

# Town moves cautiously on building demos

BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

“In talking to the DEP, they said they can’t stop us but the could potentially fine us.”

That, according to Town Manager Keith Hickey, is the situation in which the town finds itself relative to the demolition of the buildings at 275 and 283 Lincoln Avenue Extension. The town, which had planned to tear down the buildings last week, was notified by the state Department of Environmental Protection that there might be problems if the work were to proceed. Those problems center around hazardous materials contained within the structures; specifically, asbestos.

“We know there’s asbestos in both buildings were looking to tear down,” Hickey told the Courier, “so, we’re trying to work with DEP. We’ve brought in a consultant who’s going to give us a price on eliminating the asbestos in the Diehl

Building. In the building located at 283 Lincoln Avenue Extension, we saw some asbestos on some pipes near the furnace room, but because of the condition of the building we’re not comfortable getting in to look at things more closely.”

“What we may have to do,” said Hickey, “is what they call ‘make safe’; to eliminate the risk, which is to eliminate the wall along the Lincoln Avenue Extension-side of the building. We could push that in, make the building safer, and the allow an asbestos company to go in and do asbestos testing and identify where the asbestos may be, or any other issues the building may have, figure out how to abate those problems.”

“The asbestos company is supposed to give us a price on removing asbestos from the Diehl Building sometime this week,” Hickey said Tuesday. “Then depending on their availability and their cost, we’ll try to

move forward.”

Hickey said as of press time the town had not yet received a cost estimate from the company, identified as Economic Enviro Techs of Fitchburg.

Asked if, due to the age of the buildings, DEP might also be concerned with lead paint getting into the environment during demolition, Hickey said, “Sure, they would. I think, at this point, the most prominent concern is asbestos because we’ve seen it on the pipe wrap. There’s concern about asbestos in the shingles, asbestos in the window putty. That was the primary concern. But if lead paint is identified that also becomes something that has to be dealt with.”

Because of the dilapidated condition of the old White Mountain Freezer building at 283 Lincoln Avenue Extension, the only way to mitigate the asbestos problem would be to tear it down and immediately remove the

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## HAPPY AT THE HOLIDAYS



Jess Plante photo

Children from Cheryl Jordan's first grade class took part in the holiday concert last week at Memorial Elementary School.

# Wayfinding Effort Moves Forward

BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Winchendon selectmen Monday night approved the design of signs that will be posted around town as part of the community’s effort to make it easier for residents and visitors to locate a variety of attractions in the Toy Town. The designs were presented to the board by Winchendon Planning and Development Director Tracy Murphy and members of the town’s Wayfinding and Signage Subcommittee.

Murphy told the Courier she hopes the new signs will start being erected by late 2019 or early 2020.

“The Wayfinding and Signage Sub Committee, using a map of the town, determined the location of approximately 20 signs to start the first phase of the project,” Murphy told the Courier. “The town will receive a report of the work that was put into the plan as well as the particulars of the first phase.”

She added that local businesses have not yet

been polled to determine where they would most like to see the new signs posted.

Murphy said the first signs to go up will be concentrated on and around Central Street. A few, she said, would be posted near the “gateways” into town, such as routes 12 and 202 heading toward downtown Winchendon. They will “most likely” be paid for by a combination of public and private funds.

“The town manager,” Murphy said, “has already applied for Robinson Broadhurst monies for the first phase.”

Earlier this year, the town received a Massachusetts Downtown Initiative Technical Assistance Program grant through the state Dept. of Housing and Community Development to get the wayfinding program off the ground. While no monies were given directly to the town, the grant paid for the hiring of a consultant to work on the project. That con-

sultant, who designed the signage approved by selectmen, is Favermann Designs of Boston.

Company president Mark Favermann met with members of the Wayfinding and Signage Subcommittee and several residents in July to help determine priorities for the project.

At that meeting, Favermann said, “A lot of urban planners like to take a global view of planning. My interest is in human-scaled planning; things like wayfinding, branding, streetscapes, public art. Such things may seem small-scale, but they’re the kinds of things that help make a community livable, inviting.”

Murphy said the first signs to be erected will concentrate on local attractions such as local parks and the North Central Pathway, known to most people locally as “the bike trail.”

“This phase focuses on public amenities,” said Murphy. Future efforts

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2018/2019 Murdock High School National Honor Society

# National Honor Society inducts new members

The 2018 Murdock Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) held its Induction Ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 12, welcoming 9 new members, bringing the total membership to 29. The ceremony began with the current members and the candidates processing into the auditorium, accompanied by Patrick Cortis on the piano. NHS president, Phebe Shippy, welcomed the candidates and all those in attendance. She gave a brief synopsis of what the National Honor Society is and the requirements for induction into the organization. Each candidate must possess the virtues of scholarship, Leadership, Service and Character, which are the 4 cornerstones of the National Honor Society. Several members of the honor society gave a brief synopsis of each of the virtues: Scholarship (Lindsey Smith), Leadership (Kaileen Dibble), Service (Maria Polcari) and Character

(Elissa Boucher). NHS conducts fundraising, volunteer opportunities and service projects. Each member must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA and complete 15 service hours per quarter each school year in order to maintain his/her membership.

Following the recitation of the NHS pledge, the inductees were introduced by Ms. Shippy. Each inductee signed their name into the Murdock NHS register which was begun in 1957 and then gave a speech honoring an educator who has made a special impact on them. New inductees and their educators of choice are as follows:

Class of 2019: Sirena Caputi – Sherri Fairbanks (Science Teacher), Yang Yi Chen – Peter Birney (History Teacher), Timmy Quinn – Anthony Findley (Track Coach), Ryan Thira – Billy Wright (Football Coach). Class of 2021: Nicole Becotte – Rhonda

Robichaud (2nd Grade Teacher), Briahna Bouchard – Anthony Findley (Track Coach), Abigail Leahy – Barbara Lawrence (Swim Coach), Jack Polcari – Cindy Darcy (4th Grade Teacher), Julio Rodriguez – Mr. Herrick (Science Teacher).

NHS pins were then presented to each new inductee by Principal Thad King and NHS vice president, Kaileen Dibble, followed by congratulatory remarks by Mr. King and closing remarks by Ms. Shippy. A reception for the new NHS members was held in the cafeteria.

In addition to the new inductees, the Murdock National Honor Society members are: Phebe Shippy (president), Kaileen Dibble (vice president), Elissa Boucher (treasurer), Maria Polcari (secretary), Owen Benedict, Patrick Cortis, Hannah Demanche, Paige Demanche, Lindsey

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# Diocese poring over local church books

BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

A parish meeting was held Sunday afternoon at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Winchendon. The meeting was led by Mr. Paul Schasel, Director of Fiscal Affairs for the Diocese of Worcester, and Fr. Carlos Ruiz, Immaculate Heart of Mary administrator.

Raymond Delisle, Chancellor and Director of Communications for the Diocese of Worcester, said the meeting was called to make parishioners aware of the fact that the Diocese is taking a close look at financial transactions at the church over the past several years.

“An audit review,” he

explained, “normally occurs when a change in parish leadership takes place. When the auditors reviewed the books (for Immaculate Heart of Mary) this fall, following the sudden departure of Fr. Michael Clements at the end of August, nearly \$200,00 in spending over the past three years was identified, including significant repair work which had been needed on the church building.”

“However,” Delisle continued, “the audit review also identified a bank account which was not authorized and expenses which were not clearly categorized in order to determine how they benefitted the parish.”

“The Athol Savings

Bank account that was not sanctioned has been closed and any balance put back into the ordinary parish accounts,” he added. “I don’t know the balance at that time.”

At Sunday’s meeting, Bishop Robert McManus explained he is attempting to get explanations of the spending from Fr. Clements.

“Mr. Schasel,” Delisle said, “noted that, in all likelihood, a forensic audit will be conducted for proper understanding of the spending. If anything illegal is identified it will be turned over to the authorities and the diocesan insurance provider, Catholic Mutual, will be contacted to cover

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LOCAL

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SPORTS

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## WEEKLY QUOTE

*I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.*

— Charles Dickens



# CLYDE’S CORNER

## Saturday December 15

MRS. CLAUS AT BEALS: story time with Mrs. Claus at 10 a.m. at Beals Memorial Library, 50 Pleasant St. Come listen to favorite stories with Mrs. Claus! Friends of Beals also holds its Holiday Bake Sale until noon, so stock up on goodies too!

Bottle & Can Drive at Rite-Aid parking lot 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., sponsored by NHS and Student Council to benefit Wreaths Across America

WINTER WINE: drop in at the Murdock Whitney House Museum for wine & cheese 1-4 p.m. Take a break from frenzied shopping for a quick bite and sip with friends. Donations accepted. First floor of the historic house is decorated for the holidays.

## Sunday December 16

HOLIDAY CONCERT: The Greater Gardner Community Choir presents A Season of Carols, Sunday, Dec. 16 at 4 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, 52 Spruce St., Winchendon. Seniors and kids free through Saint Gobain Grant. Ticket available at the door.

## Monday December 24

CANDLELIGHT, CAROLS AND PIPE

ORGAN: The Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St., will hold a special Christmas Eve service at 7 PM featuring guest organist Robert Couchon. Sing along to familiar carols, hear the Christmas Story and the magnificent Hook pipe organ, and pass candlelight. This is a wonderful way for your entire family to welcome in Christmas. For more information visit [uucw.ncmuuc.org](http://uucw.ncmuuc.org)

## Friday January 18

DARREN BESSETTE BAND: at the Snowbound Club, 130 Baldwinville Road beginning at 7 p.m. Come enjoy this great band with local ties!

### ONGOING PROGRAMS

ONGOING AT OLD MURDOCK MONDAY/WEDNESDAY: Chair exercise 9:30 – Exercise to your skill level.

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

WEDNESDAY: ZUMBA w/Alisha, Wednesdays 9:30 a.m. Join Alisha on Wednesday mornings and Zumba! Participate at your comfort level. Yoga w/Susan, Wednesdays 10:30. Susan leads this gentle stretching on

Wednesday mornings at 10:30. Even if you're a beginner, you'll be gently stretching in no time. Please bring your own mat.

### THURSDAYS

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

### MONDAY

LEGO CLUB: Beals Memorial Library, 50 Pleasant St. hosts a Lego Club for kids aged six-12, 3:30-4:30 p.m. every Monday afternoon the library is open. Show off your creative side. More information about this and other programs by calling (978) 297-0300 or visit [townofwinchendon.com/bealmemoriallibrary](http://townofwinchendon.com/bealmemoriallibrary).

