

Grant left in limbo as CAC chair boycotts the press

BY KEITH KENT

COURIER CORRESPONDENT

A regularly scheduled meeting of the board members of the Winchendon Community Action Committee to accept a \$35,000 donation from the Robinson Broadhurst Foundation to purchase a new van was left in limbo Sept. 27, as chairman of the board William C. Stewart Jr. informed Director Colleen Laperriere he would not attend because the press was

attending the meeting.

The meeting, which was scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m., fell short of a 50 percent board membership quorum requirement as only member Gail Casavant and secretary Michelle Smith were in attendance accompanying Laperriere, who as director and a paid employee cannot be a member of the board.

Earlier the same day, the press notified Laperriere that it would like to attend the meeting to cover the Robinson-Broadhurst \$35K

donation.

Laperriere contacted Stewart, who informed Laperriere he did not want the press attending, according to Laperriere. The press informed Laperriere it would still be attending the meeting, as the WCAC receives \$18,000 from the town of Winchendon, as well as FEMA dollars and funds from the Massachusetts Outreach Council.

Shortly before the meetings scheduled start time, Stewart entered WCAC and was met by Laperriere who informed

Stewart the press was in attendance. Stewart was later seen through a window leaving the facility.

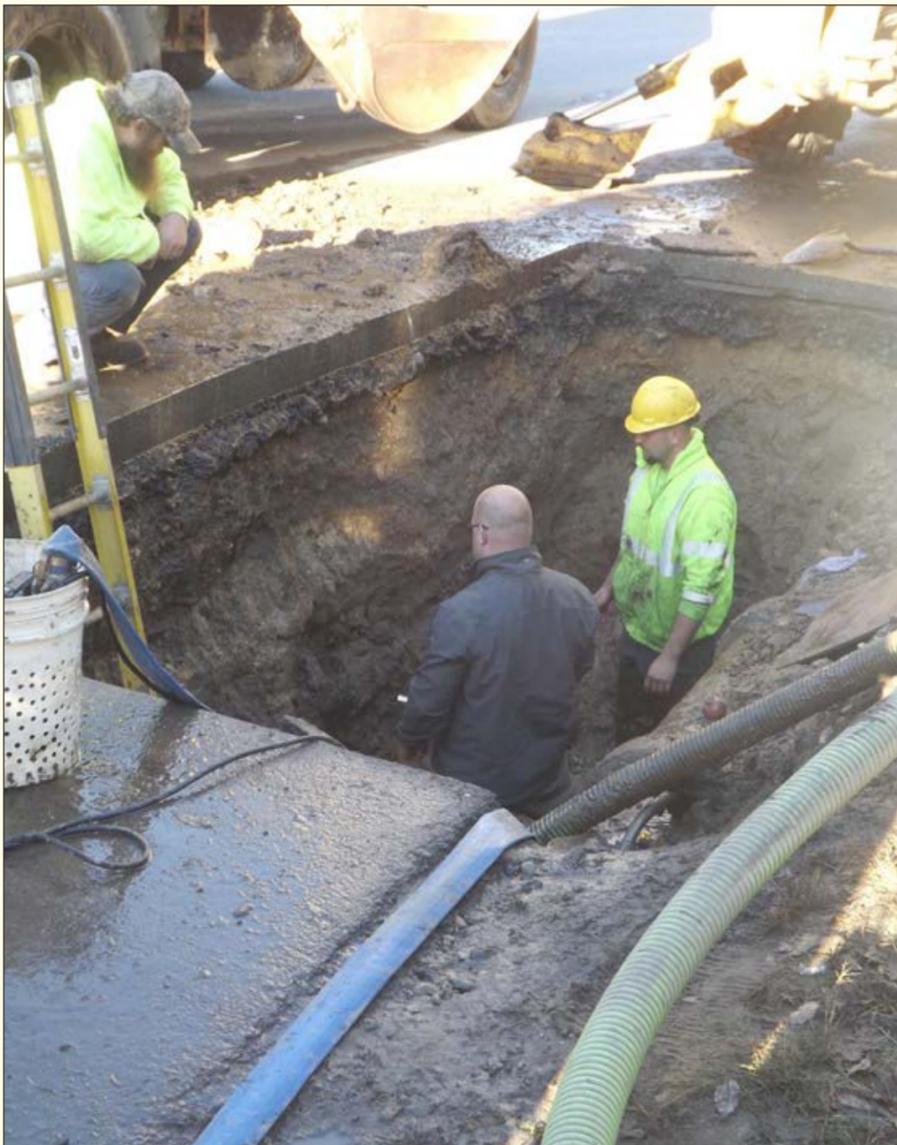
Laperriere, after the brief conversation with Stewart, again entered the meeting room and announced to both Casavant and Smith, "Bill has stated he will not be attending this evening's meeting because the press is here."

Shortly after, Laperriere and both board members then offered apology for the press coming to a cancelled meeting.

Immediately following, Laperriere said, "I don't know what to say. The press was here to cover the Robinson-Broadhurst donation to fund our new van. This would have been good for us. We also had a heavy agenda for the evening, and these agenda items cannot be put off."

During this time, town representative and WCAC board member as well as the MOC representative to the board Judy LaJoie, who also serves

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Greg Vine photo

Water Dept. and Public Works crews worked to fix a break in a 6-inch water line near the intersection of School and Front streets (routes 12 & 202) last Friday morning. The northbound side of School Street was closed to traffic for about 5-1/2 hours. Motorists were detoured onto side streets to get around the closure.

Breaks tied to water tank work

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — The northbound lane of School Street-Route 12, at the intersection of Front Street-Route 202, was shut down last Friday morning as crews worked to patch a break in a 6-inch water main. Motorists

were forced to use side streets to get around the closure.

It was the 10th such break Water Department and DPW workers have had to deal with since the beginning of the year. Three of those breaks occurred between January and April, while most of the rest have happened since work began on repairing the

town's two water tanks.

Why an increase in the number of ruptures?

"It's my opinion, it's (town engineering consultant) Tighe and Bond's opinion, it's the people fixing the tanks opinion, and it's former DPW Director Mike

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Tri-Board meeting addresses projected funds and future school options

BY KEITH KENT
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — A joint tri-board meeting of the School Committee, Finance Committee, and the Selectmen was held Sept. 28 covering everything from projected free cash, to possible future school funding options including, but not limited to, revenue sharing.

Town Manager Keith Hickey opened by introducing town accountant William Schlosstein announcing Schlosstein has closed the books, and outside auditor and CPA firm Roselli & Clark was in the previous week to finalize field work. A balance sheet outlining all major funds in town was provided, along with what Hickey explained was an analysis of the general fund equity.

Hickey announced an "un-certified free cash" of \$1.37 million. The amount included the annual bond payment for

the deficit legislation of about \$325K including principle and interest for fiscal 2018. Of the \$500K in free cash balance left after necessary expenditures, Hickey proposed the amount be spent on a variety of items such as \$250K in capital items once free cash was certified, and restoring the town and school budgets for funds from the solar array located at the old landfill which was anticipated, but will not be connected to the grid until as late as May, 2018.

Schlosstein explained all figures have been certified to the DOR to be formally certified as free cash. Schlosstein noted the equity section of the general fund showed an undesignated fund balance of \$1,508,973.

Schlosstein said, "That's an important number, which represents the unrestricted fund balance and equity of the community."

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Grant application for RHI rehab in state's hands

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

If the state Department of Housing and Community Development approves a Community Development Block Grant application submitted by the town last week, Winchendon could see three-quarters of a million dollars invested in its downtown. The DHCD's blessing would result in \$750,000 being used to rehabilitate 212 Central St. — what is known locally as the Rome Block to some, the RHI building to others. The structure occupies the southwest corner of Railroad and Central streets.

The proposal is being promoted by Elm Grove Companies of Manchester, NH, and local realtor Michelle Peterson.

Plans call for the first floor to accommodate four commercial storefronts or offices along Central Street, along with one two-bedroom apartment in the rear of the building, which would comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The apartment, along with entry to the interior of the building, would be accessed from Railroad Street.

Two restrooms, a small kitchen space, and a storage room would also occupy the rear of the building.

Winchendon Planning and Development Director Tracy Murphy said plans for the installation of an elevator have been dropped.

"The state Architectural Access Board said it wasn't necessary," said Murphy.

"We'll have to wait and see how DHCD reacts to that. Hopefully, they'll be fine with it."

The second floor of the building will house six apartments and a laundry room.

To provide parking for residents and businesses, Elm Grove plans to purchase the neighboring building at 206 Central St. Three spaces will be placed along the south side of the Rome Block, with another seven planned for the rear of 206 Central. An attached storage building in the rear of the RHI building will be removed to allow for unimpeded one-way access from the parking areas. Entry will be from Central Street, via a driveway between 206 and 212 Central St., while vehicles will exit by way of Railroad Street.

The Rome Block — or RHI building — has had a number of tenants since it was built around the turn of the last century. Durgins Pharmacy occupied the storefront at the corner of Railroad and Central streets nearly from the moment the building opened for occupancy. Other tenants included a dry goods and jewelry store — operated by John Hager — as well as a clothing store and a shoe store. Dentist Charles Norcross occupied space on the second floor, which also accommodated a hall run by the Waticat Tribe Improved Order of Redmen. The Redmen sponsored dances in the hall during the winter months and band concerts at a bandstand on Oak Street during the summer. Due

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Local schools do safety training

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Schools were closed for students last Friday, but staff from throughout the district gathered at Murdock for A.L.I.C.E. training, the blueprint for how to cope with potentially lethal building intruders, especially active shooters.

A.L.I.C.E., an acronym for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate, is used by more than 4,200 school sys-

tems and thousands of other organizations throughout the country ranging from health care facilities to houses of worship to government agencies.

Conducted by school police resource Officer Tracy Flagg and school psychologist Jane Greenfield, participants engaged in a mock exercise designed to demonstrate what to do, and what not to do, in case of an emergency.

Prior to the drill, Flagg and Greenleaf talked about how to

react. Flagg, for example, said anything can, if necessary, be used as a weapon, citing fire extinguishers. She reminded the first step in the process is to alert authorities about situations, mentioning texts and emails along with phone calls as potentially effective means of communications.

Greenleaf pointed out the urgency of "being aware" before anything even happens.

"Close doors that are

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LOCAL

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SPORTS

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WEEKLY QUOTE

It's the story that counts.

Vincente Minnelli



COURIER CAPSULES

DINNER & A SHOW

United Parish Church, 39 Front St., Winchendon on Sunday, Oct. 15 presents a pulled pork dinner 5-6 p.m. followed by a concert by the Kempter's Family Gospel Band at 6:30 p.m. A free-will offering at both events!

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

CALL FOR ARTISTS

The Jaffrey Civic Center is seeking artwork from the public to be included in our annual Autumn Art Exhibit. We are looking for all types of media including but not limited to: photographs, paintings, drawings, textiles, glassworks, paperworks, pottery pieces, woodwork and other 3D disciplines. The show will run from Friday, Nov. 17th through Saturday, Dec. 16th. There will be an Opening Reception, which is free and open to the public on Saturday, Nov. 18th from 5-7 p.m. with great food and drink. Dates to drop off artwork are Monday, Nov/ 6th through Saturday, Nov. 11th.

Entry forms can be downloaded from

our website at www.jaffreyciviccenter.com or at the center. Please call or email us at if you have any questions.

The Jaffrey Civic Center is located at 40 Main St. Jaffrey, next to the Library, parking in rear. Hours are Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed 12-1pm), Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Admission is always free. For more information about us, call (603) 532-6527, e-mail us at info@thejaffreyciviccenter.com, visit our website, or "Like" us on Facebook.

