



Courtesy

HOOKED ON PHONICS

Students at Whitinsville Christian School enjoy some hot chocolate and Christmas stories while learning about phonics right before the holiday recess. Photo courtesy of the school's Facebook page.

Two arrested in connection with recent home, car break-ins

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

SUTTON — After a month-long investigation, police have arrested two individuals in connection with multiple local house and car break-ins.

According to the Sutton Police Department, Christopher Romano of Gardner and Christopher Savasta of Oxford were both arrested by Gardner Police on outstanding warrants with additional charges from several other communities pending.

The month-long investigation was conducted by Auburn Det. Keith Chipman and Sutton's Sgt. Matthew Bohanan and Det. Bryan O'Rourke, with additional help from other affected communities, according to reports.

On Nov. 23, Sutton Officers O'Rourke and Silva were dispatched to a residential house break on Burbank Road, according to police.

Turn To **BREAK-INS** page **A11**

Reserve your space now for the UCG

UXBRIDGE — “We had one of our most challenging seasons ever in 2021,” commented Kim DeMers, Chairman of the Uxbridge Community Gardens. “The rain in July was so extreme that we never really dried out. Despite that, many people discovered that the Gardens provide the perfect way to do something together as a family, to get outside in the fresh air and to get some exercise.”

Community gardeners range from rank beginners to very experienced growers who are always willing to help novice members get started. In addition to individual gardens, space is set aside and maintained by volunteers for the People First Food Pantry and the Uxbridge Senior Center. These gardens, and produce donated by individual gardeners, supply fresh vegetables to the Pantry and supplement the Senior Center's lunch

program throughout the growing season.

The Uxbridge Community Gardens, located on town-owned land on Sutton Street adjacent to the youth soccer fields, celebrated its tenth season in 2021. Any resident or taxpayer from the town of Uxbridge or from a surrounding town may qualify for a plot. Each garden measures 20 by 25 feet. The cost for a single plot is \$20 per year, payable with the application. Some double gardens (40 by 25 feet) are also available. Apply early, as spaces may be limited this year!

The Gardens are totally organic; no chemical fertilizer, pesticide or herbicide may be used. For more information about the Gardens' guidelines, download or consult the Ground Rules, Organic Gardening Guidelines and FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) at the Community Gardens page of the town Web site.

“Despite the rain, many of the gardeners produced decent crops last year. I think that's because the soil has now been worked for a number of years and we have figured out how to care for it properly,” commented DeMers. “Water for the Gardens has been a challenge, so we are excited to be working on a dedicated well for the Youth Soccer Program and the Gardens, which we hope will be operational in the spring.”

Applications are now available for 2022 Community Gardens space. Download an application from the Community Gardens page of the Uxbridge Town web site at www.uxbridge-ma.gov. For more information email uxbcommunitygardens@uxbridge-ma.gov. It'll be spring before you know it!

Vegetables and flowers thrive in a plot at the Uxbridge Community Gardens

Three charged in connection with ongoing prostitution investigation

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

BLACKSTONE — A Blackstone resident was among the three individuals who police have recently charged in connection with an ongoing prostitution solicitation investigation.

The Blackstone Police Department, in cooperation with the Blackstone Valley Drug and Counter Crimes Task Force, arrested three subjects last month following an investigation and subsequent operation that focused on “the alleged solicitation of sexual conduct in exchange for cash via social media,” according to police.

“This investigation should send a strong message to individuals soliciting prostitution in our

community that not only will it not be tolerated, but our department will proactively seek out and arrest those participating in these crimes,” said Blackstone Police Chief Gregory Gilmore. “When these types of activities occur in our neighborhoods, it has an effect on the safety, wellbeing and quality of life of everyone in those neighborhoods.”

Reports indicate that the investigation was initiated after Blackstone Police detectives developed information regarding alleged prostitution solicitation from a previous case.

Police added that the individuals charged include John Flanagan, 60, of Cumberland, R.I.; Timothy McLaughlin, 55, of Blackstone; and Joseph Vieira, 65, of Seekonk, who were each

arrested and charged with Sexual Conduct for a Fee, according to Chief Gilmore in a press statement.

The three individuals were arraigned in Uxbridge District Court on Dec. 30 and were released on personal recognizance, according to reports.

“These arrests are a result of excellent investigative work by the agencies and officers involved, and we will work with the Worcester County District Attorney's Office to fully prosecute these cases,” Chief Gilmore added.

According to police, a fourth suspect was also charged, but charges were dismissed on Dec. 31 by an Uxbridge District Court judge following arraignment.

Douglas library suspends in-person programming

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS — Due to COVID-19, the Douglas-based Simon Fairfield Public Library has re-instituted a universal mask mandate for the month of January and has suspended in-person programming.

Library Director Justin Snook said the decision was made because community transmission has increased. Those who are signed up for story times or book clubs with Children's Librarian Deb Soderman will have Zoom invites sent directly to them, Snook said. For more details, visit mysfpl.org.

In Sutton, the library has announced that it now has five hotspots available to be checked out.

“If you are going on a long car ride, visiting a home without Internet, lose power because of a winter storm, or you just want to try one out, stop in and borrow one today,” the Sutton Library shared, adding that only one hotspot can be checked out per household. “But don't worry; they can provide Wi-Fi for up to ten devices.”

The library released that this hotspot program is brought to residents by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Institute of Museum

Turn To **LIBRARY** page **A11**



State officials hold firm against school closure requests

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION—Despite pleas from the Massachusetts Teachers Association, state officials have remained firm in their decision to keep schools open full-time coming out

of the holiday break. Prior to schools reopening on the first Monday of the new year, Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA) President Merrie Najimy issued an urgent request to state leaders.

“After consulting with our Environmental Health and Safety Committee and public health experts, the Massachusetts Teachers Association is calling on state Education Commissioner Jeffrey

Riley to keep all schools closed on Monday [Jan. 3], except for staff COVID-19 testing,” Najimy said. “To protect the public health and the safety of our communities, it is urgent to allow districts to use Jan. 3 for administering COVID-19 tests to school staff and analyzing the resulting data.”

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley and Gov. Charlie Baker were in agreement to hold classes statewide on Jan. 3, with no days off for testing. Even with the surge of Omicron cases resulting from the holidays, state officials said they are not considering a return to remote learning. Both Riley and Baker emphasized the importance in-person learning plays in students’ educational and emotional wellbeing.

“Kids need to be in school—school is safe,” Baker said. “There’s an overwhelming amount of evidence out there that keeping kids out of school, keeping them

away from one another, keeping them away from trained and caring adults, did terrible damage to kids all over the country. It’s not going to happen in Massachusetts.”

State officials said the combination of vaccine availability, mask mandates in schools, and other safety protocols should be enough to ensure that students are safe in class without needing to return to remote learning.

But the MTA and thousands of educators and school staff members across the state contend that schools are not currently safe with COVID-19 cases surging.

The MTA has long demanded greater access to COVID-19 tests, officials said. Earlier this month, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education announced the arrival of 200,000 tests for school staff, but MTA leaders said that number isn’t nearly enough for continued testing.

As of last week, the

nation was averaging over 500,000 new COVID-19 cases per day. Reports have widely suggested the Omicron variant may be less severe than previous variants, but daily COVID deaths in the U.S. have frequently exceeded 2,000 since the start of January.

On multiple days last week, new daily cases surpassed 700,000 nationwide. In Massachusetts, the surge has caused thousands of teachers and other school staff members to be out of work due to positive tests.

MTA officials said they agree with state leaders that in-person education is vital, but they said more needs to be done to ensure it happens safely for students, staff, and visitors.

“The MTA is committed to making sure that in-person learning continues as long as it is safe—and that students, school staff, families, and communities are protected as the new year begins to unfold,” Najimy said.

