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Friday, December 17, 2021

Douglas community service award honors local resident

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

D O U G L A S — Longtime Douglas resident Joseph Bolandrina has been announced as the 2021 recipient of the Officer Richard J. McLaughlin Community Service Award.

The award was presented to Bolandrina by Donna McLaughlin, Cristin McLaughlin, and Sergeant Aaron McLaughlin at a recent Board of Selectmen meeting. Bolandrina, a retired U.S. Army Sergeant, served as an armor crew member out of Fort Knox, KY. In his personal life, it was noted that he often does “little things from helping neighbors or randomly clearing snow from people’s cars at hospitals, to

regularly donating blood with the Red Cross.”

“The first thing I did was appreciate Officer McLaughlin and everything he did,” Bolandrina said, adding that it was “humbling” to have the award presented by Officer McLaughlin’s family. “It was such a nice gathering; to hear them recount the stories and the things [Officer McLaughlin] brought to the table, it humbled me.”

The McLaughlin family, in cooperation with Douglas Police Chief Nick Miglionico, started the award in 2018 to honor the late Officer Richard J. McLaughlin, who passed away in 2016. Officer McLaughlin was a lifelong resident of Douglas and served the town “both on duty and

off duty” and loved being a part of the community, according to a Douglas Police statement.

“After my father passed, Chief Miglionico presented the idea of honoring my father by recognizing those in the community who put others before themselves,” said Detective Sergeant Aaron McLaughlin with the Douglas Police Department. “So much of what so many people do goes without praise, being able to recognize them while keeping my father’s legacy alive was a perfect combination.”

In the award application document, the nominator wrote that “character is defined as the mental and moral qual-

Turn To **AWARD** page **A6**



Courtesy

Longtime Douglas resident Joseph Bolandrina has been announced as the 2021 recipient of the Officer Richard J. McLaughlin Community Service Award.

Gingerbread house event brings holiday cheer to Douglas Adult Social Center



Patrice Rousseau — Courtesy

The Douglas Adult Social Center recently hosted its annual gingerbread house making event, drawing 25 participants and spreading the holiday cheer.

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

DOUGLAS — What started as a tradition for one local family has now become a popular holiday event at the Douglas Adult Social Center.

The center recently

hosted its annual gingerbread house making event, drawing 25 participants and spreading the holiday cheer.

“We are delighted to have programs again after being closed for all of the holidays last year,” said Patrice Rousseau,

Director/Outreach Case Manager at the Douglas Adult Social Center. “We really missed seeing all of our patrons and they certainly missed being social and seeing their friends. Many seniors were pretty lonely last

Turn To **EVENT** page **A6**

BVAA’s ‘Anything Goes’ Photo Show coming in January

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

UXBRIDGE — The Blackstone Valley Art Association is sponsoring its 10th annual “Anything Goes” Photography Show,” which will open in January as the association’s first show of 2022.

“The BVAA is moving forward to try to normalize its functions,” said Carol Frieswick with the BVAA. “This show has historically been our most popular show.”

The show is open to the public, to members of the association and non-members alike. It is slated to be a live show to be hung at the Open Skies Gallery at 5 S. Main St. in Uxbridge. The deadline for submissions is Friday, Jan. 7, with a drop-off of artwork to the gallery on Saturday, Jan. 8, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The show will be judged for cash prizes by Paul Murray, a multi-award-winning international photographer. According to Frieswick, Murray recently won

first place in the recent Small Stones Art Festival in Grafton.

A Rhode Island native and extensive traveler, Murray is an internationally recognized color photographer and journalistic writer, according to an artist bio. He is a “firm believer in giving

back to the community through his photography and writing” and has donated his skills to community efforts in several states, as well as collaborative international art initiatives.

“Often the storytelling

Turn To **SHOW** page **A6**



Early deadlines for Christmas

To ensure that the Dec. 24 edition of the Blackstone Valley Tribune arrives in subscribers’ mail boxes on schedule despite the holiday, the submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication that week will be Friday, Dec. 17 at 9 a.m. Submissions are welcome by e-mail at news@stonebridgepress.news.

The staff of the Blackstone Valley Tribune thanks our readers for their cooperation with this scheduling change, and wishes one and all a safe and happy holiday season.

To our many loyal customers, we Thank You!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our family to yours!

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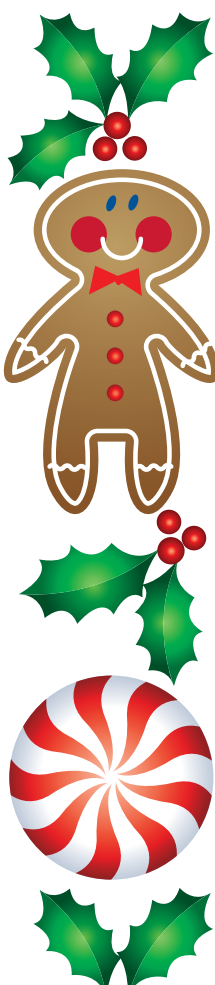


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Deborah Wheelock Chapter, DAR, honors Good Citizens



Courtesy
Pictured, left to right: Peter Emerick, Amber Arcand, and Jane F. Keegan. Missing are: Jason Ferrandino, Maria Lowandy, and Christine Yarger.


UXBRIDGE — In December 2020, with the Covid pandemic rampant, the Deborah Wheelock Chapter was unable to celebrate of the three area high school seniors, Class of 2021, who were voted DAR Good Citizens by their classmates. We are pleased to report the story is different this year.

In thousands of towns nation-wide, DAR Good Citizen awards have been given since 1934 to reward those high school seniors who, by vote of their class peers, exemplify the highest degree of dependability, service to community, leadership, and patriotism. From the Class of 2022, Good Citizens have been named by the three high schools sponsored by the Deborah Wheelock Chapter: Amber Arcand, Blackstone-Millville, daughter of Joyce and Wil Arcand of Millville; Jason Ferrandino, Nipmuc, son of Lisa and David Ferrandino of Upton; and Maria Lowandy, UHS, daughter of Saly and Amged Lowandy of Uxbridge. Each submitted a transcript, description of school and community involvement, letters of reference and an essay which was judged independently by Barbara Hall, Edward Maharay and Allan Hanscom. The Chapter is delighted to report Ms. Lowandy of Uxbridge High School was chosen as our candidate for further judging at the state level after which more scholarships will be awarded in March 2022.

On Thursday, Dec. 9, a dozen Chapter members, in-person and virtually, and guests welcomed one of the Good Citizens from Blackstone-Millville Regional High School. In the absence of Christine Yarger, Good Citizen Chapter Chairman, Regent Jane F. Keegan made a presentation to Amber Arcand who received the official NSDAR Good Citizen pin/certificate, engraved pewter Jefferson Cup, and a \$500 check. Ms. Arcand was accompanied by her parents and sister, Rene, and proudly announced her early acceptance to Wheaton College arrived in the day's mail... congratulations on both counts.

Back by popular member demand, Peter Emerick was the speaker/ entertainer. He is well-known as a member of the Uxbridge Fife and Drum Corps and gifted story teller. Many tales were recounted about the history of famous 'American' songs that derived initially from English, French and German tunes popular with troops during the American Revolution. It was a special treat when he sang some verses and played several tunes on his antique flute and fife.

Members of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution promote historic preservation, education and patriotism in communities where we live to "Rise and Shine for America"! More than one million women world-wide have joined the ranks since our founding in 1890. If interested, contact deborahwheelockDAR@gmail.com.



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.

Pfizer booster vaccination clinic available

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge Senior Center is proud to announce that we will be collaborating with the Uxbridge Board of Health and the Salmon VNA to sponsor a COVID Pfizer Booster Vaccination Clinic at the Center, located at 36 South Main St., Uxbridge. This event will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 12 from 10 a.m.-noon. Participants must pre-register on-line at: <https://home.color.com/vaccine/register/southern-worcester?calendar=31829c33-297f-49b6-ac7a-91e1740e0722>

Or call the senior center at 508-278-8622 for assistance to register. No Walk-Ins will be accepted. Please have the dates of your vaccinations and your health insurance information available when registering.

The communities of Uxbridge, Northbridge, Mendon, Douglas, Upton, Milford, Bellingham, Blackstone, Hopedale, Millville, Sutton and Oxford are welcome.

We express our appreciation to the Uxbridge BOH and the Salmon VNA for helping us keep our communities safe!

MARIANAPOLIS ANNOUNCES HONOR ROLL

THOMPSON, Conn. — Congratulations to the following students on earning honor roll status for the first trimester, based on their weighted trimester GPA and the defined criteria. The Academic Office applauds their hard work and dedication to their studies.

