

## WFD selected to receive coveted SAFER Grant

BY KEITH KENT  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — The town fire department received welcome news Sept. 8, as it was notified it had become one of just 300 fire departments nationally to receive the highly competitive SAFER grant to assist with the potential hiring of three new full time department members for three years by FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security.

The SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response) grant, which WFD

Chief Tom Smith applied for in February, was also accompanied by a rare FEMA cost share waiver, bringing the federally awarded grant to \$423,980 of the total \$687,537 project cost, or 62 percent project funding for the life of the grant.

Currently the department has a chief, deputy chief, and six other full-time employees, which work in two person teams on 24 hours rotational shifts.

Smith stated an audit by the CPA firm of Roselli, Clark, & Associates verified the WFD is

currently understaffed, based on its number of full time employees, call volume, calls for assistance it's unable to meet, and other criteria. Smith said the audit also stated the department needed more staffing to bring in more revenue.

"The Federal Government has also agreed we are understaffed by approving Winchendon for this grant opportunity," added Smith.

In 2016, the department served more than 2,060 calls for emergency aid, and due to inadequate staffing other

assets continually needed to be called in for assistance.

Smith said, "Currently, we lose 80 to 100 calls per year due to back to back mutual aid requests. The departments call volume is also going up 200 to 300 calls per year. Every year our call volume is significantly increasing, and at the same time we are also losing more calls."

Smith explained if additional WFD staffing is hired, the department would better able to meet the additional missed calls for aid, allowing it to

bring in more revenue to the town.

Smith said, "If we have just one more person on each shift, that person would be able to get the second ambulance to the scene, allowing the call to be met and on call part-time employees to meet them on site as needed."

If the grant is approved and accepted by the Selectmen, the town's required portion to fund the balance would be a maximum of \$263,557 over three years, and possibly less

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Eight year old Bella Mucci of Winchendon tries out the driver's seat of WFD Engine number 3.

## First Responder's honored by Bethany Bible Chapel

BY KEITH KENT  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Members of police, fire, EMS, and animal control from the town were both honored and given a heartfelt thanks by the Bethany Bible Chapel in a celebration of appreciation on Sunday for those who place the needs of others before self every day, often moving toward the danger and not away from it.

It was a nearly perfect day at the chapel grounds with sunny skies and temps in the mid 70s as some 100 in atten-

dance including Bible Chapel members and supporters couldn't have asked for better weather to honor those who protect and serve, enter fires to contain and extinguish, rescue or come to the need of those in medical distress, and even deal with a wide variety of animals ranging from rescue to hostile situations.

Pastor Tom Clinkscale immediately pointed out, "Our chapel wants to make sure this day is all about them, what they do for the public every day, the risks they all take upon them-

selves, and express it's truly important to us to make sure they all know how much they are appreciated for all they do."

Clinkscale said, "This is our attempt to give active expression to what Christ calls Christians to do, which is to do good deeds in their community and be recognized as people in their community who are faithful to that. One of the ways we thought we could do it is show appreciation for 911 members of first response. This event in its

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## New advisory committee planned

WINCHENDON — Plans to improve the state of the local schools, bringing them from a Level 3 all the way to a Level 1 on the state's quality scale, are a goal on the radar of the School Committee and the administration.

It will take steps, not one big leap, and Superintendent Steve Haddad knows that. He also knows it will take more than the commitment of his own staff, administration and those already involved in the process.

With that in mind, he has begun a process to involve more people in the planning; wanting to create a school advisory committee to come up with recommendations on how to utilize the assets of the district; everything from finances to people to buildings.

"This is a positive recommendation from the Department of Elementary and Secondary

Education," Haddad told the School Committee last week.

Having a voluntary committee, made up of some school personnel and at large citizens, will bring new ideas to the floor he said.

"We do become focused," he said.

In that way, sometimes other solutions are not seen, he added; and the decisions become insular.

The committee will be no more than 10 people; that number thought to be large enough to have variety but not so large as to be unwieldy. It is hoped they will meet several times, but not be a long term commitment.

"We see this as a real intense process, a chance for people to dig in and look closely at us, then give us some real, solid feedback," said Haddad.

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Greg Vine photo

Mount Monadnock looms in the background while attendees at Monday's 9/11 remembrance at the Cathedral of the Pines listen to the names of those who died in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 are read aloud. In addition to the names of those who perished in the attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon, and those killed in the crash of United Airlines Flight 93 in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, the names of those who died in the Boston Marathon bombings and in last year's shooting at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida were also read.

## Terrorist Attacks Remembered at Cathedral of the Pines

BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Much as they were on that horrific morning 16 years ago, the skies on Monday were azure blue and crystal clear as a small crowd gathered at the Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge to remember those who died in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

And, as was the case when the immensity of that assault on America began to sink in, the mood on Monday was somber.

Winchendon resident James Pelletier has been organizing the annual remembrance at the Cathedral of the Pines since 2008. Each year, the names of those who died in the

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## Students interested in 'making things better'

BY JERRY CARTON  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Committed to trying to make the community a better place, four student leaders from the Winchendon School are spearheading projects designed to do just that.

For Kylee McCumber and Kiley Robles, it's Food Justice and Child Hunger. For Ashley Greene, it's the Bright Futures Buddy Program and for Isabella Whitney, it's the Theater for Change After School Program, but for all four of them, and for the fellow students on their teams, it's about making a difference, "right here, not all the way around the world," as McCumber put it.

Service Learning is a core component of the school's curriculum. The website will tell you it's "a project-based contextualized course." That's the technical version, but as direc-

tor Miranda Jennings points out, "it's really about making an impact on the whole community and connecting across differences."

Or as Robles put it, "you find a project, something you're passionate about. Ours really will help the whole community."

One of the ways in which she, McCumber, and other students are helping is through their involvement in the Winchendon public schools backpack program. Every Friday about 100 elementary-level students receive a backpack full of healthy foods to help get them through the weekend and every Thursday afternoon, Winchendon School students are helping fill those backpacks.

Whitney has been working with youngsters at the Beals Library, bringing dramatic arts to life. Greene is working

with Winchendon police.

The specifics of each program seem to matter less to these student leaders than the overall opportunity to have an impact.

"It's the best feeling to be able to help people," enthused Robles.

Added Greene, "I really like that these are student-run. We get to take charge of our own projects."

That's the idea, observed Jennings. While the entire student body is required to be involved with service learning in one fashion or another, this quartet has taken the lead.

"They really have. They've stepped up in a positive way," she noted.

Jennings can assist with ice-breaker ideas when it sometimes becomes awkward to approach some students but by and large, the student lead-

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WEEKLY QUOTE

A bone to the dog is not charity. Charity is the bone shared with the dog, when you are just as hungry as the dog.

— Jack London

## REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

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# Slammin' his way into Murdock

BY JERRY CARTON  
 COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Among the new teachers at Murdock High School is English instructor Jon Brien and since first impressions matter, the school and community have made a positive one on him. Yet there's more than that. Brien has brought 'Slam Poetry' to Murdock.

What's slam poetry? "Jenna Morin (the school librarian) started a literacy initiative and what was interesting was they brought in a group called Mass Leap on our Hamilton Day. Ironically, I know some of the guys. One's a friend. I didn't know they were coming. It was really cool," noted Brien.

"So Slam Poetry is spoken performed poetry. It's very energetic. In fact, it has a lot in common with hip-hop except there's no music included. It deals with important social and political and cultural topics in ways that kids can relate to." "There were two reactions from them. One was 'what IS this?' The other was 'what is THIS?' They thought it was

all very weird or thought it was all amazing. Either way it provoked a reaction and I think that was important," he stressed.

"I think, I hope, it opened some minds. It was pretty exciting," he noted.

"We're going to do more 'Slam Poetry'," he promised.

That was a positive experience to begin his career in town.

"I'm happy here," enthused Brien. "The support from the administration and other teachers has been great. The students I have here are somewhat similar to the ones I had when I was student-teaching at Worcester South. That was an urban school and this is a more rural one and they have almost 2,000 kids there as opposed to about 300 here, but you see some of the same economic and cultural issues at both schools."

"I understand school can be a struggle for some students. When I was in high school, I had a lot of trouble focusing. There were teachers who took the time to help me and that made all the difference," recalled Brien, who

went to get his bachelors and masters degrees from Clark University.

"That's a great school for anyone who wants to teach," he remarked.

Brien is teaching English and next term is planning on a course in classic Hollywood films, comparing older movies ranging from the 1920s through the 1960s to today's contemporary fare.

"Whether it's poetry, writing composition, or evaluating movies or so much more, English classes offer so many opportunities," Brien pointed out.

Away from school, he's into improv comedy.

"You work with a group and you have no script. You listen to your partners and build on what they said, creating your own skits as you go along. Improv can be a great outlet for kids who want to be the class clown. Rather than being laughed at, you're getting cheered. Improv clubs in schools are a great idea."

A native of Shewsbury, Brien said he knew where Winchendon was and had driven through the region,



Courtesy photo  
 Jon Brien has new ideas to bring to Murdock

and when he finished his interview with Principal Ralph Olsen, he knew, "this was the perfect fit. It was obvious this school is dedicated to every student. That's the school I want to teach at. I hope I'm here a long time," he added.

## MWCC physical therapist assistant graduates pass licensure exam

GARDNER – In a testament to the hard work of students and Mount Wachusett Community College's ongoing effort to maintain high standards and practical relevance for its physical therapist assistant Associate's Degree program, 100 percent of recent graduates who took their licensure exam in July passed.

"The PTA faculty expect excellence and the students deliver," said Margaret Jaillet, assistant dean for MWCC's School of Health Professions, Public Service Programs and Social Sciences. "MWCC has long-standing, dedicated PTA faculty who have maintained clinical practice. It is my belief that this provides the faculty an opportunity to present curriculum with clinical relevance to today's healthcare."

Eleven of the 13 PTA students who graduated in May took their licensure exam on July 6. They all

passed. The remaining two PTA graduates will be able to take their test in October. While exciting, this was not a surprise to Jaillet, who explained the program has always had excellent pass rates.

"The first time pass rate is always over 90 percent and the two year ultimate pass rate has been 100 percent for the last two graduating classes. The national average at other institutions hovers around 85 percent for both categories," said Jaillet.

Physical therapist assistants carry out treatment procedures that assist with the rehabilitation of injured, ill, or debilitated people. The selective program prepares students to work in the healthcare field under the direct supervision of a physical therapist in a variety of settings. Those interested in the program can learn more at <http://mwcc.edu/pta/>.



Courtesy photo  
 Students in Mount Wachusett Community College's physical therapist assistant Associate's Degree program practice therapy exercises.

### ADVISORY

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"I am looking to include a variety of people with differing views and/or opinions to develop a set of recommendations that not only takes the school district into account but the community as well," said Haddad, "We want parents, board members, special interest

groups, citizens, members of service clubs, business people, a bit of everyone. But we need to keep it manageable."

"There will be a limited number of slots for each group, in order to keep objectivity."

If you are interested in being part of the process, contact the Superintendent's office at 75 Grove St. by sending a letter of interest before Sept. 29.

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# CLYDE'S CORNER

## Saturday, September 16

**FALL FEST:** Saturday Sept. 16 is the United Parish Church's Fall Fest from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be yard sales, a bake sale and mums for sale and more. Lunch will be served for \$10 a person. Come join in the fun!

