

JAMES J. OSTROMECKY, D.D.S.
Patient Focused, Family Operated Dentistry

We wish our patients, staff, friends, family, and community a safe and happy holiday season. May you have peace and good health in 2019!

James J. Ostromecky DDS and Staff
48 Pleasant St., Spencer, MA 01562 • 508-885-6366

Ear, Nose & Throat ASSOCIATES
Christopher C. Charon, MD
American Board of Otolaryngology
American Medical Association

Comprehensive, thorough & experienced care for:

- Sinus Problems
- Allergies, including food and environmental
- Hearing problems & tinnitus
- Snoring & sleep difficulties/disorders
- Dizziness & balance problems
- Nasal Polyp, blockage & drainage
- Postnasal drip
- Ear pain & infection
- Inner-ear problems
- Tonsillitis
- Chronic cough
- Head, neck & thyroid masses

246 Southbridge Road (Lower Level), Charlton, MA 01507
(844) 434-9468 Visit us on the web at: ENT-DOCS.com

Same-day appointments available
Insurance accepted & filed. Medicare accepted. Visa & MasterCard welcome.

SPENCER NEW LEADER

Free by request to residents of East Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield, Brookfield, Leicester and Spencer

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO MyNewLeader@StoneBridgePress.news

Friday, December 21, 2018



Kevin Flanders photo.
Massachusetts State Troopers Tim Harrington, left, and Michael Lokitis are helping families in need this holiday season.

Troopers step up to help local families

BROOKFIELD – State Police troopers once again teamed up with the local food pantry to help brighten the holiday season for several families.

Troopers from the State Police C3 barracks in town stopped by St. Mary’s Church on Dec. 15, distributing food and toys to families in need. Troopers worked with State Representative Donald Berthiaume three years ago to organize the first distribution event, and it has quickly become a department tradition.

Berthiaume joined Troopers Tim Harrington and Michael Lokitis on Dec. 15. Food and toys are purchased throughout the year by the department, and the troopers always enjoy handing them out. In a season when families often have a difficult time paying for Christmas gifts, every donation

makes a large impact.

“This is a great way for the barracks to give back to the community. They help in so many ways throughout the year,” Berthiaume said.

State Police troopers also assist the Angels and Backpacks program, which helps provide food and supplies for students throughout the state.

On Dec. 15, a line of eager residents formed in advance of the troopers’ arrival. The Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry typically sees the greatest demand during the winter months, especially the holiday season.

“These people are so appreciative of everything that is being done to help them,” said Louise Woodard, a volunteer with the Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry.

Resident given until Jan. 2 to clean property

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD – After a lengthy court battle, a judge has ordered a resident to clean up his properties by next month to avoid facing additional penalties.

The state’s Land Court recently found John David Holdcraft to be in contempt of a previous order requiring him to clean up his properties at 90 Lake Road and 26 Allen Road. The court has given Holdcraft until January to finish the cleanup.

A video taken on Sept. 7 showed bathtubs, tarps, awnings, a car battery, lumber, a safe, and other items strewn on the ground at the 90 Lake Road property. Another video taken on the same day at 26 Allen Road revealed a boat trailer, a car carrier, several lawn mowers, a stove, pipes, tarps, and plywood leaning against a truck. Additionally, two unregistered trucks are located on the Allen Road property.

The court had previously ordered that all junk and salvage materials be removed from the two properties by Aug. 31.

In a statement outlining his decision, Judge Howard Speicher dismissed Holdcraft’s testi-

Turn To **RESIDENT**, page **A3**

Keeping guns off the streets by trading them in

LEICESTER – In the ultimate win-win situation, police are keeping guns off the street and assisting the community with shopping needs during the holiday season.

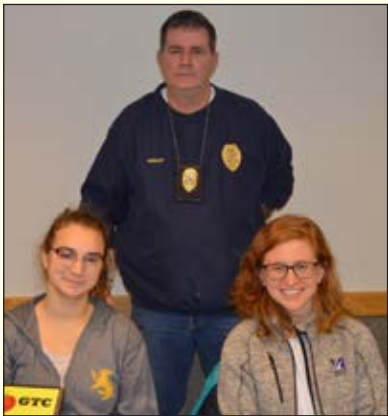
For the fifth straight year, the Leicester Police Department teamed up with the UMass Memorial Medical Center’s Injury Prevention Center in the Goods for Guns program. Held on Dec. 15 at the police station, residents were able to exchange their unwanted

firearms for grocery store gift cards.

Several categories of guns were available for collection, including rifles, BB guns, handguns, semiautomatic weapons, and even replica firearms. The police department also accepted unwanted ammo, gun parts, bump stocks, firearm accessories, and knives.

Although regulations allow the

Turn To **GUNS**, page **A6**



Kevin Flanders photo.
Leicester Police Chief James Hurley works with UMass Medical School students Chrissy Grech, left, and Anna Klouda to run the fifth annual Goods for Guns program in town.

All marijuana processes put on hold while investigation proceeds

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Police are seeking answers following allegations of illegal activities at recent events hosted by a company hoping to grow medical marijuana in town.

Reliable Bud, LLC, which is proposing to run a medical marijuana

cultivation facility at 21 West Main St., has hosted promotional and networking events this year at Spencer Fairgrounds and the Knights of Columbus. Following up on multiple complaints of illegal sales of marijuana taking place between vendors and guests at the events, Selectman Warren Monette recent-

ly attended a program held at the Knights of Columbus and witnessed transactions.

Monette said he saw at least five exchanges of money for marijuana while he was at the event. He contacted police and Town Administrator

Turn To **POT**, page **A19**

Legion making plans to celebrate centennial

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – The American Legion will reach the centennial mark next year, and veterans from throughout the area plan to celebrate in style.

The American Legion Gaudette-Kirk Post 138 in Spencer is preparing several centennial celebration activities for June 15, 2019. Not only will the daylong program commemorate the national American Legion anniversary, but also the 100th year of existence for Post 138.

“This will be a great opportunity for

members of our community to celebrate the anniversary. We have many excellent activities planned,” said Scott Conner, a member of Post 138 for over 20 years.

The American Legion traces its roots back to March of 1919 in Paris, France. In the aftermath of World War I, the American Legion was federally chartered on Sept. 16, 1919. The organization quickly became an influential force at the national, state and local levels, serving all veterans and their families.

Only a year after it was formed, the

American Legion had already chartered more than 5,400 local posts that continue to operate today. In the following years, the organization has expanded to include over 13,000 posts around the world, with more than 2.2 million veteran members.

For local veterans and their families, it’s exciting to plan for June 15. A parade will kick off the day, starting at David Prouty High School and continuing down Route 9 until it reaches the Highway Department complex.

After the parade, a family fun day

will be held at Spencer Fairgrounds. Events will include military displays, live music, games and competitions for guests of all ages, vendor booths, food vendors, and several additional activities.

“We came up with this idea a few years ago, and we are looking forward to a great day,” Conner added.

The American Legion has seen several major accomplishments since its establishment, including helping

Turn To **LEGION**, page **A6**

Ways to improve downtown North Brookfield goal of committee

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Following the recent establishment of a Downtown Development Committee, officials are studying ways to improve the town center.

The committee will work closely with selectmen,

the Architectural Heritage Foundation, the Friends of the North Brookfield Town House, and the Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) to assess grant options. The committee’s goal is to secure funds to improve the downtown district for residents and attract new busi-

nesses to North Brookfield.

“A number of grant opportunities are available for downtown improvement. It’s important for us to come up with a plan for the overall development of downtown, including the Town House renovation,” said Selectman Dale Kiley.

The Downtown Development Committee will hold meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month. Meetings will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the community room of the police station. Attendees will include town officials and representatives of the CMRPC, a state agency dedicated to helping

small towns that lack the resources to fund their own economic development boards. CMRPC personnel will work with North Brookfield officials to implement strategies for meeting redevelopment goals.

After watching the success of Spencer’s recent downtown

Turn To **COMMITTEE**, page **A18**

Holiday Messages & Christmas Wishes from Your Local Businesses

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
to all my customers & friends!



CENTURY 21
NORTH EAST

I am all about my clients.

Dorrinda O'Keefe-Shea, Realtor®
CDPE, Notary Public
270 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562
109 West Street, Ware, MA 01082
c: 978-434-1990 e: dorrinda@c21lovet.com
www.DorrindaSellsHomes.com

Specializing in
Residential, Commercial, Multi-family, & Land Sales!
Thinking of buying or selling? Call me!

Dance through the holidays
like no one is watching.

Merry Christmas
from all of us at



**DANCE
TECHNIQUES**

dance-techniques.com
62 Wall Street, Spencer

Wishing Everyone A Very Merry Christmas
and Healthy New Year!

Warm regards, Kelly Chisholm and her staff at



HAIR • SKIN • NAILS

125 Main Street • Spencer, MA 01562
508.885.6861
www.finallykellys.com

DAVE'S APPLIANCE
INCORPORATED

Merry Christmas & Happy New
Year to our customers & friends



Thank you
for your
business in
2018!

42 W. Main St. Brookfield, MA
508.867.3122

Happy Holidays 2018



Lisa Caron, Realtor
GRI, ABR, LMC, CDPE, SRS,
PSA, SRES, Notary Public

c: 508.341.8299

42 W. Main St. • Brookfield, MA 01506
caronlisarick@aol.com • lisacaron.com

Happy
& Healthy
Holidays

from
all of us at



Quaboag
REHABILITATION &
SKILLED CARE CENTER

47 E. Main Street
W. Brookfield, MA 01585
508.867.7716

Quaboagonthecommon.com

Merry Christmas
and a Happy and
Healthy New Year
to All



Office: (508) 909-4062
Fax: (508) 765-0233

25 Elm St
PO Box 90
Southbridge, MA 01550

June Simakauskas
Advertising Executive

jsima@stonebridgepress.news
508local.com

WOODY'S
Auto Body

Thank you to all of our customers for letting
us service your vehicles this past year.
May you all have a wonderful
Christmas &
Happy New Year

Sean, Cheryl,
& Mike

324 Main St., Spencer, MA
p: 774.745.8323
f: 774.745.8324
woodysautocollisionrepair.net

A Merry JEEP-er's Christmas and
Happy New Year –
from the
Guzik family!



**Guzik Motor
Sales, Inc.**

E. Main St.,
Rtes. 9 & 32, Ware
Just Over the West Brookfield Line
413-967-4210 or 800-793-2078 www.guzikmotors.com

Jeep RAM

Peace
and
JOY
this Holiday Season

to our customers and friends.
Thank you for your business in 2018!
Ron, Bob, And Chris

Barnes Enterprises

272 W. Main St. (Rt. 9) E. Brookfield, MA 01515
508-867-7413

View Inventory at www.GetAuto.com

**The
Trolley
Stop**

EST. 1981

Family owned & operated for 38 years
Breakfast & Lunch Daily Specials
Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year from all of us at
**The Trolley Stop. Thank you for your
patronage this year!**

The White Family

~ OPEN 7 DAYS ~
Hours: Mon-Fri 6am-1:30pm | Sat & Sun 6am-noon
284 East Main Street
East Brookfield, MA 01515 | 508-867-5995

MILLER STUMP GRINDING



ALB Certified
Fully Insured

Happy Holidays from
Rod & Nick

**FREE QUOTES
REASONABLE RATES
PROMPT SERVICE**

ROD MILLER • NICK MILLER OWNERS / OPERATORS
508-688-2159

PEPIN
WASTE SERVICE

Your Local Roll-Off Specialist

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year from
our family to yours

Leo & Chantelle Pepin

508-892-4193 • 508-769-6603

Leicester, MA
Fully Insured

Wishing everyone Happy Holidays &
a Happy & Prosperous New Year!

**SPENCER
FAMILY DENTAL**

Gentle Caring
State of the Art Dentistry
For The Whole Family
In-house dental insurance available

Dr. Nasser S. Hanna
"Practicing The Fine Art Of Dentistry"

508-885-5511

Conveniently Located On Route 9
(On The Way To Worcester!)
At 284 Main St., Spencer

Wishing all of our
customers & friends many
blessings this holiday season.
Thank you for your support
this past year.

**Cormier Jewelers
& ART GALLERY**

136 Main Street • Spencer • 508-885-3385
www.cormierspencer.com

Family owned & operated for 70 years

Black & White
GRILLE

PIZZERIA & ICE CREAM

We had a great 2018 thanks to our
wonderful customers.
Merry Christmas
& thank you to all!

206 NORTH SPENCER ROAD
SPENCER, MA 01562
(508) 885-5018
blackandwhitegrille.com

Wishing you Peace, Love
& Joy this Holiday Season



Spencer Yoga Home
HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

Yoga for all levels, all ages and
all abilities welcome!

Call or check website for gift packages & options.
117 Main St., 3rd Floor • 508-769-7050
www.SpencerYogaHome.com

We hope you have a wonderful
holiday season and a safe and
happy new year!



508-885-4477
322 Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562

Sheena's
Salon & Spa

Sheena Toscano
Owner/Stylist

SheenasSalonandSpa.com

hair | nails | lashes | waxing | skincare | facials | massage

Wishing you a wonderful
holiday season!

A.F. TOSCANO
ELECTRICAL SERVICES, INC.

774-272-1519
SPENCER, MA

Residential & Commercial Contracting
Hazardous Location Specialist

find us on Facebook

Tony Toscano
Owner

Maria's Sewing
Alterations & More

Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year
to my friends &
customers. Thank you
for your trust and
business in 2018.

Look forward to seeing you in 2019!

Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-2pm
508-885-4281

3 Mechanic St., Spencer, MA 01562

Happy holidays to our customers
& friends from all of us at

**DIPPIN'
DONUTS**

FRESH HOMEMADE
DONUTS & PASTRIES!

EVERYDAY AFTER 4PM
DOZEN DONUTS
\$5.00 • 1/2 doz. \$3.00

1181 Main Street, Leicester, MA 508-892-1506
5am-8pm • 7 days ~ Breakfast & lunch

292 Main Street, Spencer, MA 508-885-7400
4:30am-10pm • 7 days ~ Breakfast only

Like us on Facebook!

**Holly Jolly
HOLIDAY**

Happy Holidays

from
all of us at



508-868-4291

MDPU# 31690
USDOT# 2407387
MC# 828326

CALL US TODAY 508-868-4291

**EAST BROOKFIELD
PIZZA**

Open 7 Days at 11am
508-867-8777

289 E. Main St.
E. Brookfield, MA
01515

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
& thank you for
your business!**

It's been a pleasure
to serve you in
2018!

GIFT CERTIFICATES
AVAILABLE

How to Use

A STONEBRIDGE PRESS
PUBLICATION

STAFF DIRECTORY

PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
(508) 909-4101
frank@stonebridgepress.news

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
(603) 677-9082
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DINICOLA
(508) 764-4325

EDITOR
RUTH DEAMICIS
(508) 909-4130
ruth@stonebridgepress.news

ADVERTISING MANAGER
JEAN ASHTON
(508) 909-4104
jean@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
(508) 909-4105
production@stonebridgepress.news

The Spencer New Leader (USPS#024-927) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, Inc., 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical Postage paid at Southbridge, MA 01550.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Spencer New Leader, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

A Real Keeper



PHOTO REPRINTS AVAILABLE

Call Stonebridge Press for details 508-764-4325
or drop us an email at
photos@stonebridgepress.com

SPENCER NEW LEADER

OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
8:30AM-4:30PM

TO PLACE A RETAIL AD:

ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE
JUNE SIMAKAUSKAS
(508) 909-4062
jsima@stonebridgepress.news

TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:

E-MAIL:
jean@stonebridgepress.news

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:

KERRI PETERSON
(508) 909-4103
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

TO SUBMIT CALENDAR OR
OUR TOWNS ITEMS:
E-MAIL:
ruth@stonebridgepress.news

TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO
THE EDITOR OR SOUND OFF:
E-MAIL:
ruth@stonebridgepress.news

TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD:
(800) 536-5836
Classifieds@stonebridgepress.news

TO FAX US:
(508) 764-8015

STAFF DIRECTORY

MANAGING EDITOR
RUTH DEAMICIS
(508) 909-4130
ruth@stonebridgepress.news

STAFF WRITER
KEVIN FLANDERS
(508) 909-4140
kflanders@stonebridgepress.com

SPORTS EDITOR
NICK ETHIER
(508) 909-4133
sports@stonebridgepress.com

ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE
JUNE SIMAKAUSKAS
(508) 909-4062
jsima@stonebridgepress.news

STONEBRIDGE PRESS PHOTO POLICY
As a community oriented family of newspapers, Stonebridge Press welcomes photos from readers, business owners, and other outside sources for publication in any of its titles. Any photos submitted for publication become the property of Stonebridge Press, and may be displayed in our newspapers, as well as on our Web site. They may also be made available for resale, with any proceeds going to Stonebridge Press and/or the photo re-print vendor.

Dangerous stretch of Route 49 claims another



SPENCER – A fiery wreck on Route 49 last week left one person dead and two others seriously injured.

Cole Victor, age 25, of Spencer, was killed on Dec. 14 after his 2012 Buick Regal sedan crossed the center line and struck an oncoming pickup truck around

9:30 p.m. The Buick sedan was owned by Victor’s girlfriend, Toni Doldo, age 23, of Spencer, who was a passenger in the vehicle. Doldo was transported to the hospital with serious injuries.

The driver of the 2012 Toyota Tacoma pickup truck, Erik Anderson, age 40, of Spencer, was also taken to the hospital with serious injuries.

Route 49 was closed for nearly five hours to allow for the police investigation and roadway cleanup. The preliminary investigation indicates that Victor’s northbound vehicle strayed into the southbound lane and struck Anderson’s truck head-on.

Several motorists stopped after the accident and helped Anderson escape his burning vehicle, police



A Spencer man was killed last week in a head-on collision on Route 49.

said. Officers from Spencer EMS and Spencer and East Brookfield Fire Departments. The investigation of the wreck, along with Spencer wreck is ongoing.

SPENCER NEW LEADER

ACCURACY WATCH

The Spencer New Leader is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur.

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

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4130 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor’s voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

Spencer area services

Mary Queen of the Rosary

December 24th: 4:00 pm and 10:00 pm with a 20-minute musical prelude prior to each Mass

December 25th: 10:00 am

Town clerk planning ahead

Thinking of running for office? Nomination papers will be available at the town clerk’s office beginning Feb. 5.

On May 14, the town of Spencer will be electing the following town officials:

Office	Term of Office
Selectman: 3 years (2 seats)	
Treasurer: 1 year (to complete a term)	
Assessor: 3 years	
SEBRSD Spencer Rep: 3 years (two seats)	
Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District Committee: 3	
Water Commissioner: 3 years	
Park Commissioner: 3 years	
Library Trustee: 3 years	
Library Trustee: 1 (to fill a vacancy)	
Board of Health: 3 years	
Housing Authority: 5 years	
Sewer Commissioner: 3 years	
Constable: 3 years (three seat)	

LIBRARY CORNER

Richard Sugden Library
8 Pleasant Street
(508) 885-7513
spencerpubliclibrary.org

Open Monday and Thursday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed Saturday and Sunday.
December 24 & 25: Library will be closed.