Head of School List
Olivia-Mae Acquah-Harrison, Charlton; Chloe Alba, Sutton; James Alves, Uxbridge; Kaitlin Baca, Webster; Briella Bailey, Pascoag, R.I.; John Barnwell, Danielson, Conn.; Celia Bouchard, Douglas; Vincent Bourgeois, Thompson, Conn.; Campbell Braun, South Grafton; Stephen Canavan, Ashford, Conn.; Lauren Conde, Danielson, Conn.; Sidney Corriveau, Brimfield; Spencer Courville, Charlton; Anna Czechowski, Webster; Anna De Villa, San Pietro di Cadore, Italy; Giana DeCesare, Chepachet, R.I.; Caitlin Diaz, Oxford; Sophia DiPietro, Worcester; Joseph DiPietro, Worcester; Hoang-Dat Do; Charles Eggen, Worcester; Klara Elezaj, Tirana, Albania; Ava Fabiano, Killingly, Conn.; Felicia Fongemie, Ashford, Conn.; Barbara Forgues, Shrewsbury; Federica Galli, Lipomo, Italy; Kyle Gallo, Dudley; Kira Gillette, Webster; Ashley Giorgio, Millbury; Xiayuan Gong, Wuxi, China; Sofia Gonzalez Tabares, Cozumel, Mexico; Justin Griffiths-Lam, Thompson, Conn.; B Hannon, Putnam, Conn.; Angelina Hargrave, Charlton; Luisa Henao, Southbridge; Thu Hoang, Hai Phong, Vietnam; Patrick Hoban, Millbury; Kaylynn Horan, Putnam, Conn.; Ge Jia, Baoding, China; Madeline Joyce, Dudley; Mackenzie Jutras, Greenville, R.I.; Ethan Kalmin, Dudley; Zachary King, Plainfield; Molly Landis, Brooklyn, Conn.; Kate Landis, Brooklyn, Conn.; Chengxun Li, Xiamen, China; Alana Lorusso, North Oxford; Kaya Lukasek, Webster; Sydney Lundt, Woodstock, Conn.; Yihui Luo, Jiangsu, China; Bridget MacDonald, Grafton; Ian MacKenzie, Woodstock, Conn.; Szymon Mamro, Webster; Claire Marchand, Holden; Delia Marchand, Holden; Amelia Margoupis, Sutton; Jack Margoupis, Sutton; Miriam Martinez de la Herran, Bilbao, Spain; Tessa McCabe, Douglas; Benjamin McGarry, Thompson, Conn.; Shane McGlone, Southbridge; Keegan McLeod, Foster, R.I.; John McMullen, East Greenwich, R.I.; Katherine Melnick, North Grosvenordale, Conn.; Brady Miller, Sturbridge; Ayame Mizuno, Aichi, Japan; Siena Mueller, Whitinsville; Luciana Najjar, Northborough; Hugo Ndizeye, Kigali, Rwanda; Gianna Nichols, Fiskdale; Abbie O'Brien, Dayville, Conn.; Riley O'Connor, Dudley; Declan O'Connor, Worcester; Natalie Olkowski, Harrisville, R.I.; Lindsey Paradise, Dudley; Alek Popovich, Charlton; Wiktoria Potem, Webster; Victoria Pozo Domingos, Higuey, Dominican Republic; Sophia Raborito, Dayville, Conn.; Grace Rhoades, Stafford Springs, Conn.; Olivia Richardson, Lincoln, R.I.; William Savoie, Northbridge; Olivia Sczurowski, Brooklyn, Conn.; Emily Shamback, Sterling, Conn.; Andrew Shultz, Oxford; Ava Simon, Southbridge; Alex Spetseris, Webster; Zachary Stoddard, Pomfret Center, Conn.; Christian Terwilliger, Lebanon, Conn.; Matthew Tomasino, Leicester; Violeta Torres, Plainfield, Conn.; Daniel Twohig-Mann, Douglas; Rachel Ullstrom, Auburn; Caroline Villa, Auburn; Vincent Vo, Worcester; Emily Walsh, Thompson, Conn.; Sophia Wildes, North Uxbridge; Rasim Zekiri, Plainfield, Conn.; Yang Zhang, Yuxi, China; Xingyu Zhu, Wenzhou, China

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\$85,000, 233 Miller Ave, Masse, Janine E, to Quality Homes Inc.

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\$475,000, 54 Manchaug St, Dunleavy, Mark W, and Dunleavy, Debra A, to Pelletier, Matthew, and Cadrin, Lauren.

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\$550,000, 60 Glendale St, Violette, Steve R, and Mullen, Eva M, to Ruscitti, Francis, and Ruscitti, Elissa.
\$419,990, 9 Tea Party Dr #9, Independence Uxbridge, to Esaskkiumuthu, Velmurugan, and Perachi, Thangam.
\$415,000, 15 Hyde Park Cir #15, San, Antonio C, and San, Antonio S, to Anderson, Ginard O.
\$390,000, 292 Blackstone St, Lokal Properties LLC, to Larios, Orfilia M, and Rivera, Santos L.
\$275,000, 6 Morrison St, Lambert, Jennifer, and Lambert, Joshua, to Redfinnow Borrower LLC.
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Create a garden under glass to enjoy or give as a gift to new, experienced, and even reluctant gardeners. This self-contained system makes it easy to be a successful gardener with minimal care.

Purchase a terrarium or repurpose something hiding on a shelf in the basement, garage or shed. Even a cool glass container, cloche or bell jar turned open side down and placed on a shallow planting tray will work. Just glue a decorative doorknob or handle on the top for easy access.

Make it more festive for the holidays. Visit the ornament aisle in your favorite craft store. Create a mini terrarium from DIY Christmas orbs for holiday decoration or the perfect hostess gift.

Use closed terrariums like this when growing tropical plants. They thrive in the high humidity and moist soil.

Leave the top off or use open containers like glass vases, or mason jars for cacti and succulents. Use a cacti and succulent mix for these drought tolerant plants. They prefer the lower humidity and drier soil that open terrariums and cacti potting mix provide.

Once you have the container, you



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

gardeners include a layer of charcoal to help absorb any odor. The key is not overwatering as the decorative stone and charcoal won't prevent waterlogged soil from killing your plants.

Consider covering the stone layer with black landscape fabric to prevent the potting mix from filtering through and covering up these items. Cover this with a layer of well-drained potting mix for tropical plants and cacti and succulent mix for drought tolerant plants. Add contours to the soil level if space allows for added interest.

Select a variety of plants of different heights, textures, and colors to create an attractive terrarium garden. Many garden centers now sell small specimens perfect for these mini gardens.

Low growing tropical plants such as baby's tears, creeping fig, moss, and ivies make excellent groundcovers. Small specimens of dracaenas,

need to fill it with potting mix, plants, and other decorative items. Consider a layer of decorative stone, twigs, sea glass or sand at the bottom for added color and interest. Some

crotons, palms and podocarpus make nice upright features. Fill in the middle ground with ferns, nerve plants, polka dot plants and more.

Once assembled, terrariums are relatively easy to manage. Moisten the soil and cover. Crack the lid open if condensation builds up on the glass. Then replace the cover and monitor the soil moisture and condensation. Add additional moisture carefully. A turkey baster is an easy way to water only the plants in need of a drink.

Place your terrariums in a bright location away from direct light. Heat can build up in this covered ecosystem and cook your plants when placed in a sunny location.

Now is the perfect time to gather or purchase fun glassware, planting and decorating supplies, and, of course, plants. Then take a break from the hectic holiday season to plant up a few holiday decorations and green gifts for your loved ones.

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



Melinda Myers

Use open containers like glass vases for drought tolerant plants that prefer lower humidity and drier soil.

and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Her Web site is www.melindamyers.com.

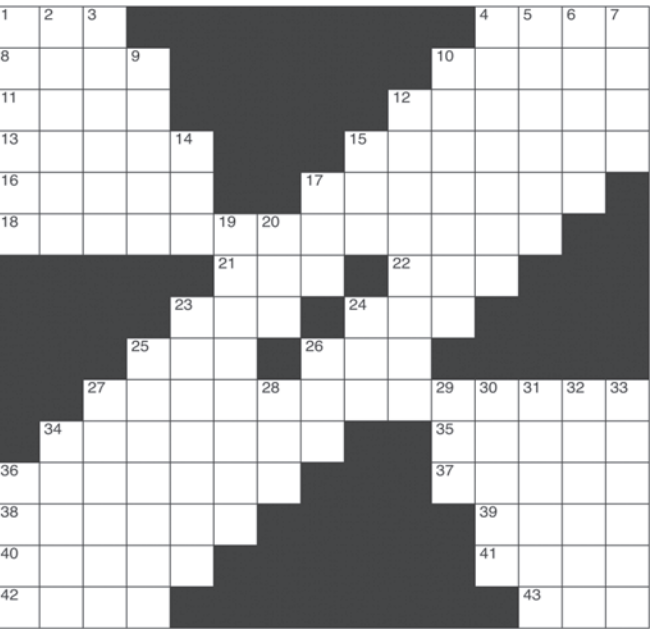
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Sally Selvidge – Activities Coordinator
Pat Ordway – Chef

DIRECTOR NEWS FOR JANUARY 2022NEWSLETTER



CLUES ACROSS

1. You fry food in it

4. Pesky insect

8. Gets older

10. __ Dern, actress

11. Uncouth man

12. One who sulks

13. Napoleon's king of Naples

15. One who swims underwater

16. Make amends

17. Expressions

18. Document format

21. What a beaver makes

22. Limb

23. Photograph
24. Golf score

25. Moroccan mountain range

26. Wrinkled dog breed: Shar __

27. 20th century sex symbol

34. Remedy for all diseases

35. Bluish greens

36. Moved swiftly

37. Type of units

38. Madames

39. Indian religious god

40. Potentially hazardous asteroids

41. Leak slowly through

42. An association of criminals

43. A way to push content (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

1. Town in central Brazil

2. Large burrowing rodent

3. Nerve cell

4. Estimating

5. Bakers use it

6. Regions

7. Small lake

9. Environmentalist nun

10. More kookie

12. Announce officially

14. Israeli city __ Aviv

15. Title given to friar

17. Inches per minute (abbr.)

19. Buildings
20. Pouch

23. They steal on the high seas

24. It's mightier than the sword

25. Going off on a tangent

26. Monetary unit

27. Young woman

28. Type of bulb

29. Type of drug (abbr.)

30. City opposite Dusseldorf

31. Animal disease

32. Martini necessities

33. Elude

34. La __: Buenos Aires capital

36. An oft-enduring symbol

Happy New Year!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season. As we enter into another year of the pandemic, the year 2022 brings resilience. What is the true meaning of resilience? Resilience is defined by most as the ability to recover from setbacks, adapt well to change, and keep going in the face of adversity. As I think about this definition, it brings to mind our senior residents that we serve at the Uxbridge Senior Center.

While resilience is crucial for people undergoing extreme suffering and trauma, it's also a trait we can all benefit from in small but important ways in everyday life and especially in these pandemic times. Most of our seniors have lived a full life, full of adversity, tragedy and threats. However, they move on, persevere and come back even stronger because of who they are. May we learn from our elders that life's misfortunes and setbacks gives us the ability to positively function in the face of adversity, builds our spirits and gains us the flexibility to overcome life's challenges. It is truly an honor and a privilege to work with our senior residents. Thank your elders today for a great lesson learned.