Nearly 2,500 make Dean’s List at CCU

CONWAY, S.C. — Nearly 2,500 undergraduate students at Coastal Carolina University were named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2021 semester. Students who make the Dean’s List have achieved a grade point average between 3.5-3.99 for the semester. Students recognized include:

Kira Sullivan, a Psychology major of Uxbridge
Caleb Visbeck, a Exercise and Sport Science major of Uxbridge
Coastal Carolina University is a dynamic, public comprehensive liberal arts institution located in Conway, located just minutes from the resort area of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

CCU offers baccalaureate degrees in 95 major fields of study. Among the University’s graduate-level programs are 27 master’s degrees, two educational specialist degrees, and the doctorates in education and in marine science: coastal and marine systems science. CCU boasts a growing array of internship, research, and international opportunities for students, as well as numerous online programs through Coastal Online.

More than 10,400 students from across the country and around the world interact with a world-class faculty, and enjoy a nationally competitive NCAA I athletic program, an inspiring cultural calendar, and a tradition of community interaction that is fueled by more than 180 student clubs and organizations.

Visit coastal.edu for more information.

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News from Beginning Bridges

REGION — Beginning Bridges CFCE supports parents as their children’s first, best and most important teachers in the communities of Mendon, Northbridge, Upton & Uxbridge. We are a non-profit, family support organization that provides FREE comprehensive services. Currently our programs include weekly indoor and outdoor early play/literacy story times, outdoor story walks and many activity suggestions on our webpage. We also sponsor parent education programs, offer the Ages & Stages Developmental Questionnaire and can connect families to resources. Our goal is to support parents as they guide their children to reach their optimum potential. We work with many community partners who share the same goal of strengthening our communities. Funding for the Coordinated Family & Community Engagement Grant (CFCE) is provided

by the Massachusetts Dept. of Early Education and Care (EEC) and sponsored by South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC-Childcare/Head Start). Upcoming Events-Registration is required for all upcoming events. Links can be accessed on our website or contact Emily Murray at 508-278-5110 or Emurray@smoc.org.

Playgroups start February 7th, please contact Emily Murray via email with any questions.

Mondays to Fridays, Parent Child Playgroups, at Uxbridge playcenter, 9 North Main Street, lower left office.

Thursdays, 03/03//22 to 06/02/22, Coffee and Conversations, 9:30 to 10:30 am at Taft Public Library, 29 North Ave in Mendon, join us for an informal drop-in playtime where families will be able to build social connections, learn about early childhood development and fami-

ly friendly resources. Please bring your own coffee. Muffins from Muffin House Cafe will be provided.

Tuesdays, 02/08/22 to 06/14/22, Music and Movement with Deb Hudgins, 10:30 to 11:00am at Upton Town Library.

Wednesdays, 02/16/22 to 06/22/22, Music and Movement with Deb Hudgins, 10:30 to 11:00am at Whitinsville Social Library.

Wednesdays 02/22/22 & 6/9/22, MOM’s Club Playtime, 9:30-11:00 am at Uxbridge Play Center. Connect with other parents while your children experience a group setting for peer play in a safe, fun and developmentally appropriate setting.

Friday, 02/04/22, Story Walk, “Tracks in the Snow”, 10:30 to 12:30am at VanderZicht Stables, 61 Rawson St., Uxbridge



ACCURACY WATCH

The *Blackstone Valley Tribune* 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 A3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake, email news@stonebridgepress.news or call (508) 909-4106 during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor’s voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call.

MILLBURY SENIOR CENTER

VALENTINE ‘S DAY PARTY
Tuesday, Feb 8th at 11 – 1 P.M.
Games and prizes!!
Lunch will be served
Chicken Fajitas with Spanish rice, black beans & corn
Pineapple, sour cream pita bread
Call the center to RSVP by February 1st 508-865-9154

COVID-19 BOOSTER APPOINTMENT ASSISTANCE
We will assist Millbury Senior residents
If you do not have access to a computer and need help scheduling an appointment for the Booster
Please call the center at 508-865-9154

SENIOR WORK – OFF PROGRAM
For Eligible seniors, 60 or older that are residents of Millbury
Receive up to \$1,500 per year that can be used to pay real estate property tax
In return for voluntary service at a town department
For more information or to pick up an application please call the center at 508-865-9154

SENIOR CENTER EXERCISE CLASSES!!
LIGHT EXERCISE CLASSES
Mondays and Fridays 9:30 A.M. – 10:15 A.M. (Free!)
TAI CHI
Tuesdays 9:30 - 10:30 A.M. (class is \$3)
YOGA
Thursdays 9 – 10 A.M. (Class is \$3)

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES!
WII BOWLING
Mondays at 12:30 P.M.
MAHJONG
Mondays at 12:45 P.M.
BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC
Every Tuesday from 9 A.M. - 10 A.M.
CRIBBAGE
Tuesdays at 1 P.M.
SOCIAL BINGO
Wednesdays at 1 P.M.
Bring your pennies!
DULL MENS CLUB
Thursdays at 10 – 11 A.M.
No reservations required for any of our activities or exercise classes!

Lunches are served Monday through Friday 12 P.M. at the Senior Center
The menu is available on the town website, www.townofmillbury.org
Or our Millbury Senior Center Facebook page.
A 48 hour reservation is required.

Millbury Senior Center Transportation
Transportation is provided for Millbury Senior Residents
Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.

We travel one town out in each direction including Sutton, Grafton, Auburn and Worcester
A 48 hour notice is required for scheduling rides (business days)
Rides are free until January 1st
For more information or to schedule transportation call the center at 508-865-9154

“MEMORY CAFÉ”
Please join us on Tuesday, January 25th at 2- 3:30 P.M.
A Memory Café is a monthly gathering for people with memory loss/ challenges and their care partners. It is a time to socialize, make new friends, and have a good time.
refreshments will be served!
We are also looking for volunteers to assist with this program!
Our Outreach worker, Julie Fitzgerald, is happy to answer any questions, call to RSVP 508-865-9154!

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

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

NORTHBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER

Phone: 508-234-2002
www.northbridgema.org/council-on-aging
Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Plummer Place is currently closed to the public due to the increase in Covid cases in our community. We are hoping to reopen by February 1st. Staff is available during regular business hours if you need assistance. Our bus is running on its regular schedule, call the Center to make an appointment for shopping, prescriptions, in town medical appointments or other essential trips.

Our out of town medical program will continue to run during our shutdown, please call us at least two days ahead of time to schedule with one of our drivers.

We are in great need of out of town medical drivers. If you could spare a few hours a week to take a senior to an out

of town medical appointment, please call the Center. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage.

The Food Pantry, located below Plummer Place, will continue to serve during its regular hours: Tuesdays 10-12:00 and Thursdays 1-3:00.

Some of our exercise programs will continue via Zoom, call Kelly for the link.

Check out our shows on Northbridge Cable TV, channel 194, Monday through Friday from 9-11:00am. We show exercise classes for our senior population along with some entertainment.

QVCC announces Fall 2021 Dean’s List

students named to the Fall 2021 semester dean’s list.

DANIELSON, Conn. — Quinebaug Valley Community College has announced the names of 178

Charlton
Caitlin Baer, Johnathan Tucker

Dudley
Molly Castano, Brett Spiewakowski

Southbridge
Jourhana Colon

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TRIBUNE ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

BLACKSTONE

\$505,000, 55 Glenside Dr, Rasmussen, Catherine A, and Rasmussen, Duncan M, to Hill, Adriana, and Hill, Jeffrey.
\$425,000, 141 King St, Lucchesi, Michael J, and Lucchesi, Susan A, to Collins, Christopher, and Johnson, Marissa.
\$350,000, 126 Lakeshore Dr, Carlson, Robert A, and Carlson, Mary L, to Lima, Katia, and Pereira, Lucio.
\$325,000, 66 Edgewater Dr, Darveau, Jean P, to Nashawaty, Robert D.
\$297,500, 16 Goddard St, Guca, Elsie B Est, and Guca, John F, to Silva, Thiago, and Silva, Michelle.
\$42,441, 105 Summer St, Marcotte, Sandra L, and Planet Home Lending LLC, to BCMB1 Owner LLC.