### TUESDAY

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

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

### WEDNESDAY

BINGO! Hyde Park residents hold

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

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

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

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

### THURSDAY

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

## REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

**WINCHENDON**  
\$300,000, 54 Brooks Rd, Schanz, Erich J. and Putney, Jessica A, to Stewart, Candice.  
\$220,000, 1170-1172 Alger St, Bourque, Christopher M, to Azzaf, Mouad.  
\$175,000, 211 Spring St, Zuppa, Stephanie, to Stpierre, Sara M.  
\$150,000, 10 Maynard St, Wentworth, Bob, to Thebeau, Carissa M.  
\$149,100, 38 Whitney St, FHLM, to Pritchard, Chandler D.  
\$140,000, 6 Orient Pl, Chagnon, Mary E, to Chagnon, Nicole.  
\$72,080, 111 Franklin St, Soucy, Robert P, to Dufresne, Donna M.



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## AREA SERVICES

### Friday, December 21

NIGHT OF REMEMBRANCE: Ashburnham Community Church hosts a Longest Night Service at 7:00 pm. Join us for comfort as the holidays bring to mind those we have lost in our lives.

### Saturday, December 22

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Ashburnham Community Church invites you to join for singing around town. Meet at the church at 5:00 pm.

### Sunday December 23

The Sunday Dec. 23 worship at 10:30 a.m. at First Church in Jaffrey will be led by the Rev. Robin Lunn. It will reflect this year's Advent theme, "The Light is surely coming," and will feature festive music for the season. A special Christmas offering will benefit the Jaffrey Food Pantry, the Jaffrey Emergency Fund, and the Jaffrey-

Rindge Ambulance Service.

### Monday, December 24

CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP: Ashburnham Community Church hosts a traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 7:00 pm with music recalling the good news of Jesus's birth.

Christmas Eve: candlelight, carols and pipe organ

On Christmas Eve Dec. 24 at 7:00 p.m., the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St., will hold a candlelight service of traditional Christmas carols and readings. Guest organist Robert Couchon will play the church's magnificent 1868 E. and G.G. Hook pipe organ.

Christmas Eve: Candles, Lessons and Carols at First Church in Jaffrey, 5 pm

Poinsettias, wreaths, candles in the windows, a "gratitude tree" and a creche in Zimbabwe grace the First Church in Jaffrey for Advent at the

red brick church on Meetinghouse Common in Jaffrey Center. The crèche was given to the church decades ago by the late Rev. Daniel Leavitt and Lois Leavitt who spent time in education and ministry in that country.

The annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, Dec.24 will feature traditional readings and carols led by Rev. Robin. Under the direction of Gene Faxon, Minister of Music, the service will feature special instrumental and choral music.

The service will close with "Silent Night" sung by all in the candle-lighted sanctuary. Come early because this service is very popular with families, neighbors, and friends of the church.

All are invited to a reception in the Parish House following the service.

Note that there will be no service on Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Day.

The church is on Laban Ainsworth Way at Route 124 in the Jaffrey Center Historic District. Ample parking is available and the church is handicapped accessible.

## Middleton wins Beals prize for poetry

A panel of three distinguished judges recently proclaimed Susan Middleton of Ashfield the winner of the first Beals Prize for Poetry for her poem, *Crossing Tidewater Basin after Visiting Mom in the Hospital*. Second place went to Barbara Lemoine of Northfield for *Instructions for Sleep*, and Elaine Reardon of Warwick took third with *Hye Holiday Gathering*. Other finalists included Veronica L. Derby of Ashburnham, Sharon Harmon of Royalston, Laura Rodley of Shelburne Falls, Stephen Seraichick of Keene, NH, and Sara Williams of Gardner. Judges for the competition were Trish Crapo, Candace Curran and Samantha Wood. The competition honors the memory of Charles L. Beals, the benefactor of the Beals Memorial Library.

The winning poem is included below:

*Crossing Tidewater Basin After Visiting Mom in the Hospital*

Flat land leaves me uneasy—  
no mountains, no hills, nothing to break

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Courtesy photo

Susan Middleton of Ashfield (center) was proclaimed the winner of the Beals Prize for Poetry for her poem, *Crossing Tidewater Basin after Visiting Mom in the Hospital*. On her right is second place finisher, Barbara Lemoine of Northfield, and on her left is Elaine Reardon of Warwick, third place.

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# Trying to revitalize Youth Venture

Launching a campaign to jump-start Murdock high's school's United Way Youth Venture program, principals in the effort hosted a "Dream It, Do It" assembly last week, encouraging students to in fact follow their dreams, using YV as a vehicle.

MHS alum (2016) Jake Van Hilo now works at Mount Wachusett Community College, from where he graduated earlier this year and is working with Youth Venture outreach. Van Hilo came to address the assembly.

"We always say kids can change the world. Youth Venture provides an opportunity for them to do just that. Their passion can make such a difference. A lot of times they have great ideas but don't have the resources to put those ideas into practice. Youth Venture is a way to do that," he stressed.

But first students have to know the opportunity exists.

When MHS faculty 'champion' Kris Provost asked the high schoolers congregated in the auditorium how many of them knew of Youth Venture, not a whole lot of hands went up and that's just one problem which has plagued the program for some time as projects sometimes struggle either to get off the ground in the first place or be sustained.

To be sure, Murdock's experiment with Youth Venture has had its share of successes. Sounds of Murdock began over a decade ago and recent projects Benches and Blue Hands, both focused

on different aspects of mental health, have come to fruition. But it can be a long slog.

"It takes time," Provost reflected on the eve of the Spring Showcase back in March. "It can feel a little daunting", he conceded when it comes to dealing with bureaucratic red tape and bringing the projects to life requires a lot of patience but as Provost pointed out, that's true of life in general.

Perhaps that's one reason for the reluctance but Van Hilo said once the initial concerns are overcome, YV participants can "make that difference".

He added he hopes students will be encouraged after the assembly to sign up and bring their passions to life under the Youth Venture banner.

## 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).

## Author talk and book event at Beal's

On Saturday, Jan. 26 at 11 a.m., Beal's Memorial Library will be hosting a book event with local authors Diane Kane, Kathy Chencharik, Sharon A. Harmon and Phyllis Cochran.

Their new book, *Flash in the Can*, is a collection of fun-filled flash fiction stories each under 1,500 words and perfect for busy people to read on the go. These seasoned writers will share their love of writing, as well as offer insight into self-publishing and marketing.

Come by and enjoy a little *Flash in the Can*.



Courtesy photo

From left to right Diane Kane, Phyllis Cochran, Kathy Chencharik and Sharon Harmon

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George Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel

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In Observance of Christmas

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### WORDS AS ART



Winchendon School Service Learning Director Miranda Jennings, TWS students Linet Cardoso and Tristin Heap, TWS art teacher Megan Tresca, and Winchendon Public Schools Extended Day Programs Director Jennifer Haddad holding some of the "power words" artwork made by students in Haddad's charge. The work is being displayed at Cumberland Farms. Cardoso and Heap are participants in the Winchendon School's "Art for the Future" service learning group. Jennings explained that Toy Town Elementary and the Winchendon School partnered to do an after school art class. One of the projects was for students to create "Power Words"...a word that describes why they are so great. The goal is to raise the self confidence of students and help them feel that they are amazing. Cumblies manager Bill Stewart agreed to display their work as a community art installation to try and raise town pride and show off how great our little kiddos are."

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# VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

## EDITORIAL

### Happiest holidays

Whether you are celebrating with family, friends or enjoying a little down time alone; this coming week is an interesting one for many reasons.

It means something to a lot of people; and not much to others. But that is neither here nor there for the basis of this essay. We want to simply wish everyone a bit of peace in their lives and to say thank you.

Thank you to those who will still be working at hospitals, on ambulances, at fire stations and at police stations; working as first responders and on call in whatever capacity is needed. And thank you for your service throughout the past year. You've been there. We appreciate it. It hasn't been an easy year; we've lost good people. These jobs are hazardous.

Thank you.

Thank you to those in the service whether overseas or away from home and stationed at places not near those near and dear to them. It is not easy even if you are still stateside, but thousands of miles away on a holiday. And if you are boondocked, it is twice as hard. Thank you for your service. We have lost the urgency of the war in the myriad of other news that has taken precedence in our lives. But young Americans are still in danger and losing their lives every day. Thank you for serving. Let us please remember them.

Thank you to those who volunteer. Whether it is by running for unpaid political office in a small town or working with a church or a service group

such as Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis or another organization; they are unsung heroes in every one of our towns. The programs they run, the shelters, the meals, the food banks, the afterschool programs, the Scout troops...the list goes on and on. We are all better for their hard work and they are often not noticed. Yet if they weren't there, if these programs were to disappear, we would all be much worse for it.

Those who put in hours and hours on committees, boards and such are equally necessary. How would the work of our towns get done without these selfless volunteers? They are often the targets of unhappy citizens, true; but they do the best they can and continue on. They often take classes on their own, attend seminars and conventions to learn more about how to do their jobs better; and often do so by taking time away from paid jobs and their families.

While we are saying thank you let's remember all those who care for our children in several capacities. Not only must we thank our school systems and their many, many hardworking teachers and staff; but let's hear it for places like Boys & Girls Clubs, Little Leagues, YMCAs, and camps of every kind.

We are certain we are missing people who deserve our thanks, we are touching the tip of an iceberg here. These people and many more keep our towns running, keep them safe, and keep them the places we love.

Happy Holidays, and thank you all.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Merry Christmas

*"I don't want to repeat my innocence. I want the pleasure of losing it again." – F. Scott Fitzgerald, This Side of Paradise*



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

eight or ten delicacies to choose from, someone could be heard asking, "Where's all the food?"

Still, while the food was most certainly awesome, it was the company I enjoyed the most, especially

I'll admit it. As a kid Christmas time was indeed my favorite time of the year. Each year, when the holidays roll around, I wish – for a few brief moments – that I could go back, not to Christmas, but to Christmas Eve.

Christmas Eve was the best night of all because that was the night my parents held their annual holiday buffet. Each year, it seemed, it got a little bigger. Friends, relatives, and co-workers of my parents would all make appearances.

Dad, who had been head chef at Westminster's Old Mill Restaurant from the time it opened in 1947, put on a great spread, of course. There was turkey, ham, roast beef, Indian pudding, pumpkin pie, cheese cake, and a host of other goodies. My grandmother would always make my favorite; a spiced apple pie made with those little red cinnamon candies. The candies had been melted away, but their delicious zing was still present in grandma's pie.