The Uxbridge Senior Center is proud to announce that we will be collaborating with the Uxbridge BOH and the Salmon VNA to sponsor a COVID Pfizer Booster Vaccination Clinic here at the Center. This event will take place on Wednesday, January 12th from 10am-12pm. Participants must pre-register on-line at: <https://home.color.com/vaccine/register/southern-worcester?calendar=31829c33-297f-49b6-ac7a-91e1740e0722>

Or call the senior center for assistance to register. No Walk-Ins will be accepted. We express our appreciation to the Uxbridge BOH and the Salmon VNA for helping us keep our seniors safe!

AARP Tax Assistance Program is back! This program shut down in 2020 and was not offered in 2021 due to the pandemic. The program starts on Monday, February 7th and every Monday morning until mid-April. This program is open to Uxbridge residents only; please call the Center soon to book your appointment.

Thank you to everyone who purchased Christmas wreaths and Krispy Kreme doughnuts for the Uxbridge Senior Center Activity Fundraiser. We especially want to thank Sally Selvidge, Activity Coordinator, for her hard work and dedication for making these events very successful!! Thank you for all you do Sally! Sincerely, Lisa

CIRCUIT BREAKER TAX CREDIT
As a senior citizen (65 or older before January 1, 2022), you may be eligible to claim a refundable credit on your Massachusetts personal income tax return. The Circuit Breaker tax credit is based on the actual real estate taxes paid on the Massachusetts residential property you own or rent and occupy as your principal residence.

The maximum credit amount for tax year 2021 is \$1,170. If the credit you're owed exceeds the amount of the total tax payable for the year, you'll be refunded the additional amount of the credit without interest.

For more information, contact Massachusetts Dept of Revenue Customer Service at 617-887-6367.

Thursday, January 6, 2022 – 10:30 am – 11:30 am – Veterans' Services with Carl Bradshaw by appointment only. Call 508-278-8622 to sign up.

Thursdays, January 6th & January 20, 2022 – 11:30 am – 12:30 pm – "PopUp Library. Books will be on display to check out, library card sign-ups, book hold pick-ups, etc. Call ahead to reserve your lunch! Perfect time to pick out a good book to snuggle up and read!

Friday, January 7, 2022 – 12:00 pm – Lunch & Learn with Chief Montminy ~ His guest speaker will be Robin Putnam, Events & Outreach Manager from the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation. This presentation will include information about the Office and what they do. It will also cover how to spot and avoid scams, and how to prevent identity theft. Please call ahead to reserve your lunch as space is limited.

Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – 1:00 pm – 2:00pm – Benefit Enrollment Specialist – Tri-Valley, Inc. Call the senior center to book an appointment with Cole Ackerson. Next date will be February 8, 2022.

Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – 1:00 pm – Uxbridge Library Book Club. They will be reading Finding Dorothy by Elizabeth Letts. You are welcome to join us for lunch on this day. Please remember to RSVP. Time to find a good book to curl up and read during these long Winter days/nights.

Wednesday, January 12, 2022 – 10 am – 12 pm – BOH Pfizer Booster Clinic at the Uxbridge Senior Center. Registration is required. NO Walk-in's accepted. There will not be any lunch served today.

Friday, January 14, 2022 – 1:30 – 2:30 pm – Facebook Live Pictionary with Sally & Gail! Be sure to tune in and play along

from the comfort of your home! Just go to the Uxbridge Senior Center Facebook page.

Monday, January 17, 2022 – Closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. We will re-open on Tuesday, January 18th.

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 – 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm – BINGO at Calumet Ct./Centennial Court Community Room. The Uxbridge Senior Center will come to play BINGO with residents and there will be prizes! Sign-up is required and this event is weather permitting.

Monday, January 24, 2022 - 1:30 pm – "Ask the Attorney" with Attorney Ralph Tepper by appointment only. Please Call 508-278-8622 to schedule your appointment at the Uxbridge Senior center.

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 – 11:00 am – 12:00 pm – Ask the Nurse Free Blood Pressure Clinic with Celeste Kopech, Salmon Health VNA. RSVP to participate and to join us for lunch.

Friday, January 28, 2022 – 1:30 – 2:30 pm – Facebook Live Family Feud with Sally & Gail! Be sure to tune in and play along from the comfort of your home! Just go to the Uxbridge Senior Center Facebook page.

Card Game or Family Feud will be played during our Monday Congregate lunches and BINGO will be on Wednesdays.

Computer Class Tutoring every Monday ~ 3:00 pm *By appointment only. Students from BVT will be available to help you with your computers and/or devices. *Please call ahead to book an appointment.

Hannaford grocery shopping every Tuesday. Pick up begins at 8:30 AM. Please sign up in advance by calling us at 508-278-8622 to reserve your seat on the van. Masks are required and seating is limited.

Chair Exercises with Sally every Tuesday before lunch.

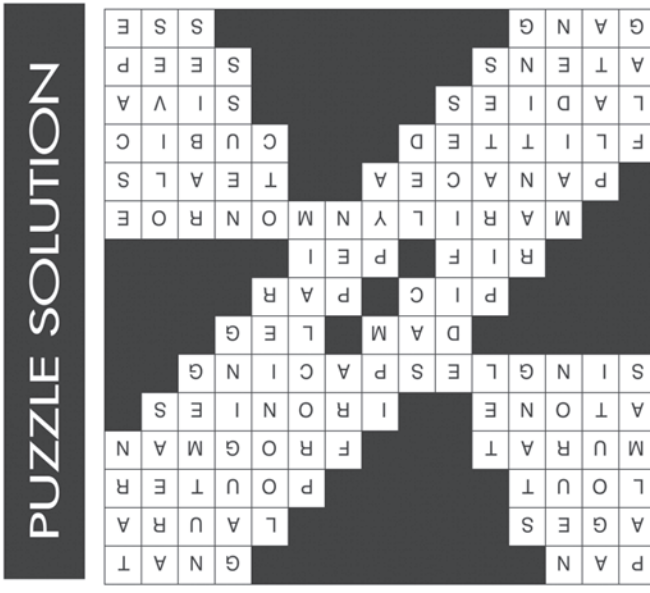
Knitting Club every Tuesday @ 1:30 pm – Space is limited and must continue to maintain social distancing. Please RSVP 508-278-8622.

1st and 3rd Wednesdays – January 5th & January 19, 2022 @ 10:00 am – Bank & Pharmacy Rides. Please call at least 24 hours in advance if you need a ride. Masks must be worn as well.

2nd and 4th Thursdays – January 13th & January 27, 2022 – Shaws/Ocean State Shopping Rides. Please call at least 24 hours in advance if you need a ride. Masks must be worn and limited to 4 people on the van.

Medical Transportation is accepting appointments. Call 508-278-8622 to schedule your rides.

Feel free to contact us at 508-278-8622 or visit us on our web page at Uxbridge-ma.gov/coa or like us on our FB page or by googling Uxbridge Senior Center and our new YouTube Channel or even dropping by. Uxbridge-ma.gov/Council-Aging <https://www.facebook.com/UxbridgeMASeniorCenter> https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNh_RIq99rucmFH-UO7VFBw <https://www.uxbridgetv.org/schedule/192>



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.

Please contact Emily Murray to receive the December newsletter via email or check our website and Facebook page. Mondays to Fridays, Parent Child Playgroups, contact Ms.Emily to sign up for our Winter 2022 playgroups. Thursdays, 01/06//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 play-

time where families will be able to build social connections, learn about early childhood development and family friendly resources. Please bring your own coffee. Muffins from Muffin House Cafe will be provided. Tuesdays, 01/11/22 to 06/14/22, Music and Movement with Deb Hudgins, 10:30 to 11:00am at Upton Town Library. Wednesdays, 01/19/22 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. Thursdays, 01/13/22 to 02/17/22, Monster Mayhem, 9:15 to 11:00am at Taft Public Library. Wednesday, 01/19/22,

Parent Education Workshop with Jill Vetstein, virtual at 7:00 to 8:30pm, more informa-

tion to follow on website. Friday, 02/04/22, Story Walk, "Tracks in the Snow", 10:30 to 12:30am

at VanderZicht Stables, 61 Rawson St., Uxbridge

MILLBURY SENIOR CENTER

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

FRAUD PREVENTION CLASS Thursday, Jan. 6th at 1 P.M. Officer Piscitelli will be presenting Learn about different Scams that target seniors! Please call the center if interested in attending 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 (All new starting Dec. 16th)! 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 1P.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 is provided for Millbury Senior Residents Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. We travel one town out in each direction including Sutton, Grafton, Auburn and Worcester A 48 hour notice is required for scheduling rides (business days) Rides are free until January 1st For more information or to schedule transportation call the center at 508-865-9154

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

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

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

Justin Medeiros named to Head of School Scholar Honors List at Pomfret School

POMFRET, Conn. — Justin Medeiros of Douglas, from the Class of 2023 was named to the Fall 2021 Head of School Scholar Honors list at Pomfret School. To achieve this level of distinction, Justin earned a grade point average of at least 4.000 and received no grade lower than an A-. Founded in 1894, Pomfret School is an independent coeducational college preparatory boarding and day school for 350 students in grades 9 through 12 and postgraduates. Set on a stunning 500-acre campus in Northeastern Connecticut, Pomfret cultivates a healthy interdependence of mind, body, and spirit in its students as it prepares them for college, and to lead and learn in a diverse and increasingly interconnected society.

TRINITY CATHOLIC ACADEMY HONOR ROLL

S O U T H B R I D G E — Trinity Catholic Academy has released its honor roll for the first trimester of the 2021-2022 school year.

