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Friday, December 3, 2021

Beavers run wild at Fenway, defeat Nipmuc in Battle of Pleasant Street



Nick Ethier

Blackstone Valley Tech's Josh Mateo is off to the races while carrying the football.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

BOSTON — The Battle of Pleasant Street had an unexpected address this year — 4 Jersey Street, the home of Fenway Park — when the Blackstone Valley Tech and Nipmuc Regional varsity football teams played their traditional Thanksgiving Day game on Wednesday, Nov. 24. And the Beavers took full advantage of the cherished opportunity,

rushing for over 350 yards in a 47-19 victory. “It changes when you come out of the visiting locker room dugout — now it’s real. Now you’ve got the aura of Fenway,” Valley Tech interim head coach Anthony Landini said of the buildup before taking the field. “Looking up at the stands, the people — it’s crazy. The best atmosphere,” added senior John Furno.

Beavers’ senior Josh Mateo rushed for 165 yards on 14 carries and added three touchdowns. As a result, he was named the Offensive Player of the Game. “It’s humbling,” said Mateo. “Me and Trey [Howe] combined for 300 today, and it wouldn’t be even close of a game without my big dogs up front. I’m very appreciative.”

Turn To **BEAVERS** page **A15**

Blackstone, Uxbridge, Sutton receive funds to support recycling and waste reduction

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

REGION — To mark America Recycles Day, the Baker-Polito Administration recently announced \$3.1 million in grant funding to 268 municipalities and regional solid waste districts across the Commonwealth.

Locally, three communities were among the grant recipients; of the \$3.1 million, Blackstone was awarded \$5,400, Uxbridge was awarded \$3,850, and Sutton was awarded \$3,500.

The grants were made available through the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP), which will help municipalities and solid waste districts maximize recycling, composting, and waste reduction programs, according to a press statement. “This grant will be a great resource and support for the communities of Blackstone and Uxbridge,” said Rep. Michael J. Soter, 8th Worcester District. “The awarded grants will help aid sustainability efforts in both of the towns as well as infused money to continue the develop-

ment of programs.” This year, under the SMRP, 226 communities in the Commonwealth qualified for the Recycling Dividends Program (RDP) and will receive payments ranging from \$2,100 to \$97,500 for a total of \$3,120,300, according to a press statement. The RDP recognizes municipalities “that have implemented policies and programs proven to maximize the reuse and recycling of materials, as well as waste reduction.” Communities that earn RDP payments will

Turn To **FUNDS** page **A15**

Grafton Library project sees dedication ceremony in December

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

GRAFTON — A ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony for the renovated and expanded Grafton Public Library will take place later this month.

The event is slated for Friday, Dec. 17, at 11 a.m.

The library’s \$16.6 million renovation and expansion project was partially funded by a state grant administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. A Capital Campaign to assist in funding the project and future capital needs was launched in 2017, according to the library.

The library, established in 1867, celebrated its one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary in 2017. According to reports, the library was originally housed in the Warren Block and moved to a permanent location in 1927. The original building housed a collection of 5,000 items to serve a population of 6,000 residents, a public meeting room, a board room, and a librarian’s office.

In 2016, the library hosted more than 77,000 visitors and circulated over 138,000 items, according to library reports.

“Over 45,000 items were crammed into a space intended for 35,000,” the library released in a statement on its Web site.

“The Library lacked a public meeting room, private staff areas, a secure climate-controlled space for historical items, comfortable seating, display space for the collection, and materials to satisfy demand. In short, the Library [had] become grossly inadequate in meeting the needs of the community of Grafton.”

A Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program Grant was completed and submitted in January 2017, and at a special Town Meeting in January 2017, residents voted for the library to have jurisdiction over some of the adjacent acreage at 90 Upton St. for purposes of library

Turn To **LIBRARY** page **A15**

Rams take Battle of the Bridges from Spartans, 28-14



Nick Ethier

Tim Visbeek of Northbridge hauls in a pass between a pair of Uxbridge defenders.

NORTHBRIDGE — Thanksgiving Day football was back in the Blackstone Valley following a one-year hiatus, and Lasell Field played host to the annual Battle of the Bridges game, pitting the Northbridge and Uxbridge High varsity

football teams. The Rams took this year’s game, 28-14, and finished 10-2. The Spartans went 6-5. Northbridge got on the board first early in the second quarter when Collin Falconer plunged into the end zone from a

yard out. Tyler Richards then booted the extra point, and the Rams took a 7-0 lead. Uxbridge tied the score at 7-7 in the final minute of the first half — Zachary Oliveira also

Turn To **RAMS** page **A16**

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New Bible study program coming to Fairlawn Church

NORTHBRIDGE — Coffee Break, a non-denominational community Bible study for women will open their winter/spring season with a study of “Genesis – Part 2” beginning on Thursday morning, Jan. 6. This second part of Genesis, chapters 12-25, is the story of God’s promises for Abraham and Sarah, all of creation, and us. We will discover what imperfect faith in a faithful God looks like as we journey with Abraham and Sarah. Promises give hope. They give stability in a world of uncertainty. Together, no matter where you are at in your journey, let’s walk with Abraham, Sarah, and our Lord as we discover what the Bible can teach us.

The study will be in small groups at Fairlawn Church—and we offer groups for those who feel more comfortable wearing masks, as well as groups for those who prefer not to wear masks. All the study groups are physically distanced in spacious rooms. You are encouraged to bring your own refreshments. Child care is available for infants and toddlers.

Coffee Break is free and open to anyone in the community and is held each Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Fairlawn Church. Coffee Break offers women in the Blackstone Valley an opportunity to read and discuss the Bible, share questions and concerns, and develop new friendships. Each lesson is independent, so if you can’t attend every week, you won’t feel “lost.” There’s no “homework” required, and no previous Bible knowledge is necessary. Study guides are provided free of charge.

Fairlawn Church is located at 305 Goldthwaite Rd. (off Hill Street) in Whitinsville. For directions, questions, or to get more information, call Ginette at 508-234-4806 or visit fairlawncrc.org/outreach/coffee-break.cfm.

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The benefits of in person holiday shopping



The 2020 holiday season was unlike any other. The COVID-19 pandemic was still affecting daily life across the globe over

the final months of 2020, prompting many families and individuals to alter holiday traditions they'd embraced for decades.

That included how people shop. Many people avoided in person holiday shopping in 2020. However, the successful rollout of various COVID-19 vaccines has made in person shopping safe again. That's good news for local businesses and great news for shoppers, who may have forgotten just how much they can benefit from shopping in person.

- In person shopping is convenient. Much is made of the convenience of online shopping. And it's undeniable that the ability to shop at all hours of the day and night is convenient. However, in person shopping, especially when shopping for others, is much more convenient than shoppers may realize. When shopping in person, shoppers can get a feel for an item, size it up and even inspect its quality prior to purchasing it. That can save shoppers from that disappointing feeling of receiving an item in the mail only to realize it's poorly made or oddly sized and therefore unlikely to fit its eventual recipient.

• In person shop-

ping isn't all about shipping. Shipping speed is a significant factor for online shoppers, and that may affect just which gift they give come the holiday season. According to a Dotcom report titled "How Fast Delivery and Quality Packaging Drives Customer Loyalty," 87 percent of shoppers surveyed indicated shipping was a key factor when deciding whether to shop with an e-commerce brand again. That's an important consideration, as shoppers may be more inclined to buy an item from a retailer simply because of their shipping speed capabilities and not because of the quality of the item and whether or not it's what they want to give to their loved

one. Shopping in person removes shipping from the equation, ensuring gift givers will give a gift they truly want to give and not just the one that will arrive on time.

- In person shopping allows for more accessible browsing. Within minutes of entering a store and walking around, shoppers may see a handful of gifts that will ultimately be great for various people on their lists, even if they had no idea what to get prior to entering. That ability to browse is more difficult when shopping online, especially when buying from online retailers with massive inventories of a range of products. Such sites often require visitors to pick

a category to streamline their searches. That's not always easy or enjoyable for shoppers who cherish the opportunity to uncover hidden gems or more unique gifts that aren't available all over the internet.

- In person shopping gets shoppers out of the house. Since the onset of the pandemic, people have spent more time than ever within the confines of their homes. The 2021 holiday shopping season provides a great opportunity to get out of the house and disconnect from devices. Shoppers can even do so alongside friends and family members they weren't able to see last holiday season.

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Newly passed bill aims at mental healthcare reform

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – The statewide push to improve mental health treatment received significant momentum with last month’s passage of a bill by the State Senate.

Titled “Mental Health ABC Act: Addressing Barriers to Care,” the legislation is aimed at reforming mental healthcare across the state and increasing access to treatment options.

The bill passed unanimously in the Senate late last month. It will now move on for review by the Massachusetts House.

“Mental health is as critical as physical health, and this bill continues an important process of how mental health services are delivered, helping to remove the stigma with a major leap forward in making sure people can access the mental healthcare they need and deserve,” said Sen. Anne Gobi, of Spencer.

Already a major challenge in recent years, mental health struggles have been exacerbated during the pandemic. Isolation, employment loss, remote learning issues, mask mandates, and COVID-19 apprehension have all contributed to increased anxiety and men-

tal health challenges for people of all ages.

If the new bill receives final approval, residents would have expanded options to receive mental health treatment. This includes eligibility for residents to receive an annual mental health exam covered by their insurance provider.

The bill also requires all insurance carriers to use one standard credentialing form for healthcare providers. Additionally, the legislation calls for a quicker turnaround time for approval of a completed credentialing request. Officials said these new requirements will benefit patients, providers, and healthcare systems.

“This legislation is the first step toward putting the Commonwealth on a pathway to developing a more integrated system of mental healthcare delivery,” read a statement released by Senator Cindy Friedman. “The Mental Health ABC Act removes barriers to timely quality care, provides the state with more effective tools to enforce existing mental health parity laws, and invests in the mental and behavioral health workforce pipeline.”

To that end, the bill authorizes a pilot program through the Department of Higher Education, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health. The program is aimed at creating a workforce pipeline to encourage and sup-

port individuals from diverse backgrounds to work toward careers in mental health.


“With this initiative, we hope to send a message to young people that this is valued and important work,” Sen. Friedman’s statement read.

Additionally, the bill requires emergency departments to have the capacity at all times to evaluate and stabilize patients admitted with mental health challenges—or to refer them to appropriate treatment channels or inpatient admission. The bill also directs the Department of Public Health to issue regulations for an expedited process for individuals under 22 years old.

Moreover, the bill requires commercial insurance carriers to cover community-based services for individuals experiencing a psychiatric emergency. Currently, these services are only funded by MassHealth.

Finally, the bill directs the Department of Mental Health to consider factors that may present barriers to care – such as travel distance and access to transportation – when contracting for services in geographically isolated and rural communities.

To learn more about the bill, visit www.mass.gov.



ACCURACY WATCH

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Enjoy the reason for the season with nativity display at Grafton Baptist Church

GRAFTON — Join us Dec. 5 from noon until 4 p.m. for some quiet time and peaceful music when you can see over 100 different Nativity scenes displayed in the church sanctuary at 1 South Street during “Grafton Celebrates the Holidays.”

This display will feature nativity sets owned by the church or loaned by members and friends of the church. This has been a part of our holiday celebration since 2007.

These beautiful creches come in a vast variety of media -china, wood, paper, glass, fiber, and fabric. They portray the birth of Christ as seen through many eyes and many cultural expressions. Many different countries are represented as well as 6 continents.

Elegant works of art are placed near the work of children and amateur craftsmen and run from the whimsical to the exquisite.