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

**TOY TOWN OUTDOOR MARKET:** 126 Central St. on the lawn of the Unitarian Universalist Church, Winchendon Thursdays 4-7 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

## Saturday, September 23

**SATURDAY YARD SALE:** at UU Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St. From 9 a.m. to noon, come browse for unlikely treasures and unexpected bargains. Donate goods to sell or set up your own table for a modest donation to the church. Saturday Yard Sales run every other week through the summer.

## Sunday, September 24

**MUSIC WE REMEMBER:** Winchendon Winds holds a concert of well loved and most requested pieces of concert band pieces including Shenendoah, America the Beautiful and a selection of music from Hollywood. The Win Winds returns to the Unitarian Universalist Church, 126 Central St. with the concert beginning at 2 p.m. Free and open to the public.

**NO INDIVISIBLE WINCHENDON:** as the time conflicts with the concert. Please enjoy!

## Thursday, September 28

**OPEN MIC:** at the American Legion Post 193, 295 School St. Beginning at 9 p.m. Like to sing? Play an instrument? Willing to jam with a few other musicians? Then come on down and join us at the lower level. Always a good time. Open to everyone! Non-smoking venue.

**OUR NEIGHBOR'S KITCHEN:** Our Neighbor's Kitchen Winchendon's Community Supper is served on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St. at 5:30 p.m. Today's menu is: Tuscan chicken over pasta, salad and dessert. On the first and third Thursdays, the supper will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 52 Spruce St. Our Neighbor's Kitchen meals are cooked homestyle

from fresh ingredients. We're supported by voluntary donations at the door contributions from Winchendon churches and organizations and many hard-working volunteers.

## Sunday, October 1

**A SYMPHONIC SAMPLING:** familiar and exotic works by Dvorak, Debussy and others will ring out in the acoustically superb Unitarian Universalist Church, 126 Central St. beginning at 2 p.m. as the Winchendon Winds presents its third concert of the season. Many of these works will showcase the fine abilities of the musicians who comprise this outstanding community concert band.

**NO INDIVISIBLE WINCHENDON:** as the time conflicts with the concert. Please enjoy!

## Saturday, October 7

**FALL FEST:** the entire length of Central Street will be closed off for a fun day of vendors, music, food and fun. Activities begin at 10 a.m. More information as it becomes available. Plan for this one.

**FAMILY FESTIVAL OF DELIGHTS:** among the offerings for the day long festivities is a lighthearted program of music by the Winchendon Winds at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 126 Central St. Featured will be familiar works by John

Williams from favorite movies such as Star Wars, Raiders of the Lost Ark and others. Premiering at this concert will be the Toy Town March, a special work commissioned for Winchendon Winds to honor the town and its history. The concert begins at 2 p.m. and is free admission.

## Thursday, October 12

**OUR NEIGHBOR'S KITCHEN:** Our Neighbor's Kitchen Winchendon's Community Supper is served on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St. at 5:30 p.m. On the first and third Thursdays, the supper will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 52 Spruce St. Our Neighbor's Kitchen meals are cooked homestyle from fresh ingredients. We're supported by voluntary donations at the door contributions from Winchendon churches and organizations and many hard-working volunteers.

**BOOK DISCUSSION:** Beals Memorial Library has a book club that meets at 5:45 p.m. the second Thursday each month, the next meeting is Thursday October 12 Books are available at the library.

**TRIVIA CHALLENGE:** every month it's Franco O'Malley's trivia challenge at Zoe's Restaurant beginning at 8 p.m. Bring a team or join a team and try your memory at this intriguing game of wits. Open to everyone, come on down.

# New band with familiar faces to rock the Fall Fest

BY JERRY CARTON  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — For years, local lawyer Dave LaPointe was the public face and arguably the driving force behind the popular Big RanDom band but the music business being the music business, things change. After all, even the Beatles broke up.

But while LaPointe departed one band, he's put together another one, and the new group will be performing at the Oct. 7 Fall Festival between noon and 2 p.m. at the Clark YMCA.

Say hello to "The Toy Town Project," which LaPointe describes as "a classic rock cover band comprised of local musicians from other bands...joining forces for this one gig only, to rock the Winchendon Fall Festival."

"We have a connection," enthused LaPointe about the all-star grouping. He said he had enjoyed the long run with BRD but it "was time to try something different. I had a vision and reached out to people who shared it, and this is going to be a great retro event. It's going to bring people back to the days," he promised.

"I knew it was time," to leave the Big RanDom, he acknowledged, "I felt like I was leaving at hopefully the top of my game and I did want to do something new. It's been refreshing and invigorating to practice" with the new band even if the plan is for the group to do the single performance.

"I guess you should never say never, but that's the plan at the moment," LaPointe said.

Aside from LaPointe, who was a member of MYTH prior to the BRD, the group consists of Matt Piaseczny (Point the Finger, Radio Flyer) lead vocals/rhythm guitar, "Rocket" Ralph Gendron (Velocity, the Big RanDom) lead guitar/vocals, Kat McWade (Dazed 'til Dawn), keyboard/rhythm

guitar, vocals, Jean Luc-LaPointe, rhythm guitar, Doug Hutchinson (Dazed 'til Dawn) bass, with Danielle LaPointe and Amanda Dibble on back-up vocals.

"TTP," promised Dave LaPointe, "is going to bring everyone back in time on a musical journey to experience the high-energy 'arena rock' concert era with classic rock hits" from bands including but not limited to Lynard Skynyrd, Grand Funk Railroad, Aerosmith, the Eagles, Creedence Clearwater Revival and others.

"We're a diverse group, but we all have this common classic rock connection. To be able to pull this off - it took the right makeup of people," he said.

LaPointe and the band are asking attendees to bring with them a non-perishable food item for donation to the Winchendon CAC Food Pantry.

"We are going to make this a Rocktober to remember," he pledged.

## ACCURACY WATCH

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



Courtesy photo

In front: Danielle LaPointe, Doug Hutchinson, Matt Piaseczny, Kat McWade, Dave LaPointe, Amanda Dibble; at rear Jean-Luc LaPointe, and Rocket Ralph Gendron.

## Mystery, murder and a meal – to help feed kids

WINCHENDON — More than 100 students in the Winchendon public schools are benefiting from the weekly Kiwanis backpack program; which provides a sampling of nutritious snacks and small meals each Friday for the use of those kids over the weekend.

The program has been a wild success, involving the schools, the Kiwanis, the Murdock Key Club, the Murdock Student Council and the Winchendon School service students in collaborative effort to provide the meals and snacks.

A labor of love, but it does take donations...and funds.

With that in mind, an evening of mystery, murder and a great meal are planned Saturday, Oct. 14 at the Winchendon School din-

ing hall when the Comical Mystery Tour, Kiwanis and the Winchendon School collaborate to present "Deadly Chateau Shenanigans."

A beer and wine cash bar, raffles and a whole lot of fun will accompany an excellent chicken dinner as we all try to solve a who-dun-it.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts promptly at 6 p.m. Cost is \$45 per person, and tickets are available from any Kiwanis member, at To Each His Own Design and at Crafty Cauldron in downtown Winchendon.

This will be a one of a kind evening for a great cause, and only 120 tickets are available so get yours soon. For more information call Kiwanis President Bruce Cloutier at (978) 297-1815.

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\*\* Minimum deposit to open and earn interest is \$500. Funds must be new to Colonial Co-operative Bank. Offer subject to change without notice. Early withdrawal penalties apply.

† FDIC insures each depositor to at least \$250,000 and the SIF insures all additional deposits.

## WINCHENDON COURIER

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER: FRANK CHILINSKI  
EDITOR: RUTH DEAMICIS

## VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

## EDITORIAL

*Why aren't we there?*

We have a very small school system as the numbers go. The entire system, from Pre-K to seniors is less than 1,000 kids. Or about that, give or take. Sorry, didn't call to verify the numbers; but that's about where we are.

The middle and high schools especially are tiny, we graduated less than 100 students last spring.

Admittedly, this is a wide spectrum of kids. Some need special attention; we get that. Not all students learn at the same pace or in the same way.

But.

Here's the thing.

We want desperately to improve the quality of our schools, it has been topic of conversation at school committee meetings for years. It has been the focus of programming and curriculum planning and fiscal planning and allocation of teachers and teacher education and...

So why aren't we there?

We could be, perhaps should be, with these few students, an elite, no elitist... school system. On par with the best of the best.

Teacher to student ration should mean the students are getting a whole lot of attention and lots and lots of academic support.

The Academy for Success is doing it, why not the rest of the school system?

What is it that is holding us back?

Schools are going back to "tracking" their students, putting like adaptive

abilities together so those kids can move at the pace they are able. It means the teachers can teach all the students in a single classroom at the same pace. If this classroom is at this level, all the students in that classroom are pretty much there, and there isn't any slowing down because three kids don't "get" it yet. Conversely, a classroom full of accelerated students can move faster, and attack more complicated work. Teachers teach better, students learn better, no one feels dumber than everyone else...

The inclusion concept looked great on paper...doesn't actually work well in the boots on the ground classroom.

Let's give our kids a fighting chance here. Let's, with the creation of this new committee being formed, really examine things like inclusionary classrooms, disruptive students, time spent away from tasks for non-academic disruptions, the need for more classroom aides for those students needing them, the tracking system for the needs of ALL students and of the teachers teaching at grade level and at special needs and yes, at gifted levels.

If we truly want to improve our schools to the number one levels, than we need to be giving our students... and teachers...number one advantages. And it starts in each classroom with the expectations we place on every single student there.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*We've come a long way, baby, but we still have miles to go...*

## YOUR TURN

COLEEN  
LAPERRIERE

Since the month of September marks my sixth anniversary as executive director of the Winchendon Community Action Committee, Inc. (WCAC) it seems appropriate to look back on my time with the organization and to reflect on how far we've come, what we've been able to accomplish, and the all-important work still left to be done.

"The Winchendon CAC is a Human Service Agency dedicated to helping families and individuals in crisis, and economically disadvantaged families in need of emergency services which may include transportation, advocacy, food or educational programs."

As the executive director, I am solely responsible for the day to day operations of the WCAC including the fulfillment of our mission. Obviously, this cannot be accomplished by just one person. It truly takes a community coming together to help each other..."Neighbors helping neighbors."

In order to meet our mission, the first thing that had to be done was to make sure our house was in order. An organization of dedicated volunteers, of people that could be relied upon, had to be developed. Relationships with partner agencies in the community and beyond had to be strengthened, WCAC finances needed to be put in order and, finally, we had to get our community center building in shape.

Those who visit the WCAC today will find a welcoming environment. The center is clean and well organized with fresh paint and beautiful murals painted by my talented friend Eli. The center has a new roof and insulation, new flooring throughout the entire center, new heating system, new freezers/refrigerators, upgraded interior/exterior lighting and electrical service, beautiful landscaping, etc.

I cannot stress enough the importance of the dedicated volunteers that I have come to rely on day to day, month to month, and year to year. As such, I would like to publicly thank Denise, our front desk gal; Robyn, our pantry manager; Darren, our all-around utility man; and my husband, Fred, who has been with me from the beginning and provides his full support. There have been many other volunteers through-

out the years who have truly made a difference including Bryan, Don, and the late Gerry Gallant and for their help, I am eternally grateful.

