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Friday, December 21, 2018

Newsstand: 75 cents

MEETING THE BIG GUY

Kevin Flanders

At just five months old, Jameson Almstrom, of Spencer, is too young to hand Santa his Christmas list, but you're never too young for a photo at the Auburn Craft Fair.

Roycewicz recognized as volunteer of the year

Life Care Center of Auburn recently awarded youth volunteer of the year to Keith Roycewicz of Auburn.

During a celebration in Keith's honor Senator Mike Moore and Representative Paul Frost both spoke to Keith's achievements and the impact of youth volunteers. A room filled with family and friends were on hand to congratulate Keith and see him awarded with citations, plaques and a check for his future education.

Tracy Colangelo, activities director, originally nominated Keith for the award at the facil-

Upon winning for the Auburn facility his nomination went to the divisional level. Keith was overall winner for Life Care Center of America's Northeast Division.

According to Colangelo, 'Keith has shown maturity, dedication, compassion and understanding towards the residents here. I love that he is always encouraging other students to volunteer here."

Joanne Bruell, executive director, read a letter to Keith from Life Care Centers President Beecher Hunter. Bruell then spoke about Keith's dedication to volunteering outside the school activity pro-



Courtesy photo

At left is Rep. Paul Frost, center is Keith Roycewicz and at right is Sen. Michael Moore.

gram before presenting him with a check.

"Keith has been a volunteer for over three years initially starting with the school next door," said Bruell. "Even after the school program ended for the year Keith continued to volunteer on his own time."

Zo Long, divisional vice president for Life Care Centers of America, was able to attend the celebration as well as

other corporate team members. Presenting the divisional award to Keith, Long spoke about receiving the nomination.

"I knew right away that this young man was deserving of this award. I was very impressed with his devotion to our residents and wanted to be here to meet him myself.'

Please Read ROYCEWICZ, page A4

Schools to have review of compliance

a Tiered Focused Monitoring Review of the Auburn Public Schools.

The Office of Public School Monitoring visits each district and charter school every three years to monitor compliance with federal and state special

During the week of education and civil rights grams for all students. January 7, the Department of regulations. Areas of review Elementary and Secondary related to special education visit, parent outreach is an Education's Office of Public include student assessments, important part of the review School Monitoring will conduct determination of eligibility, the Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team process, and IEP development and implementation. Areas of review related to civil rights include bullying, student discipline, physical restraint, and equal access to school pro-

In addition to the onsite process. The review chairperson from the Office of Public School Monitoring will send all parents of students with disabilities an online survey that focuses on key areas of their child's special education program. Survey results will contribute to the development

of a report. During the onsite review, the Office of Public Doreen Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC). Other onsite activities may include interviews of District staff and administrators, reviews of student records, and onsite observa-

Parents and other indi-

viduals Donovan-Barbera, School Monitoring will inter- Public School Monitoring view the chairperson(s) of the Chairperson, at (781) 338-3725 District's Special Education or DDonovan-Barbera@doe. mass.edu to request a telephone interview. If an individual requires an accommodation, such as translation, to participate in an interview, the Department will make the nec-

Please Read REVIEW, page A5



Metacomet Land Trust meets 30th Anniversary fundraising goal

Metacomet Land Trust raised more than \$30,000 in donations and grants to reach its 30th anniversary fundraising goal in 2018.

'We are pleased to be celebrating our 30 year milestone as a regional land trust serving 15 communities," stated the organization's president Lisa Mosczynski, "We started out 30 years ago with three towns and as more communities saw the need to partner with a land trust to preserve and protect their valuable open space we have expanded to help them. Today we own 473 acres of conservation land and hold conservation restrictions that restrict development on an

additional 343 acres. Among other partners, the trust works with individual owners, municipalities and the Commonwealth to preserve critical open space in the region."

In 2018 the trust finalized the acquisition of another 32 acres through landowner donations including:

Mendon: 17 acres were generously donated by George and Joan Ford to preserve and protect beautiful uplands and rich wetlands off of Hartford Avenue West.

"The Fords patiently worked with us

Please Read LAND TRUST, page A3

Area fire departments honor fallen firefighter

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

Fire officials from throughout the area came together last week to honor fallen Worcester

Firefighter Christopher Roy. On Dec. 9, the 36-year-old Shrewsbury resident became trapped while battling an early morning five-alarm fire at a Lowell Street apartment complex. Roy belonged to Ladder 4, Group 3 at the city's Webster Square Fire Station.