Take a few moments to browse the exhibit and listen to soft Christmas music and enjoy the Christmas Spirit.

All are welcome to spend a few minutes or an hour carefully looking at the charm, the craftsmanship and the wide interpretations of this wonderful story.

There is a ramp for those who would like to avoid the stairs or don’t want to leave their strollers outside.





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

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



BAY PATH ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year:

Grade 12
High Honors: Connor Barton, Justin Barton, Alexia Brawn, Catalina Burden, Dylan Butkus, Diego Canovas, Isabella Capuano, Jackson Chaffee, Stephanie Chege, Anaya Compres, Carter Coughlin, Izabella Coughlin, Marisa DeJesus, Chloe Dexter, Lillian Dolan, Erin Donahue, Marlee Donohoe, Nathan Dreitlein, Lillian Dunkerton, Gensies Gonzalez, Julia Graveson, Cameron Hafner, Nicholas Hunter, Logan Johnson, Cole Komssi, Bethany Lasell, Andrew Leach, Amber Mercon, Jovanni Morales, Olivia Morin, Samuel Murillo, Aidan Oosterman, Angelina Ortiz, Paige Osche, Jayna Schmohl, Ethan Shanbaum, Sarah Simpson, Olivia St. Germain, Scarlet Tarveras, Mackenzie Tupai, Tyler Verrier

Honors: Aidan Adler, Lana Antocci, Adrian-Nicky Antwi, Thomas Becker, Dominic Benvenuti, Jayde Berthiaume, Sadie Bickford, Brian Bonnette, Kylie Bouchard, Hayden Bourgeois, Rebecca Boutillette, Patric Campbell, Graham Carboneau, Adriana Carignan, Tinaya Chauvin, Aiden Chernisky, Yadrial Colon Vega, Chynna Cote, Kaden Cote McGrath, Dylan Cotton, Hailey Cournoyer, Kevin Cunningham, Chad Cutroni, Jack Dalton, Kurtis Davis, Cody Douglas, May Emsiranunt, Johnathon Ferreira, Daniel Gautier, Isabella Gervais, Alex Gilfoy, Amie Grenier, Nathan Gulkin, Ashley Hamel, Julia Higgins, Zachary Hinman, Anthony Hudon, Ivory Morgan, Molly Johnson, Chloe Johnson, Kira Kalwarczyk, Lucas Kaufman, Ryan Kempskie, Kevin Kilcourse, Tiffany King, Jason Kozlowski, Taylor Labrecque, Anthony Lang, Jacob LeBrun, William LeCuyer, Casey Levasseur, Lexie MacDonald, Marguerite MacKenzie, Ian Malone, John Marchetti, Emma Marcotte, Anthony Martins, Brandon Martocci, Alannah Matthews, Madigan McManus, Richard Menard IV, Cadie Miller, Aaron Mitchell, Brayden Nolette, William Ofori, Gabrielle Packard, Samuel Parker, Aaliyah Perez, Ilias Perez, Rachael Plaud, Hunter Pocis, Krystal Quadarella, Lukas Rafferty, Caleb Renaud, Carlos Rosado, Jacqueline Ross, Alex Saad, Luzyvette Sagastilelbelza-Lopez, Zachary Sargent, Kristina Scott, Anthony Seymour, Daniel Sibert, Chloe Sicari-Swinimer, Katrina Somers, Caroline Soucy, Kyra Stevens, Isabella Tanacea, Francheska Toribio-Polanco, Jalissa Torres, Camden Towns, Aaliyah Tremblay Collins, Jared

Tucker, Rohan Vaidya, Kyle VanCott, Adriana Vazquez Gonzalez, Yamaira Vega Torres, Mateusz Zych
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Honors: Jake Aho, Lukus Bachand, Sincere Bailey, Haven Banks, Cauy Beaver, Quinn Beck, Alexander Besaw, Benjamin Besaw, Constantine Billis, Samuel Boria, Emma Boulet, John Boyle, Aleana Brayton, Dennis Brunelle, Miranda Burden, Matthew Casati, Daniel Chaffee, Michael Chansignavong, Isabella Coleman, Makayla Collins, Abraham Colon, Anthony Comforti, Libby Condrate, Ryan Couture, Edgardo Cruz-Merced, Ryan Davis, Cam'Ron Desrosiers, Ronald Desrosiers, Ty Dupuis, Zachary Finizza, Jayden Flanders, Alexis Fleck, Evan Frost, Casey Gallagher, Aiden Gelardi, Emily Gelineau, Noah Gilspin, Adrian Gonzalez, Osiris Gonazlez, Devon Goulet, John Guerin, Julius Guillen, Lauren Hennessy, Luke Hill, Tatyanna Johnny, Grace Jones, Summer Jordan, Angelica Joubert, Matthew Kallgren, Marissa Keefe, Hunter Kelley, Nakia L'Ecuver, Anna L'Esperance, James LeProhon, Ayden Letourneau, Gianaleze Lopez, Yamilisha Machado, Michael Mallette, Matthew Marchetti, Matthew Marshall, Connor McCarthy, Dylan McDonald, Rachel McMenemy, Jayme Melanson, Trinity Mercier, Yeriliana Miranda-Colon, Dominic Moniz, Stephen Ngaruiya, Jonathan Norman, Jonathan Nussey, Kiyana Perez, Damon Provencal, Jacob Provencher, Timothy Putnam, Jenisey Ramos, Rozlyn Robillard, Nolan Sharry, Terry Simon, Ronin Simone, Lucas Soloperto, Naomi Soriano, Emma St. Francis, Evan St. Cyr, Damion Szafarowicz, Alexzander Tetreault, Brayden Therrien, Jacob Thomas, Patrick Tierney, Walfrý Torres-Rodriguez, Lucas Welton, Emily Westwell, Jacob Wilga, Jackson Wright
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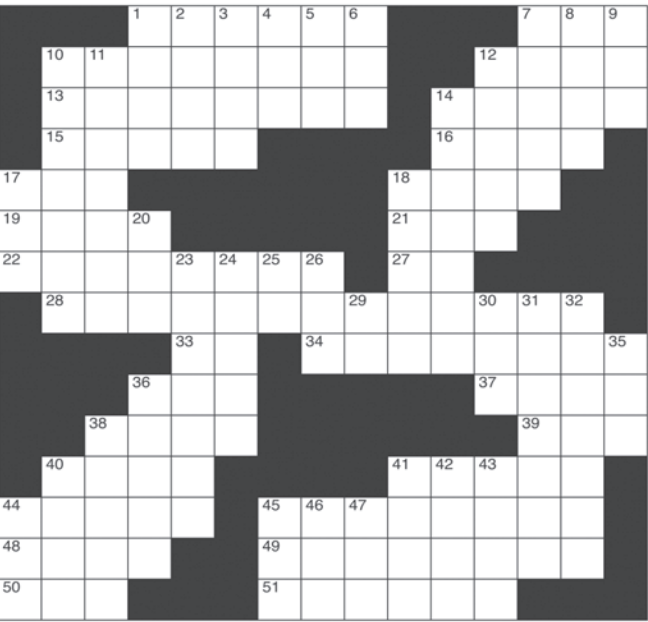
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Principal's List: Annalease Arnberg, Alec Borelli, Caroline Borgeson, Samantha Buchanan, Alivia Cannon, Eyan Chase, Brielle Christenson, Petru Cojocar, Alexia Conrad, LeeAnn Dagnese, Nyasia Delgado, Dylan Dielin, Marissa Dumas, Joseph Fritze, Bradley Graves, Alba Henriquez Baez, Nathan Josey, Madisyn Kozlowski, Abigayle Linde, Albert Luciano, Kai Lukasek, Ryan MacCormack, Tatiana Marin, Marissa Masciarelli, Matteo Mastrotoaro, Macaylah Milder, Cole Mitchell, Avelyn O'Brien, Nicholas Pollone, Harrison Renard, Colby Richardson, Margaret Russell, Connor Sentence, Brady Staniunas, Brady Suprenant, Yasmin Tolomio, Cole Vignali, Natalie Walker, Timothy Welch, Korey Wood

Grade 9
High Honors: Brianna Berrios, Kendall Bond, David Boyce, Kendra Brooks, Joshua Chumsae, Mikayla Crocker, Philippe Dasilva, Ryan Dawson, Bryce Dube, Emma Dwyer, Reyna Gonzalez, Noah Goulet, Matthew Guerin, Keegan Hall, Bryce Hutchinson, Elena Jerez, Leah Johnson, Anya Kittredge, Samuel Lamont, Samantha Landgren, Nathan Lashua, Lillian Maglich, Joseph Mancini, Ayla McGrail, Isabel McLam, Jed McManus, Cheyene Monsen, Jacob Morello, Julian Mucci, Ava Murray, Ashlyn Olejniczak, Maya Ortiz, Dominic Paldino, Raegan Perreault, Willis Perreault, Brad Piekarczyk, Gabriel Prado, Melany Rebeiro, Casey Renaud, Savannah Steiner, Cassandra Tinsley, Manaali Vaidya, Angelica Vega, Alison Welton

Honors: Nicholas Adler, Rima Al-Dulaimi, Kaelen Anderson, Mackenzie Arsenault, Dominic Balducci, Connor Belanger, Jessica Benoit, Cherise Berthiaume, Joshua Blackwell, Lake Boucher, Camden Bousquet, Teah Boyd, Kaiden Brochu, Noah Brown, Jason Brum, Brea Brunelle-Jacoby, Julia Burgos, Jameson Burke, Jonathan Burke, Trentin Buzzell, Aidan Carpenter, Johnathon Carter, Matthew Chatterton, Jason Checka, Mikayla Clyne, Olivia Collins, Catherine Comeau, Travis Comeau, Noah Cournoyer, Travis Cronin, Mariah Cutroni, Adison Daoust, Jenna Defosse, Jasai Diaz, Madison Dolan, Carly Donohue, Gregory Downie, Braelyn Dunn, Logan Edwards, Gabrielle Erickson, Jaden Fall, Ian Farber, Claire Farrar, Midrose Freeman, Conor Gadbois, Erin Gallant, Hailee Gelinas, Avery Gifford, Anthony Gonzalez, John Gordon, Alicia Graveson, Devan Grensavitch, Daniel Harris, Abigail Haynes, Joshua Hemingway, Ava Iozzo, Kayah Jadczak, Jacob Johnson, Eliza Kalwarczyk, Sarah Kempisie, Katherine Landgren, Emma Leclair, Cerina Leinonen, Logan Letourneau, Eva Lombardi, Evan Lottti, Miranda Magalhaes, Nicholas Marchessault, Brady Marcoux, Dominic Marino, Kyle Mazur, Gus McGarry, Emma McLaughlin, Jersey Mejias, Calle Merchant, Ava Millette, Zachary Moody, Sullivan Morse, Robert Mousseau, William Nixon, Sadie-Mae Nobert, Kayleigh Norris, Julia Osche, Alaina Pafume, Carmen Pantoja, Jonathan Pemberton, Shayanne Plaisance, Ryan Plante, Eva Powers, Noah Recinos Rodgers, Kaylie Richard, Julian Rivera, Nevin Rivera, Lilianna Rockwood, Luzmarienne Rodriguez Cirino, Lizmarie Rodriguez-Soto, Joseph Roman, Jennalee Rousseau, Shairy Ruibal-Rios, John Rutter, Brayden Ryan, Kaden Sandgren, Jeisey Santiago Martinez, Dominic Schoff, Benjamin Scobie, Corey Scovil, Aysel Silva Nieves, Ed Simon, Abigayle Simpson, Benjamin Streeter, Zaydyn Streeter Wornham, John Sullivan, Aaliyah Szukutak, Kathryn Szretter, Madison Teal, Hailie Tod, Isabella Tolomio, Matthew Twombly, Colin Vaillancourt, Adrian Vitkos, Amelia White, Dayzyah Wintzel Neely, Kaeden Zajkowski-Gonzalez

