



Polito learns how grants are used at local level

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

In 2016 Murdock High School received an \$86,000 Capital Skills grant to enhance the technology/engineering program and last week, Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito came to Winchendon to see first-hand the impact all that cash has made, and said she came away impressed.

"We need you. We're relying on you," she told students, pointing out there are some 8,000 technology jobs ready to be filled but only about half are.

"I can't encourage you enough to do this," she stressed.

Mike Fontaine had been the technology teacher at the high school when the grant was awarded and has since moved to the middle school to jump-start the curriculum there.

"With this grant, we were able to purchase new modern robotics and computer equipment," he said, adding, "These new computers now have enough memory to use for game making and other software without any lag time. The large monitors enable students to split the screen and conduct research while simultaneously working on projects."

The decision to revamp the middle school program was triggered when Fontaine noticed "when students started taking robotics, it was their first experience with coding. Some were overwhelmed with their initial experience. That's why we changed the curriculum at the middle school."

So it was that Polito began her tour at the middle school where Fontaine had his students demonstrate that re-energized technology program intended to prepare them for more complex challenges.

Sixth grade student Reese Minkler was among those showing Polito what her class was doing when it came to game making and as she did, Fontaine said seventh graders were learning web design and eighth graders were doing robotics.

"We're starting with the basics in middle school where every student rotates through," he remarked, which is important because, "we're hoping this will reach the under-represented population that initially shows interest but typically doesn't follow through with their education in computer science. At the high



Greg Vine photos

Sixth-grader Reese Minkler demonstrates a technology project for Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito.

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Street light work to commence soon

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Work to replace the incandescent lights currently atop utility poles in Winchendon with more energy-efficient light-emitting diode lights will be getting under way soon, according to Town Manager Keith Hickey.

"The work should be starting sometime in February," said Hickey. "They're waiting for one more part that they need before they can start. Shortly after that, they'll be in for a week or two and get the work done."

The replacement work is being done by Dagle Electrical Construction Corporation, based in Wilmington.

"We bid out with four or five other communities," Hickey said, "and received a quote based on a package of some 3,000 street lights that they'll do."

The town has borrowed just over \$230,000 to cover the cost of the work and materials. That borrowing was approved by voters at town meeting.

While the switch to LED lighting will ultimately save the town money, said Hickey, "we'll be paying the same amount of money we're paying now for three - three and a-half - years, until the note is paid off. So, our electricity account will drop but the amount of money we save in electrical costs will be used to pay off that note."

A number of street lights in Winchendon were extinguished several years ago. However, some property owners opted to pay the cost of keeping individual lights illuminated at their own expense.

"My understanding was that there were a few people who felt strongly enough to want the street light on near their property, I assume, that they decided to pay the costs themselves to the electric company" said Hickey.

The town manager was unsure exactly how many residents have been paying to keep their street lights on.

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Ramp nears completion at Immaculate Heart of Mary

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Work nears completion on the handicap access ramp currently under construction at Winchendon's Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Father Michael Clements said he expects work to finish up in the next two or three weeks.

"It probably would have been done by now," he said, "but the stretch of really cold weather we had prevented digging and pouring the concrete. But things are moving along pretty well, now."

The priest said the church had been discussing the need for a ramp "for some 20 years."

"The big part was just getting the funding we needed to move forward," he said.

That funding finally came in the form of a \$45,000 grant from the

Robinson Broadhurst Foundation.

Clements said the grant was earmarked specifically for the ramp and that the entire amount is being spent on the project.

The work is being done by C. M. Chartier Contracting of Templeton. Crews have been laboring on the project through snow, rain, and sub-freezing temperatures. While actual construction work should be done soon, Clements said that painting and facing of the ramp will be done when warmer weather arrives. He said the ramp would also be officially blessed sometime in the spring.

"We want to do it when it's warm and when trustees from Robinson Broadhurst will be able to attend," he said. "We want to show our appreciation."

Immaculate Heart of Mary opened its doors in 1908.

"We looked hard at just where to build the ramp," said Clements. "There really is very little usable space. We decided to put it on the north side of the building because that's where we get the bulk of sunlight."

Clements said more projects are in the works as the parish prepares to celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2021.

"We were first organized as a Catholic parish in 1871," he explained. "At first our services were held in a barn around the corner from where the church sits today. We also met in the town hall auditorium. This property was purchased in 1890 and the church was completed in 1908."

One of the healthier Catholic parishes in the state, Clements said Immaculate Heart of Mary currently serves about 3,000 families.

"The bulk of our parishioners are from Winchendon, but we also have some from Templeton and Baldwinville, and from New Hampshire as well."



Greg Vine photo

A crew from C.M. Chartier Contracting working on the new handicap access ramp at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Selectmen vote no action on withholding payment to Monty Tech

BY KEITH KENT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The Board of Selectmen voted to take no action on withholding a quarterly payment due to the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical school district, and pay all bills as scheduled after a joint Tri-Board meeting of the BOS with both the School and Finance Committee's on Monday.

Town Manager Keith Hickey said, "I spoke to town legal counsel about the legality of withholding the quarterly payment, and it's their opinion the town does not have the legal capability to withhold that payment from Monty Tech for the approved budget."

Hickey updating the selectmen and boards said, "I have spoken twice with Monty Tech Superintendent Sheila Harrity, and she advised me the policy subcommittee had finalized a fifth amendment, which addresses all outdated timing issues previously existing in the agreement for budgetary issues and things of such nature."

Hickey also advised the updating of the amendment would be heard at a Feb. 7 Monty Tech school committee meeting for discussion.

Selectmen Chair Barbara Anderson advised the three committees she felt it was important to place both on the agenda of the subject at the joint meeting because while the ultimate decision was to be made by the selectmen, she felt nothing should be done with the blessing of all committees.

School Committee Chair Lawrence Murphy beginning discussion responded, "I wrote a response to all of you that the present Monty Tech Agreement doesn't address. There is a strong need for school districts such as ours to look at the entire agreement, not just the fifth amendment. There are several issues if we are going to be a viable school district because if we continue the present course we are on, we will not be a school district because we will not be able to afford it. There is a fairness and equity issue. Students at Monty Tech are provided with better opportunities than students are here in Winchendon. They are flourishing at the expense of schools, and of the 18 schools in the agreement, we are the poorest district, yet we are sending the most students and it is draining our funds to the point where it is directly impacting what we can do."

Along with fairness and equity, Murphy addressed the formula of the

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Town seeks grant to complete Master Plan

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The town of Winchendon has applied for a District Local Technical Assistance grant to help complete the town's Master Plan. A committee was put together to update the plan in 2015 and has compiled a draft, but that draft needs to be finalized. Instead of direct financial assistance, the grant - worth about \$7,500 - would cover the cost of planners provided by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission, who would provide technical assistance on the final product.

"It's not money, it's time," said Planning and Development Director Tracy Murphy. "It's technical assis-

tance from the planners at MRPC."

"The master plan is kind of hanging out there," she said, "and every time I try to get to it something else takes precedent, and I want to wrap it up. The committee has done a really good job and there's a little bit more we need to do. I just need a little bit of help with it."

While administered by MRPC, the grant itself required the approval of the state Department of Housing and Community Development.

"I'm hoping (MRPC) can take what we have for drafts already," said Murphy, "There are a couple of chapters that need a little bit more work. I'm hoping they can work with the individual committee members. I want them to

get a little more information and then compile it."

"I wrote the grant so that the planners would go to a couple of meetings with the whole committee and then meet individually with the members who worked on the chapters."

The current grant being sought would be just the first step in the process.

"There's a second round," said Murphy. "I just got the notification. But we don't even know if we made it through the first round, but I'll probably just write the same exact grant for the next round. It probably would take two rounds to cover the work that needs

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LOCAL

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SPORTS

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WEEKLY QUOTE

I have never been lost, but I will admit to being confused for several weeks.

Daniel Boone



COURIER CAPSULES

NOMINATION PAPERS AVAILABLE

Town Clerk Judi LaJoie has announced nomination papers are now available for town election May 7. Papers must be turned in on or before March 19 by 5 p.m. There are presently two 3 year seats for the Board of Selectmen; two 3 year seats for the School Committee; one 2 year seat for the School Committee; two 3 year seats for the Board of Health and one 5 year seat for the Housing Authority.

CABIN FEVER EVENT

The Narragansett Historical Society is proud to present our annual Cabin Fever Collector's Showcase. This event will be held on Feb. 24 from 12-5 p.m. at American Legion Post #373 at 3 Central Street in Baldwinville. Come see what others are collecting and excited about, enjoy some great company and food (did someone say chow-da?) to beat away the winter blues. Requested admission donation of \$5.

Are you a collector with an interesting collection you would like to share? Email the address below for an application. (There is no fee to display your belongings.)

Remember that becoming a member of the Narragansett Historical Society not only continues great traditions like these, but also maintains our building at 1 Boynton Road in Templeton Center as well as the Grange building

on Hubbardston Road, behind the Fire Station. Lifetime membership is still only \$100, and annual memberships, family packages and student memberships are all available. Email us to learn more at nh1924society@gmail.com.

SUPER RAFFLE

Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce has its annual Super Raffle underway with the drawing set Wednesday, Feb. 7 at a networking Business After Hours at the Gardner Ale House. The Super Raffle gives away \$15,250 in cash prizes (\$10,000 grand prize); and only a maximum of 400 tickets will be sold at \$100 each. Tickets are available at the GGCC offices, 29 Parker St., Gardner or online at gardnerma.com. Cash, check, VISA or Mastercard accepted. Individual or group sales welcome. For information contact the Chamber at (978) 632-1780.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

CONWAY, SC — Kristopher Kodys, of Templeton majoring in marketing, was among 2,419 students at Coastal Carolina University who made the Fall Semester 2017 Dean's List. To qualify for the Dean's List, freshmen must earn a 3.25 grade point average, and upperclassmen must earn a 3.5 grade point average. All students must be enrolled full time.

BOSTON — Mackenzi Vaughan of Templeton has been named to Emerson College's Dean's List for the

Fall 2017 semester. The requirement to make the Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher.

WORCESTER — The Assumption College Office of Student Activities has announced that Jillian Geyster, of Phillipston, has been elected, and is currently serving, as president of Heights Yearbook for the 2017-18 academic year. Heights Yearbook is one of nearly 60 clubs and organizations available to students allowing them the opportunity to network with professionals; take on leadership roles; and use classroom knowledge in the community. The student-run clubs appeal to a variety of interests and include offerings such as academic clubs (French, Italian, Pre-law, etc.); media (College television station, literary magazine and student newspaper, Le Provocateur); honor societies and many more.

MANCHESTER, NH — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University congratulates the following students on being named to the fall 2017 President's List. Eligibility for the President's List requires a student accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.7-4.0 and earn 12 credits for the semester. Victoria Johnson of Rindge, Derrick Loughlin of Jaffrey, and Julie Thomas of Templeton.

WORCESTER — The following local

residents were among 1,608 students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute named to the university's Dean's List for academic excellence for the fall 2017 semester. Colby Whitcomb of Jaffrey is a member of the class of 2018 majoring in chemical engineering; Anika Stundtner of Templeton is a member of the class of 2021 majoring in chemical engineering; Abigail O'Sullivan of Templeton is a member of the class of 2021 majoring in mechanical engineering; and Caleb Olson of Rindge is a member of the class of 2021 majoring in mechanical engineering.

NOMINATE A WINNER!

The Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations of individuals to be honored for outstanding service and excellence in business. Members of the Chamber and community are invited to submit nominations for the Chamber's Sybil Arguijo Community Service Award, Community Improvement Award, Business Person or Business of the Year Award, and Citizen of the Year.

Awards recipients will be honored at the annual meeting & awards recognition dinner to be held in May. The deadline for nominations is Friday, February 16. Nomination information is online at www.gardnerma.com or call the Chamber at (978) 632-1780 for more information.

New vet tech program highlights spring classes

GARDNER — Mount Wachusett Community College sprang to life on Jan. 16 as students returned for the first day of the spring semester, including the first group taking Veterinary Technology classes.

The first day of classes began for both the college's semester-long courses as well as an accelerated option that allows students to split their semester into two cycles. Full-semester courses and Cycle 1 courses began on Jan. 16. However, Cycle 1 courses will end on March 7 with Cycle 2 courses beginning on March 19 and wrapping up on May 7.

According to MWCC Dean of Admissions and Enrollment Marcia Rosbury-Henne, Tuesday marked the beginning of many students' time at MWCC, including those transferring from other schools or returning to school after some time away.

"Whoever the stu-

dent, whatever their age, MWCC is the perfect place for new beginnings. We start classes in January and March, so students aren't too late to make their resolution a reality this spring," said Rosbury-Henne.

Tuesday marked the first classes for MWCC's new veterinary technician program with 19 students enrolled. In their first semester, students will participate in courses including Introduction to Veterinary Technology and Hospital Management and Procedures, which will lay out the foundation of veterinary medicine and working in a veterinary hospital. The program will allow graduates to fill a growing need in the job market at a heavily reduced cost compared to other area programs.

"I am so excited to welcome our inaugural group into their first semester in the MWCC veterinary technology program," said certified

veterinary technician and the department chair and assistant professor for the program at MWCC Alexandra McNamara. "Students will work together to establish a healthy knowledge of veterinary medicine with a special focus on veterinary nursing, and utilize these skills to help pets and even livestock and wildlife in our community."

The two year Associate's Degree program will allow students to gain all the knowledge they need to take the Veterinary Technician National Exam test. Students passing that test will be able to fill the important role of veterinary technician that is integral in running a modern veterinary clinic.