Over the years, my Aunt Joanie, whose maiden name was Libutti, would bring an authentic (so she said) Italian lasagna. She would also bring other dishes that, well, took a little courage for the celebrants to sample. It sort of turned into a game of "and what is this dish?" More than one Christmas Eve passed without that question ever being answered.

On more than one occasion, Joanie's husband, my uncle Jean, would bring a roast goose or duck or two; birds he had bagged on his annual hunting trip to Canada. I found the goose a little greasy, but I ate it, nonetheless.

When my sister-in-law Jeannie (real name: Hui Cha) joined the family, she added some awesome Korean dishes to the mix. She made yaki mandu, bulgogi, and a hot little side dish that would catch my fancy – kimchi.

The Christmas Eve buffet finally reached a point where, if there were only

when I reached an age that allowed me to join in conversation with the "older folk." It was nice to be included, to be taken seriously, to truly feel like a member of the family. Not that I ever felt like I didn't belong, but when you're young you still sort of feel like you're on the outside looking in. You're never quite in on the joke. You never really understand the political points being discussed. You're one of the "little people;" that is, until you cross some terribly undefined threshold into adulthood or, at least, near-adulthood.

That's when I recognized that every single person who passed through my parents' door each Christmas Eve had, in one way or another, impacted my life – made me who I am. I finally realized that what I've become, what I was becoming, was more than just a collection of genes and DNA, it is a person who has absorbed and processed the essence of just about every other soul I've come in contact with. Some of what I absorbed I eventually reject – most of it probably. But hopefully I was able to hang onto the most important parts, the best parts; the character, honesty, sense of humor, humility, open-mindedness – the humanity – of those who have walked, even briefly, through my life. And just about every one of those people showed up in our living room and kitchen on Christmas Eve.

The presents they gave me were never unwrapped, not visibly or with fanfare. I may not have even recognized just how precious those gifts were when I received them, probably without ever saying "thank you." But those presents are with me still.

It's my hope that I, too, may be able to pass on some unseen gift to most everyone I meet along my path. Should I accomplish that little task, this all would have been worth it.

Merry Christmas.

## LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor are always welcome, and may be sent to to [ruth@stonebridgepress.news](mailto: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.

## The same rules?



JOURNEY  
OF THE  
HEART  
JERRY  
CARTON

Our "system," such as it is, only works when we all play by roughly the same set of rules. I hardly need to tell you we are not all playing by anything remotely resembling the same set of rules. For example, a week ago, seeking the adulation of the right wing, a grandstanding federal judge in Texas ruled the entire Affordable Care Act, "Obama Care, unconstitutional, in theory throwing out the whole thing. In the real world of course, the conservative Republican majority Supreme Court has twice deemed oth-

erwise and of course there are numerous challenges to this stunt from a variety of state Attorneys General and advocacy groups. Thing is, that SCOTUS included Anthony Kennedy, not Brett Kavanaugh and if it had no qualms about gutting the Voting Rights Act, who's to say what might happen now. SCOTUS historically does not frequently overturn settled law, but with this bunch I wouldn't hold my breath. This is what I mean. You'd think we'd have a consensus in 2018 turning into 2019 that access to affordable health care should be a no-brainer. You'd think the ACA debate was over. Clearly not.

Then there are the lame duck state legislatures in Wisconsin and Michigan where Republican majorities passed bills to severely limit the power and authority of incoming Democratic govern-

nors. The will expressed by the voters last month? Bah. Irrelevant. You think these fanatics are going to abide by the results of a mere election if they don't like the outcomes? Get real. This trend began two years ago in North Carolina when in 2016 voters had the audacity to elect Democrat Roy Cooper as governor. Not acceptable. That state's legislature squeezed power from Cooper before he took the oath, too. North Carolina, you say? There's an unsettled congressional race there because absentee ballots were so brazenly tampered with even the R's couldn't ignore it.

Democracy cannot function and will not survive if we can't do something as simple as agreeing elections count and the winners, well, win. For all the justifiable angst over Russian interference in our election, the far more fright-

ening and dangerous threat comes from within. It's bad enough there are ever-increasing obstacles to registering to vote and rampant voter suppression efforts, the Georgia governor's election being exhibit A. If your side loses and your response to essentially stage a legislative coup as happened in Wisconsin and Michigan, you've more than subverted democracy. You've toppled it.

So what's the solution, aside from actual revolution which would solve nothing? Redouble the Resistance. Keep overwhelming with registering voters. Florida just granted the right to vote to more than a million former felons. Getting as many of those folks registered in a state like Florida with its forever close races matters. There's a project. Keep voting. It will take several cycles to reclaim democracy

but it's the only answer, assuming democracy can be salvaged at all in the face of relentless opposition from some state legislatures and more than one bigoted judge. Am I optimistic? I try to be, but it's hard. Giving up though? That's never an option. If the other side refuses to play fair, the only solution is to outnumber them.

Finally this. I'm appreciative for the response to last week's "Courtney Effect" column. I'm even more appreciative to so many people who are taking that mantra and using it as a motivating force. In the 76 weeks since her passing, she has become a beacon of light and inspiration. We should all hope to have such a powerful and positive legacy.

And so 2018 comes to a close. Next week will be our annual pictorial issue. Hope your holidays are peaceful. See you January 4.

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# GOOD



# NEWS

# Beto buzz in New Hampshire

**BY JERRY CARTON**  
*COURIER CORRESPONDENT*

Yes it's starting already in next door New Hampshire where Keene and Rindge with their universities are prime targets for the growing field of prospective Democratic presidential candidates. Retiring Texas congressman Beto O'Rourke, whose losing Senate campaign nonetheless drew lots of media attention this fall, hasn't yet said he's running but there are Granite state

activists who are doing their part to try and encourage him to do just that and now they even have a PAC, one which is run by Massachusetts pols.

O'Rourke won most of Texas' college towns in his close race against Sen. Ted Cruz which would logically suggest the hometowns of Keene State University and Franklin Pierce University fertile ground for him, even though O'Rourke hasn't yet been to New Hampshire, saying he doesn't want to "stoke

speculation" about his 2020 intentions. In 2016, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders easily carried both towns on his way to a convincing New Hampshire Democratic primary triumph. Sanders and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren are among the so-called progressives expected to run in 2020. Additionally, New Hampshire, which will hold the nation's first primary, now has Election Day voter registration. That was a bone of contention in Rindge in the closing days of

last month's midterm election when a state judge dismissed a challenge to the right of FPU students to vote where they go to school, a move seen as a prelude to the simmering presidential race.

That campaign is underway now. The O'Rourke backers were handing out leaflets in Manchester last weekend. 'Draft Beto 2020' is the group's name and it has produced an organizing packet designed to build support through house parties and other events. "Our

goal", reads the guide "is to show Beto there is grassroots support for him across the country if he decides to run".

The Massachusetts primary is slated March 3, 2020, less than 15 months down the road, three weeks after New Hampshire, and secretary of state Bill Galvin said he'll be asking the legislature to approve at least five days of early voting beforehand. Galvin thinks that give Bay State voters a larger say in the nominating process.

## Déjà vu Congressional race?

Last summer most of Winchendon's Democratic voters were asked to choose a nominee to fly the party's banner in a congressional election to succeed the retiring Niki Tsongas. The race was won by now congresswoman-elect Lori Trahan but at least one of Trahan's vanquished opponents may be ready to try again.

State senator Barbara L'Italien finished a solid third in the Third District primary last September and now

she's thinking about challenging Sixth District congressman Seth Moulton because of the latter's opposition to House Speaker-designate Nancy Pelosi. "I'm politically savvy enough to know that in order to get things done for your district you cannot be challenging the leadership to the extent Seth Moulton has", asserted L'Italien in an interview with NBC-10 Boston.

But L'Italien isn't the only locally familiar name popping up as a potential

challenger to Moulton. Dan Koh, who lost to Trahan after a weeklong recount and former US Ambassador to Denmark Rufus Gifford, who finished fifth were mentioned in a recent POLITICO story, though Gifford said he'd oppose anyone "shopping around" for a place to run. Koh had no comment.

Moulton's initial anti-Pelosi stance has angered a lot of Democrats and L'Italien, who leaves the state legislature in a few weeks, seems energized.

However, the congressman says he and Pelosi have "buried the hatchet" after the once and likely future Speaker agreed to make changes in how some leadership and committee issues were handled.

As for Tsongas, she hasn't decided what to do with her post-congressional career, her office saying only she will be spending time with her family after she leaves office Jan. 3 when Trahan is sworn in.

### DEMOS

*continued from page A1*

demolition waste.

"My understanding," said Hickey, "is that if it's contaminated waste the DEP doesn't want that contaminated waste sitting for any length of time - covered or uncovered. If it's clean demolition material, I don't know that DEP has any strong opinion as to how long it can remain on site."

"So, the building at 283 would have to come down in stages," Hickey explained, "meaning we'd have to address the safety concerns with the walls, start to clean up asbestos where it's

identified, and then continue with the demolition of the building. I don't have a real strong timeframe at this point, but we're still very concerned about the safety issues out there."

"The cost to remove the contaminated material and the clean material, that cost is unknown at this point. That could be problematic," said Hickey.

The town has applied for a state grant to determine the kinds of contaminants on site and come up with the cost of removing those materials. Initial estimates pegged the cost of removing the demolition waste at around \$300,000.

Hickey said he's not aware of any grants that might be avail-

able to cover the actual cost of the waste removal.

"Depending on the cost of disposal," Hickey reiterated, "that could become problematic and we may have to ask the community for additional funds to do that cleanup. We've got free cash available and we could use some of that, but it's unfortunate that we weren't able to demolish the building and remove the hazard and then work to get the area cleaned up."

"Neighbors out there are frustrated and would like to see the buildings removed to take care of the safety situation and the rodent situation, but they also understand the situation that the town is in."

### BOOKS

*continued from page A1*

any potential losses."

Delisle did confirm the spending of grants made to the church by the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation and the Converse Century Fund has been examined.

"The grants were applied correctly to things like the (new handicap accessible) ramp," he said. "That was already confirmed by the audit review."

Delisle concluded by saying: "We don't know if Fr. Clements

was doing something that will be determined to be illegal. As stated earlier, if anything illegal is identified it will be turned over to the authorities. Fr. Clements has been contacted by mail. That is our only way of contacting him."

