

School Committee rejects teacher contract

SEARCH BEGINS FOR NEW SUPERINTENDENT

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The School Committee voted last Thursday to reject a contract which would have given teachers a one-half of one percent raise, leaving the district and union at an impasse for now.

The Committee also established a process through which interested individuals can apply to serve on the interim superintendent search

committee or the permanent search committee.

The evening as well saw impassioned debate over the middle school's Summit Learning Platform including a call from SC member Felicia Nuremson for an immediate suspension of the program.

Greg Vine was elected chair of the committee for the next year. Those were the headlines.

Vine was joined by Nuremson and outgoing member Danielle

LaPointe in voting 'no' on the contract. Larry Murphy and Dawn Fronte' voted yes, but the bottom line is negotiations will need to be reopened.

"We'll go back to the drawing board," acknowledged Murphy.

The contract which was turned down was for a single year. Vine noted his reservations were based on his feeling that a one year-deal "postpones the inevitable" need to look at

ways to find more money for students in the classrooms and for curriculum development.

Vine added the economic prospects for next year do look brighter with the elimination of the debt, but cautioned even an improved financial situation won't automatically lead to substantial pay raises for teachers.

"We'll see. There are other types of compensation like step increases and benefits. We'll address all that next year," said Vine.

LaPointe explained her reasoning for opposing the con-

tract. "A plan and strategy was developed to try to cut costs keeping students and programming at the forefront as best as possible while still allowing for salary increases. I whole-heartedly believe teachers have one of the most important jobs on the planet. They deserve to be compensated appropriately, including all the extras of their own they put in."

"That plan was presented to the collective bargaining unit (union), which acts on behalf

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Flanagan: cannabis legalization must be done 'right'

BY GREG VINE
STONEBRIDGE
CORRESPONDENT

Three groups of business partners have each applied to land one of the three retail marijuana licenses available in the town of Winchendon. The proposed locations include the former State Line Auction building on School Street, about a mile south of the New Hampshire border; a vacant storefront adjacent to the Harbour Restaurant near the intersection of Maple and Glenallen streets, and; the long-closed Stuff 'n' Things, a store that offered an eclectic selection of items, located on Baldwinville State Road.



Jennifer Flanagan

Applicants must negotiate a community host agreement with the town, participate in a community outreach process, and go through background checks before moving on to the state Cannabis Control Commission for its consideration.

Former state Sen. Jen Flanagan of Leominster is one of five members of the commission. Gov. Charlie Baker appointed in August of last year to represent his office on the panel. Although Baker is a Republican and Flanagan a Democrat, both were vocal opponents of the ballot question that ultimate-

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Il Sackett photos

MH Parks company at Brown Street entrance, circa 1914

M.H. Parks: finest kind



Joann, Todd and Brad Parks at same Brown Street entrance, 2018

When New Englanders hear you live in Winchendon, Massachusetts they often observe "oh that's where they used to make furniture! I drove up there years ago to buy a bed/chair/dining room set."

Used to make furniture? We still do.

Perhaps the most enduring example in town is M.H. Parks, or Martin Harrison Parks, which for over 100 years has occupied an unassuming yet sprawling barn-



LOCALLY
YOURS

JILL
SACKETT

red building running the length of a football field along Miller's River. There is no identifying sign outside. But inside, the factory is humming with furniture design, manufacturing and high-volume output with 18 employees and time-sensitive orders.

Few companies can boast this extensive family lineage. The current owner is Todd Harrison Parks, representing the seventh generation of a

Turn To **PARKS** page **A9**



eg Vine photo

The Winchendon Housing Authority Tuesday received a \$10,000 gift from Power Options, a Boston-based energy-buying consortium serving New England. The grant will fund the construction of a gazebo at WHA's affordable housing complex at Hyde Park Drive. Pictured (l-r): PowerOptions Executive Vice President Meg Lusardi; WHA board members Virginia Sibley, David Johnson, Burton Gould, and Jacquelyn Flynn; state Representative Jon Zlotnik, and; WHA Executive Director David Connor. WHA board member Les Goodrich was unable to attend.

WHA will use gift for Hyde Park gazebo

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Boston-based energy-buying consortium PowerOptions this week handed over a check for \$10,000 to the Winchendon Housing Authority to construct a gazebo at the Hyde Park Drive affordable housing complex. The WHA was one of only 20 nonprofit and/or governmental agencies across the Commonwealth chosen to receive a donation as part of PowerOptions' "20 for 20 Campaign." The campaign marks the consortium's 20th year in existence.

At Tuesday morning's gift presentation, WHA Executive Director David Connor said,

"The Winchendon Housing Authority thanks everyone involved in selecting us to receive this grant award. This will help fund a new gazebo for our resident in the Hyde Park elderly/disabled community."

Connor said the authority had been working for several years to secure the funding needed to build the gazebo, "which will give our residents an opportunity to sit and relax while not having to venture far from their homes."

"This will," he continued, "improve the residents' social activities while also providing disabled residents a comfortable place to sit and enjoy all

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Winchendon Winds celebrates 4th of July and Clyde

BY JILL SACKETT
SPECIAL TO THE COURIER

Winchendon Winds, a 40-piece professional concert band, returns for a fourth season of exemplary music-making at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 126 Central St. in downtown Winchendon. Their first of three concerts titled "America!" will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 1.

The program includes a stirring rendition of "America the Beautiful", joyful marches, the western-sounding "American Overture", Broadway melodies and patriotic favorites.

The concert is free and open to all. Homemade strawberry shortcake with whipped cream and biscuits will be sold on the front lawn of the church beginning at 1:00 p.m. and leading up

to the concert.

The program highlight will be the playing of "Toy Town March," a rollicking piece composed specifically for Win Winds by New Englander David Maker, celebrating our town's toy manufacturing history and Clyde the Horse. Nancy and Wally Willcox, representing their extended family, will receive special recognition for their hard work in restoring the 3rd generation Clyde last fall.

Win Winds welcomes a new conductor, James Chesebrough, to the podium this season. Dr. Chesebrough retired as the band director at Keene State University this past May, and holds multiple degrees in music education and conducting. He has brought great new talent into the band and exciting pro-

gramming ideas.

Win Winds is a full symphonic band comprised of brass, woodwinds, and percussion. Its talented musicians are largely music teachers, performers, and music performance students from over 30 towns in north central Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. The ensemble plays with a clarity and expression that is a rare treat to hear. It is sustained by grants and donations from the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation, the David Greenwalt Charitable Trust, and local businesses and individuals, which enable these concerts to be presented free of charge.

For more information visit www.winchendonwinds.org and WinchendonWinds on Facebook.



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LOCAL

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SPORTS

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WEEKLY QUOTE

The American flag is the symbol of our freedom, national pride and history.

Mike Fitzpatrick

CLYDE'S CORNER

Friday June 29

SUMMER CONCERTS ANNOUNCED: The Winchendon Recreation Committee hosts its annual concert series at GAR Park every Friday from June 15 to July 29. All shows run from 6:30-8:00 p.m. In case of rain, shows go on at Winchendon Town Hall Auditorium, same date and time. June 29: The Ashboys: Local duo plays fiery top 40 classics.

Saturday June 30

MARKET IS OPEN! Toy Town Outdoor Market open for the season. Produce, baked goods, crafts and more! Thursday's 4-7 p.m. and Saturday's 10 a.m.-1 p.m. next to the bike path parking lot at the corner of Rt. 12 and Rt. 202, Winchendon.

Sunday, July 1

SUMMER CONCERT: Winchendon Winds, a 40-piece professional concert band, holds the first of three summer concerts at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Church, 126 Central St. This concert, titled "America!" will feature a lively and patriotic banquet of popular favorites to help you celebrate the Fourth of July in style. The church will be selling homemade strawberry shortcake on the lawn an hour before the concert. Come for a shortcake picnic; stay for the concert! The concert is free and open to the public.

Thursday July 5

OPEN HOUSE: come sit on the porch and relax at the Murdock Whitney House museum 6-8 p.m. Tour the house, walk across the street and get ice

cream at Seppi's. Free evening, every Thursday throughout the summer. **MARKET IS OPEN!** Toy Town Outdoor Market open for the season. Produce, baked goods, crafts and more! Thursday's 4-7 p.m. and Saturday's 10 a.m.-1 p.m. next to the bike path parking lot at the corner of Rt. 12 and Rt. 202, Winchendon.

Friday July 6

SUMMER CONCERTS ANNOUNCED: The Winchendon Recreation Committee hosts its annual concert series at GAR Park every Friday from June 15 to July 29. All shows run from 6:30-8:00 p.m. In case of rain, shows go on at Winchendon Town Hall Auditorium, same date and time. July 6: The Terryrifics: Keytar and piano rock group.

Saturday July 7

SHADES OF GRAY...AND MORE! Spend the evening at the Winchendon History and Culture Center as an evening yard sale kicks off 4-8 p.m. at the Murdock Whitney Museum (including spare artifacts and ephemera); Seppi's Ice Cream is open and from 6-8 p.m. the Civil War era brass band Shades of Gray will play in an open air concert. Great way to spend an evening!
Sunday, July 8

SUMMER CONCERT: Winchendon Winds, a 40-piece professional concert band, holds the second of three summer concerts at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Church, 126 Central St. This concert, titled "The Greatest Hits of 1918" is themed around significant events in music history exactly 100 years ago. Lickity Splitz will be selling homemade ice cream on the lawn an hour before the concert. Come for ice cream; stay for the concert! The concert is free and open to the public.

OLD MURDOCK SENIOR CENTER

Old Murdock Senior Center
52 Murdock Ave.

Please find below the activities listed for the month of July 2018 for the Old Murdock Senior Center. Please call the Center at 978-297-3155 for information on any program or to join us for lunch! Lunch is served daily (unless otherwise noted) starting at 11:30. A reservation must be made one day prior for lunch by calling the Center at 978-297-3155.