Principal's List: Christopher Aguilar, Connor Barrette, Hope Belford, Adrianna Burdick, Reilly Chouinard, Ryan Christiano, Nathan Clemence, Makayla Collazo, Lucas Daoust, Angelina Degon, Owen Donofrio, Gabriella Dube, Sophia Falconer, Valerie Hilner, Alberto Ingram, Skylar Johnson-Mello, Jacob Jurado, Justin Kelly, Emma Knott, Hayden Larson, Alexander Lopez, Felix Lopez, James MacConnell, Jack Mahoney, Aiden McCarthy, Kailyn McHugh, Paul McManus, Brendan Moran, Yahir Negron Claudio, Matthew Nowak, Dale Nussey, Morgan O'Malley, Seamus O'Rourke, Jack Papagni, Isabella Pettinelli, Emerson Pitz, Dylan Polinski, Nicholas Reardon, Lexiana Resto-Nichols, Daniela Sanchez, Nicholas Santoro, Lynkon St. Jean, Kevin Vazquez-Rivera, Nayelix Vega, Cayden Young



CLUES ACROSS

1. Topsides

7. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)

10. A Sultan's court

12. Maine city

13. Largest living land animal

14. Appetizer

15. Encounters

16. Leader

17. The source of bacon

18. Nuclear near reach weapon (abbr.)

19. Celery (Spanish)

21. Pie ___ mode

22. Eye disease

27. Hello (slang)

28. Those in their 80s
33. Law enforcement agency (abbr.)

34. Business organizations

36. Mimic

37. For indicating speed of rotation (abbr.)

38. Feeling

39. Visual way to interact with computers (abbr.)

40. "Let It Snow!" songwriter

41. Essential oil used as perfume

44. Norwegian composer

45. Coast

48. ___ lang syne, good old days

49. Gland behind the stomach

50. Tooth caregiver

51. King of Camelot

CLUES DOWN

1. N. American indigenous people

2. Fascinated by

3. Root of out

4. Patti Hearst's captors

5. Atomic #50

6. Habitual drunkard

7. Arabic for "peace"

8. Trickery

9. One's physique (slang)

10. Not quite there

11. Wistfully mournful

12. Popular dance

14. Cut of meat

17. A way to stand

18. "Gunga Din" screenwriter

20. 10th month of the year (abbr.)

23. A way of jumping

24. Utah town
25. Of I

26. Actress de Armas

29. Silver

30. Play a role

31. ___ Falls

32. Attaches to

35. Japanese title

36. Expressed pleasure

38. Buckets

40. Dirt

41. Hypnotists' group (abbr.)

42. Restaurant drive-___

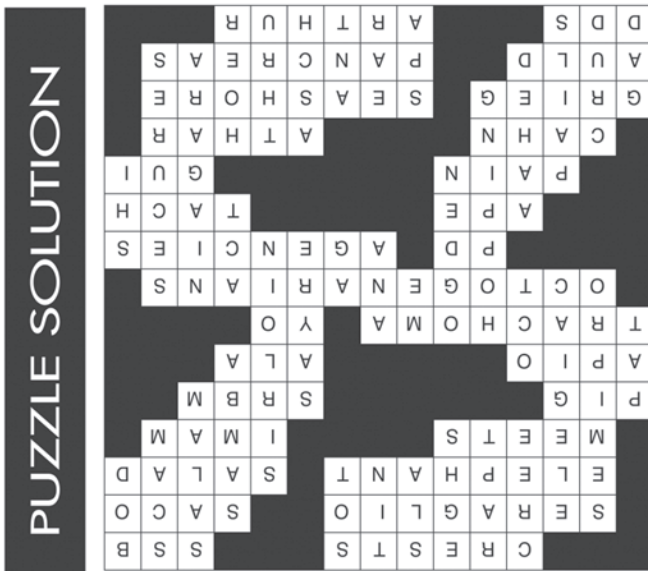
43. Digs up

44. He voices "Olaf"

45. Relaxing place

46. Body part

47. Pesky house critter



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WCHS Drama Club presents “Alice in Wonderland”

WHITINSVILLE — Tickets are now on sale for the Whitinsville Christian High School Drama Club production of “Alice in Wonderland.” Join us to see Alice’s adventures with the Mad Hatter, the Rabbit, and the very nice Cheshire Cat. Show time is 7 p.m. on Dec. 16, 17, and 18, with a matinee show on Saturday, Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. Masks are required for attendees.

We are also excited to host a pre-show Afternoon Tea Party on Saturday, Dec. 18, at 1 p.m. for children grades Pre-K through 5. Tickets for this special event are sold separately for \$10 per child. Fun will include a story with Alice, a photo opp with “Alice in Wonderland” characters, and decorating a cookie to enjoy at home. Masks are required at this event as well. Children must be accompanied by an adult and there is no admission charge for adults.

Tickets for both events are available at whitinsvillechristian.org under Upcoming Events.

NORTHBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

NORTHBRIDGE — Northbridge High School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.

Highest Honors
Grade 12: Kyla Dominguez De Los Santos, Caitlyn Mahoney, Christopher Smith
Grade 11: Abby Barnatt, Karlee Battista, Hannah Dizenzo, Caroline O'Brien, Kathryn O'Brien, Keira Touhey
Grade 10: Samantha Brody
Grade 9: Monica Colon-Heyliger, Matthew Smith

High Honors
Grade 12: Samantha Billmyer, John Gifford, Olivia Guest, Dev Patel, Aidan Roy, Colin Tognazzi, Brent Turgeon, Colton Verra, Timothy Visbeek, Celia Walker
Grade 11: Meghan Cummiskey, Mary Goodrow, Coulton Manning, James Oatis, Caitlin Porcelli, Abigail Schofield, Nina Szymanowski, Sarah Tubbs
Grade 10: Lillianna Avila, Haily Billmyer, Gary Bunis, Shelby Cannon, Sarah Cowen, Charles Dupuis, Olivia Frabotta, Hannah King, Kayda King, Charleigh Mitchell, Zachary O'Meara, Mary Sullivan

Grade 9: Kathryn Andresen, Ethan Ballou, Larissa Briggs, Molly Gahan, Kaia Gibson, Isabelle Lomonaco, Caden Mastroianni, Oscar Ordenez Zecena, Rowan Phillips, Dylan Reilly, George Roadman, Angelina Saster, David Scichilone, Brayden Silveira, Madison Thibeault, Jarek Wenc

Honors
Grade 12: Andrew Akeley, Angelique Akeley, Anderson Barnicoat-Sansone, James Bartlett, Sara Bedigian, Tyler Bliss, Cameron Boucher, John Buckley, David Castellon Palma, Adam Chen, Nicholas Cleary, Molly Consigli, Jared Dermoshegian, Emma Donahue, Collin Falconer, Lauren Ferreira, Abigail Fraser, Charles Garrigan, Joseph Gauthier, Anthony Gomez, Maeve Kelly, Laura Lacombe, Mallorie Mercer, Cameron O'Brien, Christopher Ramalho, Anthony Reed, Tyler Richards, Christopher Rivelli, Walker Sengtong, Liam Simoneau, Patrick Smith, Connor Tames, Zoe Taylor, Matthew Wildman, Lindzy Winslow
Grade 11: Molly Conroy, Brayden Corey, Yeva DerKosrofian, Kiana Hardy,

Ryleigh Johnson, Madeleine Lannon, Ryan Lax, Agathon Malek, Colin Marino, Kayla Munson, Katie Murray, Lillian Naylor, Gracie Place, Caramia Pozzi, Dominic Scichilone, Parker Scott, Graham Williams
Grade 10: Timmothy Adams Jr, Evelyn Anderson, Madelyn Andresen, Kiara Bodreau, Jillian Bresnahan, Abigail Caya, Britnei Chen, Kassidi Dobelbower, Madelynne Driscoll, Xavier Falke, Ryan Flaherty, Dakota Grazulis, Timothy Guiliani, Ainsley Hogan, Lucas Hovsepian, Callie Jee, Mia Pellegrino, Marcus Reilly, Rachel Sawyer, Amanda Smith, Natalie Zborowski
Grade 9: Amber Anufrom, Johann Jay Baniqued, Abigail Bergeron, Allyson Blanding, Andrea Chong, Ava Connors, Jacob Costello, Adam Flauto, Vincent Goshen, Samantha Haberski, Lisa Harrington, Ayva Johnson, Ava Lamonda, Anthony Lippolis, Nicholas Lombardo, Isabella Molina Costa, Tristan Orstrom, Jesse Perron, Liam Robertson, Sean Rochette II, Erika Roldan, Avery Sabourin, Lily Simoneau, Lillian Thomas, Jayden Tran, Caitlin Walker

Toy drives aim to brighten the season for local families

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

REGION — With several recent toy drives, local police departments are hoping to make the holidays a little brighter for their communities.

In Uxbridge, police recently participated in a Fill-A-Cruiser toy drive to benefit Toys for Kids & Teens, during which they collected new, unwrapped toys for children and teens.

“Last year, over 1,400 kids or teens from over 350 Blackstone Valley families had a better holiday, thanks to your generous donations,” the department reported, adding that this year, there was a “small competition” between the Uxbridge, Northbridge, and Grafton police departments to see which agency could “bring in the most toys” on the day of the toy drive.

“Together, we all hope to make the upcoming holidays for Kids and Teens a better one,” Uxbridge Police added.

The Uxbridge Fire Department also released a statement regarding Toys for Kids & Teens, a non-profit association sponsored by veterans and volunteers.

“Please pass the word onto anyone you feel could use a helping hand giving their child a very Merry Christmas,” the statement read.

“During the months of November and December our team places collection boxes at various locations throughout the Blackstone Valley and beyond,” the organization released. “People are urged to place new unwrapped toys into the collection box. At some point, members of our team will collect the toys and bring them to our distribution center. Once they arrive at the center they are sorted according to ages and gender of the children.”

The Northbridge Police Department announced that in addition to participating in the annual Fill-A-Cruiser event, it also worked with the local Cub Scouts to collect toys at the Holiday Tree Lighting celebration at Whitinsville Common and will be collecting throughout the holiday season.

Donations can be dropped off at the police station at 1 Hope St. in Whitinsville, according to a statement. There is a collection box located in the main lobby throughout the holiday season.

According to Toys for Kids & Teens, the toys are for families that “have a need for the toys.” The deadline for applications is Saturday, Dec. 18. For more information on Toys for Kids & Teens, visit toysforkidsandteens.org.

Local students named to Dean’s List at Stonehill

EASTON — To qualify for the Dean's List, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better and must have completed successfully all courses for which they were registered.

Rianne Cooney of Northbridge
Bianca DiVitto of Whitinsville
Sophie Psuik of Uxbridge
Brooke Riccitelli of Uxbridge
Celina Stansky of Douglas
Megan Vanelli of Uxbridge
Lauren Vaughan of

Northbridge
About Stonehill College
Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 384-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person. Through more than 100 aca-

demic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students. Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.



Community Connection

Your guide to local businesses and events! To join us, please call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news.



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\$560,000, 15 Bellingham Rd, Susan Baima RET, and Baima, Susan, to Barrett, Dylan C, and Eklind, Alyssa P.
\$415,000, 38 Reilly Ave, Sebatino, Kerry L, and Sabatino, Manuel, to Fanous, Samir.
\$380,000, 199 Lincoln St, Halacy IRT, and Halacy, Robert F, to Wilkinson, Jonathan, and Mourkakos-Wilkinson, S.
\$280,000, 105 Main St, Nordahl, Stephen P, and Nordhal, Colleen, to Desousa-Silva, Ernane.

