

Tower clock gaining time with team effort

BY KEITH KENT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Just as the old says goes even a broken clock is right two times a day.

But with the help of Templeton’s Brian Tanguay and Winchendon’s own Art Amenta, teamed up to examine the workings of the Old Murdock tower clock Nov. 20 to get the Winchendon time keeping gem working properly again.

The wind was cold and hallowing, some old cracks high above the senior center whistling, but have no doubt about the dedication, and concentration displayed by both.

Amenta and Tanguay looked over every single gear and pulley, the cables, heavy stacks of counter weights and more. Even the support structures around the cable shafts all the way up to the bell and clock faces above, determining which has been good for over 130 years, can and will be good for many more.

Working diligently over the last two weeks before the weather quickly becomes even colder, Amenta made strides. The tower clock and its massive bell rings now rings proudly again, with the bell striking precisely on the hour, each and every hour of the day.

Armenta said, “What I discovered is that the pulleys were dry, and

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Photo by Keith Kent

Art Armenta and Brian Tanguay examine gears and more, looking for causes of resistance.

Town writes off quarter-mil in ambulance fees

BY KEITH KENT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

At their meeting Monday night, Winchendon selectmen waved good bye to nearly a quarter-million dollars owed to the town in back-due ambulance fees. A memo provided to the board by Fire Chief Tom Smith indicated the fire department’s billing agency, Coastal Medical Billing, asked that the bills be written off because they were for ambulance calls that occurred more than five years ago and thus cannot be sent to collection. Smith told the board some of the debt dates back as far as 2006.

The total amount the town will lose out on comes to \$249,745.52.

“This is more of a house-keeping matter to clean up the amounts that are basically dead-ended accounts,” said Smith. “There are over 80 of them where the parties are deceased. In my opinion, we need to write it off to get it off the financial books.”

“Just to reassure the board,” said Town Manager Keith Hickey, “if you do agree to write off these old ambu-

lance bills, over the last few years our auditor and town accountant have been reserving for bad debt, so to speak. So, the two-hundred-some-odd-thousand dollars the chief is suggesting be written off will not impact our financial condition at the end of FY18.”

In response to a question from board member Audrey LaBrie, Smith said efforts are being made to ensure the fire department and/or billing company get current addresses for patients transported to the hospital.

“Unfortunately, with the condition of some of the patients, we honestly don’t always take the time to ask them for an address,” said Smith. “Patient care has to be our first priority. Our billing company, Coastal, does a great job working with the local hospitals. We get a copy of a hospital face sheet for every patient, so the hospital also tries to get an address. They have a little more time sometimes.”

“And sometimes the patient may be a homeless per-

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Memorial School holds first book fundraiser



Keith Kent photo

Memorial School students gather for a book reading by Memorial para-educator Kelly Williams at Barnes & Nobel of Leominster.

BY KEITH KENT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

LEOMINSTER — As part of a first time experimental fundraiser, Memorial Elementary School and Principal Michelle Atter joined with Barnes and Noble of Leominster, accepting an invitation to test the waters for a book sale fundraiser and raise money for the purchase of books for school.

The event took place Nov. 9, until the store’s closing. Atter, with para-educator Kelly

Williams, and teachers Cheryl Jordan and Katrina Fleming, took turns reading stories in the children’s section of the book store to both Memorial School students and others who also attended.

In addition, Sue Sudhalter, author of the children’s book “YOU ARE A VOICE,” was on hand supporting the worthwhile cause, talking to parents, greeting children, and even signing autographed copies of her book which were available. Sudhalter is additional-

ly a member of the Twin City Toastmasters of Fitchburg and Leominster, expressed the value of children not only learning they have a voice, but helping young children learn how to communicate their messages though becoming comfortable talking to others.

Sudhalter said, “I was very shy growing up, and I did not do well standing up in classes and having to recite things. I was going to originally write for adults about getting your voice

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IN EFFECT TODAY

Winchendon’s winter overnight parking ban goes into effect today, December 1. Parking on the side of town streets is prohibited between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. Violators could face a \$25 fine. In the case of a police or snow emergency, violators could face a \$50 fine and costs associated with having their vehicle towed. The overnight parking ban is in effect until April 15.

Tournament of Plays this weekend

The annual Tournament of Plays at Murdock High School takes place this weekend at the school auditorium. Plays will be performed by the freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior classes on Friday and Saturday beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 and may be bought from cast members or play directors. Tickets are also available at the door. Proceeds benefit the treasury of each class.

Plays that will be performed this weekend include:

Class of 2018: The Young and the Senseless, directed by Ms. Kelly Fitzpatrick and Mr. Peter Birney. Cast members: Austin Fontaine, Emily Kibard-Pervier, Joe LaFord, Alex Marshall, Molly Murphy, Shyla Palmer, Hannah Turner, and Sean Wilson. Dramatic music: Michaela Benedict. Lights: Faith Huff.

Class Of 2019: Most Likely To..., directed by Mr. Stephen Brown. Cast and crew: Izaria Alcantara, Elissa Boucher,

Yang Yi Chen, Kaileen Dibble, Jocelyn Garner, Lindsey Gemme, Lily Hunt, Britney Jackson, Chloe Lawrence, Nicole Lemire, Jack Newbrough, Maria Polcari, Tammy Quinn, Phebe Shippy, Ashley Signa, Emily Smith, Lindsey Smith, and Robyn Ufema.

Class of 2020: Hard Candy, directed by Mr. Jon Brien and Ms. Judi Moriarity. Cast: Owen Benedict, Zach Cardarelli, Patrick Cortis, Lyana LaFord, James Murdock, Brandon Newbrough, Juliana Nolin, Cassidy Stadtfeld, and Breanna St. Pierre. Lights: Justin Manuel.

Class of 2021: Squad Goals, directed by Ms. Kristi Iannacone. Cast: Vivian Beauvais, Nicole Becotte, Allie Cobiski, Arianna Dibble, Becca Graves, Riley Kimball, Abby Leahey, Cam Monette, Jack Polcari, and Justin Thira. Lights/Sound: Brianna Bouchard.

Pot shop debates roll on

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

There aren’t going to be any marijuana dispensaries in Winchendon, that question having been settled some time ago when potential investors bypassed the town as a cultivating site and the fate of such a plant in Westminster is still hanging in the balance but

statewide, some communities are enthused at the opportunity. Take Brewster. Regulate Cape Cod, the organization pushing for the town to green-light a dispensary argues one pot shop in the resort town would immediately become Brewster’s second largest taxpayer, eclipsed only by the

Ocean Edge property.

Ironically, in last year’s referendum, a majority of Brewster residents voted against legislation, but a recent town meeting rejected the rejection. That happened in Amesbury and Marshfield as well. What changed?

Probably money. Earlier this year, state lawmakers raised

the maximum local option pot sales tax from two-percent to three percent and even allowed municipalities to gain another three-percent of sales through agreements with local retailers.

Boston Mayor Marty Walsh (D) personally opposed the legislation but said he’s open to marijuana shops in the city,

a stance shared by Gardner Mayor Mark Hawke.

Conversely, Winchester’s Board of Selectmen followed voters’ preference by deciding to forego any gain in revenue because “we were mostly concerned with the edibles, those getting into the hands of

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HOLIDAY & CRAFT FAIR
On Saturday, Dec. 2 at Broadview Assisted Living, 547 Central St. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Featuring local vendors and crafters. Santa visits 11:30-2 p.m.; kids can make crafts 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information call (978) 297-2333.

HOLIDAY FAMILY PHOTOS
Come have your family photos taken in front of this gorgeous tree in a beautiful mansion. Use your photos as gifts or greeting cards. At the Winchendon History & Culture Center (WHCC) 151 Front St., Winchendon. Walk in during the Holiday Tour on Saturday, Dec. 9, 10 am-4 pm or reserve a time on Sunday, Dec. 10, 7-9 pm Pay \$20 for a family photo shoot. You will be emailed two JPG files. The photographer will be GALA member David Alexander. Pay by cash or check, no credit cards. To make a Sunday reservation, call David at 978-846-7551 and leave a message. Questions? Call Deb, 978-407-1419.

Proceeds go to WHCC, GALA and the photographer.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DRIVE
Dec. 2 & 3 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Bring any used or never used musical instrument to the Winchendon School, 172

COURIER CAPSULES

Ash St. or set up a pick up time by email at emmabarry19@winchendon.org. For questions call Miranda Jennings at (978) 621-4524. All instruments will be used to create a musical instrument library for our town with the hope of making music more available to all.

TOY DRIVE
The Winchendon Fire Department is once again doing our annual Christmas Toy Drive.

We currently have Toy drop off boxes at the Winchendon Town Hall, Family Dollar, and Smith's Country Cheese. ALL donations will be delivered to the Winchendon CAC Friday morning Dec. 15, so we would like all donations by Thursday Dec. 14.

The age range for donations is from infants to 17 years old. So, diapers, baby items, and gift certificates for the older children are very welcome.

You can drop off donations at the Winchendon Firehouse anytime. NEW and unwrapped toys ONLY please.

On Thursday, December 7, GVNA's Hospice Program will host a Holiday Service of Remembrance at the Westminster Senior Center at 69 West Main St., Westminster. "The celebration is in remembrance of all GVNA Hospice patients who have passed away over the last 13 months," according to Chauntelle Carty, hospice director. "This celebration is an interfaith gathering and all community members are welcome to attend," said Carty. The service will begin at 6:00 pm. For more information about the Service of Remembrance or to register for the event, call the Hospice Program at (978) 632-1230 x 321.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
The Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors is pleased to present the annual Holiday Business After Hours. The event will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 6 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at the Colonial Hotel, 625 Betty Spring Road, Gardner.

The Premier sponsor for the event is Johnson Controls. The Presenting

sponsor is Colonial Hotel. Gold sponsors include Advanced Cable Ties, Coleman Assembly & Packaging, GAAMHA, Inc., Jeffrey Gallant, CPA, GFA Federal Credit Union, Heywood Hospital, InConcert Web Solutions, Insurance Center of New England and UNITIL. Silver Sponsors include Applesseed Personnel Services, Athol Savings Bank, Gardner Ten Pins, IC Federal Credit Union, Landry & Meilus, LLP, Lynde Hardware & Supply, Royal Steam Heater Co., Saloom Furniture and Venning & Jacques, Inc. Moon Hill Brewing Co. will sponsor entertainment by The Thousand Acre Jazz Band. Guests are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item, unwrapped toy or monetary donation to benefit the local Community Action Committees. The cost is \$30 for Chamber members and \$40 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to reserve, contact the Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce at (978) 632-1780 email: info@gardnerma.com Register and pay online at www.gardnerma.com

Celebrating two tons of fun.

BY KEITH KENT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Home Town Cafe owners Jesse Algarin and Rebecca Connor where happily honored for surpassing two tons of corned beef served to customers with a citation for their accomplishment presented by State Rep Jonathan Zlotnik (D-Gardner) on Monday, Nov. 20.

Homemade corned beef hash, Reuben sandwiches, and even corned beef and cabbage dinners once a month, have been just a few of the many favorites customers enjoy at the popular 314 Central St. cafe experience.

Algarin and Connor each made it abundantly clear they enjoy their time with their customers, but more so the

friends they have made along the way. Algarin said, "We try to do our corned beef and cabbage on the Friday, which is closest to the 17 of the month, so it goes along come Saint Patrick's Day," explaining the process.

Algarin also said, "We could not be here without the so many people who come here and stop in with friends or family. Our customers mean the world to us, and it's their support that allows our small business to provide another option for the community. Becky and I really do enjoy the company everybody provides. Rep Zlotnik told us that he was happy to have a local place to go to which is a clean place, has great food, and is welcoming."

Connor said, "We have enjoyed meeting people from many different walks of life, and from many different states."

The cozy eating establishment, which opened March 1, 2014, has grown in popularity mainly due to its home style cooking. Algarin and Connor have begun to consider the possibility of looking for a location which would increase seating capacity.

From time to time, it's not uncommon to even hear Canadian citizens chatting.

The citation presented by Rep Zlotnik reads as, "I am writing to congratulate you on your restaurant's recent mile stone. Selling over two tons of corned beef from your cozy cafe is a noteworthy achievement. I also wanted to

commend you overall for the consistent quality in both food and service at your establishment. You've created the classic small town diner experience while elevating the traditional cuisine to merit the drive to our corner of the Commonwealth. I wish you continued success and I look forward to doing my part to help you reach the next milestone!"

When Zlotnik was later asked about the importance of small businesses such as Home Town Cafe and others no matter what their products he responded, "There is a plethora of academic studies that show if you support small businesses, far more of that money spent stays in the community. Usually the people who own it live in the community where their business is, they are spending money in the community, and it's not going to some multi-national hedge fund or anything like that. The economic impact is for every dollar you spend on a locally owned business, it has a great economic impact."

Zlotnik also said, "I love places Home Town Cafe. I think places like this are what help define small communities. It's one of those places which are a hidden gem type. It's just one of those great little places that helps make a small town. I have been going in there almost since it opened. The place is always clean, Jesse and his staff are always very friendly. The food is always very good and very consistent."

In closing, Zlotnik said, "Absolutely congratulations to them. I have certainly enjoyed doing my part to help them reach the two ton milestone, and everyone I have eaten there with has enjoyed their efforts as well, and we truly look forward to their continued success."

Those who are loyal to Home Town Cafe are well aware of the daily corned beef tally. Perched above the door to the rear kitchen is a black imitation mustache on which the daily weight in corned beef served to date is updated. Algarin and Connor said they broke the two ton corned beef milestone on October 22.

As of Nov. 26, the weight count was already up to 4,175 pounds, now well surpassing two tons of Home Town cooking fun.

Algarin said, "Thank you to everybody who has come here at least once or more than once. Becky and I wanted the place to have the feeling of either home or grandma's house when you go out and eat. The greatest compliment we get is when so many of our customers have told us eating here reminds them of eating at their grandmother's house. This was our first goal, and everything else was just awesome after that. It's why many say they come back, and I can think of no higher compliment than to be told our cooking reminds them of their family memories and their grandmother's cooking."

