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Friday, December 21, 2018

Dreams come true for East Brookfield athlete



Courtesy photos

Abigail Befford, of East Brookfield, right, won a national championship with her University of Bridgeport soccer team this year.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD - When Abigail Befford and her University of Bridgeport women's soccer teammates came together for preseason meetings this past summer, they set a goal of becoming the first team in program history to win a national championship. Four months later, the team has turned its dream into a reality.

The team made history on Dec. 1, clinching the NCAA Division II national crown

with a 1-0 shutout of previously undefeated Grand Valley State University, the top-ranked team in the country. Despite being outshot 18-5 in the championship match played in Pittsburgh, PA, Bridgeport came away with the stunning upset and completed their dream season.

For Befford, a sophomore midfielder who attended Tantasqua Regional High School, it was exciting to play on a close-knit team that gained momentum as the year progressed.

Please Read **BEFFORD**, page **A5**

Area fire departments honor fallen firefighter

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STONEBRIDGE STAFF WRITER

Fire officials from throughout the area came together last week to honor fallen Worcester Firefighter Christopher Roy.

On Dec. 9, the 36-year-old Shrewsbury resident became trapped while battling an early morning five-alarm fire at a Lowell Street apartment complex. Roy belonged to Ladder 4, Group 3 at the city's Webster Square Fire Station.

"Fire crews were heroic in their efforts to rescue their colleagues under extreme conditions," said Worcester Fire Chief Michael Lavoie. "Every person on the fire-ground gave 110 percent to try to rescue the firefighters who were in danger."

Conditions in the burning building rapidly declined, fire officials said, with heavy flames forcing several firefighters on the second floor to evacuate. With the assistance of additional crews, five firefighters escaped the building on ladders.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Hundreds of firefighters attended services and programs leading up to Roy's funeral on Dec. 15. For local officials, it was important to show their support for Roy's family and the Worcester Fire Department. December has been a tragic month for the department over the years, beginning in 1999 when six firefighters lost their lives battling a blaze at the abandoned Worcester Cold Storage and



Courtesy photo

Worcester Firefighter Christopher Roy lost his life while battling a Dec. 9 blaze.

Warehouse Co. building.

On Dec. 8, 2011, Worcester Firefighter Jon Davies died while responding to an apartment fire.

"This is unfathomable. The [memorial anniversary] services for Jon Davies were held the day before, and the very next day Firefighter Roy lost his life," said Spencer Fire Chief Robert Parsons. "December has been a cruel month for the Worcester Fire Department. We want to do whatever we can to show our support."

Local fire departments collaborated with the area's fire

Please Read **ROY**, page **A14**

Sturbridge DPW director to retire after 23 years

BY ANNIE SANDOLI
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE - Greg Morse, the director of the Sturbridge Department of Public Works, has announced he will be retiring from his position effective Friday, Dec. 21 after leading the department for 23 years.

A Sturbridge native, Morse has overseen and completed projects pertaining to the town's public water supply and quality, storm response and snow removal methods, and roadwork and construction affairs throughout his years of service.

"Because it's my hometown, I thought

it was important to at least give it a shot," he said.

As the town is beginning the process of choosing a new DPW director, Morse said the person who replaces him should have a general knowledge of water systems, construction and roadwork practices, and be prepared to handle all kinds of different projects and problem solve various issues.

"You really need to be a jack of all trades," he said. "There are things that need to get wrapped up and we are on the good side of them, but there is still plenty of work to do."

Interim Town Administrator Ted

Kozak recently filled vacancies on the DPW Director Search Committee in accordance with the Sturbridge Town Charter Section 6.5, which calls for a five member committee that consists of the town administrator, two voters not currently employed by the town appointed by the town administrator, and two members qualified to assist in the search process and appointed by the town administrator.

Kozak will be leading the committee, which will include Morse, Sturbridge Planning Board Chairman and Palmer Town Administrator Charles Blanchard, Russell Chamberlain, and

Gary Kellaher.

"We are looking for someone who is knowledgeable of how to operate DPW, works well with people, and has good management skills similar to those that Greg has," said Kozak.

Applications for the five member committee were accepted through Friday, Nov. 23 and the application for the position of DPW director will close on Friday, Dec. 21. The DPW Director Search Committee will meet for the first time during the week of Dec. 18 and will start looking at applications the following week.

Please Read **DPW**, page **A7**

Sturbridge Police Department holiday toy drive a success

BY ANNIE SANDOLI
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE - The Sturbridge Police Department hosted its annual toy drive on Sunday, Dec. 9 at the Sturbridge Safety Complex, receiving over 800 toy donations from generous contributors while offering cocoa, cookies, and a visit from Santa.

The toy drive, which is working in partnership with Southbridge Cops 'N' Kids and the Lions Club and sponsored by Southbridge Credit Union,

will benefit children of all ages in Central Massachusetts whose families cannot afford to buy them presents for the holidays.

"It was very cold, but it went very well," said Sergeant Larry Bateman of the Sturbridge Police Department.

The collaboration is part of an effort to aid needy families in the area after the closing of the Southbridge branch of the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program due to a lack of volunteers. In past years, the Sturbridge Police Department

donated the items from the toy drive directly to Toys for Tots, but with the next closest Toys for Tots distribution center being in Worcester, this effort made sure that donations from residents were kept as local as possible.

Asking for new, unwrapped, and non-violent toys, the department received support from many surrounding communities and will distribute the gifts to needy families in Sturbridge in the last few days leading up to Christmas, who are chosen based on applica-

tions and referrals. Any leftover toys will go to families in Southbridge and other nearby towns.

"It's good to give back to the community," said Bateman. "It's also very important to remember that not everyone has the ability to buy toys for their children to open up on Christmas."

The last day to donate toys is Friday, Dec. 21. The drop off locations are Southbridge Police Department, Southbridge Fire Department, Southbridge Credit Union,

Southbridge Town Hall, Sturbridge Police Department, Jacob Edwards Library, Micknuck's Marketplace, Big Bunny Market, Harrington Hospital, Cedar Street Grille, Cedar Street Café, Avellino, and The Duck.

For more information about the annual toy drive in Sturbridge or to sponsor next year's event, contact the Sturbridge Public Safety Complex at 508-347-2525.

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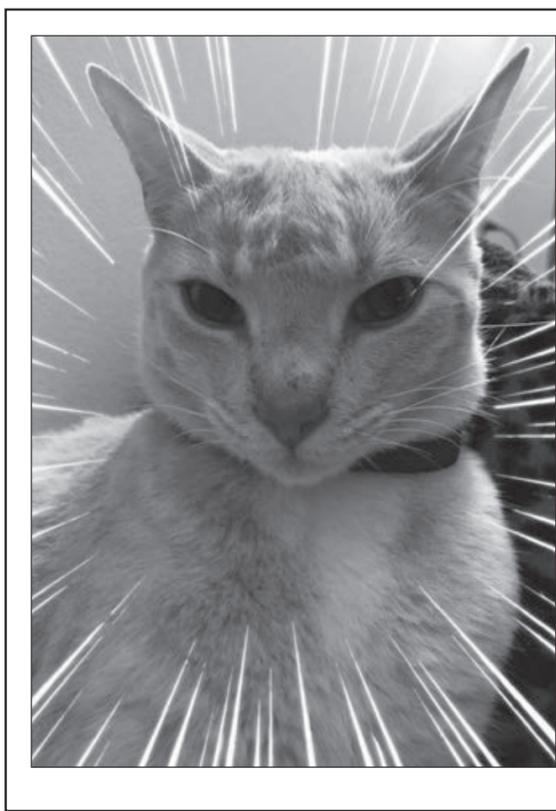


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CAN WE GET HIM BACK TO HIS FAMILY?

Courtesy photo

Lost at Days Inn, Rte. 15, Sturbridge on Oct. 6. He had on a black collar and harness and black leash. He is a neutered male with pale blue eyes and a patch of white fur under his neck. He has a small backward "L" scar on the top of his nose.

Please message me if you have any information at all. Newportamy0721@gmail.com (401)787-7419

"Not a day goes by that I don't think about Okie. I just can't let go. This cat belongs back with me. I am missing a piece of my heart while he is gone."

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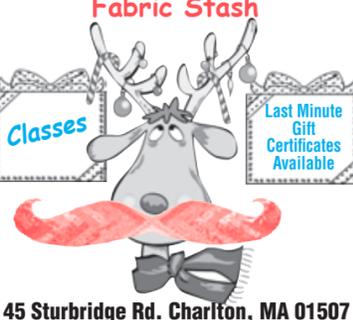


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Annual Harrington Auxiliary holiday event includes program



Courtesy photos

Harrington Auxiliary members enjoyed the meal presented by the Publick House.



Sarah Jo Burke described life with her family as part of the Burke Family Singers.

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Harrington Auxiliary held its monthly board meeting and annual Christmas party Dec. 10 at the Publick House Restaurant in Sturbridge. Approximately 50 members attended this gala event, sharing in a luncheon of turkey, the Publick House's specialty, and scrod with fresh vegetables and the restaurant's signature rolls.

Following the meal, writer and singer Sarah Jo Burke regaled the attendees with stories from her book *Don't Think It Hasn't Been Fun: The Story of the Burke Family Singers*. She offered insight into her family's adventures in the entertainment world as she, her parents and her nine siblings — an assortment of altos, sopranos, tenors and basses — sang their way out of their humble Rhode Island home to several prestigious national venues. During the Burke Family's musical journey, they appeared on local television, as well as on the Ed Sullivan, Mike Douglas and Jack Parr shows. The group crisscrossed the United States and Canada in a pair of monogrammed Chevrolets, meeting television hosts, show business personalities, comedians, cardinals and a host of other interesting people along the way. The Auxiliary members in attendance also had the pleasure of hearing some musical excerpts from the Burke Family's albums.

To conclude the program, the members participated in a gift exchange and socialization.

The Harrington Auxiliary was found-



ACCURACY WATCH

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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) 909-4140 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

ed in 1932, one year after the Harrington Memorial Hospital opened its doors. The Auxiliary comprises dedicated men and women whose mission is to support and enhance the excellent services provided by the Harrington Healthcare System. Throughout the year, the Auxiliary organizes and sponsors a variety of fundraising events, including Lucky Duck and Family Day, Irish Night, the Car and Motorcycle Show and bake sales. The proceeds from these events are used to purchase equipment and provide programs that benefit the health and wellbeing of those who live in the communities served by the Harrington Healthcare System.

New members are always welcome. For more information about the Auxiliary or to request a membership form, please contact Volunteer Services at Harrington Hospital at 508-765-6472 or email auxiliary@harringtonhospital.org.



Members of the Harrington Auxiliary mingling before the luncheon.

A STORY OF CHRISTMAS PAST

BY ED NEAL

It all started on December 1, 1917 in the midst of World War I. The ship, the Mont Blanc, left New York for Halifax, Nova Scotia with a cargo of 2,989 tons (almost six million pounds) of munitions on its way to join a convoy of ships headed to Boudreaux, France, delivering war supplies to troops.

In the early hours of Dec. 6, the Mont Blanc collided with a Belgian Relief ship, the Imo, in Halifax harbor. While the Imo was able to make way, the Mont Blanc caught fire.

Captain Aime Le Medec gave the order to abandon ship. It was at 9:04 that morning that the Mont Blanc exploded in what, to this date, remains the world's largest man made non-nuclear explosion.

1,600 men, women and children died instantly. 9,000 were wounded. 12,000 homes were flattened or made uninhabitable. Water surrounding the ship vaporized, causing a 20 foot tidal wave to cause further devasta-

tion. Windows as far as 50 miles away were shattered by the blast.

Word of the disaster reached Boston by telegraph at 10 that morning. That day the city dispatched by train 13 doctors and surgeons, nurses, food, water and medical supplies the 750 miles to Halifax.

Slowed by a blizzard, the train did not arrive until Dec. 8.

"Boston was one of the first responders, a real lifesaver."

The medical personnel were immediately put to work, coordinating with doctors on hand, performing life/death surgeries, amputations and eye removals.

Following a tradition started in 1941, the Province of Nova Scotia sent Boston a Christmas tree, decorated by the city and displayed on Boston Common. In 1971, the government enacted legislation which provided that each and every year a tree would be taken from anywhere in the Province and sent to Boston. Each

tree is 40 to 50 feet tall and chosen for color and shape.

Homeowners consider it a privilege to have a tree chosen from their property. The tree cutting is attended by town and government officials, the town crier, the Royal Mounted Police, townspeople, schoolchildren, a choir and Santa Claus.

"The whole Province gets excited about the tree. It is a big deal."

In Boston, the tree lighting ceremony is televised and is typically attended by up to 20,000 people each year.

A friend's help in need makes a friend forever. One year's truck driver, David McFarland, said it best.

"It means a lot to all the Nova Scotia people what Boston did for us in our time of need when the explosion happened."

A Merry Christmas, and its spirit to follow us in the New Year to come.

STURBRIDGE AREA CHRISTMAS

The Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale
8 Maple Street
Reverend Dr. Thomas R. McKibbens

On Sunday, December 23, the church's youth present their annual Children's Christmas Pageant. This year's presentation, "Have You Heard" involves a series of vignettes that explore how individuals are affected by the birth of Jesus. The service begins at 9:30 a.m.

There will be two services on December 24 (Christmas Eve). The first service will take place at 5:30 p.m. The topic of Pastor Thomas McKibbens' sermon will be "The Hopes and Fears of All the Years"

(Text: Matthew 1: 18-25).

The second, the annual Candlelight Service will begin at 11:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
345 Main St.
Pastor Kirsten Nelson Roenfeldt
Christmas Eve at 7pm with no Christmas Day or New Year's services.
For more information, call the church office directly at 508-347-7279, email them at office@bethlehemsturbridge.org, or visit their website at <http://www.bethlehemsturbridge.org/home.html>.

Saint Anne's Shrine
16 Church Street
Reverend Alex Castro
Christmas Eve Masses at 4pm, 6pm, and midnight in the parish center and

one 4pm Mass in the church.
Christmas Day Masses will be at 8am and 10am in the parish center.

Saint Anne's Shrine is offering New Year's Services as well, with the New Year's Eve Mass being held at 7pm in the parish center and New Year's Day masses being held at 8am and 10am in the parish center. For more information, call the church at 508-347-7338, email the office at saintanneshrine@gmail.com, or visit their website at <http://stannestpatrickparish.com>.

Sturbridge Worship Center,
19 Mashapaug Road
Pastor Graham Jones
only holiday service on Dec. 23 at 10am. For more information, call the worship center at 774-314-1792, email them at admin@swc.church, or visit their website at <http://www.sturbridge-worshipcenter.com/index.html>.

New Vision Church (Contemporary Christian)
23 Main Street
only Sunday, December 23 at 10:30am. The lead pastors are Wayne and Yvette Gallagher. For more information, call the church at 413-461-5038, email at info@newvisionchurchma.com, or visit their website at <https://www.newvisionchurchma.com>.

Lifesong church, newly located in the Cinemagic Stadium Complex
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Turn To **AREA CHRISTMAS** page A4

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Holiday Networking at The Publick House!



Join the Chamber of Central Mass South for some holiday cheer with our Members and Guests on the evening of Thursday, Dec. 20! The final Fun at Five of the year will be a glittering celebration at the Publick House in Sturbridge featuring fantastic food, a joyous atmosphere in a glowing hall, many great prizes and surprises, a 50/50 raffle, and your chance to celebrate the season with our Members and friends!

We will be collecting for Southbridge Lions/Southbridge Police COPS N KIDS program at Holiday Fun at Five. If you are able to donate an unwrapped, non-violent new toy, your contribution would be most welcome and help spread holiday joy to the less fortunate right here in our community. Please consider toys for teenagers as well as young children. Thank you for your generosity!

The Publick House at the holidays is an enchanting venue and we look forward to this one last celebration with you in 2018! RSVP by phone

at 508-347-2761 or email info@cmschamber.org. The cost to attend is \$10 for pre-registered members, \$15 at the door, or \$20 for non-members. The party starts at 5:00 and runs until 8:00pm.

The Chamber is very grateful to Cornerstone Bank for sponsoring the Holiday Fun at Five! Cornerstone Bank is a local, community bank that delivers a personal touch that only a local bank can offer. Cornerstone is dedicated to providing high quality, personal customer service for individuals, businesses and community organizations in central Massachusetts. Cornerstone Bank works to connect you with opportunities through a broad range of deposit and loan products and services to meet your financial goals with the unique ability for fast, flexible service. Their goal is to be the Cornerstone for your success. Learn more about the products and services offered by visiting www.CornerstoneBank.com.

Congressman Neal to Speak at the Chamber's Annual Meeting

The Chamber will hold its annual meeting in January at a date to be determined. We will be welcoming our distinguished guest of honor and keynote speaker Congressman Richard Neal. With a new Congress due to be sworn in on Jan. 3 and Congressional schedules in the works, the annual meeting will be sched-



Courtesy photo

A snip and smiles! On Nov. 29, the Chamber was thrilled to cut the ribbon that officially opened the new Tillyer House at The Publick House Historic Inn. Representative Todd Smola and Senator Anne Gobi joined us to give this amazing new property a rousing and heartfelt welcome to the neighborhood.

uled to coincide with the Congressman's availability. We look forward to hearing the viewpoint from the incoming Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. Stay tuned to cmschamber.org and the Chamber Corner in this publication for the definitive date and time.

Welcome New Members! The Chamber is excited to introduce our newest members!

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Industrial Transfer & Storage, Southbridge, www.IndustrialTransfer.com

Paw Plaza, Sturbridge, www.PawPlaza.com

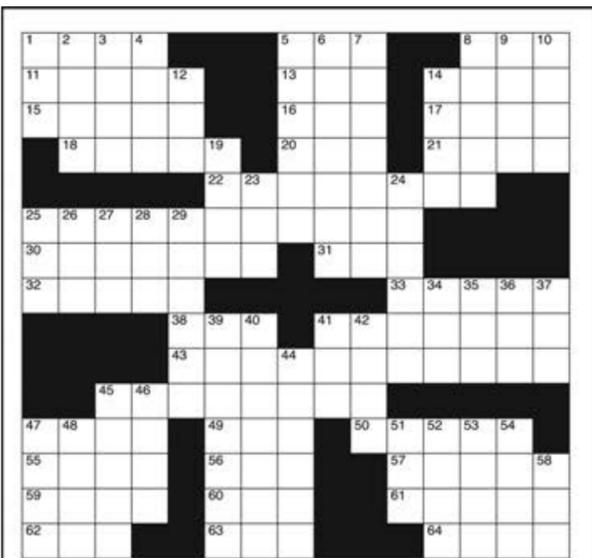
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Contact: The Chamber of Central Mass South, 46 Hall Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566 at 508-347-2761 or visit www.cmschamber.org; or email info@cmschamber.org.