DOUGLAS
\$460,000, 5 Brookside Dr, Feuersanger, Theresa M, to Hurley, John, and Hurley, Marcia.
\$385,000, 60 Compass Point Dr #60, Northbrown LLC, to Harrington, Kathleen.
\$349,000, 40 Main St, Haire, Colin H, to Meunier, Wayne S, and Meunier, Janine E.
\$306,000, 49 Compass Point Dr #49, Maddocks, Charles P, and Maddocks, Judith B, to Millward, Jessica, and Millward, Gregory.

NORTHBRIDGE
\$1,350,000, 120 Hill St, James M Knott Sr 2014 RET, and Knott, James M, to Risher, Clarence.
\$580,000, 165 Prospect St, Santos, Nelson A, and Dell, Sarah A, to Sanghoon-Sung, Eric, and Sung, Grace.
\$560,000, 170 Morgan Rd, Norris, Thomas W, and Norris, Diane M, to Martinez, Kevin, and Martinez, Samantha.
\$560,000, 76 Kristin Ct, Fabbo, Maria P, to Denvir-Johnson, Robert, and Johnson, Maryann.
\$470,000, 42-48 Fletcher St, Baldwin, William J, and Baldwin, Michelle L, to Estochen, David R.
\$460,000, 131 Kelly Rd, Picotte, Kenneth D, to Sommer, Castan, and Zeise, Marian.
\$449,900, 167 Stone Hill Dr #58, Stone Hill Partners LLC, to Casola, Robert, and Casola, Marie.
\$440,000, 68 Susanne Dr, Joubert, Richard, and Joubert, Theresa, to Verzone, Joseph.
\$430,000, 86 Susanne Dr, Pendergast, Kenneth J, and Pendergast, Linda J, to Sullivan, Michael, and Sullivan, Verena R.
\$370,000, 37 Center St, Martin, James R, and Martin, Jason R, to Berrios, Alex A.
\$326,900, 18 Pine St, Jorritsma, Timothy J, to Marrero, Leslie O, and Marrero-Rivera, Zoe M.
\$290,000, 28 Heritage Dr #28, Deforest, Mary T, and Deforest, Wayne R, to Deforest, Wayne R.
\$275,000, 96 Thurston Ave, Knox-Hanny, Laura, to Quickly Way Const LLC.
\$155,000, 2528 Providence Rd, Wilmington Svgs Fund Soc, to Lilac Homes LLC.
\$145,000, 93 N Main St #93, Chelotti, Michael J, to Obrien, Molly V.
\$140,000, 25 B St #25, Pappas, Elizabeth, to Stewart, Jamie, and Stewart, David.
\$47,000, Glen Dr, Croft, Jeffrey S, to Glen Drive LLC.

UXBRIDGE
\$650,000, 80 Elmshade Dr, Walach, Christopher S, and Walach, Emi, to Policarpo, Waldir A, and Policarpo, Gybelle F.
\$446,600, 48 Tea Party Dr #48, Independence Uxbridge, to Sanford, William F.
\$440,000, 76 Rogerson Xing #76, Dayton, Thomas M, and Pinkard, Allan E, to Halterman, Linda M, and Halterman, Ronald F.
\$415,750, 36 Tea Party Dr #36, Independence Uxbridge, to Shrestha, Ramesh K, and Shrestha, Ragini.
\$407,595, 24 Tea Party Dr #24, Independence Uxbridge, to Cucinotta, Sam R, and Cucinotta, Mary J.
\$319,900, 12 Marywood St #12, White, Joseph H, and White, Maureen A, to Thrul, Carrie A.
\$280,000, 89 E Hartford Ave #3D, Hurley, John, and Hurley, Marcia, to Jackson, Chelsey, and Jackson, Joshua.
\$279,000, 245 Blackstone St, Lindfelt FT, and Lindfelt, Robert, to Macdonald, Bruce, and Macdonald, Jennifer.
\$245,000, 7 Surry Dr #7, Erickson, Charles L, and Erickson, Deborah F, to Richardson, Aaron, and Richardson, Robert O.

Three indoor trees for the holidays

Add a small-scale living evergreen to your holiday celebrations. Consider one that is suitable for growing indoors so you can enjoy it throughout the year. The Lemon Cypress makes a great miniature holiday tree, centerpiece, or gift for a friend. The fragrant chartreuse foliage of this dwarf evergreen continues to brighten your winter décor long after the holidays are over. You can find them as topiaries or in their more natural pyramidal form. Grow them in a sunny window and turn the plants occasionally to ensure all parts receive equal sunlight and grow evenly. You'll have the best results if you keep your plant in a cool location free of cold and hot air drafts. Water your mini holiday tree whenever the top few inches of soil are dry. Wait until spring when plants begin to actively grow and need a nutrient boost before applying fertilizer. The Norfolk Island pine has long been a favorite of indoor gardeners. Its pine-like appearance makes it a great holiday tree. Add a bit of garland and a few small ornaments for a festive effect. Grow this plant in a cool, well-lit location free of drafts of hot and cold air. Avoid dry air and soil to keep the needles and branches green, flexible, and healthy. Water thoroughly whenever the soil is just slightly moist. Boost the humidity around this and other plants with a gravel tray. Place pebbles and water in the saucer. Set the pot on the pebbles above the water. As the water evaporates, it increases the humidity around the plant.



Courtesy

Norfolk Island pine makes a great indoor holiday tree especially when combined with holiday plants or decorated with garland and small ornaments.

Switch out the ornaments when celebrating other holidays. Use hearts for Valentine's Day, eggs for Easter and orange lights for Halloween. Rosemary wreath and tree topiaries are festive as well as fragrant and edible. Give the leaves a pet to enjoy the fragrance and lift your spirits. Or pluck a sprig to add welcome flavor to your winter meals and beverages. Rosemary was as popular a Christmas plant as mistletoe and holly until the 20th Century. It's not clear why this plant fell out of favor, but it is growing in popularity as a holiday plant. You can find it in many garden centers and florists this time of year. Rosemary represents love and remembrance, a great sentiment to share during the holidays. Growing Rosemary indoors can be challenging. Don't let past failures stop you from trying. Just



GARDEN MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA MYERS

keep experimenting until you find the location and maintenance routine that keeps your Rosemary thriving. If the plant turns brown, move it out of sight to the back of your indoor garden. It still smells good when you give it a pet and no one, but you will know. Change things up this season with the addition of one or more of these indoor evergreen trees. They are sure to brighten your spirits and holiday décor. Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series* and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Her Web site is www.melindamyers.com.

Public design hearing slated for SNETT Trail in Douglas

DOUGLAS — A public hearing on the Southern New England Trunkline (SNETT) Trail has been scheduled for Dec. 7 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. At this remotely held public meeting, the DCR team for this project will present the near final design of a fully accessible, shared use 10-foot-wide paved pathway, with a side path to accommodate equestrians. This project's total length is approximately six miles, from the Connecticut State line and the 55-mile Airline Trail through Douglas State Forest to Depot Street Trailhead near the Uxbridge line.

As you may recall I had submitted a letter to the new s p a p e r in July of 2020 discussing this i s s u e a n d m a n y p e o p l e s e n t t h e i r thoughts to our representatives and DCR. Our issue with this plan is the fact that DCR wants to pave the SNETT in Douglas. The sections in Franklin and Bellingham have been finished off with a soil stabilizer mixed with (I think) stone dust, (could be some type of crushed granite). In other words, a natural surface. This made the surface ADA compliant and suitable for horseback riders. The SNETT turns into the Airline Trail when you hit Connecticut. Connecticut is stone dust in the areas that have been improved and the existing natural surface for the rest of it. It makes no sense to not continue the continuity of the surface of the trail. Douglas is a rural community; we all enjoy the outdoors and want to keep it natural. We don't want a paved path. I am asking everyone that wants to see the SNETT kept as a natural surface trail to please join the meeting and give your testimony. If you can't make the meeting, please submit your comments which are due by Dec. 28. If you do a search online for DCR Public Meetings Information you can find the information about this hearing and the link to join the meeting.

If you need assistance when registering, please contact Daniel.Cushing@mass.gov. After the presentation, the public will be invited to ask questions and provide feedback on the proposed design, using the raise hand and chat functionality that will be available through the virtual participation platform.

After the meeting, the presentation will be available for viewing at <https://www.mass.gov/dcr/past-public-meetings>. DCR encourages the public to share additional feedback, with a deadline for receipt of comments by DCR of Wednesday, Dec. 28. Comments may be submitted online at www.mass.gov/dcr/public-comment. Please note that the content of comments you submit to DCR, along with your name, town, and zip code, will be posted on DCR's website. Additional contact information required when commenting, notably email address, will only be used for outreach on future updates on the subject project or property

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EDITORIAL

What’s your story?

It’s holiday party season, and for most of us that, is a good thing. We get together with friends and family, enjoy some eggnog and a plethora of our favorite appetizers. However, we do know that oftentimes, we are invited by our significant others to attend a work soiree or we are attending one ourselves. Being in a room where you only know one or a few people could seem like a daunting task for our introverted readers, but have no fear — we have ways for you to have memorable conversations that you may end up actually enjoying.

Instead of discussing the weather or asking the mundane questions such as ‘Where are you from?’ why not simply ask, ‘What’s your story?’ Other conversation starters include, ‘How do you know the host?’ ‘What was the highlight of your week?’ or ‘Are you working on anything exciting?’

If you’re shy or feeling a bit awkward, you can keep the conversation going by talking about the food being served or the venue where the event is taking place. Asking a person what they have tried so far, and how they liked it is an easy conversation starter. If you research the history of a place, you can always begin with the ‘Did you know?’ questions. We know everyone loves a good history story and bits of local trivia.

If the person you are speaking with is from the area, ask them what they do for entertainment in town, including where and what their favorite restaurants are. Looking up recent sports standings is never a bad idea, even if you don’t particularly care for sports. This way when you nod and smile, you can have some confidence in knowing that you are at least somewhat in the loop. If you’ve bumped into a fellow skier, discussing snow conditions and ski hills is an easy topic. Look up a recent odd news story that is interesting and humorous, that way during a lull, you can say, ‘So, I was reading about a man who appeared before a Dutch court and requested that he legally be made 20 years younger.’ (Yes, that actually happened; if we see you at a holiday bash, we will fill you in.)

Most conversations remain on the surface which is appropriate when you don’t really know someone. However, if you feel comfortable and are enjoying the conversation don’t be afraid to go a bit bolder. Generally, most people like to talk about themselves, not necessarily for selfish reasons, but who doesn’t want to be known and appreciated? We all have unique personalities that are worth sharing.

Such questions that go beneath the surface may include, ‘What is your biggest fear?’ ‘When you were growing up, what was your dream job?’ ‘Have you been to any interesting places lately?’ ‘Have you learned anything this week, that you weren’t aware of last week?’

The easiest thing to do while in conversation this month is to ask how a person celebrates the holidays. Asking about traditions and the best holiday a person has ever had brings up fond memories and positive energy.

These questions tend to snowball naturally and voila a solid, meaningful conversation has been had and you could even make a new comrade along the way.

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you’re important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Blackstone Valley Tribune, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

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OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Figments of my imagination?

To the Editor:
What I believe. Feel free to disagree. It’s time to be revolutionary.

Have you ever taken a moment to consider whether something is just a figment of your imagination?

