KLEM'S 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Come visit and cats and dogs available KLEM'S 117 West Main St., Spencer, MA 508-885-2708 (Ext. 104) www.klemsonline.com</p> <p>FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY JULY 19, 20, 21</p> <p>DockDogs at Klem's Canine Aquatics Competition! KLEM'S 117 West Main St., Spencer, MA 508-885-2708 (Ext. 104) www.klemsonline.com</p>	<p>FRIDAY, AUGUST 9</p> <p> Join us for a Red Sox game: for \$105: round-trip motor coach transportation, ticket to game (right field box seating rows A-G) Bus departs Danielson at 4pm. Call 860-423-2591. Reserve your spot now!!</p> <p>FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, MURDER MYSTERY DINNER 6:30 pm An interactive dinner theater The Fashionable Murders Join us for a laugh-filled night, a great dinner, and a mystery we need help solving Advance ticket sales required sailemrossinn.com or call 508-867-2345 260 West Main Street West Brookfield, MA 01585</p> <p>SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, MURDER MYSTERY DINNER 6:30 pm An interactive dinner theater The Fashionable Murders Join us for a laugh-filled night, a great dinner, and a mystery we need help solving Advance ticket sales required sailemrossinn.com or call 508-867-2345 260 West Main Street West Brookfield, MA 01585</p> <p>SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 6:30 pm Murder Mystery Dinner An interactive dinner theater The Fashionable Murders Join us for a laugh-filled night, a great dinner, and a mystery we need help solving Advance ticket sales required sailemrossinn.com or call 508-867-2345 260 West Main Street West Brookfield, MA 01585</p> <p>ONGOING</p> <p>MARCH 21 - APRIL 25 ACTING CLASSES AT BRADLEY PLAYHOUSE in Putnam, CT for ages 7-17 Thurs. evenings from 5:30-6:30</p>	<p>Call 860-928-7887 for info.</p> <p>JUNE 5th THROUGH AUGUST 28th 5 p.m. WEDNESDAY NIGHT CRUISING FOR CHARITY CAR SHOW AT KLEM'S All makes and models. Proceeds benefit the Masonic Children's Charity KLEM'S 117 West Main St., Spencer, MA 508-885-2708 (Ext. 104) www.klemsonline.com</p> <p>MARIACHI BAND First Thursday of the month 5-8 p.m. MEXICALI MEXICAN GRILL Webster location 41 Worcester Rd., Webster, MA 508-461-5070</p> <p>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</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT HEXMARK TAVERN AT SALEM CROSS INN 260 West Main St., W. Brookfield, MA 508-867-2345 sailemrossinn.com</p> <p>FRIDAY ACOUSTICS IN THE BAR AND SATURDAY ENTERTAINMENT EVERY OTHER SATURDAY 308 LAKESIDE 308 East Main St. East Brookfield, MA 774-449-8333</p> <p>THE CENTRAL MA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED meets the first Monday of every month from September through May. We discuss a variety of conservation programs to improve the local cold water fisheries, local fishing opportunities. Our annual High School Fly Fishing Championship (open to all MA high school students) And our annual fund raising banquet. Auburn Sportsman's Club 50 Elm St., Auburn, MA</p>
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ARTICLES FOR SALE

010 FOR SALE

2008 ZODIAC and 14' CANOE, excellent condition. ACTI-V 9'4", electric pump/all accessories, air floor. 2009 Honda 8HP, serviced. \$2,195 Canoe: oars/seats, no leaks. \$275 860-983-0800 Sturbridge

225 GALLON WATER STORAGE TANK - used 6 months. \$350 508-867-2523

24 FOOT POOL, ABOVE-GROUND, 4 years old, filter, motor, all supplies included (except liner) Ready to go \$950 or best offer 508-498-0166 leave message

ABOVE-GROUND SWIMMING POOL, 24' x 54", filter system, 1 season. \$1,000 or best offer. 508-943-8769

ACORN STAIRLIFT - 3.5 years old, like new condition. 11 feet long. Asking \$1400 or best offer. Call 508-277-6568 if interested.

ANGLE IRON CUTTER For Shelving 4W296, HK Potter 2790. Normally Sells For \$700. \$50 OBO. Call 5pm-8:30pm, (508)867-6546

BUNK BEDS, black (youth) with mattresses (includes like-new bedding) \$350. Other furniture also available. Call Pat 508-949-9049

COFFEE & TWO END TABLES - Cherry finish w/glass tops. Very good condition. \$125 Call 508-735-2560

COMPLETE KIRBY G5 MICRON MAGIC PERFORMANCE SHAMPOO AND VACUUMING SYSTEM - comes with all of the parts and instructional video. Excellent condition. \$400 firm. 860-942-0687

Couch, 84 inches long. Dark red fabric with pillows, good condition. \$150. 508-410-5167

CUB CADET SNOWBLOWER. 13hp Tecumseh OHV. 45 in. width, trigger steering, 6FRWD, 2 REV, new condition. Hardly used! \$1,600.00. 508-347-3775

ELECTRICAL MATERIAL: Industrial, Commercial, Residential. Wire, Pipe, Fittings, Relays, Coils, Overloads, Fuses, Breakers, Meters, Punches, Pipe-Benders. New Recessed Troffer, Fluorescent 3-Tube T-8 277V Fixtures Enclosed \$56 Each. Call 5pm-8:30pm. (508)867-6546

FLY RODS - 2 ALBRIGHT A/5 490 9 FT. #4 RODS. 2 Orvis reels Battenkill BBS II. Asking \$200 each set or best offer. 508-347-3145

GARAGE CLEARANCE: ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE, bush trimmer, glass top table, etc. 508-728-5559 (Spencer)

GARDEN MANURE, delivered. 4 yards, \$130. Call Prindle Hill Farm 508-320-3273 or 508-248-7335

Large entertainment hutch, black, in great shape. \$75 firm. 508-943-8107

LETTER PRESS COMMERCIAL PRINTING EQUIPMENT

- all together, poster press 14"x22", job press 10"x15", Seybold paper cutter (extra blade) 25"x36", wooden type cabinet, 12 draws of type, 1 lead cutting-saw, hand tool equipment, 2 steel draw cabinets. (will not sell separately) \$5,000. 508-764-4458

MOTORCYCLE GEAR: HARLEY DAVIDSON Women's black leather jacket Size L \$100. Women's Leather chaps by CDI Riding Gear size-M \$50. 2 Harley Davidson women's vests 1 tan, 1 black \$50. each; Meri's Widder Electric heat vest size 42 \$25. Ladies Hudson Leather vest size L \$25. HJC full face helmet yellow and grey brand new size S, \$75. HJC full face grey helmet size XS, used \$25. Ladies Tour Master rain gear size L yellow and black \$50. Call:413-245-6530

010 FOR SALE

MOTORS: 1/2HP 230/460V 1725RPM, 56 Frame \$30. 5HP, 230/460V 1740RPM, 184T Frame/TEFC \$100. 5HP, 230/460V 3495RPM, 184T Frame/TEFC \$100. 4 Motor Speed Controls Hitachi J100, 400/460V Best Offer. Call 5pm-8:30pm 508-867-6546

MOVING - MUST SELL 3 piece electric reclining living room set, brown. \$300 freepedestal table w/4 chairs 508-612-6485

Queen size bedroom set, dark cherry, includes bed frame, headboard, 2bureaus, one end table \$500. Also lighter oval table with leaf and 4 cushion chairs, solid wood. \$200. 508-865-2262.