Abductee at UFO Conference

Travis Walton, a logger allegedly abducted by a UFO while working in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest in Arizona in November 1975, will be appearing at the 5th Annual Greater New England UFO Conference in Leominster this weekend. Walton's abduction was the subject of the 1993 movie "Fire in the Sky."

The conference takes place at Leominster City Hall, 25 West Street, on Friday from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission Friday night is \$10, children under 12 \$5. Saturday's admission is \$25, children under 12 \$10.

Walton will be appearing Saturday afternoon.

Also taking part in the conference, both Friday and Saturday, will be Nick Redfern, seen on History Channel's "Monster Quest" and "UFO Hunters." He is also the author of such books as The NASA Conspiracies and The Real Men in Black.

There will also be a costume contest with prizes at noon on Saturday.

Tickets may be purchased through EventBrite, at Leominster City Hall, or at the door.

Youth Venture off and running for new year

BY JERRY CARTON
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Greg Vine photo

Carryovers from last year and new projects for this highlight the goings-on at United Way Youth Venture's Murdock High School program.

Included among the carryovers are the Benches project headed by Lily LeBlanc and Hannah Turner and Marissa Losurdo's Blue Hands project. New this year are Regame Health led by Julio Rodriguez and after the override vote spelled the demise of her Band Buddies work, Michaela Benedict will be gearing up a new project in conjunction with the Gardner Rotary Club.

"These projects take time to develop," said United Way Youth Venture program manager Evan Berry, who is based at Mount Wachusett Community College. "We're encouraged by the commitment we are seeing."

Bryan Nolan is the Commonwealth Core Service member assigned to Murdock and both have attended the local YV meetings in recent weeks.

Berry noted Rodriguez' project was actually launched by Julio's brother Felipe, who's now at Monty Tech.

"We strongly encourage collaboration between students even from different schools. It's good for them to talk to and work with other schools when they can," he said.

Rodriguez, who said he's been interested in doing such a project since sixth grade, and his team propose to take old boards, refurbish them and distribute them as games to sick children at Heywood

A number of Murdock High School students will be participating this year in Youth Venture, a program designed to empower "young people to envision, create, and see the impact of their own youth-led social enterprises." (l-r) Bryan Nolan, Murdock Youth Venture liaison; Kris Provost, Murdock Youth Venture champion, and; Evan Berry, program manager for Youth Venture.



Hospital in Gardner.

"There's not much to do when you're sick and so we, well my brother, we came up with this idea and while they're recovering, they'll have these games to play," he remarked.

Losurdo said her involvement came about because, "I wanted to do something. Our project - the whole idea is we want to create a safe place. It was cool we got teachers to go along and support us."

"This was originally Hannah's idea. She went through a rough time and I wanted to support her in anything she did so I was glad to become part of this," reflected Losurdo.

Murdock Youth Venture faculty champion Kris Provost pointed out there are inevitably going to be bumps in the road as projects move towards fruition.

"The important thing is how they respond to those challenges," he noted.

The regional fall YV kick-off event is slated for Friday, Oct. 20 at the Mount. For newcomers, "it's an opportunity to learn more about Youth Venture and pick up tips about putting together a team," said Berry, adding

that for students already in the program, the kickoff will give them a chance to network with peers from other schools and see what those students are doing, and how their efforts are progressing.

"That can give them a sense of being in it with others. We think it's very valuable," Berry said.

Provost says Murdock's involvement "is making a difference. Our kids, the ones who are actively involved in Youth Venture are enthused and excited. It's important to them and they're contributing to the community."

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

WINCHENDON
\$555,000 106 Island Rd, Quebec, Michael A, to Geliah-Gale, Melissa, and Lindeman, Scott E.

\$350,000 25 Toy Town Ln, SS RT, and Galvin, Sarah A, to Gallant, Bruce R, and Gallant, Kristina A. \$245,000 288 Ash St, Field, Frederick C, and Field, Nancy A, to Ostergard, Brad, and Ostergard, Julie.

\$228,000 4 Town Farm Rd, Bozza Albert S Est, and Bozza, Donald, Rousseau, Thomas N.

\$205,000 159 Baldwinville State Rd, Bonfanti, Ana, to Fletcher, Bradford A.

\$193,000 85 Eagle Rd, Deutsche Bk Nati T Co Tr, to Pete Lyman Excavating LLC.

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HOW TO USE: THE WINCHENDON COURIER

A STONEBRIDGE PRESS PUBLICATION

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(978) 297-0050 x 100
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EMAIL: ruth@stonebridgepress.news

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44 CENTRAL STREET

The Winchendon Courier (USPS 685-920) is published weekly for \$45 per year (in county) by Stonebridge Press, 25 Elm St. St. Southbridge, MA 01550 Out of county rate is \$56 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Winchendon. To subscribe call (800) 367-9898. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Winchendon Courier, 44 Central St., Winchendon, MA 01475.

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UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title: WINCHENDON COURIER

2. Publication Number: 685-920-0

3. Filing Date: 09/28/17

4. Issue Frequency: WEEKLY

5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 52

6. Annual Subscription Price: \$45.00

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®): 44 CENTRAL ST., WINCHENDON, MA 01475

Contact Person: RON TREMBLAY
Telephone (include area code): 508-764-4325

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): STONEBRIDGE PRESS, INC., PO BOX 90, SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank):
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address): FRANK CHILINSKI, PO BOX 90, SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550
Editor (Name and complete mailing address): RUTH DEAMICIS, 44 CENTRAL ST., WINCHENDON, MA 01475
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address):

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name: STONEBRIDGE PRESS, INC. Complete Mailing Address: PO BOX 90, SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box None

Full Name: Complete Mailing Address:

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
 Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4) (see instructions page 4) PSN: 7530-01-000-9031 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

13. Publication Title		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below	
WINCHENDON COURIER		09/15/17	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
PAID		914	823
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)			
(1)	Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	66	59
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)			
(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	261	260
(3)	Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	469	377
(4)	Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)		
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		795	696
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)			
(1)	Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541		
(2)	Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	9	9
(3)	Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)		
(4)	Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		9	9
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		804	705
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		110	118
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		914	823
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		99%	99%

*If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

16. Electronic Copy Circulation

WINCHENDON COURIER

a. Paid Electronic Copies: 0

b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a): 795

c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a): 804

d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100): 99%

I certify that 99% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership
 If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 10/6/17 issue of this publication. Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: [Signature] Date: 09/28/17

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CLYDE'S CORNER

Saturday, October 7

FALL FEST: the entire length of Central Street will be closed off for a fun day of vendors, music, food and fun. Activities 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Parking at Ingleside off Maple Street with shuttle every 15 minutes.

FAMILY FESTIVAL OF DELIGHTS: among the offerings for the day long festivities is a lighthearted program of music by the Winchendon Winds at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 126 Central St. Featured will be familiar works by John Williams from favorite movies such as Star Wars, Raiders of the Lost Ark and others. Premiering at this concert will be the Toy Town March, a special work commissioned for Winchendon Winds to honor the town and its history. The concert begins at 2 p.m. and is free admission.

TOY TOWN MARKET: on the lawn of the Unitarian Universalist Church.

Sunday, October 8

MEAT RAFFLE: the Sons of the American Legion will hold a meat raffle at the American Legion, 295 School St., beginning at 2 p.m. A fundraiser for the scholarship program.

Thursday, October 12

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

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

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

Saturday, October 14

DEADLY CHATEAU SHENANIGANS: a comical mystery dinner at the Winchendon School dining hall presented by the Winchendon Kiwanis to benefit the backpack program for Winchendon public schools. Doors open at 5:30, show begins at 6 p.m. sharp. Cash beer & wine bar, raffles. \$45 per person. Tickets available from any Kiwanis member, at To Each His Own Design or by calling Bruce Cloutier, president at (978) 297-1815.

Sunday, October 15

DINNER & A SHOW: United Parish Church, 39 Front St., Winchendon on Sunday, Oct.15 presents a pulled pork dinner 5-6 p.m. followed by a concert by the Kempter's Family Gospel Band at 6:30 p.m. A freewill offering at both events!

Saturday, October 21

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Ladies Fellowship Retreat at United Parish, Saturday Oct. 21 from 8:30 a.m. -2 p.m. Guest speaker: Cherrilynn Bisbano. Lunch is catered by Panera Bread. Cost is \$30 per person. To register call the church at (978) 297-0616. All ladies welcome!

Wednesday, October 25

SENIOR WELLNESS DAY: The Old Murdock Senior Center will once again host their annual Senior Wellness Day on Wednesday Oct. 25 from 9 am to 12:30 p.m. The Center is located at 52 Murdock Ave., Winchendon.

Thursday, October 26

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

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hard-working volunteers.

Saturday, November 4

FALL FAIR: Fall Fair at the Hyde Park Drive Community Building in Winchendon Saturday, Nov. 4th, 9am to 2 pm. Crafts, flea market, ticket auction, goodies & Good Company.

TREATS FOR OUR TROOPS OWC: Holiday Treats for our Troops Operation Winchendon Cares drive. It will be from 9-11 a.m. at the Eugene M. Connor American Legion Post 193 on 295 School St. in Winchendon. We need holiday cards, holiday treats, and the usual array of necessities. Visit winchendoncares.com or our Facebook page for a complete list of needs. Always appreciate cash donations toward postage! And come help! Volunteers appreciated!

Thursday, November 9-Saturday, 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.

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Please send resume, cover letter and three news clips to mgaray@thegardnernews.com or Matt Garay, Managing Editor P.O. Box 340, Gardner, MA 01440

Polito gets update on Royalston broadband

BY GREG VINE
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Lieutenant Gov. Karyn Polito visited Royalston last week to get an update on the town's efforts to expand broadband service to the entire community. A roundtable discussion on the issue was held last Thursday morning at town hall.

Early last month, the state awarded a \$1.125 million Last Mile Infrastructure grant to Royalston to extend broadband connectivity to businesses and homes that now lack internet service.

Polito told town officials and residents, "It's very important that the state invest its resources across the Commonwealth to prepare communities for success and opportunity and to allow you to control your future. Whether it's technology in your schools, technology in your homes and in the businesses to create more opportunity for people, we need to do that."

"This is not the state dictating the terms for you, it's you deciding the path you want to take," she said

Royalston Broadband Committee Chairman Andy West told the Lt. Governor that expanded broadband service would allow small businesses in Royalston, most of which are run from home, an increased opportunity to compete.

"They will benefit enormously from having the internet," said West.

He added that the town's efforts were aimed at providing affordable, reliable service.

As if to underscore that point, town IT Director John Hardie told Polito that on the morning of her visit the DSL service on which much of the town currently relies failed and was out for several hours.

West said the system the town plans to utilize would use both fiber and wireless distribution.

A pilot program implemented in South Royalston has worked well and town wants to expand the same system community-wide.

Hardie said Royalston plans to install five towers which "talk" to access points, which are local neighborhood access points, and they in turn 'talk' to houses." Each tower will duplicate the service now in used in South Royalston.

Ed Skutnik, director of technology for the Athol-Royalston Regional School District said the new system would be a boon to the Royalston Community School, a K-6 school with about 150 students and 20 staff members. Internet service there now, he said, is limited and unreliable.

"We do share your enthusiasm," said Polito, adding "we to make sure it gets done in a way that your citizens here expect it will."



Greg Vine photo

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito takes notes during her visit to Royalston last Thursday for a roundtable discussion on the town's efforts to expand broadband service throughout the community.

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VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

EDITORIAL

Now wait just a darn minute...

We riled up a hornet's nest this week...not intentionally at first but boy did it happen.