July 2: Market Basket 12:15; Wii bowling 9:30; Chair Exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00
July 3: Wii bowling 9:30; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard

July 4: CENTER CLOSED FOR JULY 4TH HOLIDAY NO MEALS OR TRANSPORTATION

July 5: Wii Bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard
July 9: Market Basket 12:15; Wii bowling 9:30; Yoga 10:00
July 10: Wii bowling 9:30; Line Dancing 10:00; Yoga with Paula 1:15-2:15; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard
July 11: Market Basket 9:15; Wii bowling 9:30; Zumba w/Alisha 9:30; Chair Exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard; BINGO 12:30
July 12: Wii bowling 9:30; 10:00; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard

July 13: Painting Class - 9-11; Peanut Auction
July 16: Wii Bowling 9:30; Chair Exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00
July 17: Yoga w/Paula 1:15-2:15; Wii bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard
July 18: Market Basket 9:15; Wii bowling 9:30; Zumba w/Alisha 9:30; Yoga 10:00; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard; BINGO 12:30
July 19: Wii bowling 9:30; 10:00; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard
July 23: Market Basket 12:15; Wii bowling 9:30; Chair Exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00

July 24: Wii bowling 9:30; Line Dancing 10:00; Yoga with Paula 1:15-2:15; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard
July 25: Market Basket 9:15; Wii bowling 9:30; Zumba w/Alisha 9:30; Chair Exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard; BINGO 12:30
July 26: Fallon Rep 10-12; Wii bowling 9:30; 10:00; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard
July 27: Painting Class - 9-11
July 30: Wii bowling 9:30; Chair exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00
July 31: Wii bowling 9:30; Pool; Card Games; Shuffleboard; Yoga with Paula 1:15-2:15

WHA

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the beauty Hyde Park Drive has to offer."

Power Options Executive Vice President Meg Lusardi said the WHA's grant application was so well written, "it would have been almost impossible to say 'no'."

Connor said he hopes construction of the gazebo will be completed before winter. The grant monies, he said, should cover the cost of both materials and labor. A similar structure was build at

the WHA's Ipswich Drive complex and dedicated to the memory of long-time Housing Authority member and supporter Malcolm Sibley. No word yet on whether the Hyde Park gazebo will be dedicated to anyone's memory.

The only other local entity to receive a gift was the Fitchburg school district, which will use the funds to improve the heating system at Longsjo Middle School. In addition to providing the school's nearly 600 students with a more comfortable learning

environment, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Robert Jokelar, said the improvements would make the system more energy efficient.

Founded in 1998, PowerOptions has worked to save nonprofits and public entities time and money on energy, "so they can direct more resources toward their own important missions." The consortium also serves governmental and nonprofit organizations in Connecticut and Rhode Island.



TRULY A 'THROWBACK'

Mat Plamondon photo

Music of the '50s and '60s are truly a "throwback" but truly enjoyed last Friday at the Smith Community Pavilion at GAR Park. This week the band will go even further back in time as the Ashboys feature top 40 classics. All concerts begin at 6:30 and in case of inclement weather the concerts move to the town hall auditorium.

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ATHOL | ASHBURNHAM | BALDWINVILLE | BARRE | GARDNER | WINCHENDON

COURIER CAPSULES

SHADES OF GRAY...AND MORE! Spend the evening at the Winchendon History and Culture Center as an evening yard sale kicks off 4-8 p.m. at the Murdock Whitney Museum (including spare artifacts and ephemera); Seppi's Ice Cream is open and from 6-8 p.m. the Civil War era brass band Shades of Gray will play in an open air concert. Great way to spend an evening!

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
GETTYSBURG, PA — Kaleigh Johnson, of Rindge has been placed on the Gettysburg College Dean's Honor List for outstanding academic achievement in the Spring 2018 semester.

Students with a quality point average of 3.60 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) for a semester's work are placed on the College's Dean's Honor List.

BOSTON — The following local stu-

dents recently earned a degree from Simmons College in Boston. Melanie Sims, of Athol earned a Master of social work; Laura DiCienzo, of Westminster earned a Master of social work; and Stephanie Augusto, of Winchendon earned an education specialist in special education in language and literacy.

ROCHESTER, NY — Joe Yeiter of Rindge, who is in the industrial engineering program, made the Dean's List for the spring semester at Rochester Institute of Technology. Degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of "Incomplete", "D" or "F"; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

NORTH ANDOVER — Merrimack College recognizes local students who have achieved Dean's List for Spring 2018. Among them were Gabrielle Hammond of Phillipston and Isaac Ley of Jaffrey.

HOW TO USE: THE WINCHENDON COURIER

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Knights of the Inferno M C say Thank You!

SUBMITTED BY MARK DESMARAIS

For the second year in row, wet weather was in the forecast. Rain is the biggest deterrent when it comes to running a successful motorcycle ride. I had some of my best friends cancel out because of the 80% chance of rain.

But then there were the true bikers. Thirty seven motor cycles arrived at the American Legion to take part in the KIFFMC's third annual Special Olympics Poker Run to raise money for the Winchendon School District's Special Olympics program. I knew we had a good ride planned, I just was unsure of how wet this ride was going to be.

We departed the Legion at 10:30am. With the assistance of the Winchendon Police Department at the intersections in town, we were on our way, hoping the rain would hold off.

The rain did hold off until we reached Phillipston. Here we ran into about a 10 minute stretch of some steady rain. We got a little bit damp but we were on our way to Barre and to our first stop at the Upper Deck Restaurant and Pub.

Here the riders received complimentary hotdogs and the establishment actually opened two hours early

to accommodate our cause. Before leaving the Upper Deck, most riders donned their rain gear. And this was very helpful, because we did not run into any more rain for the remainder of our ride.

Our second stop was at the Turn Pike Fish and Game club in Ashburnham. They too, graciously welcomed the riders. Along the way, we had assistance from the Athol and Gardner Police departments who stopped traffic at various intersections so our rider could remain together.

We returned to the Winchendon American Legion at 2:30 pm. I still had my doubts about how successful this event was going to be. That is until I went inside the Legion and saw the crowd.

Our community came out to support this great cause. Former New England Patriots Cheerleader Captain, Lindsay Barrows came out and autographed her picture. She took pictures with all who greeted her. Thank you again Lindsay!

People continued to arrive to eat a great pasta meal catered by Sean Patrick's catering service and to listen and dance to the live classic rock music provided by "The NOIZE", who gener-

ously donated their time.

We were honored to have four Special athletes with us for the afternoon. They had fun, they danced, they met Lindsay and they made our event just that more special.

I want to thank all who attended and all who donated items for our raffle. We couldn't have done this without your support. I want to thank all the riders and passengers who did not fear the weather. A special shout out to the MC's who came out to support our event: Hawg Haulers, Knights of the Inferno MC, "MA2" Central MA chapter and "NH1" Monadnock chapter, Patriot Riders, East Coast Brotherhood and American Legions Riders from Baldwinsville and Northborough. Thank you to the American Legion for the use of their newly renovated upstairs hall. Thanks Deb O for all the donations. Thank you American Harley Davidson and Monadnock Harley Davidson for your generous donations. Thanks to the Harbour Restaurant. If I forgot anyone, it is not intentional!

Lastly I want to thank all the members and wives of our Chapter, "MA1" Inroads. We hope to see you all again next year! Rain or Shine we ride. "Don't



Fear the Cut". Save the Dates! Nov. 17 KIFFMC Comedy Night benefitting our second annual high school scholarship and Dec. 31 for the Rockin' New Year's Eve Party at the Legion sponsored by KIFFMC and the American Legion Post.



Courtesy photos

ACCURACY WATCH

The *Winchendon Courier* 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 three in a timely manner. If you find a mistake, call (978) 297-0050 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call. Or contact the editor at the following email: ruth@stonebridgepress.news.



Full-Time Tenant Coordinator Position

The Winchendon Housing Authority is seeking to hire a Full-time Applicant/Tenant Coordinator. This coordinator is a 40 hr./week position responsible for the determination of eligibility of all applicants applying for federal or state subsidized housing as well as a small section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program. To maintain all program waiting list and updates that are required by DHCD and HUD standards. Assist with rent redetermination for all state, federal and Section 8 housing programs. Coordinate between housing residents and maintenance staff on work-orders to perform repairs. Required qualifications are solid understanding of Microsoft Windows 10 operating system with Microsoft Office 365 software package, Internet and Intranet systems. Applicant must have attained at least a High School Diploma or equivalent schooling and to have strong experience in public relations with both elderly and family clientele. Preferred qualifications are to have working knowledge of Chapter 121B (760 CMR regulations especially 4,5,6,8 and 49) and 24 CFR 5, 905,985, and all other state and federal regulations that apply to low rent public housing. Some level of training in Low-Rent public housing administration, PHA-WEB Housing Software and bilingual ability in Spanish is preferred.

SALARY RANGE: \$38,000.00 to \$42,000.00

PRE-OFFER PROCESS:

A CORI/SORI background check will be completed as well as a complete physical and drug screening on the prospective candidate.

Please send 3 resumes and 3 letters of reference by the end of business on Thursday July 12, 2018 to:

Tenant Coordinator Search Committee
Mr. David P. Connor, Executive Director
 Winchendon Housing Authority
 108 Ipswich Drive, Winchendon, MA 01475

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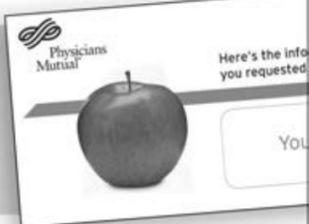


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WINCHENDON COURIER

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER: FRANK CHILINSKI
EDITOR: RUTH DEAMICIS

VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

EDITORIAL

Are we boring you? Scaring you?
Or haven't we done our jobs?

"According to the L.A. Times, by next year, millennials born between 1981 and 1996 are projected to outnumber baby boomers born between 1946 and 1964. But millennials are going to the polls in very small numbers. In the 2014 mid-term elections, turnout among 18-20 year-olds was 15%, which was the lowest in a national election since the voting age was changed from 21 in 1971."

As often as we tout the need to register to vote, to go to the polls, to become involved especially at the local level; that statement from the LA Times is frightening.

We can shrug and say it is indicative of the age of that demographic; that people that age don't usually become involved in politics for another 10 years or so when it hits them how important it is to them personally.

No, that is not so. At least, it hasn't been so in the past. There was no one more passionate about politics and being involved than the young people of the 1960s and '70s. The ones who marched for civil rights and women's rights and against a war. They were definitely that demographic.

And we can definitely see a move in a slightly younger generation for involvement; think of the high school age students who have made a movement on their own for civil rights and gun control in the wake of tragedies they have personally witnessed. While they are immediately advocating gun control, we imagine with more thought they will also begin paying attention to other pieces of the puzzle, and understand there is more to it. There will be really good young people entering political science classes, and social work classes, and law, and history in the next two or three years we suspect. Advocating for better mental health and intervention; advocating for education on peer mediation and anti-bullying and recognizing

the symptoms of antisocial behaviors among their peers, hoping to interrupt a tragedy before it happens.