At just over \$8,700 a year, the program can be completed for nearly \$60,000 less than the two-year veterinary technician program at a Worcester four-year college.

MHCC names new executive director

LEOMINSTER — Montachusett Home Care of Leominster, an aging service access point for 21 communities of north central Massachusetts, has announced the selection of Christina Cassidy, LICSW of Hudson as its new executive director. Cassidy will fill the vacancy created by Greg Giuliano's retirement earlier this month. She will be the fifth executive director of the agency in its 44 year history.

Cassidy's resume includes over 20 years of executive planning, administration, communication and marketing experience in both the non-profit and for profit sectors. She is a master's prepared social worker with a strong business background and has served as executive staff for several assisted living communities and several hospices. She was also adjunct faculty for the Savannah State University Masters in social work program. She worked for 11 years at Hospice Savannah, the largest non-profit hospice in the southeast. Her positions included vice president of community services and administrative director of the Steward Center for Palliative Care.

"I look forward to working with this dedicated team to continue to meet the needs of elders and adults with disabilities to ensure they are able to live as independently as possible" remarks Cassidy. "I feel passionate



Christina Cassidy

about the work we do and see daily the impact MHCC has on this region's quality of life."

MHCC is a non-profit agency whose mission is to assist elders and disabled persons to remain safely in their homes through the provision of supportive services. For more information about MHCC and its services or to contact Cassidy, call (978) 537-7411 or (800) 734-7312.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

WINCHENDON

\$298,173 22 Woodlawn St, Lafrennie, Stephen P, and US Bank NA, to US Bank NA Tr.

\$270,000 81 Hapgood St, Leblanc, Kenneth J, to Guerra, Amanda, and Guerra, Eugene.

\$255,000 815 Alger St, Roberts, Mona L, to Cournoyer, Bernard L.

\$215,000 7 Linden St, Barkley Enterprises LLC, to Piro, Nicholas J. WINCHENDON

\$298,173 22 Woodlawn St, Lafrennie, Stephen P, and US Bank NA, to US Bank NA Tr.

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\$255,000 815 Alger St, Roberts, Mona L, to Cournoyer, Bernard L.

\$215,000 7 Linden St, Barkley Enterprises LLC, to Piro, Nicholas J.

POLITO

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school, we increased rigor and students are now learning with state of the art software which is used in the field, giving students a good background for an entry level position in the workforce."

Extensive research has suggested girls are less likely than boys to sign up for technology/engineering electives in high school so Fontaine hopes exposure in middle school will help reverse that trend.

High school teacher Andrew Collins told Polito his students were working on projects to resolve public transportation problems and cited the newer equipment, which has been a significant positive for the program.

"It enables them to be more creative," he said.

Polito was looking down the road.

"Someday, when you finish your education, we want you to have good jobs, a good career, really love what you do and earn some good money for your family. Please stay right here in this area. Please stay in Massachusetts," she urged.

"It was good to see someone that high up in government come out to our small town and take an interest in what we're doing with technology. I was really impressed with the way she talked to the students and wanted them to explain what they were doing," Fontaine reflected.

All told, almost 400 students in middle and high school are benefiting from the grant, he added.



Winchendon Superintendent greets Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito.

HOW TO USE: THE WINCHENDON COURIER

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Transition to middle school a big one

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

It's a huge transition, that move from elementary to middle school and as the academic year reaches its midway point, a group of sixth graders sat down with the Courier to talk about their experiences.

Mykayla Bilodeau mused, "It was different," when school began last fall.

"It's so much bigger here and there are more people. Toy Town was much smaller. That was an adjustment but there are more people to talk to, and you get treated like you're older which is good," she said.

Getting up for a 6:45 bus? "That's easy for me but in school the work got harder."

But not in every subject though. Unlike a lot of students in any grade, her favorite subject is math. Yes, math.

"I like math. I love working with ratios," she enthused. "And the teachers do explain more," her affinity for math being shared by Maia Drake.

"It's fun," said Drake.

Math is? "I'm not so sure I agree with that," said Evanjelo Lopez.

"Right," nodded Steven Gauthier. Another positive to middle school? Extracurriculars.

"I'm planning on playing softball this spring," Bilodeau said.

The size of the school, so different from Toy Town, struck others as well.

"It was definitely a change but you

got used to it and it's more organized here. The iPad makes a big difference," said Kaitlyn, a sentiment with which Allie Robichaud agreed.

"I am more organized than I would be," she acknowledged.

"I'm not real social," said Kyle Safford, a remark which drew laughter from his classmates, "at least not with new people, so I was worried about the first day on the bus, but eventually I kind of 'let loose,'" he recalled.

"At first the schoolwork was a little bit hard to keep up with, but you get used to it. Joining things helps too," said Safford who like others at the table, is on Student Council.

"It's worked out fine," reflected Emily Wightman, noting, "all my teachers have told me, told us, it can be a struggle but it's also more interesting than last year too and outside of class you make a lot of new friends."

Principal Jess Vezina agreed with Wightman's assessment.

"While sixth grade is something of a school within a school, this year is also preparing them to begin the Summit program next year in seventh grade so the 'struggle' is not a mirage," she remarked.

Lopez looked at it all this way.

"At first, they seemed like big kids," he laughed, "but really this school is fun-filled because there are a lot of activities."

Activities offer the chance to build new friendships, noted Drake.

"I've definitely made new friends," she assured.

Robichaud agreed. "That's been one of the best things here," she remarked.

That wider range of out-of-class options has impressed Michael Weaver. "You have something to look forward to," he observed.

The transition has "been good," said Gauthier, who added, "I wasn't sure what to really expect in the beginning." Others shared that sentiment.

"I wasn't sure what was going to happen," Kaitlyn reflected. "You didn't know what to expect, but it's turned out fine. So far," she laughed.

"But the teachers have made it easier," she added.

"Having everything in one place helps take the stress off," noted Drake.

That early morning bus?

"Waking up early is tough," sighed Robichaud.

"I'm up at 5:30," Kaitlyn chimed in.

"A 6:45 bus is a lot different," said Weaver.

"I'm not crazy about sometimes having to go to the first floor" to use a restroom, offered Safford.

In a more serious vein, "you learn how to keep up," said Wightman.

On balance though, the group appears to be happier at MMS than they were at Toy Town.

"Nothing against that school but there's just more going on here," said Lopez.

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.



House of Corrections inmates graduate

WEST BOYLSTON - Inmates who took a plastics technology class run by Mount Wachusett Community College in conjunction with the Worcester County Sheriff's Office at the West Boylston House of Corrections were recognized during a graduation ceremony recently.

"We are here to help you. We believe in you. But you did the hard work," said

Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis at the ceremony before telling the inmates that there are employers who are willing to hire them if they work hard.

"Getting a job is hard for anybody but getting the training helps you get there... this is the beginning for you. It's in your hands now."

The ceremony was held to recognize the six graduates

that had completed the plastics technology class taught by an MWCC instructor. Through this program, these inmates will have the training to step into manufacturing jobs upon their release and are being offered a move to the work release program to possibly put their new skills to use.

The class is the same college level certificate course that runs at MWCC's Devens

campus, having been modified for the correctional setting. The program was designed by Gretchen Ingvason and taught by instructor Michael Hurley.

"I want to thank you all for putting in the time and putting in the work. I'm so proud to come through that door and work with you guys," Hurley said. "I would hire any of you right now."

The plastics training pro-

gram is one piece of an ongoing relationship between the Worcester County Sheriff's Office and MWCC. This partnership will continue in the spring with another round of the plastics class.

"We are so lucky to have this connection with the Mount," said Sheriff Evangelidis who has been working with the college since 2015.



Courtesy photo

Inmates at the House of Corrections in West Boylston hold their plastics technology certificates following a ceremony on Wednesday celebrating their successful completion of the class. In addition to the students, pictured from left to right are: General Council at the Worcester County Sheriff's Office Andrew Abdella, Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis, MWCC's Vice President for Planning, Development, and Institutional Research Joe Stiso, class instructor Michael Hurley, and class designer Gretchen Ingvason.

WORK

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The average annual cost of this arrangement runs about \$70 per customer.

The town of Winchendon has 564 street lights, including

those that currently remain unlit. At present, according to documents provided by Public Works Director Al Gallant, 249 50-watt street lights remain extinguished, 34 100w lights are dark, and two 250w lights are out. Once the lights have been replaced, every street light in

town will be turned back on. The town will also take ownership of the lights.

Town officials decided to turn off nearly half the street lights in Winchendon about five years ago in an attempt to trim municipal expenses.

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PUBLIC NOTICE RIGHT OF WAY MAINTENANCE

As required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 132B, National Grid (New England Power and/or Massachusetts Electric Company) hereby gives notice that it intends to selectively apply herbicides along specific transmission line rights-of-way in 2018.

The selective use of herbicides to manage vegetation along rights-of-way is done within the context of an Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) program consisting of mechanical, chemical, natural and cultural components. In right-of-way vegetation management the pest or target is vegetation (primarily tall growing) that will cause outages and safety issues. National Grid's IVM program encourages natural controls by promoting low growing plant communities that resist invasion by target vegetation. The selective use of herbicides and mechanical controls are the direct techniques used to control target vegetation and help establish and maintain natural controls.

Rodeo, and possibly one of the following herbicides, Arsenal or Arsenal Powerline, will be applied directly to the surface of stumps immediately after target vegetation is cut (Cut Stump Treatment). Garlon 4 or Garlon 4 Ultra will be applied selectively to the stems of target vegetation using hand-held equipment (Basal Treatment). Krenite 5 or Rodeo, mixed with Escort XP, and one of the following herbicides, Arsenal or Arsenal Powerline, or Milestone will be applied selectively to the foliage of target vegetation using hand-held equipment (Foliar Treatment). Applications shall not commence more than ten days before nor conclude more than ten days after the following treatment periods.

Municipalities that have rights-of-way that were treated in 2017 but may require some touch-up work in 2018:

Winchendon

Treatment Periods

January 29, 2018 – May 31, 2018	May 31, 2018 – October 15, 2018	October 15, 2018 – December 31, 2018
CST	FOLIAR	CST
BASAL	CST	BASAL
	BASAL	

Further information may be requested by contacting (during business hours, Mon-Fri from 8:00 am-4:00 pm):
Mariclaire Rigby, National Grid, 939 Southbridge Street, Worcester, MA 01610.
Telephone: (508) 860-6282 or email: mariclaire.rigby@nationalgrid.com

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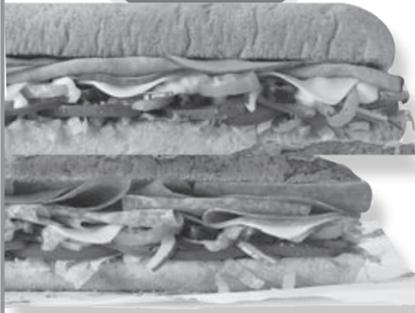
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EDITOR: RUTH DEAMICIS

VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

EDITORIAL

The last one to leave... turn off the lights

A few hundred years ago, mankind began getting itchy feet. Some of the cause was better economy; it took fewer workers to do the same number of chores, the advent of machinery managed to free up some time, and yes, people discovered one another through outbreaks of war that brought the soldiers from one area to another so that they discovered new places.

The old song about keeping Johnny down on the farm after seeing a city is all too true.

And so, the Gauls moved over here, the Vikings went over there, the Romans went west, the islanders sailed from port to port hopping from one clump of land to another discovering their way across the Pacific. And if there were already people there, when they arrived, they either made friends and intermarried or fought with them. It was a toss up which happened and just how warlike the immigrants migrating were. Vikings usually fought, islanders...not so much.

Eventually, once Europe had fought their way back and forth over their own land several times, conquered the African and Asian nations back and forth a bit (or been largely ignored by the Asian nations who were just happy to not be invaded thank you very much, we'll just do a little trading with you, now go away); hardy sailors found out wow, there's another big chunk of land, or a couple of them, over...there.

And so the Americas became a target. Too bad there were already people there. They didn't count. Still don't.

A few different groups decided they'd be the ones in charge; they fought over that a bit, and eventually it shook out to a bunch of old white guys who made the rules and laid down the laws.

And it's been that way awhile now. There's been some slight changes.

Some big ones, some smaller. Like people with different color skins got told ok, we won't own you but you still can't do everything exactly the same 'cause we don't completely trust...it's just different. People will swear that isn't true, but it is. It's subtle, but it is.

And everyone over the age of 18, men and women no matter whether they own property or not, can vote.

Sort of. Except...

Some can't. There are again these subtle little stoppers here and there. And there are little taxes laid on, or requirements on top of requirements...

And we still don't have one part of the country agreeing with another. How we've hung together as one country this long is amazing. The differences between southern California, south Alabama, South Dakota and the Downeast southern shore of Maine are insurmountable. We don't entirely even speak the same language! Soda, tonic or pop?

Part of this country was once French. Part of it was once Spanish. Part of it was once its own country. And yet we believe we can all be one under one government.

Of course we fight over what that should be.

And now, our government is shut down again. Because we can't get our leaders to stop fighting among themselves long enough to make compromises on budget questions; and they drag every other darn thing into the discussion that doesn't belong there.

Budget discussions should NOT include political discussions about immigration, race, or constitutional changes. They have nothing to do with the budget. Those discussions belong in a category without dragging funding

Turn To **LIGHTS** page **A10**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bulger: events, willing volunteers needed

To the Editor:

I believe in the paranormal, that there are spirits in every home whether they are "found" or not. This is not a game to be played with.