Grade 4 High Honors: Celia Ladd, Heer Swadia Honors: Nicolas Gauvin, Olivia Kentley Freeman, Joshua McManus, Ella Sawyer, Alexio Yacavace

Grade 5 High Honors: Layla

Beu, Lucas Cournoyer Honors: Chloe Cahill, Sarah Clark, David Gil, Sofia Henao, Lily Nellis, Kylar Norris, Anthony Postale, Kerstin Smaltz

Grade 6 High Honors: Alivia Gauvin Honors: Jameson Durocher, Aedyn Esser, Heather Kennedy, Isabella Lamica, Oliver MacDonald, Olivia Neuenchwander, Matilda Paradis, Nolan Smeltzer

Grade 7 High Honors: Michael Gasperini, Apollo Logan, Yashvi Swadia Honors: Jeremy Figueroa, Melany Ngo, Nico Yacavace

Grade 8 High Honors: Colin Ladd Honors: Charles Congdon, Anika Ferrantino, Cole Paradis, Amari Pereira



Community Connection

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



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OBITUARIES

Robert A. Dansereau, 79



Douglas- Robert A. Dansereau, 79, of Manchaug St., passed away on Sat. Dec. 11, 2021 after a long illness. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Deborah M. (Fullerton) Dansereau; 3 sons, Craig R. Dansereau, Mark A. Dansereau, and Douglas A. Dansereau and his companion Sue Snow, all of Douglas; 5 grandchildren, Hunter Dansereau, Jason Dansereau, Renee Dansereau, Kayla Snow, and Addison Snow; a sister, Pauline Shea of Uxbridge; his nephew, Stephen Shea; a great-nephew, Michael Shea, and many friends. He was predeceased by his daughter Kim A. Dansereau in 1987, a nephew Michael Shea, and his daughter-in-law Michelle Dansereau.

Born in Whitinsville June 2, 1942 he was the son of Albert J. And Beatrice E. (Girouard) Dansereau and was a lifelong Douglas resident. Bob worked as a Plant Operator and a Mechanic for Granger Lynch Co. in Millbury for 33 years retiring in 2000. Since the age of 17, he also worked for the Town of Douglas sanding, plowing, and as

a backhoe operator. Always an entrepreneur, he and his wife owned and operated Diggers Liquor Store, Douglas Hardware and More, and R.A. Dansereau Trucking Corp. A graduate of Douglas Memorial High School Class of 1960, he was a member of Teamsters Local 170, the MA Beach Buggy Assoc., and volunteered many years for the Douglas Fire Dept. He coached baseball, and enjoyed camping and fishing with his family at the beach, and playing cards in the local pitch league. He enjoyed Harley Davidson motorcycles over the years and will be remembered as a devoted husband, loving father, grandfather, uncle, and friend, who would do anything for anyone.

His funeral mass will be held on Sat. Dec. 18 with a mass at 10AM in St. Denis Church, 23 Manchaug St. Burial will follow in St. Denis Cemetery. Calling hours at Jackman Funeral Home, 7 Mechanic St., Douglas are Fri. Dec. 17 from 5-8 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations in Bob's memory may be made to: the American Heart Assoc., PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692. To leave a condolence message for his family please visit: <http://www.Jackmanfuneralhomes.com>

EVENT

continued from page A1

year, especially around the holidays, so it's nice to see them engaging in activities again and laughing with their friends."

The event started at the adult social center five years ago thanks to Dan and Anna Marcoux, said Rousseau.

"This has been a family tradition of theirs, and they now share it with all of us," Rousseau said. "Dan and his wife Anna make all of the gingerbread houses, and provide us with all of the candy and supplies we need to create the houses. Participants start planning ahead with their ideas as soon as the date is set."

This year, the event drew 25 participants, along with Douglas Police Chief Nick Miglionico, who always joins the event and brings refreshments, according to Rousseau. Representative Joseph McKenna and his assistant Lori Joubert also attended, as well

as Bill Fredericks from Senator Ryan Fattman's office.

"The creativity is amazing, all of the participants love this event and look forward to it every year," Rousseau added. "Making gingerbread houses brings us back to our childhoods and reminds us of a simpler time, especially now."

The pandemic has been hard on many seniors, especially those who lived alone, Rousseau said.

"Many seniors have commented about last year, and unless you were a senior living alone unable to see your friends and/or family, we could never understand," Rousseau said. "It was probably one of the hardest experiences most of them had faced in their lives. Especially for those who lived alone. It was a terrible time and I know they are all grateful to be out of their houses spending time with loved ones and engaging back to something normal, even if it's just a couple of hours visiting the center."

The adult social center also held its Holiday Party this week with the New Assembly Chorus, an event that was sponsored by the Douglas Cultural Council, Rousseau said.

The Douglas Adult Social Center is located at 331 Main St. in Douglas. The lineup of January events include: a blood pressure clinic with Nurse Ann, Jan. 3 and 20 from 10 a.m. to noon; card designing with cookies and cocoa, Jan. 6 at 12:30 p.m.; fuel assistance for new applicants only (call WCAC to request an appointment at 508-754-1176), Jan. 11 from 10:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; "War With Grandpa" movie and lunch, Jan. 12 at noon; Douglas Valley Dentistry oral care and wellness talk with \$3 per-person taco lunch, Jan. 27 at 11:15 a.m.; free photography class, every Tuesday for five weeks starting Jan. 18 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

The center will be closed on Monday, Jan. 17, in observance to Martin Luther King Day.

AWARD

continued from page A1

ities distinctive to an individual," and Bolandrina has exemplified this "in both his personal and professional life."

Bolandrina has volunteered with numerous organizations from Massachusetts to the Philippines, according to Douglas Police. Locally, he has volunteered with the Blackstone Valley NE Mt Biking Association and as a coach with the NE High School Cycling Association. He has also volunteered time with charities, including seven years with the Pan Mass Challenge, the Lowell Folk Festival, the Chefs for Food charity, and advocating for children through a number of organizations including cultural, humanitarian, and educational charities throughout the world.

Bolandrina said that his spirit of volunteerism and giving back to the community stems from the way he was raised.

"That's the way my folks raised me, and the best thing I can do is to make sure I raise my kids the same way," he said, adding that he and his wife, Gretheline, have four children, all of whom attended the Douglas Public Schools.

Bolandrina said that being recog-

nized in this manner makes Douglas truly feel like home, adding: "I don't think I'll ever leave."

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, last year's award process was bypassed, according to police, and a monetary donation was made in its place to the Blackstone Valley Beagle Club. This year, Bolandrina was selected by an eight-member committee, and in addition to the award, the department announced that it will also be making a donation of \$500 to Boy Scout Troop 134 toward their renovation efforts at the old Fish & Game Club on Church Street.

During the meeting, department members also acknowledged the efforts of several other nominees from the community, including former Selectman Michael Hughes, who served the board from 2006 through 2021, five of which he served as Chairman.

"Selectman Hughes was passionate, professional and earned the reputation as being the voice of reason," the department shared in a statement.

Lori Houth, who is an outreach worker for Family Continuity in Whitinsville, was also recognized.

Lori is a dedicated worker and her compassion for those she serves goes beyond the hours of any employment schedule," the police statement reads, adding that the efforts of Mr. Robert F. Cosky and his late wife, Bernadette Marks Cosky, were equally as remarkable. "The Cosky's for many years brought the magic of Christmas to Depot Street bringing joy and memories to those young and old."

The department further described Bolandrina and Gretheline—who is also dedicated to volunteerism—as "two people we are fortunate to have in our community."

"I think they should both be extremely proud of their combined accomplishments."

SHOW

continued from page A1

aspects of the photographic art form capture my attention and motivate a series of related images," Murray released in a statement. "Although my perspective is predominantly reality-based, I acknowledge not only the subjective nature of what I portray in my images, but an interest in pursuing at times more abstract images."

The show can be seen on Saturdays from Jan. 15 through March 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A submission form and more information on participating in the show can be found online at bvaa.org. Award winners will be announced on Sunday, Jan.

16, accompanied with a presentation by Murray. More details on whether the presentation will be in-person or virtual will be announced, Frieswick added.

The Uxbridge gallery is supported in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and by ValleyCAST, the community outreach department of Open Sky Community Services. Open Sky uses this space for special-needs client activities during daytime weekdays, and allows the BVAA use of the space—and its gallery walls—on evenings and weekends, according to information on the art association's website.

"We actively support their inclusive mission," the BVAA released. "All are welcome to all of our events and activities."

Erin Wiehn named to Honors List at Pomfret School

POMFRET, Conn. — Erin Wiehn of Northbridge, from the Class of 2023, was named to the Fall 2021 Honors List at Pomfret School. To achieve this level of distinction, Erin earned a grade point average of at least 3.330 and received no grade lower than a B.

Founded in 1894, Pomfret School is an independent coeducational college preparatory boarding and day school for 350 students in grades 9 through 12 and postgraduates. Set on a stunning 500-acre campus in Northeastern Connecticut, Pomfret cultivates a healthy interdependence of mind, body, and spirit in its students as it prepares them for college, and to lead and learn in a diverse and increasingly interconnected society.

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Friday's Child



Jessica Age 10

Hi! My name is Jessica and I love the color pink!

Jessica is a sweet and respectful, young girl who likes unicorns, anything Barbie, and her favorite color is pink. Jessica loves to color, especially with gel pens. Although described as shy at first, once she gets to know someone, she will talk about anything and everything! Jessica is aware of maintaining her appearance and loves her hair.

Legally freed for adoption, families of all constellations

will be considered for Jessica, including homes with older children. A family with a trauma-informed approach will help her to thrive in her new setting. Jessica continues to have contact with her previous foster mother and she is an important, positive, life-long support for Jessica that will need to be maintained. Jessica is open to meeting new people and will benefit from a loving and patient home where she can develop a sense of safety.

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; LGBTQ 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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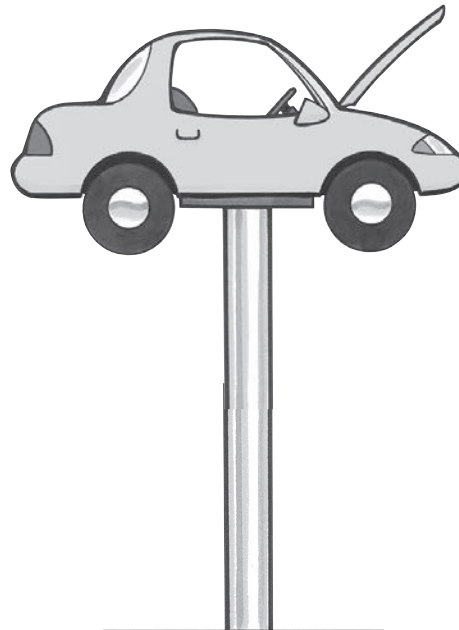
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EDITORIAL

An epidemic of ‘experts’

“Ignorance more frequently begets confidence than does knowledge.” — Charles Darwin

It seems as though in today’s society, everyone is an expert. It’s one thing to have a specific belief system or an educated opinion on a certain topic, (with the operative word here being educated) this to include all topics. However, it seems as though critical thinking has all but flown right out of the window. Common sense is used less and less with people making outlandish assumptions, believing misinformation and falling into line with outright absurdities. Social media doesn’t help. Unfortunately, some people will read a meme and take it as face value. Some people even think JFK, Jr. is coming back to life.

