

# CAC recipient of generous gift

**BY GREG VINE**  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

On Tuesday of this week, Lori Ruscito, who — along with her husband Joe — is the owner/operator of the Winchendon McDonald's, and restaurant general manager Ann Vaillancourt, stopped by the Winchendon Community Action Committee to hand office manager Jennifer Sibley a check for \$500. With a big smile, Ruscito said the money was raised via the restaurant's "first annual French fry drive."

"We brainstormed what we could do to help the CAC," said Ruscito. "Jenn was going to local businesses to try to get the business community more involved in raising awareness of the CAC and its mission, and we thought, 'What can we do to create more awareness?'"

October was large-fry month, so we gave 10¢ from every large fry sold to the CAC."

Sibley said McDonald's involvement is part of an embryonic effort to organize a much larger fundraising and

awareness campaign.

"I would like to get every larger business in town taking part in a monthly fundraiser," she said. "For instance, Cumberland Farms does the fountain drink; they'll be doing that in January and February. If we could get, say, Subway, Dunkin Donuts, everyone just doing a little something every month it would really do a heck of a lot to support the CAC."

"From the large French fries," said Ruscito, "we raised \$388, but then we kicked in a little bit more, so it's a \$500 donation."

Sibley said the monies will be used to support the organization's efforts to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to Winchendon families and individuals who may find themselves between a financial rock and a hard place. Funds will also be used to secure gifts for local children.

"At this time, we're dealing with the holidays," Sibley said. "We have so many people

signed up; triple what we had last year. We need to get food and gifts, and the Christmas party will be held again this year."

In addition to the Winchendon eatery, Ruscito and her husband also own McDonald's restaurants in Westborough, and Jaffrey.

"We give back to all the communities we're in," she said. "Here in Winchendon we work with groups like the Cub Scouts and the Boy Scouts, the fire department, Little League. We do fundraisers for Memorial (Elementary) School, where teachers come in and work a few hours at the restaurant. We also help out with the senior center."

The Ruscitos are residents of Hubbardston, while Vaillancourt said proudly, "I live right here in Winchendon."

When asked how many people are currently employed at the Winchendon McDonald's, Ruscito responded: "Not enough."

"Right now, I'm at 44," inter-



Greg Vine photo

Winchendon Community Action Committee Office Manager Jennifer Sibley (center) accepts a check for \$500 from Winchendon McDonald's General Manager Ann Vaillancourt. At left is Lori Ruscito, owner/operator of the Winchendon McDonald's.

jected Vaillancourt. "Honestly, I could use 11 more. And we really try to hire from within the community."

In addition to Tuesday's donation from McDonald's, Sibley said the CAC recently became the beneficiary of a

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# IUC to push on through winter

**BY GREG VINE**  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The Ingleside Utilization Committee has been busy since spring laying out trails, installing picnic tables, and clearing brush from around the house and barn that occupy the newly-named Winchendon Community Park off Maple Street. The committee has taken the word "utilization" in its name very seriously and has also begun exploring ways in which residents of Winchendon and surrounding communities might be able to use the 43-acre parcel for both passive and active recreation.

That effort will continue during the winter.

IUC Chairman David Romanowski and committee member Jane LaPointe said recently the panel will use the coming months to continue to set priorities, develop goals, and formulate plans for the park for 2019. They said the panel wants to develop a supporting structure and guidelines to allow IUC members and community volunteers to "take timely action on agreed upon priorities." The effort is meant to build upon the momentum generated in recent months.

"Over the past summer," said Romanowski, "new members have joined the IUC and interested volunteers have shown up at community workdays at the park, as well as at committee meetings. People became more interested in participating as they were able to see that trail work had improved access to the Winchendon Community Park. It got them interested — got people

Turn To **IUC**, page **A3**

# WHA keeps busy during winter



Greg Vine photos

The new gazebo at the Winchendon Housing Authority's Hyde Park Drive housing complex is nearly complete. The structure was built using a \$10,000 grant from Power Options, an energy-buying consortium for nonprofits and government agencies in the Commonwealth. A nearly identical gazebo, also funded by Power Options, was dedicated at the Ipswich Drive complex last year.

**BY GREG VINE**  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Winter may nearly be upon us, but that doesn't mean the administrators, office workers, and maintenance crew of the Winchendon Housing Authority will be going into any kind of work force hibernation for the next four or five months.

"In the coming weeks, we're going to be getting underway with plans to re-do the kitchens and bathrooms at Hyde Park," said WHA Executive Director Dave Connor. "It's phase two of, right now, an 18-phase project. We're doing four kitchens and bathrooms. It's a perfect project to do during the winter months. We're actually getting ready to go out to bid in the next couple of weeks. So, we'll have bids in just before the holiday — before Christmas — and then we'll look to award right after the New Year."

Connor said work should be completed sometime during the month of March.

"It's going to take about a month to do the work," he said. "So, what we do is, we move the tenants out — but it takes about six to eight weeks to get the material delivered on site. So, we'll relocate the tenants to four vacant units we have at Hyde Park now. The work will be completed and then they'll get moved back. Instead of paying the cost of putting them up in a hotel

Turn To **WHA**, page **A7**

# Gobi ready to serve once more

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — Senator Anne Gobi staved off a challenge from Republican Steven Hall last week to earn re-election to her third term.

Gobi once again successfully held the Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex District, capturing 55 percent of the votes. Despite her accomplishments and popularity in the district, Gobi focused on not taking any votes for granted this election season. After a busy campaign season, the hard work paid off at the Nov. 6 general election.

"Serving as state senator is an honor, and I look forward to continuing partnerships and forming new partnerships to build on the successes and attain even more for our region," said Gobi, who lives in Spencer.

Gobi's campaign focused on continued momentum to combat the opioid crisis; support for high-speed east-west rail opportunities from Springfield to Boston; additional assistance for schools; promoting small businesses; and enhanced clean water infrastructure.

Gobi was thrilled to see many longtime supporters on the campaign trail and also new voters. It was encouraging for her to see young people heading to the polls in strong numbers on Election Day, and her hometown of Spencer once again helped propel her to victory.

In Spencer, Gobi topped Hall by a count of 2,670-1,819. She won all four precincts in town by at least 150 votes.

"No election is won without support. I am very grateful for the continued support I have received from the fantastic group of people who volunteer to help with campaign efforts," added Gobi, who first became a state senator in 2014.

Hall, a Sturbridge resident who leads skilled nursing facilities, mounted a strong campaign against a veteran senator but fell short in several Route 9 towns.

"This has been an amazing experience, but unfortunately we did not pull off a win," Hall wrote on his Facebook campaign page following the election. "I want to thank everyone who stood by me and supported me throughout this journey."

Looking ahead, a major focus for Gobi is continuing to support the region's small businesses. Among other projects, she will place an emphasis on mill revitalization, promoting local manufacturers, assisting with closing the skills gap, and workforce training.

Turn To **GOBI**, page **A7**

# Civics requirement now made law

**BY JERRY CARTON**  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Massachusetts public schools will be required to teach American history and civics education thanks to a bill signed by Governor Charlie Baker last week.

"Our administration is pleased to introduce new ways to strengthen civics education in the Commonwealth's public schools by signing this bill into law," said Baker at the ceremony just days after the percentage of young voters participating in a mid-term election skyrocketed.

"We are grateful to our partners in the Legislature for their willingness to work with us on ensuring a non-partisan process for students to pursue civics related opportunities," he added.

The new law will add units on how federal, state and local governments function and will include units on media literacy. Additionally, student-led civics projects are mandated and eighth grade students may have a competitive aspect to their projects. A non-partisan voter registration encouragement component will also be included. However,

those projects won't be required for graduation. The curriculum is slated to debut for the 2020-21 school year.

Generation Citizen, a civics advocacy group, said it hopes the project will become a model for other states. The Tufts University-based Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning said civic engagement is generating steam among younger people, noting 31-percent of 18-24 year olds turned out in last week's election, a ten-percent improvement from

Turn To **CIVICS** page **A10**



LOCAL

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SPORTS

PAGE 8



WEEKLY QUOTE

The best way to make your dreams come true is to wake up.

Paul Valery





# CLYDE’S CORNER

## Friday November 16

**MEAT RAFFLE:** Winchendon American Legion Post 193 hosts a meat raffle Friday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Legion, 295 School St. 25 series with turkey, assort meat, side raffles, lobster raffle, scratch tickets and a 50/50.

## Saturday November 17

**NIGHT OF COMEDY:** The Knights of the Inferno are hosting a Night of Comedy Saturday, Nov. 17 with doors opening at 7 p.m. and the comedians taking the stage at 8 p.m. all at the American Legion Post 193, 295 School St. Tickets are \$20 each, \$30 a couple. This is a fundraiser for the high school scholarship program. There will be raf-fles, 50/50.

**HOLLY BAZAAR:** The United Parish of Winchendon, 39 Front St., hosts its annual Holly Bazaar Saturday Nov. 17 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**GALLERY OPEN:** This will be GALA's last art show and sale for the year. This is like a starving artist show with a variety of over 150 art pieces from local artists. The walls are flooded with artwork that is \$100 or less. VERY affordable artwork for you to purchase for your family and friends. There is something for everyone! We also have pottery and jewelry. So stop by for your holiday shopping. Our reception will be this Saturday, 17th from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Then we will be open every week-end noon-4 p.m. until Christmas. Hope to see you this weekend and hope you will also support your local artists.

## Thursday November 22

**TRIVIA NIGHT:** Sons of the American Legion host Trivia Night beginning at 8 p.m. at the American Legion. Gather a team and challenge your friends. Hosted by questions master Ryan Murphy.

## Friday November 23

**TOY DRIVE:** Friday, Nov. 23 Spirit of Christmas Toy Drive from 12 noon to 4 pm, stop by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St., with your donations of new and gently used toys to brighten Christmas for local families in need. Volunteer help that day is welcome, too! Call Rev. Arthen at 978-297-1730 if you have ques-tions.

## Saturday & Sunday November 24 &25

**GALLERY OPEN:** GALA's walls are flooded with artwork that is \$100 or less. VERY affordable artwork for you to purchase for your family and friends. There is something for everyone! We also have pottery and jewelry. We will be open every weekend noon-4 p.m. until Christmas. Hope to see you this weekend and hope you will also support your local artists.

## Saturday December 1

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA:** the ever popular Breakfast with Santa at the Carriage House restaurant, spon-sored by Kiwanis of Winchendon and Key Clubs of Mahar and Murdock high schools. Buffet breakfast, adults \$8; chil-dren \$1. A chance to see Santa. Parents bring a camera or phone, great photo opportunity.

**HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR:** Broadview Assisted Living, 547 Central St., hosts a Holiday Craft Fair Saturday, Dec. 1 10 a.m.-2 p.m. with all local vendors. Santa will visit 11:30-2 p.m. and kids are invit-ed to make their own crafts. For more information, contact (978) 297-2333.

## Sunday December 9

**WINTER TEA:** drop in at the Murdock

Whitney House Museum for a buffet tea 1-4 p.m. Take a break from frenzied shopping for a bit of tea and bite of des-ert with friends. \$5 per person. First floor of the historic house is decorated for the holidays.

## Sunday December 16

**WINTER TEA:** drop in at the Murdock Whitney House Museum for a buffet tea 1-4 p.m. Take a break from frenzied shopping for a bit of tea and bite of des-ert with friends. \$5 per person. First floor of the historic house is decorated for the holidays.