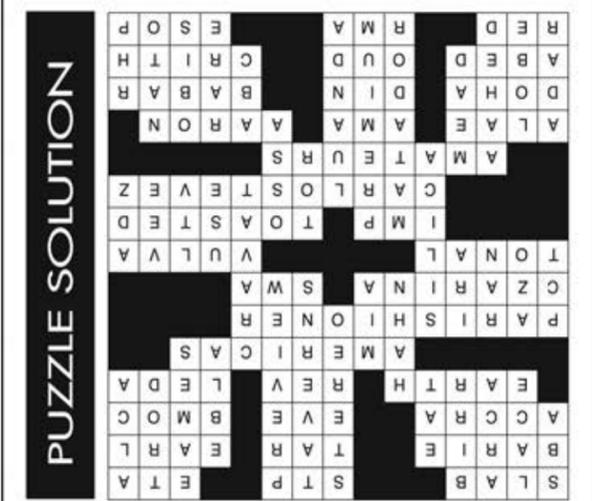


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Thick piece of something
- 5. Engine additive
- 8. Anticipated arrival time
- 11. French commune
- 13. Cigarette (slang)
- 14. Nobleman
- 15. Ghana capital
- 16. Adam's wife
- 17. Most popular student
- 18. Where you currently are
- 20. Increase motor speed
- 21. Queen of Sparta
- 22. North, South and Central
- 25. Churchgoer
- 30. Russian empress
- 31. Female daredevils organization
- 32. Relating to music
- 33. Female body part
- 38. Tyrion Lannister
- 41. Honored
- 43. Argentine footballer
- 45. Novices
- 47. Wings
- 49. Doctors' group
- 50. Packers' QB
- 55. Qatar capital
- 56. Unpleasant noise
- 57. Lovable elephant
- 59. Sleeping
- 60. Lute
- 61. Weight of a liter of hydrogen
- 62. Crimson
- 63. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 64. Employee plan

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Helps little firms
- 2. Type of curtain
- 3. Online stock exchange
- 4. Irish castle
- 5. Audio-system
- 6. Places to grab a drink
- 7. What's coming
- 8. Designed chairs
- 9. Stepped on
- 10. Genus of birds
- 12. Consume
- 14. Ancient Syrian city
- 19. Australian brewery
- 23. Not present
- 24. Necktie
- 25. What part of (abbr.)
- 26. Type of compound
- 27. Jogged quickly
- 28. Roth is one type
- 29. Mineral
- 34. Purpose
- 35. Financial term (abbr.)
- 36. Orange is the New Black character
- 37. Used to cut and shape wood
- 39. Bullfighter
- 40. Top of the line
- 41. Hill
- 42. Greek mountain
- 44. Angola's capital
- 45. Expressed pleasure
- 46. Fermented honey beverage
- 47. Month in the Jewish calendar
- 48. Frontal is one type
- 51. Basics
- 52. Uncommon
- 53. Broad kimono sashes
- 54. European defense organization
- 58. Box score term



December Real Estate Market Update



REALTOR'S REPORT

JAMES BLACK

According to Bankrate.com as of 12/16/2018 the rate on a 30 year fixed loan was 4.57%. Which is lower than it has been the last couple months. The market is still extremely strong but all the numbers are showing us going towards or more stabilized market.

Today we have 1642 single family homes for sale in Worcester County which down from 6

months ago where we had 1785 single homes for sale. 12 months ago we had 1488 homes for sale which shows a more than 10.3% increase in inventory compared to the same day 12 months ago. Every month lately has shown a higher inventory than the same month in 2017. The good news is the inventory is still lowering as normal going into the winter months. The average days on market is currently 117 days which is creeping higher every month however last year at this time it was at 132 days. If we look at homes sold over past 12 months compared to the same time for the previous year there is a small decrease in sales of 2.2% and a 5.9% increase in average sales price while it is taking 13.3% less time to sell the

homes this year than last year in Worcester County. The big difference I noticed this month is that the amount of sales has decreased while our active inventory has increased from last year. Again this is a sign of stabilization in the market.

I would not recommend making a buying or selling decision based on these changes in the market. However, if you are thinking of moving soon I would suggest you meet with a Realtor that is familiar with your area and the economics of Real Estate to guide you on where you market is and where it will most likely be going. It is never too early to consult with a professional to understand the market and your steps to getting your home on the market.

AREA CHRISTMAS

continued from page A3

December 23 at 9am and 10:30am. The lead pastor is David Payne. Participants must register for tickets online at <http://lifesongonline.org/christmas-2018>. For more information, call the church at 508-921-4767.

First Congregational Church of Brimfield: has announced its Christmas Eve schedule. Monday, December 24th - Christmas Eve Services: 7:00 p.m. Family Worship. All are invited to join us in this joyous service as we sing and pray to honor the birth of our Lord and Savior.

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service: A more 'traditional' Christmas Eve Service. Please join us in this quiet and reflective service which leads us into Christmas Day.

Gateway Players announces auditions for next production

Gateway Players Theater announce auditions for "Sylvia", by A. R. Gurney, on Sunday, Jan. 6 at 5:30 pm and Monday, Jan. 7 at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall of Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm St., Southbridge. Entrance is on Park Street (around corner). Men and women ages 18-60 are needed for this production.

Please see detailed character descriptions below. Performance dates are April 5, 6, 12 & 13 at 7:30 pm and April 14 at 2 pm. Rehearsals will be on Sundays at 6 pm, and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Wear comfortable clothes and plan to have a good time.

Presented by permission through special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service. David Corkum is the director, Bill Guy is the producer, and Mary Darling will be the assistant director. For questions about auditions call 508-764-4531.

Synopsis:
Greg and Kate have moved to Manhattan after 22 years of child raising in the suburbs. Greg's career as a financial trader is winding down, while Kate's career, as a public school English teacher, is beginning to offer her more opportunities. Greg brings home a dog he found in the park — or that has found him — bearing only the name Sylvia on her nametag. A street-smart mixture of Lab and poodle, Sylvia becomes a major bone of contention between husband and wife. She offers Greg an escape from the frustrations of his job and the unknowns of middle age. To Kate, Sylvia becomes a rival for affection. And Sylvia thinks Kate just doesn't understand the relationship between man and dog. The marriage is put in serious jeopardy until, after a series of hilarious and touching complications, Greg and Kate learn to compromise, and Sylvia becomes a valued part of their lives.

Character descriptions:
Lead Roles
SYLVIA (Female Age 18-35) A Labradoodle
Must be fit and agile, the part is physical, getting up and down off the floor, up and down stairs, moving through the theatre. The actor walks as a person but acts like a dog; you won't be crawling around on all fours, but you will be "sitting", "begging" and "rolling over". The actress should be convincing as a cute, bouncy female "labradoodle" as well as being occasionally flirtatious. Having at least shoulder length hair is a plus.

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Hot antiques and collectibles for 2019

In 2015, I wrote a top 10 list of some of the antiques and collectibles you may have in your home that are bringing great prices at auction. As 2019 approaches, I have a slightly modified list. I have also included some other things that didn't make the top 10 but are also selling very well. Here is the list for 2019, with number one being the most desirable, in my opinion.



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
WAYNE TUISKULA

10. Arts and crafts and art deco design furnishings
9. Mid-20th century Scandinavian and other modern design art and furnishings
8. Advertising signs, posters and displays
7. 1960s comic books, toys and other collectibles
6. 1960s and earlier baseball and other sports memorabilia
5. Gold coins and jewelry: silver coins, flatware and hollow ware
4. Important historical memorabilia
3. Antique paintings and other artwork by listed artists

2. Antique and classic automobiles and motorcycles
 1. Early Chinese and other Asian antiques
- These items continue to sell well, but there are plenty of rare antiques and collectibles that didn't make the list. Here are some examples of rare finds that have made their way to auction.
- A circa 1880 ten point stag copper patinated (showing natural wear and oxidation) weathervane that came from a Massachusetts estate sold well at auction. It brought \$60,000 in 2012.
- A rare "The Manila" 5¢ trade stimulator was named to honor Admiral Dewey. The quarter sawn oak base held a bubble top dome. A pistol would shoot the players coin into different slots that held different prizes. It sold for \$70,000.
- According to askart.com, John Brewster Jr. was a deaf-mute itinerant artist. He traveled along the New England

coast advertising in local newspapers to paint portraits for \$15 and miniatures for \$5. One of his portraits identified as "Louella J. Bartlett" sold for \$77,500 in 2016.

The only known example of a Frankenstein insert poster from 1931 was auctioned in 2013. Larger posters had been found, but this was the only to have been found in this size. It fetched \$220,000.

A rare Marblehead vase recently sold at auction, according to the Antiques and Arts Weekly. It was one of four known examples designed by Annie Aldrich, decorated by Sarah Tutt and made by John Swallow. A 19 year old picker found it at a yard sale. It sold for \$307,500.

A map considered by many as the most important in American cartography sold for auction in 2017. The first edition, first issue of the 1755 Mitchell Map depicts the French and British Dominions in North America. 21 versions of the map were printed between 1755 and 1781. It brought \$400,000 at auction in 2017. Hopefully you find a rare map or other treasures in your



home that can help chart your way to a great 2019.

It was nice meeting readers of this column who attended the appraisal event at the Shrewsbury Historical Society on December 12th. Our winter live auction date will now be February 28th. My next "Evaluating your Antiques" class will be held on March 12th at the Bay Path Evening School in Charlton. The last classes sold out, so sign up early. See

www.centralmassauctions.com for details on these and other upcoming events.

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

BEFFORD

continued from page 1

Though every team starts off the season with championship aspirations, the Bridgeport squad maintained a sharp focus on accomplishing each of its goals leading up to the title game.

"Back during preseason in August, we gathered as a team in the locker room and together we came up with our own legacy," Befford said. "Our purpose was to grow and develop as a team, and our responsibility as a team was to provide a home away from home and to do the small things first. We then wrote the expectations for the season. We started with the small things and worked up to the overall goal in the end, which was to be the first team in Bridgeport soccer history to win a national championship."

Each time the team picked up a victory and moved another step closer to accomplishing its goal, teammates checked the item off their list. As months passed and wins amassed, the team realized that a national championship was no longer just a distant dream. Still, the team took it one game at a time and didn't allow distractions to creep in.

When Bridgeport ultimately took the field for the national championship against Grand Valley State, a club that had defeated them 6-0 on Sep. 9, team members knew they would have to play their best game to emerge victorious. Similar to the rest of the season, the team focused on the game in increments and made the most out of each play.

That step-by-step mentality proved

critical throughout the year, Befford said.

"It went from preseason, to game by game, to win our conference, to win East Coast Conference semifinal and final, to making it to the NCAA tournament, to NCAA Sweet 16 Regionals, to Elite 8, to Final 4, and then to the National Championship," Befford said.

Befford chose the University of Bridgeport because of its strong soccer program and proximity to her hometown. Her dream had always been to play soccer in college, but now she belongs to a team that accomplished a feat eluding all previous Bridgeport soccer athletes.

The team finished with a 20-4-1 record, including four postseason victories decided by one goal. Whenever a clutch tally or a big save was needed, the team always rose to the occasion.

"Everyone works for each other — no one is out there for themselves. I have never been more proud to play for a team and can't wait for the next two years ahead," said Befford, who is majoring in health science with a concentration in exercise science.

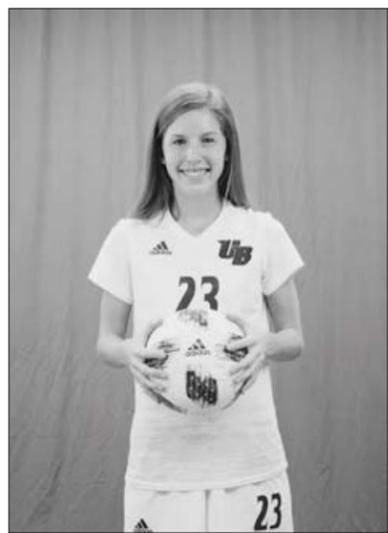
Bridgeport team members hail from throughout the country and the world. Not all teams are able to find the right chemistry during the season, but the Bridgeport squad developed a close bond as it pursued its first ever championship.

"Our team is very different, living in different places all over the world, speaking different languages, but the love for the game brought us all together," Befford said. "We all knew our responsibility was to provide a home away from home, and each player and coach can say we did just that."

Reflecting on her career before Bridgeport, Befford thanks her family, coaches, and teammates for helping to shape her career. There have been plenty of early mornings and long road trips for all Bridgeport team members, but the countless hours of hard work paid off in the form of a national championship.

"I owe everything to my parents for helping me get this far in my soccer career," Befford said. "I am beyond blessed and grateful for their support and motivating words all season long. When looking at the University of Bridgeport, it was the perfect distance from home for my family to make the trips for games and for me to come home for the long weekends."

Looking ahead, Befford plans to get a master's degree in occupational therapy after graduating from the University of Bridgeport. For now, she is focused on preparing for next season and defending the school's first ever national title.



East Brookfield's Abigail Befford and her University of Bridgeport soccer team are national champions.

GATEWAY

continued from page A4

GREG (Male Age 45-60)

A man coming to the natural conclusion of his career and struggling to cope with the changes in his world and in himself. He loves his suddenly adopted dog Sylvia but seems to be going through an early midlife crisis in his work and his marriage.

KATE (Female Age 45-60)

A woman coming into her own in her career and in herself; the last child gone to college, career recognition and opportunities opening up for her. She has little use for Greg's issues and even less for his newfound best friend, Sylvia.

Supporting Roles (These are smaller roles and each character appears in one

or two scenes)

TOM (Male Age 25-50)

A "dog person" that Greg befriends in the park. Tom is a regular guy who educates Greg about dog ownership. He has a male dog that becomes Sylvia's lust interest.

PHYLLIS (Female Age 45-60)

A socialite and old school friend of Kate's who is prone to drama and drinking. She is put off when Sylvia treats her the way all dogs address new acquaintances.

LESLIE (Female/Male Age 30-60)

A marriage counselor. Leslie is very good at psychological banter, but Greg's relationship to Sylvia proves to push her/him over the edge. Leslie dresses very ambiguously whose gender is open to question.

A Real Keeper

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Former Stageloft owner celebrates 25 years of Christmas Memories



Courtesy photos

The Cast of Christmas Memories (Back row from Left to Right: Ed Dunn, Ken Durand, Todd Darling, Fred D'Angelo. Front Row from Left to Right: Sally-Anne Dunn, Ellen Cornely, Lisa Leech, and Anita Cooper)



The Turkish Knight (Ken Durand)



The fight between King George and the Turkish Knight



Ed Dunn singing "All I Want for Christmas is my Two Front Teeth"



From Left to Right: Ed Dunn, Sally-Anne Dunn, Ken Durand, Ellen Cornely

BY ANNIE SANDOLI
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — For 25 years, Ed Cornely, the former owner of Stageloft Repertory Theater has been captivating audiences with his production of "Christmas Memories," an interactive holiday show that combines music, humor, and

storytelling to create a magical holiday experience for everyone involved. With dialogue based on "A Child's Christmas in Wales," a prose written by Welsh poet Dylan Thomas, and stories based on Cornely's own memories of growing up and later raising three children,

"Christmas Memories" tells the story of Christmas from a child's perspective, capturing the wonder and awe in the eyes of young children at during the holiday season. "When I wrote this, I used a lot of the narrative from "A Child's Christmas in Wales" but really based it on my expe-

riences, and it made me realize that other people had the same memories and traditions," said Cornely. "I had no idea that other people wrote their name on an ornament each year even though my kids left home with over 20 ornaments with their names written on them. I thought my wife Ellen and I were the only ones who argued about how the placement of tinsel, but now men who come to this show have broken ribs from their wives elbowing them during that line!"

Turkish Knight, participants in a snowball fight against the narrator, listeners of touching and comedic holiday and singers of traditional Christmas carols, such as "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," "Joy to the World," "Silver Bells," "O Holy Night," a version of "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" that involves all onlooking children by bringing them up to the front of the room to sing, and a rendition of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" that brings the entire audience to life through lively hand motions.

Written in 1993, "Christmas Memories" was as the very first production at Stageloft in its current location and initially jumped around from place to place, including the Yankee Drummer Inn in Auburn, the Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center, and the Oliver Wright Tavern at Old Sturbridge Village, which closed for a while in 2003, until it found a home 15 years ago at Salem Cross Inn in West Brookfield, where it has put on eight shows every holiday season since.

"The main thing about the show these days is that there are so many people who have come back to see it year in and year out who now know what they are supposed to say in response to us and how they are supposed to interact with us," said Dunn, who has played the narrator for the last decade. "It feeds back and forth very nicely now."

"When the tavern closed, I was sitting on the board and next to me was one of the Salems," said Cornely. "She knew about the show and we came here."

By writing "A Child's Christmas in Wales," Cornely not only created a memorable production and holiday tradition, but also a family amongst the cast members, many of which have been in the show for over a decade. They expressed that they so look forward to the rehearsals and shows every year.

Salem Cross Inn provides a perfect stage for the eight actors, all flaunting 19th century costumes, and a traditional holiday dinner for guests to enjoy while the show surrounds them, making them firsthand witnesses of a Mummings play featuring a fight between King George and the

"Each year about mid-November, we get together for the first time for a rehearsal and it gets us in the Christmas spirit so early," said cast member Fred D'Angelo. "Life is so busy, but when all we get together, it really feels like home."

The final productions of Christmas Memories took place Dec. 15.

*Wishing you Happy Holidays
and a prosperous New Year!*

artwork by Quoc Yen
Khe Nguyen '20

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LEARNING

Student initiative benefits two towns

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

WARREN – Two Quaboag Regional High School students are using what they learned at Project 351 to improve their own communities.

Selected last winter as Quaboag's Project 351 representatives, Elias Berthel and Julissa De Leon traveled to Boston in January to take part in the annual initiative. They joined eighth graders from across the state in a day of community service projects, but that was only the beginning of their mission to give back.