DOUGLAS

\$413,266, 62 Compass Point Dr #62, Northbrown LLC, to Nichols, Keith A.
\$265,000, 17 Cook St, Bennett, Nancy E, to Kantor, Angela T.
\$232,000, 3 Eagle Dr #3, Patnode, Jonathan S, to Viola, Daniel, and Mccarthy, Sara P.
\$81,000, 148 Webster St #2, Lackey Dam Properties Inc, to Rocha, Ernest.

NORTHBRIDGE

\$2,300,000, 2228-2238 Providence Rd, PMA RE Management LLC, to RFC MFC 2228 Providence.
\$590,000, 244 Samuel Dr, Nicoletti, Edward T, and Nicoletti, Sheryl A, to Cyr, Nathaniel J, and Cyr, Kayla.
\$390,000, 194 Purgatory Rd, Joyce, Alan, and Joyce, Margaret E, to Plummers Realty Assoc LLP.
\$288,000, 1-11 Quaker St, Knott James M Sr Est, and Milne-Knott, James, to Knott, Edward J.
\$288,000, Quaker Ln, Knott James M Sr Est, and Milne-Knott, James, to Knott, Edward J.
\$230,000, 42 Elm St #42, Carey-Oleary, Kathleen, to Patella, Nicholas A.
\$225,000, 37-R Burdon St, Nigro, David, and Nigro, Tammy, to Ejogbe Contractor LLC.

UXBRIDGE

\$489,900, 21 Highview Dr, Simonini, James T, and Simonini, Jeanette A, to Raiche, Kevin, and Raiche, Elizabeth.
\$420,000, 6 Homeward Ave, Roberts, Jason H, to Mussulli, Jacob M.
\$401,000, 14 Hyde Park Cir #14, Moniz, Matthew, and Mcdonagh, Caroline, to Meyer, Jessica, and Drake, Jeffrey D.
\$400,000, 94 Country Squire Rd #94, Remillard, Yvette G, to Brandoli, Richard A, and Brandoli, Christine M.
\$379,900, 43 Power St, Gomes, Dionne M, to Gallagher, Lisa.
\$260,000, 8 Princess Path #8, Graf, Chad, and Graf, Sarah, to Bowen-Griffith, Beatrix.
\$250,000, 95 High St #B, Gallagher, Terence A, and Gallagher, Lisa M, to Genova, Anniken L.
\$55,000, 166 Pond St, Baca Pond Street RT, and Baca, John S, to Lesperance, Wayne C, and Lesperance, Tammy.

[www.Stonebridge Press.com](http://www.StonebridgePress.com)

PET of the WEEK



Meet Shark! This handsome gentleman traveled from warm waters in FL, all the way to New England. But don't be intimidated by his name, he is a 5 to 8-year-old sweetie who is ready to retire. He has possible hip dysplasia, otherwise he's in great shape.

- Shark would like to live with teenagers or adults -- he is very friendly!
- He has a great energy level! Happy to go for walks and play and loves car rides, but also happy to lounge around and spend time with people!
- He loves to play ball. It's his favorite game!
- Smart boy! He knows sit and walks great on leash!
- Great with dogs! Shark likes to walk and play with other dogs!
- We don't think he wants to share his home with a cat.

If you think Shark could be for you, please email adopt@baypathhumane.org today! He is just the sweetest guy and we cannot wait to find him his new family!

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Applications welcome for Douglas preschool/Pre-Kindergarten program

DOUGLAS — Beginning Feb. 1, the Douglas Preschool/Pre-Kindergarten Program will be accepting applications from Douglas residents for the 2022-2023 school year.

Our program offers preschool for three year olds and Pre-Kindergarten for four year olds. We offer a half day program for three year olds, and both half and full day programs for four year olds. A variety of options, including two, three, or five days, are available.

Open House will be held Tuesday, Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. at Douglas Primary School, 17 Gleason Court.

Applications are available on the Douglas Public Schools Web site or by calling the Douglas Primary School at (508) 476-2154. Children must be three years of age by Sept. 1. Deadline for applications is March 1.

UConn announces Fall Dean's List

- STORRS, Conn. — The University of Connecticut congratulates the following students on being named to its Fall 2021 Dean's List.

Auburn Grace Foulkrod, Lexis Johnson

Blackstone Aaron Bolduc

Douglas
- Mary Foley, Matthew Lathe

Dudley Grace Gavin

Grafton Olivia Rice, Lindsey Sawtelle

Sturbridge Cameron Dungey

Sutton Julianna Cushner, Annika Haerle

Upton Ryan Conrad, Jonathan Romine, Tessa Stewart

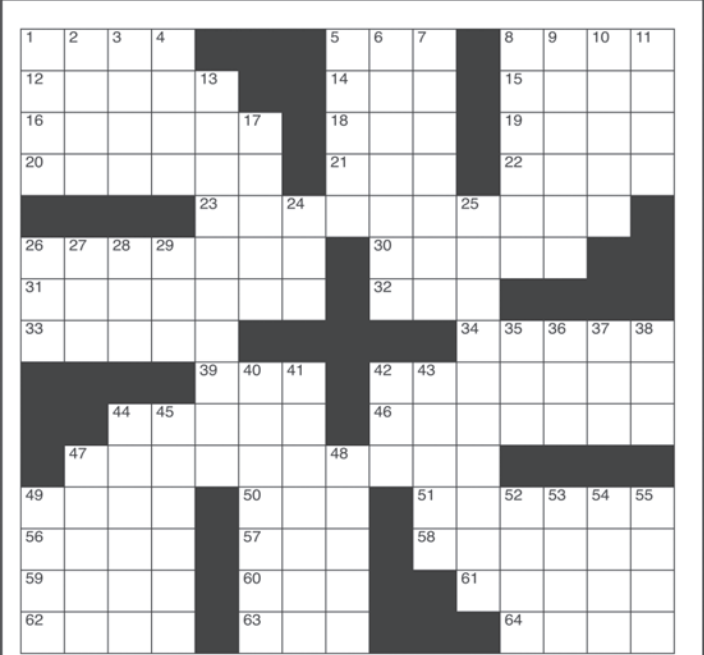
Uxbridge Kieler Langemo



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- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Requests

5. Calendar month

8. Invests in little enterprises

12. Bird sound

14. S. American plant cultivated for tubers

15. Car

16. Bullfighter

18. Hill (Celtic)

19. Strong criticism

20. Detector

21. When you hope to get there

22. Having the skill to do something

23. Legendary MLB broadcaster

26. Vulcanite

30. C. Asian mountain range

31. In a way, healed

32. Midway between east and southeast
33. Small appendages of insects

34. __ Greene, "Bonanza" actor

39. A place to bathe

42. Postal worker accessory

44. Classical music

46. A way of wrecking

47. Terminator

49. You eat three a day

50. Pointed end of a pen

51. NATO official (abbr.)

56. Genus of clams

57. Boxing's "G.O.A.T."

58. A colorless, odorless gas used as fuel

59. Covered thinly with gold paint

60. Bachelor of Laws

61. Red fluorescent dye

62. Engineering group

63. Female sibling

64. Adjacent

- CLUES DOWN**
1. What a thespian does

2. Footwear

3. Adjust spacing between

4. Witnesses

5. Who shows excessive fondness

6. Distinct form of a plant

7. National capital

8. Hunting expedition

9. Related to medulla oblongata

10. European country

11. Cola

13. Excluded from use or mention

17. Speak

24. Bloodshot

25. Make better

26. Keyboard key

27. Type of degree

28. Paddle
29. Peacock network

35. Not young

36. Baseball stat

37. One's grandmother

38. Breakfast food

40. Bathroom features

41. Disease-causing bacterium

42. NY ballplayer

43. Got up

44. Prophet

45. Part of the mouth

47. Unnatural

48. Acronym for brain science study

49. Three are famous

52. Languages spoken in Patagonia

53. Freedom from difficulty

54. Widely used OS

55. Many people pay it

PUZZLE SOLUTION

1	X	E	N			S	I	S		E	E	E	I			
N	I	S	O	E		B	T	T		L	T	I	G			
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C	I	B	S		C	E	D			S	K	S	V			

Shannon Francolini named to Dean's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Shannon Francolini of Whitinsville has been named to the Plymouth State University Dean's List for the Fall 2021 semester. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69 during the Fall semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Francolini is a Communication Studies major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

Local students named to President's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — 870 students have been named to the Plymouth State University President's List for the Fall 2021 semester. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.7 or better for the Fall 2021 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester.