### ONGOING PROGRAMS

### ONGOING AT OLD MURDOCK

**MONDAY/WEDNESDAY:** Chair exercise 9:30 – Exercise to your skill level.

**T U E S D A Y / W E D N E S D A Y / THURSDAY:** Wii bowling 9:30; Pool/ Card Games/Shuffleboard. Come join us on these days for Wii bowling, play a game of pool or shuffleboard upstairs.

**WEDNESDAY:** ZUMBA w/Alisha, Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. Join Alisha on Wednesday mornings and Zumba! Participate at your comfort level. Yoga w/Susan, Wednesdays 10:30. Susan leads this gentle stretching on Wednesday mornings at 10:30. Even if you're a beginner, you'll be gently stretching in no time. Please bring your own mat.

### THURSDAYS

**OPEN HOUSE:** come sit on the porch and relax at the Murdock Whitney House museum 6-8 p.m. Tour the house, walk across the street and get ice cream at Seppi's. Free evening, every Thursday throughout the summer.

### MONDAY

**LEGO CLUB:** Beals Memorial Library, 50 Pleasant St. hosts a Lego Club for kids aged six-12, 3:30-4:30 p.m. every Monday afternoon the library is open. Show off your creative side. More

information about this and other pro-grams by calling (978) 297-0300 or visit townofwinchendon.com/bealmemori-allibrary.

### TUESDAY

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

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

### WEDNESDAY

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

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

**KIWANIS:** the Kiwanis of Winchendon meet the second and fourth Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Carriage House Restaurant. Come be part of the service club that concen-trates on helping local children with the Backpack Program at the public ele-mentary schools, Breakfast with Santa and yes, the Family Fun Day with the Massachusetts state level chili cook off every summer. We need your help. Stop in any Wednesday, we'd love to meet you!

**YOGA & ZUMBA:** two new low impact exercise programs at Old Murdock Senior Center, open to everyone age 50 and older. Zumba with Alisha at 9:30 a.m. and Yoga with Susan at 10:30 a.m.

### THURSDAY

**GARDEN CLUB:** The Winchendon Garden Club meetings are open to the public. Meetings are held at 1 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of the month from May through December. Please note the meeting place has been changed to the Hyde Park Drive Community Building.

# COURIER CAPSULES

### TOY DRIVE

Friday, Nov. 23 Spirit of Christmas Toy Drive from 12 noon to 4 pm, stop by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St., with your dona-tions of new and gently used toys to brighten Christmas for local families in need.

Volunteer help that day is wel-come, too! Call Rev. Arthen at 978-297-1730 if you have ques-tions.

### ST MARTIN'S HOLIDAY FAIR

St. Martin's Church in Otter River will hold its annual Holiday Fair from 9 am to 3 pm on Saturday, Dec. 1 and from 9

am to 1 pm on Sunday, Dec. 2 at the American Legion Hall, 3 Central St., Baldwinville. Dozens of theme baskets and a wide array of hand-crafted ornaments and decorations will be among the highlights of the day, along with a major prize raffle, Chinese auction and fresh Christmas wreaths and greens decorated to order. The Fair's "Polish Auction" will offer beautifully-wrapped gift baskets that are sure to delight all ages, and a variety of home-made baked goods will brighten your holiday table. Try your luck at the Match Game, or the 50/50, scratch ticket or holiday din-ner basket raffles! Lunch will be available both days, as well as coffee and pastry through-out the day. Be sure to stop by

to say hello to Santa!

### HOLLY BAZAAR

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### HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

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### HOLIDAY FARMERS' MARKET

Start the holiday season off right by giving the gift of a stronger local economy! Since more of your dollars stay in the area when you purchase from local businesses, consider making this Thanksgiving & Christmas "local food" holidays by purchasing your meats, veggies, baked goods & gifts from the won-derful array of area pro-ducers, artisans & craft-ers. Visit Westminster's special Holiday Farmers' Market on Saturday, Nov. 17 from 10am-1pm at the American Legion Hall, 127 Main St. (across from the pharmacy). There will be meat, vegetables, frozen entrees, baked goods & hand-made gifts, as well as live music provided by Joe Reidy and Sue & Steve Nickerson. Plenty of free on-street parking is avail-able.

### LIVE NATIVITY

Free community event In Westminster. Lutheran Church in Westminster invites visitors to walk through first century Bethlehem. December 1 and 2 from 6 to 8 PM.

Event features traditional sets including the Holy Family., shepherds tending animals; a noisy near eastern market place. Walk through time experience sights sounds and scents. Free refresh-ments. 1 Hager Park Road, Westminster. Website www.livingnativity.net.

### GALLERY OPEN

This will be GALA's last art show and sale for the year. This is like a starving artist show with a variety of over 150 art pieces from local ar-tists. The walls are flooded with artwork that is \$100 or less. VERY affordable artwork for you to purchase for your family and friends. There is something for everyone! We also have pottery and jewelry. So stop by for your holiday shopping. Our reception will be this Saturday, 17th from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Then we will be open every weekend noon-4 p.m. until Christmas. Hope to see you this weekend and hope you will also sup-port your local artists.

### POETRY CONTEST

ALL writers FREE to enter contest: The Beals Prize for Poetry. Submission dead-line: Tomorrow Saturday, Nov. 17 Drop off your entries. The library is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Prize Money: First: \$100, Second: \$50, Third: \$25 You may submit up to three poems. Submissions can be hand-delivered or emailed to: Bealspoetryprize@gmail.com Please submit on white, letter-size paper, typed in an easy to read font. Place no personal information on the side where your poem appears. On the reverse side, affix your name, address,

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A TIME FOR THANKS.

WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>

We will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 22-23, to give our valued employees the time to enjoy family and friends. We are giving back to our employees by thanking them for providing the quality service you have come to expect.

All of us at ASB wish you a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

Remember, ASB ATMs and Online & Mobile Banking ARE AVAILABLE for your convenience.

We will resume regular business hours on Saturday, November 24th.

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# Grout to join Catholic Financial Life board

MILWAUKEE WI — Catholic Financial Life is pleased to announce that Dr. Coral Grout of Winchendon was elected to the organization’s board of directors. Grout, who has been a member for more than 20 years, will serve a three-year term beginning in January, 2019. Grout can trace her fraternal roots back to Union Saint-Jean-Baptiste, one of several organizations that make up Catholic Financial Life, where her great-grandfather was the first President of Council 84 in 1901.

“To serve on the Catholic Financial Life Board of Directors requires both financial acumen and a fraternal heart,” said Bill O’Toole, president and CEO of Catholic Financial Life. “Coral’s ded-

icated involvement with our Society, combined with her professional experience, will make her a great addition to the Board.”

Grout is a consultant for the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and a retired superintendent of schools for Acushnet Public Schools. Grout was the recipient of the 2011 National Fraternal Congress MVP award, and is an active leader in her local community.

Grout earned her Doctorate in Education degree from the University of Massachusetts and Master of Education degree from Boston College.

Through services including life insur-

ance, retirement planning, education savings, and more, Catholic Financial Life has been helping its members protect their financial lives for 150 years. With assets of \$1.64 billion and 143,000 members across the United States, Catholic Financial Life’s strength comes from being a different kind of financial community. As a member-owned organization, Catholic Financial Life’s longevity and success is a result of being a trusted financial partner. It has been recognized by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel as a Top Workplace five years in a row. For more information about Catholic Financial Life, visit [www.catholicfinanciallife.org](http://www.catholicfinanciallife.org).

## ACCURACY WATCH

The *Winchendon Courier* is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur. Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page three in a timely manner. If you find a mistake, call (978) 297-0050 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor’s voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call. Or contact the editor at the following email: [ruth@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:ruth@stonebridgepress.news).

# Athol Savings recognizes employees for longevity

Athol Savings Bank recently celebrated the service milestones of bank employees at the Polish American Citizens Club in Gardner. Daniel Zona, president and CEO, presented the following employees with longevity recognition awards:

5 Years of Service: Rachel Burritt, Ashley Chapman, Tyler Clow, Roy Graves, Jennifer McLaughlin, Maureen Novello

10 Years of Service: Tabitha Fournier, John Sharland

15 Years of Service: Shelley Rowe

20 Years of Service: Jeffrey Ashworth, Cheryl D’Ambra, Jennifer Frost

25 Years of Service: Judy Godfrey, Lisa Osborne

30 Years of Service: Janice Hamel, Kathy Matewsky

40 Years of Service: Kim Drudi, Deb Vescovi

“The hard work and dedication of our employees is what positions Athol Savings Bank for long-term success. We are appreciative of the continued efforts of these employees to advance our institution while always offering exceptional customer service,” said Zona. “We are proud to acknowledge them for the lasting impact that their contributions have made over the years.”

Athol Savings Bank is the largest mutual savings bank based in the North Quabbin region, where it has fostered



**Front Row (left to right): Jennifer Frost, Jeffrey Ashworth, Debra Vescovi, Maureen Novello, Shelley Rowe, Janice Hamel, Kim Drudi, Lisa Osborne**  
**Back Row (left to right): Kathy Matewsky, Ashley Chapman, Roy Graves, Rachel Burritt, Cheryl D’Ambra, Judy Godfrey, Jennifer McLaughlin, Tabitha Fournier, John Sharland**  
**Athol Savings Bank Recognizes 315 Years of Employee Commitment and Longevity**

Courtesy Photo

a friendly, small-town banking environment since 1867. The full-service bank has seven offices located in the communities of Ashburnham, Athol,

Baldwinville, Barre, Gardner and Winchendon. All deposits are insured in full through the FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation) and the

DIF (Depositors Insurance Fund). Athol Savings Bank can also be accessed via its mobile app and at [www.atholsb.com](http://www.atholsb.com).

## CAPSULES

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telephone number and email address. Notification of receipt of entry will be via email or telephone. Poems will not be returned. Ten finalists will be chosen by reputable judges to compete for the prize money on Friday, Nov. 30. For More Information Call the Library at 978-297-0300

GALA is seeking a Poetry Coordinator

to work with the Beals Library. If you are interested in helping to schedule Open Poetry and Spoken Word gatherings please call Deb, 978-407-1419

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

**BOSTON —** MCPHS University is pleased to announce the students who have been named to the Dean’s List for the Summer 2018 semester:

Hayley Maciel is a native of Ashburnham and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in nursing. Hayley

will graduate in 2019 from the Worcester campus.

Stephanie Mortell is a native of Gardner and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in nursing. Stephanie will graduate in 2019 from the Worcester campus.

Rachel Pelletier is a native of Westminster and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in nursing. Rachel will graduate in 2019 from the Boston campus.

Amy Anderson is a native of

Westminster and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in nursing. Amy will graduate in 2019 from the Worcester campus.

Olivia Carbone is a native of Winchendon and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in nursing. Olivia will graduate in 2018 from the Worcester campus.

The Dean’s List recognizes those students with a full-time course load who have achieved outstanding scholarship with a 3.5 GPA or higher for the academic term.

## IUC

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onto the property using and/or working on the trails.”

“We agree do use this winter season,” added LaPointe, “to identify how to more effectively delegate responsibility for the array of work that must be done to develop and maintain the park, and also to improve outreach and communication with the community.”