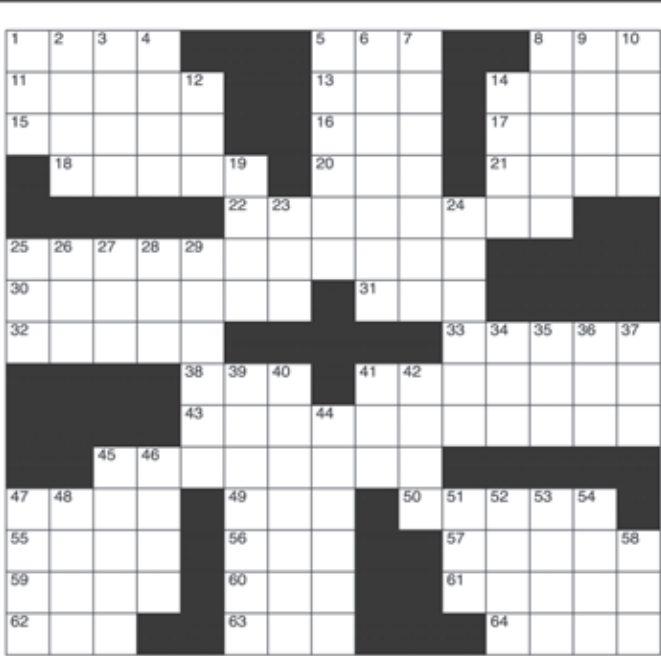
Fr. Clements, known affectionately as "Father Mike," left Immaculate Heart of Mary abruptly at the end of August, telling parishioners in correspondence published in the church newsletter only that he was taking a "step back from active ministry and to work on some personal and spiritual

struggles that I have been having."

Clements took over as administrator at Immaculate Heart of Mary in July 2015 after serving as pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Fitchburg.

Fr. Carlos Ruiz, who was ordained in 2015, was appointed administrator of Immaculate Heart of Mary in early September.

According to Delisle, "He is working closely with the parish bookkeeper, the finance committee, and the diocesan office of fiscal affairs to be sure that all current spending is appropriate."



#### CLUES ACROSS

1. Thick piece of something

5. Engine additive

8. Anticipated arrival time

11. French commune

13. Cigarette (slang)

14. Nobleman

15. Ghana capital

16. Adam's wife

17. Most popular student

18. Where you currently are

20. Increase motor speed

21. Queen of Sparta

22. North, South and Central

25. Churchgoer

30. Russian empress

31. Female daredevils organization

32. Relating to music

33. Female body part
38. Tyrion Lannister

41. Honored

43. Argentine footballer

45. Novices

47. Wings

49. Doctors' group

50. Packers' QB

55. Qatar capital

56. Unpleasant noise

57. Lovable elephant

59. Sleeping

60. Lute

61. Weight of a liter of hydrogen

62. Crimson

63. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

64. Employee plan

#### CLUES DOWN

1. Helps little firms

2. Type of curtain

3. Online stock exchange

4. Irish castle

5. Audio-system

6. Places to grab a drink

7. What's coming

8. Designed chairs

9. Stepped on

10. Genus of birds

12. Consume

14. Ancient Syrian city

19. Australian brewery

23. Not present

24. Necktie

25. What part of (abbr.)

26. Type of compound

27. Jogged quickly

28. Roth is one type

29. Mineral
34. Purpose

35. Financial term (abbr.)

36. Orange is the New Black character

37. Used to cut and shape wood

39. Bullfighter

40. Top of the line

41. Hill

42. Greek mountain

44. Angola's capital

45. Expressed pleasure

46. Fermented honey beverage

47. Month in the Jewish calendar

48. Frontal is one type

51. Basics

52. Uncommon

53. Broad kimono sashes

54. European defense organization

58. Box score term



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## SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

#### Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

#### Fun By The Numbers

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



# Police Log

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

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

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11**  
2:27-2:50 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:52 a.m.: ambulance (Mill Glen Road), transported; 9:20 a.m.: info/general (Russell Farm Road), info taken; 10:03 a.m.: accident (Spring Street), report taken; 11:10 a.m.: summons service (Joslin Road), unable to serve; 11:21 a.m.: summons service (Baldwinville Road), served; 11:27 a.m.: summons service (Mechanic Street), unable to serve; 12:20 p.m.: summons service (Glenallan Street), served; 12:30 p.m.: summon service (Pond Street), served; 12:36 p.m.: assist other agency (Spring Street), unable to serve; 2:13 p.m.: welfare check/general (Glenallan Street), advised officer; 2:17 p.m.: welfare check/child (Glenallan Street), spoken to; 2:22 p.m.: summons service (Central Street), served; 4:11 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Street), Francisco Castro-Cintron, 23, 91 Spruce Street, Winchendon, uninsured mv, op w/suspended registration, citation issued; 5:02 p.m.: animal complaint (Joslin Road), referred to ACO; 5:04 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 5:06 p.m.: mv stop (Front Street), verbal warning; 5:12 p.m.: accident (School Street), report taken; 5:53 p.m.: disturbance (Beech Street), services rendered; 6:42 p.m.: accident (School Street), report taken; 8:42 p.m. mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 10:58 p.m.: erratic operation (School Street), verbal warning.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12**  
12:24-3:40 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:36 a.m.: burglar alarm (Spring Street), canceled; 6:30 a.m.: traffic hazard (Spring Street), unable to locate; 8:00 a.m.: info/general (Goodrich Drive), spoken to; 8:18 a.m.: welfare check/child (Baldwinville State Road), unable to locate; 8:27 a.m.: smoke (Beech Street), fire extinguished; 9:07 a.m.: warrant of apprehension (Spring Street), transported; 9:22 a.m.: threats

(Glenallan Street), report taken; 9:43 a.m.: assist citizen (Beech Street), spoken to; 11:39 a.m.: ambulance (Park Street), transported; 1:50 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), report taken; 1:58 p.m.: property found (Duval Court), returned to owner; 2:12 p.m.: ambulance (Whitney Street), transported; 2:47 p.m.: fraud (Cedar Street), canceled; 3:37 pm.: mv stop (Spring Street), Amanda Uguccioni, 30, 129 Woodlawn Avenue, Gardner, op w/suspended registration, uninsured mv, citation issued; 4:47 p.m.: investigation (Goodrich Street), services rendered; 5:08 p.m.: DPW call (Mill Street), referred; 5:38 p.m.: accident (Jackson Avenue), report taken; 6:15 p.m.: Section 12 (Polly's Drive), assisted; 6:39 p.m.: mv stop (High Street), verbal warning; 7:26 p.m.: investigation (Mill Glen Road), no service necessary; 7:32 p.m.: mv stop (Baldwinville State Road), verbal warning; 7:50 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), written warning; 8:47 p.m.: suspicious mv (Benjamin Street), spoken to; 9:15 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), citation issued; 11:11 p.m.: burglar alarm (Glenallan Street), secure; 11:45 p.m.: suspicious mv (Alger Street), spoken to.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13**  
1:07-1:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:11 a.m.: parking violation (Walnut Street), ticket issued; 2:16 a.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 2:27 p.m.: parking violation (Mill Street), ticket issued; 2:37 a.m.: mv stop (Pond Street), verbal warning; 7:55 p.m.: animal complaint (Beachview Drive), referred to ACO; 9:19 a.m.: ambulance (Mill Street), transported; 9:48 a.m.: investigation (Memorial Drive), report taken; 11:00 a.m.: open door/window (Maple Street), secured bldg.; 1:28 p.m.: ambulance (Pine Street), transported; 3:54 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 4:40 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), written warning; 5:31 p.m.: suspicious/other (Front Street), report taken; 5:57 p.m.: large animal ice rescue (Conant Road, Athol), services rendered; 6:25 p.m.: suspicious mv (Elmwood Road), no service necessary; 6:32 p.m.: unwanted party (Mill Glen Road), referred to court; 6:50 p.m.: investigation (Baldwinville State Road), report taken; 7:11 p.m.: erratic operation (Spring Street), spoken to; 8:45 p.m.: warrant check (Mechanic Street), unable to locate; 8:53 p.m.: warrant check (Mill Street), unable to

locate; 8:59 p.m.: warrant check (Elm Street), unable to locate; 9:41 p.m.: mv stop (Summer Street), spoken to; 9:50 p.m.: warrant arrest (Franklin Street).

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14**  
12:01 a.m.: stolen mv (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 1:12 a.m.: investigation (Spring Street), services rendered; 1:14 a.m.: investigation (Spring Street), services rendered; 1:27 a.m.: parking violation (Oakland Street), ticket issued; 1:32 a.m.: parking violation (Poplar Street), ticket issued; 1:48 a.m.: parking violation (Elm Street), ticket issued; 1:54 a.m.: parking violation (Front Street), ticket issued; 2:04 a.m.: parking violation (Mill Street), ticket issued; 2:06 a.m.: animal complaint (River Street), unable to locate; 3:25 a.m.: ambulance (School Street), transported; 8:56 a.m.: animal complaint (Town Farm Road), referred to ACO; 9:02 a.m.: assault (Memorial Drive), assault & battery w/dangerous weapon, juvenile arrest; 9:32 a.m.: 911 hang up (Bayberry Circle), services rendered; 10:32 p.m.; 911 non-emergency (Royalston Road North), services rendered; 11:40 a.m.: traffic hazard (Main Street), gone on arrival; 11:59 a.m.: extra patrols, secure; 12:21 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 2:05 p.m.: summons service (Sibley Road), advised officer; 2:10 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), citation issued; 3:09 p.m.: unwanted party (Mill Glen Road), referred to court; 3:22 p.m.: ambulance (Pearl Street), transported; 4:19 p.m.: keep the peace (Cummings Road), assisted; 4:54 p.m.: accident (Route 2, Westminster), referred; 5:47 p.m.: noise complaint (Maple Street), spoken to; 6:34 p.m.: info/general (Green Street, Gardner), info taken; 7:16 p.m.: mv stop (Jackson Avenue), verbal warning; 8:24 p.m.: 911 hang up (Baldwinville Road), unfounded; 9:47 p.m.: intoxicated person (Spring Street), protective custody.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15**  
2:23-2:43 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:55 a.m.: parking violation (Hill Street), ticket issued; 3:00-3:09 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:01 a.m.: FD call (Central Street), services rendered; 10:55 a.m.: threats (Central Street), report taken; 11:26 a.m.: animal complaint (West Street), referred to ACO; 3:40 p.m.: ambulance (Ash Street), transported; 4:49 p.m.: Section 12 (Polly's Drive), services rendered; 5:15 p.m.: harassment (Beech Street), spo-