It started innocently enough, we heard the Community Action Committee would be formally accepting the Robinson Broadhurst grant to purchase a much needed new medical transport van.

This is a good thing.

A very good thing. Good for the CAC, good for the town, good for Robinson Broadhurst. Publicity we want to share. Then it got scary.

See, CAC is an odd duck. They do indeed accept public funding, town tax dollars, federal funding and state funding and grants and all sorts of public money; which indeed makes them a public body and subject to all the same rules and regs as any other committee. Open Meeting laws and all.

They also have a town representative on their board. So they are a quasi official arm of local government too.

But they don't see themselves that way.

And want to run their meetings behind closed doors.

They can't.

They are trying. But they can't.

See, we have a right to know how that money is being spent. It's within the realm of public trust no matter what

they may think.

And on top of that, they aren't even following their own rules about their own committee. They do have a clause in the bylaws that says they are a "closed organization of Winchendon residents." That means everyone on the board must be a Winchendon resident, not that they can close their meetings. What they aren't following within their guidelines is the requirement to have representation of the people they serve.

They have business people, and private sector people, and a school nurse... good, qualified people, but no one who is low income or among the population they are actually serving.

And that IS a requirement.

They have a voting process spelled out in their bylaws, a bit fuzzy, it doesn't actually determine WHO is voting for proposed candidates; and we certainly have never seen a call for possible candidates to the general realm.

So it seems to be a cozy little club the metes out its own little determinations and while indeed it does some good work, it might be possible it could do better work.

We don't want to destroy it by any means, but we do want it to follow the rules, their own and the rules for everyone else that are required.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Next OWC one month away

To the Editor:

Hey everyone. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, Nov. 4 for our Holiday Treats for our Troops drive. It will be from 9-11 a.m. at the Eugene M. Connor American Legion Post 193 on 295 School St. in Winchendon.

I know that it is still the beginning of fall, but we want to send some love to the troops stationed around the world for the holidays.

Please consider donating money for postage/items, time to help the day of the drive and items such as homemade brownies, fudge, etc. Have your children make Thanksgiving and/or Christmas cards and/or pictures. Buy some Ramen or food that can be microwaved as a quick meal for when they

are unable to get to the mess hall.

We are a 501c3 organization, so all of your donations are tax deductible! Checks can be made payable to Operation Winchendon Cares, Inc. and if you are unable to get to the American Legion Post 193 on School Street on the day of the event, you can mail them to us at PO Box 136, Winchendon, MA 01475.

If you know of anyone from Winchendon who is on Active Duty or is deployed with the Reserves or National Guard, please let us know so that we can add them to our list.

Thank you for considering our cause.

LINDA SORDONI
OPERATION WINCHENDON CARES

LETTERS POLICY



Letters to the editor are always welcome, and may be sent to to ruth@stonebridgepress.news, or The Winchendon Courier, 91 Central Street, Winchendon, MA 01475. Be sure to include a name and residence. Please refrain from sending letters via fax, and be sure to supply a home address and phone number to allow for confirmation. Allow at least 48 hours for a response. Letters must be submitted by noon Friday to ensure publication in the following week's issue. Every effort will be made to accommodate late submissions, but inclusion can not be guaranteed. The rules of good taste and libel will, of course, apply to all submissions. Personal attacks will not be published. The editor retains the right to edit all letters.

Domestic terrorism... again

Domestic Terrorism. Period. When you've got an automatic rifle, even if you bought it legally, and you have another nearly dozen or more guns in your 32nd floor hotel room and you smash a hole in the window and open fire and kill almost 60 people (as of this writing) and wound hundreds more, yes, you're a domestic terrorist. Period.

The lives of so, so very many families have been shattered beyond repair and our collective hearts go out to them. For those parents who lost a child in the horrific attack, I absolutely feel your pain. Completely. I wish I had words of comfort and peace. I don't. But I grieve with you and with everyone impacted.

As I write Monday afternoon, I don't know anything about Stephen Paddock's ideology or if he even had one, nor

do I know anything about his mental health. Regardless of either, the atrocity he committed fits any rational definition of domestic terrorism.

It never, ever ends, does it? Nowhere else in the world do these things happen with such frequency as they do here. Columbine. Charleston. Virginia Tech. Orlando. San Bernardino. Aurora. The list goes on and on. And it includes Sandy Hook.

Sandy Hook. If the massacre of first-graders didn't compel this society to do something about the availability of and access to guns, I sure have no idea what will. Do you? I didn't think so. And so, the carnage continues unabated.

Those politicians with their pious expressions of sympathy? You know who I mean. I'm talking about the politicians who looked so mourn-



JOURNEY
OF THE
HEART
.....
JERRY
CARTON

ful Monday but still think it's just fine for folks with mental illnesses to have guns, who think background checks are an attack on their freedom, you know the ones. Nothing moves them. Again, if the slaughter of six year-olds didn't...

This is unacceptable. I write here all the time about the importance of local activism, of voting in local and state elections because Washington is so broken. I stand by that. 100-percent. At the same time, though, if you live in a compet-

itive House district, and yes, I know there are not a lot of those, you have a responsibility to make sure you vote next year. Even if you don't live in one of those, you need as well to apply pressure when the next effort to reform gun laws comes up. Maybe the NRA and their employees who masquerade as representatives of all the people are too strong. Maybe they really are that callous and indifferent. That's probably the case. But the effort still has to be made.

It's so hard to comprehend why the supposed greatest country in the world does not have strict and effective gun laws. Sure there are plenty of various weapons for the bad guys to use but anyone with a modicum of common sense should know there are too many guns and too many people who should never be

allowed anywhere near a firearm.

Disasters like Monday's are the ones which command banner headlines. But gun violence is far too rampant every single day - in big cities like Chicago and Baltimore and last week in a Tennessee church. It's literally insane that there are so many guns floating around this allegedly civilized society.

No one is suggesting repealing the Second Amendment and yes there are for sure lots of responsible gun owners out there, many of whom have no issue with stricter laws and that's all well and good but I cannot help but ask what in God's name it will in fact take before we behave like this is the 21st century when it comes to guns. Any answers?

The elephant in the room

There is an interesting dynamic at play politically in the United States of America.

The Republicans control both houses of Congress and the White House. With the Vice President, in his role as president of the Senate, casting a tie breaking vote, the Republicans could pass everything they promised in the recent presidential campaign.

However, so far, they have failed to do so.

In my view, this is because a unified Republican party no longer exists. It is a conglomeration of people who identify themselves as Republicans but are really scattered among a number of smaller units based entirely on philosophy.

The extreme right wing Republicans have stifled the President's legislative agenda at almost every turn. They

refuse to provide him the votes to meet the voters' desires as expressed in the national election.

This all baffles me.

If I were an extreme conservative and my party had the ability to pass legislation more conservative than I would get from the Democrats, I would compromise rather than hold out for more stringent legislation.

I would realize that my intransigence would likely result in Democrats having a good chance to take away one or both houses of Congress in the midterm. And I would ask myself: is half a loaf better than none?

The most recent election to fill a



NOTES OF
CONCERN
.....
JACK
BLAIR

presidential election seems more widespread and serious than I had guessed.

These folks are not willing to compromise. They have no regard for their detractors or for any of the liberal politicians in either party. One might argue they aren't too happy with the moderates in their own party either.

All of this suggests to me that the extreme conservative thrust is either

Senate seat once held by Attorney General Sessions went to one of the most extreme conservatives in the primary. And he did not have the endorsement of the President. The anger with Washington that is abroad in the land and that was expressed in the

going to ensure GOP losses at the midterms or that we are going to find out that what we thought was minority thinking has grown into majority thought and action and that the voting public intends to turn the ship of state in a direction very much amenable to what we used to refer to as the fringe element in the party.

All the old political verities are out the window.

We do live in interesting times.

Democrats, relying on historical precedent, are undoubtedly quite encouraged about the midterms. Republicans must be very edgy. The results will provide an indication of whether Americans want business as it used to be in DC or whether they wish to continue with this experiment in change.

Consider multiple factors when creating retirement plans



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When you create your financial and investment strategies for retirement, what will you need to know? In other words, what factors should you consider, and how will

these factors affect your investment-related decisions, before and during your retirement?

Consider the following:

Age at retirement – Not surprisingly, your retirement date likely will be heavily influenced by your financial situation – so, if you have to keep working, that's what you'll do. But if you have a choice in the matter, your decision could have a big impact on your

investment strategy. For example, if you want to retire early, you may need to save and invest more aggressively than you would if you plan to work well past typical retirement age. Also, your retirement date may well affect when you start accepting Social Security payments; if you retire early, you might have to start taking your benefits at age 62, even though your monthly checks will

be considerably smaller than if you waited until your "full" retirement age, which is likely to be 66 or 67.

Retirement lifestyle – Some people want to spend their retirement years traveling from Athens to Zanzibar, while others simply want to stay close to home and family, pursuing quiet, inexpensive hobbies. Clearly, the lifestyle you choose will affect how

much you need to accumulate before you retire and how much you will need to withdraw from your various investment accounts once you do.

Second career – Some people retire from one career only to begin another. If you think you'd like to have a "second act" in your working life, you might need some additional training, or you might just put your existing expertise to work

as a consultant. If you do launch a new career, it could clearly affect your financial picture. For one thing, if you add a new source of earned income, you might be able to withdraw less from your retirement accounts each year. (Keep in mind, though, that once you reach 70 ½, you will have to take at least some withdrawals from

Turn To **FINANCE** page **A5**



Mystery, murder and a meal — to help feed kids

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

The program has been a wild success, involving the schools, the Kiwanis, the Murdock Key Club, the Murdock

Student Council and the Winchendon School service students in collaborative effort to provide the meals and snacks.

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

With that in mind, an evening of mystery, murder and a great meal are planned Saturday, Oct. 14 at the Winchendon School dining hall when the Comical Mystery Tour, Kiwanis

and the Winchendon School collaborate to present "Deadly Chateau Shenanigans."

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

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts promptly at 6 p.m. Cost is \$45 per person, and tickets are available from

any Kiwanis member, at To Each His Own Design and at Crafty Cauldron in downtown Winchendon.

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

Win Winds to premiere 'Toy Town March' at festival

Winchendon Winds, a 40-piece professional level concert band, will present their fourth and final program of the season at Winchendon's Oct. 7 Fall Festival. They will be performing a "Family Festival of Delights" at 2 p.m. in the sanctuary of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St., right across from Clark

Memorial YMCA. Admission is free and open to all.

The concert lineup includes Stars & Stripes Forever, John Williams' themes for Star Wars, Raiders of the Lost Ark, and others, a preview of Halloween with The Haunted Carousel, and the premiere of the Toy Town March, a joyful piece composed by New Englander David Maker, com-

missioned specifically for Winchendon Winds in tribute to Winchendon's rich toy manufacturing history.

Born in Springfield, VT, Maker got his start in instrumental music from the late Jon Nicholson, the founder of Winchendon Winds. David has composed and arranged for bands, drum corps, choirs, singers, and chamber ensembles.

He has written over 350 music arrangements and marching show designs for UConn, Boston College, the University of Cincinnati, Central Connecticut State University, several New England high schools, and drum corps in Holland, Germany, and Italy.

He describes the Toy Town March as a "fast and merry affair" and notes that careful

listeners will hear references to the tunes Pop Goes the Weasel, Toyland, and finally, the clip-clop of Clyde the Horse!

Kids of all ages welcome. Bring your friends, rain or shine! For more information, visit winchendonwinds.org and Facebook at www.facebook.com/WinchendonWinds/.