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NOVEMBER 9-DECEMBER 2

IT'S COMING! Annual Festival of Trees at The Gardner Museum, 28 Pearl St. Nov. 9 to Dec. 2. Open Wednesday & Thursday: 1-4 p.m.; Friday 1-7 p.m.; and Weekends: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Limited hours Dec. 2: 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to allow for drawing at 2 p.m.; closed Thanksgiving Day.

Holiday Coffee with free refreshments Nov. 15, 10 a.m. to noon; Santa visit Nov. 25, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., take your own photos.

Over 100 trees, baskets, quilted, woodcraft, dollhouse and more to be raffled to benefit The Gardner Museum a non-profit. Need not be present to win. Admission \$3, children under 12 free. Raffle tickets available. For information (978) 632-3277, www.gardnermuseuminc.com or email: info@gardnermuseuminc.com

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

WINTERFEST: the annual display of decorated holiday tables, a decorated wreath raffle, basket raffle and bake sale all take place at Old Murdock Senior Center, 52 Murdock Ave., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free admission and lunch available

HOLIDAY & CRAFT FAIR: On Saturday, Dec. 2 at Broadview Assisted Living, 547 Central St. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Featuring local vendors and crafters. Santa visits 11:30-2 p.m.; kids can make crafts 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information call (978) 297-2333.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

TEMPLETON EVENTS: Come celebrate the Holiday season with the Templeton Historical Society's annual Jack Frost Festival on Dec. 3 from 3-5pm right on the Common in Templeton Center. You will see the Narragansett Marching Band, the Grinch, Buddy the Elf, and everyone's favorite-the Jolly Old Elf himself: Santa! We hear he will take visits from children and if everyone is good boys and girls, maybe he will pose for pictures taken by you!

Inside the Historical Building, at 1 Boynton Road, walk through and experience both Early American and Victorian style Holiday decorations, our amazing collections and a fun and festive Bake sale. Purchase a treat and hot drink to take out to watch the annual Templeton Tree Lighting at 4:30 p.m. and join us if you will for a few festive carols. Holidays have never been happier than with this free, fun event on the Common. If you have any questions, stop by the museum on one of our open Tuesday nights from 6-8 p.m. or email us at narragansetthistoricalsociety@yahoo.com OR follow us on Facebook!

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Christmas toy drives shift in to high gear.

BY KEITH KENT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Thanksgiving and its donations have quickly passed, and Christmas fundraising including those all-important toys has coming up fast. Those with kind hearts can now join in, as you can pay it forward with several local venues already accepting gifts and donations to place under the Christmas tree.

The Winchendon Fire Department has again opened its doors with its own special “Call for aid” to all the charitable and loving souls.

The WFD has announced donation sites with receptacles are now already available at the Winchendon Town Hall, Family Dollar, Smith’s Country Cheese, and the Winchendon Fire Department. It also announced, “All donations will be delivered to the Winchendon CAC Friday morning Dec. 15, so we would like all donations by Thursday, Dec. 14.”

The age range for donations is from infants to 17 years old. So, diapers, baby items, and gift certificates for the older children are very welcome.

You can drop off donations at the Winchendon Firehouse anytime. New and unwrapped toys only please.

Jumping in to action early, a large donation was already received by the fire department from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, which held their toy drive on the Friday after Thanksgiving.

Deputy Chief Ricci Ruschioni said, “We are always extremely thankful and amazed by the great people who step up and help us make this happen during the holidays. Your donations and gifts for children are deeply appreciated.”

Donations to the Winchendon Community Action Committee have already begun, with one anonymous donor already donating two \$500 gifts cards to ToysRus of Leominster. While no doubt a wonderful start, many more donations will be needed to fulfill the quickly growing list of those needing a hand from Santa’s little helpers.

WCAC Director Colleen Laperriere said, “As of this time on Wednesday, November 29, we are already over 150 toy requests for children from families. There are families where things may come up unexpectedly. They could

have been laid off or lost a job, illness could have occurred, there are just things which happen people often have no control over. Over the next several weeks before Christmas, I am sure there will be more requests, and I would not be surprised if by just before a week before Christmas we have exceeded 200 requests for assistance.”

Explaining timelines Laperriere said, “We are having our open house on Thursday, Dec. 14, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. It’s typically for our children’s clients to come in, see Santa, and received a new unwrapped gift. However, as we say, there are families in the community who may be in the ‘In need’ population and have never used our services before, and this would be a good time for those who may be in need to come in, see what we are about, meet us, and even have their child get an unwrapped gift. This is an open house. Anybody ‘in the community’ is welcome to come, have their child get a picture with Santa, and see what we are all about.”

“We will always accept donations. However, to allow us the time needed to put together bags for children’s families, we ask that if people can, to please

have their donations available for the WCAC by Wednesday, December 15 if possible. Again, we accept donations all year round, so if you see something for the toy drive or other, and want to donate it we are thankful and encourage you to reach out to us and do so. To always be able to provide to those in need year round, is and will always be our goal,” said Laperriere.

In closing Laperriere said, “It’s such a wonderful experience for me to always see how many great people come forward to help out within the community at this time of year. It’s such a crazy time of year, but when you see people who come out donate it truly exemplifies the true spirit of Christmas and just warms your heart.”

The Winchendon Community Action Committee is located at 273 Central St. in Winchendon. The WCAC pantry is open Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., with office hours Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. It can be contacted by phone at (978) 297-1667, fax at (978) 297-0390, or emailed at Director@winchendoncac.com.

Local food focus of presentation Tuesday



Courtesy photo

North Quabbin locals Sarah Mildren, team leader at Quabbin Harvest in Orange (left) and Rachel Gonzalez, owner of Rachel's Everlastings (right) enjoying a local lunch after a day of networking and learning.

The Greater Quabbin Food Alliance invites the public to gather, network, and participate in local food initiatives on Tuesday, Dec. 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00

p.m. at the Orange Innovation Center, an organization providing affordable rent and business services to local artisans, green businesses and social services. This event is free, open to the public, and a great way to get involved in the community or get support for a project you are working on.

The Food Alliance is a network of people from across Franklin and Worcester counties working to increase human and ecological health, food access, and economic vitality, and sustain local farmers and food businesses. This gathering will start off with a series of “Lightning Talks:” short, five-minute presentations providing attendees with the chance to hear from local farmers, businesses and organizations about their work and learn how to get involved. Speakers represent a wide range of organizations including The Legal Food Hub, Northeast Organic Farming Association, Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture, LaunchSpace, Seeds of Solidarity, Just Roots, Greenfield Public Schools, Quabbin Harvest and more.

Following Lightning Talks will be an opportunity to “dig in” to pressing topics in small groups and work together on projects. Attendees are encouraged to bring information and resources to share about their organization or upcoming events. The Petersham Country Store will provide refreshments and a locally sourced lunch. Lunch is free, with a suggested dona-

tion of \$10.

After the gathering, attendees are invited to visit LaunchSpace located down the hall for a tour of the soon to be renovated facility and brief Q & A with Executive Director Alec MacLeod and co-Founder and OIC Development Director Brianna Drohen. LaunchSpace was inspired by a similar building in Columbus, Ohio that both MacLeod and Drohen visited; enlightening the collaborative workshop or “makerspace” movement, a concept gaining traction across the United States that provides the education, space, and resources necessary to create and explore trades such as metalworking, pottery, robotics, gardening and more, with the support to expand peoples’ crafts and skills into viable businesses.

The challenge of local job losses coupled with the existence of a large, unutilized space inside the Orange Innovation Center led to the birth of a makerspace here in the North Quabbin. LaunchSpace has recently received an award of \$250,000 from Mass Developments’ Collaborative Workplace Program. Housing and Economic Development Secretary Jay Ash saw potential in this idea and assisted in creating the program with the Baker administration with the OIC in mind.

LaunchSpace aims to be a place for everybody in the community, whether you have a hobby and want a space to explore it, or have a skill you wish

to develop and grow into a business. Drohen commented, “we saw a need for alternative education to support the creation of small businesses that survived off of each other to prevent the same type of economic hardship that resulted from the departure of a big corporation.”

LaunchSpace plans to have exciting food-related programs in the spring, including an edible forest garden, an apiary, small kitchen gardens, and an indoor nursery. They are also considering a community kitchen. You can learn more about LaunchSpace during Brianna’s Lightning Talk and the tour!

Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust is the fiscal sponsor and coordinator of the Greater Quabbin Food Alliance. Visit mountgrace.org to learn more about the trust’s work to support local farms and businesses across the region.

For more information or to RSVP, visit quabbinfoodalliance.wordpress.com, email farminconservation@mountgrace.org, or call (978) 248-2055 x29.

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.

United Parish Church Holiday Happenings

We would love to have you come and celebrate with us each Sunday at 10:00 AM as we learn about the events leading up to the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ starting with the lighting of the Advent Candles!

Dec. 3: First Sunday of Advent: Lighting the Candle of Hope

Dec. 10: Second Sunday of Advent: Lighting the Candle of Peace

Dec. 17: Third Sunday of Advent: Lighting the Candle of Joy

Dec. 24: Fourth and Fifth Sunday of Advent: Lighting the Candle of Love at

10 a.m. and The Christ Candle at 10 p.m.

Christmas Events

ALL ARE WELCOME please take note of the times and locations!!!

Dec. 9th: Holly Bazaar 9 a.m.-2 p.m. United Parish Fellowship Hall

Dec. 17: The Christmas Cantata & Children’s Christmas Party Luncheon 10 a.m. at United Parish

Dec. 17: Community Caroling 4 p.m. Meet at United Parish

We will be meeting at the church to gather the groups together and then

divide into two groups. Everyone is welcome to join in voice and spirit, serenading folks with the Blessing of their favorite Christmas Carols.

Dec. 24: Children’s Christmas Eve Service 10 a.m. at United Parish

For the young and old alike who enjoy hearing the story of the first Christmas as told in the scriptures.

Living Nativity 6:30 p.m. at Clark Memorial

The Candle Light Service 10 p.m. at United Parish



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VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

EDITORIAL

Putting on the lights

It's the weekend after Thanksgiving, and we know that even last weekend people were out on ladders, putting up the holiday lights. A tradition we think America began in the 1940s and '50s in suburbia, at least searching for the source finds traditional wreaths and trees coming from Scandinavia, Germany and eastern Europe, but only America thought to string whole lines of lightbulbs on them once electricity became a common thing.

It was a quick step from stringing the tree to stringing the house, the yard, the outside trees, the fences...

And now we do it for holidays ad nauseum. We have blowup bunnies and hearts with cupids, Halloween characters and four-leaf clovers...name a holiday we decorate.

But we have found something we can buy into, even if we prefer a single candle in the window as our sole nod to recognition.

The last couple of years, we've heard about a drive to replace a single bulb visible at your home with a green hued one to honor those in the military. A nice gesture, and intended to be kept on at all times, beyond any holidays, as a tribute and recognition; a thank you.

Now, we have another, and this one is equally commendable. We intend to find a way to have both a green, and now a blue, bulb prominently displayed soon. The following is an explanation about the blue tribute bulb:

PROJECT BLUE LIGHT

As you are preparing your Christmas decorations, which many people are putting up this weekend now that Thanksgiving is behind us, please keep in mind Project Blue Light, which asks that people put a blue bulb on a holiday display in one of their windows to show their support for law enforcement.

The tradition began in 1988 in Philadelphia, when a woman used such

a light to honor her son-in-law, an officer who had been killed in the line of duty, and grew from there. The light honors all law-enforcement workers, not just the police. So far, this year, 118 law enforcement officers have lost their lives in the line of duty, nationwide.

To facilitate this honor, we are once again asking residents and businesses to please join us in Project Blue Light. Project Blue Light participation simply involves the placing a single Christmas candle in one of your windows, with the candle to be lit by a single blue bulb.

The purpose of the blue light is three-fold:

First, the blue light is in memory of all of the men and women of law enforcement who have paid the ultimate sacrifice or have been disabled in the line of duty, this year and those before.

Second, the light is in honor of those who remain on duty and within the profession of law enforcement. Despite the threats of not returning home at the end of their shifts, they continue to report for duty daily.

Lastly, the blue lights are in appreciation of the officers who will be serving during the holidays. While many businesses are closed and families and friends gather to enjoy the holiday's festivities, officers remain on duty to protect our families, homes and businesses.

The placing of your single blue light candle is a simple process, but it says a lot. We ask for your support and assistance by participating in Project Blue Light."

The majority of people use one blue light in a window, but some people put up a display of blue lights. Law Enforcement workers appreciate the gesture, regardless of the number of blue lights."

Green lights, blue lights. A very nice gesture, recognizable as a tribute to those who are serving. Thank you for considering being part of it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dead Innocents

This is not a column about innocent people being killed by deranged people. It is not a column about taking away everyone's guns. It is not a column about arming everyone in the country. I hope it is a column of common sense.

We have over the past few years had a number of incidents where innocent people were killed for no reason that made sense to reasonable people. Children died in a school. Teenagers died in a night club. Concertgoers were mowed down as they enjoyed an evening on the town. Bike riders were run down as they peddled through what they thought were safe pathways.

I am not talking about terrorism alone here. These violent acts have been committed by terrorists and non-terrorists.

If there is one thing we should all agree on, it is that the taking of an innocent life is not an honorable thing, cannot be explained by ideology, certainly has no place in any seriously compassionate religion, isn't an appropriate way to get even with a society you think has failed you, and at the end of the day, can only be explained as cold-blooded murder by a deranged individual or group.

The answer is not to disarm the citizenry. The answer is to outlaw the big weapons that shoot multiple bullets and cause enormous damage to large numbers of people. The answer is to require and complete more thorough background checks on all people who wish to own a gun. The answer is to extend the waiting period to get a license. The answer is to take away the right to use a gun from anyone who misuses one.