ken to; 5:17 p.m.: officer wanted (Front Street), spoken to; 7:15 p.m.: threats (Mill Glen Road), Dave A. Bond, 44, 13 Mill Glen Road, Winchendon, assault w/dangerous weapon, arrest; 10:13 p.m.: officer wanted (Spring Street), transport; 11:30 p.m.: dog bit (Sibley Road), report taken.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16**  
12:07-1:45 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:52 a.m.: ambulance (Center Lane), transported; 1:52 a.m.: parking violation (Front Street), ticket issued; 2:13-3:11 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:16 a.m.: suspicious mv (Front Street), info given; 7:40 a.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 8:01 a.m.: ambulance (Ipswich Drive), transported; 8:38 a.m.: suspicious mv (Elmwood Road), gone on arrival; 9:11 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Lincoln Avenue), unable to locate; 10:09 a.m.: suspicious mv (Franklin Street), gone on arrival; 10:36 a.m.: animal complaint (Metcalf Street), unable to locate; 11:40 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), written warning; 12:12 p.m.: noise complaint (Spring Street), spoken to; 1:07 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Glen Road), written warning; 1:56 p.m.: 911 non-emergency (Thomas Road, Rindge), referred; 5:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Pearl Street), services rendered; 5:54 p.m.: drug/narcotics violation (Central Street), unfounded; 7:15 p.m.: FD call (Central Street), services rendered; 9:22 p.m.: fire alarm (Front Street), services rendered; 11:00 p.m.: info/general (Central Street), report taken.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 17**  
12:55 a.m.: suspicious/other (Hyde Park Drive), advised officer; 1:38-2:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:35 a.m.: mv violations (Front Street), advised officer; 10:50 a.m.: harassment (Front Street), referred to court; 11:02 a.m.; ambulance (Ipswich Drive), false alarm; 11:43 a.m.; animal complaint (Lakeshore Drive), info taken; 12:10 p.m.: smoke (Fourth Street), services rendered; 12:14 p.m.: officer wanted (Beech Street), report taken; 1:54 p.m.: animal complaint (Belmont Avenue), referred to ACO; 2:06 p.m.: assist citizen (Elm Street); 5:18 p.m.: mv stop (Pond Street), verbal warning; 5:39 p.m.: DPW call (Central Street), referred; 5:53 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), citation issued; 6:38 p.m.: unwanted party (Goodrich Drive), report taken; 8:38 p.m.: officer wanted (Alger Street), report taken.

## Monty Tech announces honor roll

The following local students have earned a place on the honor roll for the first quarter at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical High School.

**ASHBURNHAM:** High Honors: Matthias Mele; Alice Russell; Olivia Scotland; Luke St. Pierre; Parker Stiles. Principal's List: Trinity Smith.  
**BALDWINVILLE:** High Honors: Derek Belliveau; McGuire Favreau; Nicholas Geyster; Donald Giardino; Madison Gould; Sadi Guthrie; Samantha Lovewell; Kayla McMaster; Benjamin Rusch; Cody Waterman; LisaMarie White. Honors: Colby Clarke; Peter Yeborah. Principal's List: Spencer McCrillis; Nicholette Roy.

**EAST TEMPLETON:** High Honors: Jordyn Lashua.

**GARDNER:** High Honors: Luas Acevedo; Frankie Alley; Raymond Bjelf; Kyle Boudreau; Isabel Bulger; Bailey Burpee; Anthony Claudio; Nora

Connors; Riley Conrad; Ronald Cormier; Ava Creney; Dylan Davis; Paige Dubey; Cassidy Eddy; Emily Fluet; Madison Grinkis; Erin Hartin; Theresa Hartin; Leah LeBlanc; Rylie LeBlanc-Guertin; Hunter Maillet; Domenic Masingo; Jillian Meattey; Michael Minns; Jacob Nano; Celine Pelton; Aimee Philbrick; Natalie Phim; Samuel Poulin; Alec Prentiss; Nathan Quinlan; Owaliid Rahman; Kelsey Robillard; Zachary Robillard; Adam Ross; Aiden Schnare; Connor Teague; Mayling Tedstone; Kyle Therrien; Mariah Valliere; Kezia Vazquez; Dustin Wazal. Honors: Lucas Ahearn; Abigail Barr; Carissa Beirholm; Kenneth Biswanger; Ryan Bornstein; Catherine Bosse; Isaac Bushee; Nicholas Caron; Kyle Chalmers; Scott Crank; Johnathan DeCosta; Sarah Dilling; Conrad Dougherty; Jordan Edwards; Robin Field; Izic French; Emma Gosselin;

Julian Graves; Rachel Gray; Austin Henderson; Madison Herr; Trentin Hursey; Jake LeBlanc; Noah Leger; Amber Levellie; Michael Michaud; Carissa Morgan; Isabella Nano; Michael Newton; Odalys Perez-Matias; Stephanie Philbrick; Joseph Salafia; Brian Sierra; Kayden Tibbetts; Camella Wallace; Abigail Wallace; Daniel Williams; Owen Woods. Principal's List: Valerie Guzman; Gabrielle Oliva.

**PHILLIPSTON:** High Honors: Kameryn Barrett; Brooke Couture; Sara Desgroseilliers; Julia Moisan; Cassandra Olson; Evelyn Olson; Jackson Pappoe; Lorenzo Pirri; Jakob Rickan; Tanya Valley. Honors: Jacob Couture; Logan Gemborys; Daniel Stellato. Principal's List: Kaleb Vautour.

**ROYALSTON:** High Honors: Anthony Divoll; Ashley Hadmack; Aliyah Neale; Alexandra Phelps. Honors: Taylah Neale; Elysia Rosado.  
**TEMPLETON:** High Honors:

Brandon Allread; James Allread; Rachel Burke; Nicole Cortiss; Erin Davila; Madelyn Gramolini; Jonathan Hall; Abigail Johnson; Rachel Laperriere; Mdison McCaie; Ryan Voyer; Logan Watkins; Tessa Wixon. Honors: Sebastian Alonzo; Caitlyn Anful; Isabelle Carbone; Jacob Clifford; Michaela Cullen; Nathan Ferrazz; Benjamin Gallant; Jasmin Guislain; Lillie Hall; Tara Johnson; Johnrich Mbwapmo; Tazia Newton. Principal's List: Dominic Hall; Desyre Miller; Jared Shepard.

**WINCHENDON:** High Honors: Andrew Arsenault; Gabriel Baczewski; Acacia Beuregard; Matthew Brundige; Alexander Burby; Jillian Bussiere; Christopher Carrescia; Amber Colcord; Isabelle Costa; Piper Dienst; Kiley Donahue; Tazshia Guitare; Greta Haas; Jessica Higbee; Chloe Higgins; Noah Johnson; Kyle Kane; Kayla Keating; Hannah LaGrassa;

Brandon Mackenzie; Connor McGuirk; Devon Melick; Madison Murphy; Jessica Nijadik; Chloe Noel; Abigail Parks; Jaeleen Rivera; Jace Salame; Isabell Scoville; Ashley Sevigny; Ian Shack; Emma Silvia; Hannah Sparks; Katelyn St. Pierre; Lindsey Tenney; Leyda Turbides; Lexis Vautour; Cassie Zadak. Honors: Samantha Adams; Colin Aker; Savannah Bouphe; Ariana Dietz; Brady Dufour; Nathan Gaulin; Emily Haley; Jillian LaBarge; Jasmine LaRose; Vanessa Lor; Deaclan Marmanidis; Abigail Russell; Kaitlyn Scott; Andrw Shagogue; Natalie St. Hilaire; Jewelianna Thompson; Faith Tousignant; Melissa Tousignant; Michael Winter. Principal's List: Natalie Dokulil; Camille Haas; Sara Hancock; Felipe Rodriguez; Jake Ross; Anna Salter; Paige Spivey; Megan Tavares; Caleb Van Hilo; Garrett Woodman; Brooke Young.



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## TACO PARTY



On Thursday the Extended Day Program at Toy Town was treated to a Taco Party to celebrate the end of Session I. The Winchendon School tutors from the homework program, treated the students to a taco buffet, games and a story 'Dragons Love Taco's'. They also presented poinsettia's to the teachers. The Toy Town students had a wonderful time. The Winchendon School students also sent Taco fixings to The Murdock Academy. Great Churros! The brochures for Session II at Memorial and Toy Town have been sent home with the new registration forms. The new session will begin Monday January 7, 2019.

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# OBITUARIES

## Louise E. (Leone) Caisse, 68

TEMPLETON — Louise E. (Leone) Caisse, age 68, of 37 Day Mill Drive, died peacefully Friday morning, December 14, 2018 in Life Care Center of Leominster, with her family at her side.

She was born in Fitchburg on October 30, 1950, daughter of the late Anthony and Constance (Bergeron) Leone and was a 1968 graduate of St. Bernard's High School in Fitchburg. She and her husband had lived in Winchendon from 1977 to 1995 and then lived in Gardner, Baldwinville and Templeton.

Louise worked as a secretary for the former MIRUSA in Leominster until her retirement in 2008. She previously worked as a secretary in the special education department for the town of Winchendon school system. She enjoyed reading, doing crossword puzzles and knitting. A favorite annual



event was a family trip to Old Orchard Beach, ME. Her greatest enjoyment was spending time with her family.

She leaves her husband of 48 years, Bruce E. Caisse; three daughters, Stephanie L. Gemme and her husband Matthew of Winchendon, Jennifer M. Joslin and her husband Christopher of Templeton and Melanie A. Murphy and her husband James Jr. of Winchendon; four grandchildren, Lindsey, Logan, Madison and Nolan; a brother Pompei "Sam" Leone and his wife Linda of Leominster and her best friend Judy Boynton of Sterling.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to nurses and doctors at Life Care Center.

Private funeral services will be held in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon.

Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery, Winchendon in the spring.

Memorial donations may be made to the charity of one's choice.

## Linda Carole (Roy) Eaton-Stearns

EDINBURG TX - Linda Carole (Roy) Eaton-Stearns, born in Worcester, MA on September 11, 1942, passed away on November 26, 2018.



Lynn was passionate about her membership in the Episcopal Church and was a devout member of the Daughters of the King, a lay order of women of prayer in the Episcopal Church. She was faithful in membership and service to Trinity Episcopal Church in Pharr, Texas and lived in communion with her Lord through regular reception of the Holy Eucharist. Much loved by the entire congregation, she will be interred in the columbarium at Trinity Episcopal Church immediately following a memorial service in her honor at 2:00 p.m. on December 8, 2018 at Trinity Church, 210

West Caffery, Pharr, Texas.