I served as curator at that mansion for three years and was never uncomfortable there. And while the Gardner News reported that some "staff" were afraid to go to the 3rd floor, NONE of the staff or other volunteers I knew were afraid. This is a warm, gracious and unique home because of the first two families' imagination and who built and lived there. These were good people who helped to make Winchendon a good and better town.

The Murdock-Whitney mansion is the repository of many collections/artifacts. She is, in fact, an artifact in and of herself, not to be roamed through by ghost busters. This is something of which I have never approved, but money talks. These events bring in the

money that we should be making by working to increase our membership and to build on the Board as a base to include necessary committees to bring imagination, energy and diligence. Nine people on the Board cannot do all that needs to be done.

What should happen is that we'd have more events; we should have seminars on town history; we should have programs for children at our museums; we should have more music and art events, we should be open more often.

We need someone to write books to update our history since 1964; Lois Greenwood's book *The Winchendon Years (1764 to 1964)*.

We need willing bodies and creative, imaginative brains. More of us should know what an extraordinary town we have.

MARY W. BULGER
WINCHENDON

Haddad: thanks for the help

To the Editor:

I would like to thank all of the generous people who have donated and helped support our Winchendon Kiwanis Backpack Program over the past few years.

For those of you unfamiliar with the Backpack Program, it is a program to provide healthy foods to an eligible group of students. The program is designed to offer students a backpack of healthy foods to be given each Friday at dismissal. This will provide nourishment to students over the weekends when school breakfasts and lunches aren't available.

The program began at Toy Town Elementary School with 40 students and has expanded to Memorial School and now includes 98 students. This winter we have seen an increase in our numbers. We hope to continue and expand our program but we need help.

Anyone wishing to donate to this much needed program may send a tax deductible check to the Winchendon Kiwanis Backpack Program, c/o Jennifer Haddad, TTE, 175 Grove St., Winchendon, MA 01475.

Organizations or businesses that would like to conduct a food drive, could deliver their collection to the W.P.S. Central Office at Toy Town Elementary School, 175 Grove St., Winchendon, MA 01475.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who has donated to our program, it has been greatly appreciated. Please consider helping us to continue this important program.

JENNIFER HADDAD
WPS EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM
DIRECTOR
WINCHENDON KIWANIS V.P.

A musical anniversary worth noting – like it or not

"It is good taste, and good taste alone, that possesses the power to sterilize and is always the first handicap to any creative functioning." – Salvador Dalí, Spanish surrealist painter



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

Thirty-five years ago this week – on January 22, 1983 – the 24-hour music video network MTV finally became available to viewers throughout the United States after it was picked up by Group W Cable in Los Angeles. Some people think America has been on a downhill slide ever since.

I am not among them.

When the network made its debut on August 1, 1981 it famously began its broadcast with "Video Killed the Radio Star," an almost sickeningly poppy little tune recorded by the British new wave band The Buggles; basically, the duo of Geoff Downes and Trevor Horn, both of whom went on to play at various times with Yes. (SciFi fans will recognize the girl in the test tube in the video as Virginia Hey, who played

Pa'u Zotoh Zhaan in the television series *Farscape*.)

Almost immediately after MTV burst onto our television screens (at first it was available only to homes in New Jersey) and into our cultural consciousness, parents, politicians, and puritans began fretting over the fate of the nation. Young people, they worried, would glue themselves to the TV screen 24 hours a day, numbing their brains on eye candy and rock 'n' roll.

"Zombies! They'll turn into zombies!"

Television critic Tom Shales wrote: "Perhaps western civilization is in a post-decline phase, or maybe the decline is just taking a really long time,

like the Roman Empire's did. The Romans had gladiators and Christian-hungry lions and that sort of thing. We have MTV."

Well, call me crazy (many have), but I liked MTV. When I moved to Seattle in December 1983 I shared a house with a trio of University of Washington students, so MTV was on the living room TV...a lot! While my roomies were most interested in viewing videos packed with, shall we say, attractive young women – J. Geils' "Centerfold" or Van Halen's "Hot for Teacher," for example – I, of course, watched with an eye toward the more artistic offerings; none of which quickly come to mind.

Actually, a number of old videos do stand out in my memory: "You Might Think" by The Cars, Cindy Lauper's "True Colors," and – while I wasn't a big fan – Michael Jackson's "Beat It," which I liked mainly because it featured guitar work by Eddie Van Halen.

And there were some really

creative one-hit wonders. I've always loved "The Future's So Bright (I Gotta Wear Shades)" by Timbuk 3 – a husband and wife team from Minnesota – and the brilliantly quirky "Mexican Radio" by Wall of Voodoo.

But MTV also proved to be a great venue for experimentation. Dire Straits' "Money for Nothing" (often mistakenly referred to as "I Want my MTV") featured the first primitive use of computer animation. Likewise, "Cry" by Godley and Crème offered one of the first presentations of facial morphing. Kevin Godley and Lol Crème had been the moving force behind the creative British band 10cc. Groundbreaking graphics were also seen in later years in video's like Soundgarden's "Black Hole Sun" (one of my absolute favorites), and in the Smashing Pumpkins' homage to French silent film pioneer George Melies, "Tonight, Tonight."

Unfortunately, MTV took a

turn for the worse in the '90s and early 2000s when it began offering, if I may, junk programming like *The Real World*, *Jersey Shore*, *Teen Mom*, and *Ridiculousness*.

One show a lot of adults absolutely hated was *Beavis and Butt-head*. The animated series was a satire that actually made fun of MTV viewers. The old folks just didn't get it.

(The series' creator, Mike Judge, went on to bring us *King of the Hill*.)

In the end, MTV did not result in the collapse of American civilization. And nothing our kids and grandkids are amusing themselves with today will accomplish it either. Old fogies have been screaming about the demise of our culture ever since the young'uns discovered comic books in the 1950s.

Nope, we need not worry about our young people sending our great nation off to its ultimate doom; we have plenty of "grown-ups" in Washington already working on that one.

Appreciating, and looking ahead

First, we lost our hot water. That came as no real surprise. When a foot or more of snow melts all at once and slopes downward, well, that's an issue for us even with a new sump pump. Then we lost our heat. There was a time when this would freak me out because most of us with that pesky bi-polar disorder strongly, very strongly, prefer routine and when that routine gets tampered with, some of us, yes me, have been known to not handle it real well. Since June 7, though, my perspectives have changed on just about everything.

And this is where you appreciate how fortunate you are. There are far, far too many people who would be freezing on cold winter nights without any heat, nights which would no doubt seem endless. We spent that one night without heat at the Colonial. My shrimp/scallops dinner was too small to be worth the 20 bucks but that happens. I was in a hotel. I wasn't freezing. By the next afternoon, the water was hot and the heat was working

(thanks, Shawn).

Those weren't even the low lights of the week. On Thursday, covering lieutenant governor Karyn Polito's visit to Murdock to see the impact that \$68k capital skills grant has had on the technology/engineering curriculum, I fell. Again. You're surprised? Didn't think so. Fortunately, I fell on left (non injured ribs) side. Just another moment in my life.

I digress. Anyway, I mentioned earlier there are too many people who do not have the same options, people who would have shivered all night and too often have to shiver every night in winter.

As I write on Saturday, the federal government is in the early hours of the latest shutdown so for all I know, it might be over by the time this column comes out on Friday. Regardless, these things should not happen. But



JOURNEY
OF THE
HEART
JERRY
CARTON

a mayor, governor or 'President'. Legislators, especially who hail from the same party as the executive, like having some guidance. It helps them to gauge which way the wind might be blowing. In case you haven't noticed, there are very few courageous Republicans in DC. In any event, executives need to lead. Over the weekend, this one didn't. Even congressional Republicans don't seem to know what DJT wants. The absence of leadership creates a vacuum which frequently leads to chaos and so here we are.

But we can't do anything about the machinations on the Hill. Let's talk

about how we fix deep-rooted problems on a local level, okay?

My hometown of Baltimore is without question the nation's leader in big city homicides. There are, of course, a myriad of reasons just as there are in Chicago and Newark and other big cities. The question becomes what can be done about it. The issue is complicated and deserves more discussion than there is room for here. But let's try a synopsis, shall we?

Let me start with this - because of where I've been, where I've worked, and what I've seen, the fate and future of cities is the public policy issue about which I am most passionate. So here are some thoughts:

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to grasp that most urban areas are in desperate need of better schools and more jobs. The former, of course, requires an economic commitment many legislatures aren't so willing to make. They should but political reality is what it is. I've long believed

Turn To **CARTON** page **A11**



Murdock continues to be hub of activity

Lt. Governor Karen Polito was reportedly impressed by the Murdock technology programs when she visited Murdock last week to observe the technology obtained through funds from the Massachusetts Skills Capital Grant Program. Kudos to Mr. Fontaine and Mr. Collins!

The Indoor Track teams participated in The Division V State meet on 1/21. The boys' 4x400m relay team of Ryan Thira, Steven Ingman, Richard Swanson & Adam Digman, placed fifth. The 4x200m relay team of Richard Swanson, Justin Thira, Ryan Thira and Adam Digman placed fourth. The long jump relay team of Justin Thira,

VIEW FROM THE TOWER
SUE POLCARI

Ryan Thira and Adam Digman placed second in the meet and set a new school record!!

The girls' relay team also did a great job with the 4x200 relay team of Alexia Allard, Briahna Bouchard, Lilly Digman and Paige Demanche qualifying for the State meet. The girls long jump relay team also set a new school record! Members of that team are Alexia Allard, Briahna Bouchard, and Paige Demanche. Congratulations to all!

A big basketball night occurred on Tuesday, the girls' and boys' JV and Varsity basketball teams traveled to rival Narragansett for games beginning at 2:30. The JV girls were first up, play-

ing their best, but falling to the Warriors. The JV boys played some excellent defense, defeating Narragansett 54-41! The varsity girls trailed by only 3 points at the midway mark of their game, but tired in the 2nd half, resulting in a loss of 44-22. The varsity boys played a very exciting game, leading the Warriors by 24-19 at halftime, only to run into some foul trouble in the 2nd half and succumbing to Narragansett 49-55. Multiple Blue Devils contributed to the scoring, including Louis Maldonado with 10 points, LJ Hicks and Spencer Pelkey with 7 points, Nick Roy with 8 points, Ross O'Toole with 9 points, Dylan Lupien with 6 points, and Scott Laverdure with 2 points.

The Girls' varsity basket-

ball team will be hosting a Youth Night on 2/5/18, inviting the middle school basketball team to be recognized and participate in games during the varsity halftime.

The Murdock cheerleaders are hosting 2 events. The first is a Paint Night at the American Legion on Thursday, February 1st at 6:30. Fee is \$30.00 and includes all materials. Registration deadline is January 29th.

The cheer clinic on January 15th, with over 30 participants, was such a success, that a 2nd cheer clinic is being offered on 2/20/18 from 9:00-12:30. This is open to any child grade Pre-K to 7th grade. Registration must be received by 2/15.

For more information on either of these events, please

contact Lisa Paulitzky at 978-297-1256 x101, lpaulitzky@winchendonk12.org or Murdockcheerleading@gmail.com.

Upcoming events:
1/26 - Girls JV/V basketball 5:30/7:00

1/29 & 1/30 - Boys JV/V basketball 5:30/7:00

2/1 - Girls/Boys Middle school basketball 3:30/4:30

2/2 - Middle School Academic Awards 1:00-2:00

2/2 - Indoor Track Meet (District E League Championship) at Fitchburg High School

2/2 - Girls JV/V Basketball 5:30/7:00

2/4 - Cheerleading Competition at Gardner High School

Go Blue Devils!

You can lay the groundwork for reforming Congress



BEYOND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
LEE H. HAMILTON

The first three words of the U.S. Constitution are, "We the People." The Constitution itself, our institutions of government, the democratic process — all were established to give Americans a voice in their own governance. We are still striving to make that vision real for all, but we are closer than ever.

So let me ask you some questions about Congress today. Do you think the voice of ordinary Americans resounds strongly in its hallways and chambers? Can you recall Congress in the last few years successfully dealing with an issue that directly affected your life? Does Congress produce legislation that resolves our differences and brings us closer together? Do you believe that the political system produces members of Congress who fairly and effectively represent the diversity and complexity of this country and are addressing our real, long-term challenges?

I thought not. This is why I believe it's past time for comprehensive reform of Congress. Representative democracy today is being undermined by the rising power of big money, the challenges of governing a country as large and diverse as ours,

the problems brought by rising economic inequality, the ineffectiveness of our political institutions, and too many citizens who were never taught the skills needed to make the pragmatic judgments necessary in a representative democracy.

In the present environment, it's doubtful that the various reforms needed to address these challenges can actually get adopted. But their time will come, either because the public demands it or the cost of dysfunction becomes too obvious to ignore.

So it's important to know in advance where we need to head.

To be sure, part of what we need is outside the purview of any single institution. We lack a robust, comprehensive system of civic education, designed to produce an engaged, informed electorate able to sort fact from fiction in a complicated world. We want citizens who know how to maintain healthy skepticism and wariness about elected officials, and who have the knowledge and confidence to hold them accountable.

But there are also steps we need our lawmakers to take.

Partisan gerrymandering has become a scandal; competitive congressional districts drawn to represent the population fairly are vital to our future. Similarly, we have to expand voter participation and fight efforts to repress votes; lower participation empowers the extremes in politics, and it's hurting our country. And we need to make it easier for third parties to break into the

system; people are losing confidence in the two parties and we need to open up the system to new participants.