SMALL BUREAU \$75. Printer's Antique Drawers \$20 Per. Fake Brick Fireplace With Heater \$140 Kitchen Chairs. Spare Tire P225/60R16 Eagle GA With Rim \$45 Vanity Table & Chair \$135. Car Sunroofs \$100. Per. Homemade Pine Coffee Table & 2 End Tables \$100. Antique Lamp Jug \$40. Antique Croquet Set \$40. Wood Truck Ramps 8 Foot \$100.00. Drop Leaf Cart \$50. End Table W/Drawer \$50. End Table W/Drawer \$60. Elvis Presley Silhouette \$50 (he talks!), Indian canvas painting \$60, 9 golf clubs \$100. Call 1-508-764-4458 or 1-774-452-3514

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

SNOW TIRES, PIRELLI 245/45R19/102V M+S, 250 miles. \$1000, 508-564-3556

TOOL SHEDS Made of Texture 1-11: 8x8 \$1600 8x10 \$1800; 8x12 \$2000 8x16 \$2500 Delivered, Built On-Site. Other Sizes Available. CALL (413) 324-1117

Transport chair, Excel Deluxe by Medline 19" seat, up to 300 lbs. Used once. 508-637-1304

VIKING RANGE, PROFESSIONAL SERIES, propane gas, 6-sealed burner, 36" infrared broiler, as new, never ill, still in original packaging, w/tags. Model VCGSC-5366BSS, trades considered. \$4,600 508-865-7470

WE'VE MOVED! Light oak dining-room table w/6 chairs & 2 leaves, Oak entertainment Ctr., various size lamps, small electronics & more. No reasonable offer refused. Call 413-896-7047 Sturbridge area.

WHITE OUTDOOR PRODUCTS SNOWBLOWER. 10hp Tecumseh, two stage, 30 in. width. Electric start, well maintained! \$600.00. 508-347-3775

100 GENERAL

105 BULLETIN BOARD

BLINGO & ITALIAN DINNER CHARITY EVENT Knights of Columbus N.Grosvenordale CT Friday May 10th 6:30p-9:30p 10 games of BINGO w/prizes & Italian dinner \$25 per person, must pre-purchase call 860-933-7085

FRENCH TEENS NEED FAMILIES NOW! Host a French student for 3 weeks this Summer. Great cultural experience and fun! Compensation \$100 to \$150/wk. Contact KIM TODAY 508-763-3148 Facehill@comcast.net www.LEC-USA.com

107 MISC. FREE

FREE CONSTRUCTION WOOD AND KINDLING WOOD; beams, plywood, 2x4x, 2x6s, 2x8s, good for woodstoves, not for building. Clean. Delivery possible. Ask for J.D. 413-262-5082

110 NOVENAS

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN (Never known to fail). Oh Most Beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me that herein You are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech You from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity. (Make request). There are none that can withstand Your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days. You must publish it and it will be granted. A.K.

Thanksgiving Prayer To The Blessed Virgin

(Never known to fail). Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein, you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your call. Oh, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. (3 times) Sweet mother I pray for this cause in your hands. (3 times) Holy spirit, resolve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me; in all instances of my life, you are with me. I want this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you even in spite of material things. I wish to be with you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. This person must say this prayer three consecutive days. After three days the request will be granted. This prayer must be published after the prayer is granted. Thank you.

130 YARD SALES

DEADLINE FOR YARD SALE SUBMISSIONS IS NOON MONDAY FOR ALL MASS. WEEKLY PAPERS
Deadline subject to change due to holidays
Call for more info

200 GEN. BUSINESS

205 BOATS

17' fishing boat w/trailer w/outboard 85 HP motor. Needs a little work. Call Ray for details. 774-230-2190 or 774-200-8342 leave message. \$3900 for all.

CANOE - 17 GRUMMAN ALUMINUM, flat bottom. Ideal for fishing and family fun. \$850. Call Sue 860-412-9632

265 FUEL/WOOD

FIREWOOD: Cut, Split & Delivered. Green Wood Lots Wanted. Call Paul (508) 769-2351

283 PETS

FIVE POMCHI PUPPIES 2 females, 1 male, 8 weeks old. Vet checked and 1st shots. \$750 Call or text Pam 508-662-7741

Want to Place a Classified Ad?
Call 800-536-5836

284 LOST & FOUND PETS

Did you find your pet?
Or find a home for one?



LET US KNOW!!!
Please call us so that we can take your ad out of the paper...
Town-To-Town Classifieds
508-909-4111

287 FEED

HAY FOR SALE - \$4 a bale off wagon (pick up only), cash 508-826-3312

298 WANTED TO BUY

LEE'S COINS & JEWELRY \$ BUY & SELL \$ ALL GOLD & SILVER ITEMS Specializing in NUMISMATIC COINS, Bullion Items, gold & silver of any form! Qualified with over 30 years experience & a following of many satisfied customers. We also sell a nice selection of fine jewelry, antiques & collectibles. Bring in your items & see what they're worth. You won't leave disappointed. Honesty and fairness are our best policies! Lee's Coins & Jewelry, 239 West Main Street, East Brookfield (Route 9 - Panda Garden Plaza) (508) 637-1236 or (508)341-6355 (cell)

WANTED TO BUY - fieldstone walls - looking to purchase large quantities of old stonewalls. R.E. Barnes Fieldstone 978-355-2117

WANTED: 24' Pontoon Boat & trailer (used). Webster area. 617-750-0969

WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIRS WANTED: WWII & EARLIER CASH WANTED! Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Flags, Uniforms, etc. Over 40 Years Experience. Call David 1-(508)688-0847. Ill Come To YOU!

300 HELP WANTED

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED - Ciesla Construction Corp., 237 Fiske Hill Road, Sturbridge, Mass. 508-347-3455 CONSTRUCTION LABORER - ambitious, dependable, willing to learn about site & utility work. Apply in person, Mon-Fri, 8am-4:30pm

311 PART-TIME HELP WANTED

2nd and 3rd shift part-time dispatcher. We are looking for a part-time dispatcher for 1-3 nights a week. We are interested in people that are motivated to deliver the best service to our loyal customers. We will train qualified applicants. Dispatch Solutions, Inc. is an E/O/E. All applicants must pass a pre-employment drug screen and criminal background check to be eligible for employment. Call 508-947-5000 or email slawson@mobilemedtransport.com

325 PROFESSIONAL HELP WANTED

BASED IN North Brookfield: Home Every Night. Class A Driver And/Or General Mechanic For 18-Wheel Trailer Trucks

Contact H.R. Salem Transport, LLC,(508) 867-3235

325 PROFESSIONAL HELP WANTED

Licensed Electricians and Experienced Helpers wanted for full-time work. Excellent opportunity! Call 508-942-9448.

400 SERVICES

442 LICENSED DAY CARE

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of Child Care Services requires that all ads placed in the newspaper for child care (daycare) in your home include your license number

454 HOME IMPROVEMENT

FURNITURE DOCTOR: Have your furniture Professionally restored at reasonable rates. Furniture face lifting, painting, stripping to Refinishing, caning and repairs. ANTIQUE DOCTOR, Daniel Ross (508) 248-9225 or (860)382-5410. 30 years in business!

457 LAWN/GARDEN

Yardman Yard Vac, 10/1 mulcher, small branch chipper, runs beautifully, heavy duty, \$300, 508-943-4850

500 REAL ESTATE

505 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

SOUTHBRIDGE - 3 rooms for 1 person (bedroom, living room, kitchen). All appliances, rods/shades included. \$725 mo. 1st. security. No smoking, no pets. Util. not included. Elec. heat. 508-765-5129

546 CEMETERY LOTS

Pine Grove Cemetery, Whitinsville. Double plot for sale, lower than the going price. Yew Avenue. Call owner 774-602-8211

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

550 MOBILE HOMES

PARK MODEL MOBILE HOME - Highview Campground, West Brookfield. Season begins April 15th and closes Oct. 15th. New windows, furnace, refrigerator, and kitchen floor. Call 508-873-6312.