FINANCE

continued from page A4

your traditional IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.) On the other hand, if you keep earning income, you can continue putting money into a traditional IRA (until you're 70 1/2) or a Roth IRA (indefinitely) and possibly contribute to a retirement plan for the self-employed, such as a SEP-IRA or an "owner-only" 401(k).

Philanthropy — During your working years, you may have

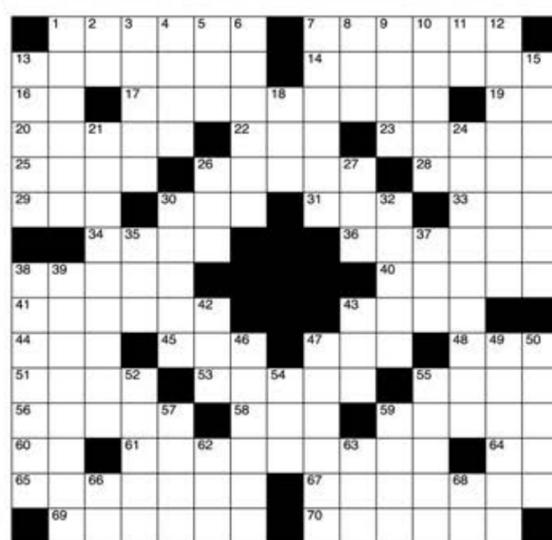
consistently donated money to charitable organizations. And once you retire, you may want to do even more. For one thing, of course, you can volunteer more of your time. But you also might want to set up some permanent method of financial support. Consequently, you might want to work with your legal advisor and financial professional to incorporate elements of your investment portfolio into your estate plans to provide more support for charitable groups.

As you can see, your retirement goals can affect your

investment strategy — and vice versa. So, think carefully about what you want to accomplish, plan ahead and get the help you need. It takes time and effort to achieve a successful retirement, but it's worth it.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Caitte Kelley, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 1 City Hall Ave., Gardner 01440 Tel: (978) 630-8670 or caitte.kelley@edwardjones.com.

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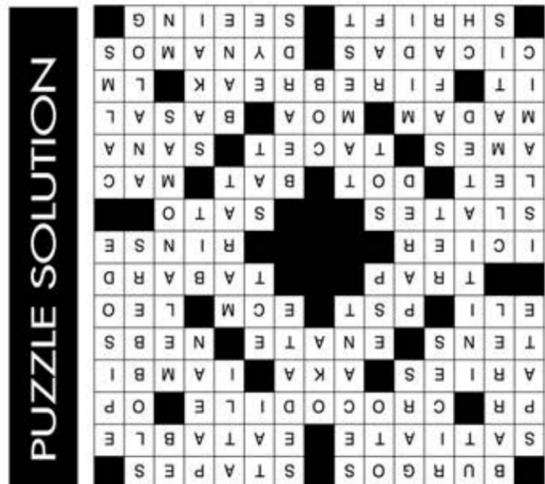
CLUES ACROSS

1. Spanish city
7. Middle ear bone
13. Satisfy to the fullest
14. Able to be consumed
16. US island territory (abbr.)
17. Predatory reptile
19. Beachwear manufacturer
20. European space program
22. Alias
23. Metrical feet
25. Large integers
26. Matrilineality
28. Snouts
29. Giants' signal caller Manning
30. Pacific Time
31. Electronic countermeasures
33. "Anna Karenina" author
34. Snare
36. Sleeveless garment
38. More arctic
40. Clean off

41. Signs
43. Common Japanese surname
44. Allow
45. A way to mark
47. Ballplayers need one
48. ___ and cheese
51. KGB mole
53. Indicating silence
55. Capital of Yemen
56. A woman of refinement
58. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
59. Belonging to a bottom layer
60. Stephen King novel
61. Fire obstacle
64. Lumen
65. Loud insects
67. Energetic persons
69. Confession (archaic)
70. Witnessing

CLUES DOWN

1. Whiskey receptacle
2. Western State
3. Cereal grasses
4. Needlefishes
5. Relating to the ears
6. Mathematical ratio
7. Dignified
8. Pacific sea bream
9. One of Thor's names
10. Song of praise
11. Equal to one quintillion (abbr.)
12. Drools
13. Cluster
15. One in a series
18. Egyptian unit of weight
21. Broached
24. Skin cancers
26. Second sight
27. Shock treatment
30. Whittled
32. Murdered in his bathtub
35. A way to soak
37. Small piece
38. Relating to Islam
39. Climbing plant
42. Drunkard
43. Test for high schoolers
46. Least exciting
47. Amanda and James are two
49. Something comparable to another
50. Soothes
52. Month in the Islamic calendar
54. White gull having a black back and wings
55. Japanese seaport
57. The south of France
59. Batman villain
62. British air aces
63. Body part
66. Clearinghouse
68. Manganese



BARBERS GO WAY BEYOND



Greg Vine photo

Dawn Haskings (holding scissors) is joined by local and state officials recently for the grand opening of Barbers Beyond at 296 Central St., formerly Dick's Barber Shop. Les Goodrich (l) and Art Amenta of the

Winchendon Community and Economic Development Steering Committee hold either end of the ribbon as Haskings prepares to cut it, officially opening for business.



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SUDOKU

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

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!

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

ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

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

The Big Picture

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POLICE LOG

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

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

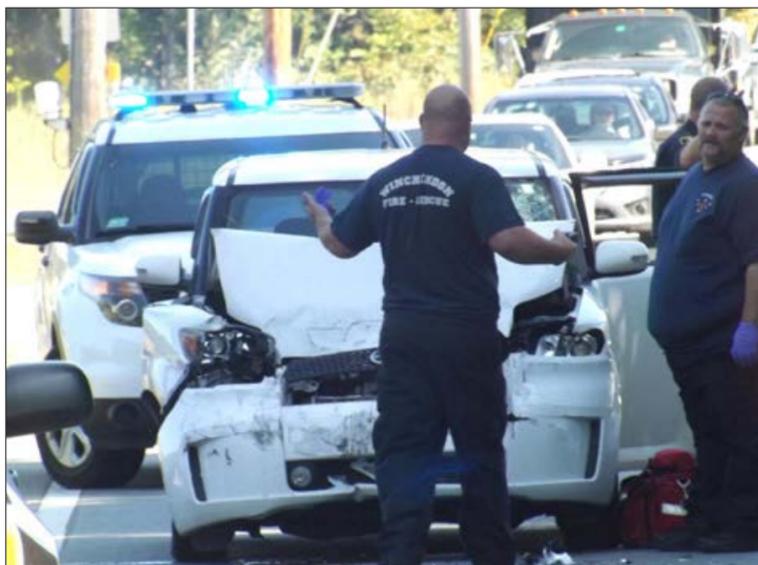
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

12:31 a.m.: mv stop (Front Street), verbal warning; 12:33-12:44 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:53 a.m.: animal complaint (School Street), returned to owner; 5:50 a.m.: ambulance (Ipswich Drive), transported; 6:13 a.m.: traffic hazard (High Street), removed; 7:31 a.m.: mv stop (Lincoln Avenue), verbal warning; 8:41 a.m.: accident (Central Street), assisted; 9:15 a.m.: summons service (Lakeshore Drive), unable to serve; 9:24 a.m.: threats (Northern Heights), info given; 9:49 a.m.: illegal dumping (Spring Street), Cheryl A. Barlow, 52, 177 High Street, Winchendon, use of another's commercial dumpster; 9:56 a.m.: ambulance (Glenallan Street), transported; 10:28 a.m.: investigation (Front Street), services rendered; 11:15 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 11:19 a.m.: loitering (Glenallan Street), spoken to; 11:51 a.m.: ambulance (Ash Street), transported; 2:59 p.m.: threats (Winter Street), referred to court; 3:23-3:28 p.m.: trespass notice entry x 5 (Glenallan Street), info taken; 3:58 p.m.: fraud (Front Place), spoken to; 4:14 p.m.: investigation (West Street), spoken to; 5:14 p.m.: summons service (Ash Street), served; 5:21 p.m.: summons service (Spring Street), unable to serve; 5:37 p.m.: license plate missing (Front Street), report taken; 6:38 p.m.: summons service (Royalston Road North), unable to serve; 6:51 p.m.: disabled mv (Teel Road), unable to locate; 7:20 p.m.: ambulance (Gardner Road), transported; 8:59 p.m.: assist other PD (Rindge Turnpike, Ashburnham), no service necessary; 9:32 p.m.: suspicious person (River Street), spoken to; 9:36 p.m.: fire/CO incident (Cross Street), services rendered.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

12:58-1:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:45 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 7:36 a.m.: ambulance (Murdock Avenue), transported; 8:35 a.m.: disturbance (Memorial Drive), juvenile arrest, 16, disturbing a school; 8:49 a.m.: burglar alarm (Cedar Street), false alarm; 9:43 a.m.: harassment order service (Banner Place), served; 10:18 a.m.: animal complaint (Front Street), referred to ACO; 11:10 a.m.: warrant check (School Street), Christopher C. Phillips, age 29, 306 School Street, Apt. TRL, Winchendon, arrest based on warrant x 3; 11:25 a.m.: harassment (Spruce Street), report taken; 12:05 p.m.: juvenile/general (Grove Street), report taken; 12:26 p.m.: mental health issue (Elmwood Road), transported to hospital; 12:47 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), citation issued; 1:00 p.m.: harassment (Memorial Drive), report taken; 2:13 p.m.: accident (Elmwood Road), report taken; 2:30 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 2:34 p.m.: custody dispute (Goodrich Drive), referred to court; 3:11 p.m.: property found (Central Street), returned to owner; 3:29 p.m.: fire alarm (Lincoln Avenue), services rendered; 4:04 p.m.: investigation (West Street), spoken to; 4:43 p.m.: mv stop (High Street), citation issued; 4:54 p.m.: keep the peace (Northern Heights), assisted; 5:34 p.m.: accident (School Street), report taken; 6:14 p.m.: officer wanted (River Street), spoken to; 7:46-7:59 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:01 p.m.: disabled mv (Madison Avenue), advised officer; 8:08 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 9:39 p.m.: larceny (Front Street), report taken; 10:04 p.m.: burglary/b&e

CRUNCH



Greg Vine photo

One person received minor injuries in a two-car crash at the intersection of Spring and Glenallan streets just after 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Winchendon Police say Isaiah Allen Woodliff-Freeman, age 20, of 57 Millet Road, Swampscott, was driving northbound in a Toyota Scion when he rear-ended a Toyota Rav 4 driven by Micheal Diesl, age 57, of Hudson. The Swampscott man received some cuts to hands and other minor injuries. Diesl was uninjured. Woodliff-Freeman was cited for negligent operation of a motor vehicle. The northbound side of Spring Street/Route 12 was blocked for a half-hour or more, backing up traffic in both directions.