'Fire crews were heroic in their efforts to rescue their colleagues under extreme conditions," said Worcester Fire Chief Michael Lavoie. "Every person on the fire-ground gave 110 percent to try to rescue the firefighters who were in dan-

Conditions in the burning building rapidly declined, fire officials said, with heavy flames forcing several firefighters on the second floor to evacuate. With the assistance of additional crews, five firefighters escaped the building on ladders.

The cause of the fire remains

under investigation. Hundreds of firefighters attended services and programs leading up to Roy's funeral on Dec. 15. For local officials, it was important to show their



Worcester Firefighter Christopher Roy lost his life while battling a Dec. 9 blaze.

support for Roy's family and the Worcester Fire Department. December has been a tragic month for the department over the years, beginning in 1999 when six firefighters lost their

Please Read ROY, page A3



Santa's Claus visits the Whitin Community Center

WHITINSVILLE - The 11th annual Santa's Coming event was held on a beautiful brisk winter Saturday morning, on December 8. The event took place inside the Whitin Community Center's gymnasium. This annual event is provided by the Blackstone Valley Children's Place staff for all children and their families FREE of charge. At 10:00 am a line of bright-eyed eager children were waiting at the door to meet Santa! While waiting to sit on Santa's

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lap, the gymnasium was filled with 20 fun holiday-themed games and activities for kids including: face painting, a holiday photo booth, snowman bowling, gingerbread mini golf, pin the heart on the Grinch, write a special letter to Santa, and making magic reindeer food to take home!

The Blackstone Valley Children's Place was thrilled to be able to provide this year's event.

Our BVCP Director, Ginny Alicea stated, "Thank you to all the elves who worked this event, including the Douglas High School National Honor Society, and a special thank you to the BVCP Staff who worked many hours over the past few months to put this successful event together. We had so much fun watching the children light up as they met with Santa and enjoyed the holiday games in the gym. We were honored to have had the opportunity to provide a 1 month old child and his family with their first meet and greet with Santa. We were also surprised with a visit from Senator Moore! This is what the Whitin Community Center's mission truly represents; bringing a community of all ages and backgrounds together!

Thank you to the following sponsors and supporters of this year's event including Koopman Lumber & Hardware, Mill House Wine & Spirits, Osterman Propane and UniBank.

The Whitin Community Center is



Sen. Michael Moore visits with the elf.

committed to enhancing the health and well-being of individuals and families and building a strong community in the Blackstone Valley. We offer social, recreational, educational, and outreach programs that bring community members of all ages and backgrounds together. The Whitin Community Center is the Blackstone Valley's most complete



Santa cozies up with a small visitor

family and recreation center with two swimming pools, a gym, fitness center, early learning programs, summer camps and a seven and a half acre park. For more information call 508.234.8184 or visit www.Whitin Community

CHRISTMAS PAST

BY ED NEAL

It all started on December 1, 1917 in the midst of World War I. The ship, the Mont Blanc, left New York for Halifax, Nova Scotia with a cargo of 2,989 tons (almost six million pounds) of munitions on its way to join a convoy of ships headed to Boudreaux, France, delivering war supplies to troops.

In the early hours of Dec. 6, the Mont Blanc collided with a Belgian Relief ship, the Imo, in Halifax harbor. While the Imo was able to make way, the Mont

Blanc caught fire. Captain Aime Le Medec gave the order to abandon ship. It was at 9:04 that morning that the Mont Blanc exploded in what, to this date, remains the

clear explosion. 1,600 men,

world's largest

man made non-nu-

women and children died instantly. 9,000 were wounded. 12,000 homes were flattened or made uninhabitable. Water surrounding the ship vaporized, causing a 20 foot tidal wave to cause further devastation. Windows as far as 50 miles away were shattered by the blast.

Word of the disaster reached Boston by telegraph at 10 that morning. That day the city dispatched by train 13 doctors and surgeons, nurses, food, water and medical supplies the 750 miles to

Slowed by a blizzard, the train did not arrive until Dec. 8.

"Boston was one of the first responders, a real lifesaver."

The medical personnel were immediately put to work, coordinating with doctors on hand, performing life/death surgeries, amputations and eye remov-

Following a tradition started in 1941, the Province of Nova Scotia sent Boston a Christmas tree, decorated by the city and displayed on Boston Common. In 1971, the government enacted legislation which provided that each and every year a tree would be taken from anywhere in the Provence and sent to Boston. Each tree is 40 to 50 feet tall and chosen for color and shape.