With that, let us make one thing clear. None of us are experts — unless, well, we are. It turns out there’s a name for this phenomenon, called the Dunning-Kruger effect. This is defined as a cognitive bias in which people think they are smarter and more capable than they are. So much so that people don’t recognize their own incompetence.

The Dunning-Kruger effect takes place when a person begins speaking at length about a topic they know nothing about, yet claims everyone else is uninformed and wrong. For an example, if a student fails a test, yet believes they should have received an A. They are incapable of seeing their own faults.

David Dunning, an American social psychologist who along with Justin Kruger discovered the phenomenon, described it as such: “Instead, the incompetent are often blessed with an inappropriate confidence, buoyed by something that feels to them like knowledge. The trouble with ignorance is that it can feel just like expertise.”

The cause of this effect, as described by Dunning, is that people are too incompetent to realize how incompetent they are. These individuals will fail to recognize the skill and expertise of others.

Also mentioned by Dunning is what’s called metacognition. This is the ability to look within and evaluate yourself honestly. Oftentimes, those who suffer from this syndrome hear a small amount of knowledge on a topic, and then think they are experts.

No one person is an expert at everything. Dunning pointed out that everyone has areas in which they are incompetent. Oftentimes, if a person is an expert in one area, they mistakenly think they are an expert in all areas. Dunning did point out that those individuals who are genuine experts in any given field, are more likely to see their own flaws in other areas, and are able to accept the knowledge and expertise in others who truly possess it.

If your car breaks down, you will not bring it to the dentist. If you have a toothache, you will not go see a florist. Further, with the divide in our country politically, let us remember, that politics has zero to do with anyone’s skill set. Our healthcare workers are being harassed daily by those who believe they are experts. There are doctors, nurses and healthcare providers who are both Republicans and Democrats or Independents. Car repair is car repair, healthcare is healthcare, creating a fine dining menu and becoming a top-rated chef is simply about food and creativity. We need to stop politicizing anything other than politics.

Common sense and critical thinking needs to find its way back into our society. Common sense is defined as the sound and prudent judgement based on a simple perception of the situation or fact.

As far as the political divide that has taken hold in this country. It’s ridiculous. There is no need for anyone, on either side, to be filled with so much anger, because their candidate lost, or because someone disagrees with your way of thinking. The beauty of our country is that we can all think differently and still respect one another, and still have the ability to laugh over beers and pizza on a Friday night. The angry political signs still strewn about on either side, are tacky, immature and unintelligent. We can do better.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Yes, Virginia, there is an America to believe in

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

Have you taken a moment to think about how the Christmas movie, “It’s A Wonderful Life,” gets its most powerful performance from an actor who had WWII air combat experience?

Most young Americans do not know WWII history, so here is the short version: World War II has a complicated history, with many important players. We could not have won without major fighting forces and courage from our Allies and Resistance fighters in France, Poland, Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, Greece, Norway, Serbia. But the pivotal role - let’s give credit where credit is due - in both Europe and the Pacific was played by the U.S.A. We geared up our military might and cranked out tanks, planes, weapons, shells, parachutes, gunpowder, you name it, food, chocolate, like only the U.S.A. can, and shipped it to England, North Africa, the Pacific, and every other battle front in need along with our soldiers.

Jimmy Stewart, the actor, before he was George Bailey in “It’s a Wonderful Life,” was a licensed pilot. In 1941, he joined the Army, age 33 (quite old in those days). As a pilot, Stewart led bombing missions of the 703rd Bomb Squadron, U.S. Army Air Corps, flying B-24s, known as “widow makers” because so many pilots and aircraft were lost while flying them.

During his flights, Stewart watched from his cockpit as plane after plane, friend after friend, went down. For years, he had nightmares: German planes flying at him, spraying bullets, firing rockets, B-24s beside him, burning and spinning out of formation to the ground below. Then, in his dream, an explosion and a hole beneath his seat. He can see Germany. Straight down. Four miles down. This was no dream. This had been his reality on his last flight. As my Learned Friend said, it was not George Bailey’s brother, Harry, who was the World War II combat pilot hero (in the film). It was George Bailey himself!

Now, today, the Woke Mob (socialists) have decided that “It’s a Wonderful Life” is misogynist (prejudiced against women). Yes, George’s wife stays home and has lots of beautiful children, all decorating the house for Christmas, while George is wandering the streets frantically searching for the missing \$8,000 from his Savings and Loan before he gets arrested and put in prison. All the

women in the film wear lipstick and pretty dresses. Only two work outside the home. For shame!

Spoiler alert: George’s Guardian Angel and his little homemaker save the day. Socialists don’t like little cookie-bakers, Domestic Goddesses, or Guardian Angels saving the day. No, they prefer the evil politicians who promise to save the day, but would not know how to save the day if their life depended on it. My money is on the cookie-bakers and veterans, full of decency and courage.

Some would have us believe that our country and its people are a failure, and that there is no Santa Claus. I, however, stand with the Editor of the New York Sun, veteran newsman Francis Church, who in 1897, wrote an Editorial, “Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus,” in response to a little girl’s letter. He wrote, in part:

“Virginia, your little friends are wrong [who do not believe in Santa Claus]. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men’s or children’s, are little...

Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world... there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

Yes, VIRGINIA, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no VIRGINIAS. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.”

Time to be revolutionary. Believe in your country, its greatness, and Santa Claus.

Nevertheless she persisted,

BEV GUDANOWSKI
UXBRIDGE

“Evolution” to what?

To the Editor:

It is unwise to wear out one’s welcome in a public forum like a newspaper, but I willingly risk that result! One writer’s conclusion last week prompts this measured response with no “screaming nor demonizing.”

As students of history are aware, every generation since the inception of this ‘grand experiment’ has had to fight, literally or figuratively, to defend its existence. It is agreed, hardly a decade in America’s history passes without serious political arguments, more often than not making for a divided country filled with violence, virulence and vitriol just like today! However listening to the present “historical cacophony of... voices... no matter how ridiculous, illogical, or maddening views of others,” our opinions diverge. When chips are down, I maintain we are (more than we realize) united as “Americans” with mental fortitude first and foremost and do not inhabit a “mythologized... imaginal National dream” as claimed.

I, too, suggest “logic, tolerance and calm rationalism” as alternatives to current ineffective problem-solving methods.

The heart of our disagreement lies in the thought that “our cherished notions of Truth aren’t working!” I am no Pollyanna and admit where our history is marred, scared and imperfect! Yet the notion that somehow we “have been badly mistaken in our blithe presumption regarding the success and endurance of American democracy” is wholeheartedly rejected. (At risk of being ‘cancelled,’ concern is expressed over what is likely being taught in schools today!)

The previous writer concluded past approaches have been “demonstrably unsuccessful.” That is factually incorrect, not to mention insulting to history! Furthermore, examples abound of how “We, the People” produced change for the better by civic engagement with anger, hope and courage. I posit the long ago vision of a more perfect Union is achievable, but caution about tossing this baby out with the bath water while waiting for “evolution”.

Best wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

JANE F. KEEGAN
UXBRIDGE

Use your words

POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
TOBY
MOORE

By Toby Moore
When I was a boy, my parents always told me, “Toby, you’re so smart and handsome!” I didn’t know any better, so I believed I was smart and handsome. When

I started attending school, I heard something different. I heard whispers from my teachers to my parents about how they thought I had a learning disability.

Around that time, my parents started telling me, “Toby, you’re smart, handsome, and you’re a late bloomer.” They were putting a positive spin on the situation.

I took to heart what they said, whenever I didn’t do well in school, which was often, my parents would worriedly look over my report card, and I’d reassure them, “Don’t worry, I’m just a late bloomer, I’ll get good grades someday!” which turned out to be true. A decade or more later, I started earning excellent grades while studying acting in college. To take my business to the next level, I recently graduated from a UCLA coding Bootcamp with almost all A’s. I grew up with the expectation that one day I’d get good grades, and it came to pass.

What if instead of telling me that I was a late bloomer, my parents said, “you’re dumber than a box of rocks.” If they did, every time I got a bad grade, I’d say, “of course! I’m dumber than a box of rocks; I’ll never get good grades. I’m an idiot!”

Some of you may have gone through life feeling like a loser because that’s what you were told at home. I think we’re all born to win in our own way. It’s never too late to change what you’re telling yourself.

I learned in college that it doesn’t matter what other people say or think about you. What matters is what you think and say about yourself.

When I became an actor, I was surrounded by people who were more talented than me. I had never acted before, and it took me a few years to get the hang of it. I remember hearing how some people in my classes thought I was a terrible actor. It was a massive blow to my ego, but rather than telling myself, “I’m a terrible actor, I’ll never get better,” I told myself, “I will become a talented actor; they don’t determine how good of an actor I will become - I do.” No matter how insecure I felt, I kept telling myself, “I will become a talented actor!” For all the roles that I’ve booked on TV, Film and the Stage, I’ve never received a bad review.

I used to hear a former co-worker tell herself, “I’m so stupid!” whenever she did something wrong. Interestingly, I never heard her say, “I’m so intelligent!” when she did something right.

If you call attention to your mistakes by telling yourself that you’re stupid, more stupid mistakes will follow.

I had a close friend who sarcastically told himself dozens of times a day, “I hate my life!” coincidentally, he was depressed and suicidal. His life seemed great; he had a great family and personality; why did he hate his life? Is there a connection between how he felt and what he told himself?

When you create a negative narrative about yourself, you’re putting yourself into prison. It’s a trap, and you’ll become ensnared by your words.

I know people use their words to describe how they feel, but what if we used our words to change how we feel? What if you used your words to change the direction of your life?

Next time you feel insecure, tell yourself, “I’m talented, I’m secure, I’m valuable, I have everything I need to succeed!” Next time you feel like a failure, tell yourself, “Tomorrow will be better; my future is bright, I am a champion, I will accomplish my dreams!”