December 20

Community Connections hosts Cozy Corner, a literacy program for infants-age 5 from 10:00-11:00 am. These free programs are provided by a grant through the Department of Early Education and Care.

PROGRAMS

Checkout the library website: www.SpencerPublicLibrary.org for information on free programs for children, teen and adults. Come read as well as enter raffles, and have fun with us!

The Library also has discount passes to the Worcester Ecotarium, Worcester Art Museum, Old Sturbridge Village, Tower Hill Botanical Garden, and free parking passes to Massachusetts State kParks.

NEW LEADER NOTES

MITTEN TREE

The Mitten Tree at town hall is still up and you can help decorate it any time the Spencer Town Hall is open Monday-Wednesday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Thursday 7:30 a.m.-noon. The hats, gloves, mittens and scarves will be given to children in the Spencer East Brookfield Regional School District.

RESIDENT

continued from page 1

mony that the trucks are backup vehicles for his business. The judge also dismissed Holdcraft’s claims that many of the items are not junk but instead personal use items or lawn ornaments.

“I find that Mr. Holdcraft signed the [previous] agreement for judgment knowing he either could not or did not intend to comply with its requirements for removal of junk and salvage by August 31, 2018,” Speicher wrote in his statement.

If the cleanup work is not completed by Jan. 2, the court will assess fines of \$100 per day for each property. Judge Speicher also awarded Brookfield approximately \$6,000 in attorneys’ fees and other legal costs.

“Having found that there was clear and undoubted disobedience by Mr. Holdcraft of a clear and unequivocal command, I find and rule that Mr. Holdcraft is liable in contempt to the plaintiff for \$5,922.44 in attorneys’ fees,” Speicher wrote.

Town officials hope the court’s

2.65%^{APY*} 25-MONTH CD

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

WORRY-FREE EARNINGS WITH OUR LIMITED TIME CD

We’ve got you.

Let’s talk. 888.599.2265 | southbridgecu.com

Southbridge credit union

*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APY effective as of 11/27/2018. Annual percentage yield assumes interest remains on deposit until maturity and that any withdrawal will reduce earnings. Early withdrawal penalties and fees may apply. Minimum balance required to open this account and earn the APY is \$500. At maturity the CD renews to a 24-month term. Early withdrawal penalty may be imposed. Membership to SCU requires a one-time interest-earning deposit of \$5.00 in a prime share account. Equal Opportunity Employer. Federally insured by NCUA. NMLS #616673

“Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper”

Professional Directory

ADVERTISING

MASSAGE THERAPY

To advertise on this page, call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news

PEPIN WASTE SERVICE

Your Local Roll-Off Specialist

Weekend Special \$275

10 yd. Rental 1 Ton
3 sizes available. Call for pricing.

Roll Off Containers

Weekend Dumpsters for the Homeowner
Houses • Attics • Cellars
Construction Sites

10-15-20 Yd.
508-892-4193 • 508-769-6603
Leicester, MA
Fully Insured

It's Happening in THE last green valley™

Give the Gift of Membership!

Join us all year for hikes, paddles and much more as we work with you to enjoy, care for and pass on The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor!

860-774-3300 ~ thelastgreenvalley.org

Countryside Garage Doors

430 Main St., Oxford, MA

We repair all makes and models of Garage Doors and Electronic Openers • Broken Springs Replacement Sections • Broken Cable Remote problems

8x7-9x7 Steel 2 Sided Insulated Garage Door

r-value 9.65 Inc, standard hardware & track, 8 color & 3 panel design options

\$610 INCLUDES INSTALLATION

Liftmaster 1/2 hp Chain Drive 7 ft. Opener

\$310 INCLUDES INSTALLATION

Price matching available on all written quotes

Sales • Service • Installation

800-605-9030 508-987-8600
Visa/Master Card Accepted

North Brookfield Savings Bank honors employees for years of service

NORTH BROOKFIELD — North Brookfield Savings Bank recently hosted their annual employee appreciation event at the Publick House in Sturbridge. At the event, North Brookfield Savings Bank honored employees who reached special anniversaries with the bank by presenting them with Years of Service awards and a gift. This year, employees ranged from having 5 to 10 years of service, and over 40 years of service total.

Every year, North Brookfield Savings Bank recognizes and rewards employees for their dedication to the Bank and for the outstanding service they provide. The following North Brookfield Savings Bank employees received Years of Service Awards in 2018.

5 Years of Service

Jay Jil, senior vice president and chief information officer

Mary Margaret O'Shea, loan servicing clerk

Jennifer Plassmann, branch manager

Rachael Slozak, assistant branch manager

10 Years of Service

Jennifer Berthiaume, operations customer service

Donna Boulanger, president and chief executive officer

"These employees display their dedication to our customers and the Bank's overall success every day. North



Shown left to right are Three Rivers Assistant Branch Manager Rachael Slozak, Loan Servicing Clerk MaryMargaret O'Shea, Operations Customer Service Jennifer Berthiaume, Palmer Branch Manager Jennifer Plassmann, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer Jay Jil along with President and CEO Donna Boulanger.

Brookfield Savings Bank thanks them for their commitment and congratulates them for reaching their Years of Service milestones," said Boulanger. "We are very happy to have them as a part of our team."

North Brookfield Savings Bank is a mutual savings bank with full-service branches in North Brookfield, East Brookfield, West Brookfield, Ware, Belchertown, Palmer, and Three Rivers Village of Palmer. NBSB offers a wide variety of deposit and loan products for individuals and businesses throughout central and western Massachusetts and has been a steadfast supporter of the communities in which it serves since 1854. North Brookfield Savings Bank is a 2018 Banking Choice 1st place award recipient in all categories including overall quality, customer service, technology and tools, and community contribution. All deposits are insured by the FDIC and the Depositors Insurance Fund. For additional information, please call 1-866-711-6272 or visit us online at www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

11 12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20 21

22 23 24

25 26 27 28 29

30 31

32 33 34 35 36 37

38 39 40 41 42

43 44

45 46

47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

55 56 57 58

59 60 61

62 63 64

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

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

PUZZLE SOLUTION

D O S E V M R D E R

H L I H C D N O D E B V

R V B V B N I D V H O D

N O H V V V W V E V T V

S R N E L V M V

Z E A E T S O T R V C

D E T S V O T D M I

V A T N A T V N O T

V M S V N I R V Z C

R E N O I H S I R V P

S V C I R E M V

V D E T A E R H L R V E

C O M B E A E V R C C V

T R V E R V T E I R V B

V T E P T S B V L S

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.

P.A.L. of the Week

Sponsored by Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

Name: Smores

Breed: DSH

Sex: Female

Age: Adult

I'm a sweet, retired cat mama that enjoys quiet afternoons lounging in the sun and occasionally tossing around a soft mouse toy. I definitely enjoy the quiet, but I'm not afraid of vocalizing my affection for you when I want attention. If you're looking for a beautiful cat that you can treat like a queen, I'm your girl!

People for Animals League
www.people4animals.org
Spencer MA • 774-745-8041

Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

1205 Main St. Leicester, MA 01524
P:508-892-9181 • F: 508-892-8791
www.leicesterclinic.com

Wellness exams • Vaccinations • Cat Boarding
Spays, neuters and routine soft tissue surgery
Dentistry • Radiology (Digital)
In-house diagnostic laboratory facilities (Idexx)
• Pharmacy
• Prescription diets Hills, Royal Canin
• Domestic health certificates and much more!

Dr. Colm P. Scanlon
Veterinarian

DURKIN & SONS Trucking Co.

Trash Removal
Weekly Pickups
Cleanouts
~ Reliable ~

www.durkintrucking.com
Spencer
508-885-4499

SERVE!
CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

www.StonebridgePress.com

Annual Harrington Auxiliary holiday event includes program



Members of the Harrington Auxiliary mingling before the luncheon.

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

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 founded in 1932, one year after the Harrington Memorial Hospital opened its doors. The Auxiliary comprises dedicat-



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

ed 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.

Area fire departments honor fallen firefighter



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

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 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 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 services 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.

AMERICA'S ORIGINAL BUTCHER

OMAHA STEAKS

SINCE 1917

Give a little

TENDERNESS®

and SAVE 75%* on Omaha Steaks

30 GOURMET ITEMS!

The Family Gourmet Feast

2 (5 oz.) Filet Mignons

2 (5 oz.) Top Sirloins

2 (4 oz.) Boneless Pork Chops

4 Boneless Chicken Breasts (1 lb. pkg.)

4 (3 oz.) Kielbasa Sausages

4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers

4 (3 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin

4 (4 oz.) Caramel Apple Tartlets

Omaha Steaks Seasoning Packet

55586RRM | \$199.99* separately

Combo Price \$49⁹⁹

ORDER NOW & SAVE 75%

Plus get 4 more Burgers

FREE

1-877-629-7025 ask for 55586RRM

www.OmahaSteaks.com/cheer86

*Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. Limit 2 55586 pkgs. Your 4 free burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes 55586. Standard S&H will be added per address. Flat rate shipping and reward cards and codes cannot be used with this offer. Not valid with other offers. Expires 2/28/19. All purchases acknowledge acceptance of Omaha Steaks, Inc. Terms of Use and Privacy Policy. Visit omahasteaks.com/terms-of-useOSI and omahasteaks.com/info/privacy-policy or call 1-800-228-9872 for a copy. ©2018 OCG | Omaha Steaks, Inc. | 18M1531

4 POTATOES AU GRATIN

4 APPLE TARTLETS

2 FILET MIGNONS

2 PORK CHOPS

2 TOP SIRLOINS

4 BONELESS CHICKEN BREASTS

4 KIELBASA SAUSAGES

4 OMAHA STEAKS BURGERS

CLASSROOM CORNER

Leicester schools to undergo review

During the week of Jan. 24, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Office of Public School Monitoring will conduct a Tiered Focused Monitoring Review of Leicester Public Schools.

The Office of Public School Monitoring visits each district and charter school every three years to monitor compliance with federal and state special education and civil rights regulations. Areas of review related to special education

include student assessments, determination of eligibility, the Individualized Education Program Team process, and IEP development and implementation. Areas of review related to civil rights include bullying, student discipline, physical restraint, and equal access to school programs for all students.

In addition to the onsite visit, parent outreach is an important part of the review process. The review chairperson from the Office of Public

School Monitoring will send all parents of students with disabilities an online survey that focuses on key areas of their child's special education program. Survey results will contribute to the development of a report. During the onsite review, the Office of Public School Monitoring will interview the chairperson(s) of the district's Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC). Other onsite activities may include interviews of district staff and adminis-

trators, reviews of student records, and onsite observations.

Parents and other individuals may call Sandra Hanig, Public School Monitoring Chairperson, at (781) 338- 6707 to request a telephone interview. If an individual requires an accommodation, such as translation, to participate in an interview, the Department will make the necessary arrangements.

Within approximately 60 business days after the onsite

visit, the review chairperson will provide the Leicester Public Schools with a report with information about areas in which the Leicester Public Schools meets or exceeds regulatory requirements and areas in which the Leicester Public Schools requires assistance to correct or improve practices. The public will be able to access the report at www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/.

LEICESTER MEMORIAL SCHOOL ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

The following students have earned a place on the honor roll for the first term at Leicester Memorial School.

GRADE 3

High Honors: Matthew Alves, Trevor Binley, Brady Bouchard, Kaylynn Bowen, Jude Campbell, Stella Entwistle, Stephen Giaquinto, Haylee Kularski, Charlotte Mercer, Kameron Monroe, Ryan Quercia, Ryan Sweeney

Honors: Ethan Ablorh, Jack Albro, Brody Arnberg, Russell Baker, Rory Barrett, Kennedy Bates, Emma Bernabei, Collin Burt, Jaylin Campbell, Camden Chipman, Sawyer Collins, Shayla Cooper, Zachary Couture, Anaiah Fuller, Allison Gagne, Nevaeh Hagenbuch, Alyssa Klem, Sarah Kozlowski, Matthew Kristel, Joseph Kulla, William Loosemore, Michael Lupien, Zachary Macedo, Alena

Martinkova, Julianna McCormick, Kyah McDowell, Trinity Medeiros, Max Milionis, Trevor Moorghen, Nikolai Ngo, Brandon Nguyen, Devin O'Brien, Katherine Ozarowski, Alivia Perry, Alana Phan, Katarzyna Piascik, John Renzoni, Pedro Rivera, Michael Rodgers, Kelvin Rodriguez, Kaiden Seda, Desmond Strom, Nicholas Stuart, Shane Stuart, Andy Vuong, Lillian Warner, Jayke Williams, Jameson Wood

GRADE 4

High Honors: Sierra LaCroix, Ryder Mandella, Kaydi Marttila, Gianna Panepinto, Hannah Spratt, Mary Van Hazinga

Honors: Brady Bates, Karsyn Bulak, Alexa Butler, Andrew Carpenter, Braiden Chumsae, Kelsey Cole, John Coleman, Margaret Dillon, Tristyn

Doan, Lena Dolen, Alexander Fournier, Taylor Gallant, Kenneth Lane, Jeremy Ledbetter, Arianna Lemerise, Luke Marjault, Valerie Maynard, Joshua McCormick, Kaidyn McDowell, Ryan Myotte, Justin Nguyen, Madden O'Brien, Laila Paquin, Ava Petruzzi, Irelyn Pottle, Sofia Renzoni, Taylor Rodrigue, Madalyn Rose, Michael Saari, Antoinette Taylor, Harrison Thompson, Abigail Valinski, Casey Waterman, Ainsley Whittemore, Leo Whittemore, Sabrina Wright

GRADE 5

High Honors: Tomas Acero, Avery Bullock, Jacob Cosper, Brandon Escobar, John Gahagan, Brody Grant, Emily Hunt, Natalia Kallio, Casey Knott, Christopher Moffat, Zoe Morales, Paul Osborn, Grace Price, McKenzie Settle, Luke Soden, Justin Trainor,

Jack Tuomenoksa, Nathan Wilder, Tyler Williams, Dakota Zinkevich

Honors: Bayleigh Abdella, Abigail Baker, Kate Barbato, Kyle Bates, Braden Beando, Owen Benware, Isabella Beyers, Brayden Bonin, James Booth, Kaylee Buckley, Max Bugbee, Dimitri Burt, Hunter Clark, Adam Corriveau, Makenzie Cortés, Julia Dee, Sarah Dee, Owen Fadden, Kyla Fortune, Jason Fuller, Shane Garrahe, Arianna Gonzalez, Michael Hagglund, Rowen Hennessy, Samantha Hopper, Jeremiah Kinsumba, Jeff Lamprey, Isabella LePoer, Kendra Leveillee, Hannah Martin, Crislary Martinez Castillo, Reese Maxwell, Claudia Moisan, Connor O'Brien, Fallyn Pederson, Ava Pelletier, Nola Perry, Rhaegan Perry, Kassidy Poce, Alexander Samia, Nana-Afia Sarpong, Jack Skoglund, Nicole Tuson, Ava Wilson, Jack Witkowski

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 devastation. 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.

Friday's Child



Photo by Shana Griffin.

Zoey ~ Age 11

dren 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

LEGION

continued from page 1

to create the U.S. Flag Code and promoting the founding of the Veterans Administration. The organization also drafted the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 – better known as the GI Bill – which transformed America in the late 20th century by helping veterans receive healthcare benefits.

Today, the American Legion has nearly 3,000 accredited service officers worldwide who assist veterans with their benefits claims and other programs. In Spencer, members proudly

support veterans and their families at several events.

"The American Legion family is excited to share both the legacy and the vision of our organization," Post 138 Commander James Letendre said. "We've done a lot of good and intend to keep doing it for a second century."

The June 15 parade and family fun day will both be free to the public. For more information about the events, call Scott at 774-239-6162 or Jerry at 774-200-3202.

You can also learn more about the centennial celebration by visiting the American Legion Gaudette-Kirk Post 138 Facebook page.

GUNS

continued from page 1

police department to sell the unwanted firearms to approved gun dealers, it is Chief James Hurley's personal policy to destroy all weapons that are turned in.

"We want to do our part to make sure that unwanted guns can be disposed of safely and don't end up on the street,"

Hurley said.

The turn-in process is completed anonymously each year, and residents do not need to furnish identification to turn in a weapon. The goal is to prevent unwanted guns from getting into the wrong hands.

Free trigger locks were also available to residents during the program, even if they didn't turn in a firearm.

Don't miss a moment



PHOTO REPRINTS AVAILABLE

Call Stonebridge Press for details 508-764-4325 or drop us an email at photos@stonebridgepress.com

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.

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



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
• • • • •
WAYNE TUISKULA

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

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



Photo credit Melinda Myers, LLC

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

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

lects 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.

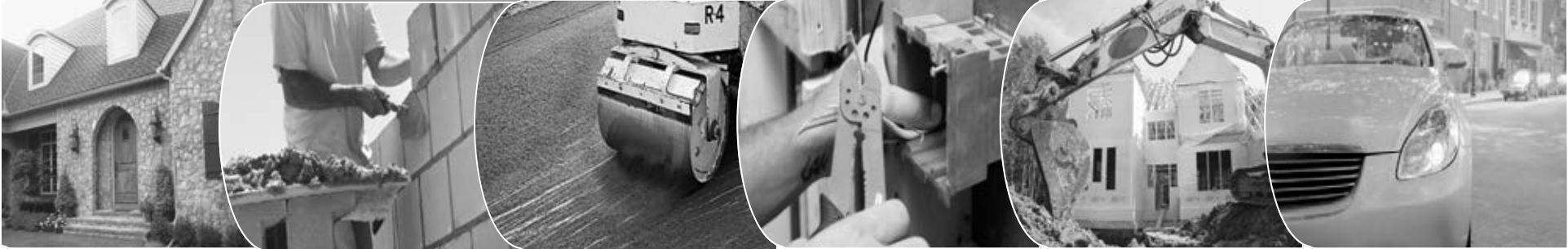
And once the holidays are past, keep enjoying these plants through the gray days of winter. Move the plants to a sunny window, fertilize with a dilute solution of complete or flowering plant fertilizer and water as needed.

Add some artificial berries, 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 celebrations.

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.

LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS



Now Selling Quality Used Cars

AUTO & TIRES

DECEMBER SPECIALS

4 Wheel Alignment
Alignment • Balance Tires
Check Suspension
Multi-point Inspection

\$49.99

COOLANT FLUSH \$39.99
Oil Change \$19.99 - Buy 2
Oil Changes get one FREE!

*Pick up & Drop Off Service Available
* Brakes • Shocks • Struts • Alignments • A/C Service
* Tire Sales & Service (some sizes in stock)

Gift Certificates Available
Raul's Automotive
81 South Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524
508-859-8288
20+ years experience

AUTO BODY

LUSIGNAN'S Auto Body

**NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL**

Got Dents?
We'll get your car looking like new again!
All collision repairs

We Sell Used Cars Too!