Now freshmen at QRHS, Berthel and De Leon have brought the skills they learned in Boston back to central Massachusetts. After organizing a successful clothing drive in the spring, the pair is currently running a two-town food drive at both of the district's elementary schools and the high school.

The ultimate goal is to bring in enough donations to restart the food pantry in Warren. It has meant a lot to both students to transition from helping other volunteers with projects to leading their own community-wide effort.

"Project 351 has been such a great opportunity. It has provided me with the knowledge on how to become a better

leader and helped me strive to help others, starting with the people in my community," said De Leon, who lives in Warren. "I strongly believe, through this experience, we have greatly impacted many people by giving them a helping hand and also guiding them to realize they can do the same."

Both students worked hard to prepare for the food drive. Unlike their trip to Boston, where projects were arranged by teams of staffers, the two students took the lead on their fall project. The multifaceted effort demanded coordination from many angles.

"This project required a lot more planning than our last project," Berthel said. "During our clothing drive, Project 351 supplied us with a designated drop-off spot and a specific organization that our donations would be going toward. The food drive we are currently doing required us to find local food pantries to donate the food to. Julissa and I were up to this challenge and found two food pantries, one in West Brookfield and one in Warren."

The project also required the students to think outside the box to promote their food drive.

"Having some creativity is necessary for this food drive

because we want to find the best way to encourage people. The goal is to motivate as many people as possible to want to help the community as much as we do," De Leon added.

Even though this is the last Project 351-related service project the students will take part in, the skills and knowledge they gained over the last year will help them in future service endeavors. They not only learned how to organize their own project, but they found out what it is like to be considered a community leader.

The students are excited to mentor future Project 351 ambassadors as the program welcomes its 2019 class next month.

"Project 351 has helped me grow as a person and has helped me realize what needs to be done in my community," Berthel said. "Looking back on my year of service, I realize what a difference I made. I am glad I got to take part in something so much bigger than myself, and I am eager to serve as a mentor to future generations."

The high school food drive will run until Dec. 21. For more information about Project 351, visit www.Project351.org.



Courtesy photo

Quaboag Regional High School Project 351 ambassadors Elias Berthel and Julissa De Leon are congratulated by Assistant Principal Joe Salvatore.

TANTASQUA ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

The following students have earned a place on the honor roll for the first term at Tantasqua Regional Junior High School.

GRADE 7

HIGHEST HONORS: Thomas Belton, Ava Chevalier, Tess Chevalier, Nathan Dietz, Cassidy DuBois, James Egan, Vincent Ezzo, Erin Farrell, Brooke Fitzgerald, Camden Foley, Elyse Genaway, Avianna Gregoire, Trevor Harris, Brodie Hemingway, Jack Huckins, Ethan Korenda, Genevieve Le, Alexandra Lemovitz, Isabella Leneau, Emma Lord, Ava Marcucci, Alexandra Matheson, Elizabeth Maxfield, Samantha McGlinchy, Avery Michalak, Samantha Naples, Ivangelina Pabon, Samuel Panek, Makena Pentoney, Ella Petersen, Willem Raczkowski, Abigail Radebaugh, Jack Ricciuti, Gabrielle Scanlon, Lindell Smith Jr., Dylan Spillane, Grace St Laurent, Maxwell Sullivan, Logan Tomaszewski, Natalie Truax, Nicole Vejack, Riley West, Abigail Widen, Julia Wilkesman, Taylor Winkler.

HONORS: Grace Abramo, Kendra Adamson, Daelan Ahearn, Madeline Andersen, Liam Anderson, Abigail Arndt, Adam Bailey, Clay Bedard, Ryan Beede, Andrew Bellezza, Ileana Bernier, Tristan Bosen, Michael Bouthiller, Samantha Briggs, Payton Brown, Kaylee Cain, Cameron Cantwell, Cole Casinghino, Angelina Cassella, Dominic Casucci, Kole Cepeda, Robert Cleary, Isabella Colangione, Eleanor Colati, Patrick Coleman, Tucker Collins, Elliot Conti, Spenser Cook, Matthew Cooper, William Cooper, Craig Cormier, Starr Cottone, Merrik Cowden, Andrew Curtis, Aiden Custance, Sam DeRose, Joseph Desy, Lilly Donovan, Tyler Donze, Finleigh Dragon, Patrick Dunn, Katherine Eliason, Jack Forgit, Alexis Gesser, Rhiannon Gingras, Luke Goodwin, Ella Gosselin, Abigail Grillo, Michael Gruszka, Abigail Gumlaw, Lauren Gunagan, Ashley Hawes-Merlo, Jason Hennessey, Jack Herber, Ellie Hill, Layne Holcomb, Jacob Hooker, Jillian Houle, Liam Hubacz, Tristan Hughes, Cole Jalbert, Maddox Kennedy, Thomas Koslowski, Jakob Krog, Joshua Kubicki, Zachary Kuszpa, Nathan Lafaille, Kallie LaFlamme, Riley Landine, Nathan Lavoie, Carson LeBeau, Joseph Levesque, Aaron Lidonde, Dylan Loveless, Luke Marvin, Leanna Matczak, Reilly McCormick, Audrey McCray, Colm McGrath,

Orla McNamara, Maya Miranda, Natalie Moats, Isaac Molina, Brady Moore, Benjamin Moquin, Emilie Motyka, Matthew Oko, Tyler Olden, Sullivan O'Rourke, Mason Oxman, Sophia Pachis, Riley Palmer, Dominic Perreault, Alexa Perron, Heidi Powers, Evan Provost, Thomas Puckett, Emmalee Quintal, Jack Rapose, Angelina Reno, Gabriel Rice, Braeden Rich, Juliana Rivera, Hayden Robbins, Joseph Roderick, Hailee Rojas, Hailey Ryan, Sierra Ryan, Isabella Santa, Ava Sargent, Mikayla Schwartz, Morgan Schwartz, Taylor Sexton, Elizabeth Shaw, Jeffrey Shaw, Keller Sheridan, Jamie Sherman, Andrew Soderberg, Kayla Southworth, Owen Stattenfield, Jacob Swallow, Morgen Swallow, Zachary Sweet, Bryce Tessier, Elizabeth Thompson, Sebastien Troyse, Eve Van Wickler, Aidan Way, Katelyn Weeden, Haley Williams, Jillian Winco, Ryan Wright.

GRADE 8

HIGHEST HONORS: Cassidy Chiasson, Haley Courtney, Macy Cunningham, Katharine Downing, Lilly Ehrhard, Casey Ellison, Kate Gagnon, Claire Godek, Summer Gunton-Lamothe, Lydia Julian, Gavin Lataille, Lara Matheson, Abigail Morean, Sierra Murray, Kaitlynn Riley, Mavrick Rizy, Jake Rosen, Mackenzie St Laurent, Riley VonHold, Kelsie Wotton, Zoey Zhu.

HONORS: Grace Alden, Ella Andersen, Nathan Asselin, Connor Babcock, Samuel Bachand, Halen Barry, Baylee Bass, Alana Biedrzycki, Molly Bilodeau, Henry Blake, Olivia Blando, Quinn Blood, Luke Boisvert, Ashleigh Bouchard, Amelia Brodeur, Andrew Bullock, Nicholas Cameron, Nathan Caplette, Roman Carlisle, Forrest Carson, Samuel Champigny, Amanda Christianson, Madison Cooley, Andrew Cormier, Cameron Courtney, Kathleen Cropley, Scott Croteau, Lauren DelGaudio, Zachary Dighton, Sarah Drajpuch, Alivia Facticeau, Julia Faugno, Samantha Forgit, Hailey Frisella, Misako Genest, Mariana Gentile, Kristina Gidopoulos, Francesca Giorgio, Rita Goodwin, Ella Grant, Mattea Grillo, Grace Haight, Jessica Hennessey, Claire Hill, Ava Howard, Ryan Huettmann, Hannah Johnson, David Joy, Isabel Kadlik, Emma Keith, Sheridan Knapik, Ella Kozyra, Devin Krochmalnykyj, Kyrah Langille, Gabriel Laprade, Alfred Laskowski,

Ryan Lemieux, Evan Lindberg, Summer Mageau, Olivia Magierowski, Hailey Mailloux, Makenna Matczak, Samantha Mayo, Eben Mazeika, Ian McGrath, Lantana Meisl, Allison Milam, Katherine Mitchell, Emily Moran, Cameron Murphy, Dawson Naja, Daniel O'Neil, Emily Owens, Lilly Paige, Tarin Parsons, Prince Patel, Mallory Perri, Taylor Phay, Aubyn Phillips, Jace Phillips, Eleanor Pitcher, Caydence

Plouffe, Derek Plowman, Lily Prest, Rebecca Quevillon, Jaymes Quinn, Dante Reno, Jack Ricci, Elise Rivers, Corey Roberts, Kayden Rodriguez, Eric Romanoff, Abigail Rossi, Katelyn Schneider, Victoria Sisco, Alexis Taudel, Kaylin Tietz, Aiden Trifone, Olivia Viapiano, Solomon Walsh, Kaela Weber, Connor Weidler, Samantha Wells, Lauren Wood.

Friday's Child



Photo by Shana Griffin.

Zoey ~ Age 11

Hi! My name is Zoey and I love animals so much!

Zoey is a very friendly girl of Hispanic and Caucasian descent. Zoey has a strong yet bubbly personality. She likes to be social and to make new friends. She is very caring of others around her. Zoey is excelling in school and is especially great at math. In her free time, Zoey loves to listen to music, sing and dance. Zoey shows an interest in art and fashion and loves to design and do arts and crafts. Zoey has a really big heart when it comes to animals and she even volunteers at her local animal shelter. Zoey is legally freed for adoption however she will benefit from having an open adoption with visits to her biological siblings and mother. Zoey will do best in a family where there is at least one mother figure present. Zoey will do well in a family which is childless or has children who are older. Zoey will thrive in a home where she receives a lot of one on one attention and consistency.

Who Can Adopt?

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ singles and couples.

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

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



To sponsor Friday's Child call Tia at 508-909-4110 or email tia@stonebridgepress.news

DPW

continued from page 1

"Although we are in the process of choosing a new Sturbridge town administrator, we are proceeding with the search for a new DPW director in the meantime, especially because winter is approaching," said Kozak. "Sturbridge is a great town and I have no doubt that we will find a very qualified candidate for the position."

For more information and updates on the search for a new DPW director, call the town administrator's office at 508-347-2500 or go to <https://www.town.sturbridge.ma.us>.



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PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

RUTH DEAMICIS
EDITOR, STURBRIDGE VILLAGER

EDITORIAL

Happiest holidays

Whether you are celebrating with family, friends or enjoying a little down time alone; this coming week is an interesting one for many reasons.

It means something to a lot of people; and not much to others. But that is neither here nor there for the basis of this essay. We want to simply wish everyone a bit of peace in their lives and to say thank you.

Thank you to those who will still be working at hospitals, on ambulances, at fire stations and at police stations; working as first responders and on call in whatever capacity is needed. And thank you for your service throughout the past year. You've been there. We appreciate it. It hasn't been an easy year; we've lost good people. These jobs are hazardous.

Thank you. Thank you to those in the service whether overseas or away from home and stationed at places not near those near and dear to them. It is not easy even if you are still stateside, but thousands of miles away on a holiday. And if you are boondocked, it is twice as hard. Thank you for your service. We have lost the urgency of the war in the myriad of other news that has taken precedence in our lives. But young Americans are still in danger and losing their lives every day. Thank you for serving. Let us please remember them.

Thank you to those who volunteer. Whether it is by running for unpaid political office in a small town or working with a church or a service group such as Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis or another organization; they are unsung heroes in every one of our towns. The programs they run, the shelters, the meals, the food banks, the afterschool programs, the Scout troops...the list goes on and on. We are all better for their hard work and they are often not noticed. Yet if they weren't there, if these programs were to disappear, we would all be much worse for it.

Those who put in hours and hours on committees, boards and such are equally necessary. How would the work of our towns get done without these selfless volunteers? They are often the targets of unhappy citizens, true; but they do the best they can and continue on. They often take classes on their own, attend seminars and conventions to learn more about how to do their jobs better; and often do so by taking time away from paid jobs and their families.

While we are saying thank you let's remember all those who care for our children in several capacities. Not only must we thank our school systems and their many, many hardworking teachers and staff; but let's hear it for places like Boys & Girls Clubs, Little Leagues, YMCAs, and camps of every kind.

We are certain we are missing people who deserve our thanks, we are touching the tip of an iceberg here. These people and many more keep our towns running, keep them safe, and keep them the places we love.

Happy Holidays, and thank you all.

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It! We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us! Mail your letters to the Sturbridge Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at ruth@stonebridgepress.com.

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.

We don't have a set limit, but if you keep it around 600 words or so, you're going to have a better chance at seeing all your words in print.

If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

OPINION

IEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM STURBRIDGE, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND AND WALES

Considering possibilities of being vegetarian...and why

Have you ever considered becoming a vegetarian or vegan? First, let me define what these terms mean.

A vegetarian is someone who does not eat meat. The vegetarian spectrum begins with partial vegetarians. They might not eat red meat, but they eat fish and chicken. Then there are lacto-ovo vegetarians. They don't eat meat, fish, or chicken, but they eat eggs and other dairy products. When someone says they are a vegetarian, but not a vegan, that is usually what they mean.

Finally, there are vegans (pronounced vee-gun). They don't eat meat, fish, chicken, eggs, or other dairy products. They usually don't wear any animal products such as leather. Some vegans don't even eat honey. I've heard stories of extreme vegans who go to great lengths to avoid bringing any harm to any animals including insects.

People become vegetarians and vegans for different reasons. Some do it for health reasons. Many recent books and videos have come out in favor of a Whole Foods Plant Based diet. Studies have shown that this diet slows and can even reverse heart disease. It also reduces cancer and diabetes, and other degenerative diseases. Caldwell B. Esselstyn Jr., MD, who helped save Bill Clinton's life, wrote the book, Prevent and Reverse Heart Disease. I heartily recommend this book. YouTube has countless videos on the subject as well.

Others, like me, become vegetarians or vegans for animal rights reasons. Many like me believe that activities such as hunting and fishing are barbaric and amount to animal cruelty. We believe, and scientific studies recently confirm, that animals feel pain, have emotions, bond with their families, and communicate with each other.

I first became a lacto-ovo vegetarian on Nov. 25, 1975. I was visiting my mom for Thanksgiving. I was walking up the stairs of my mom's six-floor apartment building for the exercise. I have a very sensitive nose. Suddenly, the scent of all the turkeys being cooked hit me



THE VEGETARIAN TROUBADOUR
ANDREW TARGOFF

like a cannonball. It occurred to me, "Why do all these turkeys have to die for Thanksgiving?"

I decided right then and there that after eating what mom cooked for me,

I would no longer eat meat, fish, or chicken. A year or two later, I stopped wearing leather as well.

Two years after arriving in Massachusetts to attend Berklee College of Music, in 1987, I went on my first date with the woman who later became my wife. When I arrived at her house to pick her up, she was wearing a fur coat! I told her that I would not go on a date with her if she was wearing that. She proceeded to throw it out entirely. That's when I knew she must really like me. We are still deliriously happy together today.

Fast-forward 30 years and I discovered Facebook, when I was told through a music business course which I had purchased online, that Facebook is a great way to promote oneself. I came to find out that a second cousin of mine was a vegan. Every day she kept posting about the poor conditions for the animals at dairy farms, and how many of the males are still killed. Also, I had already read the books about the harmful effects of eating dairy products. So on June 11, 2017, I decided to go totally vegan.

One day I got a Roku, and started watching health videos on YouTube on my TV. I adopted the Whole Foods Plant Based diet, and combined it with a bit of intermittent fasting and exercise, and I dropped 40 pounds. Now I feel great at the tender age of 64.

So if you want to become a vegetarian or vegan, start with YouTube and Facebook. You can find recipes, join vegan Facebook groups, learn all about getting proper nutrition on the Whole Foods Plant Based diet, watch TED talks with the most eminent nutritionists in the world, find fellow animal rights advocates, and even find great restaurants which serve vegan food.

What's smarter – paying off debts or investing?



FINANCIAL FOCUS
JEFF BURDICK

It probably doesn't happen as much as you'd like, but you may occasionally have some extra disposable income. For

example, perhaps you have recently received, or will soon receive, a year-end bonus. Or maybe you will get a sizable tax refund in just a few months. Wherever this money comes from, you will want to put it to good use. Should you use the cash to pay down debts or should you invest it instead?

There's no simple answer, and everyone's situation is different, but here are a few suggestions for helping you make a good choice:

Evaluate your cash flow. If you already have enough cash to meet your daily living expenses, you might lean toward investing the money, but if you are just getting by, possibly due to heavy debt payments, then you might be better off using your newfound funds to reduce your debt load. Another way of possibly reducing your debt load is to build an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account. Once you have such a fund, you could use it, instead of going into debt, to pay for unexpected costs, such as a new furnace or a major car repair.

Evaluate your debts. Some of your debts are actually more "expensive" to you than others. This expense level doesn't necessarily refer to the size of the debt, however. You might have a large mortgage, for instance, but because your interest payments are typically tax deductible, your "after-tax" interest rate may be relatively modest. Therefore, you might consider using your excess cash for investments, rather than paying down your mortgage. But if you have consumer loans or credit cards that carry a high interest rate and whose interest payments are not deductible, you might be better off paying down this debt.

Evaluate your investment opportunities. You may have heard that one season or another is a "better" time to invest – but there's really no strong evidence to support this claim. However, now that we are nearing the end of the calendar year, and only a few months away from the tax-filing deadline on April 15, you may want to take advantage of at least one time-related investment opportunity.

Specifically, you could use whatever extra money you have to fully fund your IRA, if you haven't done so already. For the 2018 tax year, you can contribute \$5,500 to a traditional or Roth IRA, or \$6,500 if you are 50 or older. (Depending on your income, you may not be able to contribute the full amount to a Roth IRA.) You've got until the April 15 deadline to fully fund your IRA, but if you have the money sooner, why wait? The quicker it's in your account, the faster it can go to work for you.

One final suggestion: If you have a company match as part of your 401(k) or similar retirement plan at work, consider contributing enough to get your employer's full matching contribution before you pay down debts – don't leave this "free money" on the table.