Devon Gokey of Uxbridge

Kerry Iadarola of Northbridge

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Nicholas Lyford earns dean's list honors at The College of Saint Rose

ALBANY, N.Y. — Nicholas Lyford, of Douglas, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2021 semester at The College of Saint Rose. Lyford is majoring in Forensic Science.

Full-time undergraduate students who complete a minimum of 12 graded credit hours and who achieve a semester average of 3.5 without a D, F, or Incomplete are eligible for the dean's list.

The College of Saint Rose (www.strose.edu) is a dynamic, progressive college in the heart of New York's capital city where teaching is the first priority. The Saint Rose experience empowers students to improve themselves and the world around them.

Local students named to Stonehill Dean's List

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

Samantha Chrabaszcz of Northbridge

Rianne Cooney of Northbridge

Justine Michaud of Douglas

Rory Paul of Uxbridge

Sophie Psuik of Uxbridge

Brooke Riccitelli of Uxbridge

Camryn Salera of Douglas

Katharine Tubbs of Northbridge

Megan Vanelli of Uxbridge

Matthew Worthington of Uxbridge

About Stonehill College

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

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for more than 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

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✿ ✿ ✿ Friday's Child ✿ ✿ ✿



Christopher
Age: 13

Photo by Photo by Judy West

I love to build things!

Christopher "Chris" is a twelve year-old boy of bi-racial descent who loves to be active and is described as playful. Christopher has many positive relationships with the peers and adults in his life. He is very active and enjoys climbing, building, playing outdoors, and going on outings in the community. Christopher also loves playing video games and building Legos and can entertain himself with them for hours.

Chris is in the 6th grade and continues to make good progress at school. He loves his school and has many positive relationships with his school staff. Chris continues to receive educational support and would do well with a family who can

continue to advocate for his needs at school.

Legally freed for adoption, Christopher has a great relationship with his younger brother who he sees at least monthly. A family will need to be open to continued visits with his sibling. He also has an uncle that participates in these visits and is a support to him and would like to remain involved in his life. Christopher has reported that he'd like to live in a house with a mom, a dad, and some pets. He would do best in a flexible, playful home. A family could have no children or significantly older children than Christopher. While Chris' social worker is ultimately seeking a permanent family for him, Chris would also benefit from forming relationships with other caring adults and would benefit from a Visiting Resource. Anyone interested in this opportunity should inquire about Chris.

Who Can Adopt?

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LG-BTQ singles and couples.

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

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

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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Baby, it’s cold outside

Newsflash: it’s cold. Our little neck of the woods here has finally hit frigid sub-zero temperatures. Folks may be running low on fuel, or even running empty, causing frozen pipes to burst. Fuel companies are scheduled two weeks out in some cases, and several customers are feeling stressed due to the financial burden this cold weather brings. Our only advice is to hold on tight and think about how toasty things will be when temperatures soar into the teens and low 20s again.

The winter solstice on Dec. 21 has passed, and the days are getting longer...and, we hope, sunnier. One perk to this post-New Year’s time is that, well, the holidays are over. The hustle and bustle starts in late November and doesn’t calm down until the week following New Year’s. Is it overrated? Maybe. We hope you are all able to relax in the days ahead.

When weather hits sub-zero, it’s hard to remember why we live here. We live in New England because winter, for the most part, is fun and manageable. We love our snow sports, the smell of wood stoves cranking and the beauty of the snow-capped mountains.

Some of you may think of our ancestors who had to cut chords of wood by hand all year long just to prepare for the harsh New England winters. Houses way back when had no insulation or the walls were stuffed with straw and mud. Common houses were much smaller, therefore easier to keep heated with one wood stove. The fireplace was the focal point of a colonial home and was the place where family members would talk and work on small projects during the evening. The average size of a house according to today’s standards is about 2,600 square feet. A home of that size hundreds of years ago was often occupied by the wealthy, who were able to afford to put a wood stove in each room of the house. Children often slept in lofts where the heat would rise and often shared a bed with siblings, using body heat to keep warm.

In days of old, people used thick curtains and down comforters to keep the heat in. Before bedtime, many would use a bed warmer, which was a brass pan with a long handle that was filled with hot rocks. Foot warmers were popular as well. These fancy contraptions were made of a wood framed tin box also with heated rocks that would be placed by the feet under the comforter. This heating method was used for trips in the horse and buggy as well. Church goers would bring their own boxes of heat and blankets to keep warm during a Sunday service.

Important to note is the fact that over the years humans have increasingly adapted to warmer weather as a result of modern technology. Our ancestors were able to withstand much colder temperatures and remain more comfortable in colder temperatures than we do today. All of that aside, we are pretty lucky to have the conveniences we do during these cold blasts.

Since winter is not nearly over, here are a few tips with regard to winter survival. Avoid frost bite and frost nip at all costs. When the water molecules in your skin cells freeze, they die. Once this happens, they can cause damage to your muscular and nervous systems. Exposed skin can develop frostbite within 30 minutes with winds of 10 mph and a temperature of -5 degrees. If you are outside and find your hands freezing, the warmest place for them to go is under your armpits, the warmest part of your body.

Another culprit is hypothermia. When your body hits 95 degrees you’re entering the danger zone. When your organs start to drop in temperature they begin to shut down. If you notice yourself shivering or lacking coordination, it’s time to get warm fast. Other more severe symptoms include low energy, difficulty speaking, a weak pulse and the cessation of the shivers. It’s important to stay well nourished during any time spent outside, as your body needs that energy to stay warm. Always have a Snickers bar or something similar handy just in case. Staying hydrated is a must as you need water to keep your nervous system running properly. One rule of thumb is to never eat snow while trying to survive in frigid temperatures. Your body will be forced to warm it from the inside which wastes energy and can cause hypoglycemia. Try to

Turn To **EDITORIAL** page **A7**

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A presidency by committee

To the Editor:
What I believe. Feel free to disagree. It’s time to be wide awake.
From 1776 to the end of the Revolutionary War, Thomas Paine wrote a series of articles, called “The American Crisis.” He wrote: “Tyranny, like Hell, is not easily conquered.” It was a time when citizens spoke their minds.

This, now, is an American crisis. This is Tyranny and Hell. Time to speak out.
Have you taken a moment to think about the tyranny of this Presidency-By-Committee, acting in direct opposition to what Americans want? Here’s a list:

The Afghanistan disaster; Harris the Do-Nothing VP; Covid, rampant, despite vaccines; the failure to order millions of Covid tests; millions of illegal immigrants flood over our Southern border (the highest number in 61 years).

Americans do not want these failures. Americans did not vote for this.

Worst inflation in 39 years; price of gas up 58 percent; consumer prices up 7 percent, with another 6 percent predicted; fastest drop in Presidential approval since WWII; the Secretary of Transportation telling us to buy electric cars so we won’t have to worry about gas prices [electricity is free?]; courts rejecting Biden vaccine mandates; felons smashing store windows in Democrat cities and stealing, huge homeless encampments, murder rates skyrocketing in blue cities.

Americans did not vote for this. This, now, is a time to speak up.

Has anyone been arrested for the \$1 billion in damage from rioting, looting and arson that destroyed black communities in 2020? No one has been arrested, indicted, prosecuted, or jailed, courtesy of Progressives. And the 500 silly, unarmed rioters in D.C. were going to overthrow the government? Yeah, right.