But that is the younger generation. We need to address this sorrowful state of those two to five years of young adults who are in college right now; who are NOT in political advocacy groups, not joining Young Republican Clubs or even being compromised by (gasp) the far left by tempting them with a social event.

They aren't working for candidates they believe in. They aren't registering voters. They aren't working for civil liberties.

And they aren't voting themselves. After watching a view interviews with that age groups, there was a sense some are indeed overwhelmed by the whole thing; they fear they can't make a difference so why try.

They don't know where to start. Some have no clue how it works. No one taught them how. And they fear they will make a mistake.

Some throw up their hands in disgust, not "wanting to be sucked in" to it at all.

But we need them to be "sucked in." We desperately need them to want to be part of it.

Because they are the next steps. The next ones to BE there. To be part of the system, or the new world order if it changes. And they must, they really must be part of that process.

We can't as a nation afford to have them step aside.

We may have done them all a disservice by not emphasizing the old civics curriculum many of us learned in high school. But we can't change that now. We need to find a way now to engage them where we are, and where they are.

Because if we don't, and you think our current political scene is in turmoil, wait 10 years.

Plenty of scoundrels
to go around

"Guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism."
— George Washington

Some lame little website that goes by the name Wallethub.com has somehow determined that Massachusetts is the least patriotic state in the nation. Yes, the home of the Boston Tea Party, the Boston Massacre, the "shot heard 'round the world," and the home of John Hancock, Sam Adams, John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Benjamin Franklin (he was born here), Paul Revere, and Samuel Prescott (the guy who actually warned Concord "the Red Coats are coming!"), just to name a few; ours is the least patriotic state out of all 50.

Hogwash, I say!

Frankly, I hate arguments over patriotism, especially since so many of the most-vile individuals in history have been overly-energetic flag-wavers, anthem-singers (when they could remember the words), and sabre-rattlers (as if going to war – or ordering others to the battlefield – is what makes one a patriot). As far as I'm concerned, nearly everyone who's ever been blacklisted or reviled for being a little too vocal in their dissent – or maybe taking a knee during the National Anthem – is just as patriotic as the guy who flies an over-sized American flag from his pickup truck.

And you know what? I think the guy who simply gets up and goes to work each day, feeds his family, keeps a roof over the heads of his children, checks in on his neighbors, volunteers at church or school, and chooses not to fly giant flags or spout political slogans is the most patriotic of all.



...AND
ONE MORE
THING...
GREG
VINE

Anyway, how does anyone possibly determine which state is – or isn't – patriotic? Well, Wallethub should consider changing its name to Zipperhead. The state-by-state criteria its "experts" used to justify their idiotic conclusion included but was not limited to: average number of military enlistees per 1,000 civilian adults; veterans per 1,000 civilian adults; active duty military personnel per 1,000 civilian adults; share of civilian adult population in military reserves, and; frequency of Google searches for American flags.

Seriously? Frequency of Google searches for American flags? What the...? After about the age of 5 or so, by which time most American kids not living in a cave know what our flag looks like, why would anyone need to repeatedly do a Google search for American flags? I mean, I can look out a window on just about any side of the house I live in and spot a flag.

Still, I guess the big questions is: What made any of these guys think not only that rating states on their patriotism was a good idea, but how could any of them believe such a determination could be made in anything but a totally subjective manner.

Patriotism cannot, after all, be objectively determined. Anyone who loves their country is a patriot. One need not wave a flag, wear a flag lapel pin, or have a framed copy of the Pledge of Allegiance on their living room wall to qualify as a patriot. Not that there's anything wrong with any of those things.

Where too many patriots, or "the

Turn To VINE page A5

Illegal immigration



NOTES OF
CONCERN

JACK
BLAIR

We as a nation have lost any interest in civil discourse.

Accordingly, friends are turning against friends, acknowledged authorities are being ignored, and people who differ with us politically are being demonized, unfriended, or consigned to our wastebasket.

This is unhealthy and totally foreign to what our nation has since her inception stood for. We live in very ugly times.

So I begin this column with the understanding that Trump haters and Trump supporters will choose to pick pieces of what I say and use them to their own advantage. I will be supported and attacked. It is the price of trying to bring reason to subjects that inflame.

Nevertheless, here is the way I see it:

Parents are responsible for their children.

If parents choose to subject their children to possible separation due to making illegal choices on how to enter the United States, it is not the fault of the US or US policies that those separations occur.

If parents are breaking US law, is it fair to place their children in the jail, or other adult housing facilities for law breakers? I think not.

So if the parents choose to take this risk, what is the responsibility of the US gov-

ernment? They have been given a task they did not seek. They have been asked to stand *in loco parentis* for the children of law breakers. The responsibility then is to do the best they can to feed, house, and protect these children during the time they are in our care. Ultimately, if the law-breaking parents are sent home, then they should be reunited with their children, and the children should be sent home, too.

Winston Churchill and many other outstanding leaders have agreed a nation that does not control her borders is not a nation. We have failed to control our borders for decades.

Human nature is to worry about the well being of all children. But the first responsibility rests with the parent. It is right that the plight of any child should be of concern but it is wrong to absolve

the illegal parent for make the decision to include the child.

The current program of dealing with illegals has been on the law books for a great many administrations going back to the laws Clinton signed and Bush and Obama administered. Concern over international terrorism is what has turned up the volume on needing to take action to protect the nation and her citizens. Again, the US did not ask for terrorism but has been on the receiving end of it and anticipates it will grow worse not better. Lines of defense must be drawn.

Accordingly, the current outcry can reasonably be assumed to be simply another way to attack the sitting president, rather than a reasonable response to tightening border controls, vetting those who wish to come and operating under the laws already on

the books.

So what should we do?

I think we should process the illegal parents as quickly and fairly as possible and, if they do not qualify for asylum, return them to their homelands. During the process, I think we should spend what is required to provide adequate care for their innocent children, the family members who did not decide to break our laws. Because of the huge growth in the number of children we are stretched as a nation to meet this need. It is right for us to continue to highlight this problem with the children and to encourage efforts to find solutions. Such attention sometimes helps legislation to move forward more quickly.

Now there are always individual situations that pull at

Turn To BLAIR page A5

Pay attention to the rest of it

Last week while we were all focused on the #notmypresident-incited chaos at the border (you maybe expected different?), there was more monstrosity going on elsewhere, primarily in Washington where the swamp, rather than being drained, was deepened, and where even a whole lot of DJT voters were in the process of getting royally screwed by the Republicans they bizarrely love so much.

Just in cases you wondered about the fallout of not voting, let's start with this. Last week the Supreme Court wrapped up its 2017-18 term and where are we? We are 'governed' by a 'President' who has no use for the rule of law and tries to make laws up as he lurches along from tweetstorm to tweetstorm. We have a reactionary Court thanks to the machinations of a single Senator who quite literally stole a seat and of course we have a supine Congress.

This is the fallout, not just from 2016 but from 2010 and 2014. If progressives had bothered to show up in enough numbers during those two midterm cycles, we might not be where we are. To those of you who are fond of behaving like

an ostrich, from those of us who did show up, thanks so much. Guess what? Elections have consequences. Maybe you're finally figuring that out. If not, if you're still interested mostly in your memes, then you're complicit. Hope that makes you quite uncomfortable.

The House passed a couple bills designed at undercutting the Medicare and Social Security safety nets and while Senate approval is very far from guaranteed, we got another glimpse of what the spineless Paul Ryan and colleagues have been up to while so many folks understandably and justifiably were rising to condemn the un-American garbage going on at the aforementioned border.

Make no mistake. If you are not white and wealthy, this so-called Administration is your enemy and you better be paying attention. A slew of ultra-right wing judges who have no use for civil liberties, who disdain diversity



JOURNEY
OF THE
HEART
JERRY
CARTON

(deducted numbers) and, according to the *Times*, border patrol agents are aggressively stepping up check-points even in suburban neighborhoods in places like Maine, New Hampshire and Montana. This has infuriated a lot of people and the ACLU has already won at least one lawsuit filed against increasingly Gestapo-like tactics. DJT himself went to Minnesota to try and deflect from all this by railing against the notorious M-13 gang, ominously warning refugees desperately trying to escape Central America's violence, including three year-olds mind you, are just as serious a threat as M-13.

Folks, don't let yourselves be distract-

ed, not even by the Mueller investigation. For real, okay? The horror show at the border, beyond-inexplicably cheered by that 30-some percent who have somehow bought into the whole MAGA con, revealed more than bigotry and incompetence. It revealed as well that we need, gasp, actual politicians in charge of government.

That's right. Politicians. Set aside for a moment DJT's ideology, or perhaps his lack of one. Private sector CEOs, even those who share my own progressive ideology, tend to be ill-suited for the give-and-take of governance. Right up the street are 535 mini-CEOs and you need 218 of them (out of 435) in one chamber and either 51, 60, or 67 (out of 100) in the other to really get anything substantive done. A whole lot of private sector bosses aren't used to that and aren't used to seeing how the proverbial sausage is made, as the saying about how laws get written goes. Their lobbyists might but them? Eh. Not so likely. So to Mark Cuban and Howard Samuels and yes, Oprah - don't even think about doing it. And for the record,

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VINE
continued from page A4

impostures of pretended patriotism," go wrong is when they decorate their pickup trucks with bumper stickers proclaiming "My Country Right or Wrong" or "America Love it or Leave It." Translated, each of those slogans means quite simply, "No Dissent Allowed" and "My Brand of Patriotism is the ONLY Brand of Patriotism."

If you love your country, you're a patriot. If you work to right the wrongs you see in your country, you're a patriot. If you get involved in your community - whether it's in a service organization, an activist organization, town government, your church, or just checking in on your elderly neighbor - you're a patriot.

There are many, many ways of being a patriot - and the vast majority of them aren't showy and ostentatious. The best way to manifest your patriotism is, I believe, by undertaking quiet acts of kindness, but taking even small steps to improve the place where you live.

I think Sen. Cory Booker may have said it best: "Patriotism is love of country. But you can't love your country without loving your countrymen and countrywomen. We don't always have to agree, but we must empower each other, we must find the common ground, we must build bridges across our differences to pursue the common good."