576 VACATION RESOURCES

CAPE COD TIME SHARE FOR SALE: Edgewater Beach Resort, 95 Chase Avenue, Dennisport, MA 02639 On the water, Studio (Unit 706). Permanent Week 33 (August). Deeded rights. You'll own it for a lifetime & can be passed down to your children and grandchildren. REDUCED \$3500. (508) 347-3145

Local News

FOUND HERE!

576 VACATION RESOURCES

TIMESHARE FOR SALE full-flex week at The Manhattan Club in New York located across from Carnegie Hall. Great buy; illness forces this sale. Asking \$7,000. For details 508-248-5123



OPEN HOUSE at the Overlook in Charlton. We are Hiring!

Tuesday April 23rd 1:00 pm - 5:00pm in the Health Center. Full Time, Part Time and Per Diem positions on all shifts available.

Nurses
CNAs
HHAs
Caregivers
Dining Services

*Receive a \$5 Dunkin gift card for filling out an application!

88 Masonic Home Rd, Charlton, MA 01507 - 508-434-2365
For a complete list of open positions, and to apply online
Visit www.overlook-mass.org today!

Automotive

700 AUTOMOTIVE

715 AUTO SERVICES

\$100 CASH FLAT RATE for any Junk Vehicle No title/no keys OK. Free pickup. Call 401-648-9300

725 AUTOMOBILES

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

740 MOTORCYCLES

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

745 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2016 RIVERSIDE TRAVEL TRAILER RETRO WHITEWATER MODEL 195 bought new, used twice in new condition w/ extras; must give up camping. Asking \$13,900 860-779-3561

750 CAMPERS/ TRAILERS

2012 Cougar 324RLB 5th Wheel Camper. 1 & 1/2 bath, kids room w/sleeping loft. Pictures available. Excellent condition. \$19,750. 413-245-4403 Please leave a message. Located in Brimfield Mass.

760 VANS/TRUCKS

2000 GMC 2500 SIERRA 4-door cab & 1/2, 4-wheel drive, no rot, with plow + truck mount slide-in Fleetwheel Alcom camper (2001) w/bath, fridge, a/c, kitchenette. \$5900 508-341-6347

765 VEHICLES WANTED

2006 Ford E150 Van, good condition. 65,952 miles. \$3,300 Call 508-765-4738 x 322

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

767 VEHICLES WANTED

"We Buy Cars Over The Phone" One call does it all. Instant Top Dollar \$\$ Payouts! Free Pickup. We Are Open 24/7 Call Now! 855-631-1526

Automotive

CALENDAR

Friday, April 19

11TH ANNUAL GOOD FRIDAY MEDITATION: St. John the Baptist Church, 121 Blaine Ave., East Brookfield. Arrive any time between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. to participate in this self-guided meditative experience. You will wander at your own pace through a series of activities, reflections and Scripture to prompt an open heart to the living Gospel. Please enter from the front door. Otherwise, the handicapped entrance is from the parking lot behind the church. Stations of the Cross will be at St. Joseph's in North Brookfield at 3 p.m. A Good Friday service will be held at St. John the Baptist at 7 p.m. For more information, please contact St. John's at (508) 867-3738.

Tuesday, April 23

SAIL AWAY WITH PASTELS: 5:30 p.m., Merriam-Gilbert Library, West Brookfield. A two-hour workshop hosted by Gregory Maichack for beginners to advanced. For adults and teens age 18 and older. All materials provided. This program is supported by a grant from the West Brookfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Thursday, April 25

INTRO TO MEDITATION: 6 p.m., Merriam-Gilbert Library, West Brookfield. With Phil Milgrom, co-director of The Centered Place yoga studio in Warren. Meditation 101 class-

es to follow on Thursday evenings in May. Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

at (508) 885-2149.

Saturday, April 27

SPENCER CLEAN-UP DAY: 9-11:30 a.m. Sponsored by the First Congregational Church, 207 Main St. T-shirts or vests, gloves and trash bags will be available when volunteers register at the church at 9 a.m. A way for all of us to affirm our pride in community spirit. The church has purchased bright lime yellow T-shirts or vests for all participants. A light lunch of hot dogs, chips, drinks and pastries will be served to all participants at 11:30 a.m. Registration will be from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Anyone wishing to help in this project, please call the church office between 8 a.m. and noon, Monday through Friday

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPAGHETTI DINNER: Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish Knights of Columbus Council 11080, Brookfield/West Brookfield is having a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, April 27 at 6 p.m. in Dugan Hall, Sacred Heart Church, 10 Milk St., West Brookfield, MA 01585. Donation is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children under 12. Take out dinners will be available starting at 5:30 pm. Menu consists of pasta fagioli soup, garden salad, spaghetti & sauce, meatballs, sausage, bread, desserts, coffee, tea, and soda. Raffles, prizes, and more! To benefit the Mary Martha Sodality and The Spirit Lifters. For advance tickets please call 774-293-0590 or email: forger25@yahoo.com.

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MOTHER'S DAY IS SUNDAY, MAY 12TH



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We sell more, so you save more! Take a test drive & we will buy you a meal at the Miss Mendon Diner!

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ALL PRICED WELL BELOW KBB BOOK VALUE

<p>2016 CHEVY EQUINOX LT NEW Retail Price: \$29,795 #39386L • 17" ALLOYS, MYLINK, PREMIUM AUDIO, BACK-UP CAM WHOLESALE PRICE: \$16,500</p> <p>SAVE \$13,300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 FORD F-150 4X4 NEW Retail Price: \$39,610 #18188A • SUPERCAB, HITCH, V6, HEATED SEATS, BLUETOOTH WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,000</p> <p>SAVE \$13,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2017 JEEP RENEGADE NEW Retail Price: \$29,005 #39344L • LATITUDE TRIM, ALLOYS, 4X4, MOONROOF, NAV, TURBO WHOLESALE PRICE: \$20,500</p> <p>SAVE \$8,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>
<p>2016 FORD ESCAPE SE NEW Retail Price: \$29,095 #P11861L • HEATED SEATS, 4X4, TURBO, ALLOYS, BLUETOOTH WHOLESALE PRICE: \$16,000</p> <p>SAVE \$13,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 HYUNDAI SANTA FE NEW Retail Price: \$28,305 #H0560L • ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, SPORT TRIM, 17" ALLOYS WHOLESALE PRICE: \$17,000</p> <p>SAVE \$11,300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2017 HYUNDAI ACCENT NEW Retail Price: \$17,190 #H0725R • SE, GREAT ON GAS, SATELLITE RADIO, PWR PKG WHOLESALE PRICE: \$11,000</p> <p>SAVE \$6,200 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>
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<p>2015 DODGE DURANGO NEW Retail Price: \$38,680 #D9636 • MOONROOF, ALLOYS, HEATED LEATHER, NAV, AWD WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,777</p> <p>SAVE \$11,900 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2018 KIA SORENTO SX NEW Retail Price: \$41,790 #P12019L • ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, V6, 19" ALLOYS, MOONROOF, NAV WHOLESALE PRICE: \$30,844</p> <p>SAVE \$10,900 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 FORD EDGE SE NEW Retail Price: \$33,085 #P11919L • ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, BACK-UP CAM, TURBO, ALLOYS WHOLESALE PRICE: \$17,500</p> <p>SAVE \$15,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>
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HEALTH

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Assisted Living vs. Nursing Home

True or False: "Assisted Living" Is Just a Nicer Name for "Nursing Homes"

Does your parent have escalating health and personal care needs? It might be time to consider an assisted living facility or a nursing home. Although some individuals think they are the same, the care and services each facility provides is distinctly different. Our experienced and dedicated team at our assisted living community, Wyndemere Woods in Woonsocket in Rhode Island, has provided a basic overview to help you make the correct choice for your loved one.