We learned during prohibition, when our government said we should not use alcoholic beverages, that the legislation made millionaires of the bootleggers



NOTES OF CONCERN

JACK BLAIR

and the mafia. Members of all strata of society flaunted the law by going to private clubs, speak-easies, or other parties planned and designed to provide the prohibited substance.

Ban guns, and the result will be the same.

The people will find illegal ways to get guns. The bad guys will always have guns. The wrong kind of people will make fortunes from selling illegal firearms. And just as drinking became fun during prohibition, getting a gun will become a status symbol if legislation against it occurs.

Now I do hope for strong legislation against assault rifles and other weapons of that sort. I know that most people in America believe they have a right to bear arms (due to the Second Amendment to the *Constitution*), and I don't see a majority coalescing around any legislation to deny that. And finally, one of the strongest lobby groups in our capital is the NRA, which has the money and influence to kill any legislation that goes too far.

Let us look at two horrific examples of innocents dying at the hands of someone with a gun. The young school children in Sandy Hook, Connecticut, were mowed down by a kid who clearly had mental problems. His family knew it. His neighbors knew it. His mother had a collection of guns in the house. He was not well adjusted, and it should have been clear to anyone that he was a danger. Yet he walked into that school and killed those teachers and students.

More recently, a young man went into a church, in camouflage clothes, and opened fire, killing 26 people and wounding as many more. We learn he sent threatening notes to his moth-

Turn To **DEAD** page **A10**

OK holidays...



JOURNEY OF THE HEART

JERRY CARTON

It turned out okay. Even better than okay, Thanksgiving Day that is. I was dreading it for sure. The day before, a chill, rainy Wednesday, was awful. I was a mess all day. It was one of the worst days of these six nearly incomprehensible months. I thought more than once Wednesday about making apologies on Thursday, but I knew sitting in the house consumed by memories was the most unhealthy thing I could do.

We'd been spending every Thanksgiving in Baltimore but this year it was understandably too much to handle. So Thursday afternoon Carole and I joined our great friends Seth Silver and Amber White and their families at the River's Edge for our first

Thanksgiving without Courtney.

It really was better than okay. The atmosphere was casual, the company completely enjoyable and the food, well, the food was of course outstanding. No surprise there. My fears of it being a miserable, melancholy day proved to be unfounded. I had to pass on dessert but what the hell. That's because everything else was beyond awesome.

I can't thank Seth and Amber enough for including us. Shortly after Courtney's death, they launched a weekly special from which \$3 would go to the Smith College of Social Work scholarship fund we created in her memory and they've already sent one check with another coming. That gesture alone demonstrated their class but insisting we join them on Thanksgiving was gracious and so appreciated. Thanks again - you guys turned what might have been a terrible day into a pretty good one.

We had spent the weekend before in Baltimore. A few weeks ago, my mom, 85, had been diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis

and the prognosis sounded dire, very dire. Not so fast. My mother is relentlessly upbeat and wound up coming home after 11 days in the hospital. She's on oxygen and she and my father (90) need some help at home, much provided by my sister, much provided by specialists from various agencies, but by and large things there are a lot better than I had been led to expect. You look for the wins, some of them not little at all.

It was a nostalgic weekend. When I was in college a couple million years, okay 40-plus years ago, we used to hang out at a couple area delis. The Bagel Den, from which we were, if memory serves, once 'encouraged' to leave and Roy's Place are long gone but the Parkway Deli remains open and from the line we endured Sunday, is still flourishing. Very well for that matter. It looked the same as it had in 1973. The corned beef on rye was real corned beef on rye. Thanks to our eldest Andy and his wife Meghan for that really cool stroll down memory line. I had lunch another day with my long-time friend Maxine,

whom I met when her daughter and Courtney were in the same, ready, after-school dance class when they were little kids. My mom has had a bunch of visitors since she returned home, which no doubt helps, including our old friends Arthur and Ellen and Bob and Tina. All this was positive. It doesn't change the reality nor depth of our loss but it has helped us to manage. Not-so-little wins for sure.

Courtney was going to be a social worker so let me relate a sort-of social work story which reflects poorly on our societal priorities. The Family and Children's Services agency in central Maryland is going to increase its substance abuse treatment programs, including psychiatric care for children. That's necessary and good, right? Absolutely. But everything comes with a price and the cost of this is the closing of adult day care centers. You see, on a federal level we can have tax cuts really rich people and we can try to eliminate the individual mandate of the ACA but because

of Washington's paralysis, we're squeezing state and local agencies and the end result is a lot of people are going to lose critical services.

There's more. Health care for a lot of kids and pregnant women nationwide will be a thing of the past at the end of the year, that's less than a month from now, unless Congress gets off its butt and funds CHIP, the Children's Health Insurance Program which serves nine million children and 370,000 pregnant women. About a dozen states, and not just the ones you might reflexively assume, say if DC doesn't act, it's too bad for the kids and moms-to-be in their states who rely on the program. They'll be out of money, period. The Administration is proposing a funding cut and a limit on eligibility for federal matching funds so how this will be resolved remains to be seen. There's a larger issue here and it is this — those of you who voted for DJT — is this really the kind of thing you want to see happen? Season's Greetings indeed. Bah, humbug. See you next week.

Transhumanism. the blurring of humans & technology.

A few weeks ago, I wrote about Sofia, a robot with artificial intelligence and both the potential benefits and threats of such an artificial being. I would now like to share intriguing information after reading a piece by Sarwant Singh, a contributor to Forbes, and senior partner at Frost & Sullivan.

By the year 2030, and quite possibly before, "as in 10 years or less," the lines between humans and machine, like it or not, are going to be becoming blurred. Technology, both wearable at the exo, or external level, and internally implanted alike, are going to become all the rage for young adults, who at an ever increasing rate, can't consume technology fast enough to satisfy their obsession.

The results, like most advances, will have both pros and cons, ranging from ending much medical suffering, to the possibility of having your brain hacked in to like a website, and possibly controlling you through rewriting a program. Sound like Sci-Fi you say? Well guess what, it's already being experimented with.

Computer chips are already being designed to be implanted in to the human brain to help battle such debilitating tragedies Alzheimer disease. Additionally,

these implantable or inter-cranial chips and/or microprocessors are also being designed to not only increase human memory, but human productivity by eventually linking a business professional to an AI working partner as an electronic interface.

Now just think about this. You're at home on your off hours, and good old A. had an idea it thinks it should share with you from the office. Will safeguards be placed to keep you from receiving a message or call to your head through your home internet connection, so your AI partner can talk shop with you? How many of you already get contacted by your employer while on your off-hours? Think your electronic buddy who is smarter than your boss won't let their perceived fingers do the walking and reach out and touch someone like the yellow pages commercials of old? My brothers and sisters of humanity, this is going to put an entire new spin on the saying, "Will you get out of my head?"

Potential benefits. Exo-suits or external body suits with increased computer



ANYTHING NEAR & FAR

KEITH KENT

there are advantages and disadvantages. Using implantable processors to help the paralyzed walk again, is surely one of the most respectable of causes. These exo-suits will also be used to increase the limits of the human body both in the work place and on the battle field. Trust me; the military has already openly stated it's hard at work on this.

Other issues while the lines of humanity and the cyber are blurred into a co-mergence also included behavioral and societal issues, along with societal values.

The innocent who battle mental illness at no fault of their own, will have the option of a "Behavioral Implant" placed in their brain to help regulate or correct their condition. Adversely, will we as a civilized people be both morally and intellectually

processing power will help the previously paralyzed, bed ridden or wheel chair bound people we love and care about, walk again. Their exo-suits will be eventually linked to a chip in the human brain, which regulates the motions of the suit via electrochemical impulses. Like all other things,

qualified as to what conditions and operating systems are programed in to that person's head?

People just like you and I are already lining up to get experimental chips implanted to help them feel happy. That's right folks you read correct. Some day you will be able to tap your head twice and like the flick of a switch, presto, instant happiness!

What concerns me is, "What activities could people want to be happy about while turning on that function inside their brain?" Without trying to sound grim, there are potential abuses such allowing one to feel happy and not guilty about committing crimes.

Other items will include a chip in your hand or arm that replaces a key fob to unlock your doors, start your car, and increase memory. Fitbits will become obsolete as you will be able to track your calories and steps in your brain, and the possibilities are nearly endless. Your internal body or alarm clock will take on an entirely new definition.

In closing, please talk to your children. They won't stay young forever, and technology already has and will continue to change the conversations you have with them about their future decisions.

Opening eyes in English class

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The course description was straight-forward. ‘Voices from the South’. The curriculum would be wide-ranging, covering issues like the ‘Great Southern diaspora - Dreams Deferred’ as well as legendary Southern writers like William Faulkner and others. It would explore other personalities and events from the region — notably the Little Rock 9 — the group of students who famously desegregated that city’s schools in the 1950s, and of course, the story of Bill Clinton.

The class included field work in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

That was what Winchendon School students were in for when they arrived at Jared Magee’s English class and it might have seemed like pretty dry stuff on paper. Maybe. But it was when the kids woke up in Alabama after sleep-

ing the night away on a bus ride from Washington that reality set in.

“Poverty. They’d never seen poverty like they did in shantytowns,” recalled Magee, “and that was the whole point.”

Clearly there’s plenty of education outside any classroom.

“It was eye-opening to say the least,” he added.

“I don’t think any of them had any idea about anything like what they saw,” said Magee, himself an Arkansas native who has found what he calls the “perfect” fit in north central Massachusetts.

“The atmosphere here, the approach to education is unique. That was appealing to me,” he said.

And there’s more.

“The opportunity for trips like these, the chance to get out and do ‘something’, are one of the great things about being part of the community at this school.”

The journey through the South,

eye-opening as it was, was a prelude to another trip next month, this one to flood-ravaged Houston, still dealing with the after effects of Hurricane Harvey, which decimated the city when it made landfall in August.

“Students will experience the after-effects of a disaster and the forms of disaster relief first-hand. They will delve into the man-made and natural causes of disaster, environmental justice, health risks stemming from disaster, and how to make long-term meaningful change to prevent mass catastrophe.”

The trip is slated to launch in mid-January and “we will make connections to other local and global disasters and where and how disaster relief has succeeded and failed. Additionally, students will learn about Houston’s culture, immersing themselves in the local Hispanic and city culture in an effort to build relationships and understanding.

Spanish language, Texas food and baseball (the Astros won the World Series just over a month ago) culture, diverse communities and so much more will be highlighted as students work to make a difference,” explained Magee, the Winchendon School’s director of curriculum and model United Nations advisor.

“The kids are taking the reins of the project,” he noted, adding, “they have significant latitude in creating their projects. Obviously, we help them and work with them, but the whole idea of service learning is for them to take the lead roles. All these projects bring learning to life. We can ask the kids ‘ how are you doing? what are you learning?’” said Magee. “And,” he added, “we want these projects to be sustained if possible.”

“When crises hit, we love to help,” stressed Magee.

“They’re getting practical experience,” he stressed.

Winchendon residents urged to Shop Small, Shop Local

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

With the holiday shopping season now upon us, many local bargain-hunters made the trip to downtown Winchendon last weekend to hunt for those special gifts for relatives and friends. A number of well-established storefront businesses and more than two dozen home-based entrepreneurs participated in Small Business Saturday. Downtown retailers and restaurants were open during their regular hours, and smaller businesses participated in a vendor fair at Town Hall.

“The traffic was pretty steady,” said Dir. of Planning and Development Tracy Murphy regarding the vendor fair. “A lot of the businesses on Central Street also said they had a pretty good day.”

Murphy’s office planned and promoted this year’s event, as was the case last year.

“We would like for the Winchendon Business Group to eventually take the lead,” said Murphy, “but they just spent a lot of time and energy on the Fall Festival. They did a great job, but it really was a lot of work. So, we’re here to support this as long as we’re needed.”

The Winchendon Business Group was listed as a co-sponsor of this year’s event.

Murphy said 16 businesses on or near Central Street participated, “but not all businesses taking part (were) downtown. Smith’s Country Cheese, Dee Dee’s Treasures, Powell Stone & Gravel, More’s Strength and Fitness, Second Impressions, Cruisin’ 12 Diner; they (were) all on the map, and were open

for business. We really wanted as many Winchendon businesses as possible taking part. It’s not just for downtown.”

Maps of participating businesses were available at those businesses and at town hall. Customers who got their maps stamped by at least five participants were eligible to be entered into a raffle for a large gift basket, filled with items from each vendor and participating retailers. The winner of the raffle was identified as Jackie Wood of Winchendon.

Winchendon businesses and franchisees who took part in the vendor fair included: Tastefully Simple, Sweet Treats Bakery, Bay State Pearl, Karen’s Country Krafts, Essential Oils, Element of Fun Vacations, Thrive, Cheryl Betterini, Rivers Edge, Peg Sestito, Harbour Restaurant,

and Toy Town Stained Glass. The Winchendon Historical Society, Winchendon Garden Club, and Town Hall will also have informational tables and items for sale. Other businesses from around the region who will participate are: Rodan and Fields, Agnes and Dora, Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Scentsy, Penny Brusso, Serene Stitches, Scarves by Julie, and Mary Kay.

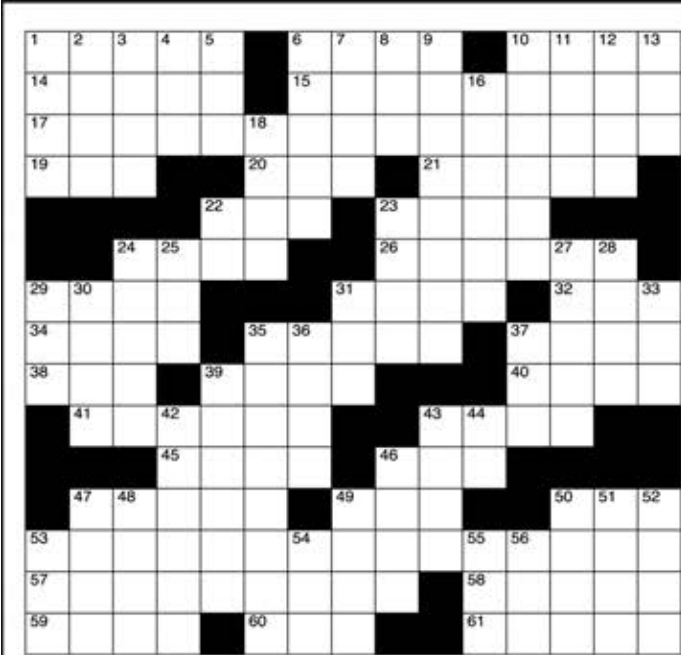
Small Business Saturday was first observed in 2010, as many small businesses were attempting to recover from the Great Recession, which struck

full-force in late 2008. It is considered a counterpoint to Black Friday, when consumers flock to malls and big box stores to take advantage of big holiday shopping incentives, and to CyberMonday, when online retailers offer huge savings on goods and services.