Is it a figment of my imagination that the voters of Virginia overwhelming rejected Terry McAuliffe (O’Brien the Incompetent and Calamity Harris) and the idea that parents should have no say in what teachers teach to their children? I must have imagined that voters, including 60 per cent of the Hispanic voters, voted overwhelming for the Republican candidate.

Is it a figment of my imagination that a Republican, black woman veteran won election to the position of Lt. Governor in Virginia and the left wing mob is calling her a puppet? Winsome Sears says: “Invite me on your TV show.” Is it a figment of my imagination that they never will because they are cowards?

Is it a figment of my imagination that two million illegal immigrants have illegally (but I repeat myself) crossed our southern border this year - in violation of U.S. law - and that the Biden mob have released them into all parts of the country without so much as a Covid vax? This number - reported by the government - must be a figment of the imagination of that pesky entertainment show, Fox News. Their drone film of thousands of illegal immigrants crossing the border must be purely for entertainment purposes. So amusing.

Are any other news networks providing factual entertainment? Oh, yes, that would MSNBC - banished from the courthouse in Kenosha, Wisc., for following jurors home. Do you think MSNBC ever heard of the law prohibiting juror intimidation in order to protect the sanctity of our legal system?

Is it a figment of my imagination that no rioters, looters, or assaulters of the police in 2020 have been charged and brought to trial? Kyle did not riot, loot or assault police. Prosecution’s own drone film proves it.

Is it a figment of my imagination that the National Educational Association (NEA) asserted that “it is likely that any teachers who have engaged in discussions about critical race theory will be the subject of teacher harassment by national conservative groups opposed to critical race theory.” It is also likely that

the NEA admitted that teachers discuss critical race theory. Or is it just my imagination?

Is it a figment of my imagination that the NEA vowed to “publicize an already-created, in-depth study that critiques white supremacy, anti-Blackness, anti-Indigeneity, racism, patriarchy, capitalism, and other forms of power and oppression.” The NEA thinks that “Capitalism” is a “form of oppression.” This is the very definition of a Marxist argument, but I must be imagining it, having studied Marxist theory for 3 years in college. It was very educational.

Is it a figment of my imagination that Nicole Solas, Warrior Queen Mom of North Kingstown, R.I., is being sued by the Teachers Union of Rhode Island because she filed Freedom of Information requests for the local elementary school curriculum and for any emails mentioning “race or whiteness as a social construct”?

Is it a figment of my imagination that - if there is nothing to hide - why sue? Why not just publish the critical race “practices” and gender curriculum in the newspaper? I dare them. I double dare them.

Honestly, I sincerely wish all of the above was a figment of my imagination and I could wake from this Biden the Incompetent nightmare.

Meanwhile, I stand with President John Adams who was politically incorrect and defended the British soldiers who fired on and killed Bostonians in March of 1770: “Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.”

There are some who wish to tear down America and criticize everything we have ever done, even our very foundations. I prefer to love America (warts and all) and expect the very best of her. We can do great things. We can repair the broken and weld the seams to withstand the worst storms. We can conquer evil. I prefer to work as if everything depended on me, and believe that everything depended on God. One nation, with liberty and justice for all. So revolutionary. Which team are you on? What say you?

Nevertheless, she persisted.

BEV GUDANOWSKI
UXBRIDGE

Common sense ‘trumps’ “Need for critical thinking in critical times”

To the Editor:

Like in the Kipling poem “If,” we should aspire to carry opposing thoughts to logical conclusion simultaneously, preferably in multi-paragraph format! Numerous statements in last week’s lengthy letter to the Editor do not ‘cancel’ points raised previously in another writer’s non-editorial letter. Neither is mutually exclusive; each should exist in the same mental universe. However, labels, such as “Marxist” and a litany of others, is beside the point. The bottom line debate is: how to describe accurately (!) the road down which certain policies, if continued or adopted, lead us as a country? Granted, efforts toward ‘liberty, equality and justice for all’ is still in progress, but ‘critical thinking’ is often nothing more than a buzz phrase to replace common sense which provides more reasonable answers to modern conundrums.

The electorate was promised an administration of ‘unity and transparency,’ but current polls, measuring average American concerns, tell a different tale. How to succeed at reconciling opposites is the jackpot question: economy/ inflation (gas, food, fuel), excessive spending/ future tax liability, human & drug trafficking/ border security, energy efficiency/clean air, law & order/defund the police, ‘racism’/ equal justice, education/CRT; the list goes on. Granted, these are complicated issues, but applying common sense surely will assist in arriving at sensible answers... eventually.

Furthermore, beyond today’s constant ‘name calling,’ it is most disturbing to hear/read words that deliberately skew reports of circumstances and conditions that are plainly opposite what is seen by those who engage common sense first with a requisite dose of ‘critical thinking’

second! What topics the media ‘cherry picks’ to cover; and what descriptive words are used subsequently, more often than not, pitch incorrect conclusions/ perceptions as ‘fact’ with little actual reference to ‘reality!’ For a moment, ponder this limited list of current events...

Recognize when recent high profile, polar-opposite jury verdicts truly indicate due process and equal justice under law still prevail. Recognize when a career criminal drives a car into innocent parade watchers, what is actually seen on a video tape is a conscious act of violence killing people, not merely a ‘crash’ or simple ‘accident.’ Recognize lawlessness plagues major cities, and when organized ‘lootings’ are not “isolated incidents” they actually cause critically-needed store closings in low-income neighborhoods. Recognize the ‘disconnect’ when towns burn yet protests are dubbed “mostly peaceful.” No ‘critical thinking’ required, because common sense provides honest answers as to who is hurt regardless of source... those with least ability to protect themselves and recover from resulting destruction. Equally, recognize when societal ‘trauma’ is wide-spread, if not stopped, everyone, everywhere suffers indirectly! But the plights described need not be permanent; with anger, hope and courage, change occurs.

With Thanksgiving over and Christmas approaching, be grateful for family, friends and the privilege of living in greatest country ever conceived by humankind. Let’s agree no ‘label’ supersedes “American.” Echoing last week’s Letter to Editor writer, “Does this make sense?”

JANE F. KEEGAN
UXBRIDGE

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

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

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

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

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

Change yourself to change your situation

POSITIVELY SPEAKING
TOBY MOORE

We’ve all experienced times when things were going well, we were moving towards a goal, and suddenly things began to sour. A new manager may be putting negative pressure on

you, and maybe a family member is constantly angry with you - no matter what you say or do, it’s wrong.

Situations like this are most challenging. It’s hard to move forward. We lose the spring in our step; we let our heads droop down, we wonder why everything has to be so bad. We go home at night, and we dread the next day. We wonder how it will be possible to make it through.

You say your prayers and beg for a change; you confide in your loved ones; They try to help, but nothing they say seems to make a difference.

The positive thoughts become few and far between. You try to be positive, but with a bad attitude, you think to yourself, “I just have to keep putting one foot in front of the other.”

The fact is, things don’t always go the way we plan. We plan for great things, and then not-so-great things can happen. We have great expectations, but sometimes those expectations are crushed.

When life becomes like this, it’s easy to get negative; It’s easy to get stuck; it’s easy to think things will always be like this.

I used to believe that when life gives you lemons, you should squirt your enemies in the eye, but is that the best way?

Years ago, I had a job where everything was running smoothly; it was all under control. Suddenly a new manager was hired, and life became very different. Initially, I was ok with the pressure, but it became too much. I couldn’t stand to be at work, and I was distraught. It was a good job, and I didn’t want to leave, but I didn’t feel like I could deal with it any longer. I prayed, and I read, seeking a solution. I tried to change my manager, but nothing seemed to work; I lost my cool.

After some time, I realized I wasn’t going to change the situation, nor was I going to change my manager, but instead, I was the one who needed changing.

Sometimes to overcome a problem, it isn’t about changing the other person; it’s about changing yourself. Often our reaction to what’s happening is the problem. We have a choice.

I’ve had family members get angry at me, and my reaction only made things worse. I’d try to show them the error of their ways, I’d complain to other family members, I’d think of ways to change them, but it never worked. The only time things became peaceful again was when I changed myself when I changed my reaction.

The other person may change, but it usually won’t happen according to our time frame. When you can’t change the situation, it might be because it’s time to change your attitude and feel about it.

They say everything in life is only for a season; is that true?

Oddly enough, when I finally adjusted my attitude and gave up trying to change my manager and the situation, when I accepted that I was the one that needed changing and I took steps to let go and become flexible, my manager was fired.

After reading that, I know some of you are going to change real fast! Don’t get your hopes up! Ha-ha!

When he was gone, I missed him. I realized how much he had changed me and what valuable life lessons I learned in the process.

Everything in life is only for a season; whatever you’re going through won’t last forever; soon, you’ll be in a new season with new challenges. Make the most of each season. Allow the season to change you; it will prepare you for the next season.

Gandhi said, “...as a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him....” Is that true?

Try it and see.



Courtesy

This week’s photo shows a deer with awesome antlers, taken in Massachusetts a few years ago, which was displayed in the Big – E sportsmen’s show. Amazing!

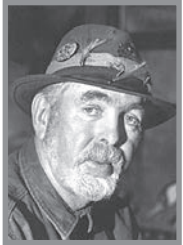
Massachusetts’ shotgun deer season opened under less-than-ideal conditions! The deer herd in Massachusetts is at an all-time high. All deer must be checked in at authorized deer station for

the first week only. When harvesting a deer, and it is processed by a butcher shop, or it is processed by an experienced meat cutter, it should provide hunters with plenty of venison for the freezer.

The Blackstone Valley has a huge population of deer today, but it was not always that way. Hundreds of deer hunters made the journey to Petersham and Hardwick, to mention a couple. Once you hit Worcester, it held a caravan of deer hunters heading to some of their favorite towns to hunt in the early morning hours. Most diners and breakfast shops along the way were packed with deer hunters. We were called flatlanders by the locals up there.

We all share the memories of the earlier days, but it is nice not to travel the sometimes two-hour journey to hunt deer: With gas prices soaring, a trip to the above-mentioned towns could cost many a tank of gas. Back in the day, gas was as low as 10 cents a gallon, and rose to a huge price of 25 cents in the ‘70’s and

‘80s. My favorite gas station was at the former Whitin Machine Works garage next to the fire station on Main street.



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If you are lucky enough to harvest a trophy buck, you need to take special care of the deer skin, if you are planning to have it mounted. If the taxidermist that you chose is extremely busy with other customers’ deer pelts, you may need to store it in your chest freezer until he has room for yours. Choosing the right taxidermist for the job is extremely important. Ask for references and work that he has done in the last few years.

Other questions to ask for is the final price, and how long it will take to get your mount back. You should get it in writing! In past years, some hunters ended up waiting a few years before receiving their finished mounts, and some actually ended up waiting even longer. Some were disgusted with the long wait sending it to another taxidermist, resulting in another year or two to have their deer mount finished. You need to do your homework. The cost to get a good job done for your trophy buck could cost upwards of \$500. Never ever pay the taxidermist in full until you receive your mount. You will need to pay a deposit at the time that you drop off

your deer head and pelt. Black bear season in the valley opened this past Monday, Nov. 29, and will run till Dec. 11. With all of the numerous bear sightings in the valley, many deer hunters have purchased a bear permit from the state at a cost of \$5. Mass. Fish & Wildlife has a new updated site to log onto, which started Dec. 1. You will also notice the hike in license fees and permits for next year: Most permits and stamps have increased from \$5 to \$10, and will automatically increase \$5 for the remaining four years.