Your year-end bonus, tax refund or other source of beyond-the-paycheck money can help you make progress toward your financial goals – so evaluate your situation and options carefully before making any moves. It will be time well spent.

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

Picking, preserving and perfecting the holiday evergreen

A holiday tree is the center of the yuletide celebration. Decked out in garland and adorned with ornaments, the stately Christmas tree is not only a tradition but the source of both merriment and sentiment. It's no wonder choosing a special evergreen is a task not to be taken lightly. Whether freshly cut, balled and bagged, or artificially constructed, the choices are pleasantly plentiful.

Read on for ways to ensure this year's pick is truly trim worthy!

Oh Evergreen!: Selecting a fresh Christmas tree is a fun family tradition, but getting caught up in the festivities, one can overlook the requirements of a successful pick. The first thing to remember is in a lot or on a farm, a tree can look much smaller than it will in your home. Rule number one is to always bring a tape measure to ensure a proper fit.

When choosing a freshly cut evergreen, look for nice, even coloring throughout the tree with no signs of browning. Also, beware of brittle branches, which are another sign of an old tree that may not last the season in a heated home. Look for flexibility in a bough.

To test freshness, pick a needle and bend it. A fresh fir needle will snap; a fresh pine needle will bend, but not break. The old "shake tip" really reveals a tree's freshness. Simply shake from the trunk, or wave a bough and observe how many needles fall off. If it is more than several, keep looking.

Live trees balled with the root and wrapped in burlap or containers (a.k.a. balled and bagged trees) are a great



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

choice if you plan on planting the tree after the holidays. The most important consideration with a balled and bagged tree is to make sure the tree species can thrive in your climate zone.

Faux Forest: If a fresh cut tree is impractical, an artificial tree can be a good investment - if you choose wisely. When evaluating artificials, buy the best you can afford as skimping on such a purchase will shorten its lifespan. Did you know a well made artificial tree can last a decade or more? Choose trees with many branch tips and multiple needles, thus creating a "fullness" that rivals the real deal.

Look for easy to set up models with hinged branches for quick and easy set up. High end trees often come equipped with an abundance of lights. Make sure the tree stand is sturdy enough to hold a tree laden with heavy ornament and garlands. Lastly, consider a tree that can easily refold into a box or bag, for hassle free storage.

Evergreen Elixirs: Evergreen branches and boughs take center stage this season, but if you're adding sparkle with lights, you may be fretting about fire hazards. Here's a thrifty solution to make your evergreens more fire resistant: Mix together five tablespoons borax and four tablespoons Epsom salts in two quarts of water. Fill a spray bottle and spritz the tree or wreath completely, then allow to dry. Make up a double batch and spritz your tree too! Remember, this doesn't fireproof the greens, so always use standard fire

Turn To TRAINOR page A17

BUZZER BEATER!
CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

Celebrating the season, Renaissance style

BY GUS STEEVES
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHBIDGE – The 21st century briefly visited the Renaissance for a while last week, as the St John Paul II Madrigal Singers gave the town a taste of the past at LaSalle Center over the weekend, with a preview at the Jacob Edwards Library Thursday.

“When it’s do dark and dreary – and I’m not just talking about the weather; our times are dark – we wanted to bring everyone some light,” said director Brandon Vennick. “We’re hoping this will become a tradition.”

Well, it certainly used to be. Madrigals date back at least to the late Middle Ages, where groups of minstrels “would travel from town to town and were the first ‘news’ people,” bringing tales of the outside world to largely isolated villages, he noted.

While the exact origins are still a

little unclear, it seems to have originally been a secular polyphonic musical form that was gradually adopted by church-based musicians. The local group showed a little of both, with traditional Christian carols alongside ribald limericks, humor and poetry then popular among the common folk.

According to Thomas Morley in 1597, as quoted by the Music of Yesterday website (musicofyesterday.com/history/history-madrigal/), a key to the madrigal style is this: “you must in your music be wavering like the wind, sometime wanton, sometime drooping, sometime grave and staid, otherwhile effeminate, you may maintain points and revert them, use triplaes, and shew the uttermost of your variety, and the more variety you show the better shall you please.” (Note the odd spelling is how he wrote it.) That site traces the madrigal itself to “the great Flemish

school” of 15th century Netherlands, but notes the oldest known example of a secular polyphonic song is “Sumer icumen in” (“Summer has come in”), which dates at least to the 1260s. It also notes that era’s church and secular music often fed each other, so that it was common to find songs “in which the lighter [secular] theme is almost profanely contrasted with” references from a hymn.

Many collections of madrigals exist, but one of the most prolific composers was Jacques Arcadelt, a Fleming who lived in Italy, whose “First Book of Madrigals” of 1538 went through at least 16 editions over the next 80 years, Music of Yesterday states. The style was originally vocal only, but soon came to include instruments in Italy and elsewhere. The first madrigals in English were printed in 1530, and the style “fell into neglect” in the early 1600s part-

ly because of the English Civil War, although it would later help inspire the uniquely English style called the Glee.

Vennick said Southbridge itself has some history with the style. Although this is just his group’s second year, Sacred Heart Church once had a Music Makers group, which occasionally performed madrigals, and the Publick House has hosted the Beef Eaters’ Festival.

Generally speaking, the madrigal is a combination of musical theater and dinner. Those who attended the LaSalle events got to see the full thing, complete with food and a cash bar; those at the library saw a shortened version of it featuring a fake boar’s head and fake burning pudding that would have been the main course and dessert.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.



Gus Steeves photos

Jester Billy Bolster, center, gets a big reminder of how to sing a high C.



Mike Dupuis tips a cup during the “wassailing.”



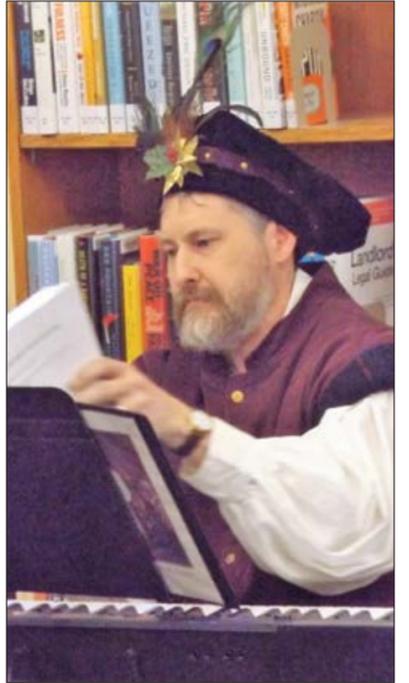
Pam Goodnow plays the flute to start a song as Mike Dupuis looks on.



Billy Bolster pretends to have a few too many.



Brandon Vennick, Lauria Tiberii and Fran Martel



Brandon Vennick plays the keyboard for one piece.



Jester Billy Bolster does a little verbal jousting with audience members.



Charles Alan and Rob Honohan lead the quartet bringing in the boar’s head. (The boar was an ancient symbol of courage and nobility altered by Christianity to represent the devil’s defeat.)

Switching gears from hunting to ice fishing



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As the last segment of the Massachusetts deer season slowly comes to an end on Dec. 31, many sportsmen have their sights on ice fishing. Although a few small ponds had safe ice on them last week, anglers are hoping for a good freeze that would make larger bodies of water safe. My brother Ken caught a few trout on a local club pond last week, and reports of anglers fishing ponds in Milford was good news.

Jig fishing is one of my favorite forms of ice fishing, and can be extremely exciting when a school of yellow perch and other pan fish go into a feeding frenzy.

Ice fishing with tilts or fish traps as many anglers call them today with a group of friends, can also be rewarding, and can have anglers racing over the frozen ice, attempting to be the first one to the fish trap when a fellow angler shouts out "FLAG." It is best to observe the spool of line in the water prior to picking up the trap to see if the line is being pulled from the spool. If the spool is spinning, it is a good sign that you have a nice fish on the other end. Carefully picking up the trap and grabbing the line to set the hook is the start of landing a possible lunker fish! Slowly retrieving the line and laying it on the ice, you will soon realize how big the fish may be if the line tightens and you need to allow the fish to take some line back. Allowing the line to slip back through your fingers until the fish ends his run, you will need to start all over again retrieving the line. That is why it is very important to lay the line carefully on



Captain Mel True Jr.'s daughter Lexie on one of her first ice fishing adventures with her dad.

the ice as you try to retrieve the line. If the line becomes tangled, you could lose the big fish to broken line.

Most anglers fishing with ice traps prefer to use shiners, although some prefer worms or crawlers. The latter need to be changed every half hour, as the cold water can take its toll on the live bait. Fishing for trout, some anglers prefer salmon eggs or grubs for bait which is fished close to the bottom.

Prior to setting up bait when ice fishing with fish traps, each hole should be checked for depth using a heavy weight. This will give you an idea of the depth at which you will set your bait. If no bites are realized in a half hour, try bringing the bait up a few feet. Sometimes it is necessary to move your traps 50 ft. or more trying a new location. It can make a big difference! Some of the best local ponds and lakes are Wallum Lake, Meadow Pond, Arcade Pond, Manchaug Pond, and Webster Lake.

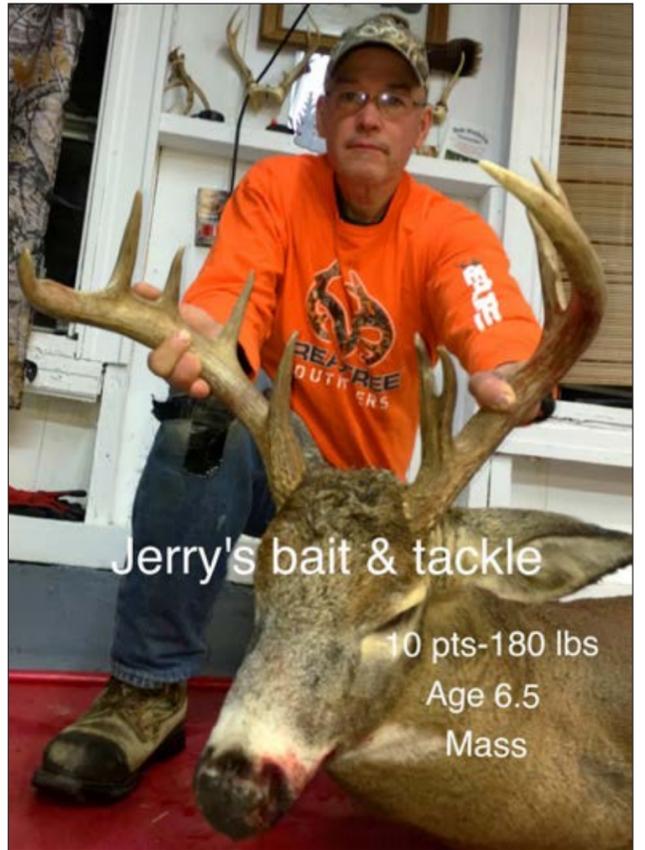
Cape ponds can produce some real nice fish and they include Hamblin Pond that produce some real nice trout

including huge bass and yellow perch. Peters Pond, Cliff Pond and Sheep Pond are also great ice fishing spots on the Cape.

A bit North of the valley is Comet Pond that produce some impressive fish in the winter months.

Some more serious ice fishermen also use an electronic portable fish finders to locate fish. Setting the unit over the hole can show you the bottom and fish that are suspended or feeding at the proper depth. Just because you find fish with the unit it does not always produce fish. Using the proper bait and method of fishing can make a big difference. Using a fish finder can show the fish actually biting the bait, giving the angler the precise time to set the hook.

Be sure to take the family along and enjoy a great day in the outdoors. Building a fire and cooking some venison, hamburgers, and hotdogs over an open fire provides some of the best eating and family fun. Always be sure of the safe ice you are fishing on, and do not let the kids wander away from the group. Dangerous ice can be only a few feet away.



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Courtesy photos

Mickey Deane with a 10 point buck taken in the Valley.

This week's picture of a 10 pt. 189 lb. buck taken in the valley by Mickey Deane, was a once in a life time deer for any sportsman, although he stated that another buck was spotted in the same area carrying a similar set of antlers. I am sure he will be hunting with his black powder gun in hopes of taking the huge buck. He still has a few days to hunt for the monster deer. The huge antlers that local deer are sporting in the valley are indeed impressive. David Stainbrook, Mass Fish & Wildlife moose and deer biologist, recently wrote a great column in the Massachusetts Wildlife magazine on the whitetail deer in

Massachusetts!

One of the most important parts of the column was the controversial issue dealing with local residents feeding deer corn to the deer that are visiting residents back yards. Deer are now feeding on their winter diet of browse and grass, and feeding corn to them at this time could prove to be fatal to the deer, as their digestive system cannot properly digest corn at this time of year! I would recommend that residents and sportsmen get a copy of Stainbrook's indepth report on the Massachusetts deer habits.

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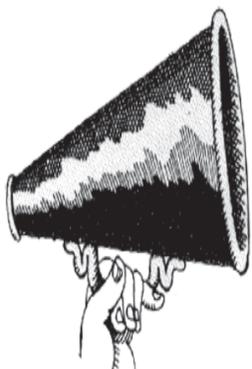
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SPORTS

‘Tougher’ Tantasqua gets the better of Shepherd Hill, 68-58



Jason McKay photos

Tantasqua's Chase Freeland floats through the air en route to a layup.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — High school boys' basketball is, of course, about 3-pointers and drives to the hoop and tenacious defense and blocked shots. It's also about heart and desire. In its 68-58 victory over Shepherd Hill Regional on Tuesday, Dec. 11, Tantasqua Regional showed — for a night anyway — they had more of both.

“For me this game was, literally, about toughness; they were tougher than we were,” Rams' head coach Mike Byrnes said. “They earned the win tonight and we didn't. We didn't deserve to win. We gave them too many second chances. They killed us on the boards; they killed us on loose balls.

We have a completely different team than we had last year. Last year this is a game we win, just based on toughness.”

Motivation is a big part of the game, too, and Tantasqua is an inspired group, playing hard for new head coach Scott Dion.

“What I know about Coach Dion is that he used to coach at Prouty and his teams are always tough,” Byrnes said. “They play hard and they're gritty. When you look down the other end and see that you're coaching against Coach Dion you know they're going to come ready to go for 32 minutes. They played well tonight; they're definitely a good team and they're going to have a great season. We've got to play harder.”

The fact that the Rams enjoyed a pair of lopsided wins over the Warriors last year helped in the motivation department also.

“We got smoked twice last year by these guys,” said Tantasqua senior co-captain Chase Freeland, who scored six points. “We came into this game with a chip on our shoulder. We were super motivated. We were the only ones in the building tonight that thought we had a chance to win this game.”

The defining moments of the game came late in the second quarter and early in the third period.

The Warriors (2-0) used a 12-3 run in the second quarter to turn a 23-22 lead with 4:39 to play into a 35-25 advantage with 2:29 remaining before halftime. Tantasqua, like it did all night, got balanced scoring in the run, with six different players scoring.

Shepherd Hill (1-1) scored the final 10 points of the half — sophomore Danny Brooks (11 points) hitting six consecutive free throws in the final 1:19 of the second period — and the game was tied, 35-35, at halftime.

Following a pair of free throws by junior Brandon Dejesus (eight points), the Rams led, 40-37, with 5:04 left in the third quarter. That's when Dion made his move.

“I took a timeout at that point and I really challenged my players,” Dion said. “I really got into them and they responded very, very well.”

Freeland said to him it was the turning point of the game.

“We were feeling a little down coming into halftime because we had just given up that big lead. But in the locker room Coach Dion was like, ‘we're still in this; it's only halftime,’” Freeland said. “And then he took that timeout in the third quarter and really got our fire going; he hyped us up really well. I love playing for Coach Dion.”

The Warriors outscored the Rams 15-6 in the final five minutes of the third quarter, a run that was highlighted by a buzzer-beating 3-pointer by senior co-captain Jackson Hall (12 points), to take a 52-46 lead into the fourth period.



Hayden Peterson of Tantasqua muscles his way past a Shepherd Hill defender to get his shot off.

In the final quarter, behind the play of Hall, Freeland, senior co-captain Jeremiah Dingui (10 points) and junior Troy Lee (five points, four in the fourth quarter), Tantasqua gradually built its lead back to 10 points, the first time being 64-54 on a fast-break layup by Lee — who gathered in a crisp open-court pass from Hall and converted it — with 2:05 to play.

“This was a real good win. Everybody played well but I thought Troy Lee coming off the bench was huge, as was

[junior] Griffin Polga and [sophomore] Will Pieczynski [11 points],” Dion said. “And [senior] Brad Gergoire [13 points], he kept us in the game in the first half. He probably had 8 or 10 of his points [11 actually] in the first half down around the block.”

In addition to Brooks, scoring in double figures for Shepherd Hill were seniors Jack Ryne (13 points) and David Bilis (11 points). Senior Chris Nellis added seven points, while sophomore Cam Hackett scored six.

Rockets top North Middlesex for Dana Willard Christmas Tournament title



Auburn's Dillon Winkelmann takes control of the puck and moves down the ice.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Editor's Note: The accompanying photos are from Auburn's first round victory versus Worcester, played on Wednesday, Dec. 12.

AUBURN — The Dana Willard Memorial Christmas Tournament has opened the Auburn High boys' varsity ice hockey team's season for 33 straight years at Horgan Arena, but it had been a long time since the Rockets last hoisted the trophy in celebration.

Auburn, with tournament titles in 1997 and 2004, had the chance to win it again this season after defeating the Worcester co-op team, 3-0, on Wednesday, Dec. 12. They advanced to the finals, played Saturday, Dec. 15,

versus North Middlesex Regional. The Patriots made it to the championship by beating Agawam High.

In the title game, North Middlesex scored first but the Rockets came roaring back with a pair of second period strikes to claim a 2-1 victory.

“It means a lot because we haven't won it since 2004,” explained Auburn head coach Glen Bombard. “It shows that we are capable of winning big games. It means a lot to these guys and it's a good kickoff to the year, to set the tone for the season.”

As any coach would do, though, Bombard found areas of improvement to work on going forward.

“We played a period and a half. The first period and half of the second we weren't very good, then we got one [goal] and it kind of woke us up,” he said.

The first period was slow and sleepy, and appeared to be headed into intermission scoreless. But with 31 seconds to play until the Zamboni resurfaced the ice, Ethan Freeman of North Middlesex stole the puck in the neutral zone, broke into the Rockets' defensive end and zipped a shot up and over the glove of goalie Mike Sosik.