Both agreed that 2018 has seen progress at the park and that the committee its many volunteers have come to better understand the opportunities presented by the park, as well as what steps must be taken to ensure future progress. Among those steps is the town’s Conservation Commission becoming better informed regarding what is needed to develop and utilize areas of the park that may fall within the commission’s jurisdiction or oversight.

One initiative that has been put on hold for now is the search for an on-site groundskeeper. At the beginning of summer, Rev. Dan Lewiston – pastor of Winchendon’s Cornerstone Church – and his family moved out of the old farmhouse at the park after living there for about a year. Members of the IUC and Town Manager Keith Hickey have had several discussions about the advisability of securing the services of someone to watch over the property and to maintain the buildings on site.

Romanowski and LaPointe said there remain many logistical issues to work out before any more consideration is given to hiring a permanent, live-in groundskeeper.

For those who enjoy snowshoeing or winter hikes, the IUC members say WCP will remain open during the winter.

“We want to encourage people to continue to explore the park,” said LaPointe. “Anyone needing a map should – for now – check out Winchendon Community Park on Facebook. Look for the Oct. 1 posting. As for any specific events, well, right now it’s wait-and-see. It’s likely that anything happening this winter will be spontaneous in nature. Some committee members are looking at putting together some type of ‘pop up’ event; perhaps a full-moon snowshoe hike, or something like that.”

Finally, both Romanowski and LaPointe want to emphasize “the IUC/WCP need people who want to work together on planning and/or delivering on the development of the park.”

“Over the months, we have collected names of potential volunteers, most of whom have expressed a specific interest,” said LaPointe. “We’ll be going into 2019 prepared to organize those potential volunteers and involve them in their areas of interest. Some specific priorities include building and maintaining trails and trail facilities, such as signage,

kiosks, benches, viewing areas, and buckthorn eradication. We also want to plan and deliver activities that involve a broader range of community members and/or organizations. And, certainly, we want to build an ongoing outreach/communication campaign to build individual and community

awareness, generate greater interest in using the park, and plan for the renovation and creative utilization of park buildings.”

The IUC is also urging the public to watch for the launch of a new IUC/WCP website.

## CORRECTION

In a story from October 26 on MWCC’s career program (page 10), psychologist John Holland was inadvertently as a “psychic medium.” The Courier is most apologetic for the error.



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PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER: FRANK CHILINSKI  
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VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

EDITORIAL

Remembrance of things past...

With a grateful nod to Proust, whose line we have stolen as our title, we acknowledge the day we have observed this past week.

One thing Americans have been, for the most part, is very good at is realizing others have done much to secure the freedoms most of us take for granted. There have been instances when gratitude hasn't been part of the recognition, such as the poor reception for the soldiers, sailors and airmen who returned from seeing action in Vietnam.

There were equally poor reception for some in previous wars too, those who had fought for the "wrong side" during the Civil War were equally maligned in many instances and in many places.

After risking their very lives, now they faced humiliation and anger.

The veterans of certain other, more 'popular' wars met with better treatment of course for the most part. Those who came home 100 years ago, from the Great War, the War to End All Wars (unfortunately, it did not), were hailed as heroes. This is what we are actually memorializing on Nov. 11; the armistice was recognized and finalized at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. Ending World War I.

Though that was the official end it, of course, did not end there. Politics continued to seethe in Europe and a mere 25 odd years later Germany and its allies had risen again, and were once again marching on neighbors; thus beginning World War II.

This, again, was considered a righteous war and those who fought were honored, are honored, as the Greatest Generation. Recognized as the heroes

they are, fighting for world freedom against oppression.

Things haven't been so clear cut since.

The age of the shadow war began. When the wars were fought as puppets. We fought in Vietnam against Vietnamese citizens; but we were really waging war against Chinese Communism.

We fought tiny wars, sometimes in secret, in small countries in South America, on islands and in the Middle East, choosing to support dictators and leaders who would seem to support the positions our own politicians wanted at that time.

And a few years later might very well be fighting in the same country again to topple that same dictator.

Our wars aren't nearly so cut and dried any longer. Our allies aren't nearly so open and obvious.

But our heroes haven't changed.

They are still there. They are still working and struggling to support what they believe is expected of them as representatives of our country.

They are soldiering on as it were.

And we must, as the citizens they are protecting, remember that.

Because while we can celebrate, honor and appreciate the veterans we recognize from those "great" wars; we must not ever forget those in the throes right now.

On average, returning service people have been committing suicide at a rate of 22 per day. That is a horrifying number. To us, that means they feel unseen and unknown.

We can't let that happen.

Thanks for running

"Baby, even the losers get lucky sometimes; Baby, even the losers keep a little bit of pride; They get lucky sometimes..." - Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers



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

evident she would be unable to overcome her vote deficit, McSally called Sinema and congratulated her on being elected Arizona's first female senator. She lauded her opponent for waging "a hard-fought battle."

"I wish her success," McSally then said in a tweet. "I'm grateful to all those who supported me in this journey. I'm inspired by Arizonans' spirit and our state's best days are ahead of us."

McSally might have been forgiven had she chosen to sulk over her loss, but she instead gave us a display of how areal adults reacts to the occasional setback, no matter how painful. Juxtapose her reaction to that of Trump who - even though he actually won the 2016 presidential election...yes, WON the election! - whined and hurled fictitious accusations of fraud because he lost the popular vote by nearly 3-million votes. He became the first sore winner in the history of U.S. electoral politics!

But even before McSally's classy performance on Monday, I experienced "the warm fuzzies" last Saturday night when Pete Davidson apologized on "Saturday Night Live" to Republican Congressman-elect and former Navy Seal Dan Crenshaw, whom Davidson had mocked in a skit the week before. The SNL star's performance drew widespread rebuke from conservatives and liberal alike, as well as from fellow cast-members.

On Saturday night Peterson praised the newly-elected congressman, who lost an eye while serving in Afghanistan, as a "true hero."

Well, Crenshaw not only accepted Davidson's apology, he appeared on SNL to accept it in person. First, though, in his victory speech on elec-

Turn To VINE page A6

Faux News

Remember these:

"Pushing the envelope..."  
"At the end of the day..."  
"Thinking outside the box..."

There are so any phrases that develop over time to explain something that strikes us as unique but hard to explain. It is interesting these phrases get used so often that we can find them trite. Essentially, we abandon them after much use or simply lessen our use of them.

Recently, we have all been hearing about faux news, or fake news.

I find this interesting in that fake news is not something new. It is simply a new way of saying GOSSIP. When did we not have gossip? People say

things that are not true, make up stories, try to harm another person's reputation, look for the thrill of getting away with lies.

Happens every day.

Always has happened.

So my take on Faux News is that it is just gossip. It is something that is said with authority, by someone in authority. But now we hear it not from a playmate, neighbor, or local bully, we hear it from once reliable sources: both print news and media. This gives it the appearance of legitimacy.

Because historically we found on balance these were professionals, people who checked and rechecked their facts and only passed them on



NOTES OF CONCERN

JACK BLAIR

to us when they were absolutely certain of the validity of the material.

Those days are long gone my friends.

News reporting has taken on a very ugly face. Publishers and reporters no longer try to be balanced, but they use their personal prejudices to select stories and writers that will

press forward the company or personal line.

Now obviously, this is not a blanket indictment of all papers or all reporters. I am sad to observe the number who do promote faux news seems to me to be growing at a fast rate.

This is worrisome. First, because we cannot trust what we read or see on television. Second because everyone is now a columnist or reporter because of the availability of social media. Finally, truth telling has also suffered in the ranks of the news makers: the government, office holders, corporate titans and so many others.

We are also to blame.

When we have strong per-

sonal preferences and beliefs we are quick to accept the faux news that supports what we think. We copy it. We share it. We quote it. This only serves to encourage the liars and gossips to keep up the behavior.

What can we do? As individuals, we have to be more skeptical than ever about what we read and watch. We need to personally take the time to check out the facts. We need to read not only views similar to our own but the views that differ. This helps us balance out our reactions.

In other words, if we cannot hold these writers and commentators to a high standard, then let's make a commitment to hold ourselves to one.

The month... and tenacity



JOURNEY OF THE HEART  
JERRY CARTON

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month. I have always found that poignant because it was 22 years ago tomorrow, Nov. 17, 1996 (a Wednesday, you don't forget these things) when Courtney was diagnosed with Type 1. We weren't aware of any family history but who knows? From that day to this day, I've occasionally heard about this prospective breakthrough or that prospective breakthrough towards a cure and I remember moments, and they were just that, moments, of giddy hope that a miracle might be unfolding.

It's never happened of course although treatment and management have changed, both of which are good things but a cure? No. Not yet. Maybe never. Who knows? I keep writing those words - who knows? We don't. I do know research is ongoing though (here we go again) who knows how much progress was slowed when the Bush 43 Administration blocked federal funding for embryonic cell research? Maybe quite a lot, maybe some, maybe none

at all. Like other illnesses, everything feels elusive when it comes to figuring out why this disease, why any disease curses some people and not others. Who knows?

Here's what I also know. It's been 527 days since June 7, 2017, 527 days since the complications of T-1 diabetes took Courtney from us. Truth? It sometimes, all too often for that matter, feels like 527 seconds. In 21 more days, it'll be an impossible year-and-a-half. Truly impossible. And so I don't know whether it was because I was masochistic or looking for others who "get it," or just plain lost and sometimes overwhelmed by anger, bitterness and all consuming grief, but I joined a couple online diabetic parent/family groups. Criticize social media all you want and I do so frequently, but every once in a while you find corners of it which offer nothing but good. Common ground, you know? Naturally, the folks I'm talked to there have all heard the same breathless hints of breakthroughs and all of us have been let down every time even though we knew realistically it was likely the proverbial too good to be true thing anyway. Nonetheless you never know.

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month. I will forever hold out hope the breakthrough will come for those families. I know people and families impacted by this horrific disease and that continues to make it personal for me. It will always be so. I

know tenacious, dogged researchers have the will to persevere. I hope I live long enough to see the fruits of their labor. Maybe someday we won't need a Diabetes Awareness Month? One can only hope.

Tenacity is a necessary quality in order to accomplish anything worthwhile. This goes as well (switching gears) for everyone who thinks the "blue wave" which swept over everything other than the US Senate last week (the biggest gain in the House since the Watergate election of 1974, seven flipped governorships and over 600 state legislative seats to go along with the 47 from special elections in 2017) will translate into instant policy change. It won't. Progress is incremental. First, the House can and should pass smart legislation on climate change, campaign finance reform, immigration and health care. True, all of that will be stonewalled in the Senate but it will emphatically demonstrate a commitment to attacking real-life issues. A lot of those hard-won seats won't be easy to defend in 2020 but showing constituents an effort will help. Republicans will be playing Senate defense next cycle. Tenacity and patience just might pay off in actual changes in DC come 2021, especially if a sane, patriotic President takes office.

That said, it is on state and local levels where the possibility exists for more immediate action. Here in Massachusetts, supported by an over-

whelmingly Democratic majority legislature and a rational Republican governor, curriculum changes will return civics education to the classroom. That's desperately needed. There are all sorts of similar opportunities in state after state, chances to look at issues which impact people's lives every day and act on them. In my home state of Maryland, the majority D legislature needs to press for funding for the Red Line transportation system. Voters in three more states (Idaho, Nebraska, Utah) opted last week to expand Medicaid bringing to 37 to total number of states where those same voters get how crucial that program. They went against the grain of conservative orthodoxy because they understood what a difference Medicaid makes. In Washington state, where there's also a D governor and legislature, a referendum passed requiring better and more intensive training in mental health issues for first responders and law enforcement. Who can be against that? The point? Things take time. You have to be tenacious to hang in there and keep fighting. There's no guarantee things will turn out the way you hope but they never will if you don't try. Important steps were taken last week.