Greater transparency from those in power or those seeking to influence those in power truly matters. Disclosure of campaign donations, disclosure of foreign money's track through our political system, disclosure of special-interest spending, identifying the people who make contributions to secretive political committees, details about financial conflicts of interest — all of this should be a habit in any self-respecting representative democracy. Extensive disclosure needs to be required by law, and backed up with the resources to enforce the law.

On Capitol Hill, members need to fund and then rely on independent sources of information they can trust, rather than special interests who too often lay down their own interpretation of the facts as a legislative foundation. And they need to return to the traditional processes of gathering expert testimony through congressional hearings.

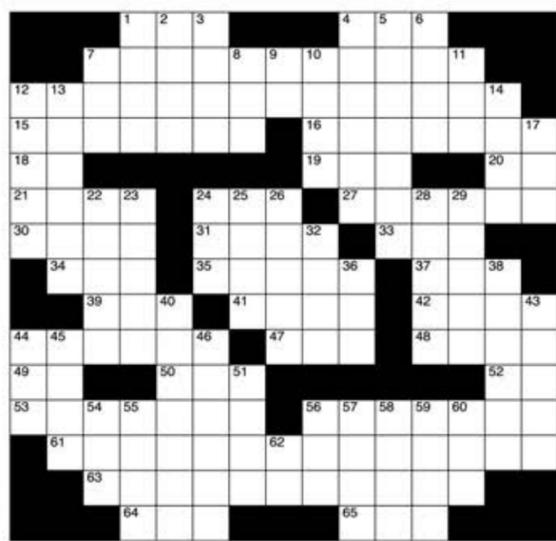
And perhaps more than anything, Congress needs to revitalize the institution itself — by energizing the traditional committee structure and practices, giving up its ridiculous habit of enacting budgets through omnibus bills, and no longer allowing major legislation to be put together by a few leadership staff behind closed doors — and restore its power vis-à-vis the president.

This is where you come in.

The changes I'm advocating will not come about without citizen action. Our lawmakers have become fixated on their re-election and too comfortable with the status quo they and their predecessors have built in recent decades. We have to hold politicians to the highest ethical standards, and have them come up with serious proposals to fix the system. Without that, the loss of faith in our process and our institutions that all of us lament

will be almost impossible to reverse.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Measurement (abbr.)
- 4. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 7. Sorting
- 12. Attribute
- 15. Poked holes in
- 16. Angers
- 18. Doc
- 19. MLB journeyman pitcher Dillon
- 20. Not don't
- 21. Snubs someone
- 24. Where kids bathe
- 27. One might be in distress
- 30. Chair
- 31. Music industry honors (abbr.)
- 33. Dash
- 34. Owed
- 35. Caucasian language
- 37. One thousand (Span.)
- 39. Musical style drum and bass
- 41. Evergreen trees native to warm climates
- 42. Begin ___; start fresh
- 44. Marshy outlets
- 47. A chicken lays one
- 48. Yemen's largest city
- 49. Conversion rate
- 50. Single Lens Reflex
- 52. Atlanta rapper
- 53. Reduce the importance of
- 56. Faces of buildings
- 61. Something achieved
- 63. Distribute again
- 64. Tooth caregiver
- 65. 007's creator

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Skater Lipinski
- 2. Data
- 3. Single step
- 4. Destroyed financially
- 5. Fail to interpret correctly
- 6. Fava d' ___; tree found in Brazil
- 7. Vehicle
- 8. Limited
- 9. Old English
- 10. Aussie golfer Norman
- 11. Job
- 12. Loose-fitting undergarments
- 13. Protected by balancing
- 14. Give up
- 17. Fifth note of a major scale
- 22. Extravagantly bright
- 23. Takes dictation
- 24. 19th letter of Greek alphabet
- 25. Rounded knob (biology)
- 26. French philosopher Pierre
- 28. Mothers
- 29. Dardic ethnic group
- 32. Supports the rudder
- 36. An ugly evil-looking old woman
- 38. Of a fasting time
- 40. Filled with passengers
- 43. Below the ribs and above the hips
- 44. Binary-coded decimal
- 45. 51 is a famous one
- 46. Goes into a funk
- 51. Chief O'Hara actor
- 54. Videocassette recorder
- 55. Scored perfectly
- 56. Type of tree
- 57. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 58. Popular commercial "pet"
- 59. Supreme god of Ancient Egyptians
- 60. Room in a home
- 62. ___ and behold



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

Fun By The Numbers

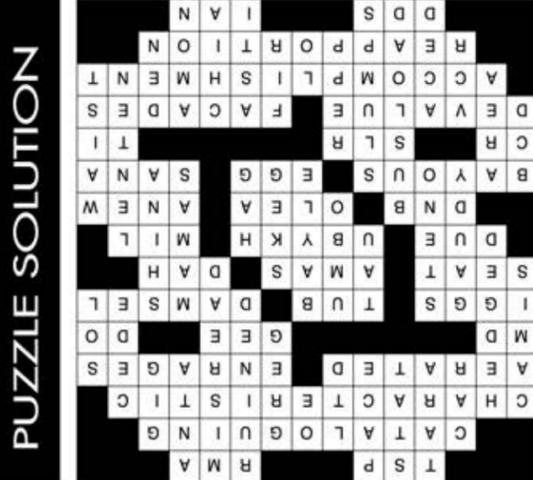
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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!

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

ANSWER:



PUZZLE SOLUTION

OBITUARIES

Mary Ann (Hill) Walsh, 90

LEOMINSTER — Mary Ann (Hill) Walsh, age 90, of Leominster, MA and Tucson, AZ, formerly of Fitchburg, MA, passed peacefully at the home of her daughter in Tucson on Tuesday, January 16, 2018. Mary was born in Winchendon, the oldest of four children, on June 19, 1927 to the late Leroy and Catherine (Moriarty) Hill.

Mary was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She leaves her husband of 53 years, Paul D. Walsh, of Leominster and Tucson. In addition to her husband, she leaves her children: Shireen Michaud and Michelle LeBlanc of Fitchburg, Barry (Heather) Walsh of Leominster, Lisa (Keith) Smith of Tucson, AZ, and David (Dianna) Walsh of Winchendon; her loving grandchildren Shaun Fontaine, Todd Michaud, Melissa Michaud, Scott LeBlanc, Jeffrey Walsh, Caitlin Walsh,

Hannah Walsh, Jonathan Smith, Collin Smith, Saraya Haley, and Dillon Walsh; great-grandchildren Travis Michaud, Ryan and Ashley LeBlanc, and Michael Saladini; step-children Paul (Jane) Walsh, Rhonda (Mike) Cody, and Cindy (Victor) Nowlan, six step-grandchildren, two step-great grandchildren. She leaves numerous nieces and nephews, who affectionately called her "Auntie Mamie." She also leaves her constant companion, her beloved Shih Tzu, Sasha.

Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her step-father Ernest Gaudet, her siblings Donald Hill, Dorothy (Hill) Pandiscio, and Robert Hill, and her sons-in-law Michael Michaud and Steven LeBlanc.

Mary attended school in Fitchburg and in addition to being a homemaker, she was employed in various positions including activities director at the former Mount Elam Nursing Home, private housekeeping and she worked in retail at Woolworth's and Piggly Wiggly. It was the role of mother and

grandmother that was her life's focus. Family was of the utmost importance to her and provided her greatest enjoyment. Over the years, she welcomed many family members into her home, especially in their times of need, always the perpetual caregiver. Mary cherished time spent with family, especially her grandchildren. She lovingly cared for and nurtured all of them. Nana will be dearly missed.

Mary loved animals and always enjoyed the companionship of her dogs. Her hobbies included painting, ceramics, crafts, and reading. She loved music and all things Irish. Mary enjoyed discussing her family history and was proud of her Irish and English ancestry. She had a remarkable memory and provided a wealth of information about her lineage. She could recall names, dates and notable events that occurred throughout her life and the lives of her ancestors and extended family.

She enjoyed traveling, and wintered in Arizona for over 20 years. In addition to her frequent trips to Arizona and

travel throughout New England, Mary visited the Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, California and was fortunate to vacation in Hawaii twice. She most recently traveled to Aruba in July 2017 to attend her grandson's wedding.

Mary was a member of the former Madonna of the Holy Rosary Parish in Fitchburg for many years. She attended New Life Bible Fellowship in Tucson, AZ and also attended and renewed her wedding vows at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Tucson. She attended several other churches in Fitchburg throughout her life.

The family requests donations be made in memory of Mary to the ASPCA, PO Box 96929, Washington DC 20090-6929 (ASPCA.org) or to the Saint Vincent De Paul Society at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 52 Spruce St., Winchendon, MA 01475.

A memorial service will be held in the spring with more information to follow. Brandon Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

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, JANUARY 16

2:13 a.m.: building checked, secure; 2:36 a.m.: investigation (Jackson Avenue), spoken to; 3:02 a.m.: building checked, secure; 3:32 a.m.: burglar alarm (Spring Street), secured bldg.; 5:08 a.m.: ambulance (Baldwinville State Road), transported; 8:29 a.m.: disabled mv (Teel Road), assisted; 10:57 a.m.: suspicious (other) (Tucker Street), referred; 12:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Bluebird Road), referred to ACO; 12:43 p.m.: investigation (Teel Road), spoken to; 1:31 p.m.: assist citizen (Mill Street), property returned to owner; 3:13 p.m.: ambulance (Pearl Street), transported; 4:31 p.m.: suspicious mv (Elmwood Road), services rendered; 4:46 p.m.: larceny (Winter Street), spoken to; 5:16 p.m.: traffic hazard (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 5:32 p.m.: investigation (Gardner Road), spoken to; 6:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Front Street), spoken to; 6:55 p.m.: info/general (Polly's Drive), advised officer; 7:23 p.m.: investigation (Banner Place), unable to locate; 7:46 p.m.: mv stop (Hall Road), citation issued; 8:37 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Street), spoken to; 9:34 p.m.: burglar alarm (Spring Street), canceled; 10:27 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

1:05-1:20 a.m.: buildings checked secure; 3:55 a.m.: accident (Route 2, Fitchburg), referred; 4:26 a.m.: accident (Baldwinville State Road), Sarah F. Antonio, 29, 3 Brown Avenue, Winchendon, op w/suspended license, citation issued; 6:05 a.m.: accident (Spring Street), transported to hospital; 12:02 p.m.: info/general (Banner Place), spoken to; 12:25 p.m.: investigation (Maple Street), returned to home; 12:47 p.m.: summons service (Krantz Road), served; 12:56 p.m.: info/general (Central Street), spoken to; 1:06 p.m.: summons service (West Street), unable to serve; 1:13 p.m.: unattended death (Lincoln Street), services rendered; 2:00 p.m.: assist citizen (Central Street); 2:43 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), referred; 2:56 p.m.: disabled mv (Spring Street), unable to locate; 4:39 p.m.: assist citizen (Central Street), info taken; 5:35 p.m.: vandalism (Ash Street), unfounded; 6:18 p.m.: assist other agency (Central Street), spoken to; 8:19 p.m.:

Fatal accident ties up Tannery Hill

The bad weather has taken another life on Winchendon's roads. According to information provided by Winchendon Police Lt. Kevin Wolski, on Friday, Jan. 19, 2018 at approximately 1 p.m. police and fire departments responded to the Tannery Hill section of River Street for a single car rollover accident involving a 2006 white Chevrolet HHR.

The sole occupant and operator, 64 year old Patricia McHugh of 554 Hale St., Winchendon, was determined to be deceased at the scene.

The preliminary investigation suggests that the Chevy HHR was travel-

ing south on Spring Street when it spun out and went off of the north bound shoulder where it rolled over into a wooded area.

This is an ongoing investigation. The crash is being investigated by Det. Alan Ross of the Winchendon Police, and the Massachusetts State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section.

The area caused traffic backup for several hours until the vehicle could be cleared, investigation could be finalized on site at the time and vehicular movement restored. Detours were over Brown Street and back up to School Street.

suicide threats (Central Street), transported; 10:25 p.m.: animal complaint (Central Street), report taken.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18
9:03 a.m.: burglar alarm (School Street), false alarm; 10:29 a.m.: accident (School Street), report taken; 10:45 a.m.: parking violation (Front Street), spoken to; 1:42 p.m.: keep the peace (Main Street), assisted; 1:54 p.m.: keep the peace (Main Street), assisted; 2:15 p.m.: warrant check (Teel Road), no service necessary; 3:28 p.m.: investigation (Joslin Road), spoken to; 4:18 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 4:37 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), John F. Smith, 47, 144 Bridge Street, Templeton, number plate violation to conceal ID, citation issued; 6:00 p.m.: disabled mv (River Street), removed hazard; 6:39 p.m.: keep the peace (Main Street), assisted; 6:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Bayberry Circle), report taken; 7:19 p.m.: fire alarm (Central Street), unfounded; 7:33 p.m.: officer wanted (Poland Avenue), referred; 8:11 p.m.: investigation (Hill Street), spoken to; 8:29 p.m.: mv stop (Baldwinville State Road), verbal warning; 8:44 p.m.: welfare check/general (Ash Street), secure; 9:47 p.m.: fire alarm (Central Street), services rendered.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19
1:29-3:01 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:08 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 3:12 a.m.: ambulance (Front Street), transported; 8:46 a.m.: DPW call (Hale Street), deferred; 9:26 a.m.: animal complaint (Welch Road), referred to ACO; 9:36 a.m.: ambulance (Chestnut Street), services rendered; 9:40 a.m.: vandalism (Central Street), report taken; 9:54 a.m.: registration check (Court Street), info given;

11:17 a.m.: summons service (Spring Street), unable to serve; 11:31 a.m.: shoplifting (Railroad Street), report taken; 11:32 a.m.: summons service (Goodrich Drive), served; 11:52 a.m.: burglar alarm (Brown Street), false alarm; 12:00 p.m.: DPE call (Central Street), referred; 12:03 p.m.: keep the peace (Main Street), assisted; 1:02 p.m.: accident (River Street), report taken; 2:43 p.m.: lift assist (Teel Road); 2:49 p.m.: burglar alarm (Glenallan Street), canceled; 3:53 p.m.: notification (Hale Street), spoken to; 4:32 p.m.: suicide threats (Teel Road), Section 12; 4:52 p.m.: accident (Ash Street), assisted; 7:15 p.m.: keep the peace (Main Street), assisted; 8:25 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 9:29 p.m.: missing person (Spruce Street), canceled; 9:34 p.m.: lift assist (Teel Road).