(Bluebird Road), spoken to.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

1:03-2:07 a.m.: buildings, checked; 5:38 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 5:50 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road) written warning; 6:59 a.m.: summons service (Webster Street), served; 7:03 a.m.: vandalism (Goodrich Drive), report taken; 8:50 a.m.: info/general (Front Street), info taken; 9:56 a.m.: disabled mv (Spring Street), assisted; 10:00 a.m.: investigation (Memorial Drive), services rendered; 10:50 a.m.: burglar alarm (Fourth Street), no police service necessary; 11:12 a.m.: investigation (Goodrich Street), services rendered; 11:18 a.m.: animal complaint (Krantz Road), referred to ACO; 11:33 a.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), advised officer; 12:32 p.m.: fraud (Baldwinville State Road), no cause; 1:27 p.m.: fire/mutual aid (Maple Street, Ashburnham), assisted; 1:31 p.m.: mv stop (School Street), citation issued; 1:34 p.m.: fire/mutual aid (Maple Street, Ashburnham), assisted; 2:13 p.m.: road rage (Gardner Road), search negative; 2:16 p.m.: larceny (Murdock Avenue), report taken; 2:18 p.m.: fire alarm (Memorial Drive), services rendered; 2:26 p.m.: burglar alarm (Elmwood Road), false alarm; 2:40 p.m.: animal complaint (Alger Street), referred to ACO; 2:50 p.m.: fire alarm (Polly's Drive), referred to FD; 3:07 p.m.: welfare check/child (Morse Avenue), spoken to; 4:28 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 5:08 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Street), verbal warning; 6:30 p.m.: mv stop (Railroad Street), verbal warning; 7:51 p.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), no service necessary; 9:07 p.m.: mv stop (Goodrich Street), spoken to; 9:51 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), spoken to; 10:23 p.m.: mv stop (Front Street), spoken to; 10:27 p.m.: transport (Central Street); 11:28 p.m.: animal complaint (Central Street), unable to locate; 11:30 p.m.: property lost (Central Street), info taken; 11:54 p.m.: burglar alarm (Summer Drive), secured bldg.; 11:56 p.m.: building check, secure.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

1:02-1:18 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:18 a.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 1:21 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:38 a.m.: DPW call (Front Street), referred; 6:29 a.m.: ambulance (Maple Street), transported; 7:31 a.m.: info/general (Spruce Street), assisted; 8:17 a.m.: ambulance (Mechanic Street), transported; 8:21 a.m.: bolo (town wide), advised officer; 9:44 a.m.: info/general (Center

Lane), assisted; 10:18 a.m.: investigation (Cedar Terrace), unable to locate; 10:35 a.m.: mv stop (Glenallan Street), verbal warning; 11:12 a.m.: mv stop (Central Street), written warning; 11:40 a.m.: ambulance (Gardner Road), transported; 11:51 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 12:05 a.m.: registration check (Spring Street), info taken; 12:35 a.m.: info/general (Central Street), spoken to; 1:27 p.m.: ambulance (Mill Street), transported; 1:30 a.m.: welfare check/general (Murdock Avenue), assisted; 1:53 a.m.: open door/gate (Crosby Road), advised officer; 3:00 p.m.: unwanted party (East Grove Street), spoken to; 3:56 p.m.: ambulance (Teel Road), services rendered; 4:19 p.m.: fire/box alarm (Hatch Lane), services rendered; 5:41 p.m.: ambulance (Beaman Court), transported; 5:57 p.m.: mv stop (Ash Street), verbal warning; 6:12 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 6:26 p.m.: mv stop (Front Street), written warning; 6:39 p.m.: runaway (Polly's Drive), transported to hospital; 6:42 p.m.: property damage (Spring Street), report taken; 7:26 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Glenallan Street), spoken to; 8:04 p.m.: alarm/type unknown (Summer Drive), advised officer; 8:04 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), advised officer; 10:39 p.m.: erratic operation (Baldwinville State Road), advised officer; 10:24 p.m.: suspicious (other) (River Street), no service necessary; 11:05 p.m.: fire alarm (Hatch Lane), false alarm.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

1:59-2:07 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:39 a.m.: fire alarm (River Street), services rendered; 2:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:14 a.m.: info/general (Central Street), info taken; 3:19 a.m.: mv stop (River Street), verbal warning; 8:23 a.m.: fire alarm (River Street), services rendered; 9:42 a.m.: assist citizen (Banner Place); 10:44 a.m.: erratic operation (Spring Street), spoken to; 11:30 a.m.: suspicious mv (River Street), advised officer; 11:59 a.m.: loitering (Central Street), search negative; 1:14 a.m.: ambulance (Ipswich Drive), transported; 1:37 p.m.: accident (Maple Street), transported to hospital; 2:16 p.m.: suspicious person (North Central Bike Path), unable to locate; 2:44 p.m.: animal complaint (Baldwinville State Road), services rendered; 3:14 p.m.: animal complaint (Bluebird Road), referred to ACO; 3:16 p.m.: disturbance (Oak Street), report taken; 3:21 p.m.: accident (Central Street), report taken; 3:47 p.m.: info/general (Central Street), spoken to; 4:14

p.m.: suspicious person (Ready Drive), spoken to; 4:56 p.m.: fire alarm (Teel Road), fire extinguished; 5:05 p.m.: threats (Spring Street), report taken; 5:31 p.m.: property found (Central Street), services rendered; 6:20 p.m.: disabled auto (Gardner Road), spoken to; 6:50 p.m.: dog bite (Toy Town Lane), report taken; 7:09 p.m.: assist citizen (Center Lane), report taken; 7:42 p.m.: traffic hazard (Beech Street), services rendered; 8:01 p.m.: Section 12 (Polly's Drive), transported; 9:19 p.m.: suspicious mv (Glenallan Street), spoken to; 9:34 p.m.: missing person (Goodrich Drive), report taken; 11:46 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

12:10 a.m.: mv stop (Juniper Street), spoken to; 12:25-3:56 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:42 a.m.: assist other PD (Glenallan Street), spoken to; 7:35 a.m.: fire/unknow type (Oak Street), services rendered; 7:51 a.m.: info/general (Lincoln Avenue), rem. hazardous material; 9:12 a.m.: burglar alarm (Franklin Street), canceled; 10:49 a.m.: animal complaint (School Street), canceled; 2:20 p.m.: info/general (Banner Place), spoken to; 3:50 p.m.: property found (Spring Street), services rendered; 4:11 p.m.: suspicious person (Monadnock Avenue), unable to locate; 4:33 p.m.: unwanted party (Juniper Street), spoken to; 4:52 p.m.: info/general (Spruce Street), unable to locate; 5:27 p.m.: FD call (Central Street), services rendered; 5:48 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), spoken to; 5:52 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), written warning; 6:00 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), citation issued; 6:48 p.m.: investigation (Glenallan Street), unable to locate; 6:49 p.m.: mv stop (Goodrich Street), verbal warning; 8:07 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 8:19 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 8:21 p.m.: fire alarm (Hatch Lane), false alarm; 8:32 p.m.: suspicious mv (Brown Street), spoken to; 8:45 p.m.: suspicious person (Central Street), spoken to; 8:57 p.m.: mv stop (Lake Street), spoken to; 9:09 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 9:25 p.m.: animal complaint (School Street), spoken to; 9:27 p.m.: mv stop (Goodrich Street), verbal warning; 10:21 p.m.: ambulance (Teel Road), transported; 11:36 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), written warning; 11:38-11:57 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:59 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), written warning.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

1:13 a.m.: suspicious person (Sibley Road), checked/secure; 2:12 a.m.: suspicious mv (Central Street), checked/secure; 2:29-2:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:29 a.m.: panic alarm (Central Street), false alarm; 10:28 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 10:55 a.m.: animal complaint (School Street), referred to ACO; 11:11 a.m.: mv stop (School Street), citation issued; 11:14 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 12:51 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 1:04 p.m.: burglar alarm (School Street), false alarm; 1:05 p.m.: summons service (Pleasant Street), advised officer; 1:06 p.m.: summons service (Academy Street), advised officer; 1:28 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 2:02 p.m.: disable mv (Central Street), info taken; 2:38 p.m.: assist citizen (Elmwood Road), report taken; 4:31 p.m.: VIN inspection (Old County Road), assisted; 5:52 p.m.: ambulance (Pearl Drive), transported; 6:46 p.m.: traffic hazard (Main Street), removed; 7:01-7:14 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:23 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), citation issued; 7:42 p.m.: accident (Teel Road), Toni Lee Bicchieri, 21, 451 Teel Road, Winchendon, OUI liquor, possession of Class B drug, possession of Class C drug, leaving the scene of a property damage accident, arrest; 8:31 p.m.: officer wanted (W. Monomac Road), advised officer; 8:49 p.m.: assist other agency (Main Street), services rendered; 9:40 p.m.: ambulance (Juniper Street), transported.

Local Woman Faces Motor Vehicle, Drug Charges

BY GREG VINE

A Winchendon woman is due back in court later this month for a pretrial hearing on motor vehicle and drug charges. Toni Lee Bicchieri, 21, of 451 Teel Road was arrested in the driveway of her home Monday evening, shortly after she allegedly sideswiped another vehicle and fled the scene of the accident.

Court records indicate Winchendon Police Sgt. Ray Anair was called to the Teel Street address at around 7:42 p.m. Monday. Upon arrival he found State Trooper Benjamin Therrien investigating the alleged accident.

According to the police report, Trooper Therrien's father had called him to report he had been sideswiped by a woman driving a small black car. While responding to the scene, Therrien reportedly saw two SUVs on Cross Road. The trooper stopped to talk with the drivers, one of whom reported she saw the accident, adding that the car that struck his father's truck had pulled into a driveway across the street from Toy Town Lane.

Therrien went to the home and, the report says, saw a woman in the driveway holding an alcoholic beverage. Her male companion was also in the driveway, carrying her

purse. Both, the trooper reported, appeared to be very intoxicated.

The male set the purse on the driveway and, because he reportedly was uncooperative, was placed in handcuffs.

Bicchieri was also reported to be uncooperative. The police report states she picked up the purse and tried to run into the house but was stopped and cuffed.

In the meantime, Therrien's father arrived on the scene and identified the 2007 Mitsubishi Eclipse in the driveway as the vehicle that struck his truck, and identified Bicchieri as the driver.

Anair reports that she

refused to give him her driver's license, and also declined to take a sobriety test. The sergeant said he could smell the odor of alcohol on Bicchieri and reported that the speech was slurred.

She was informed that she was under arrest for OUI and transported to the Winchendon police station for booking. While there, her license was seized and destroyed under orders from the Dept. of Motor Vehicle for refusing the sobriety test.

Bicchieri's companion was not detained.

During booking, an inventory of items in her purse turned up pills that included metha-

done, Klonopin, and lorazepam, known by the brand name Ativan.

In addition to OUI, Bicchieri was charged with possession of a Class B drug (methadone), possession of a Class C drug (Klonopin and Ativan), and leaving the scene of a property damage accident.

At her arraignment Tuesday in Winchendon District Court in Gardner, Bicchieri was released on personal recognition and ordered back to court October 24 for a pretrial hearing.



OBITUARIES

Andrew J. Hanson, 78

TEMPLETON — Andrew J. Hanson, age 78, of 461 Freight Shed Road, Baldwinville died peacefully at his residence on Monday, October 2, 2017 surrounded by his friends and family.



He was born in Everett on September 6, 1939 son of the late Julian and Mary (Kwiatek) Hanson and had lived at the Templeton Developmental Center since 1956.

Andrew was very religious and was a

kind, considerate and giving person. He was well loved by his fellow residents and staff at the Center.

He will be greatly missed by his twin sister, Mary Deasy of Delray Beach, Florida and his many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 11:00 am in St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1 Forest St., Baldwinville.

There are no calling hours. Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon is directing arrangements.

Jane Jacqueline Lee, 69

PLANO TX — Jane Jacqueline Lee, age 69, of Plano, formerly of Ocala, Florida and Georgetown, Texas, passed away on Friday, September 22, 2017. She was born on April 6, 1948, in Gardner, Massachusetts, to the late Joseph and Marie McDonald. He was a devoted Catholic and enjoyed cross-stitch. Jane's dedication as a mother and grandmother surpassed everything else - as caring for her children and grandchildren was the best, and most important, part of life. She will be greatly missed by all who loved and knew her.

In addition to her parents, Jane was preceded in death by her husband, Bernie Lee; and brothers, Louis and Paul McDonald.