Living out her commitment to compassion, Lynn, as she was called by her close friends, truly cared about helping others and had a lifelong career in nursing and counseling. After her retirement, she went on to foster animals and be an active participant in her church in her hometown of Edinburg, Texas. A creative child of God, she loved doing crafts and her favorite thing to make was prayer beads to give to others.

She leaves behind her three children, her son William Lawrence of Port Isabel, TX, her daughter Lisa (Lawrence) Blount of Las Vegas, NV, and her son Wayne Lawrence of Winchendon, MA. She also leaves behind several grandchildren, great grandchildren, cousins, and very close friends.

Lynn is preceded in death by her parents, John Roy and Pauline (Breen) Roy of Worcester, MA and her sister, Alice M. Roy of McAllen, TX.

## Kerry M. Hanks, 58

WINCHENDON — Kerry M. Hanks, age 58, of 103 Gardner Road, died peacefully at home Monday, December 10, 2018.



He was born in Gardner on January 14, 1960, son of the late Richard D. and Nancy (LeBlanc) Hanks and was a graduate of Gardner High School. He and his wife moved to Winchendon in 1981.

Kerry worked as a carpenter for several years and later worked as a machinist for Ken Copley Enterprises in Hubbardston. An avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting, fishing and riding motorcycles. Kerry was a former mem-

ber of Royalston Fish and Gun Club and Gardner Fish and Gun Club.

He leaves his wife, Susan M. (Laraba) Hanks; two sons, Noah L. Hanks and his wife Rebecca of Methuen and Kyle M. Hanks and his girlfriend Jane Vallee of Gardner; five grandchildren, Violet Hanks, Autumn Hanks, Leilana Valley, Reese Hanks and Hailey Hanks; three brothers, Chris Hanks, Richard Hanks and Troy Hanks, all of Gardner and several nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles. He will be sorely missed by his family and many friends.

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

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

## Beverly Shriolen (Pyles) Callahan, 62

WINCHENDON — Beverly Shirolene (Pyles) Callahan, age 62, of 14 Walnut St., died peacefully in her home Friday afternoon, Dec. 14, 2018, with her family by her side. She was the beloved wife of John W. Callahan for 42 years.

She was born in Washington DC on Feb. 13, 1956, daughter of Ouida S. (Vance) Pyles and the late Homer R. Pyles of Maryland and was a graduate of Crossland High School in Temple Hills, MD, class of 1974. She and her husband John married on Sept. 5, 1976, and lived in Cranston, RI before moving to Winchendon in 1984. In 1988, they moved to Ashburnham before returning to Winchendon in 2006.



Beverly was a member of Cornerstone Church Assembly of God since 1984. She enjoyed going to bible study, spending time with friends and doing arts and crafts. Her greatest enjoyment came from spending time with her husband, children and grandchildren.

She leaves her husband, John W. Callahan; her mother, Shirley (Ouida) Pyles; her mother-in-law, Carmella A. Callahan; her aunt Barbara Scallan; her three children, John W. Callahan III of Leominster, Lisa Marie Bastarache and her husband Duane of Ashburnham, Christopher J. Callahan and his wife

Kelly of Minneapolis, MN, and daughter-in-law Josiane Callahan of Leominster; five grandchildren, Haley Bastarache of Lunenburg, Katelyn Bastarache of Ashburnham, JJ (John) W. Callahan IV of Leominster, and Kaydan and Dylan Callahan of Minnesota; two sisters, Charlotte Sigal of Florida, and Bobbi Cellon of Tennessee; three brothers, James Ray Pyles of Illinois, Wayne R. Pyles and his wife Rose of Maryland, and Charles (Chaz) L. Pyles of Virginia; her brother and sisters-in-law, Steven A. Callahan and his wife Deborah of Cranston, RI, Glenn T. Callahan and his fiancé Karen of Harvard, Deborah A. Lemay and her husband Normand (Ace) of West Greenwich, RI, and Patricia A. Giarrusso and her husband Louie of Cranston, RI; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A private family funeral service will be held in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central St., Winchendon.

Burial will follow in Notre Dame Cemetery, Gardner.

A Celebration of Life will be held Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Hidden Hills Function Hall, 18 Lisa Drive, Rindge, NH.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Beverly's name to:

[https://www.gofundme.com/team-marshall-helping-fight-cancer?pc\\_code=fb\\_co\\_postupdate\\_a&rcid=e7eda0004f25486bba6273abe385f0cc](https://www.gofundme.com/team-marshall-helping-fight-cancer?pc_code=fb_co_postupdate_a&rcid=e7eda0004f25486bba6273abe385f0cc)

## David H. Morin, 76

FITCHBURG — David H. Morin, age 76 of Fitchburg died Monday, December 3, 2018 at home after an illness.



David was born in Winchendon August 19, 1942 son of Henry J. and Jeanette M (Beauvais) Morin and lived many years in Fitchburg. He was a 1960 graduate of Fitchburg High School and a member of St. Joseph Church. For many years David was a caretaker at the Congregation Agudat Achim in Leominster. Before this he had worked for several years as a delivery person for Prime Tobacco Co of Fitchburg. David served in the U.S. Army from 1960 until 1967.

He is survived by his brother Paul

Morin and his wife Susan of Kennesaw Georgia, his sister Norma Schultz and her husband William of Leominster, his longtime friend Anna May Foley and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his two sons Steven and Ronald Morin.

A Funeral Mass will be held for David on Thursday December 6, 2018 at 10:30am in St. Joseph Church, 49 Woodland St., Fitchburg. Private burial will be in Calvary Cemetery, Winchendon. There are no calling hours.

Services are under the direction of Stephen R. Moorcroft, Lavery, Chartrand and Alario Funeral Home Fitchburg.



## Bernard L. Connors, 70



WINCHENDON — Bernard L. Connors, age 70, of 306 Central St., died Monday, Dec. 10, 2018 in Heywood Hospital, Gardner.

He was born in Winchendon on January 20, 1948 and attended Winchendon schools. He proudly served his country as a member of the United States Navy during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Vietnam Service medal with Bronze Star and National Defense Service

medal. He was a member of Eugene M. Connor Post #193 American Legion.

Bernie had worked as a drywaller in the area for many years.

He leaves a sister, Diana M. LaFalam and her husband David of Camp Verde, AZ; two aunts, Irene Chaisson of Walpole and Betty Allaire of Winchendon; three nieces and nephews and several cousins.

Military funeral services, with burial in Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, will be held in the spring.

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

# Creative writing takes to the stage

POETRY  
continued from page A2

Nearing the end of their half-year course in creative writing, Anna Cooley's students took their talents to the Murdock high school stage last week, combining original scripts with entertaining acting skills including what sometimes felt like the proverbial night at the Improv.

"I gave them some general ideas," acknowledged Cooley, in order to assure "they wouldn't be overwhelmed" with suggestions but in the end, the readings came from the kids on stage.

The first performance was a one act 'Career Day' skit done by Robyn Ufema, Nicole Lemire, Kipper Prouty and Jaelynn Stetson which included a lament

of life as a one-time Russian lion taming career which didn't work out. A protagonist found themselves working at a Petco store. Another storyline revolved around a car mechanic's travails, another about a mind-reading character

'Catfish Gone Wrong' was written and performed by Kim Anderson, Ari Dibble, Britney Jackson, Chloe Lawrence and Alexis Lancey, revolving around as it turned out, siblings 'cat-fishing' each other including the age-appropriate usage of 'like' seemingly every other word, which was of course the comedic point, though part of the skit included an ode to not eating

meat.

With units in non-fiction and poetry preceding the one which led to the stage in front of an audience comprised of fellow students and English teachers, last week's performance was for all intents and purposes the culmination of the class.

"They really did" get into it, marveled Cooley, attributing the enthusiasm at least in part to the leeway students had in developing their own work.

Making it all even more impressive is the fact students had all of four days to put the projects together. "I'll probably add some more days" next year, Cooley reflected.

the horizon, like a streak of phosphors  
sliding across a dark screen:  
EKG's mosquito whine at life's end.

Give me the lively jerks and twitches  
that a rocky bluff makes against an ocean sky,  
or a ridgeline of trees' tufted profile—  
as reassuring to the eye  
as heartbeat rhythms to the ear:  
*Come walk here,* invites the hillside.  
*The edge is thrilling,* calls the promontory.

Even treeless prairies, shaped by the long-ago  
press of a glacier's frigid tongue,  
are not cold to the eye  
but warm as the breath of life—  
Grasses ride waves of rolling earth  
like whales emerging from the sea  
to arc, then nose down below:  
Slow but not still.  
Quiet but for their huge breathing.



HONOR  
continued from page A1

Gemme, Britney Jackson, Timothy Jimn, Erica Lashua, Chloe Lawrence, Nicole Lemire, Juliana Nolin, Ashley Signa, Emily Smith, Lindsey Smith, Cassidy Stadtfeld and Cassandra Wightman.

New inductees: Back row left to right: Ryan Thira, Jack Polcari, Julio Rodriguez, Timmy Quinn; Front row: Abigail Leahey, Yang Yi Chen, Sirena Caputi, Nicole Becotte, Briahna Bouchard



**IT'S GOING DOWN!**  
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# SPORTS

## And then 2018

Your guess is as good as and probably better than mine when it comes to, yes, guessing who'll emerge as Super Bowl champion. We'll see. That's for February. Los Angeles v Los Angeles? KC v New Orleans? Da Bears v New England, a rematch from 30-plus years ago and forgettable up here? I have no idea. Again, we'll see. Today's paper is our last of 2018. Next week we'll publish our annual pictorial issue and return to a regular schedule January 4.

So, 2018. If you're a New England sports fan the story of the year was the 108-win Red Sox winning the World Series for the fourth time since 2004, and the fourth as well since 1918 (Truth is truth). Boston's been by far the most successful sports city of the 21st century. Hopefully you guys are reveling in it.

I suppose the positive sports story of the year depends on your taste and geography. In Philadelphia, it was the

Eagles winning their first Super Bowl and first NFL title since 1960, followed closely by another Villanova title. In DC it was the Caps first Stanley Cup. In Oakland, it was the Warriors winning again and the A's run to the playoffs.