The first Small Business Saturday event was sponsored by American Express, in partnership with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Boston Mayor Tom Menino, and Roslindale Village Main Street. The event spread to the United Kingdom in 2013.



Shoppers check out the merchants who took over the auditorium at Winchendon Town Hall for Shop Small Saturday’s 2nd Annual Vendor Fair. Many vendors and storefront businesses around Winchendon took part in the event to promote retailers and restaurants throughout the town.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Emaciation

6. Exchequer

10. Sacs where fungi develop

14. First letter of the Hebrew alphabet

15. Unexplored waters

17. Berkeley athletes

19. Norse giantess

20. Crater on the moon

21. Resembles velvet

22. Pearl Jam’s debut album

23. Hair-like structure

24. Turfs

26. Put in advance

29. First son of Lot

31. Native American language

32. Furry family member

34. Vedic God of fire

35. Genie
37. German city

38. Acquire

39. Cambodia currency

40. A person from a Balkan republic

41. More simple

43. Bleats

45. “The other white meat”

46. ___ student: learns healing

47. 04492, town in Maine

49. Paddle

50. Airline once owned by Howard Hughes

53. Big 10 athlete

57. Inflammation of the intestine

58. Key’s comedic partner

59. Chamomile and black are two

60. Distress signal

61. Assn. for translators

CLUES DOWN

1. Measures engine speed (abbr.)

2. Wings

3. Founded a phone company

4. Upon

5. Superhigh frequency

6. Colorless liquid

7. Hostelrys

8. ___ fi (slang)

9. One who accompanies

10. Where rockers play

11. “___ the Man” Musial

12. Waxy cover on some birds’ beaks

13. Software that monitors for malicious activity (abbr.)

16. Becomes less intense

18. Lyric poems

22. Touchdown

23. From end to end

24. ___ Claus

25. Jedi Master Kenobi

27. Fencing swords

28. Famed child psychiatrist

29. Gossip
30. S-shaped lining

31. ‘___ death do us part

33. Bar bill

35. Placed over a vowel to indicate sound

36. Steve Martin was one

37. Low paid educator (abbr.)

39. One who rampages

42. Backbones

43. “Friday Night Lights” director

44. Anno Domini

46. One-time Yankees sensation Kevin

47. Fermented grape juice

48. Peruvian province

49. Former Braves outfielder Nixon

50. Entertainment award

51. Feeling good

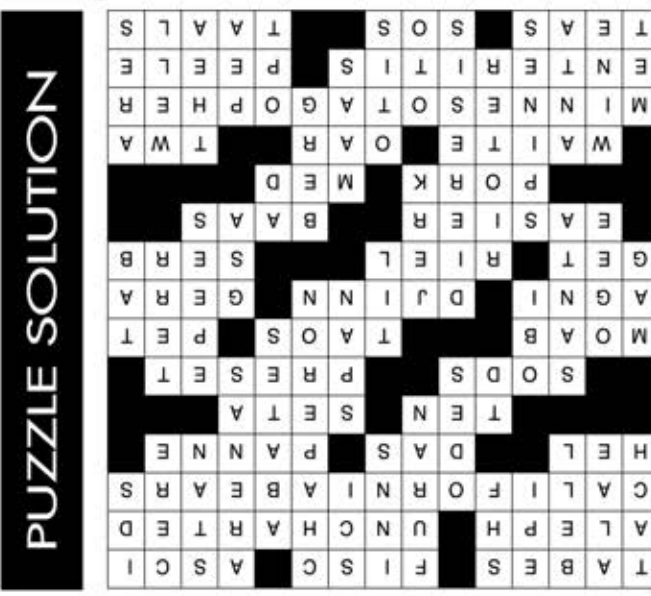
52. Greek god of war

53. Famed NYC museum

54. Of the cars

55. Select

56. Friend to the carrot





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SUDOKU

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

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!

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

ANSWER:

OBITUARIES

Rolland G. Betourney, 90

WINCHENDON — Rolland G. Betourney, age 90, formerly of Winchendon and Royalston, died peacefully Thursday afternoon, November 23, 2017 in Quabbin Valley Healthcare, Athol.



He was born in Winchendon on July 28, 1927, son of the late Felix and Emma (Gauthier) Betourney and attended Winchendon schools. Rolland lived in Royalston for many years and wintered in the Carolinas and Florida. He returned to Winchendon later in life and had lived in

Athol for the last four years.

Rolland proudly served his country as a member of the United States Navy during World War II. He was awarded the National Defense Service medal, American Theatre medal and Asiatic-Pacific Theatre medal.

Rolland had worked as a woodworker at Kamensteins and Heywood Wakefield Furniture Company and retired as a maintenance man at Franklin Pierce College in Fitzwilliam. An avid golfer, Rolland played golf regularly in Gardner, Athol and Winchendon and had shot several holes-in-one. An avid

fisherman, he enjoyed fly fishing, hunting and nature. He also enjoyed bowling. He was a member of Eugene M. Connor Post 193 American Legion and Winchendon Rod and Gun Club.

His wife of 66 years, Elsie A. (Till) Betourney, died in 2015. He leaves four children, Paula I. Hare and her husband Joseph of Lancaster, Janice E. Wilder and her husband Michael of Winchendon, Scott R. Betourney and his wife Carol of Winchendon and Steven B. Betourney and his wife Nancy of Royalston; his grandchildren, Shannon Harris, Brenda Lucier, Kimberly O'Dea, Michael R. Wilder, Christopher S. Betourney, Tricia M. Betourney, Steven B. Betourney Jr, Jacob Betourney, Lauria Kamataris and Amanda Eastman; a brother, Stuart Betourney of Winchendon; a sister, Elaine Peterson of Winchendon and several great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. A son Eric G. Betourney, and a brother, Maurice Betourney, preceded him in death.

Private graveside services will be held in Riverside Cemetery, Glenallan Street, Winchendon. There are no calling hours.

Memorial donations may be made to Quabbin Valley Healthcare, 821 Daniel Shays Highway, Athol, MA 01331.

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

George F. DeAmicis, 66

COLUMBUS OH — George F. DeAmicis, age 66, passed away at Doctors West Hospital in Columbus, Ohio on November 22, 2017. He was born on April 18, 1951 in Tiffin, Ohio to Paul and Florence DeAmicis.



He is survived by his loving daughter, Janice DeAmicis. Also surviving are his ex-wife, Terry (John) Kittle, brothers Ben DeAmicis, Mike (Judy) DeAmicis, Tony (Debbie Moltz) DeAmicis, sister Madeline (Rod) Phillips, brother-in-law Clem Hoepf and sister-in-law Ruth DeAmicis along with many cousins, nieces and nephews whom he loved with all his heart. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Linda Hoepf and nephew Curtis DeAmicis.

George was a 1969 graduate of Carey High School, Carey OH. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and served his country from 1970-75. George then worked in the auto-

motive industry for 25 years in various positions.

George loved hunting, fishing, bowling, golfing and most importantly, spending time with family. He was an avid sports fan and loved his Ohio State Buckeyes, Cleveland Browns (no matter how bad they played), Detroit Tigers and most of all the Columbus Blue Jackets. He was a season ticket holder for the Blue Jackets where he met many great people who have become extended family members.

George also loved watching his daughter Janice march in the Plymouth Canton Educational Park Marching Band in Canton, Michigan and never missed a competition. He was very proud of them winning the Bands of America Grand National Championship in 1990. He is still loved by many of the people he met during those years who still refer to him as "Dad" or Mr. D.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, December 9 from 12-2 p.m. at Ohio Cremation & Memorial Society located at 5464 N. High St., Columbus Ohio.

Memorial contributions may be made in lieu of flowers to help defray the costs of funeral expenses or a donation to your favorite charity.

Paul W. McIntyre, 50

ASHBURNHAM - Paul W. McIntyre, 50, of 16 Balsam Drive, died Friday, November 24, 2017 at his residence.



He was born in Leominster on October 17, 1967, son of the late William V. and Simonne A. (St. Pierre) McIntyre and was a graduate of Oakmont Regional High School. Paul later attended Mass.

College of Art and Mt. Wachusett Community College.

Paul worked as a finish carpenter. He enjoyed working on projects around

his home and his art work. Paul was a member of AA.

He leaves a sister, Suzanne McIntyre MD and her husband Scott Paul MD of Milton and their two children, Evelyn Theresa Paul and William Robert Paul and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services will be held Monday, December 4, 2017 at 12 Noon in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home, 343 Central Street, Winchendon.

Burial will be in St. Cecilia Cemetery, Leominster.

Calling hours in the funeral home are Monday, December 4, 2017 from 11 AM to 12 Noon preceding the funeral.

Barry Arthur Clapp, 66

Barry Arthur Clapp of Shrewsbury passed away in Boston surrounded by family, due to illness on his 66th birthday, November 16th, 2017.

Barry was preceded in death by his parents Arthur and Rose (Henchey) Clapp of Shrewsbury; close friend Joe Krosoczka; and brother in law William Duffy. He is survived by his wife of 43 years Paula (Portosa) Clapp; sister Dale (Clapp) Duffy and her partner Ray Mullaney of Shrewsbury; son Jesse Clapp and his wife Erica (Decker) Clapp of Somerville; daughter Laura Clapp of Philadelphia, PA; his grandsons Clyde and Felix Clapp of Somerville; and his mother in law Laura Portosa of Shrewsbury.

Barry was born in Winchendon on Nov. 16th, 1951. As a boy, his passion was baseball. He would spend day after day practicing and playing ball with his neighborhood friends. His love of sports continued throughout his life; he loved Boston sports and attending games with friends and family.

His family moved to Shrewsbury when Barry was in grade school, and it was there that he met his high school sweetheart, Paula, whom he would marry and share his life with.

Barry graduated from Shrewsbury High School in 1969. He took great pride in being the first member of his family to attend college, graduating from Nichols College with a Bachelor's of Science in business administration (Summa Cum Laude). It was there he would meet his lifelong best friend Joe Krosoczka. He would go on to earn his MBA (with Honors) from Babson College.

Barry had a career spanning 40 years.

Janet E. (Bitzer) Jones, 77

TEMPLETON — Janet E. (Bitzer) Jones, age 77, of 29 Pleasant St., Baldwinville died Friday morning, November 24, 2017 in Quabbin Valley Healthcare, Athol.

She was born in Thief River, Minnesota on October 16, 1940, daughter of the late Willard and Edna (Moulds) Bitzer and was a graduate from Williams High School in Williams, Minnesota. She had lived in Winchendon for many years and had lived in Baldwinville for the last three years. In recent years, she had spent winters in Stuart, Florida and summers in Peaceful Pines Campground.

Janet worked as an assembler at New Hampshire Ball Bearings until her retirement. She enjoyed sewing, quilting and knitting. Janet had also been active in events at her community mobile home park, Natalie Estates, in Florida. Her greatest enjoyment was spending time with her family.

It took him from IBM after college, to traveling all over the world, to being the President and CEO of Centage Corporation in Natick. Barry always tried his best to impart his decades of experience in sales, marketing, and business management, of technology based businesses to anyone and everyone he could.

Barry's family was the center of his life. He adored his wife, and the strength and love that defined their relationship was evident to all. He was a loving, funny, enthusiastic and supportive father who was always there to cheer on his kids. Barry's zeal and love for life was infectious and brightened the lives of his family and friends. He cherished his grandsons, and was endlessly proud of them.

He will be remembered by his extended family, friends, coworkers, and all who knew him as someone who people could count on. Barry was dedicated in all facets of his life, and leaves behind a legacy of love and respect.

Relatives and friends were invited to a funeral mass celebrating Barry's life on Monday, Nov. 27, 2017 at Saint Anne's Church, 130 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury. In lieu of flowers a memorial donation may be made to: StandUpToCancer.org, ShrinersHospitalsForChildren.org, or StJude.org.

Britton-Shrewsbury Funeral Home, 648 Main St., Shrewsbury is assisting Barry's family with arrangements. To leave a note of condolence for Barry's family or to view his "Book of Memories" please visit, www.brittonfuneralhomes.com.

Robert W. Mattson, 70

WINCHENDON — Robert W. Mattson, age 70, of 114 Ipswich Drive, died peacefully Wednesday morning, Nov. 22, 2017, at his residence, with his family at his side.



He was born in Keene, NH on March 25, 1947, son of the late Edwin O. and Elizabeth (Whitcomb) Mattson and grew up in Fitzwilliam. Bobby graduated from Monadnock High School in Swanzey, NH with the Class of 1965

Bob proudly served his country during the Vietnam War as a member of the United States Navy and was awarded the National Defense Service medal. Bob worked at many places of employment, including WW. Cross Co., Millipore, Teleflex and New Hampshire Ball Bearing. He was

mostly known as a public servant, who worked as a police officer, ambulance driver, and mutual aid dispatcher.

Bob was a member of the American Legion Posts in Jaffrey, Baldwinville and Winchendon. He enjoyed fishing and ice fishing and playing bingo. His greatest enjoyment was spending time with his family.