She is survived by two daughters and their husbands, Tina Lee and

Damon Wilkinson of Menomonie, WI and Victoria and Scott Bray of Plano, TX; four grandchildren, Evelyn, Owen, River, and Ridge; sister, Dottie (Paul) Antonia of Manchester, CT; and brother, Roger McDonald of Winchendon, MA.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 in Ted Dickey West Funeral Home. Visitation was held from 10-11am.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's, Prestonwood Pacers team, (www.alz.org/walk; click 'Find a Team' and search for Prestonwood Pacers). Those wishing to send condolences or sign the online guestbook may visit www.tedickeywestfuneral.com.

George Edward Ossenfort Sr., 83

WINCHENDON — It is with great sadness that the family of George Edward Ossenfort Sr., age 83, of Winchendon, formerly of Ashburnham, announce that he passed away Oct. 1 after a long struggle with pulmonary fibrosis. George was born in Amityville, New York in 1934. He was the son of the late Edward and Ellen (Davis) Ossenfort. He graduated from Amityville High School and attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. He worked as a civil engineer for Davis Construction in Hicksville, New York and was also the owner of The Valley Marina in Rindge, NH. He also worked in real estate at DeNault Century 21 Real Estate in Lunenburg, Massachusetts.



George was an avid hunter and also enjoyed golf and tennis. His sense of humor was unrivaled and unforgettable. He was a great man.

He is survived by his wife and best friend of 62 years, Frances (Gaglione) Ossenfort; his loving children, daughter DonnaLee (Ossenfort) Tignor and her husband George Tignor and his son, George Ossenfort Jr. He was extremely proud of his grandchildren, Stacy Ossenfort and fiancé Thomas Coleman, Chrissy Tignor, Brittany Smith, Stefanie Tignor and her husband Jesse Lyons, and Nicholas Ossenfort, as well as his great grandchild Deja Smith.

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

A calling hour in the funeral home will precede the funeral Wednesday from 11 AM to Noon. The family extends special thanks to the kind and attentive staff at VNA Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation <http://www.pulmonaryfibrosis.org/ways-to-give>.

Ernest 'Skip' E. Rollins Jr., 73

MARLBOROUGH — Ernest "Skip" E. Rollins Jr., age 73 of Marlborough, passed away peacefully at home on Sept. 27, 2017 surrounded by his loving family after a period of declining health.

Skip is survived by his son, Anthony J. Rollins and his wife Christine of Natick; his daughter, Michelle Rebecca Bernardi; two step-children, Brian Spinks and Samantha Nickens; his sister Judy A. Philbrook of Winchendon, his best friend Valerie Joseph with whom he lived in Marlborough; two nieces, Janet Scali of Maryland and Ann Marie Hodge of Texas; two step-grandchildren, Caroline Nickens and Stephen Nickens; many aunts, uncles and cousins and his beloved bird Sally. He was predeceased by his parents Ernest E. Rollins Sr. and Mary G. (Ziane) O'Callaghan and his brother, Kenneth E. Rollins.

Skip was born in Clinton on Aug. 14, 1944 and was raised in Bolton and Hudson. He later moved to Natick and Framingham where he also lived for many years. Skip worked as a carpenter for several places before retiring. Skip was an animal lover, who enjoyed watching and feeding the squirrels and

he also had many pet birds which he loved and cared for. Skip had a great sense of humor and he was always joking around with people. He also had a passion for writing and his many poems and memoirs are part of his legacy which he leaves for his loved ones to enjoy. In addition, Skip also enjoyed painting, craftwork, and playing World of Warcraft on his computer for hours. Skip was brought up Catholic as an altar boy, but in his later years he enjoyed attending services at Revelation Pentecostal Church in Northborough. Skip truly cared for all people and he found joy in volunteering at the South Middlesex Opportunity Drop-In Center, helping people in recovery. Skip was a great guy and he will be miss by those who knew him.

Calling hours will be held from 4-7 pm on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at Tighe Hamilton Regional Funeral Home, 50 Central St. Hudson, MA. A Celebration of his life will be held at 10 am on Thursday, October 5, 2017 in the Funeral Home. Burial will be private at a later time.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations can be made to: MSPCA-Angell Headquarters, 350 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130 or Rhode Island Parrot Rescue, 2141 W Shore Rd., Warwick, RI 02889.

Deanna J. (Lovell) Tatro, 79

WINCHENDON — Deanna J. (Lovell) Tatro, age 79, of 137 Ipswich Drive, died peacefully Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 26, 2017 in Gardner Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Gardner.

She was born in East Templeton on Feb. 13, 1938, daughter of the late Charles and Ruth (DeCarteret) Lovell and was a graduate of Gardner High School. She had lived in Winchendon since 1961.

Deanna was a very active member of Cornerstone Church of the Assemblies of God, where she had been a member for 35 years. Her hobbies were decorating and crafts.

Her husband of 44 years, John E. Tatro, died in 2000. She leaves three children, Jeffrey J. Tatro and his wife Heidi of Myrtle Beach, SC and Michael J. Tatro of Philadelphia, PA; a daughter

Sharon L. Tatro of Winchendon; three grandsons, Forrest A. Tatro, Cyrus R. Tatro and Lucas Tatro and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her siblings, Phyllis Perreault, Dorothy Stowell, David Lovell and Roger Lovell.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Sept. 30, 2017 at 2 p.m., in Cornerstone Church of The Assemblies of God, 122 Gardner Road, Winchendon, MA 01475.

There are no calling hours. Burial will be in Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, 111 Glenallan St., Winchendon.

Memorial donations may be made to Disabled American Veterans, 616 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02145.

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

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

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

GRANT

continued from page A1

as the Winchendon town clerk arrived attend the meeting, and could be seen speaking with Stewart outside the building.

LaJoie, after speaking with Stewart, immediately left the premises and did not attend the meeting.

Additionally, following Stewart's departure and boycott of the press attending, WCAC Vice President Nancy Romanowski was also not in attendance.

Treasurer Marcy Silva who also did not attend had, according to Laperriere, previously informed the board she would not be able to make the meeting ahead of time.

Before the press left the now cancelled meeting, a request to be informed of the next meeting date for the purpose of attending was placed in person to Smith in front of both Laperriere and Casavant. The secretary took the contract information of the press, and stated she would contact with a meeting date as soon as it was announced.

As the meeting did not have a quorum and thus could not accept the Robinson-Broadhurst Donation or address any agenda items, the press left the WCAC driving around the block, and parking off site to see if any other members possibly attended late. LaJoie was witnessed returning to the CAC after the press departed. Had LaJoie attended the meeting when she previously arrived, the 50 percent quorum minimum could have been met and the meeting could have proceeded. Both a phone call and email were

placed to Town Manager Keith Hickey on Thursday, to verify if LaJoie was the official town representative to the board. Hickey later returned a phone call saying LaJoie was the town rep and that he was informed by LaJoie that Stewart informed her he was not attending the meeting due to having to attend a wake.

The press clarified this was in direct conflict with Stewart's reason to boycott the meeting, which was stated to the board members in attendance by WCAC Director Laperriere after talking with Stewart.

A public information request was submitted to Laperriere for WCAC bylaws, as it receives public tax dollars. Laperriere provided a copy of the document.

It was discovered in review; the board has been functioning in non-compliance and outside of its own bylaws concerning membership on the board for some time.

Section 4.3 states, "Should a seat in the low-income sector become vacant, the low-income representative on the Board of Directors shall be asked to designate a representative to fill the seat until the next public election."

After a review of the BOD membership list, Laperriere was asked, "Are there any low-income members currently serving on the BOD?"

Laperriere replied, "No, there has not been for just over a year now."

Section 6.1 regarding membership as written states, "At least one-third (1/3) of all members shall represent the individuals and families in need population" (Amended July, 2015.)

Laperriere was asked the question, "Do any of the current BOD members

or the minimum one-third of its members meet this requirement?"

Laperriere again responded, "No, they do not."

It was additionally discovered WCAC bylaws currently allow BOD members to call for a Special Meeting of its members, without the public having any knowledge of such said potential meetings taking place.

Article 4, Section 4.7 states the CAC withholds the right to call for a special meeting which is described as, "Special meetings shall be called by the President, Vice President, Secretary, or any two board members.

The Secretary must notify all members of the special meeting and items to be discussed at least seven (7) days in advance. (Amended July, 2015.)

While Section 4.7 of the bylaws allows for BOD member notification, it says nothing about notifying the public of the potentially requested meeting, and also makes no mention of executive session.

As of this story, the WCAC Board has not yet contacted the press with a follow-up or future meeting date to attend for covering the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation \$35K grant, or any other topics.

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SPORTS

The cesspool yet again

So the FBI got Louisville and in doing so ended the never-boring career of Cardinals coach Rick Pitino. If you're reading this column, you know all about Pitino so there's no need to rehash his sordid history. Louisville isn't the first big-time program to find itself in serious trouble of course. Baylor briefly disbanded its program at one point. UConn was ineligible for the tournament last year. Syracuse was recently as well. Maryland got the death penalty in the wake of Len Bias' death, but this is the first time I can recall the FBI bringing down a program. Maybe it did during the point-shaving scandal of the 1950s but this is surely the first in my lifetime.

My initial reaction was to think the Bureau should have more important things on

which to focus than college basketball. You'd think, right? And my second reaction was to think the way to mostly eliminate the kind of nonsense which precipitated the whole thing is, a) get the shoe companies out of the equation, b) reach a deal with the NBA to ditch the one-and-done and if or maybe when some kid sues, deal with that then, and, c) since the big schools are making a gazillion dollars off the players, pay at least some expenses for the kids putting on the show.

Good luck with any of those happening, right? But you know what? They should. I promise you Louisville won't be the last. I am sure as well they're loving every second of this down the road in Lexington where the program is run by a coach who has caused not



TALKING
SPORTS

JERRY
CARTON

one but two Final Four appearances to be "vacated" because of his transgressions. Despite those, you know coach Cal is smirking.

When Gary Williams returned to his alma mater at Maryland after the Bias tragedy triggered the imposition of the death penalty, he steadfastly refused to recruit AAU players, accurately labeling that organization a 'cesspool'. It was true when Gary took over in the late '80s and it remains so today. There were

times when irritated fans like me would grumble that we didn't have this kid or that one because Gary wouldn't go after them, but despite that policy which would sometimes leave Maryland out of the running for big-names, the Terps were able to be generally competitive and reached back-to-back Final Fours in '01 and '02, winning the school's only hoops title by beating Indiana in 2002, proof positive you can succeed without getting caught in the AAU briar patch. I wish more coaches would emulate Williams.

And as bad as the basketball miscreants are, football's bad boys are every bit as bad and maybe worse in some cases. Check out the antics of Bobby Petrino at, yes, Louisville, and he's not the only one. We can talk about that another time.

I don't know for sure that somehow paying players who participate in the two big D-1 revenue sports or offering some kind of stipend would be a panacea, but I don't know how that could hurt, either. Money infiltrates everywhere. Maryland and Rutgers, neither a football school by any means, are in the Big Ten because of the football money. The ACC is now some hybrid combination of original ACC, Big East, and Conference USA schools. The new Big East sure isn't the real Big East. Even the Ivy League now has a conference tournament to determine its qualifier to the NCAA Tournament.

Money. Shoe companies. One and done. It's a mess. So may I refer you yet again to John Feinstein's fabulous book on the Patriot League?

Devils improve by beating rival Gardner 38-16

BY CHRIS MARTIN
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Last Friday the neighboring Gardner Wildcats came to town to take on the Murdock Blue Devils. The Blue Devils were looking to pick up a second victory of the season, while the 'Cats were searching for their first win.