Sosik then rebounded nicely in the second period when the Patriots were looking to add to their lead. There, he turned aside six tough shots in the first seven minutes of play. In all Sosik made 10 saves in the second period and finished the game with 24 stops.

“Mikey's been solid, he always has,” Bombard said of Sosik, who through 90 minutes of play has allowed just the one goal. “He's a little under the weather but he fought through it.”

Auburn — whose co-op team features student-athletes from Millbury High, Shepherd Hill Regional and Tantasqua Regional — finally found the back of the net with 5:02 to play in the second. Ryan Lempicki took control of the puck

following an offensive zone face-off and the right-handed shot used his backhand to fire a shot to the near side left portion of the goal and past North Middlesex's Thomas Kelly, who also made 24 saves.

Lempicki, a defenseman, now has three goals through two games (forward Adam Lanier scored the Rockets' other goal in the win versus Worcester).

“We kind of give him the green light,” Bombard said of Lempicki, an offensive-minded defenseman.

Auburn then scored its second goal in 1:11 of game time with 3:51 to go in the second period. Caleb Bartlett dumped the puck down the ice and Joe Valone — a freshman — did the dirty work, winning possession of the puck along the wall. Valone then fed a centering pass to Nick Spanos, who deposited the

puck past Kelly and into the net.

“He's going to be a great hockey player — he works very hard and he has talent. He went out tonight and worked his butt off,” Bombard said of Valone.

Bombard was impressed with the play of his team's third line, which included the four-man rotation of Valone, Spanos, Billy Erikson and Zach Schirm.

“That line, I really liked what I saw from them,” the coach said.

Auburn then held the Patriots scoreless the rest of the way, where Sosik needed to make a pair of saves in the final minute to preserve the victory.

Lempicki was awarded the tournament MVP, while Worcester defeated Agawam in the consolation game for third place, 5-1.



Photos courtesy Mark Seliger, www.SeligerPhotography.com

Auburn's Caleb Mackin stretches to gain possession of the puck.

SPORTS

Warriors nearly end Millbury's long league win streak, but Woolies power through



Jason Mckay photos

Tantasqua's Madi Varney fights to get off her shot with a Millbury defender right in her face.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

MILLBURY — It was almost an epic comeback for the ages.

The Tantasqua Regional girls' varsity basketball team, which trailed Millbury High by 16 points with 14 minutes to play, stormed back in the second half to take a three-point lead with two minutes to go. In the end, however, the Woolies made just enough plays to turn back the Warriors,

45-43, Thursday, Dec. 13, in the Woolie Swamp.

With the win, its 67th consecutive Southern Worcester County League victory—a streak that dates back to 2014 — Millbury improved to 2-0 on the young season. Tantasqua fell to 2-1.

The Warriors trailed the Woolies, 27-18, at halftime. Less than two minutes into the third quarter Tantasqua's deficit grew to 34-18, thanks to the work of Shannon

Reno, the Woolies' junior captain, who scored the first seven points of the second half on a pair of drives and a 3-pointer from the top of the arc.

Tantasqua's longtime head coach Tom Goyette called timeout at that point to settle his team down — and reminded them to guard No. 11 (Reno) — and make a couple of minor adjustments both offensively and defensively.

All of the tweaking by Goyette worked. Coming out of the timeout the Warriors embarked on a 20-2 run, taking the lead at 38-36 on a 3-pointer by junior co-captain Lydia Boland (four points) with 5:40 remaining in the game.

"It looked like Millbury was going to take the game fairly easy there at the beginning of the second half. They came out with a lot of energy in the third quarter," Goyette said. "But then we matched it. We kicked up our game and things started clicking for us. I told the girls in the timeout to be strong offensively and take the ball to the hoop.

"The kids started playing hard-nosed basketball at that point," Goyette continued. "They started playing tougher and more physical. They picked their game up and brought it to another level. Mostly it was because of the physicality; they matched Millbury's physicality and we kind of clamped down defensively ourselves and made it tough for them, and we did a great job on the boards."

Millbury tied the game, 38-38, on a jumper by Reno, who scored 12 of her team-high 14 points in the second half, with



Lydia Boland of Tantasqua slices through two Millbury defenders en route to a layup attempt.

3:50 to play in the game. Tantasqua reclaimed the lead, 39-38, when senior co-captain Lindsey Zak (14 points, 12 in the second half) hit one of two free throws with 2:44 left.

The Woolies went back in front 11 seconds later, 40-39, thanks to a strong, back-to-the-basket, in-the-post move by Morgan Cronan. The junior, who finished with eight points, was fouled on the play but failed to convert the free throw and finish off the three-point play.

Tantasqua then scored the next four points, sandwiching one of two free throws by Zak around a three-point play by Ainsley Way around a Millbury turnover, to

take a 43-40 lead with 2:05 remaining in the game. Way, a sophomore, finished with a game-high 16 points.

The Woolies took control of the game at that point, however, scoring the final five points to re-take, and then preserve, the lead.

Sophomore Cam Wilbur (10 points) pulled Millbury to within a point, 43-42, with 1:33 remaining, finishing off a strong low-post move by gently kissing the ball of the glass. Following a turnover by Tantasqua on its ensuing possession, Cronan put Millbury ahead for good, 44-43, with 61 seconds to play, swishing a 10-foot right side jumper.

Reno extended the Woolies' lead to 45-43 with seven seconds to play when she hit one of two free throws. Tantasqua's ensuing possession — its final one — did not result in a high-percentage shot.

"I told the kids after the game that I think this game was a turning point for us even though we're coming out of here with a loss," Goyette said. "I think things started to click for us. We became a better team tonight even though we lost. We turned the corner. That's what we need to build on and continue from this point forward. I'm proud of my kids; we play this hard and we'll be in the game with everybody on our schedule."

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK



Dec. 12
Tantasqua 90, Gardner 17 — A victory was had for the Warriors in a boys' swim meet versus the Wildcats. The medley relay team of Eli Currier, Ethan Hunter-Mason, Robert Wilson and Bryce Iller took the first win, while Bryce Iller also won the 200 IM. Jonah Green won the 50 free and the diving, while other winners included Wilson (100 fly), Dan Sickenberger (500 free),

the 200 free relay team (AJ Osimo, Camron Chisholm, Green and Andrew Wade), Currier (100 backstroke), Hunter-Mason (100 breaststroke) and the 400 free relay team (Sickenberger, Currier, Osimo and Iller). Tantasqua is now 2-1.

Tantasqua 111, Gardner 68 — Much like the boys' team, the girls from Tantasqua also won their swim meet



with Gardner. The medley relay team of Alyson Locke, Erika Madden, Katie Wade Julia Obrycki won, as did Lauren Butler in the diving event. Wade was first in the 100 butterfly, while other winners were Sarah Kersting-Mumm of Oxford (100 free), the 200 free relay team (Wade, Caitlin Bilodeau, Rebecca Turley and Kersting-Mumm), and Locke (100 backstroke). The Warriors are now a perfect 3-0.

Dec. 14

Tantasqua 94, Wachusett 72 — A victory over the Mountaineers improved the Tantasqua boys' swim team's record to 3-1. The medley relay team of Bryce Iller, Ethan Hunter-Mason, Robert Wilson and Andrew Wade got the Warriors started with a first place finish. Iller then won the 50 free and the breaststroke, while Zach Lavallee emerged victorious in the 100 free. Wade won the 500 free, and other winners included the 200 free relay team of AJ Osimo, Daniel Sickenberger, Hunter-Mason and Iller, and the 400 free relay team of Sickenberger, Lavallee, Jonah Green and Wade.

Wachusett 95, Tantasqua 75 — Sarah Kersting-Mumm of Oxford won the 200 IM and the 100 backstroke for the Tantasqua girls' swim team, who dropped to 3-1 with the loss. The 400 free relay team of Alyson Locke, Kami Davis, Katie Wade and Kersting-Mumm was first also.



Nick Ethier photos

On Wednesday, Dec. 12, the Tantasqua Regional boys' and girls' swimming teams hosted and defeated Gardner High.

SPORTS BRIEF

Worcester State University to hold baseball clinics

Worcester State Baseball Indoor Clinics are now held in the \$52 million gymnasium and wellness center. The second floor multipurpose gym allows for live practices with plenty of storage for the six indoor mounds, bats and balls, etc. Hitters will use the double-barrel cages on the first floor. Here kids will bunt/bat off the Hack Attack pitching machines (uses real balls; speed adjusted for ages), hit close-range BP, use soft toss nets, tees, and utilize slow-motion video analysis.

There are multiple upcoming clinics to choose from. For questions, please call (508) 929-8852 or (774) 230-3872, or email dbaker1@worchester.edu. Also, please visit wsulancers.com/camps-clinics for more information.

OBITUARIES

Bernice Alger



SOUTHBRIDGE- Bernice Lillian Alger 81, also known as "Bernie" passed away peacefully on Monday December 10, 2018 at the Quaboug Rehabilitation and skilled care center in West Brookfield, MA.

Bernie was predeceased by her husband Frank Alger, one sister Barbara Belanger, one brother Alan Kovaleski and her aunt Doris Dumas. She will be greatly missed by her sons Paul Alger of Sturbridge, Steven Alger of Sturbridge, one sister Patricia Schellhammer of Fiskdale, two grandsons, Sean Alger of Webster, and Rockee Alger of Worcester, her cousin Nancy Reusch of West Warren, her good friend Pauline Baker of West Brookfield, and many nieces and nephews.

Bernie was born and raised in Southbridge MA to her loving parents Irene and Edward Kovaleski. She was a wonderful mother to her children and a great friend. She enjoyed playing cards, bowling, going to the casino, watching her patriots and she especially loved spending time with her family. Bernie worked at Russell Harrington Cutlery and the American Optical for 30 years.

Her family would like to thank the staff at Quaboug Skilled Nursing and rehab for loving her and taking great care of her.

Burial is private.

Belanger-Bullard funeral Home, 51 Marcy St. Southbridge is directing arrangements. An online guestbook is available at www.BelangerFuneralHome.com

Andrew C. Szyszko, 47

HOLLAND- Andrew C. Szyszko, 47, died August 28 in Maryland. He also lived in Holland and attended Tantasqua High School. His father, Edward J. Szyszko, died in 1995.

He leaves his mother, Mary Ann Szyszko; two brothers, Michael and his

wife Sandy and their son, Michael, Jr.; and John K. Szyszko, all of Holland. He is also survived by an aunt and uncle in Chicopee and an aunt and uncle in Florida.

He was buried in Holland with his father, Edward.

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



CALENDAR

Monday December 24

PLANNING FOR CHRISTMAS: First Congregational Church of Brimfield has announced its Christmas Eve schedule. Monday, December 24th - Christmas Eve Services: 7:00PM - Family Worship. All are invited to join us in this joyous service as we sing and pray to honor the birth of our Lord and Savior.

11:00PM - Candlelight Service: A more 'traditional' Christmas Eve Service. Please join us in this quiet and reflective service which leads us into Christmas Day.

Sunday January 6

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

ONGOING

BUSINESS NETWORKING: Join us for a FREE Business Networking

Meeting! Thursdays - 7am at Old Sturbridge Village Oliver Wight Tavern - Grecian Room, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Rd, Sturbridge, For more info call Tia @ 774-200-6740

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Please come join us for a fun evening of exercise and basketball at the Heritage School gym in Charlton. We play pickup basketball from 7-9 PM every Monday evening from September to June based on the school schedule. There are no set teams and participation is free for women 18 years and older. Please contact Deb at 508-248-3600 for more information.

Pilgrimage to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje

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

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: third Wednesday each month, 6-7 p.m. at the Overlook Independent Living Building, fourth floor Solarium, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. The

intent is to build a support system, exchange practical information, talk through issues and ways of coping, share feelings, needs and concerns and to learn about community resources. Contact Kathy Walker at (508) 434-2551 or kawalker@overlook-mass.org for more information. Presented by Alzheimer's Association MA/NH Chapter, visit (800) 272-3900 or alz.org.

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

Free Playgroup at the Hitchcock Academy; sponsored by Union 61 Family Foundation Five Grant. It includes: Music & Movement on Wednesday 9-9:45 a.m. and Playgroup on Monday &

Thursday 9-11 a.m. For more information about these and a variety of other classes visit us at www.hitchcockacademy.org or call 413-245-9977

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

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

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

TRIPS OFFERED

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

CHURCH PILGRIMAGE

Pilgrimage to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje

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

BRIMFIELD SENIOR CENTER

CHARLTON SENIOR CENTER

Call Elaine or Debra for more info at (508) 248-2231 ~ Sign up sheets & flyers available at the Senior Center. Flyers are available on webpage www.townofcharlton.net:

click on Departments then click on Council on Aging/Senior Center. Pick up is generally from St. Joseph's Church, 10 H Putnam Road Extension, Charlton.

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

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

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

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

April 25: Dancing Dream an ABBA tribute band!

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

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

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

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

DUDLEY SENIORS

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

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

Also next year, Sept.13-21, we will be going to Nova

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

EAST BROOKFIELD SENIOR CENTER

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

LEICESTER SENIOR CENTER

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

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

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

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

MARY QUEEN OF THE

ROSARY PARISH

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

IRELAND: September 9-22, 2019

USA: SPLENDORS OF THE NORTHWEST: May 20 to June 4, 2019

JAPAN: March 26 to April 9, 2020

JAPAN & CHINA: March 26 to April 22, 2020

SPAIN & PORTUGAL: September 9-24, 2020

MILLBURY SENIOR CENTER

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

NORTHBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER

Phone: 508-234-2002
www.northbridgemass.org/council-on-aging

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

Turn To **TRIPS** page **A15**

ROY

continued from page 1

district to arrange for coverage of their towns during services for Roy. In neighboring Auburn, firefighters took part in many activities to show solidarity with Worcester.

"No matter how much you prepare, you can never be fully prepared for every situation you might encounter," said Auburn Fire Chief Stephen Coleman. "Like Worcester, we train every day to make sure we operate as safely as possible in adverse conditions. But even when you're doing everything right, the job is inherently dangerous."

A memorial fund was created to support Roy's family. He had been a member of the Worcester Fire Department for nearly three years.

Meanwhile, support poured in over social media and at memorial

events throughout the week. Locally, December has repeatedly brought tragic reminders to all departments of the dangerousness of the job.

"This has been very hard for everyone in our department. When it happens this close to home, it really hits you hard," Parsons said.

In a tradition reserved for all fallen firefighters, Roy's body was transported past his station enroute to Alfred Roy and Sons Funeral Home. Funeral ser-

vices took place at St. John's Catholic Church following a private family procession. Roy was laid to rest at Notre Dame Cemetery in Worcester.

A memorial fund has been established by the Worcester Firefighters IAFF chapter in the name of Roy's daughter, Ava Roy. Checks should be made payable to the Ava Roy Fund and mailed to the Worcester Fire Department Credit Union, 34 Glennie St., Worcester, MA 01605.

vices took place at St. John's Catholic Church following a private family procession. Roy was laid to rest at Notre Dame Cemetery in Worcester.

A memorial fund has been established by the Worcester Firefighters IAFF chapter in the name of Roy's daughter, Ava Roy. Checks should be made payable to the Ava Roy Fund and mailed to the Worcester Fire Department Credit Union, 34 Glennie St., Worcester, MA 01605.

TRIPS

continued from page A14

CITIZENS

2019 TRIP SCHEDULE OPEN TO PUBLIC

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday, May 19, 2019: Newport rail tour.

Tour ocean drive: board the excursion scenic 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

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

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

887 2215

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

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

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

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

Tuesday, September 17, 2019: Atlantic City Boys

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

October 8-15, 2019: ALL INCLUSIVE ARUBA

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

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

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

FRIENDS OF STURBRIDGE SENIORS

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 The Uxbridge Senior Center and its

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

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

UNION SAINT-JEAN-BAPTISTE CHAPTER 12

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

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

UXBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER

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

The Silver Club BUS TRIPS for 2018 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!

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

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

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

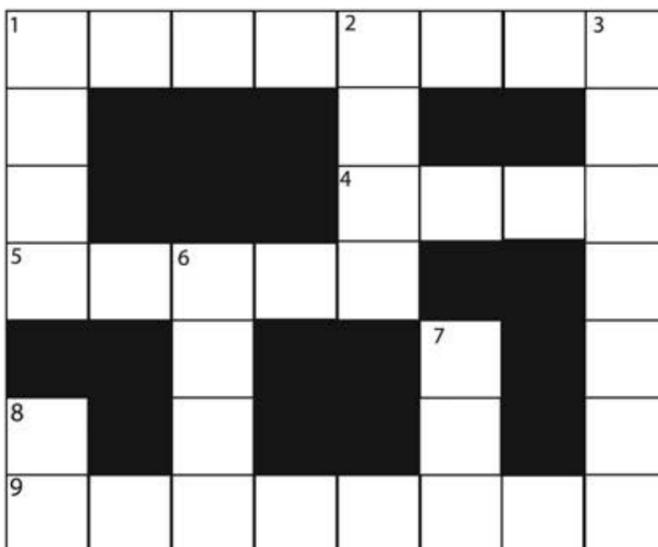


HEALTH FACT:

DOING THIS ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS CAN IMPROVE FEELINGS OF HAPPINESS AND MAY IMPROVE OVERALL HEALTH.

ANSWER: GIVING GIFTS

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Special occasions
- 4. Sports group
- 5. Have fun
- 9. Gifts

DOWN

- 1. Place to live
- 2. Task or job
- 3. Small parts to try
- 6. Gets a laugh
- 7. Move fast
- 8. Not down

Answers:
 ACROSS
 1. Holidays 4. Team 5. Enjoy 9. Presents
 DOWN
 1. Home 2. Duty 3. Samples 6. Joke
 7. Run 8. Up

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1787: NEW JERSEY BECOMES THE THIRD STATE TO RATIFY THE U.S. CONSTITUTION.
- 1939: THE BATTLE OF HELIGOLAND BIGHT OCCURS. IT IS THE FIRST MAJOR AIR BATTLE OF WORLD WAR II.
- 2015: KELLINGLEY COLLIERY, THE LAST DEEP COAL MINE IN GREAT BRITAIN, CLOSES.