For me, given that my favorite athletes have four legs, you'd think it would be the 13th Triple Crown in racing history. It's not. Not even close. I was in fact rooting against the undefeated Justify when he reached the Belmont Stakes on the doorstep of immortality. I had nothing against the colt so it'd be more accurate to say I was rooting against his mega rich owners who had made it clear he wasn't ever going to run again if he won the Belmont. Okay, there were stories about his \$75 mil-



TALKING SPORTS  
JERRY CARTON

lion syndication but these owners are staggeringly wealthy. They were choosing greed over what was in the best interests of the sport they claimed to love so much. Bah. Who knows how good Justify was? He never ran against older horses or in open company at all. Anyway, my annoyance with his owners guaranteed his Triple Crown was not for me the sports story of the year.

Truth be told, the only good thing that really jumped out at me was Tiger Woods comeback, culminating in his season-ending win at the Tour Championship. Even more stirring was his second place finish at the PGA when the masses made noises reminiscent of the late '90s and early '00s when Tiger was dominant. It has often been said there is no sound in sports quite like the

"Tiger Roar " and I believe that.

Beyond Tiger, nothing moved me much aside from the occasional horse here and there but even those weren't burned into my memory. There are not many racing years I can say are desultory but 2018 certainly has been.

I'm from Baltimore. The O's lost 115 games. The Ravens unveiled a new, exciting QB but Lamar Jackson's run-first style is obviously unsustainable long term. Just ask his back up, RG3. There was an avoidable death in the Maryland football program.

Note where I emphasized positive sports stories. The unquestioned largest national overall story was the unraveling of the horrific things going on inside USA Gymnastics. Larry Nasser turned out to be a predatory monster. People knew and yet said nothing. Nothing. Despicable. May they all rot in hell. See you January 4.

## Last minute Blue Devil gifts still available

Last minute gifts still available for your Murdock student, parent, alumnus, teacher, fan, supporter! Sweatshirts and Blue Devil discount cards available by calling/texting Sue at 978-257-5671.

Congratulations to Sirena Caputi, Yang Yi Chen, Timmy Quinn, Ryan Thira, Nicole Becotte, Briahna Bouchard, Abigail Leahey, Jack Polcari and Julio Rodriguez, who were recently inducted into the National Honor Society!

The NHS participated in the Wreaths Across America at Veterans Cemetery last Friday. Wreaths were placed

on each gravesite in honor and remembrance of those who have served our country.

The boys' varsity basketball team has won their first two games! JV is 1-1. Good job boys! Both teams are back in action tonight at Murdock. JV game is at 5:30, Varsity at 7:00. They will also be playing in a tournament at Keene State University December 27, 28 and 29. Good Luck!

Wow!! What a track meet on December 16<sup>th</sup>! Congratulations to all the athletes and especially to the following who have qualified



VIEWS FROM THE TOWERS  
SUE POLCARI

for states: Briahna Bouchard and Alexia Allard (long jump), Adam Digman (55 hurdles), Alexia Allard (55 hurdles), Lilly Digman (600 meter), Richard Swanson (600 meter), Adam Digman, Ryan Thira and Justin Thira (Long Jump). Both the boys and girls 4x4

relay teams also qualified for states. The girls 4x4 relay team consists of Alexia Allard, Briahna Bouchard, Paige Demanche and Lilly Digman. The boys 4x4 relay team (Adam Digman, Ryan Thira, Richard Swanson and Logan Huff) won the meet and was .03 seconds short of the school record. Paige Demanche tied the school record in the high jump.

Upcoming Events:  
Tonight, Dec. 21: Middle School Boys basketball @ Emerson Elementary School; Boys JV/Varsity Basketball at 5:30/7:00

Saturday, Dec. 22: Indoor Track MSTCA Invitational @ Reggie Lewis Center; Ice Hockey at 5:30 @ Gardner Veterans Skating Rink  
Thursday-Saturday, Dec 27-29: Boys Varsity Basketball Tournament @ Keene State College  
Friday, Dec. 29: Ice Hockey at 5:30 @ Gardner Veterans Skating Rink

Winter Break begins today with classes resuming Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Enjoy!

## Plants for every room of your home

Gardeners know the benefits of digging in the soil. It elevates a person's mood, improves mental and physical well-being and the outcome is always good – added beauty or tasty nutritional food. But many of us are stuck indoors for the winter, have a lack of space to garden outdoors or just can't get enough of this healthful activity. Adding greenery indoors expands our gardening opportunities and provides the many benefits of living with and tending plants.

Let's start with the kitchen. Boost the flavor and nutrition of winter meals by growing leafy greens and herbs in a sunny window or under a cabinet with the help of a Growbar LED light fixture. Start plants from seeds or purchase transplants to grow indoors. Place your indoor kitchen garden in a brightly lit location, free of cold drafts and with easy access to harvest and use. Then enlist the whole family and even your guests into harvesting greens for their salad and

herbs to season their meals. This is sure to turn family and friend gatherings into unique and memorable experiences.

Include plants in your home or work office. Greenery helps reduce stress even when working at your desk or tackling homework at the end of a long day. Set a few plants on or near your desk or other workspace. And don't let a lack of light stop you from growing a bit of green stress relief. Stylish energy efficient full spectrum plant lights, like the Felt Pendant Grow Light (modsprout.com), fit any décor, direct light where it is needed and promote healthy plant growth.

Take advantage of your bathroom's high humidity. Grow ferns, orchids, bromeliads and other humidity-loving plants in this space. Consider these and other low light plants like cast iron, pothos and philodendron if natural light is limited. Imagine stepping out of the shower into a mini tropical zone. What a nice way to ease into your day.

Get a good night's sleep with a bit of homegrown aromatherapy in the bedroom. Grow lavender, rosemary, chamomile and other soothing herbs in your bedroom in front of a sunny window, on a shelf or other naturally or artificially lit, bright location. Just be sure to give the plants a pet to release their fragrance into the air before crawling into bed for a long restful sleep.

Bring the garden to your living room. Create your own miniature tropical, moss or desert garden in a terrarium that serves as a focal point in any living space or centerpiece on the dining room table. Use an open terrarium for succulents and other plants that need airflow, lower humidity and space to grow. Enlist closed systems for moss and tropical plants that benefit from the high humidity and condensation that provides continual watering. Select systems like the Botanica Biodome that minimize maintenance and provide easy access for tending

mini eco-systems.

Now's a great time to consider rethinking your home décor to include greenery in every space. You and your family will enjoy improved air quality, elevated moods, a reduction in stress and the many other benefits plants provide.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books and host of The Great Courses' How to Grow Anything DVD series. Her website, [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com), offers gardening tips and videos.



Photo courtesy of Modern Sprout

Grow herbs or other leafy greens indoors under a Growbar LED light fixture or near a sunny window.



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Sarah Galvin

Athol Savings Bank announces the promotion of Sarah Galvin to senior vice president of commercial lending.

“Sarah has demonstrated strong leadership at Athol Savings Bank,” said Daniel Zona, president and CEO. “We’re confident in Sarah’s abilities to lead the bank successfully and pleased to award her with this promotion.” Galvin will be responsible for proactively establishing new commercial lending relationships and servicing an existing portfolio in order to sell the bank’s products to meet

established loan quality and origination goals. Galvin joined the bank in April, has over 20 years of commercial lending experience and resides in Ashburnham. Before joining Athol Savings Bank, she was a senior vice president at Fidelity Bank. Previously she has held a variety of leadership positions within lending at Enterprise Bank & Trust Company, Clinton Savings Bank, Citizens

Bank and Commerce Bank & Trust. Galvin has an MBA from Anna Maria College and a bachelor’s degree from Fitchburg State. She also attended the Massachusetts Bankers School of Commercial Lending and Advanced School of Commercial Lending at Babson College. Additionally Galvin is a graduate of the American Bankers Association Commercial Lending School.

Athol Savings Bank, with its headquarters in Athol, is a 151 year old, full-service mutual savings bank and maintains an online presence via its mobile app or at [www.atholsb.com](http://www.atholsb.com). The bank has seven branches located in the communities of Ashburnham, Athol, Baldwinville, Barre, Gardner and Winchendon.

# MWCC nursing students volunteer 1,528 hours

GARDNER — Forty Mount Wachusett Community College practical nursing students recently completed 1,528 volunteer hours as part of their semester-long service learning projects with area nonprofits. “These projects are a win-win with our students getting experience out in the field while assisting area nonprofits,” said Shelley Errington Nicholson, the director of the Brewer Center for Civic Learning and Community Engagement at MWCC. As part of their final semester, the practical nursing students took a service learning class placing them with nonprofit organizations. This work allows students to hone skills such as teamwork and professionalism in addition to making a difference in the community. The organizations that the students worked with were Growing Places, the Leominster Senior Center, and AIDS Project Worcester. MWCC’s Practical Nursing Certificate provides short-term education leading to a rewarding healthcare career. A licensed practical nurse (LPN) participates in direct and indirect nursing



Courtesy Photo

Mount Wachusett Community College practical nursing students line up after a presentation of their volunteer activities that resulted in 1,528 volunteer hours.