He leaves his wife of 52 years, Elaine T. (Gordon) Mattson; three children, Bobbi-Jo Mattson and her husband Dennis Baker of Royalston, Lisa Jones and her husband Kevin of Dallas, TX and Philip E. Mattson of Gardner; two sisters, Bonnie Jones and her husband Quentin and Jeanann Mattson and a brother, Edwin Mattson Jr. and his wife Sandra, all of Fitzwilliam, 9 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Monday, Nov. 27, 2017 in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon. The Rev. Jay Lillie officiated.

Burial, with military honors, followed at Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, Winchendon.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center, Stallings Campus, 21 Murdock Ave., Winchendon, MA 01475.

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

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



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OBITUARIES

Albert Richard Carlson Sr., 98

LUNENBURG — Albert Richard Carlson Sr. age 98 went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017, at the Monadnock Regional hospital in Peterborough, NH, after an illness.



His wife 65 years, Charlotte E. (Wheeler) Carlson died in September, 2006.

He leaves four children, Gail S. Lingner (George Mirijanian), of Fitchburg, Carol A. Dunn (Allan) of Gardner, Cathy J. Gallagher (James) of Hancock, NH, with whom he resided, and Cynthia A. Lafreniere (Thomas) of Winchendon; one daughter-in-law, Stella Marie Carlson of Lunenburg; twelve grandchildren; John O. Lingner Jr. (Marjorie) of TN, Sandra D. Laurentano (Joseph) of FL, Ronald F. Crocker Jr., Peter D. Crocker (Coleen) and Michael J. Crocker all of Fitchburg, Wendy C. Sanden (Eric) of Baldwinville, Melissa S. Lafreniere Fahey of Athol, Timothy M. Lafreniere Sr., (Samantha Waits) of TX, Daniel E. Lafreniere Melodino (Crystal) of Jaffrey, Jaime Lynn Gallagher Driscoll (Brandon) of Rochester, NH, Christopher Lafreniere of Winchendon and Kristin C. Gallagher of Arlington; one step-grandson, John Dunn of MD; 27 great-grandchildren, Brandy Daigle Budzinski, Leslie Lingner Lupien (Justin), Ronald Daigle Jr., Vanessa Lingner Brown (Kelly), Nathan Sanden, John M Lingner Sr. (Megan), Brittany Gaudet Hose (Bradley), Tracie L. Lingner, Alexander Sanden (Sarah), Benjamin Sanden, Jeremy Lingner (Kandie), Caleb Tatro Lafreniere, Jackson Lingner (Erika), Kimberly Taschereau, Sydney, Jillian, Allen J. and Curtis Crocker, Jacob Lingner, Dezirae and Issabelle Lafreniere, Kane, Emmy and Lillian Fahey, Dante and Caitlynnne Melodino and Timothy M. Lafreniere Jr.; seven step great-grandchildren, Jeffersen Meatty, Ethen Hall, Jerrod Pitard (Kimberly), Amber Pitard Boucher, Korianne Pitard, Larissa and William T. Osteen; 20 great great-grandchildren; Jordan, Hunter, Dylan and Rory Budzinski, John M. Lingner Jr., Brooklyn, Mackenzie and Kaylee Stock, Alyssa Grace and Riley May Lupien, Jacoby, Maddox, Orrin, and Beckett Hose, Ava and Emma Sanden, Maci Lingner, Stefan Jack and Jasper Taschereau and Lillian Hyde; eight step great great-grandchildren; Jaylynn and Madison Pitard, Novalee Pegram, Brayleigh Morris, Christofer and Caiden Nicholson and Caleb and Jonathan Lupien.

Albert is also predeceased by a son, Albert R. “Bud” Carlson Jr. who died in May of 2014, a son-in-law John O. “Jack” Lingner Sr in 1981; four brothers, Russell, Edwin, Theodore and John Carlson; two sisters, Charlotte Gagnon and Dorothea Richards; two great-granddaughters, Amanda Crocker and Alexxis Lafreniere; one great great-grandson, Isaac O. Sanden in March of 2014 and his dear friend and companion of 9 years, Eunice A. Vitale in August of 2017.

Albert was born in Fitchburg, on Aug. 12, 1919, a son of the late Joseph W. and Evelyn I. (Russell) Carlson. He graduated from Fitchburg High School in 1938.

At the age of 25 he was drafted into the US Army and served in the 3rd Infantry Division, the 7th Infantry Regiment, aka the “Cottonbalers”. In August 1944, his regiment made an amphibious landing in southern France as part of Operation Dragoon, liberating southern French cities and advancing up the Rhone River to the German front. Amongst his medals, Albert was awarded the French Croix de Guerre, WW II Fourragere for his performance during battle for the liberation of France during Operation Dragoon. After Hitler’s death and Germany surrendered, he served in the occupation forces in Austria until his honorable discharge in 1946. He was a recipient of the Combat Infantry badge as well as several other medals and awards.

Albert was a post commander for the former Lunenburg VFW Post 7388 for 3 years and a member for several more. In the early 1960s during his years as post commander, he was the Grand Marshal for the annual Lunenburg Memorial Day Parade, a position he took great pride in.

Albert lived in Fitchburg until 1950, and then moved to Lunenburg, where he and his wife spent the major part of their lives. They later moved to Florida. After her death in 2006, he remained there until this fall when he moved in with his daughter in Hancock, NH. He

and Charlotte were married on May 30, 1941 in the Calvinistic Congregational Church in Fitchburg, celebrating 65 years. Albert was baptized in the same church on June 15, 1930 where he and his wife also taught Sunday school for several years. In 1952, he joined the Lunenburg Methodist Church which is now the United Parish in Lunenburg. He and his wife were very active members of that church as well. In 1992, they also joined the First Methodist Church of Homosassa, FL. His faith was an important part of his life.

While living in Florida, he volunteered at the Beverly Hills Senior Center, where he delivered “meals on wheels” to the elderly and shut-ins several days a week for over 20 years, retiring in 2016 when he was 97. He was a part of the Citrus County Sheriff’s offices neighborhood watch program where he drove a sheriff’s vehicle checking on vacant homes and shut-ins twice a week until he was 95. He was very proud of the fact that he still maintained a valid driver’s license all the way up to the time of his death.

He was a member of the Beverly Hills Garden Club and the Beverly Hills Fishing Club. He had a passion for time pieces, antique clocks and pocket watches. He was a self taught watch repair and clock maker and he built two Grandfather clocks as well as many reproductions pieces. At one time, he had hundreds of clocks he purchased, built and repaired and later sold. He was still repairing them at 98 years of age.

He was very proud of being a founding member of the former Lunenburg Federal Credit Union and extremely proud of his Swedish heritage.

Mr. Carlson retired from Sears Roebuck in 1980, where he had worked since 1956. He was an appliance repairman for 22 years and managed the service department for a few years in the 1960s. From 1938 through 1953, he worked as an “ice man” for the former Fitchburg Ice Co. He took great pride in the fact that he could carry up to a 300 pound block of ice on his back up several flights of stairs to people’s homes. He worked on weekends for many years at the former Whalom Park Bowling Alley repairing and filling the manual pin setters. He was an auxiliary police officer for the Lunenburg Police Department from the mid 1950s through the late 1960s, working weekend night shifts. Throughout the 1970s, he would work evenings helping his wife run their ceramic studio, CharAl Ceramics in their home on Mass Ave in Lunenburg, where they taught ceramic classes. They also taught ceramic classes at Monty Tech in the 1970s. In the mid 1990s, he taught night calligraphy classes at local high schools in Florida.

For several years in the ‘50s and ‘60s, he and Charlotte belonged to a local square dancing group. Throughout the ‘80s and ‘90s, he was a member of the 2nd Generation Truckers Van Club along with his son and daughter-in-law. He and his wife were also avid campers at Seabrook and Salisbury Beach. He enjoyed fishing, especially deep sea fishing for stripers. He also enjoyed golfing, watching baseball games, traveling, cooking and card games with friends. He loved to play a friendly game of poker or crazy 8s at the local Senior Center. He was an avid bird watcher and enjoyed making bird feeders and bird houses. He really loved hands on hobbies like woodworking, upholstery, gardening and oil painting. He loved to plant flowers, especially roses and to create special gardens for his wife. He was a wonderful cook and took great pride in his “secret recipes.” During his retirement years, one of his favorite pastimes was meeting friends for their “Wednesday lunch dates.” The most important thing in the world to him was his family. He always said that true wealth is measured by the love of one’s family, something money cannot buy and that when it was all said and done, that’s all anyone can take with them.

The funeral was held on Friday, December 1, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the United Parish Lunenburg, Main Street, Lunenburg.

Burial with military honors will follow in the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 111 Glenallan Street, Winchendon, MA 01475 at noon.

Calling hours were held November 30 in the Lunenburg Chapel of the Sawyer-Miller-Masciarelli Funeral Home, 763 Mass Avenue, Lunenburg, MA 01473.

In lieu of flowers, for those so inclined, please make memorial contributions in Albert’s name to your favorite charity. If you don’t have one consider a donation to a local food bank or homeless shelter to help those less fortunate.

LUDLOW VT — Kenneth J. LaBarge Jr. age 84 passed away peacefully Wednesday Nov. 15, 2017 at Springfield Health and Rehabilitation. He was born



in Winchendon on Jan. 27, 1933 the son of Kenneth and Florence (Breton) LaBarge Sr. He moved to Vermont as a teenager and entered the United States Army on Jan. 27, 1953. Kenneth served with the Army

for 20 years and received his honorable discharge on April 30, 1973.

He was married to his loving wife of 63 years, Betty Hobart on June 24, 1954.

After returning from the Army, Kenneth had owned and operated the Farrand Green House for many years. He afterwards worked for the Black River School District as a custodian for 15 years before his retirement.

Kenneth enjoyed camping, traveling, flowers and spending time with his family.

Kenneth is survived by his wife Betty

Kenneth J. LaBarge Jr., 84

LaBarge of Ludlow, two sons; Dwaine LaBarge and his wife Kim, Bruce LaBarge and his wife Beth; His daughter, Cynthia and her husband Harry; his brother, Wesley Smith, his sisters, Ilene Breton, Linda Baldwin and her husband Nyle, Rose Letourneau and her husband Bill, Marylou Woolley and Carol Lemieux and her husband Alfred and his brother in law, Tony St. John. Also surviving are 7 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his parents, his son Keith and his sister Beverly.

The funeral service was held Monday, Nov. 20 at the Adams Funeral Home, 12 Meadow St., Ludlow. Graveside Committal services and interment with military honors followed in the Pleasant View Cemetery, Ludlow.

Memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to either the Black River Good Neighbor Services, 37b Main St. Ludlow, VT 05149 or to the Muscular Dystrophy Association - USA National Office 222 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1500 Chicago, Illinois 60606.

Constance Mary ‘Connie’ (Carpenter) O’Brien, 85

WINCHENDON — Constance Mary “Connie” (Carpenter) O’Brien of Winchendon, formerly long-time resident of Littleton passed away peacefully on November 17, 2017 surrounded by her loving family. She was 85 years old. Born in Arlington on January 11, 1932, she was the eldest daughter of Leo and Alice (Hammel) Carpenter.



Connie began her social life at the age of six attending St. Agnes parochial school in Arlington and later graduating from St. Columbkille High School in Brighton in 1950. Active in school as a cheerleader and on the drill team, Connie was successful winning many competitions. She was on many committees and eventually served as class president. It was during this time that Connie met her soon-to-be-husband, Jackie while living in Brighton with her family. Jackie and Connie began dating in 1947 and were married at Our Lady of Presentation Church in Brighton on March 1, 1949. Together they were blessed with seven children; the joys of their lives.

Jackie worked two jobs which allowed Connie to be an amazing homemaker and mother. Always guiding her children through life, she taught them to be respectful, honest and not afraid of hard work. To financially help contribute to her family, Connie made and sold beautiful birthday and wedding cakes. Connie loved to sew and made most of the clothes for her family. She enjoyed the holidays, and was especially fond of visiting with her family on Easter Sunday with their new outfits that she had hand-made from the inside out.

Known for being a fabulous cook, Connie was famous for her meatballs,

chocolate chip cookies and her lasagna. In addition to her food platters and dinners, she was also a very accomplished knitter. The number of crocheted afghans, tatted doilies, tied blankets and other crafts is unceasing. She was an ardent Red Sox supporter and had an unmatched zest for life.

Connie did not drive until she was 50 years old. She worked at the Old Oaken Bucket in Westford and cooked for the hot bar at Donelan’s of Littleton until 1995. She was later employed by Idylwilde farm in Acton until her retirement in 2000. Connie danced her way through life with a smile on her face. Her kindness, giving spirit, infectious laugh, feistiness and ardent faith will live on through her family. She will be deeply missed.

Connie is survived by her children and their spouses; James “Jimmy” O’Brien (Piper), Kathleen “Cathy” Taylor (Bob), Maureen O’Brien and Daniel “Danny” O’Brien (Sheila). She is also survived by her siblings; Mary Lally, Carol Lento, Leo Carpenter Jr., Francis Carpenter as well as 13 Grandchildren and 26 Great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, Jackie, Connie is sadly predeceased by her children; John “Obie” O’Brien, Geraldine “Gerry” Britt and Joseph “Joey” O’Brien. She is also predeceased by her sister, Marjorie Porter.

Family and friends gathered to honor and remember Connie on Monday, Nov. 27 in the Badger Funeral Home, 347 King St., Littleton. Her funeral service was held on Tuesday, Nov. 28 in the funeral home. Burial followed at Westlawn Cemetery, Littleton.

For those who wish, memorial contributions can be made to: The Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675-8517. To share a memory or offer a condolence visit: www.badger-funeral.com.

Thomas William Perry Sr., 60

WINCHENDON — Thomas William Perry Sr., age 60, of Winchendon passed away after a courageous battle with cancer on Monday, November 27, 2017, at home surrounded by his beloved family.



Thomas was born in Johnstown, PA on April 30, 1957 the son of Eileen (Gilbert) Perry of North Reading, and the late Robert Perry.