And so, Wallethub, on behalf of all residents of the great state of Massachusetts: Bite me!

WORK ON CHESTNUT BEGINS

Work has begun on the reconstruction of Chestnut Street. The first bit of work, however, started on Central Street this week as crews tied into the 10-inch water main that runs down Winchendon's main downtown street. A new 8-inch main will from Central Street to Beech Street via Walnut, replacing the existing 6-inch main. It's anticipated the nearly-\$400,000 project - which includes new sidewalks and drainage, sign installation, line striping, and reconstruction of the roadway - will be completed by Sept. 7. The work is being done by Caracas Construction of Ludlow, Mass.

Greg Vine photos



BLAIR
continued from page A4

our heart strings. For instance, a family seeking asylum from torture, sexual abuse, or religious intolerance has a claim on our sympathy. But those who use these examples never share how seldom these are the cases of those wanting to come here. The great majority of those illegally cross the border are not asylum seekers. I would err on the side of proving more time to vet asylum seekers to be certain we are not sending anyone back into an abyss in their own homeland.

Also, there is the matter of our own poor, homeless, and discriminated against citizens. Tax money needs to go to them first. There are those who are unemployed and who lose chances to work because illegals are willing to work for less. Should our tax dollars not first support our own citizens?

When a job is taken from a citizen and given to an illegal willing to work for much less, we create another citizen who moves to the welfare rolls and the taxpayers get to subsidize his needs. It is an ever growing problem and it benefits the illegal and harms the citizen.

It would be a stretch to say an American president is under an obligation to allow this to grow like Topsy.

Each time someone gets approval to stay who did not follow the procedures all the legal immigrants did, we make a mockery of our laws and our sense of fairness.

Each time illegals manage to sneak into our country, we take on the very large burden of providing benefits to them equal to those we provide tax payers or to underprivileged deserving citizens.

And finally, when borders are open, enemies take full advantage and as long as they continue to do so, we populate our country with more and more people who could be potential terrorists. Keeping potential terrorists out of the country is far easier than finding them and deporting them after they disappear into mid America.

The whole matter is like that presented biblically to King Solomon. Who is the mother of the child? Shall the child be cut in half and each claimant given one half of the child? It was the real mother who was willing to give up her claim.

It sounds awful but the phrase put Americans first actually

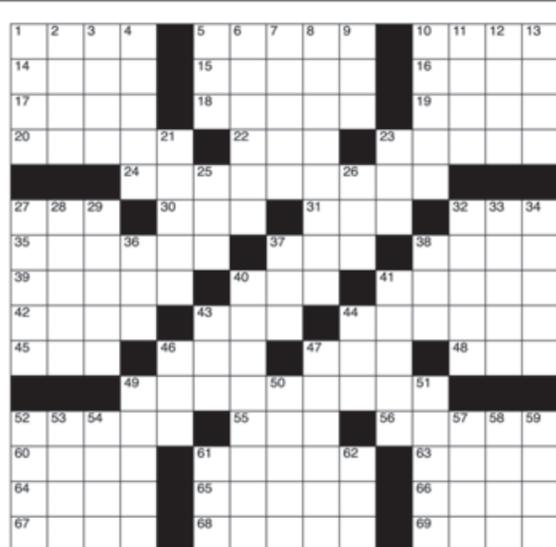
is one we need to revisit. We are a nation of taxpayers. We have on our streets citizens of our country who are in terrible need. We have citizens out of work. We have citizens who need protection.

When a president takes an oath to protect and defend the Constitution of The United States it could be considered an impeachable act for him to fail to do so.

I have thought about this a lot. I care a great deal for children. But this immense national issue cannot be reduced to whether we want to treat the children of illegals differently from their parents. The illegal immigrant parents made a decision to take the risk. It does not fall to us to place our nation at risk or to ignore all those applicants for citizenship who sought and received proper vetting.

We need to get this straight. We need a policy that works. We do not have one currently.

Let us elect and support people who will find the way forward with this very emotional issue. And let us tone down the rhetoric and let the government find ways to bring balance to the issue.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Green and yellow citrus fruit
- 5. Type of clock
- 10. Die
- 14. A hammer needs one
- 15. Leopard (Hebrew)
- 16. In the Hebrew calendar
- 17. Away from wind
- 18. Type of footwear
- 19. Malaysian coastal city
- 20. Arm bones
- 22. A type of diligence
- 23. Banquets
- 24. Home of The Beatles
- 27. Electromotive force
- 30. Small amount
- 31. Type of cola
- 32. Adult female
- 35. Astronomy unit
- 37. Hall of Fame
- 38. Type of gazelle
- 39. Places
- 40. Women from the Mayflower
- 41. Liquid served with food
- 42. Predatory semiaquatic reptile (abbr.)
- 43. Angle (abbr.)
- 44. Touched lightly
- 45. Cannister
- 46. Crony
- 47. Tell on
- 48. Body of water
- 49. Sorts out
- 52. Mammary gland of female cattle
- 55. Collegiate athletic conference
- 56. Sword
- 60. Protein-rich liquids
- 61. Emaciation
- 63. Italian seaport
- 64. Agreement
- 65. Chinese ethnic group
- 66. University of Miami's mascot
- 67. People who buy and sell securities
- 68. Genus of mosquitos
- 69. Holds up your head

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Two-toed sloth
- 2. Impudent behavior
- 3. The right to take another's property
- 4. Refers to end of small intestine
- 5. Mandela's party
- 6. Inserted strips of fat before cooking
- 7. Secret love affair
- 8. Responds to stimulation
- 9. Wife
- 10. Desert mammal
- 11. A nearly horizontal passage from the surface into a mine
- 12. Uncommon
- 13. ___ Kristofferson, actor
- 21. Where buildings are built
- 23. Chain attached to a watch
- 25. Holiday (informal)
- 26. Clod
- 27. Synchronizes solar and lunar time
- 28. Australian eucalyptus tree
- 29. Aerosol propellant
- 32. Coats with a sticky substance
- 33. Master of ceremonies
- 34. The venerable __, British theologian
- 36. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- 37. Witch
- 38. Strike with a light blow
- 40. The First State
- 41. Satisfies
- 43. A way to fish
- 44. Magnetic tape used to make recordings
- 46. For each
- 47. Flower cluster
- 49. Closes off
- 50. One who supports fanatically
- 51. Type of vaccine
- 52. Approves food
- 53. Hoofed grazing animal
- 54. Drearly dull
- 57. Youngster
- 58. ___ Clapton, musician
- 59. Take a chance
- 61. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 62. Female sibling



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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

PUZZLE SOLUTION

U	G	L	I	A	L	A	R	M	C	A	R	K
N	A	I	L	N	A	M	E	R	A	D	A	R
A	L	E	E	C	R	O	C	S	M	I	R	I
U	L	N	A	S	D	U	E	F	E	T	E	S
	L	I	V	E	R	P	O	O	L			
E	M	F	T	A	D	T	A	B	D	E	B	
P	A	R	S	E	C	H	O	F	D	A	M	A
A	R	E	A	S	D	A	R	S	A	U	C	E
C	R	O	C	D	E	G	D	A	B	B	E	D
T	I	N	P	A	L	R	A	T	S	E	A	
	S	E	P	A	R	A	T	E	S			
U	D	D	E	R	W	A	C	S	A	B	E	R
S	E	R	A	T	A	B	E	S	B	A	R	I
D	E	A	L	P	R	I	M	I	I	B	I	S
A	R	B	S	A	E	D	E	S	N	E	C	K

POLICE LOG

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 designed to protect victims, so they are not re-victimized through indirect identification.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

12:20-2:13 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:18 a.m.: property found (Grove Street), returned to owner; 3:02 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 7:15 a.m.: DPW call (Bemis Road), referred; 7:36 a.m.: ambulance (Lakeview Drive), transported; 7:58 a.m.: info/general (Mill Circle), services rendered; 8:01 a.m.: wires down (Bemis Road), referred; 8:47 a.m.: wires down (Bemis Road), referred; 8:52 a.m.: suspicious/other (Goodrich Street), services rendered; 8:56 a.m.: wires down (Baldwinville Road), referred; 9:13 a.m.: vandalism (Baldwinville State Road), report taken; 9:25 a.m.: larceny (Mill Glen Road), report taken; 10:51 a.m.: abandoned mv (Pond Street), gone on arrival; 11:40 a.m.: sex offender registration (Spruce Street), assisted; 11:53 a.m.: mv stop (Front Street), verbal warning; 12:02 p.m.: threats (Winter Street), report taken; 2:04 p.m.: VIN inspection (Hale Street), assisted; 2:57 p.m.: 911 hang up (Chestnut Street), spoken to; 3:35 p.m.: ambulance (Pearl Drive), referred; 3:38 p.m.: assist citizen (Brooks Road); 4:25 p.m.: animal complaint (Beech Street), referred to ACO; 4:35 p.m.: animal complaint (Ledge Drive, Baldwinville), referred to ACO; 4:37 p.m.: officer wanted (School Street), report taken; 4:48 p.m.: ambulance (Elmwood Road), transported; 4:55 p.m.: 911 hang up (Main Street), spoken to; 4:57 p.m.: fire/box alarm (Ready Drive), referred; 5:42 p.m.: info/general (Ready Drive), report taken; 6:28 p.m.: animal complaint (Baldwinville State Road), referred to ACO; 7:59 p.m.: ambulance (Goodrich Street), transported; 8:04 p.m.: welfare check/elderly (address not printed), secure; 8:40 p.m.: disabled mv (Gardner Road), secure; 8:49 p.m.: suspicious mv (Harris Road), unable to locate; 9:03 p.m.: suicide threats (Central Street), protective custody; 9:45 p.m.: erratic operation (School Street), spoken to; 9:48 p.m.: harassment (Teel Road), report taken; 10:12 p.m. larceny (Central Street), report taken; 10:28 p.m.: ambulance (Brown Street), transported; 10:40 p.m.: extra patrols, secure.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

12:06 a.m.: ambulance (Baldwinville State Road), transported; 12:59-1:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:14 a.m.: suspicious person (Pearl Drive), unable to locate; 2:37 a.m.: extra patrols secure; 6:21 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 6:41 a.m.: animal complaint (Lakeshore Drive), no cause for complaint; 7:32 a.m.: smoke (Gardner Road), spoken to; 9:06 a.m.: animal complaint (Front Street), referred to ACO; 9:59 a.m.: ambulance (Walnut Street), transported; 10:25 a.m.: suspicious/other (Pearl Street), secure; 10:29 a.m.: 911 non-emergency (Gardner Road),

WHA GIFTS TRUCK TO FIRE DEPARTMENT



The Winchendon Housing Authority recently donated a used Ford F-250 pickup, along with an 8-foot, 6-inch Fisher v-plow, to the Winchendon Fire Department. The truck and plow are valued at about \$8,000. The fire department will use the pickup to save wear-and-tear on other forestry trucks in the fleet. The vehicle was used by the WHA for maintenance work and plowing at Ipswich Drive and was used daily by the executive director. The authority

has purchased a new F-250 and plow with funds provided through the Federal Housing Program. Pictured (l-r): Firefighter/Medic Everard Hayes, FD Lt. William Davis, WHA Board members Les Goodrich, David Johnson, and Virginia Sibley, Fire Chief Tom Smith, WHA Board members Jacquelyn Flynn and Burton Gould, and Town Manager Keith Hickey.