New Word

BESTOW

present a gift or honor

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Grandfather
- SPANISH:** Regalo
- ITALIAN:** Regalo
- FRENCH:** Cadeau
- GERMAN:** Geschenk

Did you know?

THE AVERAGE AMERICAN WILL SPEND AROUND \$900 ON HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND COWORKERS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: PRESENT

Keep holiday plants looking their best



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

The holiday season has arrived. That means you will be on the giving or receiving end of a poinsettia, Christmas cactus, cyclamen, amaryllis or other holiday plant. Extend the beauty and longevity of these holiday beauties with proper care.

And that starts the minute you leave the florist or garden center. Always protect your gift plants from the harsh outdoors. Professional florists and garden center staff will provide a care tag and wrap your plants in a plastic or paper sleeve.

Remove the wrap as soon as you arrive home. This is especially important when caring for poinsettias. The upturned leaves emit ethylene, a ripening hormone, that can shorten the longevity of your poinsettia's colorful display.

Rewrap your holiday plant anytime you move it outdoors and never leave it sitting in a cold car while running errands.

A chilled plant looks fine until it thaws. By the next day, the plant turns grayish-green, wilts and may die. Not such a nice gift after all.

Once your plant arrives home, place it in a cool, brightly lit location. The cool temperatures and indirect light help the blooms last longer. Avoid drafts of hot and cold air. These can dry or chill the plant, resulting in leaf and blossom drop. Fold down the foil wrap to allow sunlight to reach all the leaves.

Keep the soil moist, like a damp sponge, but not wet. A quick touch of the top inch or two of soil will let you know when it is time to water. Water thoroughly whenever the top few inches of soil are crumbly and just slightly moist.

Pour out any water that collects in the foil, basket, decorative pot or saucer. Or place pebbles in the bottom of the container or saucer to elevate the plant above any sitting water.

Plant your amaryllis bulb in a container that is slightly larger than the bulb and has drainage holes. Set the bulb in a well-drained potting mix with 1/3 of the pointed end exposed. Water the potting mix thoroughly and place the container in a cool sunny location. Continue to water thoroughly,

but only often enough to keep the soil barely moist.

Or go soilless. Place several inches of pebbles in the bottom of a glass vase or watertight container. Cover the pebbles with water. Set the bulb on top of the pebbles, adding more stones around the bulb to hold it in place. Leave the top one third of the bulb exposed. Add water as needed to maintain the water level just below the bulb.

Now relax and wait the month or more needed for your amaryllis bulb to wake up and start growing. Water more often once sprouts appear.

Keep your floral display looking its best by removing spent flowers from azaleas, Christmas cactus, cyclamen and kalanchoes. This keeps the plant looking fresh and often encourages more blooms. Remove the true flowers, those yellow knobs in the center of the colorful leaves of the poinsettia. This extends the longevity and beauty of the poinsettia plant.

And once the holidays are past, keep enjoying these plants through the gray days of winter. Move the plants to a sunny window, fertilize with a dilute solution of complete or flowering plant fertilizer and water as needed.

Add some artificial berries,



Photo credit Melinda Myers, LLC

Poinsettia and other holiday plants should be kept in a cool, brightly lit location.

cut flowers in water picks or silk blooms to replace the faded flowers. Use colorful stakes or natural twigs for added beauty and to support floppy leaves and stems.

Be sure to add a few holiday plants to this year's gift list. They're guaranteed to brighten everyone's holiday celebra-

tions.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books and is the host of The Great Courses' How to Grow Anything DVD series. Her website, www.MelindaMyers.com, offers gardening tips and videos.



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Fly, my darling, fly:

A note on divorce for the holiday season



MIND OF A
CURIOUS
GIRL
ANNIE
SANDOLI

Mommy told me I could fly. She said I could do anything I set my mind to. When I was a tiny, blonde, wide-eyed bundle of energy, she would push me in the little red airplane swing in our backyard.

Daddy told me I could fly. He took me to the airport often, and I would run through the breeze, my arms out like a bird's wings. He took me for my first flying lesson on my 13th birthday.

My family is no less dysfunctional than any other family. I am actually quite confident that is more dysfunctional than many. But somehow, the distrust never outweighed my love. The tension never outweighed my love. The anger never outweighed my love.

Divorce isn't easy for any child, at any age. It doesn't matter what day of the year it is, it is always complicated and never painless. However, there is something about the holidays that brings up just a little more sadness, a little more heartache, and a little more

longing for your parents to be together, or at least be friendly with each other for your sake. I spent year after year wondering why my parents loved me so much even when I made mistakes, but couldn't do the same for each other.

Strumming chords on her 12-string, my mom told me musicians are trouble, don't date one. Then I became one.

Playing his Yamaha baby grand, my dad told me women are trouble, don't trust one. Then I became one.

Trouble or not, I'm made of them. I have my dad's wit and my mom's drive. Some days I look like him, some days I look like her. But most days I look like both of them, a clean cut down the middle.

We don't choose our parents, but even if we did, I still would have picked mine.

My parents, like many couples, had a complex and agonizing divorce. My mom and dad are not friendly or cordial, probably for their own good reasons, nor are they currently okay with seeing each other at any holiday or event, even if it is for my sake. It wasn't my marriage nor my decision to have a child, yet I'm the one who had to find them completely separate seats at my most recent graduation even though my guests were supposed to be in one section. I'm the one who

either misses out on seeing one of them on a given holiday or uses two tanks of gas to dodge from place to place, trying to make sure they're both happy.

I don't remember a year when the holidays were not worrisome for me as I tried to appease both my parents and often failed to make myself happy in exchange. I don't remember a time when I wasn't stressed about their relationship even though it was never meant to be my problem. I don't remember a time when my parents didn't constantly tell me that my desire for their cordiality was unrealistic.

Their insistence, however, never stopped me from hoping that they could put their bad feelings aside for me. I was 9 years old when I saw my parents give each other a hug for the first time since they separated. It was Thanksgiving, and my mom was dropping me off with my dad's family. I finally saw them put aside their anger for a few seconds and thought to myself, "Maybe this whole divorce thing will get easier with time."

Yet here I am at age 22, and as I was driving down Route 49 going from my mom's family to my dad's family on Thanksgiving Day, I thought to myself, "I can't believe I was so convinced that this whole divorce thing would get easier

with time."

There has always been anger, distrust, and the loudest silence I've ever heard.

But the music has always been louder. It's the only thing that connects me to both of them. My mom used to sing to me every morning to wake me up. She would sing John Denver's "Leaving on a Jet Plane" whenever she pushed me in that little red airplane swing. We still sing Billy Joel's "Only the Good Die Young" at the top of our lungs every time it comes on the car radio. When my dad wasn't around, he sent me cassette tapes of him singing songs like the Beatles' version of "Till There Was You" and "Somewhere Over the Rainbow".

My parents' song was "Don't Know Much" by Aaron Neville and Linda Ronstadt. The song sings exactly how I feel.

"I don't know much, but I know I love you. That may be all I need to know."

It took me nearly two decades to begin to truly accept that it really is their problem. It has always been their problem, not mine. I think that's the hardest thing for children of divorce to finally come to terms with. Every day, you're told it's not your fault, but you're also caught in the middle like a tree in a lightning storm, not causing the uproar but likely

to get struck by it. How could you not be? You're made of them. You're what they have to remind them of each other.

During this holiday season and every day of the year, love should outweigh all else, and my love for my parents as well as every other child's love for their parents should be celebrated, appreciated, and recognized, because the relationship between every parent and their child, no matter how complicated, is beautiful in its own way. Just because their love for each other was clouded in anger, distrust, and betrayal, my love for both of them is still very much intact, screaming in the unbearable silence, and that should be very much okay. I will continue to hope that, at some point in the future, I will have them both by my side for the holidays, because that possibility keeps me going every year.

And no matter where I end up, it is because of them that I fly. It is because of them that I choose love over hate, because they have loved me through it all. And I know how toxic hatred can be.

And when I fall, I get back up, and think of what my parents have said to me all my life. "Fly, my darling, fly."

TRAINOR

continued from page A8

prevention.

**

Tree preservatives are pricey. Mix up this homemade potion and pocket the difference: Combine one quart of fresh warm water, a half cup of light corn syrup, and a teaspoon of liquid chlorine bleach in a two-gallon bucket. Fill the water reservoir with this solution.

How does it work? This mixture helps keep trees moist because fresh-cut trees, which absorb and digest corn syrup as an energy source, don't have to waste as much energy converting stored sugar. Therefore, they can focus on staying green and beautiful!

**

Christmas Tree Preservative: If your family loves decorating a real tree, but you hate the mess of fallen needles, and the fear of sparking branches - don't despair! And don't spend big bucks on commercial preservatives either. This recipe will save the tree, some money,

and maybe even a few frayed nerves:

Ingredients: one gallon water; one cup ammonium sulphate (available from garden supply store); two tablespoons borax (available from grocery or hardware store); a few aspirins or three tablespoons glycerin, or three tablespoons sugar.

Instructions: Mix first three ingredients together well. Pour into a spray bottle. Spritz on tree and pour the remainder into the tree stand instead of in water.

Saw off the bottom of the trunk, one to two inches and use a drill to bore a narrow hole up through the middle of the trunk. Then fill the hole with cotton, and pack tightly. Put the base in warm water as soon as possible. Warm water will melt the sap, allowing the tree to drink more easily.

**

Tree Talk

*Want your fresh tree to last longer? The lower the temperature and the higher the humidity, the longer your tree will last.

*Placement is also important. Avoid

setting up a tree near a heat source or in front of a window that gets direct sun.

*Keep in mind miniature lights, which produce lower heat, do not dry out the tree as fast as larger, hotter lights.

*Did you know? A freshly-cut tree can consume a gallon of water in 24 hours!

*Want to avoid a trail of fallen needles to the back door? Before you set up your tree, place a tree disposal bag around the base of the trunk prior to placing it in the stand. At the end of the season, simply pull the bag up over the entire tree.

*Check with your local transfer station or recycling center to find out if they offer a tree pick up.

*Going artificial this year? You can still mimic the fresh scent of balsam, simply by sprinkling your carpets with a pine scented carpet freshener before vacuuming. Since smell is the most potent of our senses, visitors to a house that smells like the holidays will feel doubly welcomed!

**

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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 renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press 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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All our best this holiday season



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NEW



2019 JEEP CHEROKEE ALTITUDE
4x4, 2.4L I4 M-Air engine, 9 spd auto, Velvet Red Pearlcoat, parking sensors, keyless entry - #294544

\$27,799

NEW



2018 DODGE JOURNEY CROSSROAD
AWD, 3.6L V6 24-valve, 6 spd auto, nav, back-up cam, popular equipment group - #269533

\$28,213

NEW



2018 RAM 1500 TRADESMAN 4X4
regular cab, 5.7L v8 hemi, 8 spd auto 8hp70, popular equipment group, bedliner - #176232.

\$29,176

NEW



2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4
3.2L V6 24-valve VVT engine, 9 spd auto, Ski Gray/Black, radio Uconnect, nav- #335782

\$31,931

NEW



2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO
3.6L v6 24-valve VVT engine, 8 spd auto, heated front seats & steering wheel, remote start - #488479

\$34,249

NEW



2018 RAM 2500 TRADESMAN
Reg. Cab 4x4 8' Box, 6.4L Heavy-Duty V8 HEMI w/ MDS, 6 spd auto, Bright White, chrome appearance group, radio Uconnect, & more packages - #260468

\$36,785

NEW



2019 RAM 1500 BIG HORN/LONE STAR
Quad Cab 4x4 6'4 Box, 5.7L V8 HEMI MDS VVT engine, 8 spd auto, Maximum Steel, premium lighting group, radio Uconnect, & more packages - #518155

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Seasons Greetings & Happy Holidays to All



DUDLEY - 5 Corbin Road! Welcome Home! Beautiful Tri-Level Home Set on 4.5 Acres! 9 Finished Rooms, 3-4 Bedrooms, 2 Full Baths! Huge, Oak Cabinet Packed Kitchen w/Gorgeous Granite & Pella Slider to Enormous Trex Deck & In-ground, Heated Pool! Dining Room w/Big Window, Hardwoods, Wainscot & Crown Molding w/French Doors Leading to the Sunroom which has Heat & AC where You Can Enjoy Your Morning Coffee Watching the Wildlife Around Your Pond or Take a Walk Across the Bridge to Check on Your Blueberry Bushes! Fireplace Living Room w/Large Bow Front Window, Custom Built-ins & Hardwoods! 3 Large Bdrms w/Lots of Closet Space! Office Could Be Easily Made into 4th Bdrm! Master has Private Balcony Over Looking the Pool! Master Bath has W/D Hookups, Double Vanity & Walk-in Closet! Finished Walk-Out Lower Level Would Make a Great Game Room! 2 Car Garage which Leads to Rest of Basement which Houses the Utilities, another W/D Hook-up and Storage Cabinet! Too Many Updates to List Here! A Must See House! **\$459,900.00**

DUDLEY - 73 Tracy Rd! Majestically Perched on a Knoll, 1.47 Acres Beautifully Landscaped, Spacious 2.5/2.5/3 Rm Colonial! Stainless Appliance! Eat-in Country Kit w/Center Isl, Pantry Closet, Recessed Lighting, Tile Flr & French Dr to Deck! Formal Din Rm w/Hrwd Flr & Classic 3 Windows. Bumped-out Wall! Entry Foyer! Formal Living Rm w/Hrwd Flr! The Fireplace Family Rm w/Wide Plank Hrwd Flr will Keep the Family Close! Side Entry Hall Dble Closet, Half Bath w/Laundry Closet! Upstairs 4 Comfortable Bdrms, 2 w/Hrwd, 2 w/Wall to Wall all w/Plenty of Closet Space! 1.8 Master Bdrm w/Hrwd, Ceiling Fan, Walk-in Closet, Master Bath w/Granite Vanity & Tile Flr! Off the Hrwd Hall the 2nd Full Bath w/Dble Sinks, Granite Vanity, Tile Flr & Linen Closet! Breezeway Attached 2 Car Garage! Quick Closing Possible, Start Packing! **\$369,900.00**

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

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

NEW LISTING **NEW LISTING** **NEW LISTING** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD**

WEBSTER - 23 Lincoln St! 3 Family w/ Great Curb Appeal! Owner Occupied or Investor! 5/4 Rooms! 2/2 Bedrooms! Hardwood Floors in Most Rooms! First Floor Apart Freshly Painted! Replacement Windows! Off Street Parking! 2 Car Garage! Easy Highway Access! Conveniently Located! **\$239,900.00**

WEBSTER - 7 Oak St! 2 Family! 5/5 Rms! 2/2 Bdrms! Both Flrs w/Eat-in Kitchens! Liv Rms w/Wall to Wall! Bdrms w/Wall to Wall! 3 Season Porches! Gas Heat w/Recent Burners on 1st! Electric Heat on 2nd! Recent Roof, Siding & Windows! Off Street Parking! Owner Occupied or Investment! **\$169,900.00**

THOMPSON - 48 Smith St! 2 Family! 3/8 Rooms! 1/4 Bedrooms! 1/1 Bath! Major Rehab 2005 - Roof, Gutter & Downspouts, Vinyl Siding, Windows, Entry Doors! 2018 Electric Heat Conversion! Gas Hot Water! Off Street Parking! Garage! Town Services! **\$139,900.00**

WEBSTER - 5 Chestnut St! 6 Rm Ranch, 3 Bdrms, Remodeled Bath, Finished Lower Level! Corner Lot! Frplc Liv Rm w/Cathedral, Hrwd Flr, French Drs to 16x24 Deck! Din Rm w/Hrwd! Remodeled Kit w/Cherry Cabinets & SS Appliances! Solar Hot Water! 1 Yr Old Roof! A/G Pool! Shed! **\$269,900.00**

AUBURN - 9 Lorna Dr! 2680' Split Entry! Applianced Oak Eat-in Isl Kit w/Corian Counters! Spacious Liv Rm w/Hrwd! Sun Rm Cathedral to Trex Deck! 3 Bdrms w/Hrwd! Frplc Fam Rm! 2 Full Baths! 4th Bdrm/Office! Laundry! C/Air & Vac! Professionally Landscaped .46 Acre Lot! 2 Car Garage! **\$389,900.00**

WEBSTER - 21 Spring St! 6 Rm Ranch! Eat-in Applianced Kit w/Mahogany Cabinets & Tile Flr! Liv Rm w/Carpet over Hrwd! 3 Bdrms w/Hrwd! Master w/Walk-in Closet! Full Tile Bath! 1X30' Fam/Game Rm! 2nd Bathrm w/Laundry! Workshop! Utility Rm! 2 Z Oil Heat! C/ Airl 2 Car Garage! Porch! Don't Miss Out! **\$219,900.00**

DUDLEY - 13 Pineview Rd! 7 Rm Colonial! Tiled Foyer! Kit w/Wm Area & Slider to Composite Deck! Din Rm! Liv Rm/Dent! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry! 2nd Flr w/3 Carpeted Bdrms & Full Bath! Master w/Walk-in Closet & Bath! Finished Lower Level w/Gas Frplc! Pains! Fire Pit! Roof 2017! Attached 2 Car Garage! Town Services! **\$359,900.00**

DUDLEY - 9 Page Ln! Newly Renovated 6 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Cape! 1 Acre Lot! Oak-de-sac Hrwdw Throughout! Open Liv Rm, Kit & Din Area! SS Appliances! Kitchen! Kit w/Slidr to Composite Deck! 1st Flr Master w/Walk-in Closet & Master Bath! 2nd Flr w/2 Large Bdrms & Full Bath! Garage Under! **\$309,900.00**

ON DEPOSIT **ON DEPOSIT**

WEBSTER - 882 School St! Conveniently Located Charming 8 Rm Colonial w/ Natural Woodwork! Eat-in Applianced Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Hardwoods! Fireplace Living Rm! 4 Possible Bedrooms w/Hardwoods! 2 Bathrooms! Detached Garage! Cosmetics & Updating Needed! **\$141,900.00**

DUDLEY - 9 Progress Ave! 6 Rm Cape! Move In Ready! Applianced Eat-in Kit! Din & Liv Rms w/Hrwd! 1st Flr Master w/Hrwdw & 2 Dble Closets & Ceiling Fan! 3 Season Porch! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry! 2nd Flr w/3 Bdrms w/Hrwdw & a Full Bath! Roofs 2013! Town Services! Quick Close Possible! **\$239,900.00**