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20
12:18-12:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:34 a.m.: animal complaint (Wendell Drive), services rendered; 12:37-2:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:41 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 4:09 a.m.: building checked, secure; 9:18 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 9:45 a.m.: registration check (King Phillip Way), citation issued; 9:50 a.m.: registration check (Ash Street), verbal warning; 10:19 a.m.: welfare check/general (Central Street), transported; 11:41 a.m.: accident (Gardner Road), report taken; 12:18 p.m.: ambulance (Ash Street), transported; 12:42 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 2:27 p.m.: fire alarm (Front Street), referred; 4:39 p.m.: property found (Pearl Drive), report taken; 5:22 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 6:08 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 7:04 p.m.: mv stop (Ash Street), verbal warning; 7:14 p.m.: accident (Second Street), Mario Y. Boisvert, 57, 125 Second Street, Winchendon, OUI liquor, negligent operation, leaving the scene of a property damage accident, arrest; 10:13 p.m.: suspicious person (Grove Street), gone on arrival; 11:17 p.m.: animal complaint (Spring Street), services rendered.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

12:31-1:54 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:56 a.m.: suicide attempt (Ready Drive), transported; 1:58 a.m.: building checked, secure; 3:26 a.m.: info/general (Central Street), services rendered; 9:00 a.m.: mv stop (Baldwinville State Road), citation issued; 9:13 a.m.: ambulance (Ipswich Drive), canceled; 10:13 a.m.: summons service (Ready Drive), served; 10:56 a.m.: animal complaint (West Street), referred to ACO; 12:08 p.m.: investigation (School Street), report taken; 1:59 p.m.: gunshots heard (Madison Avenue), spoken to; 5:53 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 6:42 p.m.: runaway (Polly's Drive), returned home; 7:24 p.m.: welfare check/child (Glenallan Street), services rendered; 7:38 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), written warning; 7:51 p.m.: mv stop (High Street), written warning; 8:19 p.m.: recovered mv (School Street), services rendered; 8:45 p.m.: assist citizen (Linden Street), report taken; 8:48 p.m.: dog bite (Ipswich Drive), report taken; 9:11 p.m.: mv violations (Converse Drive), services rendered; 10:16 p.m.: animal complaint (Spring Street), unable to locate; 10:20 p.m.: investigation (Ash Street), rendered; 11:03 p.m.: noise complaint (Beech Street), services rendered; 11:10 p.m.: animal complaint (Beech Street), services rendered; 11:45 p.m.: fire alarm (Baldwinville Road), no service necessary; 11:53-11:55 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:55 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), written warning.

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

12:37 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 12:46 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 12:46-1:03 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:36 a.m.: parking violation (Oak Street), citation issued; 5:35 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 5:50 a.m.: FD call (Forristall Road), services rendered; 6:22 a.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 6:52 a.m.: ambulance (Maple Street), transported; 7:25 a.m.: fire alarm (Central Street), false alarm; 7:44 a.m.: assist citizen (Central Street), referred to court; 8:08 a.m.: ambulance (#4 RD, Fitzwilliam), canceled; 8:18 a.m.: DPW call (town wide), referred; 9:44 a.m.: assault (Teel Road), report taken; 9:58 a.m.: animal complaint (town wide, Troy), info taken; 10:32 a.m.: burglar alarm (Baldwinville State Road), canceled; 11:10 a.m.: info/general (Central Street), spoken to; 12:39 p.m.: info/general (Front Street), spoken to; 1:39 p.m.: info/general (Central Street), info taken; 1:39 p.m.: animal complaint (Teel Road), spoken to; 2:24 p.m.: warrant of apprehension (Forristall Road), unable to locate; 3:10 p.m.: assist citizen (Central Street), spoken to; 3:15 p.m.: suspicious (other) (Benjamin Street), unable to locate; 3:17 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Elmwood Road), services rendered; 4:47 p.m.: unwanted party (Pearl Drive), spoken to; 4:53 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 5:23 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 5:31 p.m.: info/general (Bluebird Road), info taken; 8:03 p.m.: investigation (Juniper Street), services rendered; 9:33 p.m.: mv stop (School Street), verbal warning; 10:19 p.m.: FD call (Otter River Road), assisted.



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OBITUARIES

Michael F. Corbosiero, 71

PHOENIX AZ — Michael F. Corbosiero, "Don Miguel", age 71, of Phoenix, AZ passed away on January 13, 2018 from complications of pneumonia.



He was born in Montreal, Quebec on Dec. 2, 1946 to Dr. Guy Corbosiero and his wife Ruth. He spent his early years in New Brunswick before moving to Massachusetts. The family originally lived

in Fitchburg and then relocated to Winchendon, where his father had a dental practice.

Michael attended Sacred Heart School in Gardner and graduated from Notre Dame High School in Fitchburg in 1964. As a child and young man, Michael was bright, outgoing and had a very promising future.

Michael graduated from Nathaniel Hawthorne College in Antrim, NH in 1969 and was employed by Gardner State Hospital as a psychologist. He married Maureen Jeffers in 1968 and they have two wonderful children. They divorced in 1973 but remained close until his death.

Michael was in a car accident in 1974, resulting in a brain injury and short-term memory loss. Despite his injury, Mike found a way to live with humor and without anger at the circumstances which forever impacted his life and the life of his family.

In 1990, Michael moved with his par-

ents to Phoenix. He was employed by Albertsons, where he worked until his recent illness. Michael loved his work, his fellow employees and the customers he met each day. He would often say, "I don't have to go to work, I get to go to work."

Michael lived at Madison Meadows where he loved, and was loved by, staff and residents. He maintained a vibrant and comedic personality throughout his life. His stories were legendary and memorable. He loved his family, extended family and everyone he met. We were all touched by his kindness and caring spirit.

Michael is survived by his son Michael and wife Lisa, their sons Nicholas and Lucas; daughter Zoey Walters and husband Chris Uber; their children Madison and Hunter Uber; brother Guy and wife Peggy; sisters Janet Corbosiero and husband Bob Guenther, Martha Patrick and husband Richard, Lisa Belko and husband Mark, Jennifer Sibley and husband Scott; and his nephews and nieces Thomas, Elizabeth, and Ryan Patrick, Mark and Brian Belko and Joey and Jada Sibley. We will ALL miss him.

Services will be held in Phoenix, Arizona on Jan. 20, 2018. Condolences and memories of Michael may be left for his family at legacy.com by entering his name and Arizona as the state.

A memorial service will be held this summer in Winchendon, where Michael's ashes will be laid to rest in the town he loved so much.

Scott J. Gilbert, 54

WINCHENDON — Scott J. Gilbert, age 54, of 12 Mill St., died peacefully Saturday evening, January 20, 2018 in Gardner Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Gardner, with his family at his side.



He was born in Winchendon on March 30, 1963, son of Toni K. (Lafrennie) Gilbert of Winchendon and the late Arthur J. "Buddy" Gilbert and was a lifelong resident of Winchendon.

Scott held positions in different fields in the local area. He was a former member of Sons of the American Legion.

In addition to his mother, he leaves a daughter Carrie Ann Hall of Vermont; a brother J. Michael Gilbert of Gardner, one granddaughter, one grandson, two uncles, two aunts and several cousins.

Calling hours will be held Saturday, January 27, 2018 from 2 to 3 p.m. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon.

Private graveside services will be in Riverside Cemetery in the spring.

SFC (Ret.) Homer J. Vaillancourt Jr., 57

COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS -- SFC (Ret.) Homer J. Vaillancourt Jr., age 57 passed away January 20, 2018, surrounded by his family at his home. He was born November 26, 1960 in Winchendon to Claudette Vaillancourt and the late Homer Vaillancourt.



Homer was a 1979 graduate of Murdock High School in Winchendon. After graduating, he joined the United States Army. Homer served his country for 20 plus years before retiring as a Sergeant First Class. After retiring from the US Army, SFC (Ret.) Vaillancourt was employed with the City of Killeen, Texas from 2004 until December 2017.

He was also preceded in death by his grandson Arik Davis.

SFC (Ret.) is survived by his three children; daughter Teri Davis and her

husband Russell of Gatesville, Texas, daughter Felicia Vaillancourt and a son Homer J. Vaillancourt III both of Copperas Cove, Texas.

He also leaves to cherish his many memories three grandchildren; Anthony and Russell Davis both of Gatesville, Texas and Jagger Vaillancourt of Copperas Cove, Texas, a sister Joni Goreckie and her husband Billy, two brothers Steven and Bruce Vaillancourt all of Massachusetts.

The Vaillancourt family received guests for a time of visitation from on January 25, at Crawford-Bowers Funeral Home Copperas Cove, Texas. Funeral Services will be held at 9:30 AM on Friday, January 26, in the chapel of Crawford-Bowers Funeral Home, Copperas Cove, Texas. Burial with full military honors will follow in the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery.

You may express condolences with the family by visiting www.crawford-bowers.org

John A. Hopkins, 48

ASHBURNHAM — John A. Hopkins, age 48, of 74 Dunn Road, formerly of Baldwinville, died peacefully Wednesday afternoon, January 17, 2018 in Tufts Medical Center, Boston.



He was born in Gardner on September 9, 1969, son of Allen B. and Nancy J. (Ladeau) Hopkins of Ashburnham. John grew up in Baldwinville and graduated from Narragansett Regional High School in 1987. He later attended Mount Wachusett Community College.

John had worked as a automotive mechanic and most recently worked as an auto parts salesman for Advanced Auto Parts in Jaffrey. He enjoyed work-

ing on model cars and particularly enjoyed working on his 1981 Firebird Trans-Am.

In addition to his parents, he leaves a brother, Christopher L. Hopkins and his two daughters, Jillian and Madison of Hadley and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Monday, January 22, 2018 in St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1 Forest Street, Baldwinville.

Burial followed in Greenlawn Cemetery, Baldwinville.

Memorial donations may be made to Gordon C. Erickson Ambulance Fund, 99 Central Street, Ashburnham, MA 01430.

Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon was entrusted with arrangements.

Dr. John Edward Modestow, 86

FLORENCE — Beloved father, respected dentist, and devoted caretaker, Dr. John Edward Modestow, age 86, departed this earth on January 18, 2018 with his children by his side. He had his dental practice in both Worthington and Florence and served the region for over 40 years.



Born in Winchendon in 1931, John was the son of Alexander and Helena (Augustyn) Modestowicz. He graduated from Murdock High School and attended Tufts University, working summers waiting tables at Winchendon's Toy Town Tavern. After graduation from Tufts, he and good friend Lawrence Chase attended dental school at Loyola University in Chicago, where John earned his doctorate in dental surgery (DDS) and enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserves. While in Chicago, he met Nannette, a nursing student at Rush Presbyterian Hospital. They married in 1958 in Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

John moved to Worthington in 1957 and became the first full-time dentist at the Worthington Health Center, earning the moniker of "Jolly Green Dentist" due to his height. He often volunteered at the Russell H. Conwell Elementary School, playing basketball with the boys during their lunch recess long before the advent of physical education.

During his many years in Worthington, John and his wife raised six children, were active members of the Worthington Golf Club and became founding members of the Worthington Swim Club. He worked as its president for many years in addition to serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals and other town committees.

During his career, John had offices in both Worthington and Florence, relocating his practice permanently to Florence in the late seventies and his home there in the mid-nineties. He

served as the chief of dental surgery at Cooley Dickinson Hospital for several years, and was joined in his Florence practice by his son Dr. Ian before retiring in 2006.

John was predeceased by his wife of 49 years, Nannette (Bartels) and was well known for his devotion to her as she suffered for 40 years with multiple sclerosis. He took her to their children's sporting and school activities and out for their once-weekly date night, writing letters when businesses failed to consider handicapped access a necessity.

After his wife's death, John continued to be active, taking the bus to the Northampton Senior Center where he exercised well into his eighties, especially enjoying the after-workout gatherings with his friends. John's special joy was gathering his children and grandchildren, maintaining his personal pool so they would stop by and visit.

An unexpected fall in August of 2017, led to the deterioration of John's health. He moved into Christopher Heights late last year where he lived until his death.

Besides his parents and his wife, John was also predeceased by his good friend Jane Swift more recently. He leaves behind his six children: Larry and wife Amy Kassatly of Southborough; Keith and wife Rogina of Hampden; Janine and husband Tom Wisnauckas of Worthington; Shelley Rice of Clarksville, TN; Ian and wife Michelle Kersbergen of Florence, and Darius and wife Kirsten of Pelham. He leaves eleven grandchildren: Jake, Wade, Adena, Chase, Paulina, Cole, Rowan, and Harper Modestow; Trevor and Christina Rice; and Katarzyna Wisnauckas. He also leaves his loving sister Anna and her husband Norman Marieb of Orange, CT and many nieces and nephews.