Sam Drake and his first four touchdowns helped his team to a 38-16 victory over the Wildcats.

In what was a tight first half between the teams, the Blue Devils struck first to take a 6-0 lead when James Anderson found Drake in the end zone on a 17 yard touchdown pass; the kick would be kick to make it 7-0 with 6:44 to go in the first quarter.

The Wildcats would march down the field on their possession and found the end zone, then the two point conversion was good and the 'Cats took an 8-7 lead with just 36 seconds remaining in the first quarter.

Heading into the second quarter of

play, on a fourth and eight from the Gardner 12 yard line, Anderson ran it himself to the Gardner two-yard line for a Blue Devil first and goal. Anderson would then find Steve Lemieux in the end zone to put his team up 13-8, though the extra point was no good.

With 3:57 left in the half, the Wildcats would retake the lead 14-13 and a two point conversion would then give Gardner a 16-13 lead.

But Anderson would pick up a touchdown just before halftime to make it 19-16 with just 53 seconds left after what was a spectacular first half by both teams.

In the second half it was all the Sam Drake show, as he had three of his four touchdowns all in the second half.

Drake had the first of three rushing TDs in the early stages of the third quarter with a 40 yard run to give his team a 25-16 lead. Then with 2:30 remaining in that quarter, Drake rushed for his next touchdown to give his team a 31-16 lead. Anderson nailed the field goal to make

it 32-16.

At the end of three quarters the Devils had a comfortable 32-16 lead heading into the fourth.

Drake's hat trick came with 9:57 remaining in the game to give Murdock the 38-16 lead, the final score for the game.

After the contest, Coach Billy Wright said, "Really happy right now with the way things went. The offense goes through Sammy, and the offensive line did a great job in the second half, I think we just wore them down."

Murdock will play Ayer-Shirley tonight at home trying to pick a third win, and Wright said, "Hopefully, we can compete with Ayer and pick up win number three!"

Steven Lemieux goes up for a catch for a touchdown.



Jeff Millman photos

James Anderson makes good on a field goal.

BREAKS

continued from page A1

Murphy's opinion that the breaks are likely happening because of the emptying of the tanks," said Winchendon Public Works Director Al Gallant.

"Emptying the tanks causes a change in pressure in the lines," he explained. "In some lines the pressure is higher, in some it's lower. If the pump at the water treatment plant is running more than usual, that can also cause a change in pressure."

Still, despite what seems like a rash of breaks, the number of ruptures isn't dramatically higher than in recent years. According to the annual town report for each of the last three years, there were seven breaks in 2016, eight in 2015, and six in 2014.

The state inspected Winchendon's water tanks in August 2015 and ordered repairs to both. The inspections found scoured walls, caused by ice scraping the sides of the tanks as water levels changed in the winter months, and a damaged ladder - caused by the same action - in one of them. So-called agitators are being installed to prevent freezing in the future.

RHI

continued from page A1

to declining membership, the order disbanded sometime during World War II.

Rural Housing Improvement (RHI) moved into the building after making some renovations, but moved to Gardner over a decade ago and changed its name to RCAP Solutions.

Repairs on the tank off Forristall Road were recently completed, but the draining of the tank on High Street began just within the past week. Work there is expected to be completed within the next four to six weeks "if everything goes good," said Gallant.

Although he hasn't had a chance to tally the total cost of repairing all the breaks that have occurred this year, Gallant said "a ballpark figure is probably around \$25,000."

He said the average cost of a single repair runs around \$2,500, with the bulk of that amount going to materials.

"The cost of labor is minimal," he said.

Gallant said three Water Department workers and three employees of the Public Works Department responded to last Friday's break. However, he said, he normally deploys three workers from the Water Department and only one from the DPW to take care of most breaks.

The DPW chief added that the cost of repairs comes entirely from the Water Department enterprise fund.

In all, there are 61 miles of water mains in Winchendon. Some of them, said Gallant, are nearly 100 years old.

The building has been vacant for a number of years and has fallen into disrepair.

Murphy said the grant was prepared for the town by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission.

"Normally it takes 30 to 60 days to hear back from the state on these applications," said Murphy. "Hopefully, it will be sooner rather than later."

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SPORTS

Tahanto tromps Murdock women

SUBMITTED BY JENNA WHITAKER

Play was dominated by Tahanto but the Murdock girls did well holding the visiting team off the board for the first 20 minutes of the match. Then Tahanto scored three goals in the next five minutes.

The half ended 3-0. Murdock had one scoring opportunity from Maria Polcari.

Cassidy Stadtfeld had a strong showing in net.

Second half was more of the same for

a Tahanto as they rolled off six more goals ending the match 9-0.

Murdock had a quality attack which Maria intercepted an errant pass in Tahanto's defensive end and made a nice centering pass that traversed the open goal face, but no Murdock player could tap home the loose ball.

Player of match for Murdock was Tazha Manca who played her best game at defender. She was aggressive to defend and made good choices also when ball was out of the backfield."

Jeff Millman photos

Cassidy Stadtfeld goes down for a save in heavy traffic.



Field hockey highlights

A recent game against Gardner didn't bode well for the Lady Devils, but they looked good on the pitch!

Jeff Millman photos



Hannah Knowlton gets right up to the Gardner goal, but is foiled by the keeper and a defender.



Haley DesJean moves down field.



Molly Murphy works the ball downfield around a Gardner defender.



The teams line up for the start of play.

SAFETY

continued from page A1

propped. Report it when you hear talk about violence. Take that seriously."

"We need to know about those," added Flagg.

Scenarios were played out in each building - Murdock, Toy Town, and Memorial. At the high school, with staff assigned to different rooms on each of the three floors, Flagg and Greenleaf used blocks, clapping them together to simulate the sound of gunfire. Which floor participants were on determined the next step they would take.

Flagg said she felt participants came away with greater confidence.

"By practicing, they'll know what to do. They're responsible for the safety of these students as well as themselves. We saw the anxiety (before the drills) and we saw the reactions afterwards," she noted.

"The response was awesome," she enthused.

Once a year at each school, drills are run with student involvement, tailored with age-appropriate exercises.

A.L.I.C.E. was the brainchild of Dallas SWAT offi-

cer Greg Crane, whose wife was a teacher and principal there. As the program took hold across the country, the Cranes ran seminars themselves and Flagg, fellow officer Derek Blair, Greenleaf, and several school officials took the course in Westminster and found themselves being taught by the Cranes.

Flagg came away enthused and energetic. Previously, students and staff had been taught to barricade doors and huddle in a corner. To Flagg, that made them seem like easy targets for armed intruders.

"We all have that flight or fight instinct and ALICE teaches them to focus on the fight instinct," adding the program's 'Counter' component teaches people to create chaos and suggests other strategies for forceful response.

"You never know," reflected Flagg, citing Monday's horrific mass shooting in Las Vegas.

"It's important our staff and students be prepared. We always remind them, 'if you see something, say something', but they need to be ready just in case," she stressed.

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Gobi pushes for consumer protections in wake of Equifax hack

BOSTON — Legislation heard by the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure would ramp up consumer data protections and measures dealing with credit reports. Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer), a co-sponsor of the bill, joined her colleagues in supporting the legislation.

Originally filed in response to data breaches at multiple retailers, the bill has been updated in response to the Equifax hack announced on Sept. 7. The bill would allow Massachusetts residents to freeze their credit reports for free and their credit reports and scores could not be used or accessed without their consent. These protections are critical in a data breach as massive

as the Equifax breach, which affected 143 million people. The information assessed primarily includes names, Social Security numbers, birth dates, addresses and, in some instances, driver's license numbers.

The company is offering free identity theft protection and credit file monitoring, however the fees are only waived through Nov. 21.

In her support letter to the committee Senator Gobi said she "feels strongly that we must protect consumers from cybersecurity attacks, especially when financial institutions cannot. The only beneficiary in a cybersecurity attack is a criminal. Demanding a fee for protection is an unnecessary barrier to something that saves both consumer and businesses time and

money."

The Attorney General has announced her intent to sue the company over its failure to protect the sensitive and personal information of up to 3 million Massachusetts residents. The Attorney General's office has also issued guidance for consumers in the wake of the date breach, which may be found at <http://www.mass.gov/ago/news-and-updates/press-releases/2017/2017-09-08-equifax-data-breach.html>

For more information on how to protect yourself, please see the Federal Trade Commission's step-by-step guide at <https://identity-theft.gov/>.

Additionally, please contact Gobi's office at (617) 722-1540 for any guidance on this issue.

OPEN FOR BUSINESS



Ruth DeAmicis photo

Seppi's Ice Cream, a throw back homage to the Joseph's Store ice cream parlor is now open on Sunday afternoons through October at the rear of the Isaac Morse Toy Town Toy Museum, 135 Front St. A ribbon cutting with Vice President Peg Corbosiero explaining how the room came together, fresh paint, recovering old stools, lots of elbow grease, made the little room a showcase for the long ceramic counter salvaged from the store before it was demolished.

FUNDS

continued from page A1

Schlosstein also noted all enterprise funds were showing healthy balances except the transfer station fund.

Under the long term debt Schlosstein said \$2.214 million represents the short term debt to the state as short term bond anticipation notes under the current deficit legislation, and he was advocating for a free cash position of about \$1.37 million.

Schlosstein also quoted a revenue surplus of \$350,358 as a result of the town bringing in more money than it previously estimated from items such as a final distribution of the employee self-insurance trust fund, which will not occur again, along with aggressive collection efforts.

Schlosstein informed all boards present the town looked to be in a position of paying down an additional \$825 to \$850K on its long term debt to the state. He also added when the fiscal year closes in 2018, the debt could already be down to just over \$600,000 and could be possibly paid off in one year saying, "It would be quite an accomplishment for a debt that was scheduled to be paid in 10 years to be paid off in four, so I am optimistic and encouraged by the results we are making."

Addressing the subject of school budgets and costs, FinCom members addressed the possibility of revenue sharing, and the possibility of looking into that as a long term option for increasing school budgeting revenue.

Citing a suggestion regarding revenue sharing from 2015, the possibility of a potential revenue sharing model,

options such as having a certain percentage of revenue would be allocated between town and school operations were discussed.

"We talked about it in 2015 and it sort of got put on the back burner so to speak," said member James Robichaud, following with, "We had an override and it obviously failed. Is this revenue sharing something we can do and is this something we can get in to? I am not an expert, but is this something we can do different, or do we have to get our head out of the sand and look toward regionalization? We have to move forward and at least look to do something different. That's my two cents on it."

FinCom Chair Tom Kane Jr. added, "I feel the school budget should be related to the needs of the school department, and the ability of the town to provide resources and not based on a formula which was developed 25 years ago."

Superintendent Steve Haddad replied, "I don't enough about revenue sharing or how they do it in other districts, but I would like a chance to do a little research and see how other districts do with the revenue sharing model. The way this school system and the town get along now is fantastic, and we sit down and we talk, and we don't just talk, we solve the problem."

Haddad suggested the formation of an exploratory committee, with combined membership from the three boards to look in to the possibilities.

School committee member Felicia Nurmsen thanked FinCom members for bringing the discussion and ideas forward.

Nurmsen said, "I do think we are at a point in the town where we are moving

in the right direction due to a lot of hard work under the leadership of Keith Hickey and the town accountant, we are moving in the right direction, and I love how Tom (Kane) positioned it as we rely more on the state formulas, and we can look to fund in other ways."

School Committee member Greg Vine asked FinCom members, "I guess what I am wondering is if a small group of people determine it works, I am wondering how you would envision this would work."