In addition to his mother, Tom leaves his loving wife and soulmate of 31 years, Jeanette (Bastarache) Perry, sons Thomas William Perry Jr. and Tyler Joseph Perry, daughter Ashley Marie Perry, all of Winchendon; brothers Robert Perry and his wife Cindy of Rowley, and James Perry of North Reading; sisters Carol Delacy and husband Richard of Stoneham, Kimberly O’Brien and husband Mark of Wakefield, and several nieces and nephews. Tom also leaves his mother-in-law Lorraine Bastarache of Gardner and sisters-in-law Ann (Bastarache) Richard and husband Bruce of Gardner, and Aline Ward and her husband Larry of Falmouth.

Tom was pre-deceased by his father Robert Perry (2010), sister Susan Callahan (2006) and nephew David

Callahan (2017).

Tom’s greatest joy was spending time with his family, a devoted father practicing “family first” in everything he did. Tom was a die-hard New England sports fan, loved summers fishing at the camp in Maine, gardening, and spending time volunteering to a number of local organizations.

Tom graduated in 1975 from Wakefield High School, and UMass Lowell in 1979 with a BS in business. After college, Tom began his career with Simplex Time Recorder in 1979 where he advanced to the role of director of finance which he retired from in 2015.

Calling hours will be held Sunday, December 3, 2017 from 5 to 7 P.M. in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home 343 Central St. Winchendon. A memorial service will be held at a later date at the Melrose/Highlands Congregational Church 355 Franklin St, Melrose, MA. There will be no funeral.

In lieu of flowers it is asked that donations in memory of Tom be made to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (www.Dana-Farber.org). Tom’s family wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to Dr. Douglas Rubinstein and Beth Goddard, NP of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and the Gardner VNA for their exceptional care over the past few years.

More Obituaries
On Page 9



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SPORTS

Steroids users ineligible... a good plan

Joe Morgan, the Hall of Fame second baseman from Cincinnati's "Big Red Machine" of the 1970s, sent a letter last week, co-signed by other HOFers, imploring baseball writers not to support any alleged steroid users for induction into Cooperstown.

Morgan is right. Criteria is very subjective so the lack of conclusive evidence regarding PED use becomes largely irrelevant. Each voter can create their own eligibility standards once a player has been retired for five years.

Hence there are voters who shrug at Barry Bonds and vote for him anyway or vote for him because they say he never failed a drug test and there are voters who are sure Bonds was

juicing and will never vote for him. The same issue arises about Clemens and Sosa and McGwire and Ramirez and soon enough for A-Rod and yes, to some extent for David Ortiz and others.

For me, the aforementioned group has no place in baseball's pantheon. I'm as sure as I can be that Cal Jr. never cheated and Derek Jeter never cheated and while there are reasons to look at some guys with a degree of skepticism, the above mentioned seven put up the kind of numbers late in their careers which definitely warrant exclusion and Mac of course copped to using. A younger electorate down the road might look at things differently but for now, Joe



TALKING SPORTS

JERRY CARTON

Morgan's plea is probably and rightly going to be heeded.

I like college hoops a lot more than I like college football, likely because Maryland has a big-time basketball program and a beyond-sorry football one. Last Saturday the Terps finished another dismal (4-8) season with a 66-3 embarrassment against Penn State. So be it. Again. Nonetheless on balance, the college version is far more entertaining than that of

the No Fun League. Alabama-Auburn was dramatic and tense. The four-team playoff system offers opportunities galore for spirited debate. I don't watch many games but what I do see is a lot more fun than the product served up on Sundays. And Mondays. And Thursdays. There's also a lot more passion.

That's true with college sports in general. Here in New England, pro sports have always been more popular but if you think Red Sox or Patriots fans are passionate, check out a slew of college venues. You'll see deeper emotion and energy than you will at any professional event. Get a glimpse of Allen Fieldhouse in Lawrence, KS or the Horseshoe in Columbus,

OH. Try the Xfinity Center in College Park, MD or Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn, AL. Granted pro sports have a number of, shall we say, quite heated rivalries, but the enmity of those pale in comparison to the legendary college football and basketball ones. Or so it says here.

Maybe you read the NFL is thinking about keeping players in the locker room during the playing of the anthem next year. Well. That's how it was until 2009 anyway, when the league signed a promotional deal with the Pentagon. Displays of "patriotism" staged only because money changed hands is pretty slimy, don't you think? Thought so. See you next week.

Murdock Turkey Day drought continues

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

It has now been 11 years since the Murdock Blue Devils varsity football team has tasted victory on Thanksgiving. The Narragansett Warriors extended their mastery over the Devils to 10 straight Turkey Day tilts with a 26-0 win last Thursday morning at Arthur L. Stuart Memorial Field in Baldwinville.

Things got off to rough start for the Blue Devils early in the first quarter when the Warrior took possession on a Murdock fumble near mid-field. On the first play from scrimmage, 'Gansett quarterback Damian Comeau connected with fellow sophomore Antonio Stakley for an air strike that went 47 yards for the touchdown. Comeau tacked on a successful point-after kick to give the Warriors a 7-0 lead.

Comeau then booted a high, short kick during the ensuing kickoff. The ball was snagged mid-air by freshman Warrior Matt Corbiel, handing possession back to Narragansett at the Murdock 48. The Warriors took just four plays, aided by a defensive pass interference call against the Devils, to move the ball to the Murdock 7-yard line. From there, Jake Mott rambled into the end zone for 'Gansett's second TD. Another successful PAT from Comeau put the Warriors up 14-0.

The Warriors were able to tack on another score before half-time when Comeau, taking the snap at the Blue Devil 27, tossed a perfect strike over the Murdock defender to connect with Stakley, who was racing down the left side. The point after attempt was unsuccessful and the score at the half stood at 20-0.

The second half was mainly a defensive contest, with 'Gansett holding Murdock to just 18 yards total offense.

The lone score of the half came when Comeau again tossed to Stakley, who took the ball in from seven yards out for the final score of the game; 26-0.

Sam Drake, who accounted for 48 of Murdock's 103 yards of total offense, was named offensive MVP for the Blue Devils. Stakley took home the honor for the Warriors.

Murdock's defensive MVP was Logan Hawkins, who tallied a quarterback sack and foiled a screen pass for a 'Gansett loss. David West earned defensive MVP honors for the Warriors.

Sportsmanship awards were hand-



Greg Vine photos

The Murdock Blue Devils and Narragansett Warriors wait for the snap during last Thursday's annual Thanksgiving Day tilt between the two rivals

ed to Murdock's Jesse Nolette and Narragansett's Jake Mott.

The Blue Devils end their season with a record of 4-7, while the Warriors finish 6-4.

This was the 46th time the teams have faced off on Thanksgiving, with Narragansett holding a 36-10 advantage over Murdock in the series.



Murdock quarterback James Anderson tries to break through the line during the Blue Devils annual battle with the Narragansett Warriors last Thursday in Baldwinville.



The Murdock Blue Devils and Narragansett Warriors collide after the snap on a play during the first half of last Thursday's annual Thanksgiving Day game.

Soccer marathon nets more than 1K

In the end, more than 25 donors and 50 players contributed to the success of Murdock's first soccer marathon last month, raising \$1,120 for the program.

"We 'netted' enough for one goal frame," said varsity girls coach Jason Marshall.

All told, the marathon lasted some 15 hours at the Clark Memorial YMCA field house over the first weekend in November.

Donors included Darlene Rossi of Morin Real Estate, April Ondis from MWCC,

Nicole Blais (GFA), Shannon Clinkscale (Chapel Bethany Bible Church), Mike Quinn (YMCA), Calvin Miller (United Parish Youth Group), Andy Brooks (Brooks Auto), Caittie Kelly (Edward Jones), Sen. Ann Gobi (D), Kiwanis, Christo's Place, Pattie's Jewelry, Michael Manca, Doreen and Melissa Bennett, Bill Puishys, Aspens, Elly Hunter, Mrs. Romanowski (Lynn Sweets) and the Davis Family, Dennis Shubleka, Joe Jeeves, and Masao Okano, all from Iggy Foot soccer.

Things began somewhat slowly that Saturday morning but the pace picked up significantly as day became night.

Those playing in one or more of the hour-long sessions included varsity players Michaela Benedict, Alex Marshall, Mary Desire, Kate Hutton, Kaileen Dibble, Maria Polcari, Joseph Laford, Mackenzie Lundin, and

Cassidy Stadtfeld.

Murdock's all-time girls' leading career scorer, Mackenzie Rushia took part as well as did fellow alumni Sam Burdsall and Brian Pfeilfe. Other players included Arielle and Owen Benedict, Payton Smith, Jason Bourgin, Tazsha Manca, Garrett Marshall, David Romanowski, Tom Burdsall, Jordan Manuel, Zach Martins, and Becky and Jeff Benedict.

"We especially want to thank Noah and the Y for use of the facility," said Marshall. "It only cost us \$180 for 15 hours of soccer and that was a good deal."

"And," he added, "a super-duper thanks to Alex (girls assistant coach) Burke for his donation of food and drink."

The idea for the marathon came after this season had begun but Marshall said next year's edition will be a kickoff to the 2018 campaign and will be scheduled in August.

"We appreciate everyone who took part and donated," he said.

Scholarship tourney planned

BY JON KAMINSKY
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Murdock Athletics Basketball League will be holding its first 3 vs. 3 basketball tournament to raise money for the Harper Grace Scholarship Fund.

All proceeds from this event will be donated to this fund to commemorate the short but beautiful life of Harper Grace Lawler. Although her time with us was too short, she will live in the hearts of many forever. This tournament will take place Thursday, Dec. 14 at 6:00 p.m. at Murdock High School.

To participate you must register. Make checks payable to "MABL". Send them to 330 Maple St. Winchendon, MA 01475. There will be a \$20 fee for each player participating.

Any further information contact Donald Hunt at Donald3496@comcast.net or (978) 413-4558. You can also like M.A.B.L. on Facebook @ Murdock Athletics Basketball League.

The format of the tournament will be double elimination. There will be T-shirts for \$20 and also kids' T-shirts as well for \$10. Please privately message Donald Hunt if you are interested in buying a shirt with your size. A special thank you to Karen Drudi for designing the logo for the Harper Grace Scholarship Tournament! The logo will be found on player jerseys and T-shirts that are for sale.

Other donations are greatly appreciated as well.

If you're looking to have a fun time playing basketball while helping out a great cause, this is the place to be!

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OBITUARIES

Cynthia C. (Lemmon) Stevenson, 53

WINCHENDON — Cynthia C. (Lemmon) Stevenson, age 53, of Winchendon, died Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017.



Cindy was born in Framingham on March 28, 1964, daughter of Rosalie (Rigante) Lemmon of Framingham and the late James L. Lemmon. She was a graduate of Framingham North High School, class of 1982. Cindy graduated from Fitchburg State College with a Bachelor's degree and later with a Master's degree in special education. She lived in Winchendon for many years and recently had moved to Gardner.

Cindy worked for several years as a special education teacher at Toy Town Elementary School and Memorial School in Winchendon. She was a very caring individual, who loved her family, friends and students, which were the center of her life. Prior to teaching, Cindy co-owned and managed the family business Stevenson Contracting.

In addition to her mother, and step-

father Robert Rix, she is survived by six children, Kyle W. Stevenson and his partner Katie of Winchendon, Kristy C. Hagemeyer and her husband Zack of Winchendon, Ryan C. Stevenson of Jaffrey, Alexander J. Stevenson of the United States Marine Corps, Michael R. Stevenson of Winchendon and Sean O. Stevenson of Lunenburg; two grandchildren, Mya Hagemeyer and Warren Stevenson; three brothers, Roy D. Lemmon and his wife Kim of Sandwich, James L. Lemmon Jr. and his wife Corinne of Sterling, Robert B. Lemmon and his wife Michelle of Mashpee and a sister Leslie J. (Lemmon) Cella and her husband Paul of Swampscott, along with several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be held Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017 from 12 to 2 p.m. at the Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon. A funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. Saturday in the funeral home.

Memorial donations may be made to Cindy Stevenson Memorial Scholarship Fund, care of Murdock High School, 3 Memorial Drive, Winchendon, MA 01475.



Falmouth and Nadine Piermattei of Worcester and a sister Nadina Kotors of Winchendon. He had three sons that predeceased him, Dante Piermattei of Worcester, William M Paolini and

WORCESTER — Dante S.A. Piermattei age 87 died Sunday Oct. 29, 2017 at the St. Francis Rehab. & Nursing Center. He was the husband of the late Irene M. (Perron) Piermattei who died in 2009.

He leaves a son Mark Piermattei of Worcester, four daughters; Donna Piermattei of Mashpee, Joann Moore of Worcester, Lisa Piermattei and her finacee` James Fournier of East Falmouth and Nadine Piermattei of Worcester, four daughters; Donna Piermattei of Mashpee, Joann Moore of Worcester, Lisa Piermattei and her finacee` James Fournier of East

Phillip Paoloini and a brother Lindo Piermattei of Winchendon.

He was born in Winchendon son of the late Guerino and Justina (Mannone) Piermattei and lived in Worcester since 1955, prior to that living in Winchendon. He worked construction for many years. He served in the US Army as well as the US Navy and is a veteran of Korea.

There are no calling hours. A celebration of life was held Nov 24, 2017 Friday, at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Cub, 53 Norfolk St., Worcester. Burial will be private in the Veterans Cemetery, Winchendon, MA with military honors.

Donations may be made to your local veterans' organization in his memory.