A wake was held at Ahearn Funeral Home on Bridge Road in Northampton on Tuesday, January 23. A funeral mass was held at Our Lady of the Hills in Haydenville on Wednesday.

Donations in his memory can be made to the Worthington Historical Society, PO Box 12, Worthington, MA 01098 or the Florence Community Band, PO Box 60092, Florence, MA 01062.

Sharon 'Sheri' A. Mouery, 71

NORTHUMBERLAND PA — Sharon "Sheri" A. Mouery, age 71, died Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018, at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, in Northumberland, surrounded by those who loved her. Previously, she lived in Winfield after many years of residing in Kulpmont.



She was born in Overlook, Aug. 25, 1946, a daughter of Marie and Mason Whitney.

She was married on July 22, 1965, to Kenneth Mouery, of Mount Carmel, who predeceased her in death

in August 2007.

Sheri was a stubborn but sweet spirit, who lived life on her own terms. She was both fragile and strong. She loved music, especially The Rolling Stones, Billy Joel, Aerosmith, Kid Rock and anything that had a good dance beat. She enjoyed a toast or two of Sambuca and, sadly, had a long and fatal relationship with cigarettes.

Sheri had an honest and direct per-

sonality and people liked her. She never knew how special she really was, but those who love her will always remember.

She is survived by her children, Eric Mouery and his wife, Katrina, of Northumberland, and Hilari Benfield and her husband, Chris, of Mifflinburg; five adoring grandchildren who called her "Noni," Breanna Mouery, of St. Petersburg, Florida, Jacob Mouery, of Northumberland, and Collin, Avery and Kristi Benfield, of Mifflinburg. She was known to indulge her grandchildren with water fights and suppers of ice cream eaten directly from the cartons.

Also surviving is a sister, Carol Heim and her husband, Eibert; nieces, Dahnya Heim, of Northumberland, and Shannon Grinaway; nephews, Epie Heim, of Winchendon, Massachusetts, and Seth Heim, of Alexandria, Virginia. She will also be missed by a brother-in-law, Jack Grinaway; and close friend Peter Lentini, of Kulpmont.

She is preceded in death by a baby daughter, Kristi Lynn Mouery, who died in Dec. 1971 and a sister Delores Grinaway in January 2012.

Wilfred 'Bill' Lawrence Veilleux, 76

MYRTLE BEACH SC — Wilfred (Bill) Lawrence Veilleux, age 76, of Myrtle Beach, SC died peacefully at Grand Strand Medical Center with family by his side. His wife of 43 years, Betty J. Veilleux passed away in 2009.



Born in Winchendon, Feb. 3, 1941, the second son of the late Doris Anne (Baker) and Leo Henry Veilleux.

Bill proudly served in the Air Force from 1956 to 1960.

He retired from Starrett Tools and was a general contractor for many years in the greater Athol area.

His passion as a boy was baseball and as an adult his family, especially his grandchildren, taking the family to

Disney World 29 consecutive years. In his later years, his joy was the guardianship of his, now 12 year old little girl, Samara.

Bill leaves a daughter, Linda Powell of Athol, a stepson, John Inferrera of Midway, GA, granddaughters Michelle Veilleux of Winchendon, Stefanie Steiner of Aubrey, TX, and Samara Qualters of Myrtle Beach, SC, grandson Trey Inferrera of Midway, GA, great grandchildren, Dominic Veilleux of Winchendon and Kaylee Steiner of Aubrey, TX, three brothers, Pierre A. Veilleux, Michael H. Veilleux and Noel P. Veilleux all of Winchendon and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is predeceased by sons Keith Andre Veilleux and Michael A. Veilleux, brothers Leo H. Veilleux and Thomas J. Veilleux.

Military funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31st at Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 111 Glenallan St., Winchendon.

SEND OBITUARIES at no charge to Editor Ruth DeAmicis, by faxing (978) 297-2177, or by e-mailing the editor at ruth@stone-bridgepress.news.

We also invite funeral directors and families to e-mail us a JPEG photograph to print, at no cost, alongside the obituary.



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SPORTS

Life changing?

Let me tell you a story which will in fact circle back to reaction about the Patriots.

In 1975, two couples from the Seattle area went to a horse sale and spent a measly \$17,500 on a yearling (one-year old) horse with decent but hardly spectacular breeding. What did Mickey and Karen Taylor and Jim and Sally Hill get for their \$17-plus k? They got a baby who grew up to be Seattle Slew, who remains the only undefeated winner of the Triple Crown, became the pre-eminent sire in the world for more than a generation and whose bloodlines are still frequently seen in the pedigree of champion after champion.

That, my friends is how sports can change your life. There are plenty of other horse stories I could tell you. One more, okay? Sometime back in the 1990's, true tale, a woman at Calder race course in Miami bet \$2 on something called the "Pick Six" where you have to select six consecutive winners in advance of the first of the sequence. Her after-taxes take when she hit it? \$990,000. Absolute truth.

Obviously, these things don't

happen often but my point is the racetrack can for sure change your life very directly. Football games can't. If you live up here in New England or in Philadelphia, I get the elation. Your team won. Your team is going to the Super Bowl. Of course, that excites you and makes you happy and anticipatory, as well it should. I remember being incredibly excited when the O's won the World Series for the first time in 1966. Of course, I was 13. It's great when the team you care about wins.

But I saw social media gnashing of teeth from people, from friends, in Baltimore and Chicago and Miami and Houston, all lamenting New England's AFC title victory. Seriously? Look, we're all entitled to our opinions and emotions but speaking only for myself, I could care less who wins a game between Boston and Jacksonville or Philadelphia and Minnesota. I'm not a fan of any of those teams. I root for the Orioles, for the Ravens to a degree and against the Colts for reasons which go a billion miles outside of sports. Beyond them, when I



TALKING
SPORTS

JERRY
CARTON

watch a game, any game, I root to be entertained. None of it's going to change my life and for that matter, even if you do live in New England or Philly, it's not going to change yours either, not long-term. Not at all.

So, I was more than a bit bemused by friends who are Ravens or Bears or Dolphins or Texans fans emoting on social media about how unhappy they were. Again, seriously? That goes especially to my friends in Houston. Didn't you just win the World Series? It's true I often write here about how much I dislike Duke hoops. But trust me, that's tongue-in-cheek. I doubt I've ever lost sleep over any sporting event other than an occasional softball game (there were not, after all, many losses) or a lot of horse races, the latter more often the nights leading up to

then there's the GOAT argument. Tom Brady is without doubt the greatest QB of his generation. But let me tell you about Otto Graham. If you insist on measuring greatness by team accomplishment, Graham played 10 seasons for the Cleveland Browns. He went to 10 NFL championship games, which is what the game with the pretentious name really is. In other words, he went to the title game every year of his career. He won seven. Again, in other words, Graham won a championship in 70-percent of the years he played. That's a bit better than the 33-percent Brady will have after New England wins. So please. GOAT? Besides, it was a different game. Football's not baseball where the DH aside, the rules have stayed basically the same for well over a century. And if you're not into stats, then you can argue for Joe Montana or Dan Marino. Or maybe for John Unitas. Without Unitas, it's doubtful the NFL would be where it is. Too many folks must think the NFL began with the launch of the Super Bowl era. Not so much. See you next week.

That is also why my bottom line reads as follows - if your hometown team won, then yes by all means, be thrilled. If your hometown team wasn't playing, then who cares who won? You want sports to change your life for real? Go buy a horse. Be prepared to lose, but you even then you never know. I can tell you some amazing stories. After all, yes, I've been in the saddling enclosure at the Kentucky Derby and no, I didn't sneak in.

Anyway, it's a rematch of a Super Bowl from the early 2000s. I assume NBC is happy to see the Patriots rather than the Jags. Boston over Jacksonville? Duh. Super Bowl week will be profitable for the Peacock. The game that Sunday, the Olympics starting a few days later. Ad time has no doubt been sold but with New England playing, there will be more eyeballs tuning in.

Devils at 6-6

BY CHRIS MARTIN
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

After losing to West Boylston two weeks ago, the Blue Devils returned home to face Tahanto last week and picked up a victory.

Last Friday the Devil's hosted the Ayer-Shirley Panthers at home, and putting on a clinic from start to finish, with an 84-34 victory.

Murdock jumped out to a quick 5-0 lead with a triple from Ross O'Toole and free throws from LJ Hicks, with 7:16 to go in the first quarter. The Panthers would get on the board with 6:46 remaining in the quarter, trailing 5-2, then the Devils would go up by seven with it being their largest lead to take a 9-2 lead with 5:13 left in the first.

Ayer would cut the lead back to three, trailing 9-6 with 4:46 to go, but the Devils would go on to end the quarter with a 14-5 run to take a 23-11 lead at the end of one quarter.

The Devils kept their foot on the pedal, not letting up, continuing to dominate, and heading into halftime with a 38-18 lead, up by twenty points, Murdock's largest lead of the night.

Murdock continued their dominant performance from the first half and carried it over to the second half. The Devils continued to put on a clinic on

both offense and defense and cruising to a dominant 50 point win, 84-34 over the Panthers.

After the game Coach Matt O'Malley said, "It was a good game. Our defensive intensity carried over from the other night. It allowed our defense to carry over into offense, everyone contributed, everyone got in, that's what we like to see."

Murdock traveled to 'Gansett on Tuesday night but came up a little short of a comeback in a 55-49 loss to the Warriors.

On playing Maynard tonight, O'Malley said, "We just gotta play hard. Try to make it tough for them, tough as we can offensively, score when we can on offense, and just try to play as hard as we can."

Leading the way against the Panthers was O'Toole with 22 points, Hicks: 20 points, Nick Roy: 19 points, Dylan Lupien: 8 points, Spencer Pelkey: 7 points, Jack Polcari: 4 points, and James Anderson and Scott Laverdure combined for four points.

After the loss to the Warriors the Devils fell to (6-6) on the season and (3-3) in league play.

The Devil's will look to steal a win at Maynard tonight at 7 p.m., to get their seventh win of the season.

United Sports program begins second season

BY KEITH KENT

COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Giving all students, no matter their challenges, a change to play team sports is the concept behind United Sports. The program is entering its second year and is a collaboration among not only the local public and private schools, but multiple towns as well.

Suzanne Michel, who serves as assistant director of pupil services for the public school, told the School Committee at its recent regular meeting, "I am very excited to say we had an outstanding first season with the United Sports Program."

The program which is a collaborative program currently involving Winchendon public schools, the Narragansett Regional School District, Gardner public schools, and the Winchendon School, which Michel explained, "Has generously donated materials, space, mentors for students to connect with in a program which reaches students with special needs ages 4 and up."

Michel described the first program season as "Exciting" and added, "There was so much pride exuded from the children, families, and networking that it was just amazing. Winchendon also had the greatest number of participants."

Due to the beginning success of the program, Michel notified the committee that the next and second sports season held at the Winchendon School will run now through March 4 with the sport of basketball on Sundays at 2 p.m.

Michel added, "One of the soccer days it was raining out and we didn't want to cancel, so we brought the children in to the gym to test the waters by playing basketball and see if they were interested, and they were, which helped to steer us in

a really good direction for the next sport."

"All forms needed to be filled out to take part in United Sports have been posted on line, and also forwarded to the Winchendon Community Playgroups Facebook page" added Michel.

Games according to the Winchendon School website are listed on the Sundays of January 21 & 28, February 4, 11, 18, & 25, and ending with March 4.

Michel went on to say, "The quali-

ty of our mentors was just excellent and our high school students are welcome to participate, which would also look great on a resume. We were so happy with the caliber of peer models and mentors, and just to see the connections the programs families made, and to see our students being part of the community was just awesome."

Committee member Greg Vine asked Michel how many children participated in the initial startup of the program, and if there was going to be an expansion of it.

Michel replied, "We are honestly thinking about expanding, but we wanted to work out the process, and work out all of the bumps during our first year. When we meet again in the summer as a committee, we will be able to decide if we are able to open up to other communities. Also, the number of participants climbed as word of mouth traveled, and when all was said and done we had about 40 participants in our first season which we thought were great numbers."

Member Felicia Nurmsen commented, "This is a fantastic program. It's about providing the same availability for students of all abilities. We will do our best to get peer mentors from our own high school to participate as it will not only make a difference in participants lives, but it will make a difference in their lives as they will really bring that forward in to their college years or whatever transition they are making."

Michel closed her update to the committee with, "Another thing that is great about the program is that it is flexible. If they can't make it a certain day, it's not like they can't join us the next day. There is just great fellowship at this type of activity, and it really brings the community together."

On Jan. 21, The United Sports program hoops season kicked off with 13 students attending for its opening during what was a very busy sports time frame. Winchendon School service learning initiative director Miranda Jennings explained each student taking part was accompanied by two buddies, who represented schools from all three participating districts joined by Winchendon School students and additional parents volunteering.

If you have any questions about the United Sports program, you can contact Jennings at the Winchendon School by phone at (978) 621-4524 or by email at mjennings@winchendon.org. To view a direct link for forms to the United Sports Program on Facebook to assist registration as either a participant or mentor, please go to www.facebook.com/1847536578847914/photos/pcb.2031492843785619/2031492803785623/?type=3&theater

2018 WINCHENDON AREA LITTLE LEAGUE REGISTRATION

Winchendon Little League will be holding registration for the 2018 season at the American Legion Post 193 on the following dates/times

Saturday, February 3: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Saturday, February 3: 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 11: 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 11: 3:00-5:00 p.m.