Over 50 years in business
Roger Lusignan ~ Owner
508.867.6016 ~ 508.867.7885
West Main St., Route 9
E. Brookfield, MA 01515



SEPTIC SYSTEMS

R. Barnes & Sons Sanitation

• Cesspool Pumping
• Title V Certification
• Portable Toilet Rentals
• Reasonable rates

508-867-3063
508-867-8993

To advertise in
The Local Service
Provider Directory
Contact June at
508-909-4062
jsima@
stonebridgepress.news

TREE SERVICE

McNeely Tree Service
Insured • References

• Hazardous Tree Removal
• Stump Grinding
• Bobcat Work
• Lot Clearing
• Furnace & Firewood
• Storm work
• Firewood \$235/cord
• ALB Certified



H: 508-867-6119 C: 413-324-6977


TREE SERVICE

Young's Tree Service


"Specializing In Dangerous Trees"

30 years' experience

Fully Insured
Free Estimates

**John H. Young, Jr**
508.885.TREE
1.800.660.5358

1 8 7 2 - 2 0 0 7



25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550
Telephone (800) 367-9898
Fax (508) 764-8015
www.StonebridgePress.com

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

RUTH DEAMICIS
MANAGING EDITOR

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 Spencer New Leader, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.
Or e-mail your letters to the editor at ruth@stonebridgepress.news.
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

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

Donations on track for Toys for Kids

In Memory of Pete Rockley		\$25
William & Annette Welch		\$200
Campus Services		\$100
Therese & John Ryan		\$25
Keith & Sharon Audette		\$200
In Memory of John		\$25
Joanne & Wilfred O'Coin		\$50
Francis Marderosian		\$75
Gerard & Toni Allard		\$100
William Ekleberry		\$100
ERA Key Charitable Trust		\$1,000
Virginia & Francis Fanning		\$50
Alison Chailfoux & Jeffrey Anderson		\$25
Loren Brown		\$10
Monette Landscaping & Construction		\$100
Marilyn Flavin		\$25
Donna & Richard Damato		\$50
The Morin Family		\$150

(clerk's office) or ERA Key Realty Services. You can see updates on Facebook@ Spencer Toys For Kids.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rosenberg: Silence is deafening

To the Editor:

This past summer I wrote several letters decrying the current state of politics in the United States and especially my disgust for those that voted for Trump and those who continue to support the Russian-stooge-in-chief. This was met with numerous rebuttals from members of the basket of deplorables ranging from deplorable pride to thanking Putin for his support to “end justifies the means” style reasoning from local writers who claim to care about our constitutional republic representative democracy form of government.

Where have they been the last few months/weeks?

Papadopoulos began his prison sentence. Paul Manafort (Trump's 1st campaign manager with deep Russian/Ukranian ties) plead guilty to conspiracy against the USA, money laundering, witness tampering, and failing to register as a foreign agent and agreed to cooperate with Mueller. It came out that Manafort met with Julian Assange from Wikileaks, who released Democratic emails stolen by Russian intelligence officers. After his plea deal (for 10 years in prison) he lied to the FBI and his plea deal was revoked presumably because he is betting on a Trump pardon and given that he is 69 years old betting on a pardon could be better than getting out of jail when he is 80.

Trump had a stunning reversal from “I don't know any Russians” and “I have no business interests in Russia” to it coming out that the Trump Organization was negotiating building a Trump Tower in Moscow DURING THE CAMPAIGN and had offered Vladimir Putin himself a \$50 million penthouse for free. Trump's reaction? He ADMITTED for the first time he was pursuing a business deal in Russia during the campaign after repeatedly denying such dealings since announcing his candidacy. His remarks were that this is very normal, just business. Are the bold faced lies and significance of the lies lost on our local red-voters?

Michael Cohen, Trump's personal lawyer and ‘fixer’ who facilitated hush money payments through shell corporations plead guilty to lying to congress about the Moscow real estate deal involving Trump and violating campaign finance law by facilitating payments to Stormy Daniels. Trump and Cohen had a deal with the National Enquirer to run hit stories against political foes for free, possibly violating campaign finance laws (“thing of value”), this relationship continued into Trump's presidency, and the National Enquirer chairman recently was given immunity in exchange for handing over what he has on the felon-in-chief. Cohen is going to jail for 3 years but unequivocally implicates the sitting President as directing these illegal payments. Trump, in a stunning reversal from “I don't know of any porn stars”, to “It was a private payment, totally legal”. ADMITTED LIAR!

Maria Butina, a Russian intelligence officer, pled guilty to spying by infiltrating the U.S. conservative movement as an agent for the Kremlin. She infiltrated the NRA, reporting back to Moscow her findings to allow Russian intelligence agencies to craft their disinformation campaign.

There is no Republican party anymore. It's a Trump party with 90% of Republicans support him. A political party is a group of people who disagree on some issues but agree on more and they organize for the purpose of winning elections and shaping policy. This is not a political party. This is a Trump cult, they do not tolerate dissent. They're not looking for converts or growing their coalition – they are looking for heretics. The Trump cult can't even be called conservative – it's authoritarian.

The silence from our local ‘conservative’ authors is deafening. The current situation in America is an embarrassment and I am personally embarrassed for this country.

DAVID ROSENBERG
SPENCER

Friends: appreciate all the help

To the Editor:

The Friends of the North Brookfield Town House would like to thank everyone who helped to paint the Town House this Fall.

Our Selectman, John Tripp, took the lead on this project and we appreciate all his time, effort and monetary contributions. Many residents also made donations to this endeavor from the very beginning. Without the support of the Board of the Selectmen and these contributors this project would never have happened.

The Hayden Masonic Lodge sent a large check for the paint and contributed toward lunches for the workers.

Mason and town resident Richard Smith was on site daily and his help and great attitude were invaluable.

Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis and his department provided manpower for scraping and painting the building from September through November.

Many businesses also contributed. Scott Norrie from Howe Lumber and Bob Paine, of Benjamin Moore Paints donated a portion of the paints and supplies. E B Flatts, North Brookfield Subway and Statz Sports Pub & Grill provided meals for the workers. Jim's Pizza also contributed. Brookfield Orchards earmarked funds from the raffle at their 100th Anniversary Celebration. Darrell Hyder, The Sun Hill Press, created colorful posters to promote the project. Vibram supplied safety glasses for the workers.


It is truly inspiring to see what people can achieve by stepping up with donations, hands on work, and dedication. The freshly painted and beautifully decorated and lighted front of the Town House shines this holiday season as a symbol of community spirit and cooperation.

We can't wait to see what happens in the Spring when the painting project is continued. Additional funds will be necessary in order to make this happen. If anyone would like to donate, it would be much appreciated.

Our thanks and best wishes go out to everyone!

The Friends of the North Brookfield Town House

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



BUZZER BEATER!
CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Blais: Respect the president’s office

To the Editor
This is in reference to Mr. Rosenberg’s comments on Friday Nov. 30 in Viewpoint, suggesting that we who have elected president Trump should be ashamed of the president and ashamed of any one who continues to support president Trump.
Mr. Rosenberg is suggesting that anyone that supports the president is an embarrassment to our country, that president Trump is an ignoramus and a clown, a dangerous clown and should not be taken seriously.
My reply to Mr. Rosenberg is, it takes one to know one, and it takes a clown

to know a clown. Shame on you for your disrespect to the president and his office.
Mr. Obama who I did not vote for or like, I did not criticize or insult him. We do not have to approve off or like the president’s personality, disposition or decisions, however, we must respect the office and give the president your respect, respect the office as I did for Obama.
Shame on you for your deformation, distorting the president and the office of the president.
ROLAND BLAIS
BROOKFIELD

O’Leary: the message is love

To the Editor:
As one of the “few non-Christians” in our community recently referred to in a Letter to the Editor, I want to express my disappointment and sadness over some of the comments in recent letters. Though not a Christian, it is my understanding that the message of Jesus is one of love, acceptance and tolerance.
If someone wishes me a Merry Christmas or Happy Holidays, I assume good intentions, accepting their comments as an act of kindness and I happi-

ly reciprocate. And I love all the lights, wreaths and Christmas Tree decorations, enjoying my friends and neighbors celebrating their holiday.
I sincerely wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanza and a Happy New Year filled with peace and love for all.
Happy Holidays!
WENDY O’LEARY
SPENCER

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 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 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,



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

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!

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the 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.

Family Traditions

In response both to the “Traditions” editorial of 12/14 and the intolerant and hateful letters in the 12/7 edition I feel a need to share my thoughts and experiences vis-à-vis December culture wars.

My family is Jewish and I raised my kids in a secular country that neither endorses nor condemns any religion or tradition but happened to have many Christian neighbors. I did not want to fight “culture wars” but unfortunately it was unavoidable to some level. The Christmas exuberance of many spills over and affects everybody else. Hanukah is a minor holiday in the Jewish calendar, far less important than Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, or Passover yet many Jews have tried to compete with Christmas by blowing Hannukah out of proportion. I, like many American Jews, feel most Jewish during December because America shifts gears to “It’s Almost Christmas” and we are defined by our non-participation.

What is Christmas really about? Obviously, the Christian belief in the birth of their central figure/lord/savior/newborn King (Jesus) to a virgin mother – my family was NOT going to buy into that. Next, it is about consumerism and commercialism – not exactly things I wanted to embrace. Lastly, it is about adults finding entertainment in “magical” lies about cute cartoons such as Santa, the flying reindeer, etc. I don’t buy the argument that Santa is a universal figure – he is based off of Christian lore and big business blew up the lie to market Christmas to all to sell more stuff. Christians accept Santa because it gets their kids excited about Christmas. Now there is an anti-Santa movement among Christians (put the CHRIST back in Christmas).

Children have a very hard time separating fantasy from reality. Santa involves a web of lies about mythological creatures that defy the laws of physics. It discourages healthy skepticism. It teaches bad lessons such as Santa likes rich kids more (regardless of how good or naughty they have been), and deflects credit away from the parents (who are actually doing the giving). Santa is largely a precursor to religious faith about things that a rational person would not possibly believe is true. The Christians were smart - they realized you have to hook the kids early. I think the strength of Santa comes jointly from big business/commercialism combined with Christian people that like the concept of “training” for blind faith.

Many will say Santa is about the chil-

YOUR
TURN

ESTHER
COHEN

dren, not the parents. Baloney. Santa is about lying to children when we teach that it is best to tell the truth. It is not a “white lie” because it serves no purpose other than adults using the innocent trust of children for entertainment. Parents often have to tell white lies to kids

for their safety or to explain something too complicated for a little kid to understand. I think every lie is a small breach of trust and sometimes it is justified (cars eat babies in parking lots) but the lies should be kept to a minimum and perpetuating a lie about Santa and his reindeer is an unnecessary breach of trust and serves no useful function.

American society expects all parents to perpetuate a lie about a fictional character and animals that defy the laws of nature - requiring that the lie become ever more complex and need new lies to cover the old lies culminating in the child figuring out they’ve been duped for years by the time they are 8 or so...yet we also teach honesty as a virtue and after the Santa lie is figured out then explain, “well, that was it - we weren’t lying about anything else”.

My kids are grown now, but the thing that grinds my gears the most is when strangers would ask my children, “What did you ask Santa for”, or “What did Santa bring you”, or some version of that. It starts around Thanksgiving and doesn’t end until mid-January. You don’t know my children, stop making assumptions! I never wanted to explain to a 5-year old who Santa was, that he wasn’t real, that many Americans lie to THEIR children and expected MY kids to be lied to as well, etc... Then ask them not to tell other kids at school the truth because their parents will be angry at me. I wanted to avoid it.

I never felt it was fair to put a 5 year old in the middle of a culture war. When rude and presumptuous strangers would ask my children what they asked Santa for they would answer. I used to give them 1 gift for each night of Hanukah but save a ninth one for Dec. 25 so they would have an answer when a presumptuous stranger would ask what Santa brought. We did not watch Christmas movies and I made a point to be “sloppy” so that it would be found out that Santa was fake early. My children only “believed” from about ages 4-6, and then by 8 they were commenting how stupid this all was.

My family December tradition is to celebrate Hanukah as the muted minor holiday it is, as well as sitting back and commenting how silly Christmas has become, then ring in the new Gregorian year.

Fly, my darling, fly: A note on divorce for the holiday season

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 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 hol-



MIND OF A
CURIOUS
GIRL

ANNIE
SANDOLI

iday 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 par-

ents 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

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



THE
VEGETARIAN
TROUBADOUR
.....
ANDREW
TARGOFF

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 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.

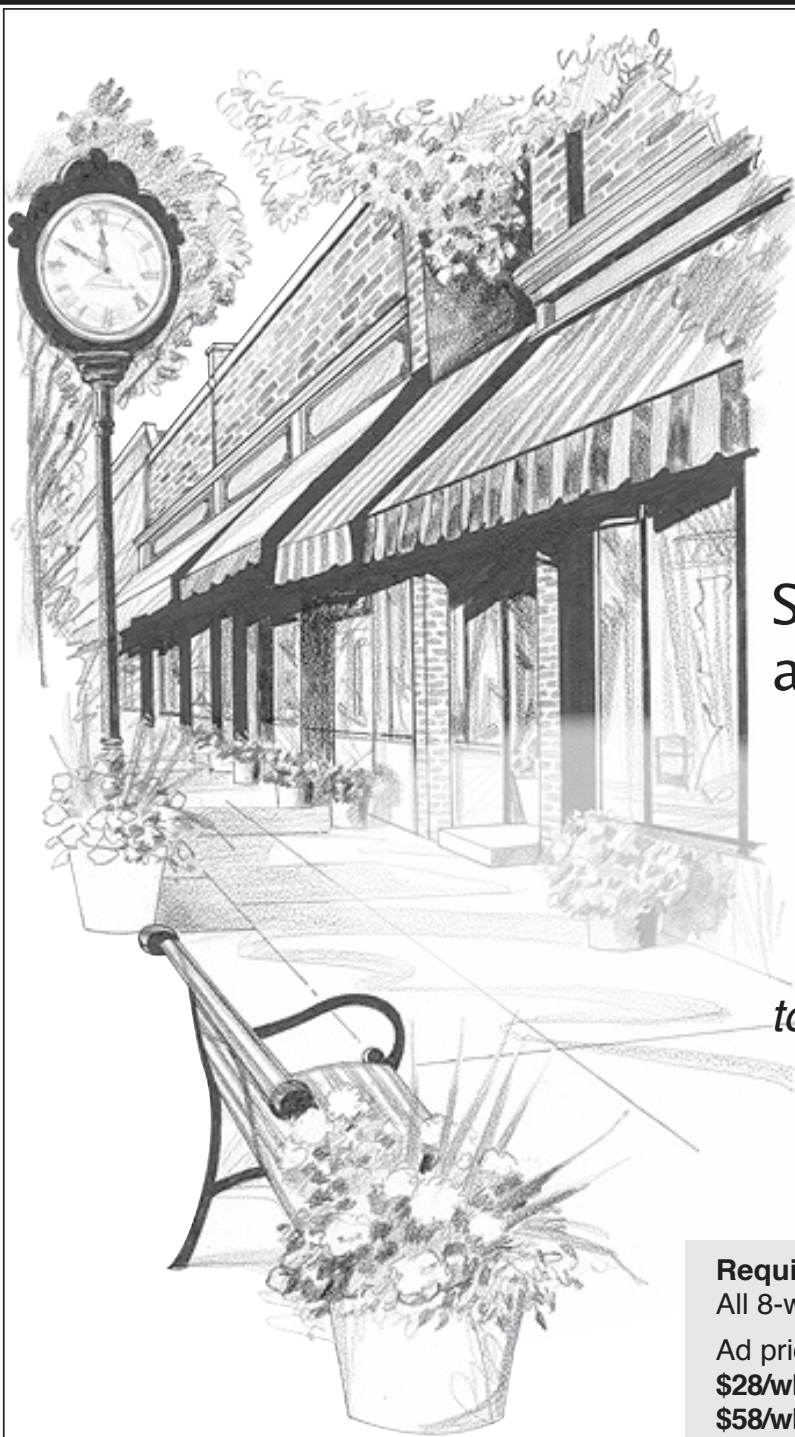
Two years after arriving in Massachusetts to attend Berklee College of Music, in 1987, I went on my first date with the woman who later became my wife. When I arrived at her house to pick her up, she was wearing a fur coat! I told her that I would not go on a date with her if she was wearing that. She 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 You Tube 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.



Community Connection

Your area guide to local merchants, services, & events.
New entrepreneurs welcome!
Support these community businesses and keep your dollars close to home.

COMING IN JANUARY

*to the Spencer New Leader with opportunities to
combo into the Charlton Villager,
Sturbridge Villager, and/or Southbridge News
and connect with neighboring towns!*

Requires an 8 week commitment unless you're advertising an event.
All 8-week rates 20%+ off.
Ad prices per week start at
\$28/wk 2.4"x2" **\$38/wk** 2.4"x 3" **\$48/wk** 2.4"x4
\$58/wk 3.7"x3" **\$78/wk** 3.7"x4" **FREE 5"x8"** ad with you 8 week commitment

For more information, prices for multiple publications, or to sign up beginning January 11. **DEADLINE FOR JAN. 11 IS FRI., JAN. 4 • NOON** please call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.nes

Community Matters

Support your Trusted Local Merchants featured in the Spencer New Leader!

TO ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE, PLEASE CALL JUNE AT 508-909-4062 OR EMAIL JSIMA@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS AND ASK HOW YOU CAN GET 1/2 PAGE AD FOR FREE!

SHREWSBURY MARBLE & GRANITE, INC.

BUY
FACTORY
DIRECT
& SAVE

FALL SALE

45 COLORS • \$45 per sq. ft. Installed
(40 sq.ft. or more) includes: rounded, beveled, or polished edges, 4 in back splash. Cutout for sink.
Cannot be combined with other offers.

Biggest Selection of Marble and Granite of ANY Fabrication Shop
280 Colors to choose from
Granite Counter top, Quartz Surface, Soapstone

508-842-9800 • shrewsburymarbleandgranite.com
620 Boston Turnpike (Rte 9 E), Shrewsbury, MA
(1/4 mi. east of Home Depot - Big Blue Bldg)
Mon-Fri 8-5, Sat. 9-4, Thurs. 8-6.

Charlton Oil
508-248-9797 Propane

Your Hometown Heating Specialist
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 to 5:00

- 24 HOUR SERVICE AVAILABLE •
- Service Contracts •
- Fuel Assistance •

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!