At this time, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge our many donors as well, without whom,

we would not even be able to begin to meet our mission i.e. Robinson-Broadhurst, Hannaford Market of Rindge, Worcester County Food Bank, Noonday Farm, Sunset View Farm, CVS, Cumberland Farms, town of Winchendon, Winchendon Fire Department, Saloom Furniture, Fire and Iron Motorcycle Club, Winchendon Police Department, Winchendon Courier, Gabby's Pizza, C&S Pizza, Zoe's, Subway, IGA Central Market, Winchendon School, Dunkin' Donuts, Gourmet Donuts, Smith Country Cheese, Lickety Splitz, Snowbound Club, Kiwanis Club, St. Vincent de Paul, Lions Club, American Legion, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, Athol Savings Bank, GFA, Colonial Cooperative Bank, Women's Circle of Giving, MOC, Worcester T&G, United States Marine Corps, Unitarian Universalist Church, United Parish, Faith Lutheran Church, Cornerstone Church, Immaculate Heart of Mary, The Lord's Church, Bethany Bible Chapel, Kamenstein, Mylec, McDonald's, Winchendon Furniture, Knowlton Foundation, United Way, Project Bread, Boston Foundation, Salvation Army, United States Post Office, Horse and Buggy Feeds, Huhtala Oil, Gold Wing Road Riders Association, Hope Lodge Masons and countless others in Winchendon and beyond.

I would also like to convey a very special "thank you" to my many dear friends who, at a moment's notice, came to the WCAC to help me with whatever I needed to get the job done. My life-long friends, Cindy and Armand, who got the WCAC heating system up and running my first winter at the center and who have provided invaluable moral support throughout the years. My friends, Mr. and Mrs. B on the Lake, who, year after year, bring a truck filled with brand new children's toys to the WCAC so that our children may have a joyous holiday. My long-time friend, Jan, who can always be

Turn To **YOUR TURN** page **A9**



## LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor are always welcome, and may be sent to to ruth@stonebridgepress.news, or The Winchendon Courier, 91 Central Street, Winchendon, MA 01475. Be sure to include a name and residence. Please refrain from sending letters via

fax, and be sure to supply a home address and phone number to allow for confirmation. Allow at least 48 hours for a response. Letters must be submitted by noon Friday to ensure publication in the following week's issue. Every effort will be made to accommodate late submissions, but inclusion can not be guaranteed. The rules of good taste and libel will, of course, apply to all submissions. Personal attacks will not be published. The editor retains the right to edit all letters.

*100 days... and strangers*

JOURNEY  
OF THE  
HEART  
.....  
JERRY  
CARTON

Let me tell you about strangers, okay? It's now been 100 days and every few weeks I get an email from Smith updating me on who, ( though not how much they've donated), has contributed to the scholarship fund we created in Courtney's memory and I have been consistently amazed and pleasantly surprised there are names

on that list which I don't recognize. The other day, someone I do know handed me a check from someone they knew but I didn't to deposit in the fund. As grateful and appreciative as we are for the support from people we do know, and believe me, words genuinely, truly, can't adequately express the extent and depth of that gratitude, we're also obviously really touched when people we don't know are kind enough to contribute as well. Strangers doing good deeds.

We saw a lot of strangers doing good deeds in Texas and Florida recently. That's not surprising because most of us are good people, willing, eager even to lend a hand without

looking for recognition or reciprocity. We just want to do the right thing. We want to help. It's what drove Courtney and her classmates into social work and it's what moves people to risk life and limb to rescue others in emergencies.

Even without the backdrop of a natural disaster, we see individuals pitch in with energy and enthusiasm. I write about it all the time. Today for example is Community in Action Day and 20 different student groups will be fanning out across the area as part of their year-long service projects. I've written about Youth Venture programs where students have taken the lead in bringing awareness and education on

issues like bullying and mental health. The list is pretty much endless and all of it happens because it's instinctive to want to make a difference.

And yet. What we are able to do as individuals we so often can't seem to be able to do as a larger body politic and so we are still debating access to health insurance. We still see ungodly wait times to see therapists. We see conservative members of the US Congress vote against hurricane relief packages because those deals offend their warped sense of economic morality. We see corrupt zoning commissions allowing buildings to be constructed where they clearly shouldn't be allowed in flood

plains. Talk about a list that stretches almost endlessly.

I can't pinpoint the moment we lost our national will. Certainly it happened somewhere between the launch of Richard Nixon's cynical "Southern Strategy" and the explosion of social media but whatever date you want to assign, there's no question we don't seem to be able to find a consensus about how to solve well, much of anything.

Last week, Hillary Clinton came out with her latest memoir in which she blamed everyone but herself for her devastating defeat. Whatever other factors were in play and

Turn To **100 DAYS** page **A9**

*Don't judge Floridians too harshly*

With the emotions of many running high, there can be no argument that 2017 has been a pretty tough year for those who live deep in our nation's southern states. Sadly, almost as tragic as these maleficent storms, has been a ruthless bombardment by many on the internet judging those who chose not to leave.

As Florida Governor Rick Scott correctly called for not only a State of Emergency but the evacuation of millions of our fellow citizens from Southern Florida during the approach of Hurricane Irma just as Texas Governor Greg Abbot did with the greater metro Houston area and more with Hurricane Harvey, I have witnessed many on electronic media and in the world of cyber-



ANYTHING  
NEAR &  
FAR  
.....  
KEITH  
KENT

space bashing Floridians with near reckless abandon those who chose not to leave.

Let's be honest, I don't know your financial situation and you don't know mine. If you're a religious person, you believe we are all created equally in the eyes of God. Sadly, however, while all people may be created equally it doesn't mean their finances are equal, or all have sufficient funds to fall back on in a time of emergency. Simply put, there will always be those who are financially strapped, which equals natural disaster trapped.

First of all, with a mass evacuation comes a simultaneous necessity for things like money to purchase fuel, food, maybe a plane ticket, hotel stay, and emergency rations of all sorts.

Along with this comes one extremely important factor. Where are you going to go and can you afford to get there, let alone stay there in the first place?

We have many elderly people on limited fixed incomes, those who are medically disabled often at no fault of their own on limited fixed incomes, and those living at or below the poverty line doing the same. Does anybody think all of these people can just pack their bags, load up, and head on out to a hotel somewhere far away, which they most likely have no money to pay for to begin with? Please think about trying to walking in their shoes for just a minute and then contemplate how you have a right to bash all those with no means of financial escape?

If you were lucky enough to get out, that's great. However, you eventually have to come back as you most likely have nowhere else to go. Funds run

out, you have bills to pay, and you need to get back to work. Oh, wait a minute, there is no power, no electricity, and in many places no running public water or sewer treatment facilities which resided under a Cat-4 Hurricane and storm surge. Also, don't forget it may not safe to go back yet as the roads may be blocked and live power lines are possibly lying on the ground as 7 million Florida residents lost power. Yes, 700,000 more people than live in the entire state of Massachusetts.

Time and time again I viewed these nearly delusional posts by cyber trolls around the nation performing their best arm-chair quarterbacking routines blasting those who didn't get out as unintelligent, stupid, lazy, and far worse names never once considering the financial or medical variables many

Turn To **KENT** page **A6**



# Mundell's trophy bear returns to Athol

BY KEITH KENT  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

ATHOL — It's been a very long wait for avid sportsman Jim Mundell of Athol, but after nearly 19 months, patience has proven its virtue as Mundell's trophy bear has finally returned home for display, providing a breath taking up close visual experience sportsmen hope to dream of.

On Dec. 10, 2015 Mundell decided to go hunting in the woods off an old discontinued section of Leighton Road in Athol. Previously seeing a big bear in the area, Mundell was hunting during the very first season in Massachusetts where a bear could be lawfully taken during deer shotgun season. What was to happen that day became a phenomenal memory.

Current estimates, while still under some debate among certified professionals, place current Massachusetts black bear populations at up to 5,000, and 2.5 times that of the mid to late 1980s. With Massachusetts being the nation's 44th largest state at just 10,555 square miles, it averages up to two bears per square mile, which generally go unseen.

When asked what his first impression upon visual confirmation Mundell said, "I was startled, I knew there were a couple of big bears around, but I thought this was not the big bear I had seen before, this one is even bigger! I was puzzled. I realized it wasn't the same bear. I knew it was really big and I was kind of in shock, but I didn't have much time to think as my friend and I were both on the ground. The bear was walking forward and then he just stopped. I knew he had caught wind of me, and I couldn't afford any more time so I took the shot. After I approached the bear that is when it started to set in just how big it was."

The shotgun utilized by Mundell was a Remington Model 1187, using a Remington 3" Accutip cartridge and slug. Taking the shot from 25 yards, the hunt was over in one and done, with the round virtually completely flattened out kept for prosperity and also on display.

Local bears native to this area of Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire, and southern Vermont are known to run up to or around 350 pounds, with the rare but occasional mentioned 400 pound bear seen by hunters or hikers. As required by Massachusetts Environmental Police, Mundell, after having the bear weighed at a designated checking station, returned with MEP to the exact site he legally shot the bear.

The bear taken by Mundell after field dressing weighed in at a massive 498 lbs. According to the attending MEP Officer, the bear would have had a "live weight" of roughly 650 pounds before field dressing for transport. A true monster of a bear for this region of the country.

Mundell, who is in excellent physical shape and works as an iron worker by trade, when asked how he got it out of the woods laughed and said, "I would like to thank my friend Rick Wilkey of Orange, and a really long rope."

Mundell also said, "I actually got a small herniated muscle from dragging the bear out of the woods, as we even had to get it over a stone wall," which he explained took more than a few efforts.

Creating a display in his Athol home, Mundell meticulously remodeled an entire room for the bear's arrival. Walls were done in wallpaper sporting trees and a woodland background. An authentic beehive hands from near the ceiling just to the right of bear's head, and the bear stands with its front paws mounted on an artificial rock with the actual shotgun shell used laying on the base of the simulated natural earth mount at its side.

When asked how it felt to finally have the bear back home Mundell said, "Well, it's kind of funny. It's kind of like having a baby, because I have been spending a lot of time preparing its room, the lighting, and time on the internet looking at hundreds of different wall murals. I did some painting,



Jim Mundell poses with his trophy bear harvested in December of 2015.

Keith Kent photos

changed the wood work, and as a sportsman it really felt like waiting for a baby to be born and come home and I just feel so happy now that he is here."

Joking about the initial reactions of friends and family allowed to enter his home and see the bear Mundell said, "I can't tell you how many times I have heard 'Wow, Oh-My-God, Big-Big-Big', or Holy look at that thing'. I like looking at their facial expressions because their looks tell a lot, and sometimes more than words."

Credit for the professional mounting goes to well-known and acclaimed taxidermist Mark Dufrense of Gray, Maine in Cumberland County. The artistic mounting which took one and three-quarters years to complete, cost Mundell \$3,314.

Additional costs included having to hire and pay a butcher as the bear yielded a generous 200 pounds of meat, and the then purchasing of a freezer which stands over 6' tall to store all the meat. In all, the trophy bear obtained by Mundell cost him over \$4,000 to properly keep this event in his life's timeline preserved for many decades and viewers to come even long after he is gone. Mundell has also shared a considerable portion of the meat to involve others in the unique experience.