We have a tyrannical Presidency-by-Committee: Ron Clain, Chief of Staff (worked for politicians all his life), Spokes Human Psaki (lifelong staffer for politicians), Secretary Blinken (an Obama Globalist who speaks in a sleepy monotone), and 44-year-old Jake Sullivan, National Security Advisor (another Globalist Socialist) who ends every statement with a question mark. Eleven year

olds speak with more conviction than he does. These people were not elected, but they are the President (tyranny by a secret minority).

The tyranny of the Left was on parade during the week of arguments before the U.S. Supreme Court on the Mississippi abortion law. Did you know that American abortion law is equal to that of China and North Korea? Did you know that 75 percent of all nations do not permit abortion after 12 weeks, except to save the life and health of the mother? Did you know that Mississippi drafted its law consistent with these other 75 nations? No, the tyrants of the Left don’t want you to know that.

The tyrannical Woke Mob suddenly discovered that it is, indeed, women who bear children. Prior to this, they lectured us about “birthing persons” or “pregnant persons,” as if, by some transformation, men had become biologically capable of becoming pregnant and we the people must admit this nonsensical non-fact. Now, they suddenly say: “how dare these men on the Supreme Court make a decision about a woman’s body! These men cannot get pregnant!” Wait, what? Remember, tyrants contort like snakes, and their lies coil around you, the citizen.

Finally, in my humble opinion, we have no President. Biden cannot complete a coherent sentence or handle a free-wheeling press conference, never mind defend us from threats, foreign and domestic. This frail man cannot negotiate his way to the Exit sign without help. China may play “make believe Biden is President”, but China knows the Emperor has no clothes. Do we?

We have an un-elected staff who run the country. Tell me this is not tyranny.

Time to be revolutionary. Time for this mentally deficient man to exit, Stage Left, from the Presidency, go to Delaware and watch old movies all day. Time for the People to call a National Day of Prayer. With this tyrannical Presidency-by-Committee, our nation is in grave danger.

What say you?
Nevertheless, she persisted.
Bev Gudanowski
Uxbridge

Let’s make Massachusetts a state where people can die with dignity

To the Editor:

According to a 2020 poll by the Boston Globe and Suffolk University, 70 percent of Massachusetts citizens support passing The End of Life Options Act (H.2381).

I support ‘Death with Dignity’ because I’ve seen up close the cruelty of denying terminally ill patients medical aid in dying when they so desperately beg for it. I had to witness my sister die slowly from her illness. Unable to swallow, and living in Texas, where the option to choose assisted medical aid in dying is denied to its citizens, she was condemned to slowly starve to death. The process took weeks. Sipping water through a straw often sent her into paroxysms of agony as she felt herself start to drown.

Massachusetts, where I brought her home to die, also denied her the medical aid in dying that she wanted so desper-

ately.

Please, let’s make Massachusetts the 11th state in the country to grant its citizens the fundamental right of choice at the end of life, as Vermont, New Jersey, Maine, Washington, D.C. and others have done. Countries like Canada, New Zealand, and Netherlands have also passed such laws.

Please contact your legislators and urge them to support passage of this bill in January by the Public Health Committee, so that it can be voted on and passed by the full legislature before the session ends next July 31. Also contact family and friends statewide and urge them to contact their legislators too.

Sylvia Montgomery Shaw
Sutton

Make gardening your New Year’s resolution

The New Year is filled with resolutions that usually involve dieting and exercise. Gardening is a great way to help accomplish these two resolutions, while also improving your mood, reducing blood pressure, maintaining flexibility, burning calories and much more.

Resolve to grow your own vegetables and eat healthier in the New Year. Get your family and friends involved in planning ways to include gardening into your lives.

Explore ways to incorporate vegetables and herbs into your landscape. Vegetable gardens are not the only option. Tucking vegetables into flowerbeds, mixed borders and container gardens



GARDEN
MOMENTS
• • • • •
MELINDA
MYERS

can expand your planting space. Look for new compact and colorful vegetable varieties that fit nicely into small spaces, planters, and ornamental gardens.

Take an inventory of any leftover seeds and make a list of those seeds and any plants you need to purchase. The earlier you order, the more likely you are to obtain the items on your list.

Don’t wait to start your year of healthful garden-

ing and eating habits. Start by growing micro-greens in January. They are quick, easy and require no special equipment. Plus, recent research found that many contain as much as 25 times more nutrients than the leaves of the full-grown plant.

Organize a seed swap with family and friends in winter. It is a great way to extend your plant budget and experiment with new seeds. Turn old seeds that are no longer viable into artwork with sheets of paper or small pieces of wood, glue, and some creativity.

Start vegetable, herb, and flower seeds indoors in late winter through mid

Turn To **GARDENING** page **A8**

The kindness of strangers

POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
TOBY
MOORE

I spent the New Year celebrating with my girlfriend in a beautiful, small, old town in northwestern Illinois named Galena. We had a wonderful time.

Our dinner reservations were at the very historic Desoto Hotel, and to our surprise, nobody was there! People celebrated in the hotel outside of the restaurant, but the restaurant itself was empty. I asked the waitress, “where is everybody?”, she responded, “A big winter storm is coming!”

After dinner, we walked down Main Street and commented on how calm the weather was. There wasn’t a storm.

New Year’s Day was sunny and cold. The weather was nice, so we decided to stay longer and visit some shops we hadn’t seen. By mid-afternoon, the clouds rolled in, accompanied by heavy snowfall.

One of the locals cautioned us from driving home; we thanked her and explained how we had to get back home and go through the blizzard.

I felt confident; I’d driven through many snowstorms all over the nation. I figured we could make it home in seven hours, moving slow.

From the start, many times, I almost went off the road. Carefully, I pressed forward; every mile seemed to be more dangerous. I said to myself, “they will put salt on the roads; there will be snowplows...” But I saw no sign of a snowplow.

Suddenly I felt the car being pulled to the right. I turned to the left to steer the vehicle back on course, but I drove into a ditch four to six feet deep. The snow piled so high in the ditch, it appeared even with the road, and looked as if there was no ditch at all. Within a couple of seconds, my car was deep in a pile of snow.

My girlfriend was understandably upset. “It’s no big deal!” I reassured her as I called AAA roadside assistance. To our surprise, the weather was so bad they shut down service for this part of the country; nobody was coming to save us.

The roads were empty. We were in the middle of nowhere with nothing but the heavy snow on a dark winter’s night.

It’s been such a mild winter this year, I didn’t bring the proper clothes with me. I didn’t have a pair of gloves, a winter jacket, a stocking cap let alone a shovel. It was about 17 degrees, and there wasn’t much I could do. I tried to calm my panicked girlfriend.

About 30 minutes later, we noticed a light in the distance. The light became brighter and brighter; and it turned out to be a big white pickup truck. The driver slowly pulled up and shouted, “Do you need help?” My girlfriend noticed I was playing it cool, so before I could answer, she was yelling, “Yes! Help us, please!”

After about 15 minutes of shoveling and clearing snow out from under my car, he found where he could hook a chain and try to pull us out. Within 30 seconds, my car was pulled right out of the snow and back on the road.

My girlfriend jumped out of the car, and we both thanked him profusely. I didn’t have any cash on me; all I had was a bottle of wine leftover from the New Year celebration. I insisted he take it; we also offered to send him cash through an online app, but he refused. He helped us simply because we needed help.

As we drove home, my girlfriend cried tears of joy. We were blown away by his kind nature and how willing he was to help. We talked about it the whole way home.

Last week, I wrote about how one of my new year resolutions was to help people more. This man who helped us left a significant impact on me. People need help sometimes. It meant so much to us that he took the time to help while his family waited patiently in the car. I want to say thank you again, kind stranger.

Old Man Winter brings safe ice

Old Man Winter arrived this past week, and made a lot of anglers very happy with the first safe ice of the season. Extreme caution needs to be practiced on the first ice of the season, as not all areas on a pond or lake are safe, or have the same thickness as others. It is best to check first ice with a chisel cutting a small hole in the ice as you navigate the pond or lake you are fishing to ensure it is safe .

Jig fishing is the most productive way to catch fish especially yellow perch. Cutting a few holes with an ice auger is a lot easier way to fish than chopping holes with an ice chisel.