Wallum Lake continues to provide some nice trout for shore line anglers, and those that have not put their boats away for the season. One local angler fished from his boat on Wallum Lake last week and caught a couple of 18-inch brown trout while trolling a shiner on one of his trout rigs. Anglers fishing from shore are also doing well, catching numerous rainbow trout. Ice fishing anglers are hopeful that there will be some good ice fishing this year, but you may need to go North if you want a good season. Global warming of planet earth has changed our lives forever, when it comes to outdoor activities in New England.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Baking Spices Review

With the holidays around the corner, the focus turns to homemade pies, cookies and other comfort food confections that conjure up fond holiday memories. One of the simple pleasures of churning out home baked goods this time of year is the unmistakable aroma of such spices as cinnamon, nutmeg and ginger. Thus, each year at this time I review an array of holiday spices that can benefit your health as well as your taste buds. Read on for some unconventional ways to spice up your life as well as a guide to storing spices.

Note: Do not ingest spices as home remedies without proper medical supervision. Life threatening allergies, overdoses, and side effects can occur.

Nutmeg: Often sprinkled in a holiday eggnog or added to a meat pie, the nutmeg spice jar does duty beyond the kitchen cupboard, from clearing a complexion to promoting sweet slumber.

According to the Encyclopedia of Healing Foods, a little nutmeg added to a glass of warm milk can lull you off to sleep in record time.

Nutmeg has also been hailed for its anti inflammatory properties, which makes it a powerful weapon in battling blemishes. To zap a zit, make a paste of ground nutmeg and milk, and apply to pimple to reduce redness and swelling.

Cinnamon: Move over cinnamon toast and apple pie, the spice has a higher calling. Ever since a study published in the journal Diabetes Care found half a teaspoon of cinnamon daily could be helpful in reducing blood sugar levels in people with type 2 diabetes, cinnamon has been touted as an additional dietary supplement along with conventional medications to fight the disease.

The study also revealed the spice reduced triglyceride, LDL cholesterol, and total cholesterol levels among the same test group.

Want more? Research from Copenhagen University showed a significant relief in arthritis pain when patients were given half a teaspoon of cinnamon powder combined with one tablespoon of honey every morning for a week.

And another study found that the mere act of smelling the spice can boosts cognitive function and memory!

Cinnamon FYI: Microbiologists at Kansas State University found that adding small amounts of cinnamon to samples of apple juice contaminated with E. coli bug killed most of the bacteria. Just one teaspoon of cinnamon killed 99.5 percent of the bacteria after three days at room temperature.

Ginger: Ginger bread and ginger snaps are familiar holiday treats, but did you know ginger has long been hailed for its power to tame a tummy ache? It’s

also a well known home remedy to treat motion and sea sickness. In fact, in one study, ginger was shown to be superior to a commonly used over-the-counter and prescription drug for motion sickness, reducing dizziness, nausea, vomiting, and cold sweats.

It’s also claimed that ginger can aid in relieving arthritis and sciatica pain.

A simple Ginger tea is made by steeping one or two half inch slices of fresh ginger in a cup of hot water. Or add 1/8 teaspoon ground ginger powder too three cups of boiling water and let steep for a few minutes.

Or, some people simply eat several pieces of crystallized ginger to help relieve joint and nerve pain.

Allspice: Christmas pudding, mincemeat and pumpkin pies all benefit from the addition of allspice, but did you know your health can too?

Allspice is famous for its ability to relieve muscle aches and pains when applied topically. To make an allspice poultice, mix ground allspice with water to form a thick paste. Apply it to the body, cover with gauze and relax for 15 to 20 minutes.

Sipping tea made from the spice can also be helpful in relieving menstrual cramps and headaches.

Allspice berries can also be used to temporarily relieve toothache pain. Simply chew one allspice berry for quick relief.

More kitchen cupboard Rx: Soothe a Sore Throat: To relieve a sore throat, squeeze one half fresh lemon into one half cup warm water. Mix one tablespoon of salt and one quarter teaspoon of cayenne pepper. Gargle with the mixture three times per day until pain is relieved. Do not swallow this mixture. This remedy, attributed to Dr. Jane Guiltinan, chief medical officer at John Bastyr University Natural Health Clinic in Seattle, is said to also relieve coughs and fight viral infections.

Time to Cure Cough: Did you know Thyme may help reduce coughing due to a cold? Make up thyme tea by adding a teaspoon of crushed thyme to one half cup of boiling water. Allow to steep for ten minutes, then strain and sip. As a bonus studies suggest that thyme can help maintain brain function and promote heart health.

Halt a Headache: Cayenne pepper is a proven pain reliever, especially for headaches. It is said cayenne dilates blood vessels to improve circulation. Before you reach for a pain killer, you might want to try this: Mix one half teaspoon cayenne pepper in six ounces of water and drink slowly.

Cut Congestion: For generations, cay-

enne has been used as a remedy to clear a head cold and relieve congestion and sinus pain. All it takes is a dash or two of cayenne powder in a cup of hot tea (preferably with honey and lemon) to do the trick!

All of us likely have some aging spices in the back of the pantry shelf. To use or not to use, that is the question! For some specific guidance on when spices expire, here is a round-up of expiration dates of common spices, courtesy of wideopeneats.com:

Allspice: Ground and dried allspice lasts about two to three years.

Basil: Fresh basil lasts about five to seven days, while ground and dried lasts about two to three years.

Bay leaves: Fresh bay leaves last about five to seven days, while ground and dried bay leaves last about two to three years.

Black pepper: Ground and dried black pepper last for about two to three years, while whole peppercorns last about five to six years.

Cayenne pepper: Fresh cayenne lasts about five to seven days, while ground cayenne pepper lasts about two to three years. Like paprika, cayenne pepper will last longer in the refrigerator, though it’s not required.

Chili powder: Ground chili powder lasts about two to three years.

Cilantro: Fresh cilantro lasts about five to seven days, while ground and dried lasts about two to three years.

Cinnamon: Ground and dried cinnamon last about two to three years.

Cloves: Fresh cloves last about five to seven days, while ground and dried cloves last for two to three years. Whole cloves last four to five years.

Coriander: Ground and dried coriander lasts for two to three years.

Cream of Tartar: Ground and dried cream of tartar last about two to three years.

Cumin: Ground cumin lasts about two to three years.

Dill: Fresh dill lasts about five to seven days, while ground dill lasts about two to three years.

Garlic: Fresh garlic lasts for four to six months, while ground and dried garlic each last about two to three years.

Italian Seasoning: Ground and dried Italian Seasoning lasts for about two to three years.

Jalapeños: Fresh jalapeños last for about five to seven days, while ground and dried will last about two to three years.

Mint: Fresh mint lasts about seven to 10 days, while ground and dried mint last for about one to three years.

Mustard: Fresh mustard, not the condiment, lasts for about five to seven days. Ground and dried mustard, on the other hand, lasts for about two to three years.

Nutmeg: Ground and dried nutmeg



TAKE
THE
HINT
KAREN
TRAINOR

last for about two to three years.

Onions: Fresh onions last for about five to seven days, while

dried and ground onion powder lasts for about two to three years.

Oregano: Fresh oregano lasts about five to seven days, while ground and dried oregano last about two to three years.

Paprika: Dried and ground paprika last about two to three years.

Parsley: Fresh parsley will last about five to seven days, while ground and dried will last about two to three years.

Pumpkin Pie Spice: Ground pumpkin pie spice will last about two to three years.

Rosemary: Fresh rosemary will last about 10 to 14 days in the refrigerator; while dried and ground rosemary will last about one to three years.

Sage: Fresh sage will keep about 10 to 14 days in the refrigerator, while dried sage leaves will last about one to three years. Ground sage will last about three to four years.

Salt: Table salt keeps indefinitely, just like kosher salt and sea salt.

Steak Seasoning: Bottled or bulk steak seasoning will last about one to two years.

Taco Seasoning: Packets of taco seasoning will last about two to three years.

Thyme: Fresh thyme will last about 10 to 14 days in the refrigerator, while ground and dried thyme will last about three to four years.

Turmeric: Ground turmeric will last about three to four years.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House – Contest has resumed!

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

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



model railroad, die-cast cars and models auction which go live this month. We are also currently accepting consignments of higher value antiques and collectibles for our next multi-estate auction. Sterling silver; gold jewelry; coins, antique paintings, old comic books, baseball cards and advertising items are just some of the items we are accepting on consignment for that sale.

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

Latest antique and collectibles news

I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving and is enjoying the start of the holiday season. There have been many antiques, collectibles and auction related news reports since my last recap over a month ago, so it’s time to get caught up.

In local news, our recent Webster auction of Corvettes, boats, car parts and estate items was very successful. A 1962 Corvette brought the highest amount at \$30,000.

In global news, Reuters reports that a rare manuscript by Albert Einstein recently sold at auction. The 54-page manual was written by Einstein and Swiss physicist Michele Besso, who was Einstein’s close friend and academic partner. According to Reuters, the manuscript offered insights on Einstein’s theory of relativity “that laid the groundwork for modern cos-



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

mology and technology such as GPS navigation.” The document was created by the pair between 1913 and 1914 and Einstein’s theory of relativity was published in 1915. Documents by Einstein from before 1919 are considered very rare. The pre-auction estimate was 2 to 3 million euros. It sold for 11.7 million euros (\$13.17 million U.S.).

Elsewhere, the holidays just got a little brighter for a fan of the movie “Elf.” The outfit Will Ferrell wore while playing Buddy the Elf just sold at an auction along with over 1,000 additional pieces of Hollywood memorabilia. The Buddy costume had an auction estimate of

between \$27,600 and \$41,000. An unidentified buyer paid almost ten times that estimate when it sold for nearly \$300,000. The volleyball from the Tom Hanks movie “Cast Away” sold for even more at \$388,750.

MILLBURY SENIOR CENTER

SENIOR CENTER HOLIDAY PARTY
Tuesday, December 14th at 11 – 1 P.M.
We will have an ugly sweater contest, along with games and prizes!!
Enjoy live music!
Lunch will be served meatloaf, gravy, mashed potatoes with carrots
Call the center to RSVP by December 9th 508-865-9154

SENIOR WORK – OFF PROGRAM
For Eligible seniors, 60 or older that are residents of Millbury
Receive up to \$1,500 per year that can be used to pay real estate property tax
In return for voluntary

service at a town department
For more information or to pick up an application please call the center at 508-865-9154

MILLBURY SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES!!
LIGHT EXERCISE CLASSES
Mondays and Fridays 9:30 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.
WII BOWLING
Mondays at 12:30 P.M.
MAHJONG
Mondays at 12:45 P.M.
TAI CHI
Tuesdays 9:30 - 10:30 A.M. (class is \$3)
BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC
Every Tuesday from 9 A.M. - 10 A.M.

SOCIAL BINGO
Wednesdays at 1 P.M.
Bring your pennies!
DULL MENS CLUB
Thursdays at 10 – 11 A.M

No reservations required for any of our activities! If you would like Lunch ahead of time a 48 hour reservation is required call the center at 508-865-9154
Lunches are served Monday through Friday 12 P.M. at the Senior Center
The menu is available on the town website, www.townofmillbury.org
Or our Millbury Senior

Center Facebook page.
A 48 hour reservation is required.
Millbury Senior Center Transportation
Transportation is provided for Millbury Senior Residents
Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.
We travel one town out in each direction including Sutton, Grafton, Auburn and Worcester
A 48 hour notice is required for scheduling rides (business days)
Rides are free until January 1st
For more information or to schedule transportation call the center at 508-865-9154

“MEMORY CAFÉ”
Please join us on December 21st 2- 3:30 P.M.
We will be decorating Holiday Ornaments!
A Memory Café is a monthly gathering for people with memory loss/challenges and their care partners.
It is a time to socialize, make new friends, and have a good time.
refreshments will be served!
We are also looking for volunteers to assist with this program!
Our Outreach worker, Julie Fitzgerald, is happy to answer any questions, call to RSVP 508-865-9154!