Greg Vine photo

spoken to; 10:50 a.m.: extra patrols, info taken; 12:03 p.m.: animal complaint (Independence Drive), returned to owner; 12:26 p.m.: investigation (Mill Glen Road), spoken to; 12:47 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 12:50 p.m.: animal complaint (Alger Street), returned to owner; 1:17 p.m.: FD call (Washington Avenue), services rendered; 2:07 p.m.: fight (Central Street), spoken to; 2:42 p.m.: ambulance (Spring Street), services rendered; 4:31 p.m.: keep the peace (Hill Street), assisted; 4:42 p.m.: ambulance (Ready Drive), transported; 5:13 p.m.: harassment (Spring Street), report taken; 6:00 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:03 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), Ricardo Berrios, 44, 206 Lakeview Drive, Winchendon, op w/suspended license, verbal warning; 6:20 p.m.: accident (Front Street), transported to hospital; 8:10 p.m.: animal complaint (West Monomonic Road), spoken to; 9:40 p.m.: suspicious person (Maple Street), unable to locate; 10:10 p.m.: mv stop (Goodrich Street), verbal warning; 11:16 p.m.: fire alarm (Franklin Street), assisted.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

12:02 a.m.: ambulance (Ipswich Drive), transported; 1:42-2:17 a.m.: building check, secure; 4:37 a.m.: fire alarm (Linden Street), assisted; 6:04 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 7:28 a.m.: mv stop (Memorial Drive), verbal warning; 7:45 a.m.: extra patrols, secure; 8:00 a.m.: ambulance (Hyde Park Drive), false alarm; 9:21 a.m.: ambulance (Mill Glen Road), transported; 10:13 a.m.: suspicious/other (Baldwinville Road), info taken; 10:14 a.m.: animal complaint (Mellen Road), referred to ACO; 11:14 a.m.: van-

dalism (Central Street), report taken; 1:15 p.m.: officer wanted (Teel Road), spoken to; 1:18 p.m.: traffic hazard (Alger Street), unable to locate; 1:43 p.m.: ambulance (Pond Street), transported; 1:45 p.m.: investigation (Old Gardner Road), Casey T. Davidson, 30, 9 Old Gardner Road, Winchendon, arrest based on warrant; 1:56 p.m.: assist citizen (Central Street), spoken to; 2:05 p.m.: fraud (Lakeview Drive), report taken; 2:46 p.m.: suicide threats (Hitchcock Road), transported to hospital; 3:32 p.m.: vandalism (Central Street), spoken to; 4:05 p.m.: disabled mv (Baldwinville Road) spoken to; 6:02 p.m.: unwanted party (Maple Street), spoken to; 7:40 p.m.: drug/narcotics violation (Pearl Drive), spoken to; 7:54 p.m.: ambulance (Linden Street), transported; 8:47 p.m.: traffic hazard (Maple Street), removed; 9:44 p.m.: fight (Central Street), gathering dispersed; 9:51 p.m.: property found (East Grove Street), returned to owner; 10:02 p.m.: noise complaint (Old Gardner Road), spoken to; 11:17-11:42 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

12:11-2:07 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:58 a.m.: assist citizen (Vine Street); 7:48 a.m.: accident (Gardner Road), transported to hospital; 10:05 a.m.: animal complaint (Follum Hill Road, Fitzwilliam), referred to ACO; 11:55 a.m.: ambulance (Glenallan Street), transported; 12:00 p.m.: vandalism (Central Street), report taken; 12:06 p.m.: traffic hazard (Pearl Street), no cause for complaint; 12:50 p.m.: welfare check/general (address not printed), spoken to; 1:28 p.m.: disturbance/group (Central Street), spoken to; 1:42 p.m.: assist citizen (Beech Street), spoken to; 2:23 p.m.: accident (Maple Street), report

taken; 3:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Pearl Street), referred; 3:47 p.m.: harassment (Spring Street), report taken; 4:21-4:44 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 5:16 p.m.: harassment (Pearl Drive), spoken to; 5:41 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), referred to ACO; 6:32 p.m.: assault (Goodrich Drive), spoken to; 6:58 p.m.: mv stop (Baldwinville Road), verbal warning; 7:58 p.m.: mv stop (Baldwinville Road), verbal warning; 9:37 p.m.: erratic operation (High Street), unable to locate; 9:40 p.m.: disturbance (Ready Drive), dispersed gathering; 10:21 p.m.: disturbance (Ready Drive), unfounded; 10:33 p.m.: intoxicated person (Front Street), no cause for complaint; 10:58 p.m.: intoxicated person (Central Street), spoken to; 11:29 p.m.: ambulance (Tolman Road), transported.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

12:30 a.m.: dog bite (Eagle Road), report taken; 12:40 a.m.: extra patrols, secure; 12:48 a.m.: suspicious mv (Murdock Avenue), spoken to; 12:54-2:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:52 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 2:04 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 2:19 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), written warning; 9:23 a.m.: erratic operation (School Street), unable to locate; 11:55 a.m.: suspicious person (Crosby Road), services rendered; 12:44 p.m.: disturbance (Glenallan Street), referred to ACO; 1:31 p.m.: burglar alarm (Spring Street), services rendered; 1:32 p.m.: ambulance (Spring Street), no service necessary; 3:35 p.m.: accident (Sibley Road), report taken; 6:11 p.m.: officer wanted (Walnut Street), spoken to; 7:29 p.m.: keep the peace (Walnut Street), assisted; 7:55 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), info taken; 8:08 p.m.: info/general (Grove Street), advised officer; 9:37 p.m.: welfare check/general (address not printed), unable to locate; 10:21 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 10:29 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:01 p.m.: larceny (Willoughby Avenue), Jennifer Kellam Warren, 47, 16 Willoughby Avenue, Winchendon, larceny under \$1,200.; 11:27 p.m.: officer wanted (Bauberry Circle), report taken.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

12:15 a.m.: lift assist (Cross Street), services rendered; 2:17-3:23 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:45 a.m.: investigation (Town Farm Road), report taken; 8:02 a.m.: vandalism (Royalston Road North), report taken; 9:12 a.m.: accident (Glenallan Street), no service necessary; 12:24 p.m.: animal complaint (Pearl Street), spoken to; 12:26 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 12:44 p.m.: info/general (Walnut Street), services rendered; 12:47 p.m.: info/general (Vine Street), info taken; 1:55 p.m.: 911 hang up (Pleasant Street), no service necessary; 2:48 p.m.: accident (Maple Street), report taken; 3:00 p.m.: parking violation (Pine Street), assisted; 3:35 p.m.: noise complaint (Spruce Street), assisted; 4:04 p.m.: illegal burn (School Street), no service necessary; 4:49-4:55 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 5:37 p.m.: info/general (Baldwinville Road), referred; 6:40 p.m.: mv stop (Maple Street), verbal warning; 7:10 p.m.: fire alarm (Pearl Drive), services rendered; 9:52 p.m.: registration check

Turn To LOGS page A9

Candidates begin battling via TV

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Having apparently emerged from the pack to be the front runners in the Third Congressional District primary race, Democrats Dan Koh and Rufus Gifford have launched TV ads in advance of the Sept. 4 primary, and neither's target is the other.

Instead, both have targeted President Trump. Koh's ads are emphasizing diversity (the candidate and his wife have Korean and Lebanese heritages)

and Gifford's ads argue contemporary citizens will be judged by their response to the Trump presidency.

While about a dozen candidates remain in the race for the right to be on the November ballot to succeed the retiring Rep. Nikki Tsongas, only Gifford and Koh have hit the airwaves.

Koh is a former chief of staff for Boston Mayor Marty Walsh and Gifford was US Ambassador to Denmark after serving as President Obama's national finance chair in 2012. Both have sub-

stantially outraised the remainder of the field.

Koh began airing 30 second ads a few weeks back and Gifford started running them last week. Both now have 60-second ads out.

While most of Winchendon is included in the Third District, none of the ads were shot locally nor in Gardner. A Gifford ad was filmed in part at the Boulder Café in Fitchburg. However, Gifford did visit Winchendon last winter in the opening stages of his campaign.

"I'll stand up to this President," pledged Koh.

Says Gifford, "People have lost faith in government and we've got to build that trust back."

Meanwhile, Republican US Senate

candidate John Kingston has begun a speaking tour around the state after winning the state Republican convention's non-binding preference vote. Kingston's first appearance came in Boston and the campaign has not ruled out similar events in this central region.

Kingston said he will be focusing his campaign on "restoring traditional values" before the Sept. 4 primary where he hopes to gain the GOP nod for the spot on the November ballot to face incumbent Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren, who is seeking her second term.

His triumph at the Republican convention designated him as the party's preferred nominee but Kingston must still win the primary.

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OBITUARIES

Germaine C. (Martin) Brooks, 84

WINCHENDON - Germaine C. (Martin) Brooks, age 84, of 190 Goodrich St., died unexpectedly Tuesday evening, June 19, 2018 in Heywood Hospital, Gardner.



She was born in Winchendon on January 3, 1934, daughter of Neree P. and Josephine M. (Clavette) Martin and was a lifelong resident of Winchendon.

Germaine was a well known business woman, who owned and operated the former Germaine's Country Kitchen for 40 years. She was also a former town select person. Active at the Clark Memorial for many years, she had been a swimming and lifesaving instructor and a member of the 50 mile swim. Germaine had also been a founding member and former president of the Clark Memorial Skate Club. She knitted hundreds of hats and mittens for the CAC at Christmas and for local schools and premature infants. Germaine had received the Ames and Gold Award, given by the Clark for her service to the community.