WLL is open to all youth, ages 4

to 16, from the area communities of Winchendon, Ashburnham, Gardner, and Templeton. We offer various levels of play for both baseball and softball

Visit our website or Facebook page for more information - www.facebook.com/winchendonll

Questions? Email: winchendonll@gmail.com or leave a message with Kevin Southwell at (603) 209-1603.



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**READING
NEWSPAPERS
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Schools hires new family liaison

BY KEITH KENT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Nicole Cormier was introduced by Assistant Director of Pupil Service Suzanne Michel as the new outreach and family resource liaison to the school committee at the last regular meeting Jan. 17.

Cormier was hired with the assistance of a coordinated family and community engagement grant valued at \$45,700 annually through the early education and care division of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. Michel explained the community has benefited from the grant for at least the last 15 years, and was formerly provided by the Community Partnerships for Children grant. The grant is good for three years, provided the necessary objectives and documentation are met; and the grant could provide an additional two year extension.

Michel said, "Because this is an early education grant, the liaison's work is really limited from birth to grade 3. Nicole Cormier is kind of a dual purpose employee for us here in Winchendon, as she is also a para educator new to our district here who works out of

Toy Town Elementary." Michel went on to compliment Cormier on her ability to design layouts, newsletters, and a vast array of technological abilities, while she is working on outreach with families, assisting with helping them enter into playgroups, and providing access with the ages and stages questionnaires.

Cormier addressing the committee said, "It's been a wonderful journey just starting prior to the beginning of the school year being able to get my hands wet in what the outreach would be like." Cormier also spoke of assisting Kathleen Brooks, who was carrying a very heavy workload, assisting with the supplementation of resources for families, children within the district, as well as families with children in the community not eligible for school age.

Discussing how the preschool program is lottery based, Cormier added, "I understand it's difficult when you have emerging populations and a lot of children who can't get access to curriculum in that sort of a setting. The opportunity for us to extend information and other resources to those families can be grown upon this year. I believe access-

ing social media platforms is one way of doing that, as well as print advertisements."

Cormier also informed the committee, after reviewing and learning platform for the questionnaire and exploring the site, was able to customize the family access launching page to help parents significantly reduce wait time, allowing them quicker access to fill out information electronically, while saving money on both postage and paper. In addition, with modifications of information on Facebook, realized an increase of 636 percent in people reached, expanding from 44 to 324 people.

Committee member Greg Vine asked under her title of liaison what kinds of data was she trying to retrieve.

Cormier replied, "Predominately our biggest outreach and primary goal is getting people to engage in the ages & stages questionnaire for such things as assisting families in the program, with where their children should be cognitively, where they are heading next, and to move forward with recommending any necessary activities for the children. From helping to find cost efficient ways to feed their families or

looking for babysitters, I am here for them as well to help them find answers or direct them to another person who can help them."

Michel added addressing Vine's question said, "Because there was such a significant change in the grants objective and focus, EEC really wants us to 'outreach' by their terminology of a liaison to connect families before their school experiences start and then continue with that before the early development of a child."

Member Felicia Nurmsen addressing Cormier said, "I read the recent last newsletter and it kind of brings everything together and it was fantastic. When we start thinking about other things Nicole has an expertise at, you have to be careful that you don't just focus on what the overall objective is."

Cormier with a smile responded, "I will definitely keep my priorities in line."

Chair Lawrence Murphy closed with, "It all sounds great and best of luck to you. It looks like you're already making great progress. Keep us informed, and come back and see us to let us know how it's going."

MWCC graduates new class of practical nurses

GARDNER – Recently, 39 licensed practical nursing graduates from 19 communities were welcomed as nursing colleagues during the traditional nurses pinning ceremony that marks the end of their schooling at Mount Wachusett Community College.

"This is a career and a path that is going to make a true difference in our communities," said MWCC President James Vander Hooven. "On behalf of all the faculty and on behalf of the board of trustees I want to say congratulations. We are very proud of you."

The graduation ceremony capped off a 41 week certificate program for the students who may go on to work as nurses in health care facilities including doctor's offices, long-term care facilities and clinics.

"I am proud of how we have grown not only as nurses but as people," said graduating LPN Gerriane Owens who explained this year's class gave back 1,700 hours of community service through their service

learning class. "This is what we love. Taking care of others and I am so proud you were a part of my journey."

Dressed in traditional nurse uniforms, the students were welcomed into the profession by having the program's nursing pin fastened to their lapels by a family member, friend, or an alumnus of the program, or a faculty member. The pin marks where the nurses completed their studies and distinguishes them from other health care professionals. The eight-star MWCC pin is imprinted with the words "Service to Humanity and the World."

As part of the ceremony, the students also took a nursing pledge that dates back to Florence Nightingale, who distinguished herself during the Crimean War by coming to the aid of sick and wounded soldiers.

The practical nursing class of 2017 that was honored at the pinning is made up of:

ACTON: Cintia Andrade de Menezes; ASHBURNHAM:



Courtesy photo

Mount Wachusett Community College President James Vander Hooven takes a selfie with the 39 members of the MWCC Licensed Practical Nursing Program Class of 2017 during their pinning ceremony at the Fine Arts Theatre at MWCC.

Ashley Perez; Brianna Stone; ATHOL: Michelle Leavitt; Naomi Wood; CLINTON: Jennifer Noel; FITCHBURG: Tamra Corliss; Elizabeth Phouangsaly; Cathy Scottfenton; FRAMINGHAM: Esi Mensah; GARDNER: Anastasia Anderson; Elizabeth Casson; Katrina Cote; Erin Richardson; Amy

Rogers; Louise Russell; HUBBARDSTON: Elizabeth Fowler; LANCASTER: Marisa Crowley; Melanessa Noel; LEOMINSTER: Alexandria Melanson; Fiona Muriuki; Heidi Wilson; LOWELL: Lebga Gwanvall; ORANGE: Kaila Lundgren; Jessica Muniz; RUTLAND: Kayla Romanski; TEMPLETON: Miranda Leger;

Heidi Whittle; TOWNSEND: Sarah Merrill; Elizabeth Schatia; WEBSTER: Gerriane Owens; Erika Valentin; WINCHENDON: Madeline Allard; WORCESTER: Lindsey Clarkson; Jeffrey Falls; Marlena McKenzie; Brian Neak; Katalina Rivera; KEENE, NH: Tayla McAlpine.

THANKING THE CNAS



Courtesy photo

Pictured are (left) ASB employees, Julie Walsh and Lisa Osborne, GVNA employees, Kathy Denis, Nancy Morse and Jamille Vasquez and ASB Executive VP, Cheryl D'Ambr.

Athol Savings Bank is celebrating its 150th anniversary by thanking the community it serves with "150 Days of Giving" and providing random acts of kindness. Recently, the Administration/HR department bought and delivered 43 bath and body gift bags for the Certified Nursing Assistants who work at the Gardner Visiting Nursing Association to thank them for the care they provide to people in the community who are ill.

Community Foundations seek grant applications

The Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts is accepting applications for grant funding.

"Grant awards will range from \$5,000 up to \$30,000 and should be appropriate to the scale of the project and demonstrate a wise and prudent use of funds," noted Phil Grzewinski, president of the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts. "Funding consideration will be given to, but not limited to, proposals requesting general support for programs/proj-

ects pertaining to community development, environment, animal welfare, arts and culture, as well as health and human services."

The deadline for the submission is Feb. 2, 12 p.m.

Additional information, such as the application and award process, is available at www.cfnm.org.

The Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts, www.cfnm.org, has more than \$40 million in charitable assets, and has made over \$40 mil-

lion in grants and distributions. It was created in 2001 to serve the charitable interests of donors in Ashburnham, Ashby, Athol, Ayer, Barre, Devens, Erving, Fitchburg, Gardner, Groton, Harvard, Hubbardston, Lancaster, Leominster, Littleton, Lunenburg, New Salem, Orange, Pepperell, Petersham, Phillipston, Princeton, Royalston, Shirley, Sterling, Templeton, Townsend, Warwick, Wendell, Westminister and Winchendon.

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LIGHTS

continued from page A4

into it at all.

As for the DACA controversy? While it is true the children were brought here without their consent, they are now adults and as such can make decisions for themselves. The solution, and it's way too easy, is to provide these

now adult emigres with the information and help with the paperwork to apply to become full citizens. If they have been here for years, they most likely have a record of education, and a paper trail, to allow them to fulfill the requirements for application. If they want to stay, do so legally. If for some reason they do not qualify, then they don't and should be treated as any other immigrant with deportation

issues. If they have these issues, then that's a different situation and they shouldn't stay.

While our fearless leaders battle one another, the worker bees try desperately to keep some semblance of order in the offices and parks and the military bases across our country. Many are doing so without pay. Some offices are doing so without paying bills. Our government is not paying its people, or its

debts. The military won't get a check again until Feb. 2 at the earliest, if then. So we are waiting with bated breath for the first fed up bureaucrat to toss up their hands, yell the infamous "I'm not going to take it anymore..." and walk off the job.

And that, we imagine, will be the beginning of the end of the grand experiment.

Winchendon Courier Classifieds

Serving the communities of Winchendon, Ashburnham, Athol, Gardner, Fitchburg, Leominster, Westminster, Templeton, Phillipston and southern N.H.



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SALOOM FURNITURE

Saloom Furniture is looking to expand its production team with some specific openings in a couple departments. All positions to be filled are full time with access to a great benefits package, (health, dental, etc) along with earned vacation and paid holidays. Typical production hours are from Monday through Friday from 6:00am until 2:30pm.

Positions available:

Finishing Department: We are looking for someone with experience sanding, spraying, applying stain or topcoat, and other finishing related skills. Experience need not be directly in the furniture industry but candidate should have some experience with the process and equipment.

Packaging Department: We are look-

ing to add a member to our packing department. Experience in manufacturing, shipping, or other related fields is a plus but not required. We would consider an entry level hire for this position.

If you are interested in applying to any of the above positions please forward your resume to smarshall@saloom.com. You can also pick up an application (or fill out in person) from Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 4:00pm at 256 Murdock Ave, Winchendon.

For more information on our company please visit us at www.saloom.com MASONRY INC.

Construction laborers or mason laborers. Must have a vehicle and a phone. Company is out of Jaffrey. (603) 532-8471. TFN

JOB SEEKERS

Job Seekers Networking Group hosted by North Central Career Center and Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce. Meetings are open to all job seekers and are held on Wednesdays from 1-2 p.m. at the Chamber conference room, 29 Parker St. 2nd floor, Gardner. Contact the Chamber at (978) 632-1780.

EMPLOYERS

These help wanted ads are FREE! Contact the Courier to find out how to get help for your business by calling (978) 297-0050 x 100 or email ruth@stonebridgepress.news.

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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Drum teacher Leon LaPlante seeks used instruments and drum stands to help out high school students. (978) 297-1250.

YARD SALES

ATTENTION: yard sale ads here are FREE in the Winchendon Courier. Call (978) 297-0050 and leave a message with date, address and times of your sale and we will add it to the list. Deadline for all sales is Tuesday noon.

LEGALS

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by James A. Robuccio to Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corp., dated February 6, 2004 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 32813, Page 363 subsequently assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, N. A., as Trustee for Chase Funding Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2004-2 by JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. successor by merger to Chase Home Finance LLC, successor by merger with Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corp. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 51136, Page 319; of which Mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 2:00 PM on February 9, 2018 at 339 Maple Street, Winchendon, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

That certain parcel of land, together with all buildings and improvements thereon, located in the Town of Winchendon, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and further described as being on the southerly side of Maple Street, RTE. # 202, in Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the northeasterly corner thereof at railroad spike in the southerly line of Maple Street at land of Emmett T. Jeffers, Trustee, said spike being located N. 82 degrees 15' 00" W., 22.93 feet from a Massachusetts highway bound location at an angle in said street line opposite layout station 47+28.31; THENCE S. 2 degrees 51' 00" W., 177.65 feet to an iron pin; THENCE N. 82 degrees 15' 00" W., 185.17 feet to an iron pin; THENCE N. 7 degrees 45' 00" E., 177.00 feet to a P. I. Nail in paving in the southerly line of Maple Street, the preceding three (3) courses being by land of said Emmett T. Jeffers, Trustee; THENCE S. 82 degrees 45' 00" E., by the southerly line of Maple Street, 170.00 feet to the point of beginning Containing 31,433 square feet, more or less. Being shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Lot #3, to be conveyed by Emmett T. Jeffers, Trustee of E. T. Jeffers Real Estate Trust, Winchendon, Mass., Scale 1 inch = 30 feet -February 13,1980, Michael S. Szoc, R.L. Surveyor, 32 Pleasant Street, Gardner, Mass." Which plan is to be recorded herewith. Being the same premises as conveyed to these mortgagors recorded in Book 27402, Page 371.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, building and zoning laws, liens, attorney's fees and costs pursuant to M.G.L.Ch.183A, unpaid taxes,

tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. **TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.**

Other terms if any, to be announced at the sale.

U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, N. A., as trustee for Chase Funding Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2004-2 Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys, ORLANS PC PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 16-008859 January 19, 2018 January 26, 2018 February 2, 2018

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROJECT:

135 Gardner Road Solar Project
LOCATION: 135 Gardner Road, Winchendon, MA

PROPONENT:
Borrego Solar Systems, Inc.
The undersigned is submitting an Environmental Notification Form ("ENF") to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before January 25, 2018

This will initiate review of the above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, s.s. 61-621). Copies of the ENF may be obtained from:
Borrego Solar Systems, Inc. (attn: David Albrecht) 55 Technology Drive, Suite 102 Lowell, MA 01851

Copies of the ENF are also being sent to the Conservation Commission

and Planning Board of Winchendon where they may be inspected.