- Monday price 12/17/18 was **\$2.65** per gallon*
- Call for the most up to date daily price or visit us at www.charltonoil.com

"Call Us First!"
*prices subject to change

NORTHEAST PIZZA

208 West Main St.
W. Brookfield
508-867-9567

570 Summer St.
Barre
978-355-4333

1205 Main St.
Leicester
508-892-9276

267 Webster St.
Worcester
508-798-3111

New Location

Open 7 Days a Week • We Deliver

SERVING BEER & WINE IN LEICESTER & WEST BROOKFIELD

DECEMBER SPECIALS

Ham & Cheese Grinder
Sm. 8" \$3.99
Lg. 12" \$4.99

Chicken Pizza
Make it BBQ or Sweet n' Sour \$1 more
Sm. \$4.99
Lg. \$7.99

Try our NEW Chicken Pesto Pizza
Sm. \$6.99
Lg. \$11.99

Cannot be combined with other specials or coupons.

See our Full Menu Pages R16 & R17, 2018 Restaurant Guide

WWW.NORTHEASTPIZZA.COM

The beautiful, Healthy Smile

you've always wanted is easier than EVER!

New Patient Exam, & 4 Check-up X-Rays for ONLY \$1 Call for details

- Call Today for your FREE consultation -
Family Dental Group of Paxton
581 Pleasant St. / 508.755.2905
www.PaxtonDentist.com



Ad Libs by June

Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year to our readers, write stuff authors, and to all the people and businesses below that I had the pleasure to work with this past year. May your blessings be abundant this Christmas, and may they continue to grow in the New Year. Thank you so much for supporting the Spencer New Leader and Stonebridge Press & Villager Newspapers with your readership and your advertising. I look forward to working with you again in 2019!

*June Simakauskas, Account Executive
Spencer New Leader
Stonebridge Press & Villager Newspapers*

308 Lakeside
9 West Real Estate
A Eagle Gutters
Aaron Posnik Auctioneers
Accurate Asphalt
Accurate Medical Cooling
Advanced Tech
Water Systems
Adventure Tours Of Warren
AFC/Urgent Care
Affordable Windows &
Doors
Amcomm
American Discount Oil
American Legion Spencer
Amherst-Oakham Auto
Andrea Gordon Attorney
Appleseed Montessori
Arnies Auto Body
AT&T Charlton -
AFA Blue Sky
B-Laws Diner
Bair Insurance
Bam Marketplace
Barnes Enterprises
Bay Path Craft & Golf
League
Bay Path Voc Tech HS
Bayberry Bowling
Bell & Hudson Insurance
Benoits Lighting
Berthiaume & Berthiaume
Bill Keyes Asphalt Paving
Bill Randall
Bixby Road LLC
Black & White Restaurant
Bob Letourneau
Bond Sand, Gravel And
Asphalt
Burton F. Berg, Attorney
Breezeland Orchards
Brenda Palmer
Brian's Auto Body
Brians Truck Equipment
Brookfield Orchards
Brown Electric
Brunelle & Sons
Landscaping
Burdette Trash Service
Cabinet Resources
Camosse Masonry
Capen Hill, Charlton
Carole's Dog Grooming
Caroline Fecteau
Central Mass
Orthodontic Asso
Chandler Re Appraisers
Charlies Diner
Charlton Baptist Church
Charlton Oil
Charlton Optical
Charlton Orchards
Charlton Sewing
Charlton Well
Chef Sau
Chimney &
Fireplace Services
Christi Cournoyer,
Hometown Realty
City Power Equipment
Cormier Jewelers
Cornerstone Bank
Country Auto Body
Country Bank
Country Folk Art Craft Show

Cranberry Meadows Inc.
CR Wilson Insurance
Crystal Sound Healing
Dairy Queen
Dan Kenney Go Fish
Dance Techniques
Davane's Party Decor
Dave's Appliances
David Barbale
David Kelly Insurance
Davis Advertising
Debbie Gregoire Lefebvre
Deja New
Dennis Roy Electric
Derrick Farms
Diane Dabrowski Re
Dick's Tire Barn
Dippin Donuts
Donna Flannery Era Key
Dorrinda O-Keefe
Doug Russell Marine
Dr. Christopher Charon
Dr. Gurk
Dr. Larkin/9 W. Main Dental
Dr. Ostromecky
Dr. Shanahan
Dr. Steve Goguen
Dumont Septic Pumping
Durkin & Sons Trucking
East Brook Baptist Church
East Brookfield Pizza
East Point Properties
EB Flatts
Eva Koskosinskas
Harbor One
Everlast Exteriors
EZ True Value
F.T. Smith Sand & Gravel
Fabric Stash
Face To Face Mortgage
Family Dental Group Of
Paxton
Ferguson Contractors
Finally Kelleys
First Congo Church Spencer
First Congo Church
W. Brookfield
First Congo Church
North Brookfield
Five Loaves Cafe
Francescos Bakery
Frangoz
Fresh Start Residential
Friends Of Charlton Library
Friends Of North Brook
Townhouse
Friends Of Stone Church
Gary Leblond
Gary's Gutters
George Goulas Re
Glen Stevens/Piano Tuning
Go Fish W/Dan Kenney
Greenville Baptist Church
Guaranty Glass
Guzik Motors
Hands-On Healthcare
Hardwick Farmers Co-Op
Harrison Landscaping
Haymaker's Grill
Hearing & Balance Center
Of NE
Helen Laureyins
Herb Chambers Toyota
Herrick & Sons
Hi Tech Mobile Wash

Higgins Alternative Energy
Hillcrest Country Club
Holden Hearing Aid Center
Holy Cross College
Hometown Fertilizer
Hometown Hardware -
Southbridge
Honey Bee Orchards
Howards Drive In
Hub International
Inishowen Farms
I Henri Morin & Sons
J Muise Sealcoating
Janice Proctor
Janine's Frostee
Jaybeez & Sons
Jewel Of Christmas Tree
Farm
Jim Powell
Joe's Drive In &
Leicester Drive-In
Joelyn Durgin
John Daly Plumbing
John Perrotta Comedian
John's Pizza
Jon's Lawns
Jr Greene
Karol's Corner Take Out
Kathleen Bryan Realtor
Keegan McNeely
Tree Service
Kelli Mulrain
Kim's Primitives
Klems
Kostas Cafe
Lamothe & Associates
Lamoureux Ford
Lamoureux Greenhouses
Laura Scott Properties
Leblanc Oil
Lee's Coin & Jewelry
Leicester Agway
Leicester Harvest Fair
Leicester Veterinary Clinic
Lincoln Hill Manor
Lisa Caron
Lorna O'Day
Lusignan Auto Body
Mann's Rv
Marias Sewing
Mary Hicks C21
Mary Stolarczyk RE
Mary, Queen Of The Rosary
McClure Engineering
Melissa Boratyn
Metterville
Pest Management
Mexicali Grill
MHPI
Michele Miller
Detox Shop & Spa
Michele Miller Era Key
Michele Murray Esq
Michelle Mason/Sewing
Mike Toomey Real Estate
Miller Stump Grinding
Mitchell Exterminating
Monette Landscaping
Moosehill Grooming
Muddy Mutt
Nals Paint
Nancy Fields CPA
Napa West Brookfield
Nat Falk
New England Landscaping

& Construction
New Image
Construction
North Brook Subway
North Brookfield Pizza
Palace
North Brookfield PTO
North Brookfield Savings
North Brookfield
Theater Guild
Northeast Pizza
Northeast Vehicle
Notre Dame Academy
Oakwood Farms
Christmas Barn
Orchard Hill
Farm Equipment
Overlook At Masonic
Paige Basic Obedience
Pakachoag Music School
Parson's Auto
Paul Burke
Paul Daoust &
Company P.C.
Pepin Granite
Pepin Waste/Storage Services
Perfect Paws
Phil Stoddard Attorney
Pillsbury Funeral Home
Pioneer Valley Oil And
Propane
Pioneer Valley
Planning Commission
Pleasant St Diner
Precision Painter
Pumpkin Patch
Purple Onion
Quaboag Equipment
Quaboag Rehabilitation &
Skilled Nursing
R. Barnes & Sons
Ragged Hill Orchards
Ramco Window Service
Raul's Automotive
Remax
Professional Associates
Renewal By Anderson Mass
Renewal By Anderson Ct
Rich O'Brien Painting
Richard Trauschke
Robert Berthiaume
Roger Banks, Attorney
Ronnies Seafood
Rotmans
Rt 9 Storage
Ruth Robert
Sacred Song Reiki
Salem Cross Inn
Sales For Tails
Salon Superior
Samantha's
Therapeutic Massage
Scott's Siding
Second Chance Animal
Shelter
Shabby Chic
Photography
Sheenas Salon
Shepard Law
Sherman Oil
Shrewsbury
Marble & Granite
Skin Glo Esthetics
Skip's Home Improvement
Sons Of The American

Legion Post 138
Soper Construction
Southbridge Savings Bank
Spencer Agriculture
Spencer Bank
Spencer Chrysler
Spencer Country Inn
Spencer EB Reg. School Dist
Spencer Exchange Club
Spencer Family Dental
Spencer Fish & Game
Spencer Furniture
Spencer Housing Authority
Spencer Motor Sales
Spencer Parks & Recreation
Spencer Paving
Spencer Police Assoc
Spencer Rescue &
Emergency Squad
Spencer Veterinary Hospital
Spencer Yoga Home
Stocks Land Management
St. Mary's High School
Stacie Labrie Storage
Steve Morris Construction
Sue Angela Healy
Sue Lacaire
Sue Terkanian
Table 3 Restaurant Group
Tatnuck Driving Range
Ten West Market
Teresa's Restaurant
Terrence Alden
Electrician
Tetreault Construction
Thai House Restaurant
The Bridge
The Meadows
The Old Cider Mill
The Trolley Stop
Thibaults Poultry
Country Store
Think Blue Mass
Tom Daly Plumbing
Tom Vantre
Toomey Painting
Toscano Electric
Town Of Brookfield
Town Of Charlton
Town Of East Brookfield
Town Of Leicester
Town Of North Brookfield
Town Of Spencer
Town Of West Brookfield
UMass Memorial
Uncle Sams E. Brook
Varnum Funeral Home
Veda Marley
Vessello Paving
Village Garden Center
Warrens Auto
Watson Landscaping
Webster First
Westover Auto Salvage
Whitco
White Plumbing
Woodman Excavating
Woody's Auto Body
Worcester County
Memorial Park
Worcester Cultural
Workshop 13
Yamato Asian Bistro
Ye Olde Tavern
Youngs Tree Service

*If you are an
advertiser and I worked with you in 2018 and
failed to mention you, I sincerely apologize. Please email me at
jsima@stonebridgepress.news, and I will be sure to mention
your business in an upcoming Ad Libs column.
Thank you. June*

SPORTS

All roads lead back to Spencer for Michigan defensive coordinator Don Brown

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

When Don Brown — Donny Brown to the folks that knew him growing up as a lad in Spencer in the late 1960s and early 1970s — travels the country as one of college football’s premier defensive coordinators, making stops at gridiron cathedrals such as The Big House (Michigan Stadium), The Horseshoe (Ohio Stadium), The Swamp (at the University of Florida) and Notre Dame Stadium, where Touchdown Jesus watches from above, he always takes his hometown with him.

“I grew up at 48-1/2 Cherry Street and I have a picture of that house on my phone just to remind me of my upbringing and my parents and where I’ve come from,” Brown said during a phone interview late last week. “I’m proud of that. I’m proud of the town I grew up in and I’m proud of my parents. It’s nice to have been able to live in one town virtually my whole young life. It’s a big deal to me and that’s why I have the house on my phone — just to remind me where I came from.”

Where Brown is now is the University of Michigan, where he arrived in 2016, fresh off a three-year stint as Boston College’s defensive coordinator. Brown will be on the sidelines calling the defensive sets for the seventh-ranked Wolverines when they face No. 10 Florida in the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl at noon, Dec. 29, at Atlanta’s Mercedes-Benz Stadium.

In 2015 the Eagles were the top-ranked defense in the country, a fact that got the attention of Jim Harbaugh, Michigan’s head coach, who was



Photo courtesy University of Michigan Athletics

Spencer native Don Brown, defensive coordinator for the University of Michigan football team, will help lead the Wolverines versus the University of Florida in the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl at noon on Dec. 29.

in the market for a new defensive coordinator at the time.

“That’s how I got on coach Harbaugh’s list and he reached out to me to see if I would be interested in coming to Michigan,” Brown explained. “But what really helped me get the job was the fact that Bob Sutton, a good friend of mine who is the defensive coordinator with the Kansas City Chiefs, put in a good word for me — without me prompting him — when Jim asked him about me.”

Another coach, very well known in these parts, spoke to Harbaugh about Brown as well.

“Coach [Bill] Belichick put in a good word on my behalf, too. He had seen

[BC] play against Notre Dame at Fenway Park,” Brown said. “I was fortunate enough to have those guys help me out in terms of speaking on my behalf unsolicited. I was very humbled when I heard that those guys went to bat for me.”

Michigan is the latest stop for Brown on a 41-year coaching career that started in 1977 at Hartford (Vt.) High School. He has been a head coach three times (Plymouth State, 1993-95), Northeastern (2000-03) and UMass-Amherst (2004-08). His assistant coach/defensive coordinator resume has included stops at Dartmouth, Yale, Brown, UMass-Amherst, Maryland, UConn and BC.

“College coaching is a tough, humbling racket,” Brown said. “But at the same time the great thing about coaching college football is the relationships that you develop during the course of your career.”

“Everything is about timing and situations,” Brown added when asked if he thought he might again become a head coach again at the collegiate level or possibly an assistant coach in the NFL. “I just try to evaluate each particular situation as it comes to see if it might be a good fit at that time based on the place I’m in. For each one you think about taking there are several that you bypass because you don’t think it’s a great fit or the

timing isn’t right.”

Brown said when he’s coaching at those previously mentioned historic college stadiums, he still gets the same feeling in the pit of his stomach that he got when he was buckling up his chinstrap out on the side of David Prouty High.

“It’s nice to be able to say that 41 years later I have the same anxiety getting ready for a game, gearing my mind up as a competitor,” Brown said. “I still get the same angst that I got as a player. I think that when I don’t get that anxiety and that angst it will be time to hang it up.”

Brown said getting back to Spencer is a rarity for him, although he was in town twice in the last

year. Both times he was at the Spencer Country Inn, once to speak at the David Prouty football team banquet, the other time to attend a family function. He said on every visit home Spencer is exactly the way he remembers it was when he was growing up.

“I went into the high school a year ago and I don’t think it’s changed a bit,” Brown said. “It’s refreshing in a way that it was the way I remembered it to be. It’s comforting when you can trust something like that.”

Brown said he couldn’t have possibly imagined back in 1973 that his life would have played out the way it has.

“Without question it’s been a humbling experience,” Brown said. “In a day and age when guys played at the major college level and go through a graduate assistantship, it’s nice to have gone through all the stops — high school, Division 2, Division 3, Division 1-AA [FCS], BCS and the Power Five.”

“I’ve been educated in all of those different arenas,” Brown added. “It’s a nice feeling to say I’ve been at all those levels and I’ve made a steady climb; which is not an easy process when you go to Norwich University [Class of 1977] and you’re a Division 3 student-athlete and you’ve got to work your way up the ladder.”

Brown said if no part of his life worked out the way it has and he came back home to David Prouty to teach and coach, that would have been OK with him, too.

“That would have been really cool,” Brown said. “I would have liked that.”

Wolverines win ‘rock fight’ over Oxford, 50-42



Nick Ethier photos

Maddie Hippert of Leicester avoids contact from Oxford defender Erin Caissie while shooting the ball.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

OXFORD — Lessons were learned when the Oxford High girls’ varsity basketball team hosted Leicester High on Thursday, Dec. 13, and from both sides. For the Wolverines, who won the game (50-42) and improved to 3-0, they found out how tough they can be. For the Pirates, now an uncharacteristic 0-3, they learned that they can fight through adversity and nearly take down an undefeated team.

“This was a rock fight,” explained Leicester head coach Dave Padavano. “These girls are tenacious, they are

tough, they bring that to basketball. Their toughness is what carries them to tough games like this.”

“I think Dave called it a ‘rock fight’ and we felt the same way,” added Joe Pietrzak, head coach of Oxford. “Today was really, I think, a game we can use as a catapult moving forward. The intensity that we showed today was awesome, and we need to bring that every day.”

The Wolverines led at all the stops — 11-5 after one quarter, 23-18 at halftime and 31-29 through three quarters — but the game was close throughout, as it never became a double-digit gap on the scoreboard.

Leicester’s scoring was nearly even

— “I brought back 40 points from four starters, so it’s pretty balanced,” Padavano said of his returning starters from a year ago — and Emily Fontaine led the way with 13 points.

“My senior, Emily Fontaine, is priceless,” said Padavano.

Sophomore Jenna Soden was the epitome of a bulldog down low, scoring 11 points and pulling down an unheard of 24 rebounds for the double-double.

“She’s faster than everybody else,” Padavano said of Soden, who isn’t much taller than other forwards or centers in the league. “She runs the floor well and she’s fast. She’s as tough as they come.”

Sophomore Alexa Dufries finished with 8 points and 8 rebounds, and freshman Abigail Johnson contributed 8 points and 7 rebounds. And although junior Maddie Hippert added just 3 points, she was tasked with slowing down Oxford senior Gina Parmenter, a 1,000-point scorer who achieved the accomplishment as a junior.

“The defense tonight by Maddie Hippert, who I call Sparky, is what really kept us in the game when we couldn’t make a shot,” said Padavano.

Parmenter (9 rebounds) paced the Pirates with a team-best 17 points, while Pietrzak was pleased with the complementary scoring provided by senior Felicity Steiger (11 points, 11 rebounds) and junior Micaela Perry (9 points on a trio of 3-pointers).

“I thought we responded well to some adversity tonight,” said Pietrzak. “We didn’t hang our heads and Gina did a great job of encouraging the other kids tonight — it’s her role now to do that.”

Parmenter had a steal and coinciding layup early in the fourth quarter to push her team ahead, 33-31, but the Wolverines scored the next seven points to regain the lead, 38-33.

After a pair of Parmenter free throws, Fontaine buried a crucial 3-pointer to put Leicester ahead, 41-35. Then, after Steiger made a basket, Soden grabbed an offensive rebound and made the put-back on consecutive possessions as the Wolverines were now up, 45-37 with a minute to play.

Both teams then added five points apiece to finish up the scoring to account for the 50-42 final.

Padavano likes where his team is at



Leicester’s Emily Fontaine finishes off a layup versus Oxford.

this season a year after reaching the Central Mass. Division 3 Tournament with an 11-7 record.

“We made the Districts, we won a game and we took Millbury [who has won 67 straight league games, as of press time] right to the end. Now everyone is a year older and I’ve got a couple more new freshmen that are contributing,” he said.

Pietrzak, meanwhile, has seen growth from his club the past two games.

“I thought we grew a little bit at Hudson, going out of our league to play a Mid-Wach team, was nice for us,” he said. “To get that experience was good and what we learned from that game is you have to bring 32 minutes of intensity, and we did that tonight.”

SPORTS

Defense fuels Bay Path's offense to get past Pioneers



Bay Path's Jamie Rodriguez elevates to win the game-opening jump ball.