What is an Assisted Living Facility?



An assisted living facility provides housing and personal support for daily activities. This typically includes assistance with bathing, dressing, eating and medication. Communities like Wyndemere Woods also offer a range of onsite facilities such as meals, housekeeping, laundry, recreational activities and exercise programs. If your family member requires continual medical care and attention, a nursing home is more appropriate than an assisted living facility.

What is a Nursing Home?

A senior with a chronic illness, physical disability or mental illness (like dementia or Alzheimer's) would require a nursing home. Also known as a long-term care home, nursing staff is on hand 24/7 to monitor and provide professional care for your family member. This type of retirement home offers a high level of medical support as well as personal assistance for daily activities, rehabilitation services and ongoing care for escalating needs.

Which One is Right for You?

Deciding whether an assisted living facility or nursing home is the best fit for your family member requires a careful evaluation of their needs, especially with regard to healthcare. If your parent or elderly loved one can take care of themselves with minimal assistance, consider an assisted living community. However, if he/she has a chronic illness or cognitive impairment like dementia or Alzheimer's, a nursing home will provide the right care.

Visiting the nursing home or assisted living facility will give you a better idea of the services and level of care available.

At Wyndemere Woods Assisted and Independent Living Community in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, we provide comfortable accommodations and loving care for your family member. A wide range of easily-accessible services and amenities and a dedicated team are always on hand to make them feel completely at home. Customized care plans cater to their unique needs. Your loved ones will enjoy the company of peers while staying in their own private apartment and you will have peace of mind knowing that they will always be well-cared for here.

Contact Wyndemere Woods Assisted and Independent Living Community at 401-762-4226 for more information or fill out our online form to book a tour.

HEALTH

Spring 2019

A Stonebridge Press
Publication

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- Balance Problems?



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Sturbridge Herbfest coming in October

The first annual Sturbridge Herbfest will be on Saturday, October 5, 2019, 9:30-4:30. This Herbfest is a brainchild of 3 local herbalists: Salli Greene, Joanne Grubert and Chris Haller. There are very few herbal conferences nationally and none in this area. The New England Woman's Herbal Conference, which they have attended many times, is in Northern New Hampshire and sells out early, every year. This can make it difficult for herbalists, young and old, male and female to gain more education in a conference setting. The International Herbal Conference is every two years in June. There is also Herbstock in Somerville, MA once a year. Sturbridge, because it is centrally located, is an ideal location, and is expected that the Herbfest will be an annual event.

The three herbalists contacted the Sturbridge Senior Center and the Board of Selectmen. Both approved holding Sturbridge Herbfest at the Senior Center at 480 Main Street. To date there are 3 Intensives (2 hour classes) and 17 - 50 minute classes scheduled. There will also be food vendors and craft, jewelry and product vendors set up on the lawn of the Senior Center. Hours are 9:30 - 4:30, Saturday October 5, 2019. Mark your calendars!!

The Sturbridge Herbfest is now taking vendor applications, \$50 for a 10x10 space. Pre-registration is \$10 and \$15 the day of the event. Intensives are \$25. The other classes are part of the admission. For more information call Salli, at Alternatives For Health 508-347-2111.



10 Important Lessons from A Nursing Academy Director

“One does not become a nurse by osmosis. You go through a competitive admission process, complete a rigorous program, and pass the NCLEX, then you’re a nurse.”

Gretheline Bolandrina
MSN Ed, RN, CRRN

When I started in nursing education in 2005, I never thought I’d be a director of a nursing program. Almost six years at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, a 5th place in-state ranking, and several new clinical sites later, I answer an ad to get published in the Spencer New Leader for the WRITE STUFF!

ONE. Things happen quickly.

When I was asked to be interim director in 2015, I was only on my second year as full-time faculty. After proctoring a test, the actual offer all happened in just a day. The night before was uneventful. I remember it was a swift decision to step up and lead. I saw the big picture. The superintendent, Mr. Lafleche and the other full-time faculty, Professor Dockstader were there and both supportive. It was a quick but exciting time!



TWO. Nurses never get old.

It’s been almost 32 years since I graduated with my BSN and to this day, I still get asked, “Do you like nursing?” I always answer, I do and a lot. I also don’t mind being asked. I don’t think

I could ever really get tired of being a nurse. The cool thing now about being in an academic setting is that every nursing student I encounter gets to be a part of my nursing journey. I get so much satisfaction helping a nursing

student succeed the same way that I got satisfaction in helping patients when I was a bedside nurse.

THREE. Once a nurse, always a nurse.

Even after I’ve been behind a desk, managing day to day activities for the practical nursing academy, I keep up to date with “everything nursing.” I have a list of nursing specialties that I keep tabs on because I have nursing students and graduates who have expressed specific interest and I keep them connected. There’s ER nursing, advance practice nursing – Nurse Anesthetists, home care nursing, and of course, nursing education. They are all exciting specialties. I try to connect as many as I could. There isn’t a shortage of seasoned nurses as role models and mentors.

FOUR. At admission interviews, we prefer to look at the whole candidate.

We conduct panel interviews for admission into the Academy, you need to look the part to play the part. Not to be intimidating but we look at everything! You need to channel your best

Turn To **LESSONS** page **A8**



Bay Path Regional Vocational Practical Nursing Academy



Credit: V. Dockstader, BSN, RN, B. Duval, LPN

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, 10-month, full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins in mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates will receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and will be eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. Practical Nurses are prepared for careers in a variety of health care settings including extended care facilities, clinics, physician offices, hospitals, and community health agencies. The role of the Practical Nurse is recognized nationally by organizations such as the Institute of Medicine in their 2010 “Future of Nursing” report and the National League for Nursing in their 2011 “Recognizing the Vital Contributions of the licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse” statement.

**For admissions, please visit our website at www.baypath.net
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The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the:
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Notre Dame Health Care Mission-Driven and Resident-Focused

In 1900, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur viewed the undeveloped expanse of land that stretched from Plantation Street down to the shores of Lake Quinsigamond as an ideal setting for peaceful contemplation and retreat from the rigors of their teaching ministry. Since the Sisters purchased the property, its purpose has expanded significantly beyond its original intent.

Today, some 100+ years later, this property has become home to Notre Dame Health Care, a non-profit organization that takes a holistic approach to the ministry of healthcare delivery. Following the teachings of Saint Julie Billiart, who founded the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, the mission of Notre Dame Health Care reflects the gospel message in every aspect of its programs and services.

The Sisters have driven innovation in health care, recognizing and addressing specific needs as the times have changed. Its first program, a skilled nursing facility for both the Sisters and the greater local community, delivers high quality care with dignity and respect. The success of this program prompted the addition of other, much-needed programs and



services. Through the years, Notre Dame Health Care has enhanced its portfolio of services with assisted living apartments, memory care units, post-acute and short-term rehabilitation, hospice and palliative care for adults and children, and an educational “bridge” center.