Back in my younger days, very few anglers had a power auger to cut holes, and we had to chop holes in the ice before fishing. There were more anglers jigging through the ice than people using ice fishing tilts. There were many Swedish people from Worcester that only used homemade jig sticks and lures to catch fish.

The homemade fishing rods were called dead sticks, as no reel was attached to the stick. When a large fish was encountered, they would ask their fellow fishing buddy to cut the hole larger in order to land the fish. The fish was held with a small



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gaff under the ice until the hole was cut larger, enabling the fish to be brought threw the hole.

Because the fishermen would sometimes cut more than 100 holes a day, they would cut the holes very small, just large enough to bring a perch through. The Swedish fishermen also made their own fishing lures which were often made out of brass and lead.

They were extremely well made and lasted for years if they were not lost to a big fish. The Meadow Pond in Whitinsville was a favorite pond to fish for perch, and anglers could catch as many as eight or ten perch from one hole. When the action stopped another hole was cut in an effort to stay with the school of perch. Cutting holes every few minutes kept the fishing hot. The Meadow pond is still a great pond to ice fish today providing an abundance of four- and five-pound bass annually, but fishermen need to keep the ice free of junk. If you bring it in, be sure to bring it out. More on ice

fishing next week!

This past week, the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club lost a long-time member & friend Wilhelm Huber. “Willie,” as most of us knew him by, was kitchen chairman for many years, but also worked daily to keep the club clean. The late Joan St. Andre, former board of health chairman, stated that the kitchen was the cleanest and most up to date that she had inspected annually, during Willie’s tenure. The coffee pot was always full with fresh hot coffee for members that attended the daily conversations at the club, as Willie often was the first to open the club at

4 a.m.! He loved the club and the members, and often made soup or some other form of food for members to eat. Because of failing health, his annual chicken soup was not available this year for deer hunter to enjoy after daily hunts . He will be sadly missed by all that knew him. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family and friends. Funeral services will be private!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Snow Facts and Trivia

The Old Farmer’s Almanac predicts frigid temperatures and overall average snow for the region this winter. However, the tried-and-true guide warns of more storms and snowfalls this month, and perhaps a big post Valentine’s Day storm in February.

But this should come as no surprise to hardy New Englanders who have had plenty of practice battling Old Man Winter through the years. Hot on the heels of last week’s snowstorm, this column will feature a roundup of informative and interesting snow facts and trivia:

Timeless “Snowisms”

Snow has always been a common topic of conversation for New Englanders, and in 1896 Hadley, MA native Clifton Johnson of nearby Hadley, MA, put together a volume of collected proverbs titled, “What They Say in New England - A Book of Signs, Sayings and Superstitions.” Read on for his entertaining musings on snow:

*If the breast-bones of the Thanksgiving chickens are light in color, there will be a good deal of snow in the winter following. If the color is dark, there will be little snow.

*If the snow on the roof melts off, the next storm will be rain. If it blows off, you can calculate on snow.

*The day of the month on which the first snowstorm comes gives the number of storms you can expect in the following winter.

*If the ice on the trees melts and runs off, the next storm will be rain. If it is cracked off by the wind, the storm that comes next will be snow.

*Snow that comes in the old of the moon is apt to last. Snow that comes in the new of the moon is apt to melt quickly.

*When it begins to snow, notice the size of the flakes. If they are very fine, the storm will be a long one; if large, the storm will soon be over.

**

Snow or No?
Old New Englanders

often used nature to predict whether or not a winter will be particularly snowy. Here are some examples that are signs snow will be abundant:

*Squirrels begin gathering food in September

*Black bugs crawl about in the fall.

*Hogs gather sticks, straw, to make a bed.

*Birds eat up all the berries early

*Birds huddle on the ground

*Muskrat houses are built big.

*Beaver lodges have more logs and the north side of a beaver dam is more covered with sticks.

*Squirrels’ tails grow bushier

*Fur or hair on animals such as horses, sheep, mules, cows, and dogs is thicker than usual

*Squirrels build nest low in trees.

*An ant builds its hill high

*Hornets and yellow jacket nests heavier

*More than usual amount of caterpillars

*Caterpillars have heavy coats



TAKE
THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

*You see a caterpillar crawling before the first frost

*Crows gather together

**

Know Your Snow: Are we having a storm? Maybe a squall? Perhaps a flurry? Here’s help on ID-ing the white stuff:

Snowstorm: When large amounts of snow falls.

Flurry: Snow that falls for short durations and with varying intensity; flurries usually produce little accumulation.

Squall: A brief, but intense snowfall that greatly reduces visibility and which is often accompanied by strong winds.

Snowburst: Very intense shower of snow, often of short duration, that greatly restricts vis-

ibility and produces periods of rapid snow accumulation.

B l o w i n g Snow: Airborne snow particles raised by the wind to moderate or great heights above the ground; the horizontal visibility at eye level is generally very poor.

Drifting Snow: Snow on the ground that is blown by the wind to a height of less than 1.5 to 2 meters (5 to 6.5 feet) above the surface.

R e s o u r c e s

*The Weather Channel

*National Snow & Data Center

**

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

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

restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I’m in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I’m counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

Latest antique news



I hope everyone had a happy holiday season and a great start to the new year. It’s been several weeks since my last antique news update and there is much to report on.

There was big news out of England at the end of 2021, when research found that a United Kingdom-based antiques dealer’s 2019 auction purchase was actually a very valuable historic relic. Dealer Paul Fitzsimmons spotted a gilded oak bird at an English auction. Although it was covered in soot, he “instantly realized that it was a valuable object,” according to Smithsonian Magazine. Although he didn’t then know that the bird was the badge of Anne Boleyn, he “knew that it had some sort of royal connection because it had the crown and scepter, and it was a royal bird.” Anne Boleyn was Henry VIII’s second wife, whom he beheaded in 1536. Boleyn had begun to use the falcon and roses badge around the time she married Henry VIII. It’s believed that the falcon and roses were part of the palace’s decorative scheme at the time. After her death, Henry VIII tried to remove all traces of Boleyn, including the falcon



ANTIQUES,
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and rose badges. It’s believed that the wooden falcon was in Boleyn’s private quarters and had been stashed away by one of her supporters. Fitzsimmons paid \$101 for it at that 2019 auction. It’s estimated to be worth \$270,000. He plans to offer it on long-term loan to Hampton Court Palace.

Elsewhere, a Massachusetts estate sale find is also making news in England. “The Art Newspaper” reported that an Albrecht Dürer sketch was purchased from a Concord, MA estate in 2016. They write that “The Virgin and Child with a Flower on a Grassy Bank” was in the collection of architect Jean-Paul Carlhian. A man who wishes to remain anonymous purchased the sketch for \$30 from Carlhian’s daughters at an estate sale of his belongings. The buyer and seller didn’t believe that it was an original work, and the buyer stored it in his home. Clifford Schorer of Agnews Gallery in London heard of the sketch when visiting Boston in 2019 and arranged to see it. Schorer told “The Art Newspaper” that when he first saw the piece he thought, “it was either the greatest forgery I have ever seen—or a masterpiece.” Experts have examined the piece more carefully and found that there are two attributes that seem to prove it is in fact authentic. His signature (initials) and the ink used match those that appear in more than 200 of his other sketches. It is believed that the sketch may be worth \$50 million. Now that’s a stroke of good luck.

Our fifth online auction session of model railroad, die-cast cars, and models will begin next week. We are still accepting consignments for our next online multi-estate auction. It will feature coin collections from multiple estates, gold estate jewelry, a large sports card collection and a wide range of other items. Contact us by email or phone if you have items you’d like to include. Please see our Web site <https://centralmassauctions.com> to join our email list and keep up to date on auctions and other events.

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To advertise in this directory the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month, please call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news. It’s the best deal in the house!

EDITORIAL

continued from page A8

keep your heart rate up as cold temperatures cause your heart rate to decrease. A higher heart rate will generate heat within your body however be sure not to do so much that you start to sweat, cold and sweat are never a good combination.