Tenacity. In medical research and in public policy, in so many fields, it's an indispensable trait. Happy Thanksgiving. See you here the day after.



# Annual holiday fair at IHM

Sugar Plum fairies, raffles and fun were all part of the weekend at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. There was also good food, a Christmas booth (vintage decorations!) and a variety of handmade baked goods. Sunday included a breakfast.

Greg Vine photos



Unfortunately, while he looks pretty happy here, he isn't going to make it through the holiday....Horse & Buggy Feeds donated two plump turkeys to raffle.



Vases, baskets, cookie tins, cake molds, picture frames, and serving trays were among the hundreds of items available at last weekend's Christmas Bazaar for folks getting ready for the holidays. The annual event was held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church on Saturday and Sunday.

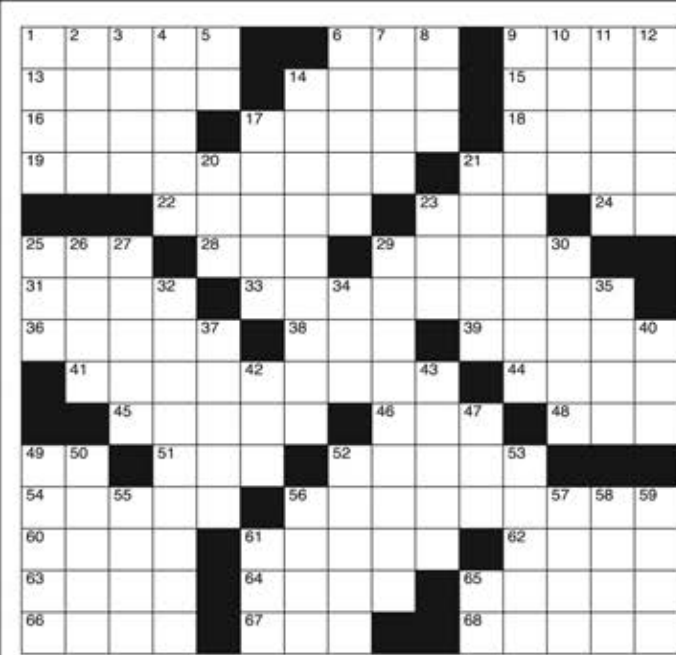


Mr. and Mrs. Claus were among the items up for sale this past weekend at the annual Christmas Bazaar at Winchendon's Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Those attending the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Christmas Bazaar could plunk down a little scratch and possibly win prizes at several games set up at the annual event.



There were plenty of baked goods and holiday decorations on sale last weekend at Immaculate Heart of Mary's annual Christmas Bazaar.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Type of toast

6. Peter Griffin's daughter

9. A group

13. Ancient Greek unit of weight

14. Small amounts

15. Ready and \_

16. Right

17. Asian antelope

18. Cambodian monetary unit

19. Type of leather

21. Secret clique

22. Cabbage and cole are two

23. Burmese ethnic group

24. Empire State

25. Be in debt

28. Italian monk's title

29. Asian plants

31. Everyone has one

33. One who can't sleep

36. "Glenarrary, Glen Ross" playwright
38. Shock therapy

39. Cavalry sword

41. A must-have

44. Type of fabric

45. French composer

46. A type of pen

48. Snout

49. One of the six noble gases

51. Married woman

52. Register formally (Brit.)

54. Greek sorceress

56. Depository library

60. A tightknit group

61. Ancient units of measurement

62. He was Batman

63. Dry or withered

64. Margosa tree

65. Tables (Span.)

66. Large jug

67. Make a mistake

68. Puerto Rican genre of music "La \_"

CLUES DOWN

1. Insect drawn to flame

2. A Spanish river

3. Reduce (Brit. sp.)

4. Wish well

5. Robots are an example

6. Young women

7. The tip

8. Young women's association

9. One who is suspicious

10. A child's apron

11. Not dirty

12. Fightin' Irish football coach

14. People from Taiwan

17. Harry Belafonte's daughter

20. Santa's helper

21. Cereal plants

23. Respectful address

25. Unit of electrical resistance

26. Used to managing without

27. Type of chair

29. London footballers
30. Vaccine developer

32. 10 meters

34. Type of story: \_ fi

35. Covering on birds' beaks

37. Small freshwater fish

40. Confederate soldier

42. Female sibling

43. Belgian city

47. An electrically charged atom

49. A way to entertain

50. Regenerate

52. Highly flammable liquid

53. Mark

55. Not good

56. Eloquent Roman orator

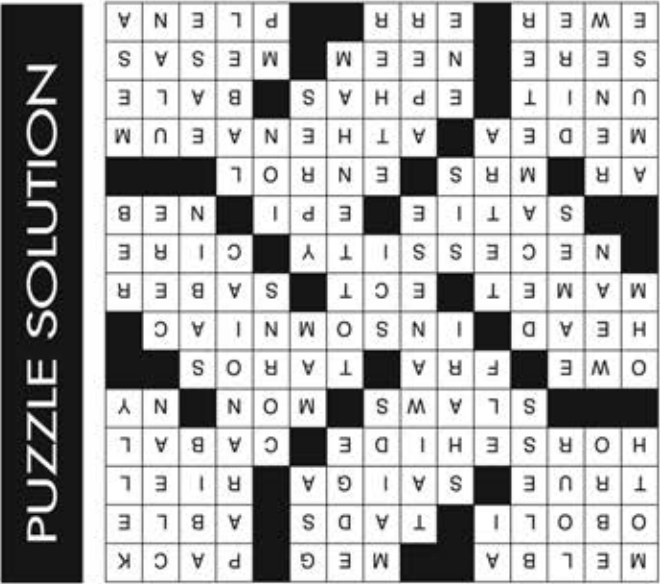
57. Absence of difficulty

58. Kazakhstan district

59. Plateau

61. Midway between northeast and east

65. Military policeman

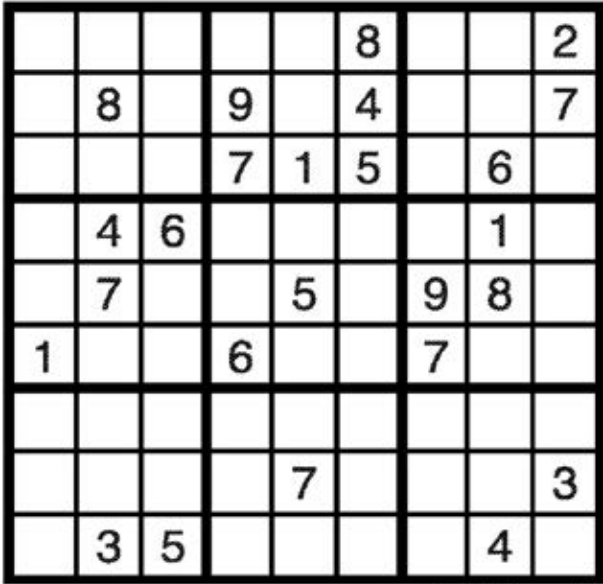


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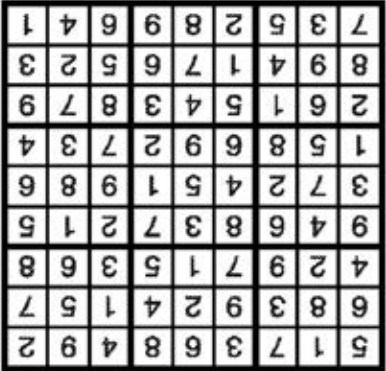
## SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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



ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

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





POLICE LOG

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

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

12:07-12:30 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:05 a.m.: burglar alarm (Pleasant Street), secure; 1:28 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Joslin Road), no service necessary; 7:15 a.m.: property found (Mechanic Street), returned to owner; 7:23 a.m.: burglar alarm (Pleasant Street), false alarm; 8:47 a.m.: suspicious/other (Pleasant Street), property returned to owner; 10:03 a.m.: suspicious mv (Lakeview Drive), spoken to; 11:19 a.m.: ambulance (Hospital Drive), transported; 12:05 p.m.: 911 non-emergency (Joslin Road), spoken to; 12:09 p.m.: vandalism (Harvard Street), spoken to; 1:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Glenallan Street), report taken; 2:06 p.m.: investigation (Central Street), spoken to; 2:07 p.m.: ambulance (Spring Street), transported; 2:18 p.m.: accident (Spring Street), Alia LeBlanc, 18, 563 Central Street, Winchendon, negligent operation, report taken; 3:07 p.m.: missing person (Memorial School), returned to family; 4:29 p.m.: animal complaint (Glenallan Street), referred to ACO; 5:20 p.m.: info/general (Pearl Street), info taken; 6:27 p.m.: ambulance (Brown Street), transported; 6:37 p.m.: mutual aid to scene (Pleasant Street, Athol), referred; 6:47 p.m.: mutual aid to scene (Pleasant Street, Athol), referred; 7:06 p.m.: burglar alarm (Pleasant Street), secure; 7:48 p.m.: ambulance (Lakeshore Drive), referred; 8:33 p.m.: larceny (Central Street), referred; 10:05 p.m.: ambulance (Mill Street), transported; 10:44 p.m.: disabled mv (Spring Street), info taken.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

1:16-2:01 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:28 a.m.: sex offender registration (Linden Street), assisted; 8:34 a.m.: info/general (School Street), info taken; 8:39 a.m.: burglar alarm (Baldwinville State Road), canceled; 9:22 p.m.: officer wanted (Memorial Drive), services rendered; 9:26 a.m.: ambulance (Mill Street), transported; 9:45 a.m.: animal complaint (Monadnock Avenue),

Spring Street crash  
knocks out power

A Winchendon man will be summonsed to Winchendon District Court in Gardner to face a charge of negligent operation of a motor vehicle in the wake of a crash Monday that knocked out power nearly 300 electric customers in the eastern portion of Winchendon.