Every program at Notre Dame Health Care offers

distinct features that engage residents, encourage socialization and promote a better quality of life. Social activities, such as art and music therapy, along with social dining and field trips, help promote a sense of community for every resident. Notre Dame Health Care also offers daily Mass and the Rosary for its Catholic residents. We acknowledge the spiritual value in all faith traditions through the provision of pastoral care and ecumenical services for all.

The Sisters’ influence and “special touches” are reflected in many unique features which are present throughout our facilities. Peaceful gardens and serene landscaping surround each building; lavish court-yards and green space invite residents to experience the outdoors in a safe, pleasant atmosphere; exquisite photography and multi-medium artwork adorn the hallways. Differences in design abound in each of our facilities, giving each resident space its own distinctive character.

In addition to exceptional health care services, Notre Dame Health Care has created unique educational opportunities for staff and the local community. Emblematic of the Sisters’ ministry to educate for life,

the Educational Bridge Center was originally founded as a way for employees to advance in their careers. Subsequently, the Bridge Center has become a lifeline for those seeking citizenship, adult basic education programs, or support in attaining a high school diploma or an advanced degree. Drawing upon their years of service in the classroom, retired Sisters tutor students as they embark on their personal academic journeys to a better quality of life.

Not only does Notre Dame Health Care lead the industry in top-rated programs and services, the organization also has an incredible staff retention rate. Every employee exemplifies the organization’s mission and works synergistically to continually raise the bar and operate at the highest possible level.

Going forward, Notre Dame Health Care anticipates changes in the industry that will require innovation, creativity and wisdom to continue serving the spiritual, social, physical and psychological needs of the lay and religious communities through all stages of life. Guided and driven by our mission, our team is poised and ready to embrace the continually changing needs of our community!

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Open Sky's Adult Family Care Program

Open Sky's Adult Family Care program (AFC) provides both financial support and practical assistance to families caring for a qualifying family member at home. Whether you need assistance in finding resources for a young adult with autism or an aged parent with dementia, our dedicated staff have the expertise needed to help you make the right connections and guide you through the process.

Benefits of AFC for Caregivers:

- Tax-free monthly stipend – in many cases this means family members will receive funds for care they are already giving

- Ongoing nursing support

- Training and professional support

- The personal satisfaction that comes from helping someone grow and live as independently as possible

- The peace of mind of knowing there's always someone to call for help and support

Eligibility Requirements:

- The person receiving services must be 16 years of age or older

- He or she must need assistance with one or more activities of daily living such as bathing, eating or dressing

- He or she must be eligible for MassHealth

- The person is unable to live safely on their own

If you or someone you know is caring for a loved one at home and needs additional support, Adult Family Care may be the answer.

Contact Open Sky's Adult Family Care to find out if your family member meets AFC eligibility requirements at 508-266-6524 or afc@openskycs.org

Adult Family Care



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Help! I've fallen and i can't get up!!

We've all seen the commercial of the unfortunate elderly women lying on the floor after a fall. Regrettably, this really happens more often than you might think. The Center for Disease Control's 2014 survey found that 28.7 percent of adults 65 and older reported falling at least once in the preceding 12 months equaling an estimated 29 million falls, 7 million of which resulted in injury. This number increased to 36.5 percent in the 85 and older population. What's worse is that the CDC estimates every 20 minutes, an elder person dies as a result of a fall. The financial costs are staggering: \$637.5 million was spent for falls resulting in fatal injuries. The cost of non-fatal injuries was \$30.3 billion. These statistics are expected to increase as the baby boomer generation ages. By 2030, there will be 74 million people age 65 or older in the US. If the current trend continues, that may result in 49 million falls and 12 million injuries per year.

What's behind this growing health concern? Many falls occur because our ability to maintain balance diminishes as we age. Our muscles become less flexible and weaker. Nerve conduction becomes slower, decreasing reaction time. Vision, an important component of the balance mechanism, often becomes impaired. In addition to these factors, multiple medications, blood pressure changes, and other health conditions impact balance.

All is not lost! Evidence based research has shown that exercise is the best intervention to reduce the risk and rate of falls. Here's what the research shows is the best way to reduce our risk:

Strength training exercise.

Exercise that provides a moderate or high rate of challenge to the balance.

Exercise that addresses stiff joints and tight muscles.

In addition:

See your primary care provider regarding medical issues that affect balance including blood pressure, medications, and visual impairments.

Complete a home safety check: get rid of scatter rugs, remove cords across pathways, and clean out clutter. Consider adding grab bars and railings on stairs.

A visit to a physical therapist is a good way to start. Physical therapists are experts in exercise and fall prevention. Comprehensive Physical Therapy, with offices in Leicester and West Brookfield, offers the Balance for Life program. Balance for Life is a comprehensive program that is designed to address multiple factors that contribute to falls. As part of a thorough evaluation, computer generated graphs help to identify areas of concern. Individual exercise programs are designed to meet each person's specific needs. Education regarding home safety, fall prevention, and other health issues is provided to maximize independence once the program is completed. The end result is a stronger, more flexible, and safer you.

Don't become a statistic! A comprehensive balance program can keep you strong, healthy, and independent. Balance for Life is covered by most health insurance companies with a referral from your physician. Contact our office for more information on how you can protect yourself from falls.

Rosemary Wolanski, MEd, DPT

Comprehensive Physical Therapy

1037 Main Street, Leicester and 23 Ware Street, West Brookfield

508-892-1335

LESSONS

continued from page A5

self. Are you dressed appropriately? (Business casual). Did you arrive on time? (15 minutes early is on time for nurses). The pressure is, are you a good fit for us and are we a good fit for you? What does your references say about you? What does your work history show? We obtain handwriting samples. I can keep going. . .

FIVE. Prudent nurses don't have to be witches or ogres.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy produces real world ready, prudent LPNs. All praises go to the hardworking faculty and staff, plus the supportive office of the Superintendent, and all the key individuals at our various clinical sites. The work that Bay Path has done in supporting prudent nurses. Powerful nurses. The rigorous academic requirements do not take away from nursing students. Who they are becomes

enhanced, their character- whether in school, clinicals, work, or their homes. The amazing thing is, our nurses are intelligent and beautiful inside and out. They have the power to change lives!

SIX. You shouldn't sit around waiting for doctor's orders.

Between assertiveness and being articulate, I can identify inherent and developing traits in our future nurses. As a new graduate nurse back in the day, I would never be caught dead waiting for doctor's orders! I was proactive. I anticipated the next steps. I was blessed to have strong instructors who instilled assertiveness and being articulate. Instructors who helped me figure out what I'm strong at and polish that. What I'm weak at and strengthen it.

SEVEN. Don't wait for good luck, hard work is important as well as talent.

There's no doubt some students have unparalleled caring abilities, but if you want to be a successful nurse, good luck is not enough. It's great to know the fun-

damentals in nursing, solidly. There's a lot of hard work involved in nursing, our students are prepared for that. They have discipline. They show up not just on time, but fifteen minutes earlier! And they know their stuff.

EIGHT. You may view yourself as the super nurse, but you should also be a team player.

It's necessary in nursing to be a team player. It's important to know how to catch the ball as well as hit. Nursing is like performing as part of an ensemble. Even when a nurse thinks she's the smartest person in the room, or when he thinks he knows more than the doctor, perform your role with grace and humility. No need to be a show off. At the end of the day the team is working towards the same goal to benefit the patient.