SOLD **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD**

WEBSTER LAKE - 54 West Pt Rd! North Pond - Killedeer Isl - West Expo - Beautiful Lake Views & Sunsets! 2002 Built 6+ Rm Colonial! Ideal 2nd Home or Yr Rd Living! Applianced Kit w/Center Isl! Lake Facing Din Rm w/Panoramic Water Views & Recent Wood Flr! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/LP Gas Frplc, Recent Wood Flr & French Door to Deck! 1st Flr Laundry & Hall Bath! 2nd Flr w/5 Spacious Bdrms! Lake Facing Master Suite w/Panoramic Lake Views, Frplc, French Dr to its Deck, Dressing Office Area & Full Bath w/Whirlpool Tub! A 2nd Full Bath off the Hall! Huge Lake Facing Walk-out Lower Level w/Gas Stove & Slider to Stone Patio is Ready for "Finishing"! Additional Lakeside Deck! Dock! **\$559,900.00**

DOUGLAS WATERFRONT! 36 Cedar St! Badluck Pond (110Acres) aka Cedar Lake or Laurel Lake! Western Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 2.74 Acres! 633' Waterfront! 471' Road Front! Beautiful Private Setting! Huge 28X96', 2,688' Custom 6 Rm Cedar Ranch w/Hrwd Flrs Throughout! Spectacular, Open Din Rm & Great Rm w/Stone Frplc, Soaring Beamed Cedar Cathedral Ceiling, 6 Sky Lights, Recessed Lighting, 1/2 Bath & 3 Sliders to 96' Lake Facing Screened Porch! Custom Kit w/2 Skylights, Recessed Lighting, Slider to Porch, Wall Oven & Center Island w/Triple Bowl Sink, Cooktop & Dishwasher! Mud Rm Entry w/2 Dble Closets, Tile Flr, Door to Kit & Door to Full Bath! 2 Lake Facing Bdrms w/Walk-in Closets, Skylights & Sliders to Porch! Full Tile Bath w/Separate Shower & Whirlpool Bath w/Door to Master & Hall! Office w/Dble Closet! 2.5 Baths Total! Cedar Lined Closets! Full Basement! Plus 36X72' 2 Story Heated Boat House/Garage/Work Shop w/Hall Bath! Upper Level! 5 Rm Caretaker/In-Law Apartment w/2 Full Baths! Game Rm w/Full Bath! 5 Full + 2 Half Baths Total! One of a Kind Waterfront Home! **\$599,900.00**

SOLD **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD**

WEBSTER LAKE - 60 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 52' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Panoramic Lake Views! 8 Rms, 3 Bdrm, 2 Baths, A/C'd, Ranch! Custom SS Applianced Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrwdw & Slider to Waterfront Deck w/Awning! Lake Facing Frplc Liv Rm w/Cathedral, Skylight & Hrwdw! Comfortable Master Bdrm! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 2 Car Garage! **\$729,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 209 Beacon Park! 1280' Townhouse! 5 Rooms! Spectacular Sandy Beach! Fantastic Lakeside Pool! Applianced Kitchen! Carpeted Dining Rm & Fireplace Living Rooms! 2 Spacious Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Updated Tile Baths! Central Air! Garage! **\$239,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 130 Killedeer Island - North Pond! West Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 6 Rm 3 Season Home! Add Heat & Use Yr Round! Great Potential! 4 Bdrms w/Hrwdw, 2 Lake Facing! Frplc Liv Rm w/Lake Views! Spacious Kit & Dining Area! 2 Baths! 55' of Sandy Beach! **\$475,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 7 Point Pleasant Ave! Panoramic Lake Views! Eastern Expo! Super Sunsets! 9,000' Level Lot! 2,300' Custom Contemp Colonial! Bath 2015! Like New! Open Flr Plan! Custom Granite Kit w/Land, Stainless Appliances, Gas Range, Soft Close Cabinets & Recessed Lights! Spectacular Lake Facing Great Rm, Stone Gas Frplc! Surrounded by Custom Cabinetry, Recessed Lights & Ceiling Fan! Dining Area w/Custom Ceiling! Full Bath w/Granite Vanity & Custom Tile Shower! Laundry Rm "Wood Look" Tile Floors throughout the First Floor! 2nd Flr Features 3 Comfortable Bdrms w/Being Waterfront! Lake Facing Master w/Slider to Deck, Hrwdw, Recessed Lighting, Walk-in Closet & Bdrm Access! Lake Facing Bdrm w/Hrwdw, Dble Closet & Door to Deck! 3rd Bdrm w/Hrwdw & Dble Closet! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity & Tile Flr! C/Air! Gas Heat! 2x30 2 Story Detached Garage! Dock! Get Packing! **\$789,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 194 Killedeer Island! North Pond Views! Sandy Shore! 6 Rm Cape! Open Liv & Din Rm w/Newly Restored Fireplace! New Lake Facing Windows! 2 1st Flr Bdrms, 1 Lake Facing! 3 Bdrms! 2 Updated Bathrms! Huge Composite Deck w/Vinyl Rails! Walk-out Lower Level to Courtyard! Garage Under! **\$559,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 12 Kenneth Ave! South Pond! 5 Rm Ranch! 80' Waterfront! Completely Remodeled! 10 Yrs Ago! Kraftmaid Cabinet Kit w/Island & Silstone Counters! Bamboo Wood Flrs Throughout! Open Flr Plan! Composite Deck! Lake Facing Master! 2 Bdrms! Full Bath! Fam Rm! **\$399,900.00**

ON DEPOSIT **ON DEPOSIT**

WEBSTER LAKE - 202 Killedeer Island Rd! Panoramic View of North Pond! Natural Sandy Shoreline! Complete Rebuild Since 2002! Custom Center Island Applianced Granite Kitchen w/Walk-in Pantry, Recessed Lighting, Hardwoods & 1/2 Bath! Open Floor Plan! Dining Rm w/Window Seat, 2 Closets & Hardwoods! 19X19 Lake Facing Living Rm w/Hardwoods & 2 Sliders to Deck w/Recent Awning! Upstairs to 4 Bedrooms or 3 Plus Office! Lake Facing Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Walk-in Closet & Master Bath w/Tile Floor, Huge Corner Shower w/Seat, Double Linen Closet! Full Hall Bath! Halfway Laundry Closet! Lake Facing Walk-out Lower Level Family Room, 2 Sliders to Patio! Full Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! 4 Zone Heat & 2 Zone C/Air only 2 Years Old! Start Packing! **\$629,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 8 Reid Smith Cove Road! Panoramic Lake Views! West Expo! Super Sunsets! 9,088' Lot! Gently Sloping! 2,547' Custom Contemp Cape, Built 09 as 2nd Home, Like New! Open Flr Plan! Spectacular Lake Facing Great Rm w/Tf Ceiling, Recessed Lights, Sliders to Trex Deck, Stone Gas Frplc, Surround Sound & Glamouring Hrwdw! Granite Kit w/Is, SS Appliances, Soft Close Cabinets, Hrwdw & Recessed Lights! 1st Flr Master w/Tile Bath, Whirlpool Tub/Shower, Dble Sink & Linen Closet! Upstairs Sitting Area Overlooking Great Rm w/Lake Views! Hrwd Hall to 2 Bdrms w/Recessed Lights, Ceiling Fans & Dble Closets! Full Bath & Linen Closet! Lower Level! Walkout Fam Rm w/Tile Flr, 10' Ceilings, Recessed Lights, Ceiling Fans, Stone Gas Frplc, Surround Sound, Wet Bar & Slider! Full Bath w/Tile Flr! Utility Rm w/Laundry & Storage! Nice Deck! Get Packing! **\$724,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 37 Bates Grove Rd! South Pond! As a Second Home, Getaway or Expand it into Your Dream Home - Have Possible Plans! 4+ Rooms! Open Floor Plan! Applianced Kit! 2 Bedrooms! Bathroom! Covered Deck! Ideal Gradual Sloping Lot w/ Panoramic Lake Views! **\$399,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 104 Treasure Island! 1,874' Townhouse! Oak Cabinet Kit w/Breakfast Counter! Formal Din Rm! Frplc Liv Rm! Screened Porch! 1st Flr Master w/Walk-in Closet & Bdrm! 2.5 Baths! 2nd Level w/2nd Master Bdrm & Bath! Recent C/Air! Attached Garage! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Sandy Beach! **\$324,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 905 Treasure Isl! WATERFRONT Townhouse! 6 Rms! 1,674' Hrwdw! SS Applianced Quartz Kit! Open Flr Plan! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath w/Dble Vanity! 2.5 Baths! Frplcd Fam Rm! Newer C/Air & Gas Heat! Trex Deck! Garage! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool, Sandy Beach! **\$449,000.00**

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

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7:00 p.m. register

7:30 p.m. start up
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WARREN: 2 mobile homes in family park and 1 manufactured home in 55 and older park. Mobile home park is a co-op with a one-time fee of \$100.00. Call Today! Manufactured home on double lot with 2 car garage! Call me for more info!			
LOTS FOR SALE 2 affordable buildable lots for sale: West Brookfield\$18,900 New Braintree\$35,500			



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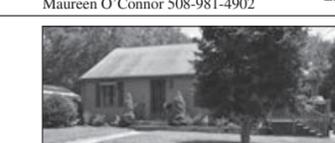
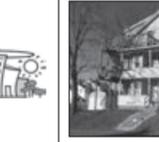
VETERANS - We can help you with Buying or Selling a house.

REAL ESTATE COFFEE HOUR - SAT. 12/21 • 12-1
21 SCHOFIELD AVE. DUDLEY
RESERVATIONS 508-943-7669

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Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
Diane Luong 774-239-2937
Maria Reed 508-873-9254
Maureen O'Connor 508-981-4902

Licensed in MA & CT

 Southbridge: Best Value! 2.5 acres, In-ground pool, HW floors, 3-4 bedrooms, Privacy & Easy Financing 153 Highland St ~ \$270's	 Dudley: Nested on 6.7 acres! 3 story barn, cherry cabinet kitchen w/quartz counters, 4 bedroom. 1 hr. commute to Boston, Providence, Springfield. Fireplace- quality brick, open golf course, shopping + schools 7 Dudley Oxford Rd ~ \$400's
 ON DEPOSIT Dudley: Ranch! Fireplace, 1.5 bath, family room 50 Mason Rd ~ \$219,900	 Webster Lake: Water-front! 3.5 baths, CATHEDRAL CEILINGS, 3-4 bedrooms, town services 16 Pattison Rd ~ \$700's
 Dudley: Investors! 10 units. Great Cash Flow. Business location. Call Jo-Ann for details \$439,900	 Webster: 4 Car Garage! New roof shingles, all units renovated. Great location 9 Towe St ~ \$299,900

A Place To Call Home...

 KILLINGLY -This cape style home features 2 bedrooms & 1 bathroom and is a Bungalow style home on corner lot with tons of character. The walk-up attic is a great bonus with two partially finished rooms that could easily be converted into living space if more space is needed. The home has a newer/updated kitchen with nice stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors, and a nice open floor plan from the kitchen thru the dining area to the spacious living room. There is a great little mudroom off the side entry door and the enclosed front porch makes great extra living space. One car detached garage. \$159,900	 THOMPSON - 2 family on the Thompson/Putnam line, additional .20 of Putnam land included. First floor offers 3 bedrooms with new carpet, 1 bath, living room and spacious kitchen and dining area with newer laminate flooring; 2nd floor is a 1 bedroom, 1 bath unit with updated bathroom. All new baseboard heat installed 2018, replacement windows, siding and windows approx. 17 years old. Only one heating system and one electrical service rent should include heat & electric. Putnam provides the sewer service. Private well with new well pump 2017. \$138,000	 PUTNAM -1922- President Harding might have been listening to the first radio at the White House while local builder, Mr. Wheaton was constructing this elegant "Roaring 20's" home. This Vintage home features a large front parlor & a dining room that leads to the summer porch. Also enjoy the den with a fireplace, kitchen with newer appliances, pantry and half bath on first floor. Pristine oak woodwork and stairway lead you to the upper level which offers a full bath and 3 spacious bedrooms. Venture to the top floor with a 4th bedroom and 2 smaller rms. You will find 9' ceilings, hardwood flooring, moldings and trim, French doors & original hardware. A MUST SEE! Nashua wood stove, updated electrical, new roof, newer furnace, fenced in yard and 2 car garage all on .24 acres. Just minutes to experience Putnam's Downtown, to amenities and Interstate 395. All this for \$219,900
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P.O. Box 83 447 Riverside Dr. Thompson CT
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Capron Corp. at 508-278-9191



REAL ESTATE

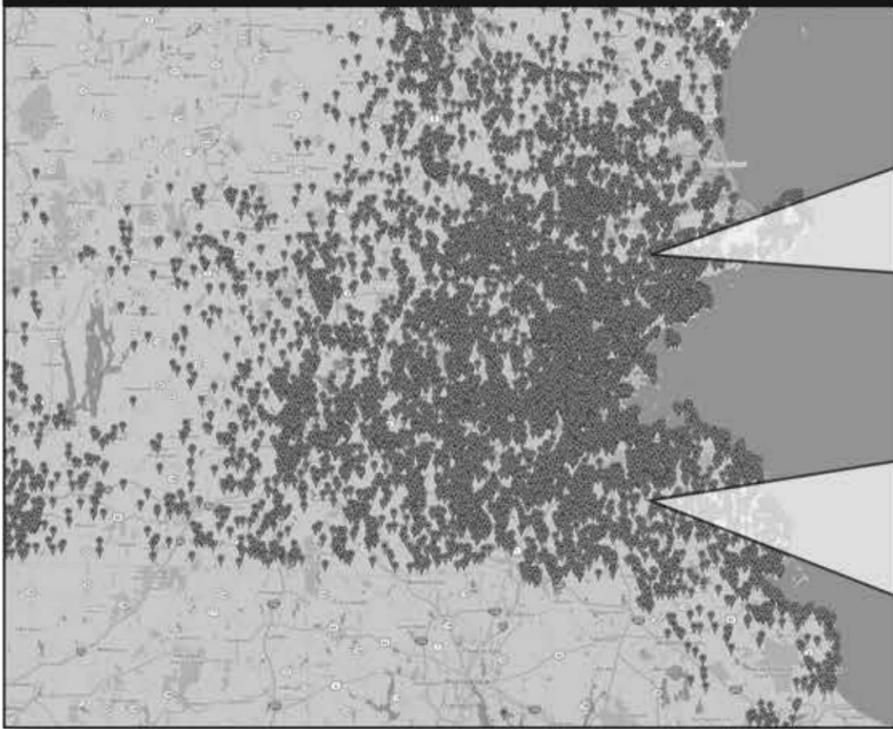
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No pressure. During your Free Window and Patio Door Diagnosis, we'll give you an exact, down-to-the-penny price that we'll honor for an entire year.

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Must call before January 6th!

SAVE \$325
on every window¹

SAVE \$700
on every patio door¹

— plus —

\$0 **0** **0%**
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payments

for 1 year¹

Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 12 months.



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*DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 1/6/2019. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get \$325 off each window and \$700 off each patio door and 12 months no money down, no monthly payments, no interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 11/24/2018 and 1/6/2019. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available only at participating locations. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2019 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2019 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *See limited warranty for details. Renewal by Andersen received the highest score in the product segment of the J.D. Power 2018 Windows and Patio Doors Satisfaction Study of customers' satisfaction with their windows and patio doors. Visit jdpower.com/awards.

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ARTICLES FOR SALE

010 FOR SALE

2 LAZY BOY LEATHER- swivel rocker recliners, beautiful rich mahogany color. Less than 1 year old, perfect condition. \$500 each. 774-280-2639

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 \$350 or best offer 508-498-0166 leave message

4 SNOW TIRES -235/50 R18 101T used 2 months- paid \$800, asking best offer. 508-414-2474

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

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

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

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

010 FOR SALE

CUBCADET SNOWBLOWER. 13hp Tecumseh OHV. 45 in. width, trigger steering, 6 FRWD, 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

FINLAND BLUE FOX JACKET: By Michael Valente Size 8, very good condition. \$100 OBO. Vintage Black American Sable Coat, sz. small \$50 OBO 508-864-4075

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

FULL LENGTH MINK COAT: Size 12. New \$2,400. Asking \$300. 508-612-9263

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

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 drawers of type, 1 lead cutting-saw, hand tool equipment, 2 steel draw cabinets. (will not sell separately) \$5,000. 508-764-4458

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 free-pedestal table w/4 chairs 508-612-6485

010 FOR SALE

NORDIC TRACK TRL625: Recumbent cycle w/stabilizing floor bar for secure balance. TREADMILL - for therapeutic fitness (walking & jogging) (for up to 400 lbs.) \$250 each both in excellent condition. 508-892-3998, 508-723-4452

REMEMBER YOUR SWEET-HEART: Collection of Victorian Era hand-painted items ALL with roses: vases, rose bowls, pitchers, chocolate pot, cake sets, planters. No reasonable offer refused. 508-237-2362 Auburn

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 Teature 1-11: 8x8 \$1075 8x10 \$1260; 8x12 \$1350; 8x16 \$1675 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

TREES/FIELDSTONE: Trees- Evergreens, Excellent Privacy Border. Hemlocks-Spruces-Pines (3-4' Tall) 5 for \$99. Colorado Blue Spruce (18"-22" Tall) 10 for \$99. New England Fieldstone Round/Flat, Excellent Retaining Wallstone. \$28/Ton (508) 278-5762 Evening

TWO USED RECLINERS, \$75 each. Dishwasher, bought new, never used, \$225 or best offer. 508-764-3567 please leave message

010 FOR SALE

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

WE'VE MOVED! Husqvarna lawn tractor, misc. home furnishings, king, queen, twin beds, lamps, etc. priced to sell! 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

VOLUNTEER NEEDED to shovel sidewalk & back porch for elderly person in Leicester during the winter. 508-868-5953, please leave message.

107 Misc. FREE

FREE TWIN BED MATTRESS AND BOX SPRING, Uxbridge. Good condition. call 508-278-6447

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

14' GREAT CANADIAN CANOE includes 2 clamp-on chair seats, 2 paddles, 2 life-vests. Excellent condition. \$425 508-885-3017

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

225 INSTRUCTIONS

Inexpensive guitar lessons in North Brookfield. \$5.00 for kids and \$10.00 adults. My lessons are 1/2 hour long on weekdays or weekends. Call or text 1-774-200-0955 or email gtroutbilly@yahoo.com.