As you move forward, don’t use your words to imprison yourself. Use them to set yourself free! Use them to set into motion the type of life you always wanted.

LETTERS

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

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

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

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

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

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

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!



Deer season winding down

The final three weeks of the Massachusetts deer season opened for primitive arms hunters this past Monday, ending on Dec. 31. There are still a lot of deer in local covers. Shotgun hunters reported a lot of sightings during the shotgun season , but were unable to get a good shot. Hopefully, a few inches of snow will give the hunters some great tracking conditions, providing the hunters with an opportunity to harvest a deer before the final day of hunting.

Most of the deer that were harvested during the shotgun deer season were in good shape, and had a good amount of fat that was observed during the skinning process. The large acorn crop should help many forms of wildlife survive the upcoming winter months. This past week, a package of venison steaks were dropped off at my home, which were quickly pan fried with a few onions and peppers the next day. A special thanks to the person that was kind enough to share some of his venison.

This week’s weather was expected to stay warm, which is not good news for ice fishing. Shoreline anglers are still catching some impressive trout at local lakes and ponds. Anglers that have not winterized their boats, are continuing to enjoy some good fishing for trout. Cape ponds are also producing some good late fall or early trout fishing. It is worth the



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trip to the Cape to enjoy some great trout fishing, if the warm weather continues. Hamblin Pond is this writer’s favorite pond to fish for trout, and often produces some 18-plus-inch rainbow trout. This Kettle pond is a shallow sediment-filled body of water, formed by retreating glaciers or draining floodwaters in years past. There are numerous Kettle Ponds on the Cape.

Mass. Fish and Wildlife has implemented a new Recreational Permitting System for hunting and fishing licenses. The new system has been a bit of a pain for many first-time, users but they have managed to go through the process. You need to set up an account with a new MassFishHunt permitting system. You will also notice that all license and permitting fees have increased and will continue to rise every year; for the next few years. You will also need an e-mail address and password to log onto the new site.

This year, overall transaction fees will stay the same or decrease for most online customers. The previous online system charged an administration fee of \$1.34 per license and a 3 percent convenience fee on the total transaction. The new online system will charge an administrative fee of \$1.45 per license and 2 percent convenience fee on the total

transaction. It sounds like I am reading my electric bill or gas bill! It is what it is!

Canada goose season opened this past Monday in the Central District, with a daily bag limit of two birds. The season will run through Jan. 1. The late and final Goose season will open on Jan. 15 – Feb. 1, with a five-bird daily limit.

This past week, a few of the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club members observed a few trout poachers at their club pond. When they were confronted, they quickly left the area , but not until the damage was done. The culprits were extremely brazen, ignoring our shouting to leave the area. A family of otters were feeding on recently stocked trout at the club pond as they do every year, and when they have depleted the trout population, they move on to neighboring Rod & Gun Clubs, to feed on their trout.

With trout costing \$3 a pound or more from trout hatcheries, many anglers become a bit upset with the poachers, but there is not much they can do as very few trappers are left to keep their populations down. Even if we could find a trapper, the trapping season for mink and River Otter ended December 15, 2021. Someone must have sent the otter a copy of the Massachusetts trapping season, as they seem to show up after trapping season?

The Whitinsville Fish & Game Club will be holding another Breakfast Buffet



Courtesy

This father and son team are eagerly awaiting some safe ice for ice fishing. It may not be long!

on Sunday, Dec. 19, from 8 till 11 a.m., and is open to the public. The club will also be holding another Founders Day Prime Rib supper on the third Saturday of January, 2022. Be sure to get your tickets early as ticket sales are limited to 80 reservations. It was a sell out last year and is expected to sell out early. The supper is also open to the public.

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year to all. Stay safe and get your shots. Do not be foolish!

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending !

Ode to Cranberries: A Festive Fruit Beyond the Holiday Table

New England cranberries are not just for the holidays anymore. The tart fruit, hailed as the “king of antioxidants,” are enjoying a surge of popularity as fans of the bouncy berries are finding new and delicious ways to work the wee wonders into a daily diet. From stalling a urinary tract infection, to preventing peptic ulcers, cranberries have been credited with an array of health helping benefits. Ongoing research also shows the fruit holds promise in the fight against such illnesses as cancer, heart and gum diseases and more. Add the fact the berries are touted as a powerful antioxidant and are high on the list of 20 anti aging foods and its no wonder the bowl of cranberry sauce could be the most important dish on the holiday table this year!

Humble Beginnings: Cranberries are native to New England, and the Northeast has long been credited with producing top quality bumper crops of the bright berries. Today, cranberries are grown commercially throughout the northern United States, but it was the early Native Americans who first unleashed the impressive properties of the humble, bitter berry.

The Indians used cranberries to make a poultice which proved an effective means to draw out the poison of arrow wounds. The dark, red juice of the fruit also provided an attractive dye for precious blankets and fabrics. In addition, cranberries mixed with dried venison and fat and dried in the sun formed staple food that could



TAKE
THE
HINT
.....
KAREN
TRAINOR

withstand the rigors of travel, providing Native Americans with a valuable food source when they were hunting.

The wild cranberry got its name from the early settlers, who dubbed the round fruit the “craneberry” for its pink blossoms that resemble the head of a crane. The Pilgrims adopted the Indian’s uses of the fruit and expanded its use in cooking to include meat sauces, tarts, jams and nogs. As the early New England settlements expanded, new applications for the berries were discovered including their role in relieving stomach disorders, gall bladder pain, as well as treating blood and liver ailments. The fruit, a rich source of vitamin C, was also credited with preventing scurvy in 17th century seafaring crew members.

Cranberry Cures Can the common cranberry cures what ails you? Medical studies prove the fruit, until recently overlooked as a health benefit in modern times, is packed with healing properties. Cranberries are perhaps best known for their role in preventing urinary tract infections. A bottle of cranberry juice is often prescribed as a first response approach to an impending infection. According to medical studies, the cranberries

secret weapons are proanthocyanidins, nutrients which prevent certain bacteria from sticking to the lining of the bladder; thus preventing an infection.

Research reveals the same anti stick properties might help stall bacteria from adhering to teeth and gums, slowing or preventing cavity growth. The same components may prevent stomach ulcers by stopping H. Pylori from sticking to stomach cells.

Better yet, according to Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., the fruit may benefit the heart, as medical studies show cranberries can inhibit oxidation of low-density cholesterol, which is thought to be one way cholesterol becomes sticky, allowing it to attach to the blood vessel wall. In addition, early laboratory studies suggest cranberry juice cocktail may be as effective as red wine in benefiting heart health.

The impressive healing properties of cranberries include the powerful antioxidants, plentiful in the little red berries. These compounds, which include flavonoids and vitamins, are credited with boosting the immune system and reducing free radicals, which can lead to a healthier body.

Current studies indicate a daily dose of ten ounces of cranberry juice can effectively achieve the bacteria blocking benefits to help prevent such health problems as urinary tract infections, gum disease and ulcers.

Cranberry Recipes The tart, bright taste of

cranberries is always a crowd pleaser; whether the fresh fruit is cooked in a sauce, or served up a la mode at the end of a holiday meal. The following recipes are holiday worthy, but are versatile enough to be served up any time of year.

Apple Cranberry Crisp Too busy with the hustle and bustle of the holidays to whip up a fresh, cranberry dessert? This crock pot version cuts the effort, not the flavor of this cold weather favorite. Ingredients: Three apples; one cup cranberries; three quarters cup brown sugar; one third cup rolled oats (quick cooking); one quarter teaspoon salt; one teaspoon cinnamon; one third cup butter, softened. Directions: Peel, core and slice apples. Place apple slices and cranberries in cup. Mix remaining ingredients in separate bowl and sprinkle over top of apple and cranberries. Place a few paper towels over the top of the crock pot, then place an object (such as a wooden spoon) across the top of the pot and set lid on top. This allows the steam to escape. Turn slow cooker on high and cook for about 2 hours. Serves 4.

Cranberry Walnut Relish A step up from ordinary relish, this sweet condiment is festive and fancy enough to serve at the yuletide table. Ingredients: 12 ounces fresh cranberries; 3/4 cup white sugar; 1 (12 ounce) jar orange marmalade; 3/4 cup chopped walnuts; 1 tablespoon lemon juice; Directions: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Pour cranberries into a shallow 1.5 qt oven proof baking dish. Sprinkle with

sugar; cover with tinfoil and bake for 30-35 minutes. Remove from oven and evenly distribute walnuts into the dish. Recover and bake another ten minutes. Stir in marmalade and lemon juice and combine well. Allow dish to cool at room temperature, then cover and refrigerate for several hours before serving.

Curious about Cranberries?:

*Did you ever wonder why cranberries have the ability to bounce? Tiny pockets of air inside the fruit allow the berries to bounce off hard surfaces. It is this same air that makes cranberries bouyant in water! *Think cranberries grow in water? Think again! Cranberry vines grow in marshes and sandy bogs. Because cranberries float, producers flood the bogs at harvest time to ease the chore of collecting the cranberries. *It is widely reported that fresh cranberries were served at the first Thanksgiving in Plymouth, Massachusetts. *Cranberries are almost 90% water. *Cranberries helped fight the war? During World War II, American forces were supplied with about one million pounds of dehydrated cranberries each year. *The United States boasts eight townships in the USA named “Cranberry” or a variation of the name. *Cranberries pack a big punch! There are over 4,000 cranberries in each gallon of cranberry juice. *It took until 1994, but that year the native Cranberry was declared the official state berry

of Massachusetts. *History traces cranberry juice back to 1683, where the tart drink was first made by American settlers. *The first commercial cranberry sauce was marketed in 1912. * Believe it or not, cranberry beds over a century old are still producing healthy berries!

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.

Estate jewelry is bringing strong auction prices

Recently, estate jewelry has been bringing some of the strongest prices we’ve seen. In today’s column I’ll define exactly what estate jewelry is and share more about prices for this desirable item.