Germaine worked her entire life for her family. She enjoyed her family and friends and entertaining them. She loved to dance, sing karaoke, and

play cribbage. She was a member of the Eugene M. Connor Post American Legion Auxiliary and a former member of the Winchendon Lions Club.

Her husband of 49 years, Robert W. Brooks, died in 2003. She leaves four children, Lois J. Brooks of Royalston, Martin J. Brooks and his wife Kathy of Winchendon, Andrew J. Brooks and his wife Karen of Winchendon and Maureen J. Veilleux and her husband Noel of Winchendon; two sisters, Jeannette Adams of Otter River and Joanne Gingras of Baldwinville; 8 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by her brothers, Morrell Martin, Gerald Martin, Robert Martin and Roger Martin and a sister Gertrude Wilder.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 11 a.m. in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 52 Spruce St.. Burial will follow in Riverside Cemetery.

Calling hours in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon are Monday, June 25, 2018 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Memorial donations may be made to Gardner Visiting Nursing Association, 34 Pearly Lane, Gardner, MA 01440 or to Winchendon Fire Department, 405 Central Street, Winchendon, MA 01475.

Rosalind (MacKenzie) MacLeod, 79

KENNEBUNKPORT, ME — Rosalind (MacKenzie) MacLeod, age 79, of 242 Kings Highway, died peacefully Monday afternoon, June 25, 2018 at her residence, with her family at her side.



She was born in Dominion, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia on October 7, 1938, daughter of the late Wilburn and Sarah Ann (MacDonald) MacKenzie. She attended Cape Breton schools and worked as

a CNA in nursing facilities in Worcester and Boston. Rose and her husband Ed previously lived in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Nova Scotia before retiring to Kennebunkport in 2005.

Rosie enjoyed the beach, reading Amish books, baking, traveling and singing in her church choir.

She leaves her husband, Edward P. MacLeod and was the beloved mother and "referee" of four boys, the late Donald C. MacLeod, Wilburn A.

MacLeod and his wife Dawn of Belmont, ME, Bernard L. MacLeod and his wife Ann of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia and John L. MacLeod and his wife Liisa of Westfield, MA. She also leaves two sisters, Germaine Butts and Mary Ellen Currie and a brother, Eddie John MacKenzie and his wife Ellen, all of Cape Breton; nine grandchildren, Johnathan, Alicia, Theresa, Zach, Abby, Joseph and his wife Sarah, Joshua, Mackenzie and Emma; three great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Rose Eva MacKenzie and Anita Alexander and a brother, Wilburn MacKenzie.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, June 30, 2018 at 2 P.M. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon. A calling hour will precede the funeral Saturday from 1 to 2 P.M.

Burial will be in Hillside Cemetery, Rindge.

In memory of Rosie, PLEASE HUG YOUR LOVED ONES.

Diana (Raymond) Belletete, 72

TROY, NH — Diana (Raymond) Belletete, age 72, of 200 South Main St., died peacefully at her residence Thursday morning, June 21, 2018.



She was born in Winchendon on November 24, 1945, daughter of the late Maurice and Elizabeth (Gauthier) Raymond and graduated from Murdock High School with the Class of 1963. Diana lived in Troy

for many years.

Diana had worked as a loading person for Timken Precision Bearings in Keene, NH for several years until retiring in 2005. She enjoyed genealogy and treasured time with her family.

She leaves her husband of 53 years, Leo P. Belletete; two children, John

Edward Belletete and his wife Heidi of Marlborough, NH and Lynn Marie Belletete and her spouse Dierdre of North Swanzey, NH; a sister, Marsha Hill of Kinston, NC; a sister in law Belle Raymond of Apollo Beach, FL; five grandchildren, Zakary, Brandon, Lacey, Heather, Dillon, Andrew and Mathew; two great grandchildren, Josephine and Elliott, and many nieces and nephews. A granddaughter, Diana Elizabeth Belletete and a brother, Eugene Raymond, predeceased her.

Funeral services were held Monday, June 25, 2018 in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon.

Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made to American Heart Association, 20 Speen Street, Framingham, MA 01701.

Rene J. Bois, 95



WINCHENDON — Rene J. Bois, age 95, of 48 Grove St., died peacefully Sunday morning, June 24, 2018 in Alliance Health at Baldwinville.

He was born in Winchendon on January 21, 1923, son of the late Jean Baptist and Eva Marie (Roy) Bois. He was a graduate of Murdock High School and was a lifelong resident of Winchendon.

Rene was co-owner of Bois Brothers Paint Contractors from 1945 to 1990. He enjoyed sailing, canoeing, traveling, camping and family cookouts.

Rene proudly served aboard the USS

Macomb as a member of the United States Navy during World War II. He was a member of Eugene M. Connor Post 193 American Legion and Lt. Frederick Wilder White Post 2158 VFW.

He leaves his wife of 68 years, Vera Madeline (Brow) Bois; a daughter, Diane Tedrow and her husband Brad; grandsons Chase and his wife Bridgette, and Hayden; two great grandchildren, Noah and Quinley and a brother Felix Bois of Yarmouth. He was preceded in death by a brother Alfred Bois and two sisters, Beatrice Bois and Doris Marois.

Military funeral services will be held Friday, June 29, 2018 at 1 p.m. in Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, 111 Glenallan Street, Winchendon.

There are no calling hours.

Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central Street, Winchendon is directing arrangements.

Roger W. Cochran Jr., 88



WINCHENDON — Roger W. Cochran Jr., age 88, of 75A Hyde Park Drive, died peacefully at his residence Saturday morning, June 23, 2018, with his family at his side.

He was born in Winchendon on June 21, 1930, son of the late Roger W. and Olive V. (Graton) Cochran, attended Winchendon schools and was a lifelong resident of Winchendon.

Roger worked as a building contractor for his uncle, Milton Graton, and built many covered bridges in the New England area. Additionally, he built many homes in the Winchendon area. Roger worked many years until retiring six years ago.

His wife of 38 years, Shirley G. (Marquis) Cochran, died in 1989. He

leaves two children, Wayne R. Cochran and his wife Pamela of Templeton and Lynn S. Ruschioni and her husband Dino of Winchendon; two grandchildren, Wayne Cochran Jr. and Joshua Cochran; five great grandchildren, Michaela, Colton, Seth, Darion and AJ; two brothers, Paul A. Cochran and Bruce G. Cochran, both of Winchendon and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his brothers, Stephen E. Cochran, Donald Cochran, David S. Cochran and Philip G. Cochran, and his companion of 20 years, Lorraine Vaillancourt.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, June 27, 2018 in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon.

Burial was in Riverside Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to GVNA Hospice, 34 Pearly Lane, Gardner, MA 01440.

Local business still sizing up 'grand bargain'

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Massachusetts lawmakers last week passed a so-called "grand bargain" which would raise the state's minimum wage to \$15 per hour over five years. There would be no "training wage" for teenage workers and the minimum hourly wage for tipped workers would rise from the current \$3.75 to \$6.75 over the five-year span.

In addition, the bill establishes up to 12 weeks of paid family leave, 20 weeks of medical leave, and up to 26 weeks of total leave in a year, beginning in 2021. To pay for it, lawmakers established a 0.63 percent payroll tax, with contributions coming from both workers and employees. Companies with fewer than 25 employees would not be required to pay into the fund. The total yearly cost of the leave program is pegged at around \$775 million.

Workers would be paid 80 percent of their salary up to a certain limit; around \$670/week.

The bill would also phase out so-called "premium pay" — time and a-half for working Sundays and holidays — and establish a permanent once-a-year sales tax holiday.

"The minimum wage has been going

up a dollar a year for three straight years," said Rick Laperriere, owner of Mylec Corp. The dek hockey equipment manufacturer is located in Winchendon's Hillview Industrial Park.

"What isn't taken into consideration is that a third of any increase comes out of that pay for taxes," he said. "And what else happens? You end up paying more for a cup of coffee at Dunkin' Donuts, or for a pizza at the local pizza restaurant. So, between taxes and higher costs, workers end up with fewer disposable dollars or, at best, it's a wash. Most of my workers tell me they'd rather see lower prices for the things they buy just about every day, rather than seeing a little bit more of a raise; especially since the raise is seen mainly on paper and not in their pockets."

Laperriere said hiking the minimum wage can also impact people who hold jobs requiring fewer skills.

"If the pay goes up, say, for workers that do general cleaning, for example, some businesses won't find it makes financial sense to keep them on," he said. "Production jobs, office jobs, that's a different story."

"Grocery stores get whacked hard, in some instances," Laperriere continued. "A lot of them depend on high school

kids; kids who are still living at home and don't really have a responsibility to anyone but themselves. That may not be in all cases, but in many instances, they can't afford to pay more to a single mom trying to make ends meet because they're being made to give the same wage to kids saving up for a new iPhone or video game."

Laperriere said other costs also come into play with hikes in the minimum wage.

"A company has to match the FICA and Medicare payments deducted from workers' paychecks," he noted. "That means more overhead is being pushed onto the company. That, then, is pushed on to the consumer in the form of higher prices. And the payroll tax goes up as well."

As far as sick leave is concerned, "We can get by if someone is out for a few days, even a week. But if someone is going to be out for three or four weeks, we not only have to pay them, we also have to find someone to fill that void — to do that job — while they're out. We have to hire temps. So, the cost to the company goes beyond any contribution they may make to a sick leave 'bank.' It all looks good on paper, but the reality doesn't usually present such a rosy picture."

Governor Charlie Baker had urged the Legislature to pass the "Grand Bargain Bill" in order to stave off several questions that would have appeared on this year's state general election ballot.

The group Raise Up Massachusetts is pushing a question that would hike the minimum wage to \$15 an hour over four years, instead of the five included the bill. The group also wants increases in the minimum wage tied to inflation, an issue not addressed in the legislation.

Raise Up is also behind a question which would establish more generous family and medical leave.

Inclusion of the permanent sales tax holiday in the measure has led the Retailers Association of Massachusetts to drop its ballot measure, which would have dropped the state sales tax from 6.25 percent to 5 percent.

While the vote on the bill was mainly along party lines, Republican state Sen. Dean Tran of Fitchburg joined with his Democratic colleagues, including Sen. Ann Gobi of Spencer, in supporting the measure. State Rep. Jon Zlotnik (D-Gardner) also voted in favor.