The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, will receive public comments on the project for 20 days, and will then decide, within ten days, if an environmental Impact Report is needed. A site visit and consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit or consultation session, should write to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the above project.

By David Albrecht
January 26, 2018

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Bradden L. Mullin and Lauren N. Mullin to Salem Five Mortgage Company, LLC, dated March 11, 2009 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 43928, Page 344, as affected by a Loan Modification recorded in said Registry of Deeds at Book 52927, Page 15, subsequently assigned to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. by Salem Five Mortgage Company, LLC by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 43928, Page 364; of which Mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 AM on February 16, 2018 at 90 Lake Shore Drive, Winchendon, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land, together with all buildings and improvements thereon located on the south side of Lake Shore Drive, in the Town of Winchendon, Worcester County, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point on the Southerly line of Lake Shore Drive, at the Northeasterly corner of the Lot 17 shown on the plan hereinafter referred to; Thence North 58° 35' 00" East along the Southerly side of Lake Shore Drive, a distance of 134.90 feet, to a point; Thence along a curve having a radius of 199.780 feet, for a distance of 15.10 feet, more or less, to a point at the Northwesterly corner of other land of van Dyke, as shown on said plan; Thence South 52° 48' 10" East by other land of said Van Dyke, a distance of 250.06 feet, more or less, along said other land of Van Dyke; Thence S. 17° 20' 00" E. along said other land of Van Dyke, a distance of 54 feet, more or less, to a point at the shoreline of Millers River (North Branch); Thence in a Westerly direction, by the shoreline

of the Millers River, crossing a dam as shown on said plan, a distance of 160 feet, more or less, to a point; Thence North 50° 00' 00" West by Lot 17, on said plan, a distance of 300 feet, more or less, to a point in the Southerly line of Lake Shore Drive and the place of beginning. Containing 48,600 square feet, more or less, and being shown as Lot 18 on a plan of land entitled, "Revised Plan for Lots and Lake Shore Drive Prepared for Robert Van Dyke in Winchendon, MA, Scale: 1 inch= 50 feet, dated February 23, 1996, Szoc Surveyors, 32 Pleasant Street, Gardner, MA", said Plan being recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Plan Book 704, Plan 26. Being the same premises conveyed to us by deed recorded with Worcester Registry of Deeds herewith. Bk 43928 Pg 342

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, building and zoning laws, liens, attorney's fees and costs pursuant to M.G.L.Ch.183A, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. **TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.**

Other terms if any, to be announced at the sale.

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association
Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys, ORLANS PC PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 17-006245 January 26, 2018 February 2, 2018 February 9, 2018



CLYDE'S CORNER

Saturday, January 20

CAN & BOTTLE DRIVE: Murdock Middle School holds a can & bottle drive in the parking lot of Rite Aid, Central Street 8 a.m. to noon. Funds raise help pay for the annual camp week for 7th graders.

Sunday, January 21

SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST: at Snowbound Club, 130 Old Baldwinville Road 8 a.m. to noon. Open to the public. To go orders available, large groups encouraged to make a reservation via Facebook message or call ahead (978) 297-0124.

Saturday, January 27

ANNUAL BONFIRE & FIREWORKS: as you take down your decorations, bring trees and wreaths to the American Legion and pile them as the annual bonfire is already stacking up for Saturday, Jan. 27. Festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. with hot dogs and burgers available; the fireworks go off at 7 p.m. and then the bonfire is lit! No admission charge for this family friendly event, and we need your tree!!!

Friday, February 2

SUPER BOWL MEAT RAFFLE: On Friday, Feb. 2 beginning at 7 p.m. Winchendon Lions Club hosts its annual Super Bowl meat raffle at American Legion Post 193, 295 School St. 20 rounds at four chances per round, gifts for your

Super Bowl party; 50/50, lobster raffle, door prize. Free food while it lasts. Come support the Lions!

Friday, February 9

2018 CAKE AUCTION: at noon at Old Murdock Senior Center! Always a sell out! The best bakers make the best cakes, what a variety! Come bid on something sweet for your sweetheart, just in time for Valentine's Day.

Friday & Saturday March 2 & 3

FOOTLOOSE! Murdock High School presents its annual musical, this year the coming of age and bittersweet Footloose. When a California teen moves to small town USA and finds it too strict for his taste, he finds ways to give a bit of freedom to his fellow students. 7 p.m. both nights, tickets available at the door or in advance by calling Murdock High School.

Saturday, March 10

MYCHAEL DAVID PROJECT: here it is! If you enjoyed the music at the annual Massachusetts chili cook off, then this evening is for you. Kiwanis of Winchendon have brought the Mychael David Project indoors for an evening at the American Legion Post 193, 295 School St. Only \$10 per person. Tickets available at the door beginning at 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 24

DAZED TILL DAWN! At the Winchendon Rod & Gun Club beginning at 9 p.m.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

**SUNDAYS
INDIVISIBLE WINCHENDON:** The Indivisible Winchendon group meets every Sunday at 12:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St. to discuss and organize creative, effective resistance to the Trump administration over the long term. We are liberal/progressive but non-partisan. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/381174492262359/>

**MONDAY
LEGO CLUB:** Beals Memorial Library, 50 Pleasant St. hosts a Lego Club for kids aged six-12, 3:30-4:30 p.m. every Monday afternoon the library is open. Show off your creative side. More information about this and other programs by calling (978) 297-0300 or visit townofwinchendon.com/bealsmemoriallibrary.

**TUESDAY
WINCHENDON NA MEETING:** Hosted by UUCW and led by Winchendon residents, in collaboration with the Central Massachusetts area/New England Region of Narcotics Anonymous. This is an open meeting with general discussion and support, for anyone who is in recovery or wants to be. Please pass on this information to anyone you know who might be interested in, or benefit from, a meeting. We're working hard to get the word out! At the UU Church of Winchendon,

126 Central St, downstairs in the parish hall. Begins at 6:30 p.m.

LEARN: Computer classes for adults are offered on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at Beals Memorial Library and are open to adults ages 18 and older.

CRAFT FOR ADULTS: On Tuesday nights at 6:30 Beals Memorial Library has an adult craft hour providing a place to meet and do crafts. People bring in things they are working on, and can get help on knitting, crocheting, quilting and discuss different ideas.

TINY TOTS PLAYGROUP: on Tuesday 10-11 at Beals Memorial Library, 50 Pleasant St. for toddlers aged 0-4. Songs, rhymes and sharing.

WEDNESDAY

BINGO! Hyde Park residents hold bingo in the community hall every Wednesday night beginning at 6 p.m. It's inexpensive, just two cards for 5¢, and the community is invited! Anyone over the age of 50 is welcome to join in. We'd love to have more players.

BINGO 2! Old Murdock Senior Center hosts Bingo on Wednesday afternoons at 12:15 p.m.

FRIDAY

FREE MOVIES: Throughout the summer, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church holds family movie nights beginning at 7:30 p.m. Bring a blanket, a chair, pillows and a few snacks for a free movie under the stars. Every movie will be a family rated G or PG bundle of fun. In case of bad weather, the movie will be shown the following day, Saturday. Check the Facebook page for the name of each week's movie.

CARTON

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that a public/private partnership is essential to the revitalization of the cities. Baltimore's stunning renaissance of the late '70s and early to mid '80s was fueled by exactly that. The same is true in other cities. That's what it will take. NYU sociologist Patrick Starkey puts it this way: cities can rebound if they "harness the different set of actors within cities that can make substantial investments... universities, non-profits and philanthropies" in addition to government. And there's more. Citizens need to step up as well. We worked alongside and jointly with a number of strong neighborhood organiza-

tions to identify, combat and resolve issues street by street. Police/community relations need to improve. Elections provide opportunities to send to public office people who are willing to make the necessary economic infusions but between elections, everyone has a responsibility. Folks who live out here in rural America might well think none of this impacts them. But it does. There's an eternal ripple effect. I can hear rural residents and legislators arguing that if cities get more, what's left for them? That's why we need to elect progressive legislators who can balance both regions, and yes, that absolutely includes in Washington. You bet it does. So as more than

one sign at Saturday's rallies reminded us, "Marching Matters. Voting Matters More." Indeed.

Finally this. We saw 'The Post' the other day. Even though I knew how the fight over the Pentagon Papers ended, it was nonetheless a compelling and powerful film, including depicting a Supreme Court loyal to the First Amendment and the notion of a free press. It also offered a stark reminder that we have an obligation to be forever vigilant when it comes to dangerous leaders who have no respect for the foundational institutions of the Republic. 'The Post' offered both a look back and a warning. Go see it. See you next week.

Beals Library offers 'blind dates'

Are you looking for the perfect date this Valentine's Season? Tired of looking for love in all the wrong places? Are you searching for romance, adventure, or an out of this world fantasy with a mysterious stranger? Well, the Beals Memorial Library in Winchendon has all that and more just waiting to be uncovered.

Beginning last Monday, and running through Saturday, Feb. 17, the library will be challenging patrons to take a chance and go on a Blind Date with a Book!

The event will pair up library patrons with coyly wrapped books to disguise their covers so you won't know the genre, author or title. All the books chosen have been carefully selected by library staff, so you know that they are deserving of your attention.

Like any blind date there's an element of risk, but who knows, your blind date just might spark a lifelong love affair with a new author or genre!

You can even "Rate Your Date" with none of the usual awkwardness or hurt feelings. The library wants to hear all the sordid details, so each time you read a book, fill out the "Rate Your Date" Bookmark located inside your chosen book and earn a chance to win a Dinner and a Movie for Two donated by Vickie Morin of the Friends of the Beals Memorial Library. The winner will be drawn from the entries on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 4:30 p.m.

So put on some soft music, light a candle, and experience your best blind date ever! Please call the library at (978) 297-0300 for more information.

MONTY

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Monty Tech student selection process based on grade average in grades six through eight.

A former "Principal of the Year" for Massachusetts, Murphy said, "I don't know about you, but I wouldn't want anybody seeing my sixth, seventh, & eighth grade records as I spent more time in the hallway than I did in the classroom. Their formula for admission is keeping out some of the students who would benefit the most from their programs. They can also send students back, and I don't understand how a public school can do that. If we get a student by school choice, no matter if they are a great student or not, we can't send them back."

At this time, Winchendon currently sends 165 students to Monty Tech at a cost of \$940,963 for the 2017-18 academic school year, at a per student average cost of \$5,703 according to figures supplied by Monty Tech.

Murphy also clarified his position by saying, "By the way I am not an anti-Monty Tech person. I love Monty Tech and they do a lot of great things, and I think there is a way we could get more students in to Monty Tech in the 21st Century at a lower cost."

Murphy also pointed out that from a budgeting point of view, the WPS district cannot budget for all students going to Monty Tech, because they have the ability to accept more students in June — September "which the district could not have budgeted for.

"We should have some say in these other issues and right now we don't have, it's like we are held hostage.

We need to work with Monty Tech to expand on more children being able to go, but at a more reasonable price. We need to take back more local control, and have more of a say in the education they get at Monty Tech," said Murphy.

FinCom member Christian Orobello followed with, "In some ways I feel like this is a really great conversation and robust, but I am not sure if this is germane to what was initially in front of us. My understanding was the agreement did not reflect current policy, not to rewrite the agreement to do what we want it to do which is a good conversation to have. My understanding is the children are not 'kidnapped from our community.' There is a choice and there is a parent involved, and that parents are making the choice for what the best opportunity is for their children. In funding, the funds do not belong to us, they belong to the student and the funds follow the child. I don't feel it's in our purview to take that money when we don't feel like what we want to be done isn't being done."

Orbello added the district needs a strategy, and he did not feel like the district was in competition with Monty Tech.

School committee member Greg Vine explained, "While I did not want to put the community in any legal jeopardy, and the purpose was to at least get the attention of the Monty Tech School Committee that there were issues we had here that we wanted to be addressed."

"To be honest here, I don't know what the Monty Tech School Committee is afraid of here, in terms of just having the agreement reviewed. It makes no sense to me; our own constitution has

PLAN

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to be done. It's quite a bit of work."

Murphy said she should know within days if the town's initial grant application has been approved.

"MRPC just hire a couple of planners," she said, "so now they have more staff who can

do this kind of stuff. It's great."

Murphy said she hopes to see the project completed by the end of the year.

"This time of year can be slow for us, and I had been hoping that (Planning Agent) Chentell (Fleck) and I would be able to work on it, but we've been inundated with the marijuana bylaws and some other projects and we just haven't been able to put the time into

it."

Because the update of the master plan has now been in the works for about three years, Murphy said the committee may have to look at making some possible updates to the work already done.

"Absolutely," she said. "You don't want to put out a document that's already outdated. And that's some of what I'm hoping will be done as they go

over each chapter. We need to ask, 'Is this still relevant? Does this need to be adjusted?' Which is actually not a bad thing to do."

Since most master plans cover a 10-year period, Murphy said it's unclear whether the new plan will run through 2025 or a later date.

"I think we would have to make that assessment when we see the final document,"

she said. "It could be more of 2017 to 2027 document, depending on those updates."

Murphy said the next meeting of the Master Plan Committee will be scheduled sometime after she is notified of the state's decision on the town's grant application.

###



BIG GAME

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