Even estate jewelry dealers’ opinions differ on what estate jewelry is. However, the consensus is that estate jewelry is simply jewelry that was previously owned by someone else. There seems to mainly be agreement that costume jewelry isn’t estate jewelry. It’s generally believed that estate jewelry is fine jewelry crafted from precious metals like gold or platinum. Estate jewelry often includes gemstones like diamonds, opals, rubies, emeralds, jade, sapphires, etc.

Estate jewelry can be broken down further by the age of the pieces. U.S. Customs defines an antique as an item that’s 100 years old or older. Therefore, jewelry made 100 or more years ago is considered antique. But what is considered vintage varies. Some consider vintage to be 50 years old or more. Others consider vintage jewelry to be 30 or even 20 years old. Some describe jew-

elry that isn’t old enough to be antique or vintage as pre-owned.

Age is just one of the factors that determines the value of your estate jewelry. Most collectors want antique or vintage pieces as the value is typically higher for them. As with most items, the craftsmanship with older jewelry is often much better than with newer pieces.

The designer also makes a difference with estate jewelry. People will pay more for well-made pieces by companies like Cartier and Tiffany. Further, the size and weight are important factors. Larger, heavier pieces are worth at least the value of the gold they contain. Diamonds and other gemstones can have significant value. In one of our auctions several years ago, a three and a half carat diamond sold for over \$30,000. Whether you have an old mine cut, Marquise cut, oval cut or any other diamond cut, the 4 Cs of diamonds still apply (color, cut, clarity and carat.)

Our November auction featured



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
.....
WAYNE TUISKULA

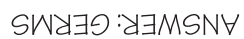
estate jewelry, gold coins and watches that brought nice results for the consignors. A newer 14-karat gold Italian 20-inch serpentine necklace sold for \$650. An 18-karat jade ring brought nearly \$900. A 14-karat gold with two and a half carat old mine cut diamonds and sapphire ring went for over \$1,000. An 18-karat seven-inch turquoise bracelet with small diamonds reached over \$2,100. A men’s platinum moonstone ring with two small diamonds on the side sold for nearly \$3,000. A Tiffany 18-karat white gold, platinum, emerald and diamond ring fetched over \$4,000. A jeweled 18-karat gold dagger cut through all other items to reach the top auction price when it sold for over \$8,000.

We will be running Session 5 of the model railroad, die-cast cars and models next month. We are now accepting quality consignments for our next multi-estate auction including estate jewelry, sterling silver, coins, art, comic



books, sports cards, advertising signs and other valuable antiques and collectibles. I’ll be teaching my “Evaluating your Antiques” class again on March 23 at the Bay Path Evening school in Charlton, Mass. Please sign up for our email list on our website or follow us on Facebook to stay up to date on upcoming events.

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



Answers:
Across
1. Medicine 4. Radiator 5. Belly 6. Sanitary

a period of sickness

GERMAN: Bakterien


ANSWER: HANDWASHING


Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Answers: A. wrapping B. receipt C. ribbon D. purchase


ANSWER:

REAL ESTATE






Jules Lusignan



T.A. King




Maureen Cimoch





Ellen Therrien



John Kokocinski



Adrienne James



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Seasons Greetings - Happy Holidays



WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Lake Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their Own Bathrooms! 5.5 Bathrooms Total! Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator from the Ground Floor up 3 to the Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bathroom with Steam Shower just off the Mirrored Exercise Room! Billiard Room! Media Room with Custom Cabinetry & Wet Bar! Fantastic Center Island Granite Kitchen with Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, 16' Butler's Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Family Room with Cherry Entertainment Center & Wet Bar! Open Formal Dining Room, Fireplace Living Room & Atrium! Library with Private Deck! Waterfront Master Suite with Private Office, Bedroom with Triple Glass Door to its Private Deck with Panoramic Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Lake View Bathroom with Huge Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Double Vanity Sinks & Separate Commode/Bidet! Pedestal Sink Area! 16 Zones of Updated Geothermal Heat & Air Conditioning - 30 Tons! Recessed Lighting & Sprinkler System Through Out! 3 Car Heated Garage! Full House Generator! Slate Roof! All Decks & Railings Brazilian Ipe Hardwood! Copper Gutters & Downspouts! It's Time to Reward Yourself! **\$1,749,900.00**



SOLD



ON DEPOSIT



ON DEPOSIT



ON DEPOSIT



ON DEPOSIT



NEW LISTING



ON DEPOSIT



SOLD



SOLD



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ON DEPOSIT



SOLD



SOLD



ON DEPOSIT



ON DEPOSIT

DUDLEY - 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131' Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w/ Guest Closet! SS Appliance Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Flr, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Chair Rail! Formal Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 13.6x27' Fam Rm w/Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert, Soaring Cathedral Ceiling, Ceiling Fans & Skylight! Half Bath! 3 Season Porch! 1st Flr Laundry! The 2nd Floor w/4 Bdrms! Spacious Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Vanity! C/Air & Vac! 2 Car Garage! Fire Pit! Many Updates! Original Owner - Pride of Ownership! **\$570,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 701 Beacon Park! 5 Rm End Corner Garden Unit - One Level Living - No Stairs! 10 Beautiful Acres of Park Lake Grounds w/Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 1,100' of Living Space! Ample Room for Year Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Well Maintained! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath, 2 Baths Total! Beautiful Lakeside Pool, Spectacular Beach, Best on the Lake! Detached Garage! **\$299,000.00!**

WEBSTER LAKE - 50 Laurelwood Drive! 90' Waterfront! Western Exposure - Beautiful Sunsets! Half Acre, 22,729', of Natural Privacy! 6 Room Custom Built Cedar Home with 2 Car Attached Garage! Dining Area and Fireplaced Living Room with Soaring Cathedral Ceilings! First Floor Master Bedroom with Full Bath! 2 Second Floor Bedrooms and Second Full Bath, Large Second Floor Expansion Area! Additional Garage Space Under! Lighting Strike Fire Damage Repair Required! Tons of Potential! **\$889,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 33 Loveland Rd! South Pond - Fantastic 19,243' Waterfront Lot with 125' of Prime South Facing Natural Shoreline which Highlights this 5 Room, 2 Bedroom, 3 Season Cottage! Start Your Lake Memories Here! Cute & Cozy, the Way the Lake Use to Be! Open Floor Plan with Lots of Glass and Panoramic Lake Views! Just Enjoy it as it is, or Add on to it, or Take it Down and Build Your Dream Home Here! Don't Need the Entire Lot, Subdivide it and Bring the Cost Down! Perfect Gentle Slope to the Water! Town Services! **\$949,900.00**



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Featured New Listing!

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Multi-Familys - 4 Buildings! 9 Occupied Residential Units! 1 Occupied Commercial Unit! Huge BONUS, Drive through Heated Garage, can accommodate up to 18 Vehicles! **\$975,000.**

June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Brian Bohenko



Merry Christmas!

Featured Island Listing! Webster Lake - 22 Long Island



SORRY, SOLD!

Once in a lifetime opportunity to own a Webster Lake Waterfront Cottage on Long Island! Properly named the "Grand View". Sandy beach, boat house! Antique Cottage w/5 Rms, 3 BRs, a stone fireplaced w/pellet stove, eat-in kitchen w/modern appliances, full bath! washer/dryer. Screened porches. Included, 25% ownership share in a main land waterfront lot at 38 Point Pleasant Rd, in sheltered Mumford Cove! land provides boat slip & winter storage. A FAR AWAY PLACE NEAR BY! **\$389,900.**

WEBSTER - 20 & 22 COOPER RD



LAND with Sewer & Water access! Excellent Opportunity for New Homes! Boat Ramp Near by!
\$24,500., each.

LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/CHARLTON

Oxford - 2 Merriam Rd 80+- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton. **ON DEPOSIT \$329,000.**

Oxford - 4 Leicester St. - Approx. 8.47 Acres! River Frontage. **NEW PRICE \$79,500.**

Webster - DOUGLAS RD 26 ACRES! on SUGERLOAF HILL 1000+- of frontage! **SORRY, SOLD! \$200,000.**

Webster - COOPER RD - 2 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & SEWER Access. Zoned Lake Res! **\$24,500. Each**

OXFORD - 10 BEVERLY STREET



SORRY, SOLD!

2 Family! A RARE FIND, BUILT IN 1967!! 2 PARCELS = 16,224 SF!! EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED! Total 9 rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 baths. 2nd apartment is a perfect mortgage helper!! Beautiful Hardwood Floors! Roomy yard. Off Street Parking! Neighborhood Setting! **\$449,000.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL.



SORRY, SOLD!

Killdeer Circle! Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear shoreline. Ranch with 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walkout lower level to patio! Garage! **\$650,000.**

TREASURE ISLAND - CONDO



ON DEPOSIT IN 6 DAYS

Unit 1404 Marina side of the Complex - with 2 Boat Slips! 6 rooms, 2-1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, Sandy Beach, Heated Salt Water Pool! **\$549,000.**

WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND



SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER LAKE! Treasure Island Townhouse! UNIT# 401 Quiet summers on big & beautiful Webster Lake! 6 Rooms. Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Hardwood Floor & Carpet, Master Bedroom, W/2 Closets, Master Bath! 2-1/2 Baths Total! Slider to Deck & Slider to the Patio! Natural gas heat! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Natural! Sandy Beach! **\$439,000.**

WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.



SORRY, SOLD!

Quiet Summers & Fall Seasons on Big & Beautiful Webster Lake. Completely updated Hardwood & Ceramic. Center Island Kitchen. 6 Rooms. 2-1/2 Baths. a must see. Overlooking the Marina. 2 Deeded boat slips. assisted sale **\$600,000.**



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WEBSTER



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6 Units: Sided, 6 (1) bedroom units, Recent roof, Detached barn
227 School St ~ **\$525,000**

WEBSTER



ON DEPOSIT

4 bedroom, 1/2 acre lot, Fireplace, Small barn or workshop
56 Ash Street ~ **\$234,900**

WEBSTER



ON DEPOSIT

1.5 acres, 26' living/dining room, Fireplace, 2 baths, 2100 sq.ft., 2 car garage
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508-278-8624, ext. 100 for our most up-to-date listing of programs!

January 2022 Programs

Did you know that we're still fine free? Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, we've been waiving overdue fees! The Board of Library Trustees has extended the Library's fine free policy through September 2023. Still have Uxbridge items that are long overdue? As long as they're undamaged, you can return them at any time without paying any late fees. You can support the library in other ways — consider becoming a member of the Friends of the Library!