Bay Path's Ben LaPointe launches off the floor and into the air during an attempted layup.



Joe Starr of Bay Path feeds a pass down low into the paint.



Cory Cotton of Bay Path follows through upon the release of a 3-point attempt.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

SOUTHBIDGE — When noticing that the Bay Path Regional boys' varsity basketball team poured in 76 points versus Southbridge High on Tuesday, Dec. 11 — the Minutemen defeated the Pioneers, 76-56 — some may think that Bay Path shot exceptionally well en route to the win. But head coach Al Greenough was quick to point out that it was actually his team's defense that stood out and that's what led to easy transition baskets.

"I was really, really impressed with our team defense this evening," he said. "It's something we've been stressing to start this year. Last year we had a lot of really talented offensive players that graduated; this year we know that our defense is going to lead more to our offense. That's kind of our game plan, to play our best sound man-to-man defense that we can, create some turnovers and get into the open court."

On the other side of the court, Southbridge head coach Victor Colon wasn't pleased with his team's defense.

"Defensively we just weren't there," he said. "We got outworked, outthustled to every single ball. They were playing very aggressively and we just had to work through it. We took our time getting through it, so they got up on us."

The Minutemen led, 17-10, after the initial eight-minute quarter and, after the Pioneers had cut the deficit down to four points on two occasions in the second quarter — on baskets from Brandon Valentin and Eury Mateo — Bay Path increased the lead to 10 points at halftime, 32-22.

Greenough then preached the importance of playing more impressive defense during his halftime talk.

"We really stressed defense at half-time in the locker room. It's what we started the game with and I said the game will go one of two ways," he explained of either Southbridge mounting a comeback or the Minutemen making a run early in the half to put the game away.

The latter happened, as Bay Path scored the first 10 points of the third quarter to increase the lead to 20, 42-22. Cory Cotton drained a 3-pointer and Jamie Rodriguez provided a steal and coinciding layup during the run.

With two minutes to play in the third the Minutemen got the lead up to 30 points (56-26) following a Joe Starr layup, and they were ahead, 59-31, entering the final frame.

Rodriguez (22 points, 13 rebounds), Cotton (22 points) and Starr (16 points, 6 rebounds) were Bay Path's leaders.

"That was probably the best game I've seen Jamie play in his career," Greenough said of Rodriguez, a senior. "Last year he kind of played a little bit in the shadows of the other kids we had on the team, but he knows it's his turn to step up and I challenged him with that in practice. He stepped up and he attacked the basket so strong and so well — he was really the difference in the game."

"Cory, normally our high scorer, really, really struggled tonight shooting the ball... [but] he probably played the best defensive game I've ever seen him play," Greenough added of Cotton.

Southbridge then won fourth quarter scoring, 25-17, to trim the deficit down to a 20-point loss. Mateo led the team with 16 points, while Garret Lazo chipped in 9 points and 10 rebounds.

"I had a lot of guys step up," Colon

said, pointing out the play of Valentin, a freshman. "We had a lot of positives to build off of, so we'll be fine."

Southbridge dropped to 1-1 in the early season, while Bay Path improved to 2-0 as they hope to accumulate 10-plus wins and advance to the Central Mass. Division 4 Tournament.

"That's what we're aiming for," Greenough said of District play. "We're setting the tone early with defense and that's what we're going to ride all year long and hopefully that's good enough to get us to where we want to get at the end."

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.

ATHLETE of the WEEK

Jenna Soden

The Leicester High sophomore scored 11 points and secured 24 rebounds for a double-double in the Wolverines' 50-42 victory over Oxford High in a girls' varsity basketball game played on Thursday, Dec. 13. Leicester improved to 3-0 with the win.

Athlete of the Week is sponsored by:

SPENCER CHRYSLER

764 Main Street
(Rte. 67) Warren, MA
413.436.7721
www.spencerchrysler.com

NEW • USED • SALES • SERVICE
Mon-Thurs 8:00-8:00 • Fri. 8:00-6:00 • Sat. 9:00-4:00

SPORTS

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



Jeremiah Dingui of Tantasqua slows down his speed while dribbling on a Shepherd Hill defender.



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



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.

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 Rynne (13 points) and David Bilis (11 points). Senior Chris Nellis added seven points, while sophomore Cam Hackett scored six.

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



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 3:50 to play in the game. Tantasqua reclaimed the lead, 39-38, when senior co-captain Lindsey Zak (14 points, 12 in the sec-

ond 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,



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

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.”

SPORTS

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.

Rockets top North Middlesex for Dana Willard Christmas Tournament title



Photos courtesy Mark Seliger, www.SeligerPhotography.com
Auburn's Adam Lanier attempts to maneuver the puck around a Worcester defenseman.

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



Goalie Mike Sosik of Auburn gets into the butterfly position to make a save.

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.

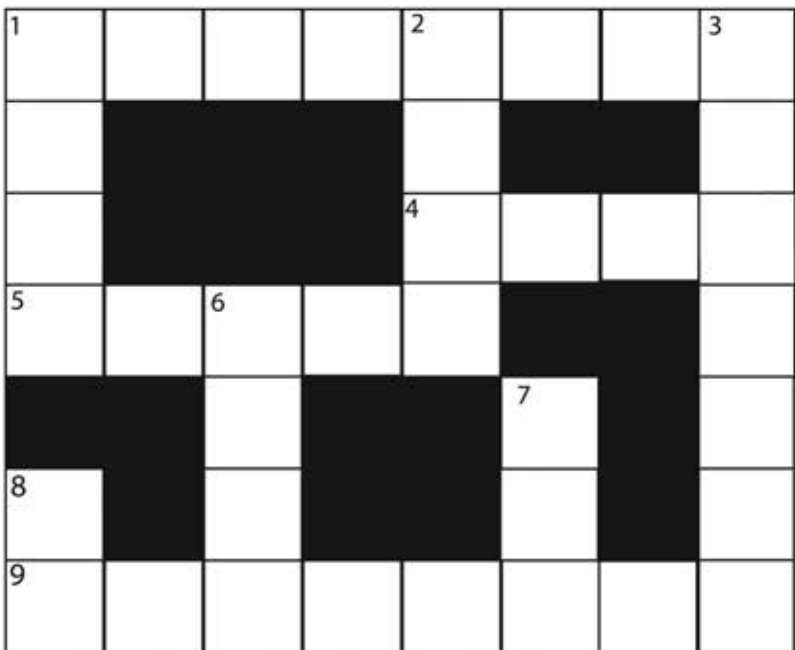
Lempicki was awarded the tournament MVP, while Worcester defeated Agawam in the consolation game for third place, 5-1.



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



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.



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

ANSWER: GIVING GIFTS

1. Home 2. Duty 3. Samples 6. Joke 7. Run 8. Up

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



BESTOW

present a gift or honor

How they SAY that in...

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



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



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: PRESENT

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to restaurants. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 26 = e)

A. 13 9 26 13 8

Clue: Bill

B. 24 26 6 2 26 6

Clue: Waiter/Waitress

C. 24 26 10 25 18 20 11

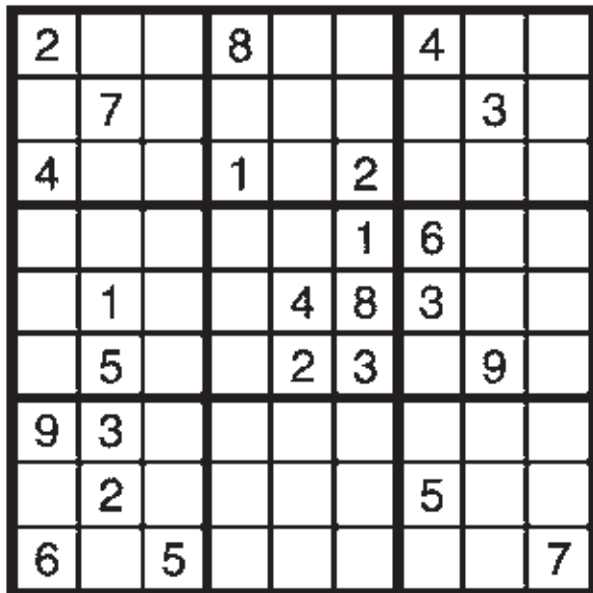
Clue: Tables and chairs

D. 6 26 24 26 6 2 10 25 18 3 20

Clue: Appointment to dine

Answers: A. check B. server C. seating D. reservation

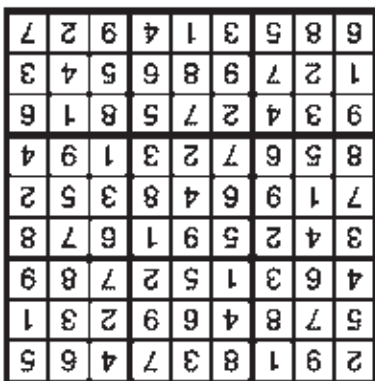
SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

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!



ANSWER:

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!

Switching gears from hunting to ice fishing



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

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.



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 Stainbrooks indepth report on the Massachusetts deer habits.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

POLICE REPORTS

Leicester Police Department

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

Police agencies can no longer print the names of people who are arrested or charged with domestic assault related charges. The new law is not designed to protect victims, so they are not re-victimized through indirect identification.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6
1:17 a.m.: assist other agency (Stafford Street), no service; 3:06 a.m.: assist other agency (Stafford Street), no service; 8:54 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), services rendered; 9:10 a.m.: animal complaint (Rawson Street), services rendered; 9:45 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 10:17 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 11:43 a.m.: fraud (Siani Road), report taken; 12:29 p.m.: suspicious person (Stafford Street), spoken to; 12:52 p.m.: investigation (Mt. Pleasant Avenue), report taken; 1:02 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 1:20 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 1:42 p.m.: disabled mv (Stafford Street), services rendered; 3:47 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:53 p.m.: disabled mv (South Main Street), services rendered; 3:57 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:03 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), complaint application issued; 4:23 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 4:37 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:51 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 4:56 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 5:12 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 5:30 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 5:34 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 5:40 p.m.: summons service (Crestwood Road), unable to serve; 5:54 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 5:55 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), complaint application issued; 6:15 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway) written warning; 7:59 p.m.: assist other PD (Main Street), unfounded; 9:31 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 10:17 p.m.: suspicious mv (Howard Terrace), spoken to.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7
12:25 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 1:08 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), services rendered;

6:04 a.m.: animal complaint (Stafford Street), services rendered; 7:01 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 7:27 a.m.: animal complaint (Marshall Street), assisted; 7:55 a.m.: erratic operation (Main Street), spoken to; 7:59 a.m.: ambulance (Mulberry Street), transported; 8:24 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 9:59 a.m.: parking complaint (Washburn Square), citation issued; 10:25 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 11:18 a.m.: lost/ found (South Main Street), no police action noted; 11:42 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 12:07 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 1:10 p.m.: fraud (Main Street), report taken; 3:24 p.m.: fraud (Colonial Drive), report taken; 3:36 p.m.: parking complaint (Auburn Street), spoken to; 3:52 p.m.: threats (Paxton Street), unfounded; 4:10 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 4:39 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:30 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Main Street), unfounded; 5:37 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Main Street), unfounded; 5:46 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Main Street),

unfounded; 5:56 p.m.: disturbance (Stafford Street), spoken to; 6:10 p.m.: parking complaint (Auburn Street), no service; 6:29 p.m.: debris in road (Main Street), services rendered; 6:32 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:05 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 9:28 p.m.: fire/CO detector (Merrick Street), services rendered.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8
12:04 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), citation issued; 6:38 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 10:20 a.m.: entire incident redacted from police log, spoken to; 10:21 a.m.: ambulance (Marlboro Drive), services rendered; 11:45 a.m.: disturbance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), peace restored; 11:47 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 2:24 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 3:59 p.m.: disabled mv (South Main Street), services rendered; 4:11 p.m.: summons service (Chapel Street), served; 4:32 p.m.: mv stop (Mulberry Street), verbal warning; 5:35 p.m.: welfare check (South Main Street), unfounded; 5:39 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:58 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 7:49

p.m.: mv stop (Soojians Drive), citation issued; 8:12 p.m.: ambulance (Marlboro Drive), transported; 9:01 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:16 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:23 p.m.: erratic operation (Main Street), unable to locate; 9:25 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9
12:58 a.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 3:49 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 5:47 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:02 a.m.: mutual aid (Lowell Street, Worcester), services rendered; 8:51 a.m.: accident (Stafford Street), services rendered; 12:53 p.m.: entire incident redacted from police log; 4:00 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, citation issued; 4:34 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), report taken; 4:52 p.m.: officer wanted (Sargent Street), restraining order served; 6:03 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), unable to locate.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

Turn To **POLICE LOGS** page **A18**

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Happy Hanukkah



Feliz Navidad



Joyous Kwanzaa



From all of us at the Spencer New Leader

COMMITTEE

continued from page 1

revitalization project, North Brookfield officials are eager for a similar transformation. The town will seek grant monies for enhanced lighting, parking improvements, sidewalk repairs, and renovations to the Town House, among several other items.

“We hope to have a project that will help draw in more commercial tenants and revitalize the entire downtown area,” Kiley said. “We are look-

ing at many financial options for this project.”

Officials have spent several years searching for grant opportunities to renovate the Town House. After making minor improvements to the 1864 building this year, the town needs grant assistance to install an elevator and make the second floor handicapped accessible. That funding could come as part of an overall downtown improvement package, officials said.

For years the town has been building additional financial resources for the Town

House renovation, including funds raised by the Friends of the Town House and other groups. Looking ahead, the CMRPC will identify grants for the Downtown Development Committee to pursue. The CMRPC will also assist town officials with writing grant applications.

One of the grants officials are currently studying is the Complete Streets program, which could provide funding for street and sidewalk repairs. Complete Streets grants were recently utilized in Spencer and other surrounding com-

munities to fund much-needed road projects.

Over the next few months, selectmen and the town’s highway department will be heavily involved in the project design process. The Downtown Development Committee also plans to survey residents to find out what type of businesses they would like to see in the enhanced downtown district. Moreover, the committee will explore options for streamlining town zoning regulations to remove obstacles for prospective businesses.

The Downtown Development

Committee will also serve as a liaison between selectmen, the Planning Board, the CMRPC, municipal departments, and the Friends of the North Brookfield Town House. Residents wishing to contact the committee are welcome to attend scheduled meetings, which are open to the public.

The committee will ultimately make recommendations for the town to pursue specific grants for the project.

POLICE LOGS

continued from page A17

12:16 a.m.: entire incident redacted from police log, arrest(s) made; 9:32 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), no police action noted; 9:58 a.m.: suspicious activity (Willow Hill Road), spoken to; 10:16 a.m.: ambulance (River Street), transported; 11:04 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:47 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:26 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:27 p.m.: assault (Brickyard Road), Stephen Berthiaume, 26, 2 Brickyard Road, Leicester, assault & battery w/dangerous weapon, attempted murder, arrest; 4:25 p.m.: officer wanted (South Main Street), services rendered; 5:04 p.m.: officer wanted (Sargent Street), services rendered; 5:46

p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 6:54 p.m.: malicious mischief (Soojians Drive), spoken to; 7:44 p.m.: ambulance (Clark Street), transported; 9:46 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 9:59 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 10:15 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), no police action noted.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

2:22 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Pine Ridge Drive), spoken to; 9:17 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 9:41 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), citation issued; 10:24 a.m.: welfare check (South Main Street), services rendered; 10:26 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), citation issued; 10:53 a.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street), no police action noted; 10:58 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Stafford Street), services rendered; 11:27 a.m.: arrest warrant

service (Main Street), unable to serve; 11:57 a.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), transported; 12:22 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 12:25 p.m.: suspicious activity (Stafford Street), services rendered; 12:43 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street) verbal warning; 2:25 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), services rendered; 3:31 p.m.: threats (Henshaw Street), spoken to; 4:18 p.m.: assist citizen (Auburn Street); 5:23 p.m.: ambulance (Soojians Drive), transported; 7:05 p.m.: assist citizen (Marshall Street), services rendered; 7:43 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 9:04 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted party; 11:38 p.m.: assist other PD (Main Street), services rendered; 11:56 p.m.: suspicious mv (River Street), assisted.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

12:15 a.m.: mv stop (McNeil Highway), written warning; 2:39 a.m.: erratic oper-

ation (Town Beach Road), unable to locate; 7:55 a.m.: assist other PD (King Street), services rendered; 11:20 a.m.: investigation (Mannville Street), services rendered; 1:40 assist citizen (South Main Street), services rendered; 1:58 p.m.: illegal dumping (Dale Court), services rendered; 2:18 p.m.: illegal dumping (Stafford Street), services rendered; 3:05 p.m.: welfare check (Parker Street), services rendered; 3:54 p.m.: officer wanted (Orrin Street), services rendered; 4:59 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Street), spoken to; 5:14 p.m.: hazardous conditions (Chapel Street), referred; 6:56 p.m.: disabled mv (Church Place), services rendered; 7:07 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), assisted; 11:21 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported.



Winter Home & Auto

This section reaches 47,000 households in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.

Call Jean at 508-764-4325

or email jean@stonebridgepress.news

for more information

AUTO PARTS



WESTOVER AUTO SALVAGE
Used Auto Parts & Recycling

High quality used parts at affordable prices

We salvage the best & recycle the rest

6 month warranty on all our products

147 Bay Road
Belchertown, MA 01007
413-323-4210
800-358-5100

BEST WINDOW COMPANY



KUBALA HOME IMPROVEMENT
The Door and Window Experts

Award Winning High Performance Windows & Doors

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | Lifetime Warranty

508-784-1112

Oil & Propane



AMERICAN DISCOUNT OIL

Need oil right away? Call American today!

OIL

5¢ Off

PER GALLON (125 GAL MIN)

PROPANE

20¢ Off

PER GALLON ON YOUR NEXT FILL UP (MIN 75 GAL)

With coupon. One coupon per customer. Exp 12/31/18. Cannot be combined with any other offer or on previous purchases or fuel assistance program

Order online
Americandiscountoil.com
413-245-1314

1182 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069

WASTE REMOVAL



TOM BERKOWITZ
~Est. 1980~

TRUCKING.INC.

- Residential • Commercial
- Hauling • Recycling
- Demolition • Transfer Station

Northbridge, MA
508-234-2920
tomberkowitztruckinginc.com

Carpentry

J.R. Lombardi Carpentry
Remodeling & Home Improvement

Kitchens, baths, finished basements, windows, doors, finish carpentry, drywall, painting, hardwood & laminate flooring installation, decks

CSL#077018:
HIC #178617
Free Estimates
Fully Insured

h: 508.476.7289
c: 508.335.6996

CHIMNEYS

CHIMNEYS & MASONRY
Chimney Cleanings

ONLY \$99
-FREE Estimates-
\$50 OFF

Chimney Caps or Masonry Work.
All kinds of masonry work, waterproofing & relining foundation and chimney repair, new roofs, and stonewalls!