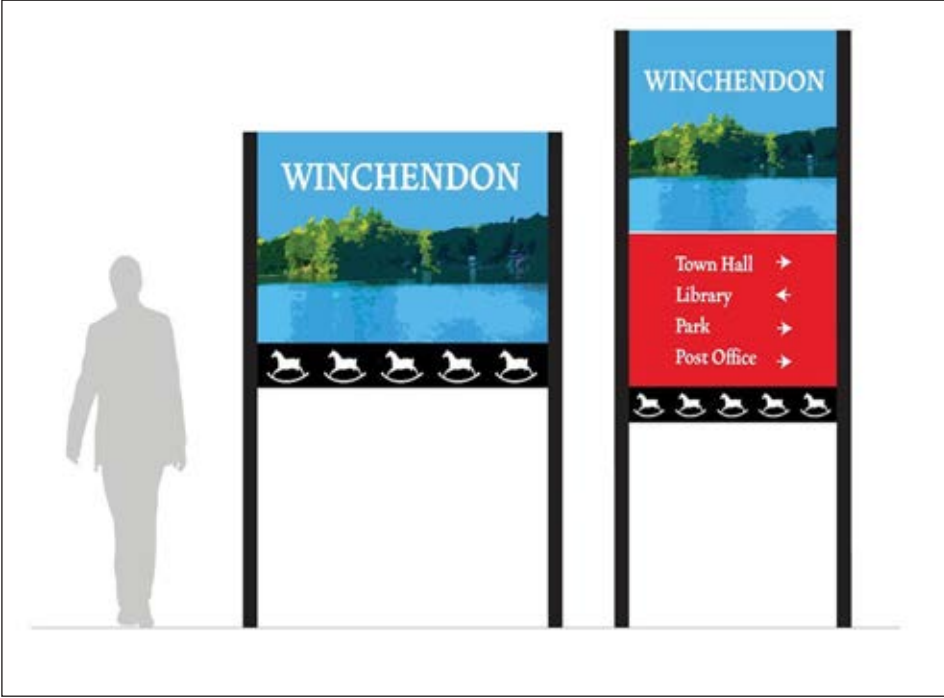
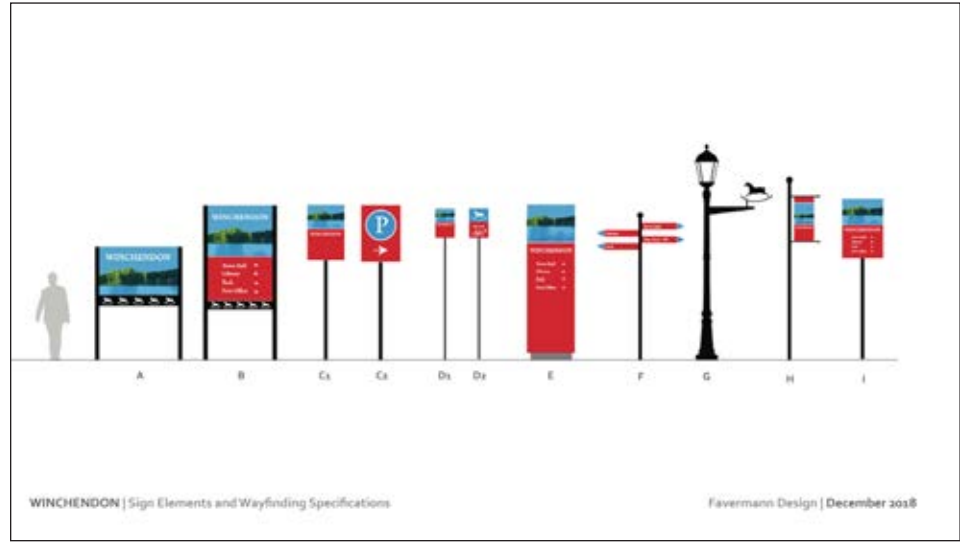
care, health maintenance, teaching, counseling, collaborative planning, and rehabilitation. LPNs work under the direction of registered nurses, physicians, and dentists. The college credits earned in this program may be applied toward a nursing degree and prepare students to take their LPN examination. â

## WAYFINDING

continued from page A1

will include consideration to amend zoning that, at present, prohibits off site signage for commercial properties and businesses. We have businesses that could take advantage of the signage plan. An example; Playaway Lanes

and Beauvais Insurance are located off Central Street but could greatly benefit from having a sign on Central.” Development of a wayfinding plan fits in with the Downtown Winchendon Revitalization Strategy developed in 2014 by UMass graduate students with funding from the town’s Redevelopment Authority.



Courtesy graphic.

The signage as recommended

# LEGALS

## 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 Scott M. Hogan to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting solely as a nominee for Ross Mortgage Company, Inc., dated January 23, 2009 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 43728, Page 132 (the “Mortgage”) as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated March 25, 2016 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 55355, Page 184, of which mortgage Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, doing business as Christiana Trust, not in its individual capacity, but solely as trustee for BCAT 2014-4TT is the present holder by assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. to Bank of America, N.A., Successor by merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP FKA Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP dated October 5, 2011 recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 48068, Page 173; assignment from Bank of America, N.A., Successor by merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP, FKA Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development dated December 8, 2014 recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53736, Page 255; assignment from Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by Rushmore Loan Management Services, LLC, its Attorney in Fact to GCAT 2014-4, LLC

dated January 28, 2015 recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53750, Page 237 and assignment from GCAT 2014-4, LLC to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB doing business as Christiana Trust, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for BCAT 2014-4TT dated July 10, 2015 recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54055, Page 272, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 16 Willoughby Avenue, Winchendon, MA 01475 will be sold at a Public Auction at 12:00 PM on January 17, 2019, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: Lots 70-71-72-73 situated on the westerly side of Willoughby Avenue in Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts shown on a plan entitled “North End Heights, Winchendon, Mass owned by Fred C. Becker, 277 Broadway, New York City, surveyed by Geo. Whitney, drawn by A. P. Trufant, September 1908” which plan is recorded in Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 15, Plan 48. Subject to and together with a perpetual easement, from time to time, for all purposes and uses incidental thereto, to enter and re-enter in order to install, re-install, construct, forever maintain, repair, remove, replace, inspect and abandon in place, a sewer line, of sufficient size, in order to connect sewer lines serving improvements to be erected upon grantor’s (sic) other

land into the existing sewer line of the Town of Winchendon located on Woodlawn Avenue, to be located in a strip of land twenty-five (25) feet wide and one hundred (100) feet long, on Lot 74 shown on said plan recorded in Plan Book 15, Plan 48. Subject to in each instance of entry, installation, reinstallation, construction maintenance, repair, removal, replacement, inspection or abandonment of the said sewer line, the surface of the easement area shall be put back into the condition that it was in immediately prior to the commencement of the work. Notwithstanding the language in clause 24 of this mortgage, the mortgagors intend for their homestead to remain in effect as allowed by law, except that it is hereby subordinated to the interests of the mortgagee. Said homestead is recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 42754, Page 250. Meaning and intending to describe and convey the same premises conveyed by Deed recorded with said Registry in Book 42754, Page 238. The mortgaged premises to be sold have been partially released by a partial release of mortgage recorded in said registry of deeds in Book 49942 Page 350. For mortgagor’s title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42754, Page 238. 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. Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, doing business as Christiana Trust, not in its individual capacity, but solely as trustee for BCAT 2014-4TT Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Hogan, Scott M., 17-028753 December 14, 2018 December 21, 2018 December 28, 2018



# Glory at Immaculate Heart of Mary



Greg Vine photos

The Greater Gardner Community Choir presented a concert entitled "A Season of Carols" Sunday afternoon at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Winchendon. A total of 18 songs were presented to an appreciative audience.



The Greater Gardner Community Choir.



Happy Holidays  
from our family  
to yours!

We'd like to take this  
time to thank you for  
your business and we  
hope to serve you in  
2019!

**Holiday Schedule:**  
Dec 24: Open 7am to 2pm  
Dec 25: Closed  
Dec 31: Open 7am to 2pm  
Jan 1: Closed



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ANDOVER, NH 603.735.5544	SUNAPEE, NH 603.763.9070	PEMBROKE, NH 603.224.7483	MOULTONBOROUGH, NH 603.253.4404	



Fr. Carlos Ruiz of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church welcomes the audience to Sunday's concert by the Greater Gardner Community Choir.

●●● REGULAR STORE HOURS: MONDAY THRU THURSDAY 9 AM TO 9 PM ● FRIDAY & SATURDAY 9 AM TO 10 PM ● SUNDAY 10 AM TO 6 PM ●●●



376 MAIN STREET - ROUTE 20,  
STURBRIDGE, MA ☎ 508.347.2231

207 SWANSEA MALL DRIVE,  
SWANSEA, MA ☎ 508.672.8400

628 WASHINGTON STREET  
S. ATTLEBORO, MA ☎ 508.399.5860

942 PROVIDENCE HIGHWAY  
NORWOOD, MA ☎ 781.762.0539

WINE	Woodbridge 1.5 all varieties.....	\$9.98 net	Louis Martini Sonoma Cabernet.....	\$11.98 net
	(save an additional \$10 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)		(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)	
	Yellowtail 1.5 all varieties (save an additional.....	\$8.98 net	Columbia Crest H-3 Cabernet.....	\$11.98 net
	(\$12 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)		(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)	
	Lindemans 1.5 all varieties.....	\$8.98 net	Ch Ste Michelle Chardonnay or Riesling.....	\$7.98 net
	(save an additional \$12 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)		(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)	
	Beringer California Collection 1.5 all varieties.....	\$7.98 net	Columbia Crest Grand Estates.....	\$7.98 net
	(save an additional \$12 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)		(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)	
SPIRITS	Cavit 1.5 all varieties.....	\$9.98 net	Ecco Domani Pinot Grigio.....	\$8.98 net
	(save an additional \$12 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)		(save an additional \$24 per case with Mail-in-Rebate)	
	Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc.....	\$11.98 net	Alamos Malbec.....	\$8.98 net
	Mark West Pinot Noir.....	\$7.98 net	(save an additional \$24 per case after Mail-in-Rebate)	
	Black Box 3.0 liter all varieties.....	\$15.98 net	Ruffino Prosecco.....	\$9.98 net
	(save an additional \$3 with Mail-in-Rebate)		(save an additional \$3 with Mail-in-Rebate)	
	J Lohr Chardonnay.....	\$8.98 net	J Lohr Seven Oaks Cabernet.....	\$11.98 net
	Tito's Vodka 1.75 liter.....	\$27.99	Dewar's 12 Year Old 1.75 liter.....	\$44.99
	Absolut Vodka 1.75 liter.....	\$24.99	(save an additional \$5 after Mail-in-Rebate)	
	Stolichnaya Premium Vodka all flavors 1.75 liter.....	\$24.99	Jim Beam White Label 1.75 liter.....	\$24.99
	(save an additional \$7 after Mail-in-Rebate)		(save an additional \$7 after Mail-in-Rebate)	
	Bombay Sapphire Gin 1.75 liter.....	\$32.99	Woodford Reserve 1.75 liter.....	\$59.99
	(save an additional \$5 after Mail-in-Rebate)		Jack Daniels Black, Honey, or Fire 1.75 liter.....	\$39.99
	Hendrick's Gin 1.75 liter.....	\$52.99	Evan Williams Bourbon 1.75 liter.....	\$21.99
	Jose Cuervo Silver or Gold 1.75 liter.....	\$29.99	Fireball Whiskey 1.75 liter.....	\$24.99
	Admiral Nelson Spiced Rum 70 proof 1.75 liter.....	\$14.99	Courvoisier VS 1.75 liter.....	\$49.99
	Bacardi Silver, Gold, Black, or Flavored Rums 1.75 liter.....	\$19.99	Disaronno Amaretto 1.75 liter.....	\$39.99
	(save an additional \$5 after Mail-in-Rebate)		St. Brendan's Irish Cream 1.75 liter.....	\$19.99
	Kahlua 1.75 liter.....	\$29.99	(save an additional \$8 after Mail-in-Rebate)	
	Bushmills Irish Whiskey 1.75 liter.....	\$31.99		

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SALE: DEC 1-31, 2018