Adult Programs

Mindfulness Meditation — Thursdays, January 13th and 27th at 6pm

Mindfulness is the energy and continuous practice of being aware and awake to the present moment. In this hour-long workshop, they will practice mindful sitting meditation, mindful walking meditation, and mindful breathing in the tradition of Thich Naht Hanh. Registration is required, please visit our website calendar to register. This program is sponsored by the Board of Library Trustees.

Gentle Flow Yoga — Mondays, January 3rd, 10th, 24th, and 31st at 7pm

Join Michelle Forest, a 200HR registered yoga teacher, for a gentle yoga class at the library! Michelle's gentle yoga class combines creative and balanced movements which connect to a theme to help you deepen your practice. Beginners are encouraged and always welcome to attend! Registration is required, please visit our website calendar to register. This class is sponsored by the Board of Library Trustees.

Genealogy: Getting Started at Your Library — Saturday, January 29th at 10am

Are you interested in finding your roots but are not sure where to start? Join us for an introduction to the genealogical resources that are available through the library. Beginner and experienced genealogists are welcome — bring your family papers, research work, and questions! Based on patron interest, we may start a Genealogy Club with guest speakers. Registration is encouraged, please visit our website calendar to register.

Book-a-Librarian — Wednesdays from 2:30pm-4pm

Need help downloading e-books and audiobooks on your tablet, using online databases, or setting up an email account? Book up to thirty minutes with a librarian for tech assistance. Registration is required, please contact the library at 508-278-8624 x100 or visit our website calendar to register.

PopUp Library at the Senior Center — Thursday, January 6th and 20th at 11:30am

Coming now to the Uxbridge Senior Center... is the PopUp Library! Stop by during the lunch meal program to sign up for a library card, browse an assortment of books, and learn what your librarians are up to! Please contact the Senior Center at 508-278-8622 to reserve your lunch for these days.

Senior Center Book Club — Tuesday, January 11th at 1pm

At the January meeting of the Senior Center Book Club, we will be discussing Finding Dorothy by Elizabeth Letts. Print copies can be placed on hold and will be available at the Library and the PopUp Library at the Senior Center. The e-book and audiobook are available through the Libby app. Registration

Historical Fiction Book Club — Tuesday, January 18th at 3:30pm

Step back in time to learn about the past through the eyes of fictional (and sometimes not so fictional!) characters. We will be discussing Hour of the Witch by Chris Bohjalian. Print copies can be placed on hold and will be available at the Library. The e-book and audiobook are available through the Libby app.

Bookies Book Club — Monday, January 31st at 6:30pm

The Bookies Book Club is back from its holiday break... and meeting in-person! We will be discussing The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead. Print copies can be placed on hold and will be available at the Library. The e-book and audiobook are available through the Libby app.

Youth Programs

Baby Storytime Ages 0-18 months (Mondays at 11am) & Toddler Storytime Ages 18 months- 3 years (Wednesdays at 11am)

Have fun with your children during our weekly storytimes, as you engage in songs, rhymes, stories, and movement. This encourages language development, social, and listening skills. Please visit our website calendar to register.

Take-Home Crafty Wednesdays — Mornings and Afternoons

Get crafty and creative with your kids every Wednesday! Improves coordination, fine motor skills, and encourages creativity. Stop by the library to pick up a new Take-Home craft kit each week.

Music and Movement with Deb Hudgins — Thursdays, January 6th and 13th at 11am

Join Deb Hudgins as she leads a fun-filled, theme-based program with songs, rhymes, dancing and more! Please visit our website calendar to register. This will be held at the McCloskey School Gymnasium. Brought to you by the Board of Library Trustees.

Little Lotus Yoga by Lindsey — Mondays, January 3rd, 10th, 24th, & 31st at 4pm

Join Lindsey to practice yoga postures and mindful activities which will help you relax, lessen anxiety, and teach young ones to find their calmness. The library will provide yoga mats, however you are welcome to bring your own! This will be best for ages 6 and up. Registration is required; please visit our website calendar to register. Brought to you by the Board of Library Trustees.

Magic: The Gathering Club — Mondays, January 3rd, 10th, & 17th at 6pm

Magic is a fantasy trading card game of strategy, wit, and luck! Suitable for ages 12+. Come play casual games and build decks. All skill levels are welcome! Bring your own cards or receive a starter pack from Chris of Great Stories Comics and Gaming store who will facilitate the ongoing program. If you would like to be added to the email list for Magic Club updates, send an email to Sonya at scampbell@cwmmars.org. Meets first (3) Mondays of the month in the Reading Room. Stay tuned for updates! This program is a free drop-in, and requires no registration.

Teen Book-In-A-Bag — Ages 13+ Pick-up January 1st-15th

"Book in a Bag " is a teen subscription book program. Each month teens can sign up for the program where they will know the theme of the month chosen for the books, which will be checked out for 1 month, and placed in their choice of a tote or drawstring backpack, theirs to keep, with motivational posters, Zentangle art or a Gaming poster inside. This month's theme is Mystery. Please visit our website calendar to register or email Sonya at scampbell@cwmmars.org to join! Brought to you by the Board of Library Trustees.

Introduction to Oracle Cards — Thursday, January 6th at 5:30pm

Unlock the mystery surrounding Oracle Cards with Cathy Lynn of Manifest Health Solutions. In this class you are introduced to what Oracle cards are, what they are not, and how to use them to receive personal messages to help you be your best self. Best for children ages 13 and up. Please visit our website calendar to register. Brought to you by the Board of Library Trustees.

3D Coloring Puzzle Sets — Thursday, January 13th at 6pm

There are 10 different puzzles to color and then build into a 3D model which can then be displayed. There is a Butterfly, Seaplane, Dinosaur, Peacock, Eiffel Tower, House, Reindeer, Windmill, Swan and Stegosaurus. This will engage motor skills, creativity, eye-hand coordination, problem solving, visual spatial skills and enhance math performance. Please visit our website calendar to register.

Brought to you by the Board of Library Trustees.

Making n' Baking Virtual Mug Meal: Sunbutter Cookie Dough Fudge! — Thursday, January 20th at 6pm

Encouraging kids' confidence and knowledge in the kitchen — please join Chef Julie Manning at Simply Focused Coaching for a Sunbutter Cookie Dough Fudge class which will take place virtually. You will receive an email with the Zoom link closer to the event. Please visit our website calendar to register. Brought to you by the Board of Library Trustees.

Build-a-Project Series: Wooden Lego Coat Rack — Saturday, January 22nd at 6pm

Learn carpentry skills from a local carpenter, Eric Dutton, who will be teaching a workshop on how to build a functional wooden Lego Coat Rack which the youth will have an opportunity to build and paint. All materials will be provided so all you need to bring is a hammer and yourself. Please visit our website calendar to register. Brought to you by the Board of Library Trustees.

Rock Painting- Thursday, January 27th at 6pm

Painting rocks is an exciting hobby that helps to expand your imagination, promotes critical thinking, improves fine motor skills, is a stress reliever, and an emotional healing restoration! We have all that you need to turn a rock into...your imagination is the limit! Please visit our website calendar to register. Brought to you by the Board of Library Trustees.




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Last-minute holiday shopping tips



Some people thrive by doing all of their tasks early. Others seem to do their best work when faced with a time crunch. The methods individuals use to manage their time at work and play may extend to the ways they approach holiday shopping as well.

There's no right or wrong way to handle holiday shopping tasks, though Christmas Eve crowds at malls and throughout shopping districts suggest that there's more late comers than there are early birds. The following tips can help those who typically wait until the last minute to check names off their lists.

- Utilize free shipping services. Shoppers who shop for gifts online at the last minute run the risk of gifts not arriving on time. Many online retailers charge a premium for expedited shipping. Try to stick to shopping at online retailers that offer free shipping even in the eleventh hour.

- Create a budget. When rushing around from store to store, it may be easy to spend more than you want to. Make a list of how much you want to spend on each person, and stick to that limit for each person. Move on to the next store if you didn't find what you need in your price range.
- Establish a time limit. Stores have strategies in place to keep shoppers in their establishments longer, hoping you'll make impulse buys. These tricks include scenting the air with inviting aromas, putting necessities at the rear of the store, failing to display the time, and putting discounted items by the registers or door to attract shoppers. Set an alarm on your watch or phone for each store so you get what you need and get out on time.
- Subdivide bulk gifts. Think about purchasing bulk gifts like gift baskets from wholesale clubs and then breaking them down into individual gifts. This

way you can gift several people on one purchase and save time in the process.

- Choose one-size-fits-all gifts. Think about a gift that can be purchased for multiple people so you can save time shopping for individualized gifts for everyone. For example, print a personalized photo calendar for several members of your family. You also can purchase multiple subscriptions or memberships to zoos or magazines for people on your list. Streamlining gifting in this way may save money as well as time.
- Choose in-store pickup. Rather than scouring various aisles, you can shop a retailer's website and then pick up items in the store. You'll save on potential shipping fees but still benefit by avoiding crowds.

Some people wait until the last minute to do their holiday shopping. A few tricks of the procrastinator's trade can make last-minute shopping go smoothly.

LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. W021C0555CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME
In the matter of:
Gina Marie Fegreus

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Gina Marie Fegreus of Uxbridge MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Gina Marie-Morrow Schofield

IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/04/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you

must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 01, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
December 17, 2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Docket No. W021P2856EA
Estate of:
Scott W. Dearnley
Date Of Death: April 23, 2021
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner David A. Dearnley of Sutton MA David A. Dearnley of Sutton MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
December 17, 2021

A.C. 78A
COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
WORCESTER, SS
PROBATE COURT
WO21P0684PM

To all persons interested in the estate of Elizabeth Dricken of Worcester in said County, person under conservatorship.

A petition has been presented to said Court for authority to sell – private sale – certain real estate of said 195 Old Millville Road, Uxbridge, Massachusetts for her maintenance.

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 January 2022, the return day of this citation.

Witness Leilah A. Keamy, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this Seventh day of December 2021.
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register
December 17, 2021

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