Millbury Friendly Visitor Program
Our Friendly Visitor Program is now being provided by telephone
Volunteers call clients to check in with them, chat and hear a friendly voice
For more information on coordinating a Friendly visitor
Call the center at 508-865-9154

SNAP APPLICATIONS (Food Stamps)
Our appointments are on Tuesdays & Thursdays 10 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Call for an appointment & required documentation
508-865-9154
“This project has been funded at least in part with Federal Funds from USDA.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider
The SNAP Logo is a service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
USDA does not endorse any goods, services or enterprises.”



THESE INDIVIDUALS HELP BUSINESSES AND PEOPLE WITH FINANCIAL MATTERS AND MAKE SURE ACCOUNTS ARE IN GOOD STANDING.

ANSWER: CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Math Blocks
Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	6	7	14
2		8	15
3	4		16
6	15	24	

9	4	3
8	5	2
7	6	1

Solution

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

N F A I L N A C I N P R A L E N

ANSWER: Financial planner

THIS DAY IN...

HISTORY

- **1818:** ILLINOIS BECOMES THE 21ST STATE IN THE UNITED STATES.
- **1910:** MODERN NEON LIGHTING IS FIRST DEMONSTRATED IN PARIS.
- **1967:** DR. CHRISTIAAN BARNARD PERFORMS THE WORLD'S FIRST SUCCESSFUL HUMAN HEART TRANSPLANT.

CALCULATE

determine the amount of something

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Finance

SPANISH: Finanzas

ITALIAN: Finanza

FRENCH: Finance

GERMAN: Finanzen

Did You Know?

A DEGREE IN BUSINESS CAN LEAD TO CAREERS IN FINANCE, MARKETING, OPERATIONS, MANAGEMENT, AND ACCOUNTING.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CREDIT CARD MACHINE

⓪ * ✎ ☺ ♣ ~ ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨ ✖ ✚ ✛ ✜ ✝ ✞ ✟ ✠ ✡ ☾ ☿ ♂ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♀

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

☺ ☾ ☿ ✖ ☿ ✛ ✚ ✛ ✜ ✝ ✞ ✟ ✠ ✡

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to being spiritual.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 25 = I)

A. 2 26 25 8 25 15 11 21 13
Clue: Relating to the human spirit

B. 24 16 13 25 16 19 2
Clue: Things one accepts as true

C. 15 17 25 4 14 25 4 12
Clue: Using rational judgement

D. 15 5 12 16 15 17 16 8
Clue: In proximity to another

Answers: A. spiritual B. beliefs C. thinking D. together

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Break out of the same monotonous routine and find an exciting new job.

See the classifieds today!

OBITUARIES

Thomas R. O'Brien, 90



Whitinsville - Thomas R. O'Brien, 90, died peacefully at home on Sat. Nov. 27, 2021.

Tom was born Feb. 20, 1931 to Genevieve (McCann) and James O'Brien, of Worcester. He graduated from St. John's High School and Worcester State University, where he also received a graduate degree. He was an Army veteran.

Tom taught in the Worcester Public Schools for 36 years, retiring from the position of Mathematics Department Head at North High School. He enjoyed his membership in the Worcester Men of Song for over 65 years, where he sang in quartets, including The Razor Sharps and The Mello-Deans. He and his family enjoyed a vacation home at Priscilla Beach, Plymouth. His retirement included many travel destinations in various countries. He traveled with family and friends and developed friendships with lads in his favorite destinations, Ireland, England and Mexico. He also enjoyed Christmas vacations

in the Bahamas with family. Tom held memberships in professional and social organizations and served on the Northbridge Finance Committee for many years.

He leaves his wife of 60 years, Ann Mulligan O'Brien, their daughter Erin Anderson and husband Mark, their son Timothy O'Brien and wife Andrea. He leaves 3 granddaughters, Katie, Julia, and Emily O'Brien as well as his brother James O'Brien of Florida. His sister Mary predeceased him. In addition, he leaves 4 nieces and 2 nephews in his O'Brien family. He also leaves the many members of his Mulligan family. He will be missed.

Jackman Funeral Home, 12 Spring St., Whitinsville assisted the family with private funeral and burial arrangements. Inurnment was in Saint Patrick's Cemetery, Whitinsville. To leave a condolence message for his family please visit: <http://www.Jackmanfuneralhomes.com>



Philip James Saviano, 69



DOUGLAS - Philip James Saviano, 69, died peacefully on Sunday, November 28, 2021. Born in Douglas on June 23, 1952, he was the son of Pasquale and Mary (Bombara) Saviano. He most recently resided in Roslindale for many years. He leaves three brothers; James and his wife Cynthia of Douglas, John of Douglas and Victor of Dorchester; and four nieces and nephews.

He was educated in Douglas schools, earned a bachelor's degree in zoology at University of Massachusetts Amherst and a master's degree in communications at Boston University. His first employment was in health care as Assistant Director of Public Relations at Faulkner Hospital, and he was promoted to Director after his second year. He left Faulkner Hospital in 1984 after five years and started his own concert promotion business under the name Special Delivery Productions. His concerts included many with Judy Collins as well as concerts with Ella Fitzgerald (her last concert), Diane Carroll, Barbara Cook, Laura Nyro and others.

Phil suffered abuse by his parish Catholic priest while very young, and learned years later that his abuser had been moved from parish to parish and continued to abuse young children. He felt he had a moral obligation to put an end to this cycle of abuse and began to focus his energy on bringing accountability to the Catholic church. In 1997 he formalized his outreach to other survivors by establishing the first New England chapter of Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests (SNAP). As he gained further recognition, he was called upon for speaking engagements and consulting throughout the world to advise how to combat this issue. He served on the Board of Directors of the SNAP national organization for two terms and with the SNAP team took allegations that Vatican officials were committing crimes against humanity to the International Criminal Court in The Hague. He did several years of research and documented in great detail the abuse by several dozen priests. In August of 2001, Phil brought

his work to the Boston Globe Spotlight team and over a four-hour presentation gave what was described by one of the reporters as "a graduate-level seminar on the issue of Catholic clergy abuse". That meeting, and conferring with Globe reporters for months thereafter, resulted in the explosive Spotlight team's investigation and reporting of systemic pedophilia within the Catholic Church. Phil received much credit for his work and influence, and his role was a key portrayal in the 2015 Academy Award winning film "Spotlight". He was invited to the Academy Award ceremonies and appeared on stage with other members of the movie team celebrating their success.

Many people around the world have relied on Phil's compassion and advice as they wrestle with their own experience of abuse. He is recognized for his ability to help others who have been abused discover a path to understand that they were victims, discard any semblance of self-guilt, and move on to a more fulfilling life. Phil was a voice of reason in the midst of denials and a champion seeking to prevent further abuse of children. One of Phil's heroes was Jan Hus, a 15th century priest who was burned at the stake for speaking out about church corruption. The hundred-year-old monument dedicated to Jan Hus in Prague's Old town Square is inscribed "Pravda Vit zi". It translates to "Truth Prevails", a task to which Phil committed much of his life with profound results.

A wake was held at Mann and Rodgers Funeral Home, 44 Perkins Street, Jamaica Plains on Wednesday, December 1st from 4PM to 8PM, and again at Jackman Funeral Home, 7 Mechanic Street, Douglas on Thursday, Dec. 2nd from 4PM to 8PM. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Friday, Dec. 3rd at 10 AM in St Denis Church, 23 Manchaug Road, Douglas, MA 01516. Phil will then be laid to rest at St. Denis Cemetery in Douglas. The family asks that those attending services please wear masks. Flowers are welcome, however if you would rather, please make a donation to BishopAccountability.org. To leave a condolence message for the family, please visit jackmanfuneralhomes.com.

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

UXBRIDGE — Our Lady of the Valley Regional School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year:

- High Honors
- Grade 8: Emma Hurley, Abigail Kay, Caitlin Kelly, Isabella McLaughlin, Gisel Morrisette, Grady O'Neil, Eabha Twohig
- Grade 7: Troy Hafers, Allison Horrigan, Sylvia Lemire, Diana Pacheco, Elena Pacheco, Emmanuel Ramla
- Grade 6: Rebecca Daly, Savannah Hendricks, Isabella Kay, Julianna Kay, Isabella Lima, Addisyn McCrohan, Cormac O'Neil, Katelyn Siciliano
- Grade 5: Mikayla Elhosri, Zachary Hafers, Reese Hendricks, Teddy Pino, Gavin Pinterich, Thomas Rosborough
- Grade 4: Matthew Auger, Anthony Baldwin, Charlee Bellefeuille, Kathryn Britt, Nolan Calnan, Allison Creighton, Ethan Cwiakala, Zephaniah Fritz, Andrew Gebarowski, Emma Wickstrom
- Honors
- Grade 8: Greta Colonero, Veronica Jordan, Kennedy McGrath, Krish Patel, Karley Petion, Sophie Rivard, Anthony Santangelo
- Grade 7: Trinity Cheshier, Parker DaCosta, Nicholas Gebarowski, Natalie Johnson, Nolan Pinchuck, Cameron Vaidya, Jacob Vaidya
- Grade 6: Julia Colonero, Alexis Devaney, Benjamin Devaney, Adrianna Goncalves, Thomas Krause, Ishani Patel, Anna Pena, Lile Twohig, Lillian Wickstrom
- Grade 5: Dylan Gallagher, Madeline Hurley, Emily Johnson, Laura Jordao, Albert Lucchetti, Leo Pino, Allison Seitz, Eleanor Susienka
- Grade 4: Cameron Berger, Peter Colonero, Gavin Chapman, William Horrigan, Aimee Talbot, Emelia Tibbo, Molly Till, Nathan Weed

Great homemade food gifts



- life, so be sure to present them promptly before they get stale.
- Pancakes (or cookies) in a jar: If you have a fantastic recipe that you can't resist sharing, try turning it into a gift. Measure and package the ingredients into mason jars, tie with ribbons and include directions for preparation and cooking.
 - Mini bundt cakes: Fruit cakes may be a holiday standard, but bundt cakes make for great and traditional offerings as well. Miniature bundts filled with chocolate chips, dried fruits or even those soaked in a favorite boozy-butter glaze can be moist and delicious.
 - Chocolate barks or fudges: Seasonal flavors can come to life in chocolate treats. White chocolate filled with peppermint pieces or dark chocolate and cherry chunks are tasty pairings. Break apart portions of the bark or cut the fudge with cookie cutters and gift inside cello bags tied with ribbons or in cardboard candy boxes.
 - Cocktail syrups: Create spicy or sweet syrups that are tailor-made for enhancing cocktails. Anyone on your gift list can then become a master mixologist.
 - Shortbread cookie ornaments: Circular shortbread cookies can be decorated with royal icing to look like Christmas ornaments. They can be eaten or even placed on trees to complete holiday decor.
 - Festive cookie pops: Cookie pops can be made by mixing homemade or pre-purchased crumbled cake with frosting or softened cream cheese and formed into balls. Insert a lollipop stick and dip the balls into melted chocolate or candy melts. Sprinkles, nonpareils or luster dust can be used to enhance the covered pops.
- Food gifts are perfect for the holiday season. Handmade treats from the heart show loved ones how just much you care.