265 FUEL/WOOD

CORD WOOD - Seasoned, cut, split, delivered. \$250 a cord. 508-826-3312, 508-344-9214

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

283 PETS

TEDDY BEAR SHICHON PUPPIES - 3 males, 2 females. Born 8-26-18. Vet checked, available 11-4-18 \$800. 401-678-9166 or 401-419-5889 or 860-315-9945

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

ROUTE 169 ANTIQUES: 884 Worcester St., Southbridge MA. Looking To Purchase Antiques And Collectibles Single Items Or Entire Estates. We Buy It All And Also Do On-Site Estate Sales And Estate Auction. We are now accepting dealers for our multi-dealer group shop. Call Mike Anytime (774)230-1662.

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

WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIRS WANTED: WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING! Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Flags, Uniforms, etc. Over 30 Years Experience. Call David 1-508-688-0847. Ill Come To YOU!

300 HELP WANTED

310 GENERAL HELP WANTED

FOSTER PARENTS WANTED: Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA To Provide Foster Care To Children In Need. 24/7 Support. Generous Reimbursement. \$1000 Sign-On Bonus. Call For Details. Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care. (508)829-6769



Medical Billing/ Data Entry - We have a full-time and part-time opening at a small medical billing company. Lytec medical billing software being used. Knowledge of CPT and ICD-9 a plus. Fax resumes to (508)347-7347

311 PART-TIME HELP WANTED

DRIVERS WANTED We are looking for non-emergency medical drivers to work in the Boston/Lowell area. We have hours available all day Monday through Sunday. Please come in and fill out an application M-F, 10-3pm @ 217 Main St., Oxford, MA

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. (800) 262-9081

400 SERVICES

433 CLEANING

HOUSE CLEANING AVAILABLE Reasonable rates. Weekly, bi-weekly or monthly times available. Bonded- Call Wendy for a FREE estimate at 774-262-9166

LINDA'S CLEANING SERVICE

Professional cleaning with a personal touch! Over 20 years of cleaning experience. Call Linda 508-341-7025

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

500 REAL ESTATE

510 COMMERCIAL/ BUSINESSES

COMMERCIAL, LIGHT INDUSTRIAL & STORAGE SPACE: 1,000 to 10,000 sq. ft. facility located in Pomfret, CT. Call Rose Construction 860-928-4072 or email rose.construction.snet.net

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 Faith, Paxton, MA. 2 LOTS FOR SALE. BUY ONE FOR \$2,500. GET 2nd LOT FOR FREE!! Call Dick. 508-612-9263

Local Heroes



FOUND HERE!

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

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

Automotive

700 AUTOMOTIVE

725 AUTOMOBILES

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

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

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

725 AUTOMOBILES

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

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

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

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

2008 NISSAN ROGUE S AWD well-maintained, runs, drives, everything works well, passed safety inspection. 126K miles. Very solid in snow. Black interior, brand-new brake pads, front & back. \$4400 774-232-9310

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

725 AUTOMOBILES

2011 SUBARU OUTBACK - 136,000 miles, great shape, regular maintenance, roof rack, trailer hitch, back-up camera. \$7500. 508-688-7666

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

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

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

F250 work truck, 2012, RWD, 71K, equipped with aluminum flatbed with fold-down sides. Recent brakes, battery, ac compressor, tires, 10 ply. Ready to work. 10,000 GVW. \$17,000 508-943-1941 or 508-320-2765

725 AUTOMOBILES

RED 1971 MUSTANG MACH 1 in good condition. 302 engine with automatic transmission. Lots of new parts. Call Eric at 508-987-2628. Serious buyers only.

740 MOTORCYCLES

1991 HARLEY DRESSER: 55,000 Miles. Runs Great! \$4,500 or Will Trade for Car of Equal Value. BASS BOAT 16 1/2ft LUND Very Good Condition! MANY EXTRAS \$3,750 O.B.O. Call for Info (508) 943-5797, Cell (508) 353-9722

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

2002 HARLEY DAVIDSON ELECTRA-GLIDE FLHT 38,340 miles, asking \$6,000 508-277-8745

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

740 MOTORCYCLES

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

Local News



FOUND HERE!

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

740 MOTORCYCLES

BMW MOTORCYCLE, rare K75 (4-stroke in-line 3 cyl motor), 1995. Mileage 10,800 (tires have about 1K wear) color: silver (#705). Asking \$5,200. Accessories: 3rd generation saddlebags with keys and insert bags, tail rack, Monoshock upgraded to YSS dialed to 250 lbs. Adjustable - all documents. Original toolset and bike manual. OEM windshield, Corbin low seat, Trickle charger, heated handgrips. This bike was stored in a garage for many years and is in like-new condition. Cruises between 60-80 with no effort and accelerates 0 to 60 in 4.5 seconds. A true 3-season miler! 508-943-1790 or ndc0001@charter.net

745 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2007 TRAVEL WILD RV Auto, White, ONLY \$8,995. Herb Chambers Toyota of Auburn, 809 Washington Street, Auburn, MA (877) 906-1649



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

5TH-WHEEL HITCH, 1 yr old, for Chevy or GMC, \$700. Chevy 5th-Wheel tailgate, good condition \$200, 5 trailer tires 235/ 80/16R on mag wheels, like new \$800 Marc 508-847-7542

760 VANS/TRUCKS

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



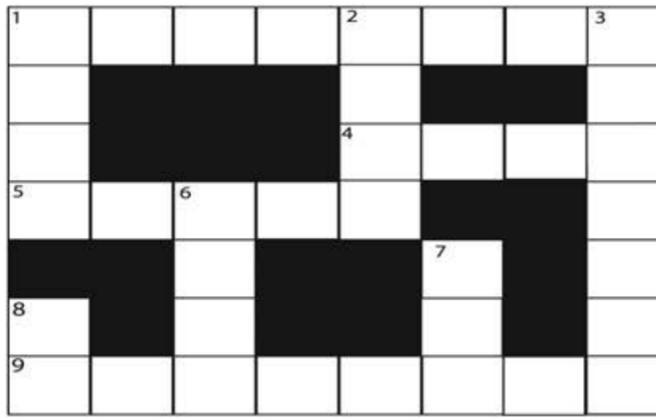
2006 Ford E150 Van, good condition. 65,952 miles. \$3,300 Call 508-765-4738 x322

765 HEAVY EQUIPMENT

1997 BOBCAT 763 skid steer loader in great condition. 1800 hours, 46hp. Auxiliary hydraulics \$2100. 617-706-6736



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Special occasions
- 4. Sports group
- 5. Have fun
- 9. Gifts

DOWN

- 1. Place to live
- 2. Task or job
- 3. Small parts to try
- 6. Gets a laugh
- 7. Move fast
- 8. Not down

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1787:** NEW JERSEY BECOMES THE THIRD STATE TO RATIFY THE U.S. CONSTITUTION.
- **1939:** THE BATTLE OF HELIGOLAND BIGHT OCCURS. IT IS THE FIRST MAJOR AIR BATTLE OF WORLD WAR II.
- **2015:** KELLINGLEY COLLIERY, THE LAST DEEP COAL MINE IN GREAT BRITAIN, CLOSES.



HEALTH FACT:
DOING THIS ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS CAN IMPROVE FEELINGS OF HAPPINESS AND MAY IMPROVE OVERALL HEALTH.

ANSWER: GIVING GIFTS

Answers:
Across
1. Home 2. Duty 3. Samples 6. Joke
Down
1. Run 8. Up



BESTOW

present a gift or honor

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Grandfather
SPANISH: Regalo
ITALIAN: Regalo
FRENCH: Cadeau
GERMAN: Geschenk

Did you know?

THE AVERAGE AMERICAN WILL SPEND AROUND \$900 ON HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR FRIENDS, FAMILY AND COWORKERS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: PRESENT



LEGALS

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
 The Wales Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., in Wales Town Offices, 3 Hollow Road, Wales, MA to consider an application for site plan review and special permit for a large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic project at 40 Sizer Drive submitted by Sunpin Holdings, LLC. A complete copy of the application and site plan may be seen in the Wales Town Offices, 3 Hollow Road, Wales, MA, 9:00am – 2:00pm, M-Th. APPLICANT: Sunpin Holdings, LLC WALES PLANNING BOARD: James Whalen, Chairman
 December 21, 2018
 December 28, 2018

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SUDOKU

2			8			4		
	7							3
4			1		2			
					1	6		
	1			4	8	3		
	5			2	3			9
9	3							
	2							5
6		5						7

Level: Intermediate

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

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

6	8	5	3	1	4	9	2	7
1	2	7	9	8	6	5	4	3
9	3	4	2	7	5	8	1	6
8	5	6	7	2	3	1	9	4
7	1	9	6	4	8	3	5	2
3	4	2	5	9	1	6	7	8
4	6	3	1	5	2	7	8	9
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HOME

Get your home fall- and winter-ready with 5 simple projects

(MS)—If boots, a warm hat and a tuned-up snow blower are the only items on your winter preparation list, your home maintenance plan may need a makeover. These simple home maintenance projects can help lower your energy bills, prevent more costly repairs and/or increase the lifespan of your home.

1. Heating & Ventilation — Examine your fireplace and chimney system to ensure that no soot or creosote has collected. Any cracks or voids could potentially cause a fire. Before you turn the furnace or boiler on, replace the air filter and hire a professional to inspect the unit more thoroughly. These steps will improve the efficiency and life of your furnace and will ensure stable indoor air quality.

2. Seal Windows and Doors — If not properly sealed, windows and doors can be a major culprit for heat loss. To keep the warm air inside, inspect the weather-stripping around your home's windows and doors for leaks, rot or decay.



Repair or replace structural framing, and caulk inside and out, if necessary.

3. Insulate well — One of the easiest and most effective defenses against heat loss is proper insulation. Prevent cold drafts

from entering and the loss of heated air through basement headers, which, when left exposed, can make your furnace work harder. Look for a moisture-resistant product offering high thermal performance, such

as Roxul Comfortbatt insulation. This type of mineral wool insulation makes installation simple. All that's needed is a serrated blade or bread knife. Cut the batt to fit the cavity and press into place. The insulation will

help improve energy efficiency as soon as it's in place and provide savings over the lifetime of your home. Comfortbatt can also be used to top or replace old attic insulation. Aim for an R-50 or a depth of 16 inches.

4. Backyard Care — Save your property from potential damage by trimming overgrown trees and shrubs to prevent ice-laden branches from thrashing against electrical wires and your home's exterior. Drain/shut off any exterior faucets and sprinkler systems to prevent freezing. Ensure rain or snow drains away from the house to avoid foundation problems.

5. Roof and Gutters — Inspect your roof for shingles that are warped, damaged or even missing to prevent a future leak. Use roofing cement and a caulking gun to seal joints where water could penetrate, such as around the chimney, skylights or vent pipes. Make sure that your gutters and downspouts are securely fastened. Downspouts should extend at least five feet away from the home to prevent flooding.

When it comes to preventative maintenance, a little time and effort can save thousands in energy costs and repair bills over the lifetime of your home.

Keep on going green this winter

Each season presents its own unique set of challenges. From summer heat waves to spring rainstorms to snowfall in winter, the planet throws a lot at its inhabitants.

Living an eco-friendly lifestyle is often simple. But sometimes the weather can make it hard to maintain a commitment to going green. Winter weather can be particularly challenging, as it can be hard to sacrifice convenience and comfort in the face of harsh weather. But there are ways to stay true to your eco-friendly roots even when winter weather is at its most unpleasant.

- Save your fireplace ashes. If your home has a fireplace that you like to cozy up next to in winter, you can make great use of the ashes left behind when the fire goes out. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, ashes from wood-burning fireplaces can be added to compost heaps. Once added, these ashes help to create a soil amendment that can deliver valuable nutrients to your garden. After each fire, collect the ashes rather than sweeping them up and discarding them. Then add the collected ashes to your compost pile when the weather permits.

- Install a programmable thermostat. If you don't already have one, install a programmable thermostat in your home. The Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy notes that homeowners can save as much as 10 percent a year on heating and cooling costs by turning their thermostats back 7° to 10° F for eight hours per day. Set the thermostat to drop 10° F when the family leaves for work and/or school in the morning, programming it to return to a more comfortable level when the family returns home at night. This saves you from sitting in a cold home

while also saving you money by making sure you are not paying to heat an empty house.

- Have your home heating system inspected before winter hits full swing. Home heating systems, including boilers and furnaces, should be inspected by a professional each year, ideally before the arrival of winter. Heating systems that are not operating at peak efficiency will cost homeowners money and waste energy. If you notice yourself frequently increasing the temperature on your thermostat just to keep your home warm and comfortable, call a local HVAC professional to inspect the system. Scheduling such an appointment prior to the arrival of winter can save you the cost and discomfort of living with an inefficient system.

- Choose an electric snowblower. Many homeowners now use snowblowers instead of shovels to remove snow from their properties. While snow shovels are the most eco-friendly snow removal tool, even the most eco-conscious homeowners recognize how snowblowers make snow removal easy and more efficient. But gas-powered snowblowers consume substantial amounts of fuel. If you must use a snowblower, choose an electric one instead of one powered by gas. Even though electric snowblowers consume electricity, the EPA notes that such products leave a smaller carbon footprint than gas-powered snowblowers because they do not emit greenhouse gases.

Harsh winter weather can make it challenging to live in an eco-friendly way. But there are many ways to withstand winter and do so in a way that does not hurt the planet.



Seeing green: How to help your lawn bounce back from winter



Winter weather, including snow, can damage lawns, leaving homeowners with some work to do when spring arrives.

Lawns are exposed to the elements throughout the year, and each season brings its own unique set of challenges. Summer heat waves can make it hard for lawns to maintain their lush green appeal, while the falling leaves of autumn can threaten root systems if not handled properly. Winter frost and snow also can pose a threat to lawns, leaving homeowners with some work to do when spring arrives.

Spring is a season of revival, and that spirit of rejuvenation extends to lawns. When the last vestiges of winter begin to disappear, homeowners can dust off their gardening gloves and start taking steps to revitalize their lawns for the months ahead.

- Look for signs of damage. Winter can be hard on lawns, so it's important for homeowners to look for signs of damage before they begin planning any spring-time landscaping projects. Salt damage can occur in areas that received heavy snowfall over the winter. Many communities use rock salt to de-ice snow- and ice-covered roads, and that rock salt is largely made up of sodium chloride, which can draw moisture from grass and cause it to brown. Salt trucks used during winter storms often spit salt out onto lawns, so don't be surprised if you notice brown spots on your grass, especially in those areas closest to the road. Winter lawn damage may also be caused by voles, burrowing mouse-like rodents that make paths beneath the snow to hide from predators and feed on grass blades and roots. Lawns with distinctly matted areas may also have been damaged by snow mold that can weaken turf.

- Consult a professional landscaper. Homeowners with considerable experience tending to damaged lawns can no doubt identify and address problems on

their own. That's because many problems are a result of the weather, which tends to be similar and produce similar problems from one year to the next. But inexperienced homeowners should consult professional landscapers before attempting to address problems on their own. Winter lawn damage may be caused by a variety of factors that can produce similar symptoms, and professional landscapers can identify the culprits behind such damage and provide the most effective solutions to restore the lawn.

- Remove debris. A light raking can help remove any debris that accumulated over the winter. Such debris, which may include fallen branches and fallen leaves left behind from the final days of fall, can prevent lawns from getting the sun and water they need to thrive. Remove this debris, but make sure the grass is not frozen when you do, as walking on frozen grass can cause further damage.

- Let the grass grow. Mowing the lawn is a chore that's reserved for spring, summer and maybe early fall, but it's important that homeowners don't jump the gun and mow too early after winter. A patient approach allows the grass to reestablish itself, so let it grow a little higher than you normally would before the first cut. When the grass is roughly 4.5 inches high, you can cut it down to three inches and then maintain your normal mowing routine throughout the rest of spring and summer.

Revitalizing lawns in springtime is a priority for many homeowners, who should always consult landscaping professionals if they feel uncertain about addressing any damage they discover during their post-winter lawn inspections.



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<p>2017 JEEP PATRIOT SUV #H0456R • LATITUDE TRIM, 4X4, HEATED SEATS, 17" ALLOYS NEW Retail Price: \$25,890 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$16,799 SAVE \$9,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2009 FORD FOCUS SE #118358Z • IPOD INPUT, ALLOYS, 35 MPG HWY/24 MPG CITY NEW Retail Price: \$17,535 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$5,999 SAVE \$11,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 HYUNDAI ELANTRA #H8550A • GT HATCHBACK, HEATED SEATS, 17" ALLOYS NEW Retail Price: \$22,305 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$8,988 SAVE \$13,300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>
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<p>LIKE NEW 2015 CHEVY TAHOE LTZ SUV #39145 NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$63,400 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$45,444 SAVE \$18,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE! Moonroof, Navigation, DVD, 4x4, Heated Leather, MyLink, 20" Alloys.</p>	<p>LIKE NEW 2015 RAM 1500 EXPRESS CREW CAB #H0552 NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$39,585 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$27,999 SAVE \$11,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE! Bedliner, 20" Alloys, iPod Input, 4x4, 5.7L V8 Hemi, Tow Hitch.</p>	<p>LIKE NEW 2017 HYUNDAI SANTA FE ULTIMATE #H01094 NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$40,335 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,799 SAVE \$13,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE! Sport 2.0L Turbo Trim, Moonroof, Heated Leather, Alloys, Navigation.</p>

SALE ENDS 12/26/18. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNT OR PROMOTION AND MUST USE DEALER SOURCE FINANCING. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY. SEE US FOR DETAILS. NEW RETAIL PRICE BASED ON MSRP OF NEW MODELS. NOT VALID WITH PRIOR SALES. SELLING PRICE INCLUDING OUR \$1,000 IMPERIAL TRADE ASSISTANCE BONUS FOR A QUALIFYING 2007 OR NEWER TRADES. SEE US FOR DETAILS. ADVERTISED PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE TAX, TITLE, REGISTRATION OR DOCUMENTATION FEE. VEHICLE MUST BE PAID IN FULL AND TAKE SAME DAY DELIVERY. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS. CALL 1-800-526-AUTO TO SEE WHICH INCENTIVES YOU QUALIFY FOR.

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