Initial reports indicate a Dodge Caravan minivan operated by Paul Conroy, age 69, of 91 Maple St. struck a utility pole just before 3:20 p.m., bringing down power lines and leading to the closure of Spring Street-Route 12 between Old Gardner and North Ashburnham roads.

referred to ACO; 11:50 a.m.: ambulance (Memorial Drive), transported; 11:57 a.m.: threats (Pleasant Street), referred; 2:32 p.m.: erratic operation (Spring Street), spoken to; 2:55 p.m.: erratic operation (Forristall Road), spoken to; 3:37 p.m.: accident (Central Street), report taken; 3:52 p.m.: info/general (Baldwinville Road), referred; 4:34 p.m.: investigation (Spring Street), property seized; 6:07 p.m.: parking violation (Pearl Street), Nicolas L. Pioli, 34, 155 Pearl Street, #3, Winchendon, arrest based on warrant; 6:35 p.m.: 911 hang up (Hyde Street), transported to hospital; 8:02 p.m.: mv stop (Ash Street), secure; 8:11 p.m.: vandalism (Spring Street), report taken.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

1:32 a.m.: investigation (Gardner Road), secure; 1:46-2:52 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:11 a.m.: burglar alarm (Pleasant Street), secure; 5:04 a.m.: disabled mv (Glenallan Street), gone on arrival; 8:11 a.m.: parking violation (Glenallan Street), assisted; 9:25 a.m.: summons service (Willoughby Avenue), served; 9:30 a.m.: animal complaint (Spring Street), referred to ACO; 10:35 a.m.: summons service (Sibley Road), served; 10:37 a.m.: summons service (Stoddard Road), served; 10:39 a.m.: animal complaint (Pinewood Drive), referred to ACO; 10:46 a.m.: animal

complaint (Alger Street), assisted; 11:21 a.m.: welfare check/general (School Street), assisted; 11:56 a.m.: intoxicated person (Baldwinville Road), report taken; 12:48 p.m.: ambulance (Goodrich Drive), transported; 1:20 p.m.: 911 hang up (Academy Street), no service necessary; 1:31 p.m.: assist other PD (Bemis Road), unable to locate; 1:42 p.m.: warrant of apprehension (Baldwinville Road), arrest; 2:02 p.m.: assist other agency (Pearl Drive), spoken to; 3:26 p.m.: officer wanted (Front Street), unable to locate; 6:23 p.m.: assist other PD (Polly’s Drive), transported to hospital; 8:31 p.m.: accident (High Street), Christopher R. Dube, 48, 80 Mill Glen Road, Winchendon, negligent operation, report taken; 9:47 p.m.: mv b&e (Goodrich Street), report taken.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

2:11-2:38 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:43 a.m.: ambulance (Alger Street), transported; 6:52 a.m.: larceny (Eagle Road), report taken; 6:53 a.m.: burglar alarm (Spring Street), false alarm; 7:30 a.m.: DPW call (High Street), referred; 7:56 a.m.: larceny (Mechanic Street), report taken; 9:28 a.m.: trespass notice entry (Central Street), info taken; 10:00 a.m.: summons service (Maple Street), advised officer; 10:02 a.m.: summons service (Mill Glen Road), advised officer; 10:03 a.m.: summons service (Central Street), advised officer; 10:05 a.m.: summons service (Winter Place), advised officer; 10:33 a.m.: fraud (Baldwinville State Road), report taken; 11:17 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 11:25 a.m.: assist citizen (Goodrich Drive), property returned to owner; 11:32 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street), Sanlli D. Rodriguez, Jr., 22, 116 Maple Street, #4, Winchendon, unlicensed operation, speeding, arrest; 4:53 p.m.: FD call (Ready Drive), services rendered; 7:26-7:44 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:54 p.m.: larceny (Central Street), report taken; 11:07 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:08 p.m.: ambulance (Brown Avenue), transported; 11:08-11:40 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

12:01-12:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:50 a.m.: animal complaint (Mechanic Street), report taken; 1:47 a.m.: info/general (Spring Street), spoken to; 1:57 a.m.: info/general (Old Gardner Road), spoken to; 2:03 a.m.: officer wanted (Spring Street), report taken; 2:45 a.m.: welfare check/general (Pond Street), no service necessary; 4:09

a.m.: unwanted party (Spring Street), protective custody; 5:30 a.m.: ambulance (Pond Street), transported; 6:16 a.m.: info/general (Central Street), advised officer; 8:58 a.m.: harassment order violation (Russell Farm Road), spoken to; 10:29 a.m.: stolen mv (Highland Street), services rendered; 10:51 a.m.: summons service (Maple Street), unable to serve; 11:42 a.m.: burglar alarm (Elmwood Road), false alarm; 11:46 a.m.: noise complaint (Beech Street), spoken to; 12:41 p.m.: suspicious mv (Metcalf Street), spoken to; 12:46 p.m.: burglar alarm (Elmwood Road), false alarm; 1:07 p.m.: assist citizen (Commercial Drive); 1:18 p.m.: ambulance (Converse Drive), transported; 1:29 p.m.: animal complaint (Elmwood Road), services rendered; 1:49 p.m.: traffic hazard (River Street), referred; 1:57 p.m.: FD call (Town Farm Road), no service necessary; 2:30 p.m.: ambulance (Mechanic Street), transported; 2:35 p.m.: officer wanted (Cedar Terrace), unable to locate; 2:45 p.m.: trespassing (Mechanic Street), assisted; 4:16 p.m.: trespassing (Royalston Road South), info taken; 5:56 p.m.: structure fire (Spruce Street), services rendered; 6:00 p.m.: accident (River Street), report taken; 10:53 p.m.: ambulance (Hyde Park Drive), transported; 10:57 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:11 p.m.: suspicious person (Hall Road), spoken to; 11:43-11:56 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

12:08 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:33 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), report taken; 5:09 a.m.: burglar alarm (Island Road), secure; 6:57 a.m.: DPW call (Hale Street), message delivered; 7:00 a.m.: info/general (Central Street), advised officer; 8:59 a.m.: burglar alarm (Memorial Drive), secure; 9:45 a.m.: mv stop (Goodrich Street), spoken to; 9:51 a.m.: summons service (Maple Street), unable to serve; 10:35 a.m.: ambulance (Toy Town Lane), transported; 10:54 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), citation issued; 12:07 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 4:11 p.m.: erratic operation (School Street), unable to locate; 5:02 p.m.: assist citizen (Central Street); 7:01 p.m.: suspicious/other (Baldwinville State Road), services rendered; 7:23 p.m.: animal complaint (Cedar Terrace), services rendered; 9:35 p.m.: ambulance (Hyde Park Drive), transported; 11:20 p.m.: suicide threats (Glenallan Street), transported to hospital; 11:22 p.m.: unattended death (Juniper Street), report taken.

MONDAY, MOVEMBER 12

12:12 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:36 a.m.: ambulance (Sibley Road), transported; 1:05-1:07 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:06 a.m.: assist other PD (Gardner Road), services rendered; 10:05 a.m.: flooding (School Street), no service necessary; 10:11 a.m.: sex offender registration (Central Street), assisted; 11:13 a.m.: harassment (Elm Street), report taken; 11:54 a.m.: investigation (Goodrich Street), report taken; 12:13 p.m.: burglar alarm (Memorial Drive), secure; 12:20 p.m.: assist citizen (North Ashburnham Road); 1:25 p.m.: suspicious person (Mechanic Street), Alexander Berry, 31, 68 Mill Street, Winchendon, trespassing, summons; 2:56 p.m.: 911 hang up (Candy Lane), spoken to; 3:18 p.m.: accident (Spring Street), Paul M. Conroy, 69, 91 Maple Street, Winchendon, negligent operation, transported to hospital; 4:52 p.m.: assist citizen (Alger Street); 5:14 p.m.: disturbance (Glenallan Street), transported to hospital; 7:06 p.m.: info/general (River Street), spoken to; 9:21 p.m.: ambulance (Juniper Street), transported; 9:55 p.m.: noise complaint (Woodlawn Street), secure; 11:43 p.m.: animal complaint (Brown Street), unable to locate.

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VINE

continued from page A4

tion night, Crenshaw said Americans “are not a people that shatter at the first sign of offense.”

That’s a message he should carry to the White House, given that the head of his party falls apart and becomes unhinged at even the slightest perceived insult. Unlike Trump, Crenshaw handled Davidson’s off-target joke like a man, something we have yet to witness in the adolescent who deigns to be the leader of the free world.

Not only did Crenshaw accept Davidson’s apology, he went on to say: “Tell a veteran, ‘Never forget.’ When you say ‘never forget’ to a veteran, you are implying that, as an American, you are in it with them — not separated by some imaginary barrier between civilians and veterans, but connected together as grateful fellow Americans who will never forget the sacrifices made by veterans past and present. And never forget those we lost on 9/11, heroes like Pete’s Father. So I’ll just say, ‘Pete, never forget.’” “Never forget,” replied

Davidson, whose New York firefighter father died in the September 11 terrorist attacks when Pete was just 7 years old.

Republicans may have lost the U.S. House, seven governorships, and more than 360 state legislative seats last week but, if the party looks to people like McSally, Crenshaw, Charlie Baker and other Republicans of principal, character, and courage to lead it there is hope for the party yet. If, however, the G.O.P. allows itself to remain the party of Trump, we can start now writing its political obituary.

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# OBITUARIES

## Fred A. Wood, 77

WINCHENDON — Fred A. Wood, age 77, of 49 Juniper St., dies peacefully Sunday evening, November 11, 2018 at his home, with his family at his side.



He was born in Tewksbury on June 6, 1941, son of Blanche Wood. He grew up in Milford and graduated from Milford High School. Fred had lived in Winchendon for the last three years after living in Colorado for eleven years. At one time, Fred served as a police officer for the town of Milford.

Fred proudly served his country as a member of the United States Marine Corps, United States Air Force and United States Navy over a 23 year career. During his military career, he learned the electrical trade and worked at Guantanamo Bay, the National Boy Scout Camp and on the United States Constitution. He

later became a master electrician and worked for Nelco Electric in Milford.



He leaves his wife of 43 years, Charlene P. (Currier) Wood; five children, William Wood of Florida, Dawn Marie Burns Condry and her husband Mark of Hudson, Russell D. Burns and his wife Jennifer of Newburyport, David Burns of Winchendon and John Burns of Fitchburg; six grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

Funeral services will be private and at the convenience of the family.

Memorial donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverley Oaks Road, Waltham, MA 02452.

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

LAGUNA WOODS CA — John Quentin Bennett died peacefully Oct. 27, 2018 with his loving wife Sharon by his side. Formerly of Fitchburg, Ashby, Springfield, Wilbraham, Woodbury, CT. John was born November 28, 1929 in Keene, NH, the fifth son of the late Frank and Daisy (Taylor) Bennett.



Moving from Keene, NH to W. Fitchburg as a child, John was a proud member and active alumni of the Fitchburg High School class of '48 where he excelled in track & field, winning the Massachusetts State Country Championship and the Massachusetts Mile as a senior. As a speed skater, he represented the Fitchburg Skating Club at Cogshall Park he won the Silver Skates Derby at the Boston Garden in several age classes. John quit the high school basketball team as a sophomore to play ice hockey for the traveling Fitchburg Hockey Club, joining his older brothers Frank, Bob, Bill and Ted. John became the first hockey coach at Fitchburg High School in the early '60s, games played outdoors at Crocker Field where spectators stood on the snow banks around the rink. Mr. Bennett was a referee for several years in the Massachusetts High School Prep Leagues and coached youth hockey in Wilbraham, winning the National Pee Wee Championships with his son Chris. Mr. Bennett played semi-pro hockey for several clubs in the NE and Atlantic Hockey Leagues over a 20+ year career, teams including the Worcester Warriors, Concord Shamrocks, and New Haven Flyers. Besides the winter sports of hockey and skiing, he enjoyed many years of softball, golf, tennis, squash and waterskiing.

John enjoyed a successful career in the sales profession, his early career working for the Hunter Sportswear Co., a ladies' garment manufacturer in Fitchburg, developing major department store accounts in Boston and NYC, filling capacity for the local factory, and with that experience later owning & operating The Peddler, two ladies clothing stores in the Springfield area, before then embracing the insurance and advertising sales occupations. Waking up with a positive attitude every morning because "attitude is everything" he would say, John had the uncanny ability to connect and make people laugh each and every day - which he did with pleasure whatever door he walked through - be it an office, restaurant or variety store. He had amazing repertoire of jokes and stories, skillfully told with funny accents from around the world.