The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

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

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

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.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

2:55-3:29 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:38 a.m.: info/general (Brown Street), info taken; 7:04 a.m.: accident (Teel Road), assisted; 7:14 a.m.: accident (Teel Road), report taken; 7:58 a.m.: harassment (Central Street), report taken; 9:26 a.m.: civil complaint (Northern Heights Drive), advised civil action; 11:00 a.m.: assist other PD (Central Street), services rendered; 11:44 a.m.: investigation (Memorial Drive), report taken; 11:45 a.m.: investigation (Memorial Drive), report taken; 3:08 p.m.: fraud (Town Farm Road), report taken; 3:53 p.m.: vandalism (Central Street), report taken; 3:57 p.m.: investigation (Central Street), report taken; 4:13 p.m.: warrant arrest (Railroad Street), Ryan D. Hobbs, 34, 6 Prospect Street Extension, Baldwinville, arrest based on warrant x 2; 5:02 p.m.: ambulance (Brown Street), report taken; 5:07 p.m.: erratic operation (Maple Street), report taken; 5:50 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Mellen Road), report taken; 5:54 p.m.: larceny (River Street), report taken; 5:56 p.m.: assist other PD (Central Street), services rendered; 6:02 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 6:20 p.m.: assist other PD (Main Street, Gardner), canceled; 6:42 p.m.: mental health issue (Jackson Avenue), transported to hospital.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

12:49-8:35 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:35 a.m.: summons service (Mill Street), unable to serve; 8:36 a.m.: summons service (School Street), served; 8:38 a.m.: summons service (Hitchcock Road), advised officer; 8:39 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 8:45 a.m.: summons service (Pearl Drive), unable to serve; 8:48 a.m.: summons service (Oak Street), served; 8:49 a.m.: summons service (Brown Street), advised officer; 8:50 a.m.: summons service (Hyde Park Drive) served; 8:52 a.m.: summons service (Summer Street), served; 9:31 a.m.: summons service (Academy Street), served; 9:53 a.m.: mv stop (Front Street), citation issued; 10:28 a.m.: fraud (Ash Street), report taken; 11:36 a.m.: disabled mv (Mill Circle), no service necessary; 12:14 p.m.: sex offender registration (Teel Road), assisted; 12:45 p.m.: warrant check (Old Gardner Road), no service

necessary; 1:00 p.m.: welfare check/elderly (Spring Street), spoken to; 1:21 p.m.: animal complaint (Hitchcock Road), referred to ACO; 1:26 p.m.: investigation (Central Street), info taken; 1:51 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), citation issued; 1:54 p.m.: summons service (Jackson Avenue), served; 2:11 p.m.: warrant arrest (Baldwinville State Road), unable to locate; 4:10 p.m.: erratic operation (School Street), referred; 5:05 p.m.: mv stop (Lincoln Avenue), Matthew Thomas Phillips, 28, 208 Lincoln Avenue, Winchendon, unlicensed operation, op w/suspended registration, uninsured mv; Rachel J. Day, 47, 208 Lincoln Avenue, Winchendon, allowing improper use of mv, uninsured mv, unregistered mv, citations issued; 7:09 p.m.: ambulance (Alger Street), no cause; 7:30 p.m.: suspicious mv (Lakeview Drive), towed; 8:24 p.m.: mv stop (Goodrich Street), verbal warning; 8:55 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:57 p.m.: suspicious auto (Spring Street), spoken to; 9:15 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 9:37 p.m.: mv stop (Grove Street), verbal warning; 11:53 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

12:51 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 12:57-12:58 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:02 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 1:13 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:18 a.m.: registration check (Spring Street), services rendered; 1:22 a.m.: fire alarm (Hyde Park Drive), services rendered; 1:54-2:11 a.m.: buildings checked; 2:18 a.m.: registration check (Murdock Avenue), spoken to; 5:15 a.m.: unattended death (Ipswich Drive), report taken; 6:23 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 7:25 a.m.: disabled mv (Glenallan Street), towed; 7:34 a.m.: assist citizen (Grove Street), info taken; 8:59 a.m.: animal complaint (Mill Glen Road), referred to ACO; 10:49 a.m.: suspicious mv (Robbins Road), secure; 11:55 a.m.: assist citizen (Old Gardner Road), referred to other PD; 1:04 p.m.: info/general (Main Street), assisted; 2:05 p.m.: animal complaint (Front Street), referred to ACO; 2:48 p.m.: welfare check/general (Royalston Road North), spoken to; 3:20 p.m.: suspicious mv (Rice Road), gone on arrival; 5:31 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 5:47 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 5:47 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 8:25 p.m.: DPW call (Western Avenue), services rendered; 8:50 p.m.: suspicious person (Gardner Road), services rendered; 9:52 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 10:12 p.m.: ambulance (Cabot Road), transported; 10:40 p.m.: mv stop (Webster Street), citation issued.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

12:52 a.m.: info/general (Ready

Drive), info taken; 3:21-3:36 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:33 a.m.: erratic operation (Spring Street), spoken to; 9:18 a.m.: suicide threats (Spring Street), assisted; 11:06 a.m.: ambulance (Spring Street), transported; 11:27 a.m.: ambulance (Pinewood Drive), transported; 2:38 p.m.: harassment (Mellen Road), spoken to; 3:58 p.m.: traffic hazard (Mill Glen Road), services rendered; 4:23 p.m.: FD call (Benjamin Street), services rendered; 4:27 p.m.: property found (Rice Road), services rendered; 5:00 p.m.: burglar alarm (Glenallan Street), secured bldg.; 5:48 p.m.: ambulance (Spruce Street), transported; 8:05 p.m.: assist citizen (Brown Street), spoken to; 8:51 p.m.: investigation (Alger Street), services rendered; 9:19 p.m.: 911 hang up (School Street), transported to hospital; 10:49 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 11:21 p.m.: ambulance (Highland Street), transported.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

12:59-1:46 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:52 a.m.: property found (Toy Town Lane), unable to locate; 8:25 a.m.: ambulance (Goodrich Drive), transported; 8:49 a.m.: warrant of apprehension (Old Gardner Road), unable to locate; 10:00 a.m.: mv stop (Lincoln Avenue Extension), verbal warning; 10:47 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), removed traffic hazard; 11:44 a.m.: officer wanted (Central Street), assisted; 12:22 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), citation issued; 1:02 p.m.: investigation (School Street), unable to locate; 1:13 p.m.: investigation (Baldwinville State Road), info taken; 1:14 p.m.: investigation (Lincoln Avenue), info taken; 3:33 p.m.: animal complaint (Baldwinville Road), services rendered; 4:03 p.m.: info/general (Central Street), spoken to; 4:16 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 5:09 p.m.: keep the peace (Maple Street), services rendered; 5:14 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), written warning; 5:35 p.m.: larceny (Gardner Road), report taken; 5:46 p.m.: officer wanted (Town Farm Road), report taken; 5:57 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), citation issued; 7:15 p.m.: FD call (Elm Street), referred; 7:37 p.m.: welfare check/general (Whitney Street), spoken to; 7:53 p.m.: investigation (Lake Dennison), spoken to; 8:08 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), written warning; 8:15 p.m.: erratic operation (Spring Street), Kate E. Nasiatka, 33, 148 Elm Street, Winchendon, OUI liquor, arrest; 10:34 p.m.: burglar alarm (Pond Street), secure.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

12:57-1:43 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:28 a.m.: fire/unknown type (Whitney Street), services rendered; 7:54 a.m.: open door/window (Baldwinville Road), secured bldg.; 8:23 a.m.: VIN inspection (Joslin Road), assisted; 10:16 a.m.: accident (Front

Street), report taken; 10:20 a.m.: FD call (Central Street), services rendered; 11:31 a.m.: accident (Hale Street), report taken; 11:52 a.m.: fire alarm (Linden Street), services rendered; 1:01 p.m.: investigation (Town Farm Road), services rendered; 1:27 a.m.: accident (Alger Street), juvenile arrest, 16, unlicensed operation, failure to stop/yield, report taken; 2:27 a.m.: unwanted party (Central Street), services rendered; 3:25 a.m.: disabled mv (Central Street), assisted; 3:43 p.m.: accident (Central Street), report taken; 4:04 p.m.: runaway (Polly's Drive), returned; 5:49-8:44 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:46 p.m.: fight (Ready Drive), Thomas P. Laffrennie, 31, 5 Ready Drive, Winchendon, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, arrest; 9:36 p.m.: registration check (Monadnock Avenue), info taken.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

12:50-3:43 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:33 a.m.: ambulance (Baldwinville State Road), transported; 11:08 a.m.: illegal dumping (Robbins Road), report taken; 12:50 p.m.: mv stop (Mason Street), verbal warning; 1:32 p.m.: larceny (Glenallan Street), report taken; 2:18 p.m.: officer wanted (School Street), report taken; 3:21 p.m.: larceny (Maple Street), report taken; 3:31 p.m.: property found (Teel Road), info taken; 5:22 p.m.: 5:36 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:39 p.m.: mv stop (Front Street), verbal warning; 6:27 p.m.: runaway (Polly's Drive), returned.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

12:24-12:57 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:57 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), spoken to; 12:59 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:06 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), spoken to; 1:27 a.m.: investigation (Spring Street), services rendered; 1:57 a.m.: building checked, secure; 5:54 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 6:48 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 7:05 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), written warning; 7:57 a.m.: shoplifting (Gardner Road), report taken; 9:20 a.m.: investigation (Gardner Road), services rendered; 10:11 a.m.: drug/narcotics violation (Central Street), services rendered; 10:52 a.m.: animal complaint (Alger Street), referred to ACO; 1:04 p.m.: assist other agency (Joslin Road), services rendered; 1:54 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 2:31 p.m.: animal complaint (High Street), referred to ACO; 6:40 p.m.: ambulance (Chestnut Street), transported; 7:10 p.m.: assist citizen (Washington Avenue), spoken to; 7:19 p.m.: burglary/b&e (Mechanic Street), report taken; 7:40 p.m.: ambulance (Glenallan Street), transported; 8:38 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 9:02 p.m.: mv stop (Sprig Street), verbal warning; 9:58 p.m.: ambulance (West Street), transported.

Wreath project gearing up locally

Local volunteers are working hard to ensure that all veterans laid to rest at the *Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery* are honored this December on National Wreaths Across America Day.

This year, the ceremony, held simultaneously across the country at more than 1,000 locations, will be on Saturday, Dec. 16. The goal: to place a live, balsam fir wreath at the headstone of every veteran buried there and say each per-

son's name, so their memory lives on. The wreaths for this cemetery will be placed Dec. 15, beginning at 9 a.m., we welcome and encourage participation from our Massachusetts community.

From now until the end of November, donations are accepted to sponsor the 2,350 wreaths needed to honor every veteran at *Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery*.

"Each and every wreath is a gift from an appreciative per-

son or family who knows what it means to serve and sacrifice for the freedoms we all enjoy," said Karen Worcester, executive director of Wreaths Across America. "We are so humbled that the community of Winchendon is participating in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach."

National Wreaths Across America Day is a free event, open to all. For more information, to donate or to sign up to volunteer, please visit www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org.

[WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org).

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, begun by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester 25 years ago. The organization's mission — Remember, Honor, Teach — is carried out in part each year by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in December at Arlington, as well as at more

than 1,000 veterans' cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.

Donation checks can be made payable to: Winchendon Wreath Fund and mailed to: Bridget Marinelli, WAA Coordinator, 14 Winter Place, Winchendon, MA 01475, or login to www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org and make a site specific donation to Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Winchendon.



Winchendon Courier Classifieds

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JOB SEEKERS

Job Seekers Networking Group host-

ed by North Central Career Center and Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce. Meetings are open to all job seekers and are held on Wednesdays from 1-2 p.m. at the Chamber conference room, 29 Parker St. 2nd floor, Gardner. Contact the Chamber at (978) 632-1780.

EMPLOYERS

These help wanted ads are FREE! Contact the Courier to find out how to get help for your business by calling (978) 297-0050 x 100 or email ruth@stone-

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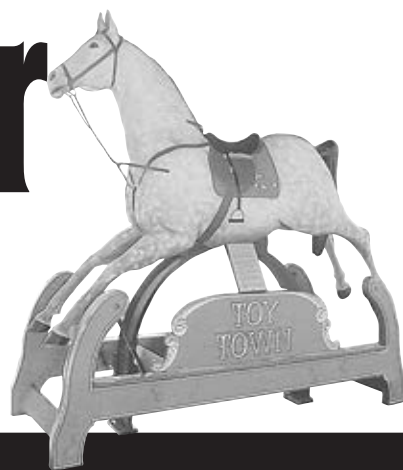
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Drum teacher Leon LaPlante seeks used instruments and drum stands to

help out high school students. (978) 297-1250.

YARD SALES

ATTENTION: yard sale ads here are FREE in the Winchendon Courier. Call (978) 297-0050 and leave a message with date, address and times of your sale and we will add it to the list. Deadline for all sales is Tuesday noon.



DEAD

continued from page A4

er-in-law, beat his wife, was drummed out of the armed forces, and yet no one seemed to see him as a threat.

The President was right to highlight mental illness as every bit as dangerous in our society as a gun. And a gun in the hands of a mentally ill person is carnage waiting to happen.

What can we do? We can step up and confront families who have children who appear to be dangerous. We can watch care-

fully for the signs. The police welcome receipt of a heads up about people in the community who might appear to present a danger.

We can continue to push the “If you see something, say something.” Too many of our fellow citizens will not take the risk of “ratting out” someone they know.

If we believe in the Constitutional right to bear arms, we can step back and work with our fellow citizens who do not agree with us and try to reach a compromise on the weapons that can do the

most damage. These will not be the weapons of hunters, or target shooters, or explorers of the wilds. Nor will they be the weapon a citizen keeps on his bedside stand to protest himself and his family from intruders. The compromise will be on the large capacity guns that no one needs in the conduct of his daily life.

For those who want to ban all guns, step back and use reason. It is not going to happen in this country, so work with those who think differently and try to improve the laws surrounding the purchase and

use of guns.

And finally, we must find ways to identify and treat mental illness as an illness, not as a family embarrassment. Parents must be encouraged and supported in getting help for any child who seems to be exhibiting anti-social behavior. The government must find a way to fund a much more extensive effort to work with these families and psychologists/psychiatrists need more freedom to report the serious and worrisome things they hear in therapy sessions.

As a final note, I would

add that the growth of terrorism, especially that carried out by lone terrorists, will undoubtedly bring about widespread belief that one needs a gun for personal and family protection. It is hard to argue against the idea that the future could hold some serious arguments over the right to be armed.