Quality Chimney (508)752-1003

Construction

Paul Giles Home Remodelling & Kitchen Cabinets

- * Kitchen & Bathroom Remodelling
- * New Additions
- * Window & Door Replacement
- * Decks
- * Ceramic Tile
- * Hardwood Flooring
- * Custom Made Kitchen Cabinets
- * Cabinet Refacing
- * Interior Painting

Licensed & Insured
508.949.2384
860.933.7676

Custom Timber Sheds

DOUGLAS TIMBER SHEDS

Storage Sheds • Barns

Custom Built or Kits Available



James Beane
DouglasTimberSheds.com
JBeaneConstruction@charter.net

JBEANE CONSTRUCTION
Douglas, MA
508-864-4094

Electrician



JAMES BUTLER ELECTRIC

CERTIFIED MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Great with old, messy wiring

Independently owned & operated

413-544-8355
jamesbutlerelectric.com
Insured & Licensed #21881-A

Handyman

No Job Too Small Home Improvement
-Insured-
MA Reg #174661

- General Carpentry
- Laminated Floors
- Remodeling
- Kitchen, Bath & Cellar
- Painting
- Handyman Services
- Floor Leveling
- Power Washing and MORE!

See Our Work Online
nojobtoosmallhomeimprovement.com
Tel. 508.414.7792
Sturbridge, MA

PAINTING

Interior/Exterior



Power Washing Carpentry

- FREE ESTIMATES •
- FULLY Insured •
- Reasonable Rates •

Rich O'Brien Painting
28 Years Of Experience
(508)248-7314

PAINTING

Scott Bernard's PRECISION PAINTERS
Finest Craftsmanship Since 1979

Interior-Exterior Paints, Stains, Wallpaper and Fine Faux Finishes

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Free Estimates
774.452.0321

Pest Control

PEST CONTROL
Accurate Pest Control

Full Pest Control Services

Over 27 yrs. experience

Reasonable Rates

Owner Operated

508-757-8078

Ask for **David Hight**
Auburn MA

Plastering

Glenn LeBlanc Plastering

Specializing in small plastering jobs; ceilings, additions, patchwork and board hanging

Over 30 Years Experience.

3rd generation.

CALL
508-612-9573

PLUMBING

JOHN DALY Plumbing

Water heaters, Faucets, Toilets, New pex water piping, Outside hose connections replaced or added, Dishwashers, Garbage disposals, Water filters, Tub & shower valves, Tub & shower replacements

Any repair or replacement needed.

Buy your own fixtures & faucets, or I will supply.

Serving all of Worcester County
Lic.#MPL-21763
Since 1988

Call John 508.304.7816

We are home owners' plumbers!
jdraman714@aol.com

Property Management

Property Management Plus

- Tired of dealing rent?
- Tired of chasing w/eviction?
- Tired of dealing w/costly repairs & maintenance?

— CALL —

John Maywalt
30+ years experience
References available
508.868.6865

ROOFING

GUARANTEED Roofing & Building Maintenance LLC

Roofing, Siding, Gutter and Gutter Cleaning

Contact:
Daniel Truax
508-450-7472
gbmaintco.com

Senior Citizen Discount
Credit Cards Accepted
Over 30 years of satisfied customers
Fully Insured - Free Estimates.

A+ Rating BBB
MA HIC Lic #146620
MA CSL #099487

Roofing

SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING
When you need a roof, hire a roofing company, that's what we do!

Call Bill Toll-Free 1-866-961-Roof 508-765-0100

Lifetime material warranty & 25 yr. labor warranty available

MA Reg #153955
CSL #095459
CT-HIC #0638641
Fully Insured, Free Estimates
Family Owned and Operated

Now Accepting All Major Credit Cards



www.StonebridgePress.com

POT
continued from page 1

Thomas Gregory, then updated the Board during its Dec. 10 meeting.

“These events were supposed to educate people about the business. There weren’t supposed to be any sales, but we were getting complaints,” Monette said. “This is in the hands of the police now. No decisions have been made by the Board.”

The town has not yet signed a letter of non-opposition for the Reliable Bud proposal. Selectmen will wait for the conclusion of the police investigation before considering whether to proceed with Reliable Bud. Officials are questioning why there wasn’t greater oversight at the networking events, and they also want to know how long the illegal sales may have taken place.

“I applaud Selectman Monette for his detective work. I am very disappointed that Reliable Bud didn’t ensure that the vendors obeyed the law,” Selectman Ralph Hicks said.

Following a July public forum, selectmen voted 4-0 to issue a letter of non-opposition to Reliable Bud. The final approval for the letter of non-opposition is contingent upon a host community agreement being signed between the town and the applicant.

Town Administrator Gregory is currently managing those negotiations, and officials will consider the results of the police investigation before making a final decision.

“This latest incident will be discussed in January and could have an effect on the agreement,” Hicks said.

Meanwhile, selectmen on Dec. 10 decided to delay a vote on whether to approve an unrelated letter of non-opposition for the Worm Town Genetics proposal. The company is hoping to operate a medical marijuana cultivation facility at 503 Main St. Representatives of the company attended the Dec. 10 Board meeting, but selectmen didn’t want to move forward while the police investigation of Reliable Bud events is in progress.

Selectmen plan to revisit the Worm Town Genetics proposal during their Jan. 14 meeting. They will also likely have an update on the investigation of Reliable Bud and whether charges will be filed.

Reliable Bud announced on Dec. 10 that upcoming promotional events have been postponed. The company could not be reached for comment by press time.

Spencer voters banned retail pot sales in town, but companies can apply for marijuana cultivation licenses if they receive a community host agreement.

SANDOLI
continued from page A9

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.”

“Every Town Deserves a
Good Local Newspaper”



Family Dining Guide

Eat In or Take Out

Visit these fine establishments for great food and beverages,
and some entertainment too!

Call June at 508.909.4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news to advertise on this page.



HILLCREST
Country Club
Happy New Year!
JOIN US ON NEW YEARS EVE

Appetizer Hour-6:00pm
Surf & Turf Dinner- 7:30pm

DJ, Raffles, Fun Times
Party Favors,
Champagne Toast

\$40 per person - Tickets paid in advance at the Bar

Hours: Thur, Fri, & Sat 5-9
325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA 01524-1495
(508) 892-9822

Merry Christmas from all of us at
CHARLIE'S
Diner • Bar • Grill • Functions

NEW BANQUET ROOM NOW OPEN!

Visit our website for our full menu
CharliesDiner.com

Gift Cards
Make
GREAT Gifts!

WHERE FRIENDS & FAMILY MEET

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER
BREAKFAST SERVED DAILY
TILL 3PM!

DINING ROOM ~ OPEN ~
MON. - THURS. AT 9AM
FRI. - SUN. AT 8AM

CHARLIE'S
Diner • Bar • Grill • Functions

Rainbow Trout
Friday & Saturday
after 4:30 pm

Take-out Available **KENO** Full liquor license, beer & wine Children's Menu

Hours: Sun-Wed 6am-9pm, Thurs, Fri & Sat 6am-11pm
5 Meadow Rd., Spencer, MA 01562
Gift Cards 508-885-4033
www.charliesdiner.com

Open 7 Days a Week
NORTHEAST PIZZA
We Deliver

1205 Main St. 208 West Main St. 570 Summer St.
Leicester W. Brookfield Barre
508-892-9276 508-867-9567 978-355-4333

267 Webster St., Worcester 508-798-3111
See our Full Menu on Pages R16 & R17 of the 2018 Restaurant Guide

\$1.00 OFF \$10.00 OR MORE
with this coupon. Not to be combined with other offers. One coupon per customer. Exp. 12/31/18 • Alcohol Excluded

\$2.00 OFF \$20.00 OR MORE
with this coupon. Not to be combined with other offers. One coupon per customer. Exp. 12/31/18 • Alcohol Excluded

Appetizers • Soups & Salads
Pasta & Such • Charlie's Classic
Straight from the Grill • From the Sea

Managable Mouthfuls:
Some of Charlie's classic meals,
just smaller portions, and smaller prices!

Take-out Available **KENO** Full liquor license, beer & wine Children's Menu

Hours: Sun-Wed 6am-9pm, Thurs, Fri & Sat 6am-11pm
5 Meadow Rd., Spencer, MA 01562
508-885-4033

NOW TAKING RESERVATIONS FOR NEW YEARS EVE DINNER
Spencer Country Inn
Buy 1 Entree Get 1 1/2 price (dine-in only) Cannot be used on holidays or private parties With this ad. Exp 1/31/19

CLOSED WEDNESDAYS TILL APRIL
SUNDAY BRUNCH
All You Can Eat \$14.95 10am-1pm (plus tax & gratuity)
Fish N' Chips To-Go ~ Fridays Only \$10.95

500 Main St., Spencer, MA 508-885-9036
www.spencercountryinn.com

HOURS
Lunch: Thur, Fri, Sat 11:30-2:00
Dinner: Thur, Fri, Sat 5:00-Close
Sun. Brunch: 10am-1pm

NOW OPEN
HAYMAKERS GRILLE
breakfast & lunch
CATERING

DECEMBER MEAL DEAL
Tues & Wed Only 8am-11am
Buy One Meal Get the 2nd of equal or lesser value for HALF OFF!

1067 Worcester Road, Barre
978-257-8500
BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER
Daily Specials • Catering
DINE IN OR TAKE OUT
haymakersgrille.com

Hours: Sun., Tues., Wed. 6:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Thurs., Fri., Sat. 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Closed Monday

Happy Holidays

It's National Ugly Sweater Day!
Friday Dec 21st, soooo...
let's have some fun!

Wear your favorite Ugly Sweater when you dine-in with us on Friday, Dec 21st and enter a chance to win an E.B. Flatts Gift Card! HaHa! What fun it was last year!

E.B. Flatts
245 W. Main E.Brookfield 508-867-6643

Gift Certificates
Kosta's Cafe
Happy Holidays to All!

Breakfast & Lunch • BREAKFAST ALL DAY
Daily Specials • Homemade Soups
MONDAY-FRIDAY LUNCH SPECIALS
Mon: American Chop Suey w/salad
Tues: Homemade Meat Loaf Dinner
Wed: Yankee Pot Roast
Thurs: Corn Beef and Cabbage
Fri: Fish and Chips
New Special Every Saturday

Amazing Stuffed Crepes Everyday!

31 Pleasant St., Spencer, MA
Closed Christmas Day 508.885.7705
Open 7 Days • 6am-2:30pm

YOUR AD HERE

To advertise on this page call June at 508-909-4062



All our best this holiday season



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

QUALITY SELECTION • QUALITY SERVICE • QUALITY DEALER

366 E. Main Street, Rte. 9 East Brookfield
877-LAM-FORD or 508-885-1000

~ SALES HOURS ~
Mon-Thurs 8:30am-8pm • Fri 8:30am-6pm • Sat 8:30am-4pm

~ SERVICE HOURS ~
Mon 8am-7pm • Tues-Fri 8am-5pm • Sat 8am-Noon

Visit us on-line at www.lamoureuxford.com

BIG

FINISH 2018

Now is the time to treat yourself to a great year-end deal!

No misleading Ads- No Gimmicks - The Lowest Interest Rates

<p>NEW</p> <p>NEW 2017 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN 3.6L V6 24-valve VVT engine 6 spd auto, FWD, front dual zone a/c, remote keyless entry, 3rd row seats - #843732</p> <p>ONLY \$22,995</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>2018 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE 4x4, 2.4L I4 M-Air engine, 9 spd 948TE auto, parking rear cam, keyless entry, wireless phone - #321811</p> <p>\$22,800</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>2019 JEEP CHEROKEE ALTITUDE 4x4, 2.4L I4 M-Air engine, 9 spd auto, Velvet Red Pearlcoat, parking sensors, keyless entry - #294544</p> <p>\$27,799</p>
<p>NEW</p> <p>2018 DODGE JOURNEY CROSSROAD AWD, 3.6L V6 24-valve, 6 spd auto, nav, back-up cam, popular equipment group - #269533</p> <p>\$28,213</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>2018 RAM 1500 TRADESMAN 4X4 regular cab, 5.7L v8 hemi, 8 spd auto 8hp70, popular equipment group, bedliner - #176232.</p> <p>\$29,176</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4 3.2L V6 24-valve VVT engine, 9 spd auto, Ski Gray/Black, radio Uconnect, nav- #335782</p> <p>\$31,931</p>
<p>NEW</p> <p>2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 3.6L v6 24-valve VVT engine, 8 spd auto, heated front seats & steering wheel, remote start - #488479</p> <p>\$34,249</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>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</p> <p>\$36,785</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>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</p> <p>\$39,500</p>

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES WHICH WILL LOWER YOUR FINAL PRICE!

E. Main St., Rtes. 9 & 32, Ware
Just Over the West Brookfield Line
413-967-4210 or 800-793-2078
www.guzikmotors.com

JayBeez Treez & Son

**Tree Removal
Pruning**

Fully Insured

508-331-0701

Jeff Brunelle



Last Minute Gift Ideas!

- * Home Decor & Ornaments
- * Art Prints & Frames
- * Plush for Baby
- * Earrings & Candles
- * Lang Calendars
- * Lotions & Soaps
- * Scarves & Bags
- * Lots of Stocking Stuffers
-and so much more!

The best gifts come from The Onion!

Gift Certificates * Free gift wrapping

the purple onion Since 1989
furniture & gift barn


105 North Main St. (Rt. 67N)
W. Brookfield, MA 01585 • 508-867-9400
Open Thursday- Sunday 10-5




SPENCER NEW LEADER

B Section

**Friday,
December 21, 2018**



Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish



**60 Maple St.,
Spencer, MA 01562**

Christmas Mass Schedule
Mon., Dec. 24 • 4pm & 10pm
Musical Prelude begins 20 minutes prior to each mass
Tues., Dec. 25 • 10:15

**Where Everyone Goes For
Their Piece Of The Earth!**

WINTER IS HERE!

Bulk Road Salt
Sand/Salt Mix
Bulk Treated Salt
Stored in Building
Washed Winter Road Sand
STOCK UP NOW!

- Construction Stone
- Presby Sand
- Concrete Sand • Silt
- Stone Dust • Crushed Gravel
- Cold Patch • Crushed Asphalt

SELF PICK-UP OR
CALL TO SCHEDULE
YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!

**508-885-6100
508-885-2480**

Bond
Sand, Gravel & Asphalt

98 N. Spencer Rd., • Rte. 31N, Spencer, MA
www.bondsandandgravel.com










Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
—from our family to yours

- Home
- Auto
- Business
- Life
- Free Registry Service

DAVID F. KELLEY
INSURANCE AGENCY INC.

154 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562
p: (508) 885-3794
f: (508) 885-0279
e: davejr@davidkelleyins.com
w: www.davidkelleyins.com

*Our Family, Protecting Yours
for over 40 Years!*


ADVERTISING DEADLINES
for Christmas & New Years in
the issues of
December 28 & January 4
are as follows:

Wed., Dec.19 @ Noon for Dec. 28
Wed., Dec, 26 @ Noon for Jan. 7

*If you have any questions, please contact
June at 508-909-4062 or
email jsima@stonebridgepress.news.
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*






CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.



(508)765-9003
hiresoper.com

Quality, consistency and trust are the values that matter to us, they are values that are at the Heart of our work.
Call us **TODAY** to discuss your 2019 home building possibilities!

A very special Thank You to all of our loyal customers throughout the years.
We treasure the reputation we’ve developed
and look forward to serving the Community for years to come.
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



Build the Home of Your Dreams
Your custom home by Soper
Construction will look beautiful, be
sustainably built, and provide a comfortable
and secure haven for your family.



New Home in Sturbridge

- Land Clearing & Site Development
Septic Systems
Excavation & Foundation Work
- Home & Multi-unit Construction
Water & Sewer Tie-ins
Underground Utilities
- Driveways & Parking Lots
Garage, Porch & Home Additions





Merry Christmas
to all from all of us at the



43 East Main Street Webster, MA 01570

hope2own.com

508.943.4333

Mark Barrett *Aimee Stezelecki*

Lori Johnson-Chausse
William Hilmon

Vanessa Marie Hoerig
Bryan Pelletier
Matthew & Ross

Sharon Pelletier
Laurie Sullivan
Jane Austin Casavant

We are proud to be an American!
God Bless the United States
of America!



OBITUARIES

Joan Elizabeth Labonte, 73



PUTNAM -- Joan Elizabeth Labonte, 73, of Hawkins Road and loving partner of Charles L. "Chuck" Mahoney for 38 years left us for a beckoned call to heaven. Bom in Putnam, and a life-long resident, she was the daughter of the late Germain and Ruth (Bates) Labonte.

She worked as a machine operator for Hale Manufacturing and then went on to be a popular bartender for 20 years at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1523 in Putnam. There she earned the respect as a loyal veteran advocate with all Post members, and with the display of an exceptional strong work ethic while on duty behind the bar.

Joan was proud to become a member of the Ladies Auxiliary through the sponsorship of her brother, namely, marine veteran Norman Labonte. She often participated as a volunteer worker for the annual Putnam VFW benefit dinners on Easter and Thanksgiving for the handicapped children and adults.

She loved her trips to Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire at Weirs beach to visit friends and take the annual ride on the steamship Mt.

Washington. Also important to her were the happy hours at the Laconia VFW Post 1670 with the many friends made over the past 30 years.

Her love for animals had no boundaries, she adored her favorite cat "Midnight" who lived at home for 20 years, and a dog "Drefus" that she loved beyond belief. Her hobby of collecting owls was astounding, for her home is over-run with a collection of the "wise ones." Joan was a lovely person and will be definitely missed by all who knew and loved her.

In addition to her longtime partner Chuck, Joan is survived by her siblings, Norman Labonte and his wife Cyn of Brookfield, Massachusetts, Janice Keech and her husband Jim of Ruskin, Florida, Carol Wright of Gainsville, Tennessee and Linda Hollingworth of Dayville; and many nieces & nephews. Joan was predeceased by her brother, Robert Labonte.

Calling hours were held on December 20, 2018 in the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory in Putnam, which was followed by a Funeral Mass of Christian Burial at in St. Mary Church of the Visitation in Putnam. Burial in St. Mary Cemetery in Needham, Massachusetts will take place in the Spring. For the Memorial Guestbook, visit www.GilmanAndValade.com

Cole W. Victor 25



SPENCER- Cole W. Victor 25, of 266 Main St., Spencer, passed away Friday, Dec. 14th.

He leaves his father George J. Victor. III and his wife Melissa (Boisjolie) Victor of E.Brookfield, his mother Lynn E. (Garneau) Victor and fiancé Craig Bylund of Auburn, his brother Zachary Victor and his wife Brittany of Spencer, his triplet brother Jake Victor of No.Brookfield and triplet sister Mikaela Victor of E.Brookfield, brothers Shawn Cote of Norfolk, VA, Michael Cote of E.Brookfield, sister Stephanie Ahearn and her husband Jean Paul of Spencer, paternal grandparents John and Ellie Spangler of E.Brookfield, Nancy Boisjolie of Rochdale, maternal grandmother Judith Garneau of Auburn, nephews Blake Grenier and Hunter Ahearn, many uncles, aunts, and cousins. He also leaves his beloved long-time girlfriend Toni Doldo of Spencer with whom he lived.