We hope none of you ever find yourselves in a situation where you need to implement any of the information above, however knowledge is power. Stay warm, summertime is just about six months away, where we will of course crank the air conditioning and complain about the heat and humidity.

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Whitin Intermediate School honor roll

UXBRIDGE — Whitin Intermediate School has released its honor roll for the first term of the 2021-2022 school year.

High Honors
Grade 6: Nina Bandstra, Sophia Bombard, Evan Bourgeois, Elyse Bousquet, Matteo Casasanta, Jaidyn DeLuca, Jacob Dzivasen, Ryan E. Fitzgerald, Paige Foley, Violet Fratus, Elliot Gnatek, Casey Griffiths, Everett Hazel, Ashton Khondker, Jessica Labonte, Katelyn Laflamme, Clayton Maracle, Carly McKay, Nadia Nolan, Hayden O'Toole, Shea Paxton, Sarah Pomeroy, Zooey Pominville, Jack Posterro, Olivia Rivert, Ava Rosborough, James Sadd, Emmett Sharr, Kimora Smith, Abigail Spiecker, Adeline Tartakoff, David Zaitoun
Grade 7: Ammar Alomar, Connor Antobenedetto, Ava Cahill, Isabela Chapman, Skylar Daniels, Parker Dery, Miranda ElTurkmani, Alyssa Friis, Mallorie Hallfelder, Jordan Hilgenberg, Samantha Huth, Emrie Kling, Madison Labonte, Charlotte Lewis, Braelyn Matheson, Kaia Mollica, Mia Ouellette, Hannah Samolinski, Noah Samolinski, Rachel Scott, Chawanvit Sillapachairuang, Maddilyn Silva,

Sarah Stark, William Stark, Gabriel Stone
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Grade 6: Taylor Anderson, Kaylee Arsenault, Cooper Burdick, Kendra Cabana, Emily Cabral, Liam Donahue, Hunter Doyon, Ryan T. Fitzgerald, Logan Fleming, Margaret Fox, Liam Gover, Kelly Greene, Dylan Groehl, Lola Hawkins, Bronwyn LaChapelle, Matthew Lambert, Madyn Lame, Logan Leshinski, Abigayle Livingstone, Ryder Lovell, Jacoby Martins, Olivia Mazzola, Cooper McCuin, Salah Mohamed, Isaac Nagle, Thomas Newhall, Elijah Norman, Marissa Pirrotta, Gabriel Rodrigues, Benjamin Rota, Mason Soucy, Piper Sullivan, Lily Trotter, Haley Walsh, Avery Wood
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GARDENING
continued from page A8
spring. Check the seed packet for timing and planting directions. Create a seed starting chart or mark planting dates on your calendar to ensure seeds get planted at the recommended time.

Monitor the weather and follow the recommended planting dates for sowing seeds directly in the garden and moving seedlings outdoors. Use homemade or DIY cloches, floating row covers and cold frames to jump start the season. These capture warmth near the plants for an earlier start in the garden. They can also be used to extend the end of the growing season.

Start removing weeds as soon they appear throughout the season. These unwanted plants compete with desirable plants for water and nutrients, and many are host to disease and insect pests. Pulling weeds is also a great way to reduce stress while improving the health and beauty of your garden beds.

Harvest flowers to enjoy in summer bouquets and arrangements. Pick a few extras to share with friends. Research has found immediate and long-lasting benefits generated from the gift of fresh flowers.

Pick vegetables regularly when they are at their peak for maximum productivity, flavor, and nutritional value. Share extra produce with family, friends, and the food insecure — many of which are children — in your community. Contact your local food bank, food

pantry or Feeding America to donate garden fresh produce.
Cap off your efforts with a garden party. Invite fellow gardeners to bring a dish to share that incorporates homegrown vegetables. Share recipes, garden success stories, and begin planning for the season ahead.

For the recommended timing to do these and other gardening projects, check my monthly gardening checklists.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her Web site is www.melindamyers.com.



Melinda Myers

Compact vegetable varieties can be tucked into ornamental container gardens if space is an issue.

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A.C. 92A
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
21E0075PP
Worcester, ss.
Probate Court
To David Stanley Jennifer Stanley both of Uxbridge in the County of Worcester and Dennis Stanley of Woonsocket in the State of Rhode Island and to all persons interested.
A petition has been presented to said Court by Beth Stanley of Uxbridge in the County of Worcester representing that she hold as tenant in common undivided part or share of certain land lying in Uxbridge in said County Worcester and briefly described as follows:
A certain lot or parcel of land situated on the westerly side of Douglas Road in the Town of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:
BEGINNING at a point on the said westerly side of Douglas Road at the most southerly corner of the lot herein

conveyed;
THENCE N. 25° 20' 21" W., 637.88 feet by land now or formerly: of Homuth-Trombino to a point;
THENCE N. 39° 31' 53" W., 886.70 feet by land now or formerly of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel to a rebar found;
THENCE S. 49° 40' 45" W., 82.30 feet to a point at land now or formerly of Bernard for a point;
THENCE N. 40° 45' 48" W., 524.59 feet to an iron pin found;
THENCE N. 39° 34' 08" W., 520.02 feet to a drill hole; .;
THENCE S. 89° 07' 15" W., 396.80 feet to a drill hole found;
THENCE N. 04° 17' 18" E., 102.06 feet to a stake;
THENCE N. 12° 54' 25" W., 439.48 feet to a rebar found;
THENCE N. 60° 45' 58" E., 387.90 feet to an iron pin;
THENCE S. 61 ° 25' 29" E., 1,509.74

feet by Route 146 to a point;
THENCE S. 04° 53' 50" E. 435.34 feet to a drill hole found in a heap of stones;
THENCE S. 43° 54' 48" E. 589.12 feet to a point;
THENCE S. 30° 15' 19" W. 445.20 feet to an iron pin found;
THENCE S. 33° 45' 39" E., 606.88 feet to an iron pin found at Douglas Street, Route 16;
THENCE S. 43° 31' 00" W., 36.35 feet to a Worcester County Highway Bound;
THENCE southerly for a curved distance of 263.75 feet by said Douglas Street, Route 16 to the point of beginning.
Setting forth that her desires that — all — the aforementioned described part — of said land may be sold at private sale for not less than \$550,000.00 dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commission-

er be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof.
If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the fourth day of February 2022 the return date of this citation.
Witness, LEILAH A. KEAMY, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-seventh day of December 2021.
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
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January 21, 2022
January 28, 2022



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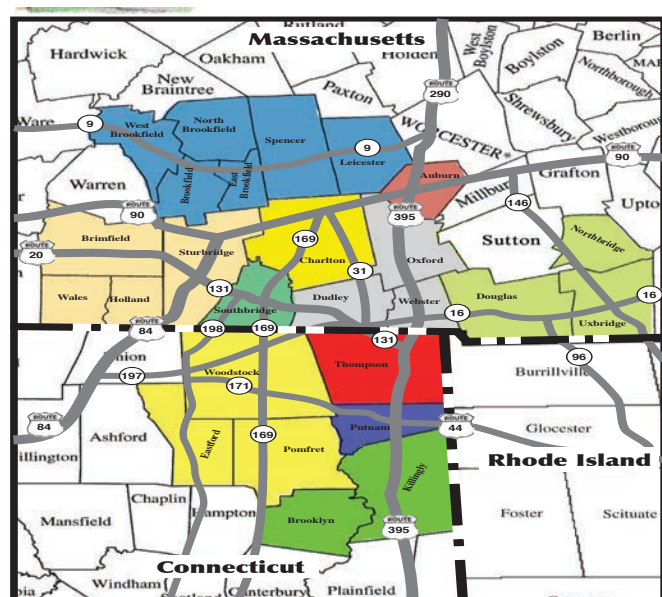
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BREAK-INS

continued from page A1

“Sutton Police had received a call from the homeowner who was alerted to the break-in from her home’s security system,” the department released. “The homeowner, who was not home at the time, had access to the security system on her cell phone and was able to tell Sutton Dispatch that someone had forced entry into her home and

was seen on her camera.”