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

BUMA
FUNERAL HOMES
Uxbridge • Whitinsville • Milford
www.bumafuneralhome.com

LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO21P3040GD
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment of
Guardian of a Minor
In the interests of
Rosalie Katelyn Glode
of Uxbridge, MA
Minor**

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **09/10/2021** by **Katelyn E Glode** of Uxbridge, MA will be held **12/14/2021 09:00 AM Guardianship of a Minor Hearing** Located **225 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608**

2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

- File the original with the Court; and
- Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before

the hearing.

3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.

Date: November 23, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
December 3, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO21P3787EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Marilyn A. Schonning
Date of Death: 10/10/2021**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Jon Schonning of Cambridge MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Jon Schonning of Cambridge MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and

objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/21/2021**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 16, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
December 3, 2021



REAL ESTATE



**Jules
Lusignan**



**T.A.
King**



**Maureen
Cimoch**



**Ellen
Therrien**



**John
Kokocinski**



**Adrienne
James**



SMART MLS

www.LakeRealty.net • www.WebsterLake.net

111 East Main Street, Webster, Massachusetts 508-943-9306 508-987-0767 1-800-552-7444
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Seasons Greetings - Happy Holidays



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WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.



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WEBSTER - 10 THOMPSON RD



2 FAMILY! LOCATION, LOCATION! OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THIS A SOLID INVESTMENT. A GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! PRIME WEBSTER BUSINESS DISTRICT! A LARGE, DEEP LOT, 14,875 SF/0.34 ACRE. 9 Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, FHW/OIL. Garage! Lot is currently private with a mature tree line in the rear. Property serviced by Municipal Water & Sewer, Natural Gas line in Basement. A QUICK CLOSE IS POSSIBLE. **\$195,000**

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THOMPSON CT - 15 WAGER RD



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WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.



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Webster Lake - 300 Killdeer Island. OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! WEBSTER LAKE waterfront property on Killdeer Circle! Prime waterfront location! Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear, sandy bottomed shoreline. Everyday is a new day at the Lake! 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walk out lower level to nice size patio! Garage. **\$650,000.**

WEBSTER - 1402 TREASURE ISLAND CONDO



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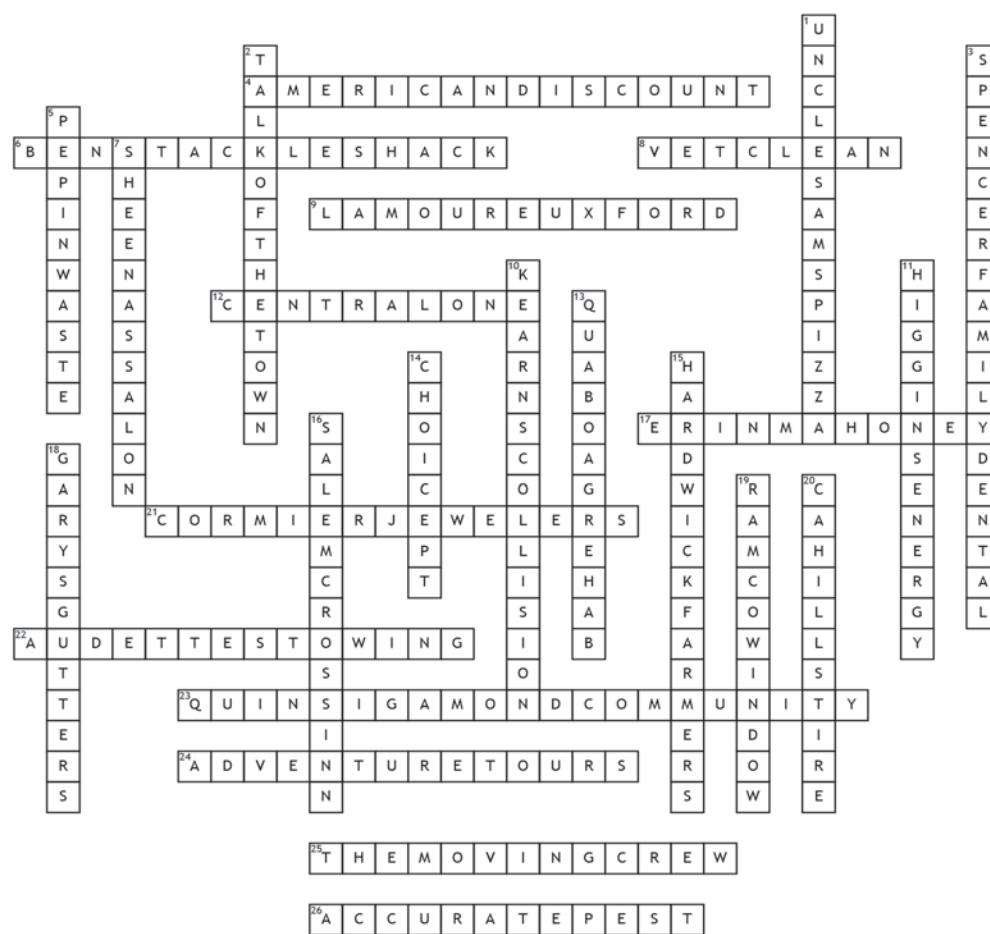


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Thank you to all the ABC businesses and to those who completed our puzzle!

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BEAVERS

continued from page A1

Howe, another senior, racked up 185 rushing yards on 16 carries. He added a pair of rushing touchdowns and was the recipient of a hook-and-ladder passing touchdown nearing halftime.

Senior Miles Guertin booted two extra points and freshman Braydin Levesque added a PAT of his own. Furno, who was named the Defensive Player of the Game, scored on a two-point conversion rush.

“The defense made me look good,” said Furno. “They filled their gaps, they did everything they were supposed to, and I just came through and made some plays.”

The Beavers endured a 4-2 regular season record — missing two games because of COVID-19 issues — and then played in the Division 6 State Tournament. Valley Tech won their Round of 16 game (versus Oakmont Regional, 41-6) and their Round of 8 contest (versus Stoneham High, 28-14) before falling short in the Semifinals versus Rockland High, 20-17. The Beavers finished 7-3 following the win at Fenway.

“It was a good win. It’s great for our rivalry and our program. With our fields being 100 yards apart from each other, it’s great to play at a different venue. I’m just so happy that the kids got to go out at a place like this,” said Landini. “There’s 90 percent of the coaches in Massachusetts that are going to say they’re disappointed because they’re not at a state championship, and that’s

the ultimate goal, but this is a damn close second for sure.”

Valley Tech opened the scoring on its second possession. Mateo ran up the middle, weaving through Warrior defenders, on his way to a 40-yard score. The Beavers upped the lead to 14-0 in the second quarter when Mateo scampered into the end zone from 3 yards out.

The offense scored again, and quickly, when Guertin’s pooch kick was recovered by Valley Tech senior Benjamin Laverdiere. Mateo eventually scored his third touchdown, this one from 7 yards.

“Our offensive front has been good all year. We had a couple of good backs in Josh and Trey, and they had good games. We had to ride their backs,” said Landini.

The Beavers made it a 28-0 game just before halftime when freshman quarterback Alexander Burgos (5 of 11, 95 yards, TD, INT) tossed a short pass to senior Evan Laughlin. From there, Laughlin pitched the ball to an incoming Howe, who found pay dirt.

Howe scored on touchdown runs of 5 and 60 yards in the second half, which were sandwiched around a 1-yard rushing TD by senior Logan Hampson.

Nipmuc, which finished its season 3-8, had senior quarterback Oscar Clark figure in on all three of the Warriors’ touchdowns. He first rushed one in from 69 yards, then found Ben Studley on a 17-yard pass before connecting with senior Jason Ramsey on another 17-yard throw on the game’s final play. Clark was 11 of 22 passing for 86 yards and also rushed for 137 yards.



Trey Howe of Blackstone Valley Tech emerges from the pile of linemen and bursts off a big gain.

LIBRARY

continued from page A1

expansions, according to project information.

At the May 2017 Town Meeting, residents also voted to accept the preliminary building design, which includes meeting rooms, quiet study rooms, a teen space, a children’s program room, a quiet reading room, and ample parking.

Voters approved raising and appropriating matching funding, moving the question to ballot for the May Election. The library funding question passed on May 16, 2017, and in July 2017, the town of Grafton was awarded a provisional grant by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners to cover 51 percent of the estimated eligible costs, according to project details.

Now, the project is nearing completion. In

November, the library released in a statement that its construction team continued to make progress on ADA compliance and punch list items. Subcontractors had worked on the staircase, shower, replacement of historic windows, and repositioning toilet accessories.

Furniture installers were on site to continue putting together remaining items after a shelving shipment arrived, according to the library, and the tree leaves in the Children’s Room were being installed, along with the ordered wall manipulatives.

“The Director met with the Board of Library Trustees, construction team, Friends of the Library, Historic District Commission and various vendors and partners,” the library released, adding that a list of outstanding tasks are being completed, such as updating the Emergency

Evacuation Plan to reflect the renovated building and step-by-step instructions for the alarm system.

Computers are now available for children, teens, and adults, a library statement added.

“Additional laptops are still being set up. Printing may not be available. Faxing is not available. Advance reservations are not accepted,” the statement continued.

There is a 30-minute time limit for computers when others are waiting. In other news, the library’s meeting room bookings are now live as well. According to a library report, two-seat tutor rooms, as well as a four-seat group study room, a 10-seat conference room, and the community room are available. Visit graffonlibrary.org/reserve/meeting for more information and to request a space.

FUNDS

continued from page A1

reinvest the funds in their recycling programs for things such as new recycling bins or carts, public education and outreach campaigns, collection of hard-to-recycle items, and the establishment of recycling programs in schools, municipal buildings, and other public spaces, according to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

“Communities across the Commonwealth are committed to recycling as a way to protect our environment and the public health,” said Gov. Charlie Baker. “Funding from the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program will aid municipalities’ efforts to implement innovative programs and policies proven to maximize materials’

reuse, recycling, and waste reduction.”

In 2014, the RDP was rolled out under MassDEP’s Sustainable Recovery Program, which was created by the Green Communities Act of 2008. The Act requires that the proceeds from the sales of Waste Energy Certificates be directed to recycling programs approved by MassDEP.

“Recycling programs play a vital role in limiting our dependence on landfills and incinerators, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and supporting economic activity across the Commonwealth,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. “These grants will support expanded recycling and waste reduction efforts and help local communities build a more sustainable future.”

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Northbridge's Ryan Boyce employs a stiff-arm maneuver while moving the ball down the field.



RAMS

continued from page A1

scoring from a yard out, and Khalil Torku making his extra point try — but it left just enough time on the clock for Northbridge to take a lead into halftime.

On the final play of the first half, Rams' quarterback Ryan Boyce scrambled until he found an opening. He then launched a 25-yard touchdown pass to Rory Schofer, as Northbridge went ahead 14-7.

The Rams then added second half rushing touchdowns from the feet of Boyce and Falconer to surge ahead, 28-7. Although the Spartans scored once more, it wasn't enough to mount a comeback, and Northbridge's 22 seniors ended their careers in winning fashion.

At left: Kellen LaChapelle of Uxbridge evades Northbridge defender Zach Savage.

Music at Grafton celebrates the holidays

GRAFTON — The talented musicians from the Grafton Unitarian Universalist Church will add holiday joy to this year's Grafton Celebrates the Holidays event on the common.

The Three Kings of Swing will be performing live holiday jazz numbers on the Gazebo from 2 - 4 p.m. (weather permitting). And, music videos will be running in front of the church during the entire event.

The church's music department has gained national recognition during the pandemic with creative, artistic music videos that have been used in church services in other parts of the country.

The church will also set up a crafting table for children on the common. And, apple cider and holiday treats will be available at the historic meeting house.

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