Born in Worcester, he graduated

from David Prouty High School in 2012 and went on to work in the construction business for his father and most recently was a carpenter for Greenleaf Construction Co. in Leominster.

Cole was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting and working out . He will always be remembered for his contagious smile and genuine loving hugs. His family, friends, and pets meant the world to him and he always made sure they knew that. Funeral services were held on Thursday, Dec. 20 at 11 a.m. in the E.Brookfield Baptist Church, 262 Main St., E.Brookfield. Calling hours at the J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple St., Spencer were Wednesday, Dec. 19 from 3 to 7 p.m. in the funeral home. Please omit flowers, contributions in Cole's memory can be made to the Cole W. Victor Memorial Scholarship Fund c/o D.P.H.S. Permanent Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 172, Spencer, MA 01562 or the National Wild Turkey Federation, Webster First Federal Credit Union, 118 W Main St, Spencer, MA 01562.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

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

William H. Grundstrom, 86



SPENCER- William H. Grundstrom, 86, of High St., died peacefully at his home on Saturday, Dec. 15th.

He leaves his wife Arlene R. (St.Laurent) Grundstrom, his daughter Jodi D. Sweeney and her husband Carl of Southbridge, his son William K. Grundstrom of Florence, grandchildren; Kyle Pelletier, Kirsti, Heather and Nicolas Sweeney, four great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by brothers Herbert and Kenneth Grundstrom and a sister Gertrude Johnson.

Bill was a longtime machinist and scheduler at Wyman Gordon Co. in Worcester and Grafton for over 45 years before retiring.

He was born in Worcester, the son of

Carl W. and Gertrude V. (Thunberg) Grundstrom, graduated from Commerce High School and later served his country with the U.S. Navy during the Korean War.


Bill was an avid bowler and golfer, playing in several area leagues. He was a proud New England Sports Fan.

Private services with Military Honors will be held in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Veterans Inc., 69 Grove St., Worcester 01605. J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer is directing arrangements for the family.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Christmas in Heaven Memorials

In Loving Remembrance at Christmas



First Year Anniversary

Jane Rose Cormey

*December 26, 2017
December 26, 2018*

Miss You Mom

A thousand words could not bring you back...I know because I tried
A thousand tears could not bring you back...I know because I cried
I miss you mom, although your soul is at rest, and your body free from pain,
the world would be like heaven if I had you back again.
You're always in my thoughts no matter where I go;
Always in my heart, because I loved you so.
However long my life might last,
whatever land I view, whatever joy or grief is mine,
I still remember you. I really miss you mom.

*Lots of Love,
Your daughters, sons-in-laws, and all of your grandchildren*

*In Loving Memory
at Christmas*



**Patricia
Simakauskas**

*June 2, 1950
August 10, 2014*

Missing you at Christmas & always
Love, the Sima family

Beads of a Lifetime

Custom Cremation Beads




A MEMORIAL KEEPSAKE OF PETS & LOVED ONES

Chase Pelletier ~ Glass Artist
facebook: Beads of a Lifetime
www.beadsofalifetime.com • 413.544.5586

*In Loving Remembrance
at Christmas*

David P. Durgin

7/16/60 ~ 1/29/16



To Our Beloved Husband & Father
Deep within our aching hearts,
Wrapped in the purest gold,
Are happy Christmas memories,
Spent with you at home.

*Missing you at Christmas and Always
All our love,
Joelyn, Devon, Dawson & Dalton*

Dickie Messier Jr.

10/1/1985- 11/5/2016



Missing you this
Christmas. It's been
2 years that you left us.

*Love always,
Mom & Dad*

In Loving Memory At Christmas

Mary A. Ciuffredo



**May 19, 1926
August 19, 2017**

We love and miss you mama, but I know we shall never be alone.
For you are with us always only in another home. Your spirit shall
live on forever and cherished memories will pull us thru. We are
forever grateful, honored, and blessed that God gave us you.

**Forever in our Hearts
Your Loving Family**

My First Christmas in Heaven

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below,
With tiny lights like Heaven's stars reflecting the snow.
The sight is so spectacular- please wipe away the tear,
For I'm spending Christmas with Jesus this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear,
But the sound of music can't compare with the Christmas choir up here.

I have no words to tell you the joys their voices bring,
For it's beyond description to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me, I see the pain inside your heart,
But I am not so far away, we really aren't apart.

So be happy for me dear ones you know I hold you dear,
And be glad I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I sent you each a special gift for my heavenly home above,
I sent you each a memory of my undying love.



After all love is a gift more precious than pure gold,
It was always most important in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other
as my Father said to do,
For I can't count the blessing of love
he has for each of you.

So have a Merry Christmas
and wipe away that tear,
Remember I am spending Christmas
with Jesus Christ this year.

Author unknown.

Merry Christmas



REAL ESTATE



111 East Main Street, Webster, Massachusetts 508-943-9306 508-987-0767 1-800-552-7444
Licensed in MA & CT



Jules Lusignan



T.A. King



Maureen Cimoch



Ellen Therrien



John Kokocinski



Adrienne James



Jim Counihan

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



www.Century21LakeRealty.com • www.WebsterLake.net #1 on the Internet

Seasons Greetings & Happy Holidays to All



SOLD



SOLD



REDUCED



SOLD



NEW LISTING



NEW LISTING



NEW LISTING



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



SOLD



MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.

To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 1-800-367-9898 or email jean@stonebridgepress.news

CENTURY 21 NORTH EAST

I am all about my clients.

Dorrinda O'Keefe-Shea, Realtor®
 CDPE, Notary Public
 270 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562
 109 West Street, Ware, MA 01082
 c: 978-434-1990 e: dorrinda@c21lovet.com
www.DorrindaSellsHomes.com
Specializing in Residential, Commercial, Multi-family, & Land Sales! Thinking of buying or selling? Call me!



ReMax Advantage 1 • 179 Shrewsbury St., Worcester MA 01604

PUT YOUR TRUST IN US TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE

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



Mary Hicks Realtor®

CENTURY 21 NORTH EAST



Direct: 508.612.4794
 Home Office: 508.867.2222
www.maryahicks.com

270 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562
maryangela87@yahoo.com

Each office is independently owned and operated.

2 SISTERS REALTY

DONNA CAISSIE
 Broker | 774.641.3325
 SANDRA TERLIZZI
 Realtor | 508.414.9032

1 B. Swanson Rd
 Auburn, MA 01501
2sistersrealty@gmail.com
www.2sistersrealty.com

Proudly associated with

TOP PRODUCING TEAM
 WORCESTER COUNTY



Mary Hicks Realtor®

Direct: 508.612.4794
 Home Office: 508.867.2222
www.maryahicks.com

270 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562
maryangela87@yahoo.com

CENTURY 21 NORTH EAST



Each office is independently owned and operated.

Happy Holidays & Thank You All!



BROOKFIELD:
 Office with 3 Bay
 Garage on Rt 9!
 Currently used as a
 Body Shop! Call me
 for details!
\$149,000



\$39,000



\$84,900



\$119,000

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

Oxford Insurance Agency

Best Wishes for a Joyous Season!

Auto | Home | Life | Business

300 Main St., Oxford, MA 01540
 508-499-5057
OxfordInsurance.com
info@OxfordInsurance.com

Jules Lusignan
 #1 in Sales 2006-2018
 South Worcester County
\$141,810,780 SOLD

Century 21 LAKE REALTY

A 39 Year Company!

111 East Main St., Webster, MA
 Thinking of selling? Call 1-800-552-7444
www.Century21LakeRealty.com
www.WebsterLake.net

"WE SOLVE REAL ESTATE PROBLEMS"
ReMax Professional Associates
 Licensed in MA & CT

We need properties to sell - any type!

Conrad Allen
 (508) 400-0438

Patrick Sweeney
 (774) 452-3578

www.ConradAllen.com

FREE OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS when you advertise in this section

"We Solve Real Estate Problems"
Re/Max Professional Associates

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Conrad Allen
 508-400-0438

Patrick Sweeney
 774-452-3578

48 Hillcrest Ave. Southbridge, MA \$179,900
Estimated Payment \$1371 per month
NO MONEY DOWN!

Two Family!!! Central Air Commercially Zoned 43 - 45 Thompson Rd Webster, MA \$234,900 RENT TO OWN!!!!

- SOLD -

Brand New Remodel!! 28 Mechanic Street Webster, MA \$275,000 RENT TO OWN!!!!

- SALE PENDING -

Dudley, MA 22 Aldea Ave \$295,000
COMPLETE REMODEL
Nothing like it on the market today!

Call For Showing 774-452-3578

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

LEARN ABOUT PURCHASING A HOME - FINANCING, INSPECTIONS REPRESENTATIONS

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: 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**

JOHNSTON & ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE

P.O. Box 83 447 Riverside Dr. Thompson CT
 Phone: (860) 923-3377 Fax: (860) 923-5740

Take a virtual visit: www.johnstonrealestate.net

**FOR LEASE
RETAIL or OFFICE SPACE**

Beautiful water views with over 2400 SF of space available in a standalone brick building with a full kitchen & 3 bathrooms located on busy Rt. 16 in Uxbridge, MA

**PLEASE CONTACT
Capron Corp. at 508-278-9191**

REAL ESTATE

Home Town Service,
BIG TIME RESULTS

Town-to-Town
CLASSIFIEDS
www.towntotownclassifieds.com
1-800-536-5836



Place your ad today!
Call toll free
or visit our website


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

010 FOR SALE

CUB CADET 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 draws 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-pestal table w/4 chairs 508-612-6485

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

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 Clamps 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, 612' all controls and lights, great condition. Can be seen at Old Cider Mill, Rt. 9, West Brookfield or call 774-232-9382 *****

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

TOOL SHEDS Made of Texture 1-11: 8x8 \$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.

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 groutbilly@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. It 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, striping 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) 347-6145

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

Aut



motive

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

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

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. Call (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

*Need 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

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 mile! 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 x 322

765 HEAVY EQUIPMENT

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

Local News

FOUND HERE!

It's no mystery why more people use the classifieds!


These 27,972 local homeowners chose our windows.



● = Our MA and Southern NH customers



Why have 27,972 MA and NH homeowners chosen us?

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.

116 years of window expertise. Renewal by Andersen is the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, the window and door brand that your dad told you to trust.

No middleman to deal with. There's no runaround between the installer and the manufacturer because we handle it all, from custom-building to installing to warranting all our products.*

We won't sell you vinyl.

We've replaced thousands of poor-quality vinyl windows and patio doors, so we made our windows with our Fibrex® composite material, which is two times stronger than vinyl.



Must call before January 6th!

SAVE \$325

on every window¹

SAVE \$700

on every patio door¹

— plus —

\$0

down

0

monthly
payments

0%

interest

for 1 year¹

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



Recognized by
J.D. Power for
"Highest in Customer
Satisfaction with
Windows and Patio Door
Manufacturer Brands."

Call for your **FREE**
Window and Patio
Door Diagnosis

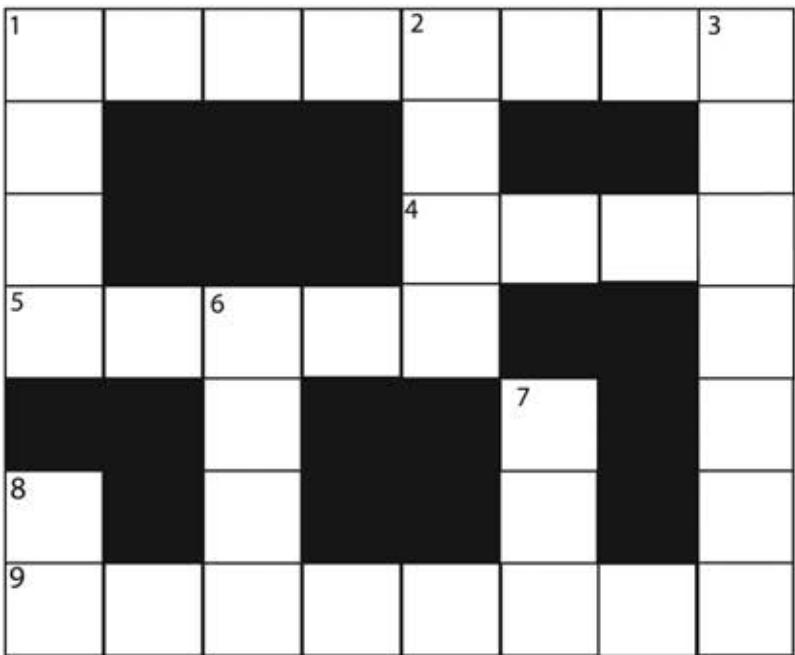
Renewal
by Andersen®
WINDOW REPLACEMENT an Andersen Company
The Better Way to a Better Window™

1-800-209-2746

¹DETAILS 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.



Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- DOWN
1. Special occasions

4. Sports group

5. Have fun

9. Gifts
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.



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

ANSWER: GIVING GIFTS



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

CRYPTO FUN

CRYPTO FUN

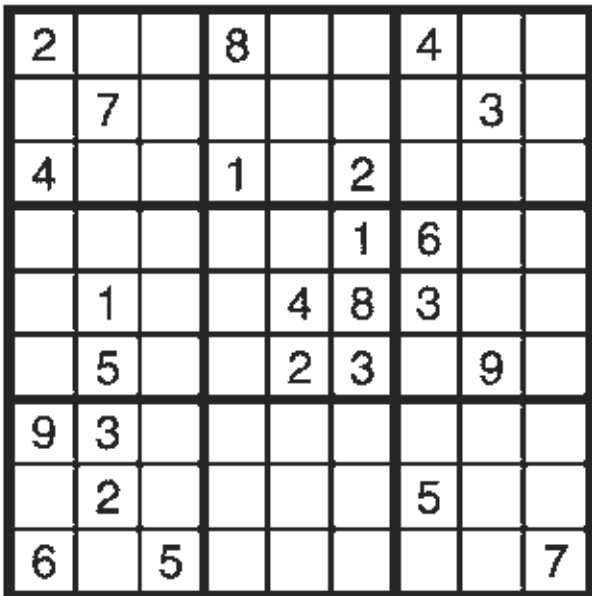
Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to restaurants. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 26 = e)

- A. 13 9 26 13 8
Clue: Bill
- B. 24 26 6 2 26 6
Clue: Waiter/Waitress
- C. 24 26 10 25 18 20 11
Clue: Tables and chairs
- D. 6 26 24 26 6 2 10 25 18 3 20
Clue: Appointment to dine

Answers: A. check B. server C. seating D. reservation

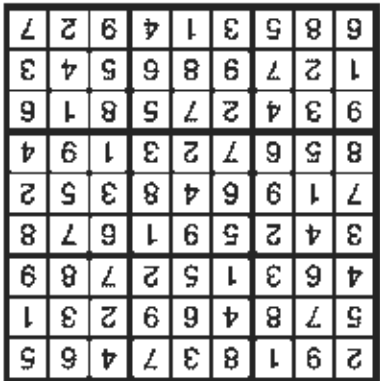
SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

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!



ANSWER:

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!

CALENDAR

ONGOING EVENTS

ECONOMY SHOP HOURS FOR August 22 through June 28, 2019

Open every Wednesday 8 a.m. to noon; Thursday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. & 6 to 8 p.m.; Friday 8 a.m. to noon at the First Congregational Church, 207 Main St., Spencer. Come in and see our daily specials. (508) 885-2149.

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

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

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

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

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

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

FREE FOR MOM & KIDS: There will be free weekly parent/child programs from 9 to 11 a.m. Fridays and Wednesdays at the North Brookfield Elementary School, New School Road, North. The program runs on school calendar and closes for

vacation and inclement weather according to North Brookfield School calendar. This free program is sponsored by the Spencer, Wachusett, North and East Brookfield Coordinated Family Grant in partnership with the North Brookfield Elementary School. Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. For more information, please call CFCE at (508) 885-2934 or e-mail Wachusettepc@hotmail.com.

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

STRE-E-E-TCH: Senior Exercises Classes are held every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Rutland Community Center, Glenwood Road. Enjoy an hour of fun and exercise to

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

N-37: Bingo at the Knights of Columbus, 10 Meadow Road, Spencer every Thursday. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. The first game starts at 6:30 p.m. Along with our regular games we feature two winners take all games, two 50/50 games and two progressive jackpot games with payouts of \$600 and \$500 respectively. Good food and soft beverages are available at Judy's Kitchen. Come and enjoy some good food, good people and hopefully win a little.

*All the Comforts of Home
...and Then Some!*

Wyndemere Woods
Independent/Assisted Living

**Lonely? Need help
with laundry,
housework & cooking?
We have the solution!**

1044 Mendon Road, Woonsocket, Rhode Island
Telephone: (401) 762-4226 www.wyndemerewoods.com
Our Family Caring for Your Family Since 1973
Family Owned & Operated | Competitive Prices & More
No Community Fee | Refundable Security Deposit



**Bay State
Savings Bank**

We take banking personally.

Member FDIC 
Member DIF 

**Warmest wishes for a
wonderful holiday
season and a happy
new year!**

www.baystatesavingsbank.com
(508) 890 - 9000 | (800) 244 - 8161
(508) 890 - 9090 (Español)

LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family
Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO17P0987EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Mildred B. Haynes
Date of Death: 03/11/2017**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Executive Office of Health and Human Services of Boston MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **John J Green of Northampton MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this

proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/15/2019**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 12, 2018

Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
December 21, 2018

Surplus Items for Sale

The Leicester Water District and Oxford-Rochdale Sewer District are accepting sealed Bids for the sale of the following vehicles to the highest bidder. Vehicles being sold in as is condition.

1. 2003 4x4 GMC Sierra ½ Ton Pickup with 7 1/2' Fisher Plow. See bid form for details.

2. 2006 4x4 Ford F350 Cab and Chassis with 8' Fisher V Plow. See bid form for details.

Vehicles can be viewed at 124 Pine Street Leicester Monday-Friday between 9am and 3pm or by appointment by call 508-892-8484.

Bid forms may be obtained from the Office of the Leicester Water District.

Bids will be received at the Leicester Water District Office until 2PM on January 10, 2019 at which time they be public opened and read aloud. Any bids can be rejected deemed not in the best interest of the Districts.

December 21, 2018
December 28, 2018

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF BROOKFIELD

The Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at 6pm, Tuesday, January 8, 2019 in the Brookfield Town Hall Banquet Hall.