Homeowners consider it a privilege to have a tree chosen from their property. The tree cutting is attended by town and government officials, the town crier, the Royal Mounted Police, townspeople, schoolchildren, a choir and Santa Claus.

The whole Provence gets excited about the tree. It is a big deal."

In Boston, the tree lighting ceremony is televised and is typically attended by up to 20,000 people each year.

A friend's help in need makes a friend forever. One year's truck driver, David McFarland, said it best.

'It means a lot to all the Nova Scotia people what Boston did for us in our time of need when the explosion happened."

A Merry Christmas, and its spirit to follow us in the New Year to come.

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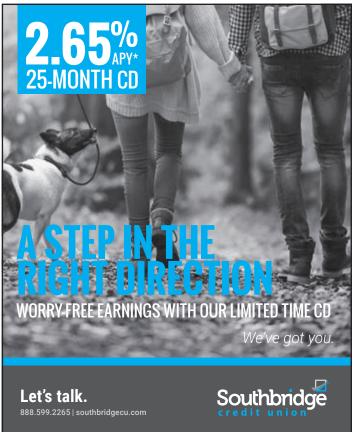
Christmas Eve Masses: 4:00pm & 10:00pm

Christmas Day Mass: 9:00am

Monday, December 31st

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God Evening Mass: 4:00pm

> Tuesday, January 1st Mass: 9:00am



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Shiner, William.

St. Joseph fields Legos team and earns Judges Award



Courtesy photo

Members of the St. Joseph Lego Robotics Team, the Metallic Meteorites

On Dec. 1st, the St. Joseph School first LEGO League Robotics team known Metallic the Meteorites competed at the Worcester Qualifier held at WPI. Qualifier events are the culmination of several months' work and

the chance for teams to shine!

This season's theme was Into Orbit. Teams were tasked with identifying a physical or social problem that could occur during extended space travel. After selecting a problem, teams had to find

out about the solutions that already exist; think of a new solution or a way to improve a current solution through research; meet with experts; and, share their results. In addition, teams had to design, build, and program

an autonomous robot capable of completing missions in a designated playing field. Most importantly, teams were expected to demonstrate Gracious Professionalism and treat all people with respect and kindness.

St. Joseph School

is proud to announce the Metallic Meteorites were awarded the Judges Award for their research project. In addition, due to their overall scores in robot performance, robot design judging, and core values judging, the Metallic Meteorites were invited to complete in the State Tournament at WPI on Dec. 15th.

members Team include: Grade 5 – Paul Grade Mankarios; 6 – Dale Boudreau, William Colebourn, and Lauren Gingo; Grade 7 Tessa McCabe, Noalani Perez, and Dominic Pigeon; Grade 8 -Patrick Mahlert, Remonda Mankarios, and Olivia Montione. Alternate - Zane Ferri, Grade 6.

The team is sponsored by Leonard Montione and Nordic Shield and coached by Beth & Joey Boudreau and Mariusz Macko.

ACCURACY WATCH

The Auburn News is committed to accu-

racy in all its news reports. Although

numerous safeguards are in place to ensure

Confirmed fact errors will be corrected

at the top right hand corner of page 3 in a

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editor's voice mailbox. The editor will

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The First Congregational Church of Auburn 128 Central St.

Christmas Eve Services on December 24th: 5 P.M. Family Service and 11 P.M. Candlelight Communion Service. All are wel-

St. Joseph Parish 189 Oxford St. North Auburn, MA 01501 508-832-2074

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Christmas Day Mass: 9:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve Mass: 4:00 p.m.

New Year's Day Mass: 9:00 a.m.



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Local church hosts January clothing swap

BY KIM PALMUCCI TRIBUNE CORRESPONDENT

The Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church in Whitinsville will kick off the new year with a clothing swap on Saturday, January 5.

Organizer Christine Beauchaine, who started the event in 2013, said donations of gently used men's, women's, and children's clothing, shoes, and accessories will be accepted, with no rips or stains. Participants do not have to donate to take something home, and don't have to take something home in order to donate. Everything is free and open to the public, she said.

Whether you're looking to clean out your closet or update your wardrobe, this is the event for you," she added.

Donations can be dropped off on

Friday, January 4, between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., or the morning of the swap the following day. Beauchaine asks that visitors please use the driveway between Domino's Pizza and the law office to gain access to the church's back door.

The church's first annual clothing swap of the season was hosted in September, and Beauchaine said she is looking forward to the next one. The program began as a fellowship opportunity for women at the church, and since then, it has expanded into a celebration of community.