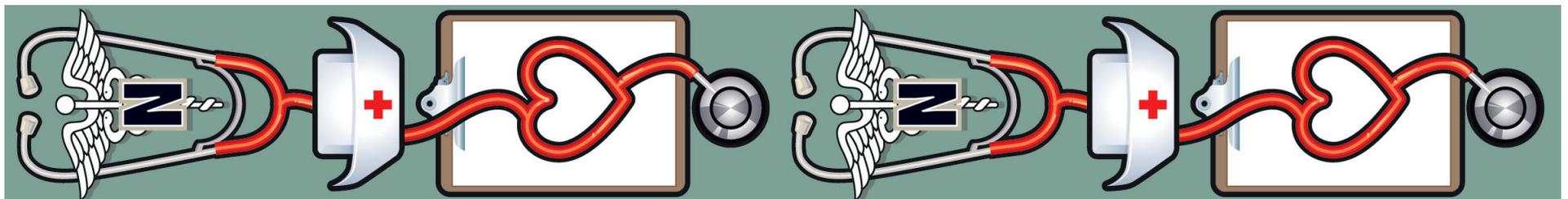
NINE. You may be a super nurse, but things won't always go your way.

There's a point when communication breaks down. Team members call in

sick. The pharmacy does not deliver meds on time. It will not be a fun time at work. Nurses fix it from zero. Nurses coordinate and triage, then the team is back on their feet. Good things come out of struggles, better leadership skills.

TEN. Everything happens for a reason.

If the goal is to become a nurse, we are here to help. You need to do your part. You need to not just attend classes but also participate. Passing grade is 73%. You need to not just attend clinicals but truly, have a heart. Graduation attributes include communication! Practice, practice, and practice, because after ten months of rigorous academics and training, you will sit for NCLEX-PN and pass the first try. When you become an LPN, it will come full circle and you will be paying it forward. It's funny how things happen, for whatever reason but still everything comes up roses!



Brace Yourself!

While the word 'braces' may still, for some, conjure up images of teenagers or middle school children, the truth is you're never too old or young, for a healthy, beautiful smile that you feel confident to share. While healthy adult teeth can often be moved at any time, the American Association of Orthodontists recommends that children should have an initial orthodontic screening at age 7. An early exam identifies problems with growth and development or airway issues that may be resolved to allow your child the benefits of better growth with early intervention. At Central Massachusetts Orthodontic Associates (CMOA), we see patients who range in age from 7 to 77 and up! Our three offices are conveniently located in Worcester, Spencer and, in October of 2018, we proudly celebrated the grand opening of our new Auburn location on 567 Southbridge Street within the Heritage Shopping Center.

At CMOA our top priority is to provide you the highest quality orthodontic care in a friendly, comfortable environment and to help you achieve the healthy, beautiful smile you deserve. From the moment a patient walks through our doors we pride ourselves in the courteous, personalized service we deliver.

Our doctors, Lisa M. Giarrusso, D.M.D. and Gregory Livanos, D.M.D. are both Board Certified orthodontists; a key deciding factor to look for in choosing your provider. In addition to completing a graduate program in dentistry, they go on to complete a 2 year residency of accredited specialty training in orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics. When you chose to have your treatment with a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics, you can be certain to receive the highest quality care and treatment.

Dr. Lisa M. Giarrusso joined her father in practice in 1992. She is a three-time graduate of Tufts University and immediately joined the faculty upon graduation where she served as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthodontics from 1992-2008. She became a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics in 1999. She is a member of the American Dental Association, American Association of Orthodontists, Massachusetts Dental Society, Tufts University Dental Alumni Association and the Tufts Association of Orthodontics.

Dr. Gregory Livanos joined Central Massachusetts Orthodontic Associates

in December 2004 after practicing for seven years in Kendall Park, New Jersey in his own private practice while also serving as a partner in a Warren, New Jersey practice. He served as a faculty member at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, teaching in the Department of Orthodontics. He is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, New Jersey, where he received a Bachelor of Science in 1983 and went on to receive his D.M.D. in 1986, again at the Fairleigh S. Dickinson Jr. School of Dental Medicine in Hackensack, New Jersey. He completed a general practice residency at St. Clare's Hospital in Schenectady, NY in 1987 and went on to practice six years of general dentistry in Saratoga Springs, New York while maintaining a faculty appointment at St. Clare's Hospital. He received his Certificate in Orthodontics at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in 1995 and became a Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics in 2005. He is a member of the American Association of Orthodontists, the American Dental Association and the Massachusetts Dental Society.

Drs. Livanos and Giarrusso are the 2006 recipients of the national APSE Employers award and the 2006 Massachusetts Council of Human Services Award for Small Businesses. Drs. Giarrusso and Livanos have vast experience with children while maintaining a large adult practice as well. The doctors have a great deal of experience in treating numerous patients who require orthognathic surgery in combination with their orthodontics.

For more information regarding Central Massachusetts Orthodontic Associates (CMOA), including our contact information, office hours, locations and more detailed information on treatment options please visit our website at www.tightbite.com or our Facebook page. We encourage you to call us at any location if should you have questions or would like to us about scheduling a consult.

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Help kids feel comfortable at the dentist



Routine dental examinations and cleanings are an important component of oral health-care for both children and adults. However, many children do not visit the dentist until well after the time recommended by medical and dental professionals. Parents may be unaware of the dental health timeline, or they could be reluctant to bring their children for fear of how their kids will behave — especially if parents are harboring their own apprehensions about the dentist.

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that a child go to the dentist by age 1, or within six months of the eruption of his or her first tooth. Yet, according to a survey commissioned by Delta Dental Plans, the average age of a child's first dental visit is 2.6 years.

Parents worried about how their kids will respond to the dentist can take the following steps to acclimate kids to dental visits to make them more comfortable during their appointments now and down the road.

- Be a positive role model. Children frequently learn by example. If they see their parents being diligent about dental care, they're more likely to embrace proper oral hygiene. Bring children to your own dental appointments so they understand the process

and become familiar with the type of equipment used.

- Stick to the first-tooth milestone. Take your child to the dentist on or about when his or her first tooth erupts. Early dental visits will get kids used to going to the dentist and prevent minor problems that may lead to more complex dental issues.

- Read books about the dentist and role play. Information can allay kids' fears about the dentist. Read books together about dental visits and act out possible scenarios with your kids. Give kids toy dental health tools and have them practice exams on you and vice-versa.

- Be supportive and instill trust. Avoid telling your child that everything will be okay. If a procedure is needed, this could affect his or her trust in you and make the dental office an even greater source of anxiety. Simply be supportive and offer a hand to squeeze or a hug if your child needs you.

- Consider using your dentist. Some parents like to take their children to a pediatric dentist, but it may not always be necessary. Many family practices cater to patients of all ages, and the familiarity of the office may

Turn To **DENTIST** page **A11**

Using nature to work with your body

These days, half of any drug commercial that you see tells you about side effects that you may not actually want. We at Your Health Matters believe using nature to work with your body is a smarter approach than resorting to manmade chemicals which force your body to work a certain way.

Most chronic diseases today are based upon runaway inflammation which overtime leads to almost every chronic disease. Visit us to learn how our top selling, clinically validated and researched multi herbal supplement can be like real health insurance in a bottle.

As far as what you put in your body... Are you aware that the skin care industry is unregulated? This means anything can be lurking in the products you apply to your skin. After all, what you put on your body ends up inside your body. Come get acquainted with our all-natural body care selection. Products with ingredients you'll be relieved to recognize.

Do you really know what's in the food you consume? Food producers are always cutting corners to cut costs. In the end, your health loses out. From nutritional drinks and healthy snacks, to natural sweeteners and low carb pastas, we can help you improve your diet!