As of deadline, Gov. Baker was still deciding whether to sign the bill into law.

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SPORTS

Not our focus that 'football'

Let's start with a question. How many of you are watching the most important football tournament on the planet? Yeah, me either, though a little bit seems to be filtering through. I know some guy named Harry Kane is carrying England and defending champion Germany became the first reigning champ to rally from a halftime deficit to stay alive. Beyond that, admittedly not so much. I do know Bubba Watson won the Travelers PGA tournament for the third time, leaving the multiple Masters champion one shy of tying the all-time record for wins in a single event. I know who won the third at Santa Anita last Friday. Or at least who didn't. I know where the kids from Maryland went in the NBA draft.

The World Cup? I know what I read in headlines. I'm not alone. We're pretty clueless about soccer, as we call it. Or maybe a better way to put it is we're disinterested if we're not part of the World Cup. Anyway, it's the biggest sporting event in the world and while there are to be sure pockets of intense interest here in the States, the tournament isn't resonating the way it did four years ago. Maybe eight years hence when the US is part of the host consortium?

A lot of us are paying attention to the AL East where the Yankees and Red Sox

are both on pace for well over 100 wins and yet one will be forced into a single-game elimination contest come October. Of course, that beats not making the post-season at all but even as June ends, we all know one of these teams, following one of the best regular seasons in their storied history, are going to be on the precipice. If whomever finishes second in the division loses that wild-card game, will that ruin a great season? It says here no. Sports can fairly be divided into two parts - regular seasons and a comparatively short tournament, especially in baseball where a team can get hot for two weeks and be crowned champion. If you have the best record over the 162 game marathon, you're the best overall team. Period. The history books might not say so, but that's the team which will pass the eye test. Yes, baseball is different.

At the other end of the AL East spectrum sit the woebegone Orioles who are on a pace for more than 100 losses, the second worst record in the franchise's 65 years in Baltimore. The O's have enough talent to do a lot better than that but as Bill Parcells once famous-



TALKING SPORTS

JERRY CARTON

ly and accurately said acidly, you are what your record says you are. They'll presumably trade Manny Machado in the next 30 days rather than just get a draft choice in November but 2018 has been a disgrace. There was even a story

floating last week about the team's future in the city. They're not going anywhere but really bad losing seasons tend to breed rumors ad while all this is going on, the reigning champion Astros are serenely sailing along. With all due respect to the titanic struggle in the AL East, good luck beating the 'Stros. The NL is much more interesting. The Nats and Cubs and Dodgers have yet to take command of their divisions. The young Braves and Phillies haven't yet backed down from Washington. The Brewers and D-Backs are proving 2017 was no fluke. While you can pencil in four of the five AL playoff teams (New York, Boston, Cleveland, Houston), the senior circuit remains in flux and that's good. NL baseball is more fun anyway and I write that as someone who has lived my entire life in AL regions.

There was an interesting story in the Times last week describing the differ-

ences in how the NFL and NBA handle their respective workforces' involvement in public affairs. While we all know the NFL is very uncomfortable with activism and the NBA less so, the article argued the primary reason for that is the NBA is all about individual players while the NFL is about the "brand", pointing out the football logo looks almost like a flag whereas the hoops one features a single player, Jerry West. It said even the hapless Cleveland Browns are a bigger "brand" than Tom Brady but LeBron is a larger "brand" than, say, the Sacramento Kings. A plausible argument? Some may say so. But how's this? Even though they're also really rich and also very much mostly if not exclusively white, NBA owners have more of a social conscience than do their NFL counterparts. Maybe?

Finally this. The US Open announced the other day it's going to revise seeding for this summer's tournament after the controversy at the French where Serena Williams was unseeded because she'd been out so long following her pregnancy. The spectre of the world's greatest player not being seeded just because she had a baby was absurd. The USTA isn't going to look equally ridiculous. Happy Fourth. See you next week.

End of year activities include camps and conferences

VIEW FROM THE TOWER

SUE POLCARI

Alumni Field was the site of a 4 day field hockey camp last week for local children grades 2-5. The camp was spearheaded by junior Emily Smith as her NHS project,

along with fellow National Honor Society members Ashley Signa and Lindsey Gemme.

Smith, who has been playing field hockey for Murdock Middle and High School for the past 6 years, stated "I've been wanting to do something like this for a while! I started playing field hockey in the 3rd grade when I attended a field hockey camp led by Ms. Murphy (Kathy Murphy, former field hockey coach, WPS PE teacher, and active community member). I wanted to have a similar camp to build up interest in the sport and to encourage participants to eventually play field hockey at Murdock!"

The camp was a big success,



Lily Hunt photo

1185 - Participants in Field Hockey Camp organized by Emily Smith, Lindsey Gemme and Ashley Signa as their NHS project

with 34 participants, with some interest already expressed by a couple of 5th graders to participate in MS field hockey in the fall. Several parents who were watching their children reported that their child(ren) "loved (the camp)".

Smith was excited about the number of participants - "It bodes well for the future of the sport here in town!"

Varsity Field hockey coaches Amanda Lawler and Cassie Maillet were present to help instruct the youngsters in

the basic rules of field hockey and to assist in some mini scrimmages. Additional camp assistants were Evelyn O'Dea, Stacey Wood, Erica Lashua, and Lily Hunt.

Plans are underway to hold an additional field hockey camp in late August, possibly the week before school starts. More information as it becomes available.

Congratulations to Cassandra Wightman and Paige Demanche who attended the Rotary Youth Leadership



Courtesy photo

Justin Thira and Alexia Allard (with Coach Anthony Findley) recently competed in the National Track Meet in Greensboro, NC!

Awards (RYLA) conference, held at Fitchburg State University, last weekend. This is a 3 day conference for selected sophomores to attend workshops, presentations and activities with hundreds of other students across the state.

If anyone is interested in supporting the Murdock

Sports Boosters through a sign sponsorship, please contact me (Sue) at 978-257-5671. Signs are \$100 for fall season only and \$200 for a full year. Sign sponsorship may be from a business, group/organization, individual, family or any combination.

Dek Hockey winding down season

The spring season for competition at the Mylec Dek Hockey Center concluded last week with the naming of a champion in each of the four divisions. Rink manager Kelly Beauvais thanked all those local businesses who

sponsored teams. They included: Beauvais Insurance Agency, Brooks Automotive, The Car Works, Christo's Place, Complete Wall Systems, Dunkin Donuts

Harbour Restaurant, Jeep Salvadore, Lorden Oil, Mathieu Ford, The Rivers Edge, Zoe's Restaurant, Triumph Interiors



Courtesy photos

The Beauvais Insurance Beavers

The Triumph Interior Cadets



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FLANAGAN

continued from page A1

ly legalized retail marijuana sales in Massachusetts.

(Flanagan's term expires in 2021, at which time she may be reappointed to a full five-year term. State law prohibits any commissioner from serving more than two terms.)

"The commission has to do a little bit of everything," Flanagan told *The Courier*. "There are some pretty comprehensive requirements that applicants need to fulfill. Background checks go way beyond the standard CORI (Criminal Offender Record) review. Applicants must be fingerprinted. The commission has to determine if the community host agreement negotiated by each applicant and the city or town where they want to do business is realistic and workable."

The group seeking a license for the Maple/Glenallan streets location includes current Planning Board Chairman Guy Corbosiero and former Selectman Bob O'Keefe. When asked if she had any concerns about sitting and/or former town officials being among the applicants, Flanagan said, "That's

not something I'd necessarily be looking at. The town has to decide who gets the licenses based on the town's criteria. I think one of the things we wanted to ensure is that the 'little guys' have a chance to get into this. We don't want to see only those groups with a lot of big money backing monopolize the business. It needs to be open to anyone who qualifies."

While among the handful of people implementing the new law and establishing precedent for future applicants, Flanagan said she would still oppose passage of Question 4 even if she knew in November 2016 what she knows now.

"I expected this to be very intense," she said. "There are a lot of moving parts and a host of issues that all need to be addressed at the same time; before the process can move forward. My concern at the time was – in part – that the means for implementing legalization hadn't been well thought out. There was – and is – a general level of interest in what everything means. How do we get from A to B, and what does B really look like. I think everybody had their own idea of what legalization would look like. We had to take all those ideas and get everyone moving in the same direction."

PARKS

continued from page A1

continuous line of Parks ownership. In addition to decades of hands-on experience, he and his wife, Joann, both hold mechanical engineering degrees from Worcester Polytech, and their son Brad, an eighth generation Parks, is currently studying engineering at Virginia Tech.

This combination of institutional and technical training is critical. M.H. Parks has always crafted with wood... and they have always innovated with wood. The company began in 1827 fashioning wooden barrel covers, and transitioned into spools for textile and tire industries. They then leveraged their turning capabilities to make household furniture of increasingly sophisticated design. Their furniture is all solid wood, which is obtained from Canada, Pennsylvania and local sources.

M.H. Parks largely operates as a contract manufacturer. Their biggest client is the national chain Room & Board (R&B), which is known for its middle-to-high end, uniquely-styled furniture. Todd attributes his long term business relationship with R&B to creative problem-solving. He was initially approached by R&B to make a wooden version of a best-selling "spun metal" table. He quickly appreciated why others either couldn't or wouldn't accept the challenge, but after 14 tries, he had success, and the R&B Madison Table was born. The design was extended to other table styles and even lamp bases, and solidified Parks' relationship with R&B.

Chuckling, Todd concludes "When everyone else turns it down, come to Todd."

Another best-selling product, in addition to the R&B Madison Table and



The Room & Board Evan Chair, ready for shipping

its offshoots, is the R&B Evan Chair, which Todd explains "is just really comfortable."

M.H. Parks also designs and manufactures the Piper's Grove line of bedroom and dining room sets in solid cherry, which can be found in the Winchendon Furniture Company showroom on Railroad Street.

And where does M.H. Parks see itself in five years? Todd declines to answer, noting that some years ago when they were putting out 1,200 chairs a week, 1,000 of them were spindle style, and now they make relatively few spindle chairs. The key, he asserts, is to constantly reinvigorate his knowledge base, "to adapt, survive and advance."

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Locally Yours is a column dedicated to profiling local businesses and enterprises that serve Winchendon. If you would like your business profiled, please con-

"People have had to work hard to get their heads around all this," Flanagan continued. "Cities and towns were not necessarily prepared to deal with all the issues involved."