He leaves his loving wife of 30 years Sharon Lynn Bennett with whom he enjoyed a happy and long retirement on the sunny West Coast. He also leaves his ex-wife Nancy Tofferi of Leominster; and was predeceased by his first wife Charlotte Beer Cassano of Lunenburg. John is survived by his sons and daughters Dianne Wood of Indiana, Dale Erskine of Lunenburg; Jay Bennett of Belmont; Daryll Cossi of Winchendon; Christopher Bennett of Wilbraham; Susan Begley of Worcester; Senya Zeitvogel of Wichita Falls, TX, and Dena Loveday of Cozumel, Mexico. He also leaves many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, good long-time friends, and many supportive neighbors and friends at Laguna Woods in California.

There will be celebration of John's life Nov. 28 beginning at 1:00 pm at the Drawbridge Theater, 1335 Massachusetts Ave., Lunenburg, MA 01462. There will be a private burial.

**SEND OBITUARIES** at no charge to Editor Ruth DeAmicis, by faxing (978) 297-2177, or by e-mailing the editor at [ruth@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:ruth@stonebridgepress.news).

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

# LaPointe Law adds second practicing litigator

BY JERRY CARTON  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

They share a last name (somewhat distant cousins) and a passion for law and making a difference. Their talents complement each other and so David and Jeremy LaPointe are teaming up to provide a wide array of legal services as Jeremy comes aboard the LaPointe law office.

"Jeremy's experience in medical malpractice will help us provide a wider array of legal services," said Dave LaPointe, noting the firm deals with issues as diverse as criminal law, family law, workman's compensation, estate law and even landlord/tenant disputes.

"We're both experienced litigators," he said.

The firm is "growing by leaps and bounds," said Dave, adding wife Danielle, currently the senior legal research assistant, is expected to join as well after she finishes law school and takes the bar exam by the spring of 2020.

It matters too, that Dave and Jeremy LaPointe are local, they agreed.

"I'm excited about returning to my hometown," said Jeremy who had been

frequently working in Gardner.

Added Dave, "it helps a lot we know our clients and our community. That personal feel can make a difference."

He remarked, "I went to school with his (Jeremy) dad. I've known him my whole life."

Dave LaPointe said his firm has a good rapport with other attorneys, noting he refers specialty cases to Richard Paris and to the firm of Bob LaFortune and Keith Glenney when appropriate.

But he stressed teaming up with Jeremy LaPointe will enable his practice to add services.

"I'm excited about that," said Dave LaPointe who moved the business from the Dunkin Donuts shopping plaza to his new home on the corner of Monadnock and Central more than a year ago.

Jeremy LaPointe earned his law degree from Suffolk after doing undergraduate work at UMass Amherst where he majored in political science and minored in history.

"I am beyond thrilled for the opportunity to use my legal experience to allow me to practice law in my hometown. Teaming up with LaPointe law office



Courtesy photo

**Attorneys David and Jeremy and researcher Danielle LaPointe will now share a single law practice.**

will allow me to serve the people that I grew up with, the people that I know," he said.

The Winchendon native and wife Shauna have a son Alex and daughter Emilia.

"We're going to be a good team," said Dave LaPointe.

"We always advocate strongly for the people we serve and now we will be able to expand what we do for them," he stressed.

## WHA

continued from page A1

and moving them out of town, we keep right here in the development, so they don't have to change their mailing address or anything else."

"At that time," Connor continued, "we'll look to either get ready to bid another phase - if the state gives us the funding - or we'll renovate and re-lease those other four units."

The estimated overall cost of making over the kitchens and baths of the four units is currently estimated at around \$200,000.

"So, about \$50,000 a unit,"

Connor said. "That includes the demolition and the abatement work. During construction, around that time period, asbestos was still used in some construction work; so, it has to be processed as if it does contain asbestos."

The Hyde Park complex was built, according to Connor, in 1975 and 1976, "and we started housing people there in 1977."

Connor said some people may wonder why renovations are being undertaken in what appears to be a piecemeal fashion, but he explained the work is done in phases because of the funding mechanism.

"Instead of funding the whole project in one fell swoop," he

explained, "because of the way the state funds us, we're only allowed to bid so many units each year. We did four units last year, we're doing four this year, and we'll do another four next year. That will finish up one whole building. After that, we'll start work on another building. We'll have five more buildings to go."

Work on the kitchens and bathrooms in the first four units to be done at 51-53 Hyde Park Drive was done, according to Connor, by Garland Construction, Inc. of Chicopee.

"They've done other work for us in the past," he said, "and we've been very happy with them. But because the

work is paid for with public funds we're required to go out to bid."

Connor pointed out that another project at Hyde Park is nearing completion.

"If you drive by you'll see the new gazebo," he said. "It's up and we're just finishing the roofing and the cupola on it now. My maintenance mechanics have been working on that over the past couple of weeks. It's identical to the one (on Ipswich Drive). It's the one we got the grant for earlier this year from Power Options; they gave us a \$10,000 grant. So, we were finally able to get a gazebo built for the residents of Hyde Park for the residents

to sit in and enjoy."

The grant will cover nearly the entire cost of the project, according to Connor. At the moment, he said, there are no plans for a naming or dedication ceremony at the new structure.

"The one on Ipswich Drive was dedicated to Malcolm Sibley," said Connor. "Malcolm was a member of the Housing Authority for many years."

In all, the WHA operates 77 housing units at Hyde Park, 80 at Ipswich Drive, 34 at Pearl Drive, and 30 at Ready Drive, as well as 29 scattered sites throughout the town - 17 federal and 12 state.

## GIFT

continued from page A1

contribution from a local organization known as the Circle of Giving.

"It's made up completely of women," said Sibley, "They come from Winchendon, Gardner, Templeton Westminster, Ashburnham, and they meet quarterly."

Deb Kane, who also volunteers at the CAC, said the group meets four times a year to socialize and to hold a "Shark

Tank" type of competition between area non-profit organizations.

"The non-profits give their spiel," said Kane, "and then the women vote on who will get a donation. They're all deserving, so it's really hard, but at the last meeting in September we voted to give a gift to the CAC. Every woman who's a member pledges \$50 per meeting."

The donation recently bestowed upon the Winchendon social service operation amounted to more than \$5,900.

The CAC also recently received a

donation of dozens of warm coats, sweaters, gloves, mittens, and other cold-weather items which were contributed to the Winchendon Lions Club's annual winter coat drive.

Sibley said about 150 dinner baskets are being put together for Thanksgiving, with distribution scheduled for Nov. 19 and 20. A similar number is being planned for Christmas.

"Because of the Circle of Giving," said Sibley, "we're offering three options for the Christmas dinner. We have turkey, ham, and also the ingredients needed to

make lasagna."

The Christmas party for children will be held at the Winchendon American Legion on School Street from 5 to 7 p.m. on Dec. 13. In addition to gifts for the kids, there will be pizza, drinks, games, and a visit from Santa.

Anyone interested in making a donation of cash, food, or clothing to the CAC can call (978) 297-1667 to make arrangements, or just stop by during regular business hours.

## GOBI

continued from page A1

She will also work to continue fighting the opioid crisis. As a member of a Senate task force, she has met multiple people who have struggled with addiction or endured the losses of friends and loved ones. Gobi hopes to help strengthen consumer protection laws to hold corporations responsible for their role in the opioid epidemic. She and other local legislators will also strive

to provide continued resources to first responders and increase treatment beds.

Like State Representative Donald Berthiaume and other area legislators, Gobi recognizes the need for all community leaders to do more to help seniors. Many local seniors have told her about their struggles, and she is determined to provide help.

"We can always do more to assist seniors," Gobi said during the New Leader's pre-election profile series. "They are the back-

bone of our towns, and within a short time all of our towns will have more people over 60 than under. I am so grateful for the work and assistance given at our senior centers."

The Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex District includes the following towns: Brimfield, Brookfield, Charlton, East Brookfield, Holland, North Brookfield, Spencer, Sturbridge, Wales, West Brookfield, and Winchendon, among several others.



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## SPORTS

## Change the seasons

TALKING  
SPORTSJERRY  
CARTON

I wish I were in charge. You wish you were in charge. Imagine the power. Imagine what we could do.

Here's what I'd do about seasons. I'd change them. Dramatically. Emphatically. Decisively. And yes, I know none of it will ever happen in real life. I'm not that stupid.

Let's start with baseball. The regular season would begin April 15 and end September 15. Sunday doubleheaders would be back. So would doubleheaders on Memorial Day, July 4 and Labor Day. Rainouts? That's where two-night twin-bills come in. Hey, the one and only foul ball I ever got was in the first inning of the first game of a two-nighter on June 17, 1967 off the bat of the Angels' Jose' Cardenal. I like two-night doubleheaders. This

way, the World Series would start in early October. When my hometown Orioles won their first pennant in 1966, the Series was over by October 9. Over. True, the O's swept the Dodgers but even if had gone the distance, it would've been done by October 13. Remember Willie Mays' iconic catch in the '54 Series? That actually happened, I believe, in September. The Series must be played in, gasp, sunlight. I'd command it to be so.

Football. We hear talk about expanding the season to 18 games. I have a better idea. Let's go back to 14. The playoff structure is fine but the Super Bowl shouldn't be played in February. Cut the season by two weeks and you've got a championship game in January.

NBA hoops. Some years ago, a labor issue pushed the start of the season to Christmas Day and 66 games were played. Outstanding. Let's do that per-

manently. 82 games is way too many. Do we really need 82 games to eliminate the Nets and Hawks? If baseball's Opening Day is Opening Day and the only one of its kind, then Christmas can be the Association's version. I'm not crazy about 16 playoff teams either but we can discuss format changes another time.

Hockey. I don't care about hockey much and I couldn't name you four Bruins so the NHL can do whatever it wants. Can't care about everything but 81 games are too many.

College hoops. The problem here isn't the schedule, it's the insane and inane conference alignments. We'll take that up in a future column but here's a warning to BC, Syracuse, Pittsburgh, Miami, Virginia Tech and Louisville: get out of my league. Go back to the Big East and wherever the Hokies and Cardinals used to be.

Golf. Please. The season ends with the Tour Championship

in Atlanta in late September and the next wrap-around season starts the next week out in Carmel or somewhere around there. Stop. The season ends at East Lake. That's fine. But the next season begins in January, not October. No more silly season. No more Fed Ex points 'til the Hawaii swing. See how easy this is.

College football. I really have no great ideas here. Conference championships are played in early December but the big bowls aren't 'til January. My issues are with format so again, we'll do that next week.

Horse racing. Here we go. Since I grew up on the racetrack I have some very strong opinions and if I was the czar, well, let's get at it. New York, the epicenter of Eastern racing would revert to a mid-March start and would finish Thanksgiving weekend. Saratoga would absolutely, positively go back to 28 days, not run 40 it does now. The Spa is the "August Place

To Be", not the "Week or so in July and August." In Florida, Gulfstream could run their elite winter meet and ditch the idiotic summer meet. In Maryland, stop running after the Preakness in mid-May and don't come back until the last week of August for the state fair meet at Timonium. Summer racing belongs to Delaware. I insist. As an aside, Maryland used to hold a summer meet at Bowie where there was no grass course. Really. Dumb. Very dumb. California will eliminate the fall meet at Del Mar. Like Saratoga, Del Mar is a summer place. I'd actually shut down some tracks completely. They're unnecessary and they cannibalize other ones. Goodbye Parx, the old Philadelphia Park and Gulfstream West, the old Calder.