David Termine, Co-Owner
Your Health Matters
Bedrock Plaza
139 Main St., Sturbridge MA



Feel your best starting with your stomach



Yogurt is a dietary source of probiotics, healthy bacteria and yeasts that may improve overall health.

Did you know that the key to personal health may begin in the core of the body? Doctors and researchers are learning more and more about how the immune system and other functions of the body are tied to microscopic players housed in the stomach and intestines. Improving this digestive environment can benefit the body in various ways.

UNDERSTANDING PROBIOTICS

Bodily bacteria outnumber body cells by 10 to one, offers the health and wellness resource Healthline. Most of the bacteria in the body are harmless, and many of them in the gut actually are linked to numerous health benefits, such as weight loss, enhanced immune function, reduced risk of disease, and improved digestion. Unfortunately, bad bacteria also vie for space in the gut. If the good bacteria and yeasts, or probiotics, are not in abundance to push out the bad bacteria, like salmonella and E. coli, those bad bugs can proliferate, causing problems. It is essential to keep an abundance of probiotics available to stay healthy and maintain the "good vs. bad" balance in the gut.

GETTING PROBIOTICS

While the body can be healthy without the addition of probiotics, having more can be beneficial. The Cleveland Clinic says that food and supplements containing probiotics assist the good bacteria already present in your gut. When a course of antibiotics wipes out

both good and bad bacteria, for example, probiotic-rich foods and supplements can more readily replace what's lost.

Dietary sources of probiotics include some yogurts, cheeses, kefir, sauerkraut, miso, kimchi, pickles, and beverages like kombucha, a fermented tea. Getting probiotics from foods is the most natural way to supplement good gut bacteria, as the foods meld with the probiotics in ways that doctors may never understand to deliver the most benefits.

The downside is it's impossible to measure just how many probiotics can be acquired from foods. That is what makes supplementation so handy. Capsules and tablets are loaded with a variety of different active bacteria and yeast cultures to aid the digestive system in measurable ratios. Some tout anywhere from one to 30 billion active colony-forming units (CFUs) per serving.

SIDE EFFECTS

Probiotics are generally healthy for people to consume in amounts found in foods, advises the Mayo Clinic. Most healthy adults can safely add foods or dietary supplements that contain probiotics to their diets. Introducing probiotics may cause temporary and mild flatulence, discomfort and bloating.

Probiotics can be yet another tool to improve overall health at any age, but especially for adults looking to minimize illness risk.

DENTIST

continued from page A9

help make children feel more comfortable. Speak with your dentist about the ages they see.

• Steer clear of negative words. Michael J. Hanna, DMD, a national spokesperson for the AAPD, suggests using positive phrases like “clean, strong, healthy teeth” to make the visit seem fun and positive rather than scary and alarming. Let the office staff come up with their own words to describe processes that won’t seem too frightening.

By employing these techniques, kids’ dental visits can be more pleasant for all involved, paving the way for a lifetime of healthy teeth.



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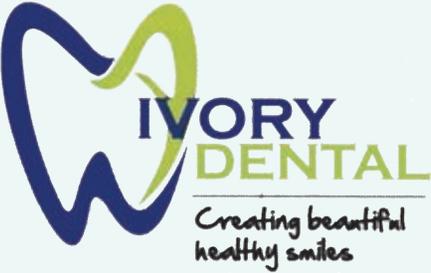
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Outdoor improvements that boost home value

Whether home improvement projects are design to improve the interior or exterior of a house, focusing on renovations that make the most financial sense can benefit homeowners in the long run. The right renovations can be assets if and when homeowners decide to sell their homes.

So how does one get started? First and foremost, speak to a local real estate agent who is knowledgeable about trends in the community. While a swimming pool may be something coveted in one area, it may impede sales in another. It also helps to study generalized trends and data from various home improvement industry analysts to guide upcoming projects.

The following outdoor projects are just a few renovations that tend to add value.

- **Fire pit:** A fire pit is a great place to gather most months of the year. Bob Vila and CBS news report that a fire pit realizes a 78 percent return on investment, or ROI.
- **Outdoor kitchen:** Many buyers are looking to utilize their yards as an extension of interior living areas.



Cooking, dining and even watching TV outdoors is increasingly popular. Outdoor living areas can be custom designed and built. In addition, prefabricated modular units that require a much smaller commitment of time and

money are available.

- **Patio:** Homeowners who do not already have a patio will find that adding one can increase a home's value. Patios help a home look neat, add useable space and may help a home to sell

quickly. The experts at Space Wise, a division of Extra Space Storage, say that refinishing, repairing and building a new patio offers strong ROI.

- **Deck:** Deck can be as valuable as patios. A deck is another outdoor space that can be used for entertaining, dining and more. Remodeling magazine's 2018 "Cost vs. Value" report indicates that an \$11,000 deck can add about \$9,000 in resale value to the home, recouping around 82 percent of the project's costs.

- **Door update:** Improve curb appeal with a new, high-end front door and garage doors. If that's too expensive, a good cleaning and new coat of paint can make an old door look brand new. These easy fixes can improve a home's look instantly.

- **New landscaping:** The National Association of Realtors says an outdoor makeover that includes well-thought out landscaping can net 105 percent ROI. Installing a walkway, adding stone planters, mulching, and planting shrubs are ideas to consider.

Many different outdoor projects can add value to a home.

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The basics of mulching

Mulch is available in various forms. Like other land and garden products, mulch can go a long way toward helping plants thrive.

Mulch comprises just about any material that is spread over the surface of soil. Its purpose is primarily to help soil retain moisture. In addition, mulch can staunch weed growth, keep soil cool, improve the aesthetics of garden beds, and even improve soil nutrient composition. When the right mulch is chosen, it can reduce the amount of time homeowners spend watering and weeding their gardens and insulate plants from dramatic changes in weather.

Gardeners may not realize that mulch also can prevent garden soil from becoming overly compacted, according to HGTV. This can mean beneficial earthworms can move easily through the soil, creating channels for water and depositing their nutrient-rich waste products.

Gardeners can choose organic or inorganic mulch. Organic mulches are derived from natural materials that will decompose over time, lending organic matter as well as various nutrients to the soil. Organic mulches also may contain beneficial microorganisms that can fight against plant diseases. Inorganic mulches may be made of stones, landscape fabrics and plastic. Both types will need to be amended or replaced as they degrade. Those who want the most environmentally-friendly mulching materials can choose all-natural mulches instead of synthetic alternatives.

To work effectively, mulch should be applied in a two- to three-inch layer of material, state the experts at Old World Garden Farms. This is the ideal amount to retain soil moisture and suppress weed growth without choking plants. Also, mulch that is too thick may make it impossible for water to penetrate, or it may prevent the soil from airing out, causing continuously wet conditions that lead to root and stem rot.

The University of Connecticut Home & Garden Education Center says mulch should not be placed directly against plant crowns or tree bases, as this can promote the development of disease. It may also serve as a habitat for bark- and stem-eating rodents. The center also suggests watering newly installed bark or wood mulches to prevent fungi from colonizing in dry mulch and causing problems like a water-repellent surface on the mulch.

Home landscapers considering mulch types may find that compost, manure and grass clippings (from nonpesticide-treated lawns) can be inexpensive and versatile in garden beds. The home advice site The Spruce notes that newspaper may also be effective. Many newspapers have switched over to organic dyes, especially for their black and white sections. Newspapers are an inexpensive way to suppress weeds and act like organic mulch in beds. They can be covered with other organic mulch, like shredded bark, for more visual appeal.

Mulch can be a versatile asset when doing gardening projects around home landscapes. And the benefits are more than just aesthetic.