The purpose of this hearing is a request by John David Holdcraft for an Administrative Appeal at 17 West Main Street, according to an issue of violation of Section 4 District and Use Regulations, Section C Environmental Controls and Districts, B Prohibited use – all districts.5 from the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Stephen J. Comtois II
ZBA Chairman
December 21, 2018
December 28, 2018

**DON'T MISS A BEAT
CHECK OUT THE
SPORTS ACTION!**



REGULAR STORE HOURS: MONDAY THRU THURSDAY 9 AM TO 9 PM • FRIDAY & SATURDAY 9 AM TO 10 PM • SUNDAY 10 AM TO 6 PM

Sterling Vintners
Chard 750ML
\$7.98 net

LARGEST SELECTION

YANKEE

Discount Liquor, Wine & Beer

SPIRITS

LOWEST PRICES

Don Q Rums
1.75L
\$17.99

376 MAIN STREET - ROUTE 20,
STURBRIDGE, MA 508.347.2231

207 SWANSEA MALL DRIVE,
SWANSEA, MA 508.672.8400

628 WASHINGTON STREET
S. ATTLEBORO, MA 508.399.5860

942 PROVIDENCE HIGHWAY
NORWOOD, MA 781.762.0539

WINE

Woodbridge 1.5 all varietals.....**\$9.98 net**
(save an additional \$10 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)

Yellowtail 1.5 all varietals (save an additional.....**\$8.98 net**
(\$12 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)

Lindemans 1.5 all varietals**\$8.98 net**
(save an additional \$12 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)

Beringer California Collection 1.5 all varietals**\$7.98 net**
(save an additional \$12 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)

Cavit 1.5 all varietals**\$9.98 net**
(save an additional \$12 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)

Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc..... **\$11.98 net**

Mark West Pinot Noir**\$7.98 net**

Black Box 3.0 liter all varietals **\$15.98 net**
(save an additional \$3 with Mail-in-Rebate)

J Lohr Chardonnay.....**\$8.98 net**

SPIRITS

Louis Martini Sonoma Cabernet.....**\$11.98 net**
(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)

Columbia Crest H-3 Cabernet.....**\$11.98 net**
(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)

Ch Ste Michelle Chardonnay or Riesling **\$7.98 net**
(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)

Columbia Crest Grand Estates **\$7.98 net**
(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)

Ecco Domani Pinot Grigio.....**\$8.98 net**
(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)

Alamos Malbec **\$8.98 net**
(save an additional \$24 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)

Ruffino Prosecco..... **\$9.98 net**
(save an additional \$3 with Mail-in-Rebate)

J Lohr Seven Oaks Cabernet**\$11.98 net**

Tito's Vodka 1.75 liter..... **\$27.99**

Absolut Vodka 1.75 liter..... **\$24.99**

Stolichnaya Premium Vodka all flavors 1.75 liter **\$24.99**
(save an additional \$7 after Mail-in-Rebate)

Bombay Sapphire Gin 1.75 liter..... **\$32.99**
(save an additional \$5 after Mail-in-Rebate)

Hendrick's Gin 1.75 liter **\$52.99**

Jose Cuervo Silver or Gold 1.75 liter..... **\$29.99**

Admiral Nelson Spiced Rum 70 proof 1.75 liter **\$14.99**

Bacardi Silver, Gold, Black, or Flavored Rums 1.75 liter **\$19.99**
(save an additional \$5 after Mail-in-Rebate)

Kahlua 1.75 liter..... **\$29.99**

Bushmills Irish Whiskey 1.75 liter **\$31.99**

Dewar's 12 Year Old 1.75 liter **\$44.99**
(save an additional \$5 after Mail-in-Rebate)

Jim Beam White Label 1.75 liter..... **\$24.99**
(save an additional \$7 after Mail-in-Rebate)

Woodford Reserve 1.75 liter **\$59.99**

Jack Daniels Black, Honey, or Fire 1.75 liter **\$39.99**

Evan Williams Bourbon 1.75 liter **\$21.99**

Fireball Whiskey 1.75 liter **\$24.99**

Courvoisier VS 1.75 liter **\$49.99**

Disaronno Amaretto 1.75 liter..... **\$39.99**

St. Brendan's Irish Cream 1.75 liter..... **\$19.99**
(save an additional \$8 after Mail-in-Rebate)

See for yourself why Yankee Spirits superstores are recommended
by more locals than any other adult-beverage store. What you'll save is worth the trip.

Net = No additional discount. MIR = Save more when you use Mail in Rebate. We reserve the right to limit quantities. You must be at least 21 years of age to purchase/
consume alcohol. Please drink responsibly. Not responsible for typographical errors. Rebate quantities are subject to limitation by the manufacturer. These alcoholic
beverages may be subject to payment of Connecticut or Rhode Island Alcoholic Beverage Tax and Connecticut Use Tax, and may be subject to seizure as contraband.

YANKEESPIRITS.COM HOLIDAY HOURS - DEC 16 & 23: 10AM TO 8PM • DEC 24: 9AM TO 8PM • CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY SALE: DEC 1-31, 2018

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

PLACE MOTOR INC. 
The "Right Place" since 1923

19 THOMPSON RD. WEBSTER, MA.

(508) 943-8012

PLACEMOTOR.COM

NEW



2018
FORD F150 XLT

Stock #8036
SuperCrew Cab, V-6

The Right Price

\$41,069



MSRP Before Discounts..... \$54200.00

XLT Luxury Discount \$1750.00

XLT Nav Discount..... \$500.00

XLT PWR Group Discount..... \$250.00

EcoBoost Cust Cash \$300.00

Retail Cust Cash..... \$3500.00

Ford Credit Cash \$500.00

Bonus Cust Cash..... \$2000.00

Specific Cust Cash \$500.00

Fast Cash \$1000.00

Place Discount\$2831.00

Right Price\$41,069

TOTAL SAVINGS ... **\$13,131**

* Requires approved Ford Motor Credit financing.
Offer Expires 1/2/2019



2018 FORD
FUSION
Sedan, I-4 cyl, Low Miles
JUST REDUCED
\$22,523
STK# 704X



2017 FORD EDGE
TITANIUM
SUV, I-4 cyl
\$27,923
STK# 686X



2018 ECOSPORT
TITANIUM
Save a Ton Compared to New
\$21,923
STK# 708X



2017 FORD
MUSTANG GT
Convertible
\$37,523
STK# 630X



2017 FORD
EXPEDITION EL
Tons of Room!
\$38,923
STK# 632X



2016 FORD F350
LARIAT
Crew Cab, Diesel
w/Plow!
\$56,923
STK# 9004A

ARE YOU READY FOR WINTER!

PLACE MOTOR INC. 

OFFICIAL FISHER SNOW PLOW DISTRIBUTOR



GENUINE

SINCE 1948

FACTORY-TOUGH

PARTS AND ACCESSORIES

SALES, SERVICE, PARTS, ACCESORIES AND INSTALLATION

EXPRESS

Friday, December 21, 2018

AUBURN NEWS • BLACKSTONE VALLEY TRIBUNE
SPENCER NEW LEADER • SOUTHBRIDGE NEWS
STURBRIDGE VILLAGER • CHARLTON VILLAGER
WEBSTER TIMES



FAMILY HEALTH CENTER OF WORCESTER, INC.

Quality primary care, dental care, and health benefits assistance for the entire family.
Hablamos español.

Free Health Insurance Assistance

Are you uninsured?
Do you have questions about health insurance?
We can help.
Talk with one of our
Health Benefits Navigators today.

Open Enrollment ends
January 23rd!

32 Orchard Street, Southbridge, MA 01550
(774) 318-1445
Open weekdays 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
www.FHCW.org/Southbridge

26 Queen Street, Worcester, MA 01610
(508) 860-7700
Open weekdays 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Open Saturdays 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
www.FHCW.org

CHRISTMAS SALE!

2000 APPLIANCES IN STOCK FOR PICK-UP OR QUICK DELIVERY

HUNDREDS OF HOT DEALS!

BETTER THAN THE BIG BOX STORES

OPEN DEC. 22ND 8AM-10PM & DEC. 23RD 9AM-10PM

MATTRESS SALE!

TWIN: REG. \$299 - NOW \$199
FULL: REG. \$499 - NOW \$269
QUEEN: REG. \$599 - NOW \$299



FRIGIDAIRE
4 PIECE STAINLESS STEEL
APPLIANCE PACKAGE
\$1699

ALL Samsung & LG TV's **ON SALE**
ALL Refrigerators **ON SALE**
ALL Washers and Dryers **ON SALE**

BAD CREDIT? EASY FINANCING ON EVERYTHING IN THE STORE!

GIANT TOY CLEARANCE!
SAVE UP TO
30% OFF SELECT ITEMS

10% OFF ALL BIKES
With this ad. Expires 12/20/2018

LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW!
SKATES, SLEDS
TUBES
TOBOGGANS

GE FRONT LOAD WASHER/DRYER
Reg. \$899.99
\$699.99

18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR
Reg. \$599.99
\$499.99

BLACK COIL TOP RANGE
Reg. \$449.99
\$369.99

DELUXE DISHWASHER
Reg. \$399.99
\$299.99

40" LED TELEVISION
Reg. \$599.99
\$199.99

7 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER
Reg. \$699.99
\$499.99

MAYTAG TOP WASHER
Reg. \$699.99
\$499.99

GE SELF-CLEANING STOVE
Reg. \$399.99
\$499.99

FAMOUS-MAKER GAS OR ELECTRIC RANGE
Reg. \$499.99
\$399.99

KITCHENAID DISHWASHER
Reg. \$799.99
\$599.99

40" SMART TELEVISION
Reg. \$329.99
\$229.99

65" 4K TELEVISION
Reg. \$1799.99
\$599.99

55" LED TELEVISION
Reg. \$499.99
\$349.99

LG TV 55" OLED
Reg. \$1699.99
\$1399.99

DELUXE ELECTRIC DRYER
Reg. \$399.99
\$369.99

SAMSUNG TOPLOAD WASHER
Reg. \$799.99
\$599.99

GE SELF-CLEANING CONVECTION STOVE
Reg. \$799.99
\$549.99

OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE OVEN
Reg. \$218.99
\$169.99

14 CU. FT. UPRIGHT FREEZER
Reg. \$599.99
\$499.99

PRICES GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000!



WHITCO

Store Hours: Mon.-Sat: 9:00am-9:00pm • Sun: 10:00am-9:00pm

140 MAIN STREET,
SPENCER, MA
508.885.9343

Check www.whitcosales.com for special coupons.



SOUTHBRIDGE DENTAL CARE JAMES PARK, D.M.D



Don't Have Insurance?

Southbridge Dental Care, the office of James Park, D.M.D. is offering the Loyalty Membership Plan to patients without insurance. Please call or stop by the office and we will be happy to answer your questions.

44 Everett Street, Southbridge, MA
508.764.4600

Monday-Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 8:00am - 12:00pm

SAVE \$100

On Harman Products

Higgins Energy Alternatives, bringing you 43 years of top quality brands and service!
• Quality Pellets In Stock
• Professional Installation & Service



Offer ends 12/31/18



HIGGINS ENERGY ALTERNATIVES

HARMAN
BUILT TO A STANDARD, NOT A PRICE

140 Worcester Rd. (Rt. 122), Barre, MA • 800.424.6343
HigginsEnergy.com • Open 6 days, Monday - Saturday

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
from all of us at

FIVE STAR AUTO
Expert SERVICE ★★★★★



Thank you for
another great year!



Full Warranty • Financing Available • Full Automotive Service Repair

FULL AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE FACILITY
580 South St., Southbridge
508.765.0257

USED CAR SALES
769 Main St., Southbridge
508.765.0257



MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM-5:30PM



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.





Hearthstone Market & Catering
A division of Annie's Country Kitchen



**Not sure what to gift this holiday?
Give the gift of a homemade meal!**




Gift Certificates Available

Rt. 20, 630 Main St. • Sturbridge, MA 01566 • 508-347-7077
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm – **ENTRANCE IN BACK**

hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com • hearthstonemarketandcatering.com





HELP WANTED

OIL DELIVERY DRIVER
CDL- Hazmat, Experience required
Full Time, Health, Dental, Life Ins, Ltd, Ad&d
Pay commensurate with experience

HVAC TECHNICIAN
Full Time, Licensed, Experienced
Health, Dental, Life Ins, Ltd, Ad&d
Pay commensurate with Exp.

Apply by: email info@hellenfuelscorp.com

SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

Celebrating 40 Years
Family Owned & Operated Since 1978
287 N Main St., Uxbridge, MA 01569
508-839-4141 | 508-278-6006 www.hellenfuelscorp.com





HOLIDAY COUNTDOWN SALE Limited time savings on La-Z-Boy recliners, sofas, reclining sofas & sectionals



Hurry!
Sale ends soon

La-Z-Boy Recliners from \$299

NATALIE STATIONARY SOFA
only **\$799**
matching loveseat only \$779

POWERRECLINE XR \$649 SAVE \$270

hot buy

FREE Holiday Slate
with Any Purchase of \$299 or more

Visit us for your Holiday Gift Giving
Curios, Rocking Chairs, Glide Rockers, Country Gifts, Framed Prints, Wreaths, Garland, Candles and much more.

0% INTEREST - FOR 1 FULL YEAR!
www.sundeenfurnitureinc.com

Sundeen Furniture
241 Providence Road., Whitinsville 508-234-8777
FREE Delivery & Removal • FREE Financing Available
M.T.W. 9:30-6:00; TH., FRI. 9:30-8:00; SAT. 9:30-6:00; SUN 11-5

To our many loyal customers, we Thank You!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our family to yours!

~Morse Lumber & Morse Family Christmas Tree Farm

Morse Lumber Co., Inc.
994 N Woodstock Rd., Southbridge MA 01550
Route 169, 1/2 Mile from Conn. Line
508-764-3231 Morse-Lumber.com



Kevin Meehan
Owner
If You Can Dream It, You Can Drive It!



Mike Penner
General Manager



IMPERIAL CARS.com

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

OPEN DAILY 9-9, SATURDAY 9-6, SUNDAY 11-6
800-526-AUTO

IMPERIAL USED CAR SUPER STORE

These vehicles are all safety certified & warranted!

Wholesale pricing on OVER 700 safety certified, ready for delivery, **LIKE NEW** Cars, Trucks and SUVs.
SAVE THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS!!!

EASY CAR LOANS
APPLY ONLINE OR CALL:
1-800-526-AUTO
100% CREDIT APPROVAL

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

OPEN TO OUR RETAIL CUSTOMERS ONLY

ALL PRICED WELL BELOW KBB BOOK VALUE

<p>2006 FORD E-150 VAN #18269A • ECONOLINE CARGO VAN, 4.6L V8, 4-WHEEL ABS NEW Retail Price: \$21,510 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$5,999 SAVE \$15,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 CHEVY SILVERADO #D9331L • 1500 DOUBLE CAB, 4.3L ECOTEC V6, 4X4, ONSTAR NEW Retail Price: \$37,395 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,977 SAVE \$10,400 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 FORD EDGE SE #P11905L • BACK-UP CAMERA, ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, 18" ALLOYS NEW Retail Price: \$32,500 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$19,855 SAVE \$12,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>
<p>2016 CHEVY CRUZE LT #H8125A • TURBO, ALLOYS, HEATED SEATS, BACK-UP CAM NEW Retail Price: \$23,475 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$14,599 SAVE \$8,900 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 JEEP COMPASS #P11651L • HEATED SEATS, 4X4, LATITUDE TRIM, MOONROOF NEW Retail Price: \$24,785 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$15,655 SAVE \$9,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2016 FORD ESCAPE SE #18694A • BACK-UP CAM, TURBO, ALLOYS, BLUETOOTH, SPOILER NEW Retail Price: \$24,845 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$16,355 SAVE \$8,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>
<p>LIKE NEW 2017 FORD ESCAPE SE SUV #39138A NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$28,045 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$18,544 4x4, 17" Alloys, Back-Up Camera, Turbo, Bluetooth, Satellite Radio. SAVE \$9,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>LIKE NEW 2015 GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4x4 #D9216L NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$43,880 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$25,677 Navigation, Moonroof, 18" Alloys, Heated Leather, Power Liftgate. SAVE \$18,200 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>LIKE NEW 2015 FORD F-150 4x4 SUPERCAB #P11746L NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$38,965 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$29,455 2.7L V6 EcoBoost, Alloy Wheels, Bluetooth, SYNC, Back-Up Cam. SAVE \$9,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>
<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>
<p>2016 GRAND CARAVAN #D9170L • SXT TRIM, ALLOYS, BLUETOOTH, 3RD ROW SEATS NEW Retail Price: \$28,440 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$14,377 SAVE \$14,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2015 LINCOLN MKC SUV #P11258A • ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, TURBO, HEATED LEATHER NEW Retail Price: \$33,995 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,355 SAVE \$11,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>2017 HYUNDAI SONATA #H0523 • SPORT TRIM, TURBO, HEATED SEATS, BACK-UP CAM NEW Retail Price: \$28,775 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$17,399 SAVE \$11,400 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>
<p>LIKE NEW 2015 CHEVY TAHOE LTZ SUV #39145 NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$63,400 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$45,444 Moonroof, Navigation, DVD, 4x4, Heated Leather, MyLink, 20" Alloys. SAVE \$18,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>LIKE NEW 2015 RAM 1500 EXPRESS CREW CAB #H0552 NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$39,585 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$27,999 Bedliner, 20" Alloys, iPod Input, 4x4, 5.7L V8 Hemi, Tow Hitch. SAVE \$11,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</p>	<p>LIKE NEW 2017 HYUNDAI SANTA FE ULTIMATE #H0104 NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$40,335 WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,799 Sport 2.0L Turbo Trim, Moonroof, Heated Leather, Alloys, Navigation. SAVE \$13,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!</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.

8-18 UXBRIDGE ROAD, RTE. 16 • MENDON, MA
www.imperialcars.com



KUBALA
HOME IMPROVEMENT
The Door and Window Experts

Help Us Help Our Friends At
Second Chance
Animal Services

...And We'll Save You \$\$\$\$



Ralph & Teddy Kubala

- Most Needed Items:
- Dog Food

Cat Food

Cleaning Supplies

Pet Toys

Clean Towels (new & used)

Paper Towels

Trash Bags

Laundry Soap & Bleach

You GIVE, We GIVE



Schedule a **Window or Door Estimate** in December and for **EVERY ITEM** Donated We Will Take **1% OFF** Your Project **Up To 10%***



18 Months 0% Interest | Quote Good for One Year



Join Our Family of SATISFIED Customers!

Call TODAY! 508-784-1112
www.KubalaHome.com



MACSL100114 | MAHic150118 | CTHic0619712

Valid on Sunrise, Essentials and Signet Products. Four Window Minimum. Subject to Credit Approval. *Save 1% Off Your Order Per Item Donated, Maximum Discount 10%, up to \$1000. New Orders Only. Offer May Not Be Combined with Any Other Offers, or Previously Quoted and/or Purchased Orders. All Property Owners Must Be Present to Qualify for Donation/Discount Offer. Offer expires 12/31/18.