Officers arrived in the area only moments later but the subjects had already fled. Sutton officers began searching for the suspects in the area and “made contact with several neighbors for any potential witnesses to the break-in,” police said.

“One neighbor had surveillance footage from the roadway near the victim’s home and investigating officers were able

to identify a silver sedan and two figures getting into the sedan by the victim’s driveway,” the department added.

While on scene, Officer O’Rourke learned of a residential break-in on November 19 in the town of Millbury in which a silver sedan was also involved. In addition to the Millbury house break, he learned of residential house breaks in Uxbridge and Northbridge, which also

took place on November 23, according to reports.

Later, on Dec. 9, Auburn police officers responded to a residential house break in their town.

“While their detectives were processing the scene, they located court paperwork belonging to Christopher Romano of Gardner at the residence,” Sutton police released. “The next day, Auburn Detectives obtained video footage of

Romano getting out of a silver sedan at a motel in Leominster. This sedan was similar to the vehicle observed in both Sutton and Millbury.”

On Dec. 14, Leominster Police responded to a motor vehicle break-in in their town. The victim in this incident was able to take a picture of the suspect’s registration plate and vehicle. According to police, the vehicle’s registration returned to Christopher Savasta of

Oxford.

“While investigating Romano and Savasta, Sutton Police learned that the duo had been involved in not only house breaks, but motor vehicle breaks and credit card fraud throughout Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Hampshire since mid-September,” the department added.

LIBRARY

continued from page A1

and Library Services.

In other news, the Sutton Library also announced that it has been “fine free” since July.

“Essentially, overdue items will not accrue fines as long as they have been returned,” the library reported.

Exceptions include museum passes, Library of Things items, and Hotspots, which will still have late fines attached to them “because of how

popular and time sensitive they are,” the library shared.

“Our fine free policy is specific to Sutton Public Library materials. Items from other libraries, even if checked out at the Sutton Library, may be subject to overdue fines that are determined by

the lending library.”

The Sutton Public Library is also hosting a Valentine’s Day-inspired event that will run from Jan. 4 through Friday, Feb. 11. The event, titled “Blind Date with a Book,” will include a variety of books being wrapped up in “oh-so-secretive brown

paper” for participants to bring home and read.

“You won’t know the identity of your blind date [until] you get it home,” the library released. “Will it be fiction or nonfiction? Funny, informative, a mystery, true-crime? Sure, you might be disappointed; but then again...

you may end up having a great time reading a book you wouldn’t have chosen for yourself.”

Properly worn masks are still required in the Sutton Library. For more information, visit sutton-publiclibrary.org.




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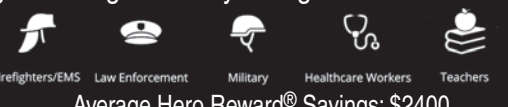
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SPORTS

*Beavers, now clicking as a team,
take rematch from Douglas*



Nick Ethier photos

Blackstone Valley Tech's Aidan Losiewicz gets fouled on his pursuit to the basket.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

UPTON — The Blackstone Valley Tech and Douglas High boys' varsity basketball teams opened their seasons against one another back on Dec. 13, 2021, with the Tigers upending the Beavers, 70-56. Since then, though, BVT has been trying to get all five players on the court working as a cohesive unit. That effort all came together on Monday, Jan. 10 when the Beavers tangled with Douglas again. They won all four quarters and finished with five players in double



Douglas' Isaac Gosselin runs into the paint with a full head of steam.



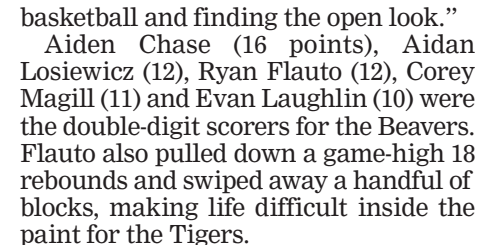
Evan Laughlin of Blackstone Valley Tech secures a loose ball.

figures as they took the rematch at the Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick Competition Center, 75-48.

“That was definitely the first time

that we played a full four quarters the right way. Everyone contributed, everyone put in a piece," said Valley Tech head coach Dan Morin. "We lost three

for." "We lost three guys in the beginning of the season, three starters. Quit for their own reasons. We had to rehash things and figure it out, and we're finally starting to make that move. This is what I've been hoping to see, that unselfish



"Flauto is one of the taller kids in the league, so he is going to affect our shots. But we've got to be better," said Douglas head coach Chad Gosselin.

"He's an absolute machine and he's so unselfish with the ball. It's beautiful to see," Morin said of the 6-foot-7 Flauto.

With the Beavers now jelling, the Tigers are hoping to work their way back to that point. Douglas has been hit by players contracting coronavirus.

“COVID got our team. We’ve had two of our starters out, so we’re trying to bounce back,” explained Gosselin. “This was their first game back since two weeks. They didn’t get a lot of playing time and didn’t have any wind. We’re trying to get our identity back since game one of Valley Tech.”

The Beavers enjoyed a 10-0 run in the first quarter, taking a 2-0 deficit into a 10-2 lead and never looking back. Valley Tech led after the first quarter (21-5), at the half (34-16) and through three periods (61-38) before winning by 27 points.

"We took care of the ball. Douglas does a great job of pressuring and trying to create turnovers, and we did a much better job of controlling the ball instead of playing panic basketball," Morin said when asked what the difference was in the two encounters with the Tigers.

"This is what BVT should be this year," continued Morin, whose team improved to 5-2. "We're in a great spot and starting to go into our Colonial League games. Hopefully we can keep it rolling and get into the big dance."

Douglas, now 2-2, was led in scoring by Matthew Landry (22 points) and Isaac Gosselin (11 points).



Owen Gray of Douglas fights his way to the rim against a pair of Blackstone Valley Tech defenders.

Northbridge High wins esports State Title



Courtesy photo

From left, Eric Tracey, Christopher Smith, Matthew Smith, Patrick Smith, Christopher "Chip" Gagner, Christopher Miller and William Bishop. The three Smith brothers and Gagner formed the State Championship winning esports team out of Northbridge High School.

Back on Dec. 8, 2021, the Northbridge High School esports team won the MSAA Smash Ultimate State Championship. This fall, NHS began officially participating in esports through the PlayVS gaming platform service. PlayVS offers competitive leagues for several online video game titles where school teams across the state can compete in ranked multiplayer matches. NHS fielded one team for Super Smash Brothers Ultimate: The Super Smith Brothers!

The Super Smith Brothers team consisted of the three Smith brothers, Patrick, Christopher, and Matthew, and Christopher “Chip” Gagner. Each week the team faced off against other schools throughout Massachusetts in a best-of-three match-up. Games were played online on Nintendo Switch. Smash Brothers Ultimate is a competitive online fighting game featuring a variety of playable characters, each with their own moves and techniques. Playing competitively requires mastering those techniques and learning how to read and counter the techniques and play styles of opponents.

The Super Smith Brothers used their skills, patience and intellect to great effect in a victorious first season. The team was undefeated in the regular season and triumphed in the playoffs. NHS faced off against the Minnechaug Regional High School Falcons in the MSAA Smash Ultimate Final. In their closest match of the season, The Super Smith Brothers won the championship after a pivotal game five victory by Christopher Smith. This NHS esports team will compete this summer in the PlayVS Cup, a nationwide competition.



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Lasell University students named to Fall 2021 Dean's List

NEWTON — Students at Lasell University were recognized for their academic performance in the fall 2021 semester, including:
Kaylie Gonya of Uxbridge
Kaylie Silva of Douglas
Students who receive this honor have completed at least 12 credits as a full-time student and have achieved a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

For more information contact: Samantha Mocle, assistant director of communications at smocle@lasell.edu or at 617-243-2386.

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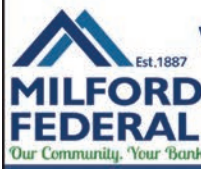
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