When taken in December 2015 and then previously reported in the Courier, Marion Larson, Massachusetts Division of Fish & Wildlife, who serves as chief of information and education was contacted. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts as explained by Larson has a database of weights checked in as Massachusetts does not require bears checked in to be weighed. Therefore, Massachusetts does not have a list of record bear weights, but does have the database recorded of bears with weights checked in. At that time, Larson confirmed Mundell's bear as the third largest black bear ever weighed at a Massachusetts Checking Station and recorded. The largest black bear checked and weighed was taken in Southwick in 2012, and after field dressing weighed in at 541 pounds, just 43 pounds heavier than Mundell's, which wouldn't have yielded much if any of a visual difference to the untrained or layman's eye. These bears still own the first and third spots to this day.

Mundell was asked for permission to allow the Courier to measure the bear. The numbers were astounding for this part of New England. The claws were over 3" and combined with the paws measured a solid 9" long each. The skull measures

Turn To **BEAR** page **A6**

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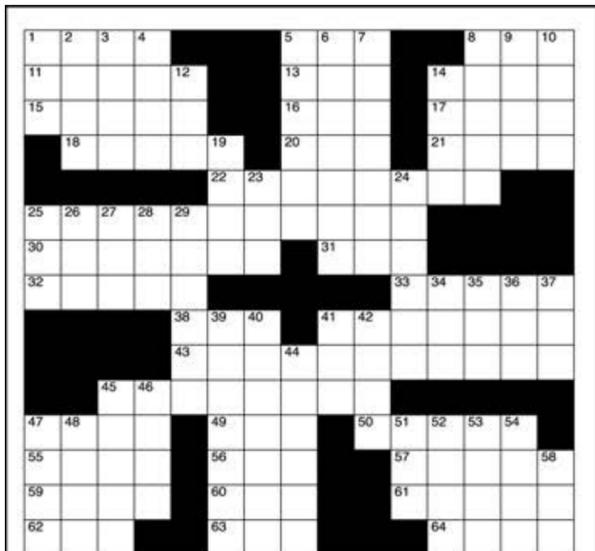
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**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Cereal grain
- 5. Small constellation
- 8. Pouch
- 11. Beef comes in these
- 13. Chest muscle
- 14. Maine city
- 15. Salian
- 16. Int'l fraternal organization
- 17. Greek god of war
- 18. Canadian harbour
- 20. Firearm
- 21. Deities
- 22. North, Central and South
- 25. After the 16th
- 30. Used in herbal medicine
- 31. Whale (Norwegian)
- 32. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
- 33. Insect appendages
- 38. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 41. Small Arab monarchy
- 43. Former U.S. President
- 45. Short-lived, slender insects
- 47. Forms after a cut
- 49. Fuel
- 50. Made of wood
- 55. Whale ship captain
- 56. Small bed
- 57. Supreme being
- 59. NY Giants owner
- 60. Consumed
- 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Promotional materials
- 63. Business term
- 64. Famous cartoonist

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Former CIA
- 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 3. Rhythmic patter in Indian music
- 4. Invests in little enterprises
- 5. Highest point
- 6. Incomes
- 7. Poisonous plant
- 8. Period in astronomy
- 9. Passed with flying colors
- 10. Professional certificate
- 12. Dublin college scholar
- 14. Heroic tale
- 19. Satisfy
- 23. \_\_\_ student, learns healing
- 24. Beloved golfer Rodriguez
- 25. Car mechanics group
- 26. Not the start
- 27. Engage in a contest
- 28. Energy-saving module
- 29. Within reach
- 34. Forms adjectives
- 35. Snitch
- 36. Data executive
- 37. Hostelry
- 39. Helps people see
- 40. "MASH" actor Gould
- 41. Bridge building degree
- 42. Moreover
- 44. Spoke
- 45. Volcanic craters
- 46. Swedish rock group
- 47. \_\_\_ Veda: liturgical chant
- 48. Former footballer Ochocinco
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Klu Klux \_\_\_
- 53. Italian Island
- 54. Catches
- 58. Baseball stat

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

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## SUDOKU

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

**Fun By The Numbers**

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

Level: Beginner

**Here's How It Works:**

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

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

ANSWER:

# POLICE LOG

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

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

1:30 a.m.: ambulance (Hyde Park Drive), services rendered; 2:22-3:45 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:45 a.m.: fire alarm (Murdock Avenue), false alarm; 7:43 a.m.: erratic operation (Spring Street), advised officer; 8:20 a.m.: 911 non-emergency (Central Street), no service necessary; 8:52 a.m.: animal complaint (Spruce Street), referred to ACO; 9:10 a.m.: property lost (School Square), info taken; 11:03 a.m.: animal complaint (Central Street), unable to locate; 11:59 a.m.: animal complaint (Hyde Park Street), unable to locate; 12:36 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), referred to other PD; 2:33 p.m.: suicide threats (Glenallan Street), transported; 2:35 p.m.: suspicious mv (Court Street), spoken to; 3:45 p.m.: investigation (Central Street), services rendered; 5:31 p.m.: harassment (Banner Place), report taken; 6:34 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 7:13-8:31 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 8:34 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 9:01 p.m.: ambulance (Lakeshore Drive), transported; 9:21 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 10:48 p.m.: ambulance (Mechanic Street), transported; 11:29 p.m.: assist citizen (Lake Denison), services rendered.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

2:48-4:22 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:35 a.m.: mv stop (School Street), verbal warning; 8:03 a.m.: vandalism (Woodlawn Street), report taken; 8:44 a.m.: animal complaint (Monadnock Avenue), referred to ACO; 10:26 a.m.: welfare check/child (address not printed), report taken; 11:25 a.m.: investigation (Front Street), spoken to; 12:33 p.m.: assist other PD (Ipswich Drive), message delivered; 1:19 p.m.: assist other agency (Baldwinville State Road); 1:46 p.m.: info/general (Cedar Terrace), info taken; 2:07 p.m.: mv stop (Beachview Drive), verbal warning; 3:39 p.m.: ambulance (Bayberry Circle), services rendered; 4:12 p.m.: ambulance (School Street), transported; 4:18 p.m.: threats (Goodrich Drive), report taken; 4:25 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 6:07 p.m.: mv stop (Jackson Avenue), spoken to; 6:17 p.m.: info/general (Monadnock Avenue), unable to locate; 6:40 p.m.: mv stop (Eagle Road), services rendered; 7:51 p.m.: ambulance (Royalston Road North), transported; 7:56 p.m.: welfare check/general (address not printed), services rendered; 8:59 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 9:31 p.m.: assist citizen (Linden Street), spoken to.

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

12:05-2:34 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:09 a.m.: mv stop (Goodrich Drive), spoken to; 2:13 a.m.: tree down (High Street), removed hazard; 3:54 a.m.: ambulance (Goodrich Street), trans-

ported; 7:47 a.m.: extra patrols, secure; 8:20 a.m.: juvenile/general (Monadnock Avenue), spoken to; 9:38 a.m.: assist citizen (Willow Street); 10:22 a.m.: officer wanted (Goodrich Drive), spoken to; 11:02 a.m.: investigation (Ready Drive), report taken; 11:35 a.m.: accident (Town Farm Road), report taken; 12:07 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), referred to ACO; 1:02 p.m.: welfare check/child (Lake Dennison), report taken; 1:25 p.m.: animal complaint (Bayberry Circle), referred to ACO; 2:07 p.m.: property found (Walnut Street), info taken; 3:25 p.m.: building checked, secure; 4:38 p.m.: assist citizen (Banner Place), report taken; 4:40 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Western Avenue), no service necessary; 6:13 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 6:19 p.m.: disturbance (Polly's Drive), report taken; 6:23 p.m.: request removal (Elmwood Road), report taken; 6:55 p.m.: assist citizen (Lake Denison), spoken to; 7:00 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Alger Street), no cause; 8:27 p.m.: info/general (Monadnock Avenue), services rendered; 8:29 p.m.: threats (Walnut Street), report taken; 8:41 p.m.: harassment (Glenallan Street), report taken; 9:13 p.m.: disturbance (Polly's Drive), transported to hospital; 9:55 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Walnut Street), spoken to; 10:28 p.m.: fire alarm (Mill Street), false alarm; 10:43 p.m.: trespass notice entry (Central Street), info taken; 10:47 p.m.: trespass notice entry (Central Street), info taken; 11:29 p.m.: mv repossession (Benjamin Street), info taken.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

12:00 a.m.: assist other agency (Eagle Road), spoken to; 12:53-2:16 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:55 a.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 6:10 a.m.: property found (Central Street), unable to locate; 6:38 a.m.: disable mv (Spring Street), assisted; 8:30 a.m.: officer wanted (Franklin Street), advised officer; 9:17 a.m.: summons service (Oak Street), served; 9:18 a.m.: summons service (Spruce Street), served; 9:19 a.m.: summons service (Elm Street), served; 9:27 a.m.: investigation (Town Farm Road), services rendered; 10:12 a.m.: harassment order service (Old Gardner Road), served; 11:46 a.m.: investigation (Beech Street), spoken to; 12:17 p.m.: animal complaint (Glenallan Street), referred to ACO; 12:22 p.m.: fraud (Spring Street), info taken; 12:45 p.m.: suspicious (other) (Oak Street), no service necessary; 12:46 p.m.: threats (Pearl Drive), report taken; 12:56 p.m.: welfare check/general (address not printed), report taken; 1:38 p.m.: welfare check/general (address not printed), report taken; 2:11 p.m.: investigation (Walnut Street), services rendered; 2:52 p.m.: accident (Glenallan Street), services rendered; 3:47 p.m.: animal complaint (Mill Street), assisted; 4:05 p.m.: officer wanted (Front Street), report taken; 4:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Central Street), spoken to; 4:56 p.m.: mental health issue (Mill Street), transported to hospital; 5:13 p.m.: disabled mv (Lakeview Drive), no cause; 5:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Center Lane),

report taken; 5:51 p.m.: disturbance/fight (Walnut Street), report taken; 5:52 p.m.: animal complaint (Central Street), returned to owner; 6:34 p.m.: officer wanted (Beech Street), report taken; 7:11 p.m.: harassment (Juniper Street), report taken; 7:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Linden Street), spoken to; 8:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Jackson Avenue), assisted; 9:13 p.m.: mv repossession (Brown Street), info taken; 9:33 p.m.: accident (Alger Street), summons: Hannah S. Stowell, 20, 95 Patriots Road, Templeton, speeding, negligent operation, report taken; 9:40 p.m.: ambulance (Hyde Park Drive), transported; 10:01 p.m.: ambulance (Ready Drive), transported; 10:10 p.m.: ambulance (Ipswich Drive), transported.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

12:03 a.m.: suicide threat (Ready Drive), transported to hospital; 12:20 p.m.: disabled mv (Gardner Road), secure; 12:43-3:49 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:26 a.m.: burglar alarm (Baldwinville Road), secure; 10:11 a.m.: suspicious person (Chestnut Street), unable to locate; 11:43 a.m.: fire alarm (Pine Street), services rendered; 12:01 p.m.: mental health issue (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 12:25 p.m.: ambulance (Elmwood Road), transported; 12:52 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 1:11 p.m.: suspicious auto (First Street), spoken to; 1:15 p.m.: animal complaint (Alger Street), assisted; 1:33 p.m.: property found (Central Street), returned to owner; 1:41 p.m.: animal complaint (Whitney Street), referred to ACO; 2:07 p.m.: gunshots heard (Lincoln Avenue Extension), referred to other PD; 2:40 p.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), unable to locate; 2:46 p.m.: burglar alarm (Elmwood Road), secure; 3:05 p.m.: trespass notice entry (Walnut Street), info taken; 4:01 p.m.: trespassing (Walnut Street), spoken to; 4:05 p.m.: vandalism (East Street), report taken; 4:53 p.m.: harassment (Walnut Street), spoken to; 5:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Oak Street), property seized; 5:55 p.m.: threats (Spring Street), arrest: Aimee T. LaPointe, 39, 22 Walnut Street, #1, Winchendon, criminal harassment, report taken; 6:00 p.m.: trespass notice entry (Walnut Street), info taken; 7:35 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 8:20 p.m.: disturbance (Pleasant Street), assisted; 8:27 p.m.: intoxicated person (Central Street), spoken to; 8:36-8:54 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:27 p.m.: mv stop (Bayberry Circle), verbal warning; 9:32 p.m.: ambulance (Baldwinville State Road), transported; 9:50 p.m.: fight (Central Street), transported to hospital; 10:41 p.m.: welfare check/general (address not printed), spoken to; 11:59 p.m.: disable mv (Spring Street), info taken.