Agree? Disagree? Your turn...

## Cross Country seniors honored at meet

VIEWS  
FROM THE  
TOWERSSUE  
POLCARI

A big THANK YOU to everyone who donated items for the Murdock Sports Boosters clothing and book drive. We were able to send 200 bags of clothing and 60 boxes of books to the Epilepsy Foundation, who will weigh all items and reimburse the Boosters per pound of donations. However, please note, the fundraiser is now OVER! Please do not leave items at the high school. All items were picked up by the Epilepsy Foundation on Oct. 29.

Congratulations to the boys' varsity football team on their victory over Bartlett High School on a very rainy Friday night Nov. 9. The game was played at Cushing Academy, due to Alumni Field remaining unplayable (thanks to Mother Nature and her continued insistence on providing more rain!). The boys played well on both sides of the ball, defeating their opponent 30-16.

The final Murdock football game for 2018 will be played at Murdock High

School on Thanksgiving morning at 10:00! Come cheer on your Blue Devils as they attempt to triumph over the Narragansett Warriors and bring home the Mizhir Trophy!!

The Cross Country Team participated in their final meet of the season on Saturday, Nov. 10, but it was the final meet of their high school careers for seniors Dylan Lupien and Timmy Quinn. Congratulations to League All Stars Dylan Lupien and Justin Manuel!

The Murdock Chamber Chorus recently participated in the Veterans Day ceremonies held at the American Legion and Broadview Assisted Living Facility. Multiple patriotic songs were performed in honor of our military personnel.

Upcoming events:

Tonight (November 16th) - The "Chicken Bowl" - JV Football @ Narragansett at 6:00

November 19 & 20 - Parent/Teacher Conferences

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (November 19, 20, 21) - ½ days

November 22-23 - No school - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

Saturday, November 24 - Can/Bottle Drive at Rite Aid - sponsored by the International Travel Club

December 7th & 8th - Tournament of Plays - 7:00-10:00

December 12th - National Honor



Defensive tackle Cam Monette intercepted the ball in Friday's game and ran 69 yards to set up an eventual Murdock touchdown!

Society Induction - 6:00-8:00

December 14th - Wreaths Across America

December 19th - Winter Concert - 6:30-8:30

Registration for winter sports (Boys/Girls Basketball, Indoor Track,

Cheerleading, Ice Hockey - co-op, Swimming - co-op) is now open with practices beginning November 26. Log on to Familyid.com to register your student!

GO BLUE DEVILS!

## Athletes reflect on high school careers

BY JERRY CARTON  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Their soccer careers now in their rear-view mirrors Murdock High School seniors Izzy Alcantara and Adam Digman took time this week to look back and had great things to say about coaches and teammates, at least the teammates who showed up on a regular basis.

The ones who didn't vex the duo, both of whom expressed frustration and disappointment with peers who weren't reliable, which in turn sometimes left

both the boys and girls team competing with fewer than 11 players.

"The lack of interest from high school, the lack of effort, that was hard but for the rest of us, I think we all got close as people," observed Digman.

"Both teams. We really bonded," added Alcantara.

They were talking about the kids who took the commitment seriously.

"The coaches (Alex Burke, boys and Jason Marshall, girls) were great. They were there all the time. They were always teaching, always working,"

reflected Digman, adding, "we had a lot of middle school players and those kids, their effort was great. Alex was teaching them how to play the game. There weren't a lot of high school players some games and practices but the middle school kids came in and they wanted to learn even though we didn't win much."

He added, "even the bus rides helped us come together."

"It was definitely frustrating," acknowledged Alcantara about the afternoons when Murdock had no subs. "It's hard to win with those numbers," she sighed.

But both accentuated the positive. "We all became like a family," said Alcantara.

"I'm talking about both teams. We became really good friends," she gestured towards Digman. "And not just us. Everyone was in it together. The coaches were so supportive."

Numbers have long been an issue at a small school. In 2007, Murdock was unable to field a boys' soccer team because there wasn't enough interest and there have been years when the football program was at a disadvantage because of numbers so what happened this fall wasn't something new.

Regardless, soccer is done for Alcantara and Digman, though he is running track this winter and next



Greg Vine photo

Adam Digman and Izzy Alcantara

spring and she hasn't ruled out playing softball in the spring.

College looms beyond those. Digman is likely headed to UMass Lowell, where soccer might again become part of his life but from an academic perspective, he's looking towards criminology and psychology.

Alcantara too is leaning towards psychology (child psychology) as she considers options including Holy Cross and Anna Maria.

High school "seems almost like a blink of an eye," reflected Digman as senior year progresses.

But, "I'll miss people," said Alcantara.

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# SPORTS

## Heywood Healthcare hosts annual 5K for mental health initiatives

Although we were not able to outrun the rain, many turned out for the sixth annual Heywood Healthcare Healthy Harvest 5K “Run/Walk For Mental Health” Nov. 3rd. The 3.1mile family-friendly course started and ended at Heywood Hospital and was targeted to all fitness levels. Participants had the option to walk or run the course.

Organizations connected to local health initiatives such as the SHINE initiative, GHAMMA, LUK, Inc., the Gardner Rotary Club, and several others participated in the event, providing information on health topics, such as peer recovery, how to talk to teens concerning alcohol and drugs, and how to care for elders who need more services.

Energy was in the air as students from Gardner and Narragansett helped with everything from set up to directing foot and motor traffic, ensuring participants were safely guided through the course. Music from Masters of Music DJ Services had the crowd on their feet dancing, and complementary donuts

and cider from the Red Apple Farm, and egg sandwiches made by the Gardner Rotary Club put a smile on everyone’s face. Top Runners: John Worden, V - 00:19:27.95  
Dan Oulette - 00:19:55.40  
Tanner Dumas 00:20:01.67  
Tyler McClure - 00:20:10.92  
Daniel Johnson - 00:20:28.17  
Jared D’Arcey - 00:21:22.91  
Greg Pappas - 00:21:45.40  
Michael Casavant - 00:22:02.40  
Brian Stahl - 00:22:21.90  
Michal Cote - 00:22:40.90  
Top Timed Walkers  
Nancy Leveille - 00:46:23.68  
Lenny Kasanoff - 00:52:34.16

For a list of race results and results by category visit [www.heywood.org/HH5K](http://www.heywood.org/HH5K). The Heywood Healthy Harvest 5K has been supported by local businesses since its inception. This year’s Mental Health Champions Coverys, HUB International, The SHINE Initiative, WJ Graves Construction and Workers Credit Union. Special thank you to all our sponsors, including the 2018 Mental Health Advocates: Alliance Health



This year’s winners line up

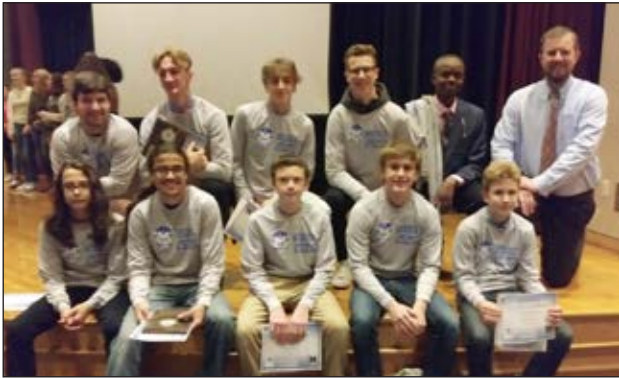
at Baldwinville, Andrew Boucher, Fidelity Bank, Fitchburg State University, GAAMHA, LUK, Inc., Plantscape Services, LLC, The L. S. Starrett Company, Tully Walk-In Care, Winchendon Health Foundation, Wood’s Ambulance and Unitil.

Dawn Casavant, Heywood

Healthcare vice president of development and chief philanthropy officer stated to participants, “Because of each and every one of you, today’s race grossed over \$15,000 to help us continue our community-based mental health and suicide prevention efforts, to include leadership of the Suicide Prevention Task Force, the

Regional Behavioral Health Collaborative, MENders and a variety of school and community-based education and care coordination services.” For more information on these initiatives, please contact the Heywood Healthcare Philanthropy Office at (978) 630-6431.

## Athletes recognized as soccer season ends



Varsity Boys Soccer Team: Back row (left to right): Josh Berrospe, Adam Digman, Guerin Lovett, Mac Brimhall, Napoleon Desire, Coach Alex Burke. Front Row: Marcos Rodriguez, Julio Rodriguez, Aaron MacFarlane, Gavin Stocking, Cole Patterson

The boys’ and girls’ varsity and middle school soccer teams officially celebrated the end of the 2018 season with an awards banquet and ceremony November 5. Following a delicious meal of pasta, salad and bread (provided by the River’s Edge Restaurant, courtesy of the coaches), desserts (provided by soccer families) and cold drinks (provided by Murdock Sports Boosters), the group of approximately 200 attendees regrouped to the auditorium for awards.

The Murdock High School seniors were recognized first, as their “senior night” game had been rained out. Each senior made a short speech, essentially thanking their coaches, fellow team mates, and families for their support. Each senior was given a flower which they presented to their parent(s). Seniors who were recognized were: Izaria Alcantara, Kaileen Dibble, Makenzie Lundin, Maria Polcari, Josh Berrospe and Adam Digman. Senior Zach Richards also played this season but was unable to attend the banquet.

David Laraba, Middle School boys’ coach, presented each of his players with a medal, signifying a specific award as follows: Jacob Bushey

– Top Teammate Award, William Chretien – Most Improved Midfielder, Christian Severo- Biggest Kick Award, Wil Mackay – Hustle Award, Alexander Gusakov – Best Midfielder Award, Owen Trickett – Hustle Award, Casey Wood – Leadership Award, Damon Legault (Captain) – Top Teammate Award, Evan Caron – Excellent Defense Award, Anthony Osborne – Leadership Award, Tanner Brimhall – Hustle Award, Bradley Wightman – Iron man Award, Jayden Rich – Team Spirit Award, Guil Souza – Team Spirit Award, Zakk Capitaio – Hustle Award, Jacob Johnson – Team Spirit Award, Phillip Graves – Hustle Award, Gordon Reichart – Top Teammate Award, Aiden Phongsaly – Team Spirit Award, Joey Vanerlinden – Most Determined Award, Ben Digman – Great Goalie Award, Joel Berrospe – Great Goalie Award, Yicheng Liang – Team Spirit Award, Matt Spivey – Special Recognition Award, and Gavin Greer – Coaches Award. Also recognized was Michelle Greer as the team mom.

Larry Richard, Middle School girls’ coach, presented each of his players with a trophy, each of which sported a



Middle school boys’ soccer team with Coach David Laraba

“highlight” date, signifying a particular play or incident important to the season. The middle school girls team consisted of: 8th graders: Maggie Phelps, Rylie Maynard, Kryslin Funke, Stacy Wood, Abby Trick. 7th graders: Madisson Alden, Arianne Daigle. 6th graders: Sophia Jean, Savannah Arsenault, Lillyanna Cyganiewicz, Susan Basso, Lana Girouard, Maia Drake.