Kane replied, "It's a question of as the town revenue grows, how do we allocate that in a fair way. If you asked me what it would look like, I wouldn't venture to tell you as of yet because there are too many variables involved."

Vine responded, "It sounds like a good idea, but with everything, it's all about the execution."

Fin-Com member Maureen Ward said, "I am not opposed to this, but I am opposed to it happening now. I think we should do our research but I don't think we should implement it July, 2018, I think it should be a few years out."

BOS member Charles Hesselbee added, "I think every option should be looked in to for our school children. This should not be an overnight process."

Hickey stated the town has worked very hard to find grant revenues, and asked if the school department is doing everything it can to apply for monies available through applying for them.

Hickey then added, "I believe the current raises given in the existing collective bargaining agreement are not sustainable. Employees are getting 5 & 6 percent raises for step increases; they didn't get that on my side of the fence. I

encourage the school committee to be a little more frugal when they come up on negotiations next year. I can't look my employees in the face and say they are being paid by the same people you are, but they are getting 3 and 4 times the raises you all are. I candidly will fight to not give up resources on the town's side, because decisions like that have been made in the past."

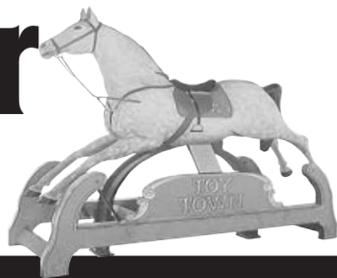
Haddad replied, "This year we have applied for about \$1.2 million in grants so we are addressing grants. If I could address the salary thing, out of a hundred teachers, 70 of them were at the top level. Thirty of our teachers got the larger step increase, but the majority got the 1.9 percent raise because they were already at that top level. We have a lot of teachers who have been there a lot of years."

Selectmen Michael Barbaro then spoke saying, "I think on the up note what I think everybody is missing here is once the deficit bond is retired, the school department gets an additional \$200,000 back in indirect cost. With it being paid in four years out, that is important because the deficit legislation put it 10 years on the school department. Sustainability for the long term is key, and honestly anything we put forward with sharing would have to go before town meeting and would have to be approved by the voters on how this model would work, and that is where the rubber hits the road."

All three groups agreed to form and ad-hoc group to look in to the possibility of revenue sharing for long term school budget sustainability.

It was announced the annual fall town meeting is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 13 at Murdock High School.

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LEGALS

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 Thomas S. Killmon to JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA, dated March 21, 2013 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 50761, Page 39 subsequently assigned to Federal National Mortgage Association by JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 52902, Page 7 and subsequently assigned to MTGLQ Investors, L.P. by Federal National Mortgage Association by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 57379, Page 162; 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 11:00 AM on October 13, 2017 at 255R Main Street, Winchendon, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF WORCESTER, STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: ALL THAT PARCEL OF LAND IN TOWN OF WINCHENDON, WORCESTER COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 42447, PAGE 120, ID# 7A4-0-34, BEING KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS METES AND BOUNDS PROPERTY. RECORDED LAND IN COUNTY OF WORCESTER, SOUTHERN DISTRICT KNOWN AS; 255R MAIN STREET, WINCHENDON, MA 01475 BY FEES SIMPLE DEED FROM ADAMB. BROOKS AND CRYSTAL L. BROOKS FKA CRYSTAL L. CLOUTIER AS SET FORTH IN BOOK 42447 PAGE 120 DATED 02/22/2008 AND RECORDED 02/22/2008, WORCESTER COUNTY RECORDS, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

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.

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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.

MTGLQ Investors, L.P.

Present Holder of said Mortgage,
By Its Attorneys,

ORLANS PC
PO Box 540540
Waltham, MA 02454
Phone: (781) 790-7800
16-012724

September 22, 2017

September 29, 2017

October 6, 2017

Town of Winchendon Zoning Board of Appeals PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a PUBLIC HEARING on Wed., October 18, 2017 at 7:05 PM in the Town Hall Auditorium, 2nd Fl., 109 Front St., Winchendon, MA 01475, on the request for a Variance submitted by Jared Maxfield of 179 Laurel St. Winchendon MA 01475 for property located at 179 Laurel St., Winchendon, MA 01475, identified Winchendon Assessors Map 8A1 Parcel 50, and owned by the same, to hear an application for a Variance for zoning relief per Article 7.2. of the Winchendon Zoning Bylaw. The request seeks relief from the side setback requirement from the southern portion of the lot of 6 feet, to construct a 24' x 30' addition. Said property is located in the R-80 Rural Residential District. A copy of the application is available at the Dept. of P&D, Winchendon Town Hall. All interested persons should plan to attend. Reasonable accommodation for disabled parties can be made by contacting the department during business hours, (978) 297-3537 at least three days in advance. The Town of Winchendon is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

BY: Cynthia Carville, Chair
Winchendon Zoning Board of Appeals
September 29, 2017
October 6, 2017

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Christopher A. Caouette and Bethany L. Snow to New Century Mortgage Corporation, dated March 8, 2006 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38524, Page 249 of which mortgage Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Indenture Trustee, for New Century Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-1 is the present holder by assignment from New Century Liquidating Trust successor in interest to New Century Mortgage Corporation to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Indenture Trustee, for New Century Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-1 dated December 17, 2012 recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 50187, Page 323, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 104 Elm Street, Winchendon, MA 01475 will be sold at a Public Auction at 2:00 PM on November 1, 2017, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Winchendon in the County of Worcester, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

Commencing on the westerly line of Elm Street at land formerly of Nelson D. White, now or formerly of Napoleon Breton;

THENCE: Westerly on line of said Breton's land eight (8) rods to a stake and stones at land now or formerly of Peter Lamothe;

THENCE: No. 38 3/4 E on line of said Lamothe's land ten (10) rods to a stake and stones at land now or formerly of Orlando W. Betterley, now or formerly of Peter Diamantopoulos;

THENCE: easterly on line of said Diamantopoulos' land eight (8) rods to the westerly line of Elm Street;

THENCE: southerly on the westerly side of Elm Street ten (10) rods to the place of beginning.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38524, Page 247.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in

possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cash, cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable in cash or by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

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Lowell, MA 01851

(978) 256-1500

Caouette, Christopher A., 15-022858

September 29, 2017

October 6, 2017

October 13, 2017

October 20, 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 Dean R. Gray and Linda M. Gray to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Prime Mortgage Financial, Inc., its successors and assigns, dated February 23, 2005 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 35781, Page 139 subsequently assigned to Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Prime Mortgage Financial, Inc., its successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 55039, Page 369; 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 9:00 AM on October 27, 2017 at 38 Whitney Street, a/k/a 28 Whitney Street, Winchendon, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land, with the buildings thereon, on the westerly side of Whitney Street in Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts being shown as Lot "6" on a plan entitle "Plan of Lots prepared for Rural Housing Improvement, Inc., Winchendon, MA February 7, 1986 Szoc Surveyors, 32 Pleasant Street, Gardner, MA" which plan is recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds Plan Book 552, Plan 87 bounded and described as follows: COMMENCING at a point in the westerly line of Whitney Street at the northeast corner of lot "5" shown on said plan; THENCE North 66° 27' 48" West by said lot "5" 169.79 feet to a point in line of land now or formerly of Robert N. Mickler et ux; THENCE North 09° 45' 34" East by said Minkler land 143.42 feet to a point in the southerly line of River Street; THENCE South 58° 00' 00" East by the southerly line of River Street, 105.00 feet to a point; THENCE South 67° 07' 38" East by the southerly line of River Street 97.24 feet to a point at the intersection of River Street and Whitney Street; THENCE South 22° 14' 19" West by the westerly line of Whitney Street, 125.00 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 23,558 square feet. Being the same premises conveyed to the mortgagor by a deed from Alan J. Drouinand Steven J. Kosakowski, Trustees of S & A Realty Trust dated January 30, 1997 and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 18575, Page 260.

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.

Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC

Present Holder of said Mortgage,

By Its Attorneys,

ORLANS PC

PO Box 540540

Waltham, MA 02454

Phone: (781) 790-7800

16-014065

October 6, 2017

October 13, 2017

October 20, 2017

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

17 SM 004654

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:

Lauren N. Mullin; Bradden L. Mullin and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act., 50 U.S.C.c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Winchendon, numbered **90 Lake Shore Drive**, given by **Bradden L. Mullin and Lauren N. Mullin to Salem Five Mortgage Company, LLC**, dated **March 11, 2009**, and recorded with the **Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds** in Book **43928**, Page **344**, as affected by a **Loan Modification Agreement** dated **September 30, 2014** and recorded in said Registry in Book **52927**, Page **15** 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 **October 30, 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 September 13, 2017

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder

(17-006245 Orlans)

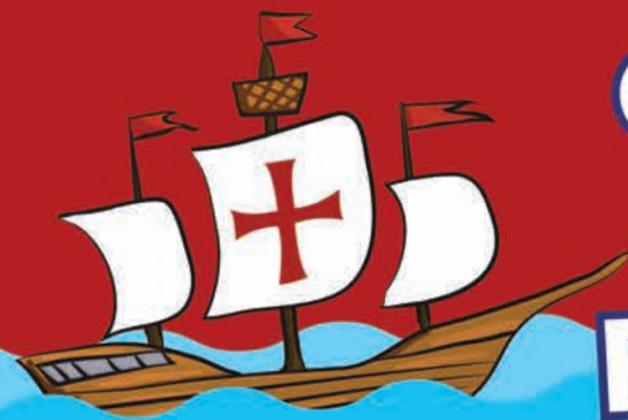
October 6, 2017



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Columbus Day Window and Patio Door Sale

Hurry – limited time offer!



- Renewal by Andersen is the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, the most trusted family of window and door brands in America*
- Our window helps make homes more comfortable because its strong seals help prevent drafts and leaks, and our Fibrex® composite window material is 2X stronger than vinyl
- To lock in this Columbus Day Sale, call on or before Sunday, October 15, and schedule your free Window and Patio Door Diagnosis

Columbus Day Sale ENDS Sunday, October 15th

Buy 1 window or patio door, get 1 window or patio door

40% OFF¹

WITH

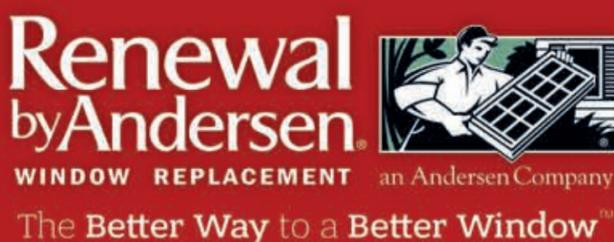
NO NO NO FOR 1 YEAR¹
 MONEY DOWN PAYMENTS INTEREST

When you set your appointment by October 15th and purchase by October 22nd. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full for 12 months. Minimum purchase required.

PLUS

take an additional \$200 off your ENTIRE project¹

No minimum purchase required for additional \$200 off.



Call to schedule your appointment. Limited appointments are available.

1-800-209-2746

*DETAILS OF OFFER – Offer expires 10/22/2017. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or patio door, get one (1) window or patio door 40% off and 12 months no payments, no interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 10/1/2017 & 10/22/2017 with approved credit. \$200 off your entire project when you set your appointment by 10/15/2017 and purchase by 10/22/2017. APR of 16.68% as of 6/1/2015, subject to change. Discount windows are of equal or lesser value. Interest accrues from date of purchase but is waived if paid in full within 12 months. Savings comparison is based on the purchase of a single unit at regular list price. Available only at participating locations. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2017 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2017 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *Based on 2016 homeowner brand survey, Andersen family of brands aggregated: Andersen, Renewal by Andersen, Silver Line and American Craftsman.