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

1:07 a.m.: suspicious person (Otter River Campground), unfounded; 1:53 p.m.: ambulance (Winchendon Road), transported; 2:51-4:20 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:17 p.m.: investigation (Central Street), spoken to; 9:00 a.m.: harassment order service (Old

Gardner Road), served; 9:21 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 9:45 a.m.: ambulance (Royalston Road North), transported; 10:28 a.m.: parking violation (Jackson Avenue), assisted; 11:13 a.m.: animal complaint (Ash Street), spoken to; 11:41 a.m.: investigation (Spruce Street), services rendered; 12:00 p.m.: suspicious mv (Spruce Street), assisted; 12:02 p.m.: officer wanted (Elm Street), assisted; 12:34 p.m.: investigation (Grove Street), no service necessary; 12:50 p.m.: harassment order service (Walnut Street), unable to serve; 12:55 p.m.: summons service (Elm Street), served; 1:24 p.m.: welfare check/general (Front Street), dispersed gathering; 2:38 p.m.: harassment (Linden Street), assisted; 4:55 p.m.: investigation (Benjamin Street), report taken; 4:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Central Street), spoken to; 5:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Central Street), spoken to; 5:28 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:37 p.m.: mv stop (Glenallan Street), written warning; 9:25 p.m.: burglar alarm (Brown Street), secure; 9:42 p.m.: suspicious mv (Juniper Street), gone on arrival; 11:42 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), no service necessary; 11:55 p.m.: suspicious mv (Franklin Street), spoken to.

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

1:31-2:44 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:36 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 7:42 a.m.: assist citizen (Central Street); 8:57 a.m.: smoke (Lincoln Avenue), search negative; 9:08 a.m.: summons service (Front Street), served; 9:27 a.m.: assist other agency (River Street); 9:34 a.m.: summons service (Baldwinville Road), served; 9:55 a.m.: summons service (Spruce Street), served; 10:24 a.m.: larceny (Teel Road), referred to other PD; 10:44 a.m.: officer wanted (Center Lane), assisted; 10:47 a.m.: animal complaint (Mellen Road), referred to ACO; 10:48 a.m.: fire alarm (Hyde Park Drive), false alarm; 10:53 a.m.: animal complaint (Glenallan Street), search negative; 11:00 a.m.: warrant of apprehension (Walnut Street), arrest; 11:12 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Central Street), false alarm; 11:23 a.m.: assist citizen (Krantz Road), spoken to; 1:57 p.m.: vandalism (Central Street), report taken; 3:45 p.m.: warrant arrest (Baldwinville State Road), Joshua A. Frazer, age 28, 138 Baldwinville State Road, Winchendon, arrest based on three warrants; 4:26 p.m.: summons service (Front Street), served; 5:15 p.m.: animal complaint (Gardner Road), referred to ACO; 5:52 p.m.: animal complaint (Baldwinville Road), advised officer; 6:11 p.m.: officer wanted (School Street), secured bldg.; 7:19 p.m.: officer wanted (Baldwinville Road), assisted; 7:36 p.m.: animal complaint (Pinewood Drive), no cause; 8:10 p.m.: loitering (Central Street), dispersed gathering; 8:24 p.m.: erratic operation (Ready Drive), advised officer; 9:07 p.m.: mv repossession (Benjamin Street), info taken; 9:44 p.m.: suspicious mv (N. Vine Street), impounded; 10:18 p.m.: disabled mv (Murdock Avenue), info taken; 11:20 p.m.: request removal (Otter River Road), info given.

## BEAR

continued from page A5

20 & 8/16's inches in length. From the tip of the snout to the base of the back of the bears neck is nearly two and a half feet. Measuring around its back and under the belly just in front of the hind legs yielded 6 feet in circumference. Most impressive if the bear stood straight up in the air pointing its snout skyward and continuing measuring down the bear's back, its rear, and the hind legs to the base of its rear paws, the bear would stand a massive eight feet-six inches tall. All measurements were taken thrice for positive authentication.

For other documentation, the measurement of the black

bear's skull will also be documented in a future issue of the Boone & Crockett Book of Records which comes out once every three years, just missing the recent publication deadline.

Discussing hunting and sporting activities Mundell wanted to say, "If you're an outdoor enthusiast, no matter if you fish or hunt or even not, if you have American traits in your blood and want to help protect wildlife, you should buy a type of license anyway because that money goes to what you believe in for conservation efforts, and the long term protection and continuation of the populations of all kinds of wildlife along with conservation management. We as sportsmen and hunters help maintain healthy populations,

and with license fees actually contribute to the regulated protection of the species. I don't fish, but I still buy a fishing license to help protect and preserve what I someday might eventually want to take part in."

In closing Mundell said, "This was most like winning the lottery. It's usually a once in a lifetime experience and you know if you did it a second time your chances are probably not good for doing it again. I am just thankful and very grateful I got the chance to have this experience and share it with others."

**Up close and personal.** The head of this trophy black bear measures nearly 2.5 feet from the nose to the base of the back of the neck.



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## KENT

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of those faced. Sure, there were some who were just plain stubborn, but many people who stayed really didn't have a financially choice in the matter or the means to evacuate.

Here in the north east we deal with heavy snow, which is really no big deal when you consider many other parts of our nation endure massive forest fires, severe flooding, mudslides, giant sink holes, earth quakes, and constant hurricane threats.

Many great people have already donated to help those in Texas who fell victim to Harvey and its up to 60" of rain dumped in five days flat.

Now we need to donate to help those also in the Deep South in Florida. You don't have to donate much, as many small donations can rapidly combine like tiny shovels to move mountains of emergency supplies. Even in if you skip one large coffee to go on the run, that \$3 could help purchase bottled water for those where no potable water currently exists.

Please donate to organizations such as the American Red Cross for disaster relief, or any you know sending aid to the needy like a church or other. It's as cheap as skipping a coffee on the run, and I will bet you never realized it could be so inexpensive to be an anonymous everyday hero and agent of positive change.

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# OBITUARIES

## Roberta M. (MacLean) Brackett, 92

ATHOL — Roberta M. (MacLean) Brackett, age 92, died Saturday September 9 2017 at the Quabbin Valley Nursing Home. Roberta, formerly lived on Highland Street in Athol, in Laurel Lake in Fitzwilliam, and resided for the last three years at Broadview Assisted Living in Winchendon.

The funeral will be held Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. at Fiske-Murphy & Mack

Funeral Home, 110 New Athol Road, Orange. Burial will be at Pine Grove Cemetery in Fitzwilliam. Calling hours will precede the funeral, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverley Oaks Road, Waltham, MA 02452.

## Ronald N. Gaspard, 85

WINCHENDON—Ronald N. Gaspard, age 85, formerly of Winchendon, died Saturday, August 12, 2017 at Heywood Hospital, in Gardner.

Ron was born in Clearwater, Florida on October 20, 1931. He was the son and only child of the late Nicholas Gaspard Jr. & Ruth (Silver) Gaspard, both formerly of Clearwater, FL. Ron lived in

Winchendon for many years with his wife, until moving to the Baldwinville Skilled Nursing Care & Rehabilitation Center, in December 2015.

He was a 1950 graduate of the Robert E. Fitch High School, in Groton, CT and was a 1955 graduate of the United States Coast Guard Academy. He also attended the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL and Northeastern University in Boston. He proudly served in the United States Coast Guard from 1951 until his discharge in 1959. His last assignment was on board the USCG Yakutat, based out of New Bedford.

Ron worked as a computer engineer for many years at the Raytheon Company in Waltham, up until his

retirement in 1992. He was a member of Unitarian Universalist Church, a member and former treasurer of the Friends of Beals Memorial Library, and he was also a member of the Winchendon Historical Society. Ron once held a commercial pilot's license and enjoyed teaching people how to fly small aircraft. In addition, he also enjoyed traveling, engineering, science fiction, history, political commentary, classical music, computer technology, various outlets of social media communication, and visits from his children and grandkids.

He leaves behind his wife of close to thirty years Elaine L. (Frantz) Gaspard, of Winchendon, his three children Lisa R. Tierney (and son-in-law, Tom) of Peachtree City, GA, Joel D. Gaspard of Ottawa, Ontario, and Susan M. Hicks (and son-in-law, LeRoi) of Wilmington, DE. Ron also leaves seven grandchildren: Rachel, Jack, Lauren, Katya, Mackenzie, Finn, and Wyatt.

In accordance with his wishes, Ron's ashes will be scattered at sea by the United States Coast Guard.

Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon is directing arrangements. [www.stone-ladeau.com](http://www.stone-ladeau.com)

## Albert J. 'Jack' Strott Jr., 81

TEMPLETON — Albert J. "Jack" Strott Jr., age 81, of Freedom, NH, formerly of Templeton and Gardner, died peacefully at his residence, Thursday morning, September 7, 2017.

He was born in Erie, PA on June 30, 1936, son of the late Albert J. and Margaret J. (Gilmore) Strott and was a 1954 graduate of McDowell High School in Millcreek, PA. Jack lived in Baldwinville from 1955 until 2000, when he moved to Gardner. For the last three years, Jack had lived in Freedom, NH.

Jack worked in sales for Wain-Roy Inc. in Hubbardston from 1956 until retiring as its sales manager. Jack was very active in town affairs for the town of Templeton. He was a town selectman for 12 years. At one time, Jack was the youngest selectman ever elected in the town. He was a member of Finance Board for many years and was a long time member of Otter River Sportsman's Club. He was also former president of the Little League and was once a Little League coach.

Jack was an active member of Memorial Congregational Church, where he had been its treasurer for many years, as well as serving as Sunday School superintendent and trustee. He had also been a member of the former Civilian Club and a member of the town of Templeton volunteer fire department for 25 years.

He leaves a son, Richard L. Strott of Rye, NH; two daughters, Linda S. Martin of Gloucester, and Julie A. Bishop of Huntington, MD; a sister, M. Jane Eaton of Baldwinville; four grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. He was predeceased by wife Carole (Fenton) Strott and granddaughter Danielle (Martin) Rock

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 12 P.M. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon. Burial will be in Greenlawn Cemetery, Baldwinville.