Alex Burke, first year varsity boys’ coach, reflected on the season, and presented each player with their varsity letter or pin. Additional awards were presented to Adam Digman – Offensive Player of the Year, Julio Rodriguez – Defensive Player of the Year, and MacLean “Mac” Brimhall – Comeback Player of the Year. The varsity boys’ soccer team consisted of: Adam Digman, Josh Berrospe, MacLean Brimhall, Zach Richards, Jamieson Rushia, Gavin Stocking, Jeramiah Godsoe, Aaron Macfarlane, Marcos Rodriguez, Cole Patterson, and Napoleon Desire.

Jason Marshall, in his 5th and final year (due to family commitments and desire to coach his own son} as varsity girls’ coach, reflected on this season and the past several seasons, especially recognizing the seniors who have been all been

under his tutelage for 4-5 years. Each member of the team was presented with their varsity letter or pin. Additional awards were presented to: Izaria Alcantara – Defensive Player of the Year, Kaileen Dibble – Utility Player of the Year (for her flexibility in playing a variety of positions), Makenzie Lundin – Team Spirit Award (for her enthusiasm on the sidelines after unfortunately breaking her ankle at the third game of the season), and Maria Polcari – Offensive Player of the Year.

Polcari was also presented with a plaque signifying the number of goals she scored each of her 4 years playing varsity soccer enroute to breaking the previous school career soccer goals record and setting a new record which now stands at 30 goals.

The 2018 varsity girls’ soccer team consisted of: Izaria Alcantara, Makenzie Lundin, Maria Polcari, Kaileen Dibble,



Middle School girls’ soccer team with Coach Larry Richard



Varsity Girls Soccer Team: Back row (l-r): Assistant Coach Alex Burke, Jayla Reisert, Arianna Dibble, Summer Turner. Middle Row: Kaitlyn Losurdo, Cassidy Stadtfeld, Gabby Cote, Katrina Yang. Front Row: Trinity Arsenault, Makenzie Lundin, Maria Polcari, Izaria Alcantara, Kaileen Dibble, Kara Vongchaireung

Arianna Dibble, Cassidy Stadtfeld, Katrina Yang, Gabby Cote, Kara Vongchairueng, Kaleigh Lauziere, Jayla Reisert, Summer Turner, Shannon Abare-Coderre, Jaiya Perez, Trinity Arsenault, Taylor Smith, Kaitlyn Losurdo and Lexi Pare. Maria Polcari, Adam Digman and Julio Rodriguez were all named as 2018 Wachusett League All-Stars.



Seniors with their parents: left to right Kaileen Dibble, Adam Digman, Izaria Alcantara, Makenzie Lundin, Maria Polcari, Josh Berrospe

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# LEGALS

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Dawn Bednarczyk, Richard Bednarczyk to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for NFM, Inc., dated May 20, 2009 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 44336, Page 201, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated August 11, 2017, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 57774, Page 295, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. to Bank of America, N.A., recorded on December 17, 2012, in Book No. 50136, at Page 218

Bank of America, N.A. to PennyMac Loan Servicing, LLC, recorded on August 19, 2015, in Book No. 54176, at Page 363

Bank of America, N.A. to PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, recorded on November 10, 2015, in Book No. 54554, at Page 11

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on December 3, 2018, on the mortgaged premises located at 712 River Street, Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

The land with the buildings situated in the westerly part of Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts, on the southerly side of the road from Waterville to Royalston, known as River Street, being shown as Lot 3, on a plan entitled 'Plan of Lots prepared for Nathan J. Olson, Winchendon, MA, June 12, 1995, Szoc Surveyors, 32 Pleasant Street, Gardner, MA,' recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 696, Plan 42, to which plan reference is made for a more particular description.

**\*\*FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY\*\***

THE improvements thereon being known as 712 River St., Winchendon, MA 01475  
TaxID#4-160

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY WAS TAKEN IN FEE.

BEING the same property which, by Deed dated April 7, 2008, and recorded on April 29, 2008 in the Office of the Registry of Deeds of the County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in Book 42760, Page 88, was granted and conveyed by Robert A. Baron, Jr. and Catherine A. Baron unto Richard Bednarczyk and Dawn Bednarczyk.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42760, Page 88.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

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

PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC  
Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,  
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.  
Newton, MA 02458  
(617)558-0500  
12401

November 9, 2018  
November 16, 2018  
November 23, 2018

# Ceremonies held at Massachusetts Veterans' Cemetery



American Legion Eugene M. Connor Post 193's color guard fires a salute during Veterans Day ceremony held Sunday at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Winchendon. The salute honored those who have served and those who are now serving in all branches of the U.S. armed forces.

Solemn ceremonies were held Sunday at the Massachusetts Veterans' Cemetery on Glenallan Street to commemorate Veterans Day. Speakers and those in attendance were quietly reverent as the ceremonies honored those of all wars.

Greg Vine photos



Richard Bastien, U.S. Navy veteran and director of the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemeteries in Winchendon and Agawam, was the keynote speaker at Sunday's Veterans Day services at the cemetery off Glenallan Street.



Dr. Coral May Grout reads the proclamation from Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker declaring Sunday, November 11, 2018 Veterans Day in the Commonwealth.



This child, safe in her mother's arms, seemed to reflect the somber atmosphere at Sunday's Veterans Day ceremony.

## CIVICS

continued from page A1

2014. CIRCLE also reported to media outlets its study showed only five-percent of young people were politically active in 2016 and that rose to 15-percent this year.

Next year's state budget includes \$1 million for DESE to promote the new standards and to develop new high school assessments to be aligned with new curriculum guidelines for history, civics, and social science. A joint public-private Civics Trust Fund will also be created largely for professional development to help schools develop and implement the curriculum.

Last spring, the state approved changes to the history and social sciences curriculum to include more civics education "across multiple grades and subject areas."

And Winchendon is preparing, with the administration making ready for the changes.

"Teachers at the middle school have begun their curriculum revisions with the intention of rolling out the new curriculum and course for grade 8 at the beginning of the 2019-20 school year," said MMS Principal Jess Vezina.

Said School Committee Chair Greg Vine, "I think it's wonderful that civics education will once again get the priority it rightly deserves.

While I understand the importance of STEM classes in any public school curriculum, I believe the emphasis placed on such courses in recent years has come at the expense of students learning and coming to fully understand the vital importance of civic involvement. I believe the closeness of so many elections in the mid-terms has served to illustrate the importance of the most basic form of civic involvement; the act of voting. Hopefully, returning civics to the classroom in a more robust fashion than we have seen of late will get young people interested not only in voting — in

taking the time to educate themselves about important issues and the positions candidates may take on those issues, but hopefully it will interest more to pursue active careers in public life. Our children need to be taught that serving their fellow citizens via public service is not only honorable, it is at least as important as trying to improve our lives through science, medicine, engineering, IT, or computer sciences. It has become painfully obvious our country is very much in need of people who want to serve the greater good of their country or community, not the selfish enrichment of their own wealth or influence."



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# Honoring Our Local Heroes

## CELEBRATING VETERANS DAY

*The Winchendon Courier salutes our Veterans for their service to this country.  
Below are submitted photos of local veterans from past and present*



Jesse Algarin Chief US Navy Winchendon, MA



Jacob Aaron Maxfield Us Army Active Duty - Stationed in Hawaii Rank - PFC, Winchendon, MA



Hollie Bilodeau-Stacy Airforce A1C Security Forces Winchendon, MA



Gene Drisdelle SSGT Marines Gardner, MA



Helen Waitkevich SKV 3 From Norfolk, MA



Felix Bois US Navy Winchendon, MA



Erik Smith US Army Gardner, MA



Justin Costa US Army Winchendon MA



Cody Slomcheck. He is a currently active duty as a Staff Sargent in the Air Force. He is stationed at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia. Winchendon, MA



Alfred C. Ward US Army Winchendon, MA



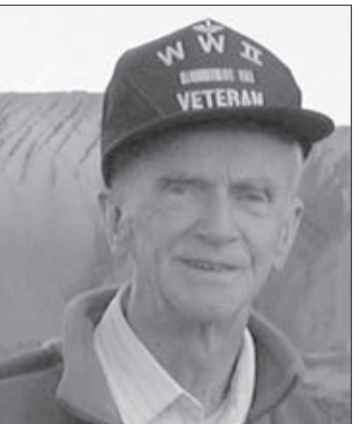
Jason Consiglio US Marine Corps Spencer, MA



Joseph Kondrcek ET2 U.S. Coast Guard Templeton, MA



Ryan Laraba US Marine Corps



Charles E. Grout served during World War 2 in the Pacific Theatre. He was a Sergeant with Gen. MacArthur's crew in the Philippines and Australia. Dad served with the US Air Force. Winchendon MA.

*Due to a production error, we are reprinting this page to honor our Veterans.*

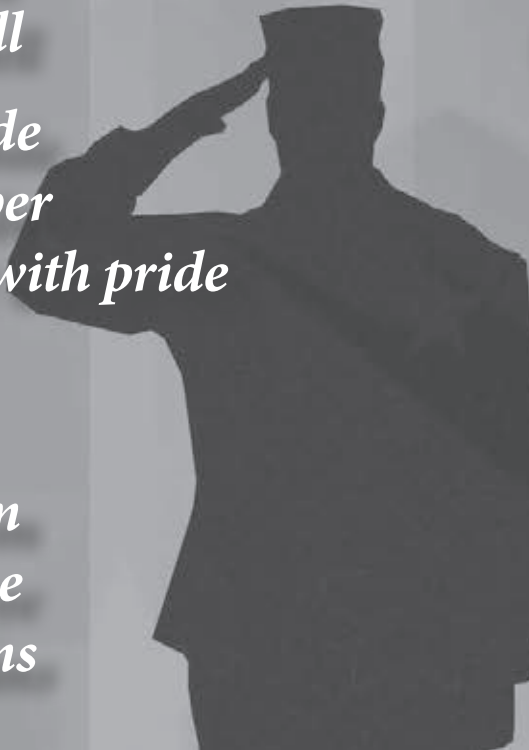
*We apologize for the printing error.*

**Thank you, Veterans**



Steve Cout Courtemanche

*Army Navy Air force  
The Marines and Coast Guard too  
The unequaled resource  
Not asking what they are due  
Their expertise a must  
In hardest situations  
They are the best of us  
Throughout this great nation  
Mind, body, too often spent  
A civilian life on hold  
The brave go wherever sent  
They bear the heavy load  
For what they have gave  
I stand with hand on heart  
Proudly placed not hidden  
Honored to do my part  
Don't stand for our anthem?  
They've paid for that choice as well  
I stand to salute them  
Liberty sounds the bell  
This day we've set aside  
to honor and remember  
All those who served with pride  
Never surrender  
Veterans are the key  
To ensure our freedom  
For freedom is not free  
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Jahala Beaupre*







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## PENNIES FOR MILES

Sharon Perkins photo

Old Murdock Senior Center is collecting a MILE OF PENNIES! How many pennies in a mile you might wonder? If each penny is .75 inches across, it takes 16 pennies to make a foot, and 5,280 feet in one mile! This equals 84,480 pennies in one mile.

Can you help us get a mile of pennies?

All funds raised will be used to help the elder citizens of Winchendon with: oil, prescription assistance, food assistance and other needs.

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