So the time is now to get under control weapons that are not needed and to understand that this problem of personal safety concerns is not going away in the world that we now confront.

CLOCK

continued from page A1

needed some oiling. It doesn't seem like much, and they don't need much oil, but once dry they kind of brought a lot of things to a halt. Oiling the pulleys made a big difference.”

As Tanguay explained, “It's all about the resistance. These old time keeping pieces weigh an awful lot, but as even a little dirt and grime stick to oil or grease and build on the gears over time, these devices encounter resistance, and over time that resistance begins to slow these clocks down and they start to lose time, sometimes a lot of time. Adversely, a lack of the minimal lubrication required, can also cause a loss of time.”

Tanguay also said, “Just this machine alone all by itself with the stand and the gears weighs a good 600 pounds. Now you add all these long cables, and then the heavy counterweights on the cables and you're talking some

serious weight that is being supported.”

How much weight suspended by the cables as designed by the original manufacturer, E. Howard & Company, was determined with a digital scale. Just one original counter weight checked in at 50 pounds. The cable and pulleys for the clock support nine weights at 450 pounds, and the same system for ringing the bell high above in the tower checks in at 21 weights and more than double at a total of 1,050 pounds. The huge bell needs equally impressive force to motivate it.

Amenta and Tanguay discussed long term care, even pointing out screws and pins which will need to be replaced down the road by machining parts to replace them. As the building was constructed in 1885, and the bell above sports an inscription of 1886, replacement parts purchased off the shelf are long past being available in your average store at now over 130 years old.

Amenta pointing at part of the clock said,

“See that shim, it was installed in 1976.”

Tanguay said, “some of these things we are talking about replacing in the future are the same ones on a tower clock I am working on in Vermont.”

Tanguay, who has traveled to multiple New England states examining many old time keeping marvels, said, “Most of the guys who worked on these old tower clocks were farmers back in the day and all they ever worked on were tractors, so they greased the heck out of them. Often times I find a way to put much grease on the gears. One tower clock I looked at before in Lexington even had a large pan underneath it to capture all the oil dripping down, which was totally unnecessary. I smiled and told the caretaker, I think you're doing it too much.”

Both agreed the clock needs a good cleaning once warmer weather returns. Every tooth on every gear will get a good scrubbing off and new light greasing because with these old clocks,

grime steals time.

Tanguay said, “They work so well, that the geniuses who built them knew they could and would last hundreds of years, so it's very important to know you have the right caretaker to keep them going.”

A master watchmaker, Tanguay also added, “As one gentleman in my profession once said, ‘If someone can make it, someone can fix it.’ It's actually easier to make these big old parts if needed nowadays with the tools we have, versus trying to hand cut them many years ago. I viewed a newly made replacement ratchet wheel, and I thought it was made by the original manufacturer E. Howard himself.”

After other further examinations, Tanguay noticed that the wooden casing around heavy steal pendulum lacked proper lower support.

Tanguay said, “I would strongly suggest placing a good support across the bottom of the pendulum casing, or on the floor reaching up to it, because if it somehow it ever broke free



Tanguay examines the massive bell and its supports high above in the Old Murdock clock tower.

it could pick up enough momentum to possibly crash through the floor below.”

Tanguay offered Amenta assistance with a full cleaning of the tower clocks parts next spring and summer.

“It will be down for a week. We can each take home some parts and clean them. These screws, bushings, gears, and other parts all need to be cleaned. Art and I can each share in the parts cleaning and get it done working together.”

Both Winchendon and Templeton each share a classic E. Howard tower clock. Toy Town's still functioning in its original building, and Templeton's fully restored by Tanguay and proudly displayed by the Narragansett Historical Society. But more importantly both towns share Amenta and Tanguay, who will work together keeping history in motion, and a glorious past alive and well in the present for the future.

FEES

continued from page A1

son where there is no address,” added Smith. “But we all work together to get as much information as we can.”

Hickey said the recent addition of a support staff person at the department to help facilitate billing and information gathering has helped improve the collection process.

“We found that getting this information down

to our billing company, and our billing company getting out the bills on a more timely basis has improved our collection percentage,” said Hickey. “So, some of this money that we may have to write off now, we shouldn't have to do because we've improved our billing processes.”

“Just to throw it out there, this is a fire truck here,” said Selectman Mike Barbaro. “I want to say, ‘who do I hang?’

Because someone made a mistake. Someone's responsible for billing data dating back to 2006 not being followed up on in a timely manner. So, we now have to write off \$249,745.52.”

“I'm not blaming you, per se,” said Barbaro to Smith. “But that is a lot of money in a town that's been fiscally strapped. To me, someone has to be held accountable.”

“To address that a little bit,” Smith replied,

“Coastal Medical currently has a policy on how they send out their 30-day notice, 60-day notice, 90-day notice. Nowhere in the past did the community set up anything with Coastal as far as a policy to send them to collection. We addressed that with this board, I believe, a little over a year ago. A lot of these calls came before I was even here, so I can't speak to all of them. I think we've got a good

grasp on this moving forward.”

“I feel like this is a gamble you take with the health care industry,” interjected board Chairman Barbara Anderson. “You can't deny somebody service and they don't always have the ability to pay.”

“I'm not suggesting anyone be denied service,” said Barbaro. “I'm bitching in general as a taxpayer about two-hundred-something-thou-

sand dollars being written off because, in my estimation, of poor record-keeping. We're buying a new fire truck, and there's most of it.”

When asked by Selectman C.J. Husselsbee about the percentage of billing currently being collected, Smith responded, “I believe we're somewhere in the high 80s or low 90s.”

The vote of the board to approve the write-off was unanimous.

BOOK

continued from page A1

out once I joined Toast Masters. But then a friend added a few poems, and another friend drew the illustrations, and it was then I decided to write the book as a children's book in hopes that this would help them to learn they have a voice.”

During the event, a portion of each sale by a Winchendon resident or teacher was donated to the fundraiser. Additionally, an on-line shopping event was available to support the book

fair which took place Nov. 9-14.

As the event was a trial run and it took time for Atter receive the final tally, as of Nov. 27, Barnes & Noble contacted her and Memorial School raised \$185 on their first try, and will receive a \$185 gift card.

Barnes & Nobel Assistant Manager John Turner said, “We always try to reach out to the community. We approached your school system which is a smaller school system, to try to help you raised money to get the books you need as we know many districts have cutbacks

right now, and this is an opportunity we wanted to provide your school with to help you get the things you need to get by with.”

After the event Atter said, “I love to see the community support. It's just great to come out here down in Leominster on a Thursday night and see the familiar faces supporting us for this first time event, and see people coming out to support their school. I think this is great and I love it, and I thank all those that helped us kick off this event for the first time.”

POTS HOP

continued from page A1

children,” said BOS Chair Michael Bettencourt. Cape Cod towns Mashpee and Sandwich did likewise for the same reasons.

Closer to home, Trichome Health is asking Westminster's Board of Selectmen to support or at least not oppose a proposed facility on Theodore Drive.

“We're looking for a letter of support or non-opposition to do cultivating, processing and dispensing,” said Trichome CEO Alexander Mazin. “This is only for medical purposes. I know there are concerns on the recreational side of things but everything our company is trying to do is for medical use.”

Massachusetts voters approved a ballot question legalizing medical mari-

juana back in 2012 and last year okayed recreational use under state-created guidelines. Towns whose voters cast a majority in favor of pot cannot ban dispensaries without another referendum but do have the authority to determine where the shops can be located. Winchendon voters supported last year's referendum as they did in 2012 and for a while the town was seen as a prospective cultivating and/or dispensary site. That didn't pan out as companies chose to look elsewhere in the north central Worcester county region. Westminster is the nearest town to Winchendon remaining under consideration.

If Westminster becomes the site, Trichome estimates some 25-30 jobs will be created. Pay scales will run between \$15-\$22 per hour.

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LEGALS

(SEAL)

**COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT**

**17 SM 004886
ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:
Thomas C. D'Intinosanto
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. §3901 *et seq.*
Bank of America, N.A.

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Winchendon, numbered 1 Maynard Street, given by Thomas C. D'Intinosanto and Teresa L. D'Intinosanto to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as nominee for GSF Mortgage Corp., dated May 29, 2008, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42921, Page 83, and now held by plaintiff by assignment has filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **December 25, 2017** or you will be forever barred from claiming that you are entitled to the benefits of said Act.

Witness, JUDITH C. CUTLER Chief Justice of this Court on November 15, 2017

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
December 1, 2017

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

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Paul E. Hachey and Tammy L. Hachey to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Shelter Mortgage Company, L.L.C., its successors and assigns., dated

June 17, 2005 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 36583, Page 295 subsequently assigned to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Shelter Mortgage Company, L.L.C., its successors and assigns. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 49605, Page 77, subsequently assigned to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 56059, Page 379 and subsequently assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Trustee for Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust A by Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 56567, Page 288; of which Mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 AM on December 22, 2017 at 35 Chase Lane, Winchendon, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land, situated on Chase Lane, formerly known as Metcalf Street, Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts, being shown as Lot 10 on a plan entitled "Plan of land in Winchendon, MA, prepared for SK Properties A Chester Development Owner Steven E. Krook", dated August 27, 1993 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 701, Plan 69 (The Plan), further bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the corner of Lot 9, Lot 10 and the northerly side of Chase Lane, formerly known as Metcalf Street; Thence N. 21° 26' 32" E. 302.90 feet by Lot 9 to a point; Thence S. 68° 33' 28" E. 250.00 feet to a point; Thence 21° 26' 32" W. 150.96 feet to a point; Thence N. 68° 33' 28" W. 200.00 feet to a point; Thence S. 21° 26' 32" W. 126.94 feet to a point; Thence by a curve to the left having a radius of 25.00 feet, a distance of 39.27 feet to a point; Tehnce N. 68° 33' 28" W. 75.00 feet to the point of begin-

ning. For Title, see BK 36583, PG 293. The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, building and zoning laws, liens, attorney's fees and costs pursuant to M.G.L.Ch.183A, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. **TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.**

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

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Trustee for Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust A
Present Holder of said Mortgage,
By Its Attorneys,
ORLANDS PC
PO Box 540540
Waltham, MA 02454
Phone: (781) 790-7800
16-006908
December 1, 2017
December 8, 2017
December 15, 2017

(SEAL)

**COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT**

**17 SM 008188
ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:
Richard Warpula Jr.; Christine Warpula

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act., 50 U.S.C.c. 50 §3901 (et seq): **U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for the RMAC Trust, Series 2016-CTT**, claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Winchendon, numbered **52 Belmont Avenue**, given by **Richard Warpula Jr and Christine Warpula to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Sherwood Mortgage Group, Inc, its successors and assigns**, dated **July 8, 2002**, and recorded with the **Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds** in Book **26954**, Page **132**, and now held by plaintiff by assignment has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **December 25, 2017** or you will be forever barred from claiming that you are entitled to the benefits of said Act.

Witness, JUDITH C. CUTLER Chief Justice of this Court on November 13, 2017

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
(17-008661 Orleans)
December 1, 2017



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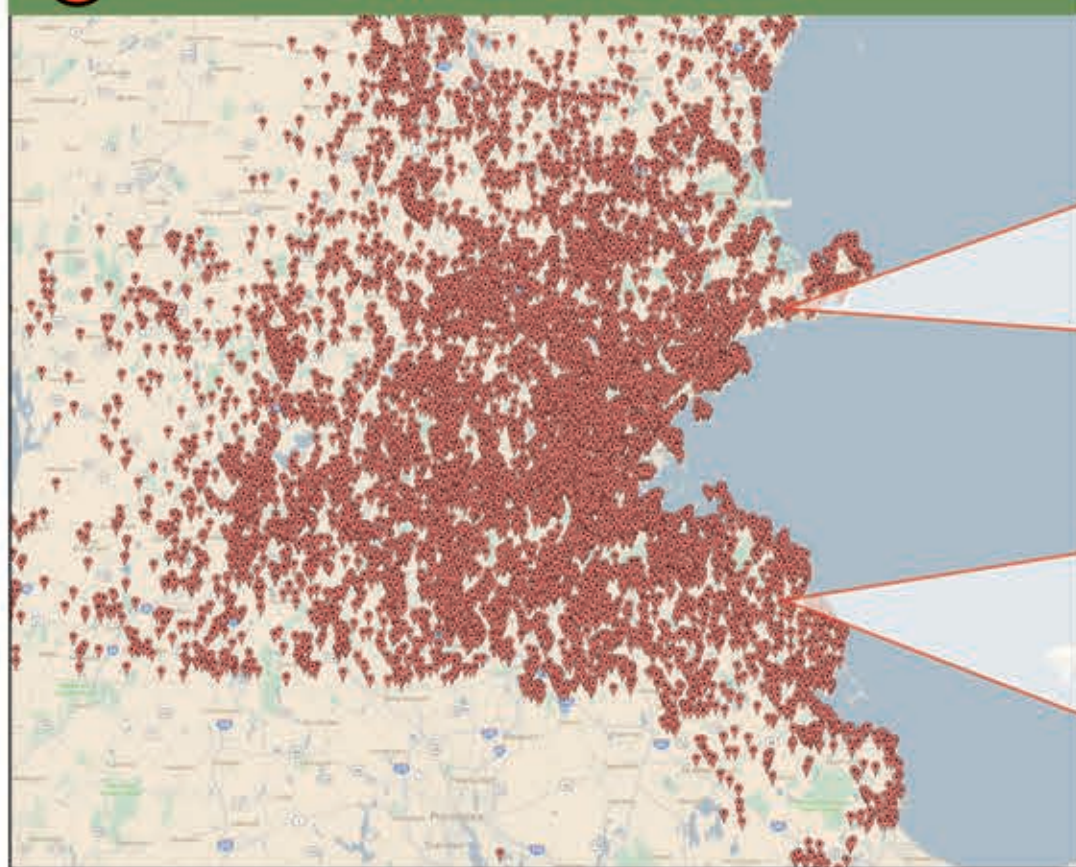
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