A calling hour will precede the funeral from 11 AM to 12 P.M. Tuesday.

Memorial donations may be made to Memorial Congregational Church Renovation Fund, PO Box 100, Baldwinville, MA 01436. [www.stone-ladeau.com](http://www.stone-ladeau.com)

## Phyllis G. (Gouslin) Wootton, 69

SHUTESBURY — Phyllis G. (Gouslin) Wootton, age 69, passed away on September 3, 2017. Born September 24, 1947 in Winchendon,

she was the daughter of Richard and Blanche (Belanger) Gouslin. Phyllis grew up in Winchendon and has lived in Vermont, Connecticut, Georgia, and Washington State. She recently moved

back to the east coast after living in California for the last 17 years. Phyllis has lived with her family in Shutesbury for the past 2 and 1/2 months.

She volunteered for various projects throughout her life and was the financial counselor and Catholic Director of Religious Education for the King's Bay Submarine Base near St. Marys, GA. During the past 10 years, she most recently worked as the substitute coordinator at St. Francis High School in Sacramento, CA. Phyllis was devoted to her Catholic faith and most recently attended St. Francis of Assisi in Belchertown.

Phyllis will be dearly missed by her husband of 35 years, Tom M. "Wally"

Wootton as well as her daughter, Jodi Mendez and her husband Julio, all of Shutesbury. She also leaves behind her sister Susan Earle and husband Doug of Gulfport, FL, and grandchildren, Jesse, Victoria, Tomas, Isabella, Janai and Logan Mendez along with nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Mass will be held on at 10 am on Saturday September 9 at St. Francis of Assisi with burial to follow in Shutesbury.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Catholic Charities, American Kidney Association, or Navy & Marine Corps Relief Society. For details and to sign the online guest book, please visit [www.beersandstory.com](http://www.beersandstory.com)

## Beverly J. Creamer, 91

STERLING — Beverly J. Creamer, age 91, recently passed away at Sterling Village Rehabilitation after a short illness.

Beverly was the daughter of Harry D. and Helen M. Jones of Auburn, and is survived by her children, David S. Creamer of Leicester and his children Kelly J. Creamer and Madison K. Creamer, a son Richard D. Creamer, his wife Sandra and their children Kimberly and Nicholas, and a daughter Jennifer L. Grammel. She is also survived by



her sister Judith Dow. Her husband Richard H. Creamer predeceased her in 2009. Beverly was a lifelong member of the Worcester Seventh day Adventist church where she was the church organist for many years. Beverly's life was one of nurturing and care. First to her children, then to her aging parents, and finally to her husband in his decade long struggle with Alzheimer's. She will be greatly missed by family and friends alike. Nordgren Funeral Home in Worcester, MA is handling the arrangements. Calling hours are Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and funeral and burial beginning at 10 a.m. Thursday.

## Deborah A. (Rapa) Larkham, 56

WESTFORD -- Deborah A. (Rapa) Larkham, age 56, of Westford formerly of Salem, NH died at her home surrounded by her loving family on Monday, September 11, 2017.

She was married to Paul V. Larkham with whom she celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary on June 22, 2017.

Born in Methuen, she was the daughter of Angelo and Gloria Rapa. She graduated from Salem High School in Salem, NH with the class of 1979.

She was previously employed as a medical practice manager in Manchester, NH.

She was a communicant of St. Catherine of Alexandria Church in Westford.

She enjoyed sewing, decorating, doing crafts, and motor homing with the family and her dogs. She loved Christmas, where she could really show her decorating skills throughout her home.

Besides her husband and her parents,

she is survived by her son, Timothy and his wife, Jill Larkham of Chelmsford; daughter, Victoria Larkham of Westford; sisters, Sharon and her husband, Warren Coonrod of Palm Coast, FL and Linda Norton of Salem, NH; sisters-in-law, Virginia and her husband, William Brown of Plattsburg, NY, Diane and her husband, Robert Doyle of Westford, Francesca and her husband, Richard Graves of Winchendon, and Christine and her husband, Thomas Mirabito of North Hampton, NH; brother-in-law, Peter and his wife, Suzanne Larkham of Manchester, NH and many nieces and nephews.

She was the sister-in-law of the late Phillip Larkham of Lowell.

Visiting hours Thurs. 4 to 8 P.M. Funeral Fri. at 8A.M. from the DOLAN FUNERAL HOME, 106 MIDDLESEX ST., CHELMSFORD, with a funeral Mass at 9A.M. at St. Catherine of Alexandria Church, Westford. Burial in the Pinegrove Cemetery, Westford. ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-251-4041. Guestbook at [www.dolanfuneralhome.com](http://www.dolanfuneralhome.com).

## Dario A. 'Butch' Uguccione, 64

OPP, ALABAMA — Dario A. "Butch" Uguccione, age 64, of Opp, AL, formerly of Winchendon, died Tuesday morning, August 29, 2017 in Fort Walton Beach Medical Center, Fort Walton Beach, FL.

He was born in Winchendon on Sept. 16, 1952, son of the late Dario and Sally (Ackert) Uguccione and grew up in Winchendon. Butch attended Murdock High School and later served in the United States Navy. For the last 8 years, he lived in Opp, Alabama, after living for periods of time in Florida.

Butch had been employed as an electrician. He enjoyed chess, crossword puzzles and playing the drums in earlier years. Many years ago, Butch was a drummer for "The Continentals"

and he once appeared on the television show "Community Auditions." He was a loved watching "The Three Stooges."

He leaves a daughter, Nicole Faith Palmer; a grandson Nicholas; three brothers, Gary J. Uguccione, Richard M. Uguccione and Marc D. Uguccione, all of Winchendon and several nieces and nephews. A brother, Dominic Uguccione, predeceased him in death.

A memorial service will be held Friday September 22, 2017 at 2 P.M. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon. A calling hour will precede the service from Friday, September 22nd from 1 to 2 P.M. preceding the service. [www.stone-ladeau.com](http://www.stone-ladeau.com)

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

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



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# SPORTS

## Lady Devils off to halting start

BY JERRY CARTON  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — There hasn't been any offense yet, at least not in the first two games of the 2017 varsity girls soccer season, the Murdock Lady Devils having been blanked by West Boylston and Clinton in the season's opening week.

Before the Lady Devils ever played a game this year Coach Jason Marshall knew there was going to be an issue regarding who would be the

goalkeeper but during that first contest against West Boylston, sophomore Cassidy Stadtfeld "stepped in and played tough," marveled Marshall.

That effort earned her the season's initial 'player of the match' honor, though Marshall also had praise for Michaela Benedict, Maria Polcari, Gabby Cote and Lexi Pare.

Everyone knew Clinton was going to be good and that expectation was borne out but Marshall looked at the experience this way:

"Alex (assistant coach Burke) and I decided before the game to help the captains learn to be leaders. In doing so, we let Michaela and Maria run the entire pregame warmup with our input. After I listed the starters, the pregame huddle was the captains getting the team ready."

"Once on the field, the girls had a different feel to them. They came out aggressive and were challenging for nearly every loose ball. Those who won the ball didn't panic and

were able to utilize the skills/basics we have been working on. Clinton did control the play but the girls fought with the traditional Murdock grit and tenacity."

"Katelyn Hutton was in net the whole game and made several key saves early on to keep the scoring down. A couple quality shots did find their way past her (one being off the crossbar, another off the far post, both redirected into the net) and at halftime it was 3-0. "Again, the captains

addressed the team and provided encouraging words to support their teammates for their hard work. The second half had the same feel to it and we did manage a couple good breakouts to get the game to feel more like a game than a beat down. Clinton scored a few more off corners and long crosses.

"Player of the match went to Mackenzie (Lundin) for her hard work, patience, and her display of newly acquired skills," reported Marshall.

## Inaugural game against Gaels



Greg Vine photos

The Murdock Blue Devils boys soccer team kicked off its 2017 campaign last September 7, with a game against the Gaels of Clinton. Members of both teams scramble for the ball in the season's inaugural contest.



An attempt by the Clinton Gaels to score in the opening game of the 2017 soccer season is foiled by the Murdock Blue Devils.

## A new tennis star... and baseball winds to its wins



TALKING SPORTS

JERRY CARTON

Sports news flash - an American woman won the US Open tennis championship. Okay granted, a year ago, if you had known the 2017 title was going to be taken by an American woman, you'd have said, "duh." But once we learned Serena Williams was going to

miss the tournament (she delivered her child during the fortnight), no one had any clue about who might win. Venus? She's 37. In the end, she made a great run to the semis but while, yes, it was Sloane Stephens who wound up the champion, the big news was really that FOUR Americans reached those semi-finals. I think I read the last time that happened was 1981? Regardless, a niche sport like tennis saw a surge in viewership for a few days for which the moguls who run the

ATP and USTA are no doubt grateful. And, as a bonus, it was indeed, fun to watch. Without Serena at Ashe Stadium, the outcome of the tournament was much in doubt. She doesn't win every time out of course but betting against her tends to be unprofitable so this summer's fortnight was as entertaining as any I can remember.

The Cleveland Indians nearly reached baseball's pinnacle last year. Maybe you've heard about the team who beat them in the World Series? Anyway, as I

write, the Indians have won 20 straight games. That ties an American League record and brings them within either one or six games of the all-time record. Back in 1916, the NY Giants won 12 in a row, played a tie, then won 14 more consecutive games. Back then ties were replayed from the start so the record depends on your own perspective. Regardless, Cleveland is scary good right now but of course the 162 game grind is one thing and the crapshoot of October quite another. The Tribe are this week's

favorite but a month ago the Dodgers looked unbeatable and a month before that the Astros did and back in April a lot of folks considered the champion Cubs to be odds-on to repeat. We'll see. I for one would not be the least bit surprised to see Chicago win again.

The NFL is ready for week 2 and it's easy to overreact to anything you saw last week. The Patriots defense isn't as bad as it looked against Kansas City and the Rams offense isn't as good as it looked against the Colts. The Texans are certainly

better than their opening loss would suggest at first glance though the Jets probably are that awful. NY is already basically on the clock for the number one pick next spring, evidently by design. The other NY team remains an enigma. The Redskins always win the off-season but the games aren't played in the off-season. The Ravens defense was impressive, the offense, eh, not so much. The Lions offense is always impressive. On to week two for those who are invested.

## Devils shutout South 28-0

BY CHRIS MARTIN  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Last Friday, Sept. 8 was the Murdock Blue Devils home and season opener as they took on the Worcester South Colonels. It was also Billy Wright's debut as the head coach for Murdock, and the Devil's picked up the win 28-0 to start off the season 1-0.

The first three possessions for the Blue Devils didn't go so well, as they fumbled the ball three consecutive

times, but then they settled down and got things rolling.

The first touchdown for the Blue came early in the start of the second quarter by Sam Drake, to give his team a 6-0 lead and with the two point conversion successful, it gave them an 8-0 lead with 10:55 left to go in the first half.

Over a minute and 20 seconds later, the Devils grabbed their second TD of the night, coming from Logan Hawkins to give his team a 14-0 lead with 9:35 left

until the half.

Then, with just six seconds to go until halftime, Hawkins found James Anderson for a touchdown pass to go up 20-0; and an extra point kick by Anderson made it 21-0 heading into the break.