Said Flanagan, "I think a lot of my concerns have been borne out. But I think, because of that, that I'm better able to do the job I was appointed to; to address those concerns and be an effective regulator."

Flanagan said there is no way of telling how long it will take the commission to process all the applications that will be coming its way.

"People are being cautious because it's new," she said. "We want those who are qualified and of good character to get their shot. But we aren't going to rush it. The most important thing isn't simply getting the job done; the most important thing is getting the job done right."

The next step in the process is negotiation of a Community Host Agreement with each applicant. In addition to the imposition of a 3 percent sales tax on cannabis sales, also approved at May's town meeting, the town has the option of negotiating an additional 3 percent assessment on sales. According to Hickey, proceeds from the assessment

could be used to cover the cost of such items as additional police activity and the investment of increased staff time at town hall. Winchendon Planning and Development Director Tracy Murphy said marijuana retailers in some other communities have agreed to the levy to help fund addiction treatment outreach and drug task force activities in their community.

"If we can justify the costs," said Hickey, "there's really no option but for the applicant to agree. They can't go anywhere without a community host agreement."

Applicants will also be required to participate in a community outreach meeting. License hopefuls would present their respective proposals at a selectmen's meeting and open themselves to questions from the public. The original timeline called for the community outreach portion of the process to be completed by Aug. 29, but the fact there is only one aspirant for each of the town's three licenses means the process could be accelerated.

The applicants would then, with the approval of selectmen, move on to the state endorsement process. Murphy said it's unclear just how long those proceedings are likely to take.

LEGALIS

Legal Notice
Public Hearing of FY 2018-2022
Five Year Capital Fund Plan

Since June, 1, 2018 the Draft Five Year Capital Fund Annual Plan of the Winchendon Housing Authority (WHA) has been available for a Forty-Five (45) day public review and comment period. A Public hearing for the final comments on the Draft Annual Plan will be held on Monday July 9, 2018 at 10am at the Ipswich Drive Community Building, 108 Ipswich Drive Winchendon, MA 01475. The building is wheelchair accessible and reasonable accommodation will be provided to persons requesting assistance. Anyone wishing further information on the WHA's Five Year Capital Fund Plan or Public hearing may contact Mr. David P. Connor WHA Executive Director at (978)-297-2280 or Fax at (978)-297-0922.
June 29, 2018

Legal Notice
Winchendon
Conservation Commission

0 Ash Street; Assessor's Map 5D-4, Lot 9

Pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, and the Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw, the Winchendon Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, July 5th, 2018 at 7:15 pm to consider the Notice of Intent filed by Dynamic Energy Solutions LLC on behalf of property owner The Winchendon School for proposed work within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands at 0 Ash Street: Assessor's Map 5D-4, Lot 9. The project entails construction and operation of a 1.2 megawatt solar energy system. The hearing will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the Winchendon Town Hall, 109 Front Street.

The Notice of Intent is available for public review at the Land Use Office, Room 10 (first floor) of the Winchendon Town Hall on Mondays and Thursdays during the hours of 9am – 12noon, except for 3pm – 6pm on meeting nights, or by calling the Conservation Agent for an appointment at 978-297-5402.

June 29, 2018

Legal Notice
Winchendon
Conservation Commission

15, 34, and 64 Pinewood Drive; Assessor's Map 4, Lots 217, 206, and 209 respectively

Pursuant to the provisions of the M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, and the Town of Winchendon Wetlands Protection Bylaw, the Winchendon Conservation Commission will hold public hearings on Thursday, July 5th, 2018 at 7:05 pm to consider the Notices of Intent filed by property owner Kathleen VanDyke for proposed work within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Isolated Vegetated Wetlands and/or Bordering Vegetated Wetlands at 15, 34, and 64 Pinewood Drive; Assessor's Map 4, Lots 217, 206, and 209, respectively. The projects entail construction of a new single-family house, associated septic system, grading, and landscaping on each of the lots. The hearings will be held in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the Winchendon Town Hall, 109 Front Street.

The Notices of Intent are available for public review at the Land Use Office, Room 10 (first floor) of the Winchendon Town Hall on Mondays and Thursdays during the hours of 9am – 12noon, except for 3pm – 6pm on meeting nights, or by calling the Conservation Agent for an appointment at 978-297-5402.

June 29, 2018



Todd Parks displays with his Madison Table base



Scott Bennett, 34-year employee, seats spindles into a chair seat

tact Ruth DeAmicis at the Winchendon Courier: ruth@stonebridgepress.news

CONTRACT

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of all teachers. Without revealing information that hasn't been released yet, the proposal included immediate salary increases alongside other smaller, longer term monetary concessions by the union that would help the district better serve our students in the long run."

"The contract presented for a vote included NO such concessions, just the salary increase, and while I know it was a very modest salary increase, I do not believe we should give an increase just to get the other party back to the negotiating table. That was the reason for my vote."

"I do not believe in giving the teachers a measly 0.5% increase. I believe in giving more than that provided there is a give-and-take conducted with our students' needs at the forefront of the entire process," said LaPointe.

Superintendent Steve Haddad said he encouraged anyone who wants to join either search committee to contact his office. It remains unclear whether an interim will be hired or the committee will prefer to find a permanent superintendent.

Teachers union president Christine Ricard proposed a list of criteria her group would like to see included when the new superintendent is hired.

A number of parents expressed concerns about Summit, which may

have prompted Nuremson's recommendation the program be suspended. However, the school committee does not have the authority to do so.

"You always tend to hear from critics more than people who support something. Opponents are always more outspoken," said Vine.

Committee members also saluted LaPointe for her service.

"When my life calms down, I might come back. I wish I could have done more," she said.

Rowan Demanche, who won the seat LaPointe is vacating, formally introduced herself to the committee and said she is looking forward to joining this summer.

CARTON

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not Michelle either.

That said, with the mid-terms just over four months away, a lot of actual politicians are making plans to visit or have already visited Iowa, where there presumably aren't any border checkpoints and next door New Hampshire. You might not have even heard of Jay Inslee or Eric Garcetti, the governor of Washington, and a former mayor of Los Angeles respectively. Unless you're a junkie like me, you probably don't know Mitch Landreu, either. He's the ex-mayor of New Orleans. Or Tim Ryan, a congressman from Ohio. What do all these guys have

in common? They're all envisioning themselves standing front and center on January 20, 2021. They're hardly alone. Kirsten Gillebrand. Kamala Harris. Amy Klobuchar. Corey Booker. Massachusetts Rep. Seth Moulton. Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper. NY Governor Andrew Cuomo. Montana Governor Steve Bullock. They all have the very same vision. I'm missing a bunch more I'm sure and I haven't even mentioned Bernie and Uncle Joe. If you don't think the '20 campaign is revving up, and would prefer to think it hasn't, guess what? The preliminaries are well underway.

And there's someone else - another young congress-

man from Massachusetts with a fabled last name. Joe Kennedy is Bobby's grandson and if you've been paying attention like I have, young Kennedy not only mimics his grand-dad's voice and gestures, he seems to have inherited his passion for the discriminated against, for the downtrodden, for those still mired in poverty and those getting shafted by DJT and his evil henchmen. I have no idea if Joe Kennedy is really going to run for President this next cycle but he's sure doing all the things a prospective candidate will do as he raises his national profile.

We'll start to see how it all shakes out in a few months. For now, suffice to say we

should all agree an actual progressive and humane politician really is the best option to begin to clean up this godforsaken nightmare. For now, as well, keep voting in primaries (turnout in D primaries has skyrocketed) all the way down the ballot by the way, and pay attention not just to the story of the day (or hour) and focus as well on the other despicable policies this gang is trying to impose on us. And tell your representatives you're watching. A long time ago, a lot of us had posters which read, "if you're not part of the solution, then you're part of the problem." Don't be part of the problem. Enjoy the Fourth. See you next week.

LOGS

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(Elmwood Road), no service necessary; 11:45 p.m.: ambulance (Linden Street), transported.

MONDAY, JUNE 25

12:04-2:58 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:20 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), spoken to; 8:11 a.m.: ambulance (Baldwinville State Road), transported; 8:39 a.m.: animal abuse (Madison Avenue), referred to ACO; 8:46 a.m.: wel-

fare check/general (address not printed), secure; 9:06 a.m.: accident (Tannery Hill/River Street), Caleb A. Landry, 20, 3 Shadow Lane, Peterborough, negligent operation; 9:31 a.m.: suspicious person (Maple Street), spoken to; 10:17 a.m.: vandalism (Pearl Drive), report taken; 11:34 a.m.: accident (Central Street), assisted; 3:01 p.m.: noise complaint (West Street), no service necessary; 3:44 p.m.: mv lock-out (School Street), services rendered; 5:10 p.m.: accident (School Street), report taken; 7:05 p.m.: officer wanted (Summer Drive), no ser-

vice necessary; 7:39 p.m.: officer wanted (Railroad Street), unfounded; 8:19 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 9:08 p.m.: burglar alarm (Murdock Avenue), secured bldg.; 9:32 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), written warning; 9:41 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 9:50 p.m.: burglar alarm (Murdock Avenue), secured bldg.; 9:50 p.m.: ambulance (Front Street), refused assistance; 10:30 p.m.: ambulance (Ready Drive), transported; 10:45 p.m.: info/general (School Street), info taken.



July 4th Window and Patio Door Sales Event

Hurry – limited time offer!

- Renewal by Andersen is the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, the most trusted family of window and door brands in America*
- Our window helps make homes more comfortable because its strong seals help prevent drafts and leaks, and our Fibrex® composite window material is 2X stronger than vinyl
- To lock in this July 4th Sales Event, call on or before Saturday, July 7th, and schedule your free Window and Patio Door Diagnosis

July 4th Sales Event ENDS Saturday, July 7th

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40% OFF¹

WITH

NO NO NO

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FOR 2 YEARS¹

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¹DETAILS OF OFFER – Offer expires 7/14/2018. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. You must set your appointment by 7/7/2018 and purchase by 7/14/2018. Buy one (1) window or patio door, get one (1) 40% off and 24 months no payments, no interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 6/10/2018 & 7/14/2018. 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. Discounted windows and patio doors are of equal or lesser value. 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. ©2018 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2018 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *Based on 2016 homeowner brand survey. Andersen family of brands aggregated: Andersen, Renewal by Andersen, Silver Line and American Craftsman.