Get ready: Early spring landscaping tips

During the cold months of winter, many people stare longingly out of the window dreaming of spring and time spent outdoors. For those with green thumbs, images of tending to the garden and other aspects of their landscapes no

doubt dominate such daydreams.

Draw inspiration from those budding crocuses and daffodils pushing through the last remnants of snow and employ these tips to prepare for the upcoming gardening season.



- One of the first steps is to apply a preemergent weed killer to get a head start knocking out weeds that can plague the lawn during the growing season. Killing weeds at the roots early on can mean far fewer hassles in spring and summer, and may prevent new generations of weeds from cropping up each year.

- While it may be tempting to take a prematurely warm day as a sign that spring is in full force and purchase a bunch of annuals, it's better to know the last of the possible frost dates (check "The Farmer's Almanac"); otherwise, you may waste time and money planting flowers or vegetables only to have them die. Amend the soil so that it is the right consistency — just crumbling when lifting it. Soil that is too muddy after spring thaw can harden, making it difficult for plants to flourish later on. Speak with representatives at a local lawn and garden center about which types of amendments you can add to the soil in your particular area to enrich it.

- Lawn and garden experts at The Home Depot suggest filling in bare patches of lawn now by mixing a few shovel-

fuls of soil with grass seed. Then apply this patch to the bare areas, water, and continue to care for the area until the spot fills in.

- Spend a day in the garage or shed tending to the lawn mower and other gardening equipment. Clean all tools and ensure that everything works, repairing parts as needed.

- Give outdoor entertaining spaces a good scrubbing, clearing away dirt and grime that may have accumulated over the winter. Use a leaf blower to blow away any leftover leaves.

- Check if the front porch, railings or decking need painting and/or staining. Tackle these projects when the weather is cooler so everything will be ready for those peak spring days.

- Think about any annuals you might want to plant in the landscape this year that will complement any existing shrubbery or perennials. Come up with a theme so that the entire yard is cohesive.

Before homeowners know it, winter is gone and it is time to once again enjoy long days spent outdoors. Get a jump start on spring lawn prep as soon as you can.

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Must-haves for an amazing kitchen remodel

Kitchen remodels are among the most popular home renovation projects, whether they consist of swapping out cabinet hardware or doing major demolition.

Due to the sheer amount of time families spend in the kitchen, not to mention the number of tasks performed in this space, it is easy to see why Remodeling magazine consistently ranks kitchen renovations as projects that will enable homeowners to recoup a high percentage of their investments. In the magazine's 2018 "Cost vs. Value" report, midrange major kitchen remodels costing an average of \$63,829 recouped 59 percent of that investment.

When investing in a kitchen project, it is important to incorporate items that are coveted.

- **Deep, double sinks:** Having a double sink enables you to soak dishes in one side and then wash on the other. It also makes it easy to wash and prep produce for meals.

- **Kitchen island and bar stools:** Even though many meals are enjoyed around the table, there's something to be said for the convenience of a kitchen island and some well-placed bar stools for quick breakfasts or snacks.

- **Smart kitchen storage:** Work with a contractor to include storage solutions built into cabinetry and the pantry. Slide-out shelving,

nooks for a paper towel roll and custom-designed areas to store stand mixers and other necessities can make kitchens more functional.

- **Outdoor access:** If possible, design a kitchen so it is easy to access the backyard via sliding doors. This can make outdoor entertaining or even coffee on the deck much easier.

- **Under-cabinet lighting:** Fixtures installed under cabinets provide both ambient lighting and task lighting. Such lighting makes it easier to see what you're working on as well, as even well-placed overhead lighting can fail to illuminate dark corners and spots on the counters.

- **Convenient warming drawer:** This appliance provides backup to the oven. It's a slide-out drawer that can keep prepared foods out of the way and warm until they are ready to be served. This is particularly handy for holidays and other entertaining.

- **Beverage station:** Designate one area of the kitchen to beverages, such as coffee and tea. Or make the area an informal bar. This can limit traffic in the kitchen to a single area.

Kitchen remodels are exciting to envision, and several choices can make these high-traffic spaces even more coveted.



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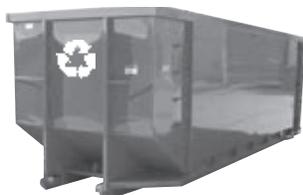


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Remove as many items as you can (planters, hoses, outdoor furniture, light fixtures) and cover other items (steps, plants, sidewalks/paths) with drop cloths.

Examine the deck for surface wear, cracked boards, and popped nails.

Make any necessary repairs before you stain your deck.

Applying the Stain Decks are often subjected to extreme environmental conditions (direct sun, cool damp shade, etc.) as well as heavy foot traffic. Proper care of your deck will help ensure the longevity of the finish.

Step 1 After properly preparing the wood, select an inconspicuous place on the actual wood you will be staining and test the stain to be sure you will be pleased with the final color results.

Step 2 First stain the vertical sections of the deck, such as the rails and posts, so that drips will not land on previously finished areas.

Step 3 Once the vertical surfaces are completed, proceed to the deck surface. For deck boards, stain two to three boards at a time to avoid lap marks. Do not stop in the middle of a board, or you will risk developing lap marks. Make sure to wipe up any excess stain.

Deck-Staining Tips

The best way to apply deck stain is to use a roller or spray, followed by back-brushing to even out the stain.

Do not let stain puddle on the surface of the deck.

Stain does not stay mixed the same

way paint does. You will need to stir the stain frequently during application.

To ensure proper stain penetration and even drying results, avoid applying stain in direct sunlight.

Soak the bottom of the deck posts in Benjamin Moore Alkyd Primer (366). This will give the posts added protection from the kind of ground moisture they are subjected to, and will help extend the life of the posts.

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How to save up for your first home

Home ownership is a dream for people across the globe. Many people save for years before buying their first homes, squirreling away every dollar they can with the hopes they can one day become homeowners.

But thanks to factors beyond their control, even the most devoted savers can sometimes feel like their dream of home ownership may never come true. According to the Pew Research Center, American workers' paychecks are larger than they were 40 years ago, but their purchasing power is essentially the same. Things aren't much different in Canada, where analysis from Statistics Canada and the Bank of Canada has shown that, since 2015, wage growth in Canada has been weaker than in the United States.

Various challenges can make it difficult to buy a home. However, some simple strategies can help prospective home buyers build their savings as they

move closer to the day when they can call themselves "homeowners."

- Determine where your money is going. If you're finding it hard to grow your savings, audit your monthly expenses to determine where your money is going. Using exclusively debit or credit cards can simplify this process, as all you need to do is log into your accounts and see how your money was spent over a given period. If you routinely use cash to pay for items, even just to buy coffee on the way to work, keep a notepad handy so you can jot down each expense. Do this for a month and then examine how you spent your money. Chances are you will see various ways to save, and you can then redirect that money into your savings account.

- Become a more savvy grocery shopper. Another great way to save more money is to alter something you already do each month: grocery shopping. If you haven't already, sign up for discount

clubs at your local grocer. This is a largely effortless way for shoppers, especially those buying food for families, to save considerable amounts of money. Shopping sales at competing grocery stores also can save money.

- Dine in more often. The U.S. Department of Agriculture says that Americans spend, on average, 6 percent of their household budgets on food. However, the USDA also notes that Americans spend 5 percent of their disposable income on dining out. If these figures mirror your spending habits, you can nearly cut your food spending in half by dining out less frequently. That might be a sacrifice for foodies, but it can get you that much closer to buying your own home.

Saving enough money to purchase your first home is a worthy effort that can be made easier by employing a few budget-friendly strategies.

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