The Blue Devils came out looking to take up where they left off, and the fourth TD came with just 3:57 remaining in the third quarter when Drake found the end zone to give his team a 26-0 lead. The extra point attempt from Anderson put Murdock up 28-0 with just under four minutes to go until fourth quarter.

After a scoreless fourth quarter from either side, Murdock would see the end of the game with a final score of 28-0

over the Colonels to pick up that first win of the season.

Offensively for the Devils, they had over 200 yards running the football.

Coach Wright said, "Defensively, we did a really good job of executing our game plan."

The Blue Devils will be traveling to Worcester tomorrow afternoon to take on Worcester North and to look to pick up their second win.

Also this past Monday, the Murdock JV shut out the Worcester South JV and pulled out a dominating win cruising 35-0 with spectacular defense. The JV will take on Worcester North Monday at home.

## OLYMPIANS AT TTES



Photos courtesy Christie Verville

The spring Special Olympics included a contingency from Toy Town Elementary School. They did a great job representing Winchendon.



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# Gardner mural painted by MWCC students unveiled

GARDNER – A mural depicting local landmarks and welcoming visitors to the city was unveiled recently after a summer of hard work by a group of Mount Wachusett Community College art students.

“Thank you to the students and everyone else that has been involved with this,” said MWCC President James Vander Hooven at the unveiling. “It’s really remarkable and beautiful work.”

The mural spanning the entire back wall of the downtown West Street parking lot was completed over the summer by a group of nine MWCC students and alumni. The project displays different Gardner landmarks including Dunn Pond, City Hall, and the famous Gardner Chair. Also included in the project was the painting of electric boxes at traffic lights throughout the city. The project followed another mural completed two years ago by MWCC students at Jackson Park in Gardner.

“This is beautifying Gardner. Public art is beautiful and it brightens up otherwise not so beautiful areas,” said Gardner Mayor Mark Hawke who explained this would not be the last project between MWCC’s art department and students and the city. “You can see people are already enjoying this... it is great work. Thank you all. And thank you Mr. President for allowing us to collaborate once again.”

The project was also a growth experience for the students and alumni who participated. In addition to the artistic expression that takes place in public art, there is a huge amount of work that goes into logistics, said Kayla Romeau who coordinated the project with MWCC alumnus Ben Mikels.

“It was exciting to be out there being able to do our artwork but it is great to know that the community is this accepting of it,” she said explaining that neighbors would come check on the work and commend the artists on the effort.

MWCC art professor Tom Matsuda commended the students on all their hard work.

“I was so impressed by the efforts they put in this summer. They were texting each other. I was on the text list and there was text after text... it was so amazing to see the effort they put into this,” said Matsuda. “This was all made possible by our students. It is so great to see all the artwork around the city of Gardner and see that artwork bloom.”

The project was a follow up to the mural created at Jackson Park. Like that project, this was a collaboration between the city and college, with the artists not only getting the exposure of completing a public piece of art but receiving a \$200 stipend for their efforts.



Courtesy photo

A group of Mount Wachusett Community College students and alumni, faculty and staff gathers in front of the recently completed mural at the West Street parking lot in Gardner along with city officials. Pictured from left to right are MWCC art professor Tom Matsuda, MWCC Dean for the School of Liberal Arts Laurie Occhipinti, artist Corinne Goodrich (from Winchendon, who is also responsible for the mural at 91 Central St.), assistant director for the Gardner Department of Community Development & Planning Joshua Cormier, Allyson Bois, Kayla Rameau, Gardner Mayor Mark Hawke, Sahar Ghavimi, Ben Mikles, Camilo Amarles, MWCC Vice President of External Affairs, Communications and K-12 Partnerships Lea Ann Scales, Jon Chevette, MWCC President James Vander Hooven, and Renee Tambling. Not pictured: artist Mike Littlewood.

## MHCC recognizes hard work of staff

LEOMINSTER — Montachusett Home Care Corporation of Leominster recognized its social workers, support staff, and nurses with a breakfast in their honor in recognition of Social Workers month in March; Administrative Assistant’s day in April; and Nurses month in May.

Montachusett Home Care Corporation is a not for profit agency which, helps to keep elders and disabled individuals living safely in their own homes by providing an array of community based services. For more information about

MHCC services, the agency’s information and referral department can be reached at 1-800-734-7312 or 1-978-537-7411.

MHCC staff serve consumers in the following towns in the north central Massachusetts area: Ashburnham, Ashby, Ayer, Berlin, Bolton, Clinton, Fitchburg, Gardner, Groton, Hubbardston, Lancaster, Leominster, Lunenburg, Pepperell, Princeton, Shirley, Sterling, Templeton, Townsend, Westminster, and Winchendon.



Courtesy photo

MHCC nurses were gathered for the event.

## Spring Street Convenience lands beer and wine license

BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Winchendon Selectmen Monday night approved a beer and wine license for the Spring Street convenience store formerly known as Mr. Mikes and now called Mike Mart. The store was formerly part of the retail chain owned by Alliance Energy LLC of Waltham. It is now the property of Winchendon Mini Mart, Inc., which is owned by Cheruta and Palak Patel. It will be managed by Priyal Patel.

The Patels were represented at Monday’s meeting by Attorney Matthew Porter.

Porter explained the Patels had purchased the convenience store/gas station about a month ago.

“Everything is running smoothly at the store,” said Porter. “They view this as an opportunity to offer an additional location for the community, with a bit more convenience as well, to purchase beer and wine. All three individuals on the license, including the manager, have taken their TIP (Training for Intervention Procedures) certification and all the paperwork has been provided to the town. I believe everything should be in order.”

“My only concern is, I know that we have a limited number of licenses,” said Selectman Austin Cyganiewicz. “I

thought we were all filled up with beer and wine permits.”

Linda Daigle, executive assistant to Town Manager Keith Hickey, said she had reached out to the state’s Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission earlier this year and was told that, because of the town’s population, Winchendon was entitled to one more malt beverage and wine license. In February, Central Supermarket IGA surrendered its license following its sudden closure. That license was then granted to Smith’s Country Cheese. The permit granted to Mike Mart was available as a result of the ABCC’s decision regarding the town’s increased quota of licenses.

When asked by board Chairman Barbara Anderson if it was the intention of the new owners to continue operating “a full-service convenience store,” Cheruta Patel replied in the affirmative.

Board member Audrey LaBrie said Police Chief David Walsh had expressed some concerns about granting the license to a business in a “residential location.”

While there is no zoning prohibiting the sale of beer and wine in such a location, said Hickey, “It’s up to the board’s discretion as to whether or not they think it’s an appropriate location for the sale of alcohol. That was the chief’s concern.”

“Winchendon is sort of a unique town,” said Cyganiewicz. “I think we have a lot of stores already close to residential locations. I think every liquor store, or store that we have that sells some sort of alcohol, will probably have a house near it anyway. I think if we were to say ‘no’ based on that reason, it wouldn’t be consistent with how we’ve made decisions in the past.”

Anderson pointed out that, other than Smith’s, other licenses are held specifically by liquor stores. She said one of the mitigating factors in granting a license to Smith’s was that, because of its location, “it would be less of a draw to underage kids trying to, maybe, steal alcohol.”

“We’re putting in place a scanner machine,” said Porter, “and these machines have come a long way technologically. They’ll be continually updated to be able to spot fake IDs. Also, the coolers and the wine racks will be within the visibility of the clerks so that they can make sure someone isn’t putting something in their pockets, for example. Those two safeguards should ease the board’s minds somewhat.”

“Also, this is their livelihood,” he continued. “They have a vested interest in making sure minors don’t have access (to beer and wine). The policy is just going to be to card everybody, regardless whether they think someone

looks 21 or not. This is not going to be a liquor store. It’s just the addition of another product.”

Patel also said the business had security cameras both inside and outside of the building.

“I think the location is perfect for people heading in and out of town,” said Selectman Mike Barbaro. “You have people coming into the park. They can stop there instead of heading into town. People coming home from work can stop in. I have no problems with it.”

The vote to approve the license was unanimous.

In other business, the board approved a one day wine and malt license for Smith’s Country Cheese. The license is for a “Cheese Fest” to be held on Sunday, October 29. A similar event, which proved very successful, was held earlier this year.

A permit was granted to the Clark Memorial YMCA to hold a Fun Run on Saturday, October 28. In the past, the race has featured young people made up as “zombies” harassing runners over the course of the race. A Halloween party for youngsters follows the run.

The board also accepted “with regrets” the resignation of Doneen Durling as an associate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

### 100 Days

continued from page A4

there were plenty, it’s also true Clinton never inspired anyone with any kind of clear vision about how she wanted to lead. Bernie Sanders had a clear vision but he never acknowledged there was no money

nor a cooperative Congress with which to implement that vision. The winner? Who knows what DJT thinks minute to minute? This unmitigated disaster of a presidency, if it has a vision at all, it’s one of bigotry and divisiveness, aside from the momentary collusion with his no-doubt short-term BFF’s “Chuck and Nancy”, on

whom he is almost certain to turn just as he does everyone else.

Vision and will should go hand-in-hand. We need to plan for the inevitable next hurricane and adjust where and how we build so that maybe we won’t need to see so many strangers rescuing strangers. But does anyone believe we’ll

do that? Does anyone believe we’re capable of doing the big things anymore? I don’t. Do you?

And that’s why it means so much when you see strangers rescuing strangers, or when you see students cleaning a stream or strangers contributing to a scholarship fund. It shows that even in the face

of enormous cultural division as individuals we still find a way to help one another. That’s a good thing. I always write here about local activism, local voting. I’m glad to see that kind of activism. It’s just sad we’ve reached the point where it’s the best we can hope for. Agree?

### YOUR TURN

continued from page A4

counted on to help with whatever is needed at the center during the holidays. My longtime friend, Brian (Sharp Image), who generously screen-printed WCAC

t-shirts at the eleventh hour for the Fox 25 Zip Trip to Winchendon. Dear Mr. C, who has never missed his

monthly donation since I have been at the agency. My friend, Ricci, who, year after year, goes above and beyond to ensure that local children receive an abundance of holiday gifts. Last, but not least, thank you to my family members, friends, colleagues and former co-workers who prefer to remain anonymous, but who have provided both their time and monetary assistance to help me get the job done. Mine has been

a wonderful life and I am truly blessed to have been touched by so many incredible people.

The upcoming holiday season is the busiest and most enjoyable time of the year at the WCAC. We will be preparing holiday food baskets for hundreds of families and filling hundreds of gift bags with toys for local children in need. It is my hope that volunteers will keep volunteering, that donors will con-

tinue to donate, and that caring community members will continue to care because it truly takes an entire community to make things happen. I look forward to the next six years at the WCAC, to continuing my efforts to strengthen the organization with a focus on programming and transportation and to working with the Winchendon community to fulfill our mission of service to others.



Members of the Winchendon Police Department, Winchendon Fire Department, EMS, and Animal Control pose for a group photo while being honored for their commitment as First Responder's at the Bethany Bible Chapel appreciation event.

**HONORED**

continued from page A1

second year is an appreciation where we say to all of them 'You can just come and enjoy yourself.' We want them to know how much both they and their husbands and wives are appreciated as we know they are often really under stress. We just want them to all come here for this day, and be able to relax and enjoy themselves and let us say thank you."

Activities for both adults and children were provided for all in attendance. Games to play such as corn hole, foosball, balloon pop, ring toss, face painting, and even a bouncy house were enjoyed by all around. Also on hand was WFD Engine 3 operated by member Richard Seigny which only a short time earlier attended the Clark YMCA and the Cub Scouts Touch-A-Truck. Children could be seen time and time again pretending to drive the heavy equipment vehicle.

The Chapel, which has 75 members and some 125 total actively involved, was also using its newly finished large wooden pavilion for the first time.

Both the pavilion and an additional large 60'X30' tent provided more than ample cover for all to relax and enjoy a bountiful buffet provided by chapel members as part of their effort to give back in thanks to the members of First Response families.

Regarding those being honored Chapel member Matt Gwinn said, "These men and women put themselves on the line every day and it's really an honor to come here and be able to serve them and be able to give a little bit back to them and we hope we can just keep doing it year after year for them."

Shannon Clinkscale who is both a member and the pastor's wife said, "We really want our community to show our responders just how much we really appreciate what they do and we want to show we understand the sacrifices they all make. No matter if far away such as those risking their lives who are responding to the hurricanes, or even the local families of those who we are showing appreciation to today we want them to know again, we understand the sacrifices your families make and we can't thank them enough."

Laura Huff of Winchendon who watched as her 3 year young daughter



Three year old Ryland Calhoun goes for the gold on the ring toss releasing multiple rings at once.

Felicity entered a WFD Engine 3 said, "My child remembers things like the fire department giving out candy at Halloween. She still talks about it and looks forward to it. Whenever she hears a fire truck goes by, she knows and remembers them."

Animal Control officer Monica Kleber, when asked what the support meant personally, replied, "I think it's so great that everybody is being recognized today. This is the first one I have been to, and everybody has been amazing. It's really nice to get a thank you from everybody because we don't hear that every day and we really appreciate it."

WFD member Kyle Bradley who attended with his wife said, "I am really touched by this, and it is probably the most appreciated I have ever felt as a member of first response."

Shortly before the events end a raffle was held exclusively for emergen-

cy responders. No less than 40 prizes were given out and donated by the Glen Caffe, Dugan's Salon, Kimballs, Belletetes, Friend's Garden, Hometown Cafe, Lickity Splitz, C&S Pizza, Little Anthony's, The Town Barber, Gabby's Pizza, and Sandwich Masters. Upon the raffles end Bethany Bible Chapel members again thank all being honored with a standing ovation and final round of applause.

In closing Chief David Walsh of the WPD, which had a strong showing, when asked what it all means to him said, "This is the second year they have done this. I was very impressed with it the first year, and the fact that they are doing it a second year just shows their commitment to recognize the 911 members of both police and fire. It's great to have the appreciation as it's not all too often that you're recognized, and we are happy that it's becoming a tradition to them to keep doing it. We appreciate it."

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**STUDENTS**

continued from page A1

ers are in the forefront.

This morning some 20 groups will take part in the annual Community in Action Day, participating in various activities throughout the area.

Jennings launched the program four years ago and says Greene, the director

has made a difference herself.

"She's so supportive of everything we want to do and treats us like adults," noted the senior.

They're looking ahead, too. Greene is looking towards a career in criminal justice. Whitney likes the dramatic and performing arts. McCumber is eyeing a business future and Robles wants to be a pediatric surgeon.

**GRANT**

continued from page A1

according to Smith. The WFD would be able to hire three full time employees; one additional for each of the three shifts, with the SAFER grant picking up 75 percent of the cost for the first two years, and 35 percent of the cost in the third and final year.

Not only chief of the WFD, Smith on his off-time teaches fire sciences on-line for Mount Wachusett Community College serving the last five years as an adjunct professor, and also serves on its Fire Science Board of Directors.

Smith, speaking about the grants approval, said, "I enjoy writing, and especially being able to write and apply for grants. I was very happy to hear we were one of the few approved if accepted, as our department is, according to the evaluations and audits, both locally and federally understaffed at this time. If accepted we would be better able and suited to meet the growing needs of Winchendon, which also has a large elderly population. Our call volume, calls unable to attend, and current staffing levels were part of the information and formulas figured in to our approval for the grant. As our call volume steadily increases every year, this would be huge help allowing us to better serve the people and community with this

great opportunity."

"During the last couple of budget seasons, the town manager and I have been trying to work on a way to figure working increased staffing in to the budget over here but it has been very difficult due to our budget constraints, so again I think this is a perfect opportunity for the town. This is the largest grant ever awarded to the fire department by any source" said Smith.

Regarding public safety Smith also said, "Fortunately we have a town manager and a selectboard which recognized the need for public safety. I think the town is very fortunate for that. I think the current board has a unique opportunity to make history for the town as again, this is the largest grant every awarded to the department by any source and would give our community a big boost in service with a much needed financial break."

In closing Smith said, "I am charged as the fire chief to provide the best public safety and protection for the town and its citizens as humanly possible. It is my firm belief the SAFER grant will allow us to do just that, while again providing the town a much needed financial break and I truly hope the Selectmen will feel the same way about this huge opportunity available to us, to be able to better serve the residents of Winchendon."

**REMEMBER**

continued from page A1

attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon, as well as those who perished in the crash of United Airlines Flight 93 in Shanksville, Pennsylvania are read aloud. Also included on that all-too-lengthy tally of the deceased are the names of those who were passengers aboard the airliners that were crashed into the buildings in New York City and Washington, DC. Added to this year's list were the names of those killed in the Boston Marathon bombings in 2013 and in the attack on the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida in June of last year.

The names of those who died on September 11, 2001 are recorded on CDs which are played at the remembrance. The names of those killed in Boston and Orlando are read live.

"This isn't just a 9/11 remembrance anymore," said Pelletier. "It is a day of remembrance and reflection. We will continue to add the names of those killed in terrorist attacks on American soil."

Pelletier, who is an artist, poet, and writer has been working on 9/11 remembrances since the attacks occurred.

"I volunteered in New York for several months after the attacks," said Pelletier, who has a degree in psychology. "I helped organize community groups to talk about the event, to help people deal with what had happened -

both as individuals and members of a community. I did most of my volunteer work under the umbrella of the Return to Normalcy campaign."

One of those attending Monday's ceremony was retired Ossining, New York police Sergeant James Wall.

Wall, who is 68 and now lives in Swanzey, New Hampshire, said he and other members of his department responded to New York City two days after the attacks. Ossining is about 40 miles north of Ground Zero.

"We were headquartered at the Javits Center," said Wall. "We helped with the collection and distribution of contributions to searchers working on the site. The sky was still full of dust. After we got there it rained and just everything turned to mud. Everything was covered in it. It was nasty work, but those people - those searchers - wouldn't let it bother them."

Wall bemoaned the lack of opportunity in central New England to remember the tragic events of September 11.

"There aren't many 9/11 remembrances up here," he said. "This event here is an outstanding opportunity to remember. It's only been 16 years, yet people seem to have almost forgotten what happened. I don't know if it's because people are just too busy, too preoccupied, or they just don't care. But we need to remember, if for no other reason than to make sure it doesn't happen again."

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**LEGALS**

**Town of Winchendon Planning Board PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE FORMAL SITE PLAN APPROVAL**  
Pursuant to MGL, c.41, §81T, notice is hereby given that the Planning Board will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday October 3, 2017 at 6:55 PM in the Town Hall Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl., 109 Front St., Winchendon, MA 01475, to hear the Formal Site Plan application submitted by Winchendon Ash Street Solar 1 LLC of 1550 Liberty Ridge Drive, Suite 310 Wayne PA 19087 for property identified as Assessors Map 5C4 parcel 29, owned by the Winchendon School, Inc. 172 Ash St. Winchendon MA 01475 for the construction of a Ground Mounted Solar Energy Collection system. Said property is located in the C1 - Highway Commercial and R80 - Rural Residential Zoning Districts. All relevant materials, including site plans, may be viewed at the Dept. of P&D at Winchendon Town Hall. All interested persons should plan to attend. **Meeting room is accessible. Alternate accommodations can be made by calling 1-978-297-3537at least 3 days in advance.**  
BY: Guy C. Corbosiero, Planning Board Chairman  
September 15, 2017  
September 22, 2017

109 Front St., Winchendon, MA 01475, to hear the Formal Site Plan application submitted by Winchendon Lincoln Avenue Solar 1 LLC & Winchendon Lincoln Avenue Solar 2 LLC of 1550 Liberty Ridge Drive, Suite 310 Wayne PA 19087 on property identified as Assessors Map 2 parcel 65, Assessors Map 2 Parcel 15, and Assessors Map 2 parcel 12 owned by Glenn C. Kostick of 17 Poplar St. Winchendon MA 01475 for the construction of two (2) Ground Mounted Solar Energy Collection systems. Said property is located in the Industrial (I) Zoning District. All relevant materials, including site plans, may be viewed at the Dept. of P&D at Winchendon Town Hall. All interested persons should plan to attend. **Meeting room is accessible. Alternate accommodations can be made by calling 1-978-297-3537at least 3 days in advance.**  
BY: Guy C. Corbosiero, Planning Board Chairman  
September 15, 2017  
September 22, 2017

**LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Bruce A. Traudt to Ameriquet Mortgage Company, dated May 12, 2005 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36359, Page 236 of which Mortgage Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Ameriquet Mortgage Securities Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-R6 is the present holder by virtue of the Judgment equitably assigning the

Mortgage from Ameriquet Mortgage Company and ACC Capital Holdings Corporation to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Ameriquet Mortgage Securities Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-R6 dated November 3, 2016 and recorded at Worcester County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 56413, Page 139, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purposes of foreclosing same, the mortgaged premises located at 81 Benjamin Street, Winchendon, MA 01475 will be sold at a Public Auction at 4:00 PM on September 28, 2017, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: A parcel of land on the southerly side of Benjamin Street in Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts shown as Lot "A" on a plan entitled "Plan of lots prepared for owners, RICHARD E. & DOLORES A. GARNO, Winchendon, MA, Scale 1 inch = 50 feet, February 24, 2004, Edmond J. Boucher, PLS, 4 Jolly Road, Royalston, MA, 01368", which plan is recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 806, Plan 59, to which plan reference is made for a more particular description. Lot "A" contains 1.0915 acres according to said plan.  
For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36359, Page 234.  
The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and

subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.  
Terms of the Sale: Cash, cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable in cash or by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.  
Other terms to be announced at the sale.  
Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Ameriquet Mortgage Securities Inc., Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-R6  
Korde & Associates, P.C.  
900 Chelmsford Street  
Suite 3102  
Lowell, MA 01851  
(978) 256-1500  
Traudt, Bruce, 14-019586, September 1, 2017, September 8, 2017, September 15, 2017  
September 1, 2017  
September 8, 2017  
September 15, 2017



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WITH

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<sup>1</sup>DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 9/30/2017. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get \$325 off each window and \$700 off each patio door and 24 months no payments, no interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 9/1/2017 & 9/30/2017 with approved credit. APR of 16.68% as of 8/1/2015, subject to change. Interest accrues from date of purchase but is waived if paid in full within 24 months. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available only at participating locations. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. \*Renewal by Andersen and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2017 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2017 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. \*See limited warranty for details.