"I believe we have more attendees every single time we run the swap and are really connecting with the community. People have been very grateful. It has helped new parents, people in tough financial situations, and people returning to the workforce. It's also a great way to de-clutter and help others," Beauchaine said.

The swap is hosted three times a year, in September, January, and May. All leftover items are donated to other charities, so nothing ends up in a landfill or the trash, she added.

"It was always open to the public from the beginning and soon we found there was a great need in the community for this sort of project," she said. "There's a great sense of community around the clothing swap, both at the church and among attendees.

The January event will start at 9:00 a.m. and go to 11:00 a.m. Questions can be directed to Beauchaine at 774-262-6415 or edalynne@hotmail.com.

LAND TRUST

continued from page 1

through title searches going back to the original farmland in the 1800s," Mendon board representative Patrice Murphy recalled. "This sec-"sprouts and saplings" will now be permanently conserved.'

Sutton: 11 acres were generously donated by Sutton Development Trust. This parcel abuts the 38 acres donated to the land trust in 2017. Both parcels preserve and protect the shoreline of Stevens Pond in the village of Manchaug. The land trust is currently working with the Sutton Conservation Commission to place a conservation restriction on the parcels to further protect the property in perpetuity.

Upton: three acres donated

by the Naze family.
"The generosity of the Naze family created the Blue Conservation Area on Crockett Road with frontage on the Mill River," Upton board representative Mike Penko explained. "The town of Upton also holds a servation restriction on the property and Metacomet is currently working with the town to place a conservation restriction on Upton's Heritage Park.'

The new year will be a busy one for the land trust with numerous ongoing projects in several of the communities it serves. Land owners and municipalities are urged to contact the trust to discuss a variety of "tools" that are available to help preserve and protect critical open space and trails for future generations.

Metacomet Land Trust is an all-volunteer, membership-based organization and is always ready to welcome new members and friends who want to work with us. We are motivated by our motto: "Because we love where we live!" and we to keep open space and recreation available to everyone.

We are currently looking for an assistant treasurer, help with coordinating our social media outreach, volunteers to help with outreach and fundraising and outdoor enthusiasts to help us with new stewardship projects like the creation and maintenance of trails. We also have an open positon on our 15 member Board of Directors.

"Preserving and protecting land comes at a cost, most of which is shouldered by our members and donors" said treasurer Susan Speers of Franklin. "We truly depend on the public's support for conservation close to home."

Learn more about the trust at MetacometLandTrust. org, call us at 508-271-7131 or email us at info@metacom-

Metacomet Land Trust is a 501(c)3 profit organization working on land conservation in 15 communities across southern Worcester County and Norfolk County including Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Franklin. Hopedale, Mendon, Millbury, Millville, Norfolk, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, Uxbridge, Webster, and Wrentham.

ed past his station enroute to Alfred Roy and Sons Funeral Home. Funeral services took place at St. John's Catholic Church following a private family procession. Rov was laid to rest at Notre

Dame Cemetery in Worcester. A memorial fund has been established by the Worcester Firefighters IAFF chapter in the name of Roy's daughter, Ava Roy. Checks should be made payable to the Ava Roy Fund and mailed to the Worcester Fire Department Credit Union, 34 Glennie St., Worcester, MA 01605.

FACTORY Metacomet Land Trust owns 473 acres of conservation land and holds conservation 45 COLORS • \$45 per sq. ft. Installed restrictions on an additional (40 sq.ft. or more) includes: rounded, beveled, or polished edges 4 in back splash. Cutout for sink. 343 acres. Cannot be combined with other offers. Biggest Selection of Marble and Granite of ANY Fabrication Shop 280 Colors to choose from

ROY

continued from page 1

lives battling a blaze at the abandoned Worcester Cold Storage and Warehouse Co. building.

On Dec. 8, 2011, Worcester Firefighter Jon Davies died while responding to an apartment fire.

This is unfathomable. The [memorial anniversary] services for Jon Davies were held the day before, and the very next day Firefighter Roy lost his life,' said Spencer Fire Chief Robert Parsons. "December has been a cruel month for the Worcester Fire Department. We want to do whatever we can to show our support."

Local fire departments collaborated with the area's fire district to arrange for coverage of their towns during

services for Roy. neighboring Auburn, firefighters took part in many activities to show solidarity with Worcester.

"No matter how much you prepare, you can never be fully prepared for situation everv you might encounter," said Auburn Fire Chief Stephen

every day to make sure we operate as safely as possible in adverse conditions. But even when you're doing everything right, the job is inherently dangerous. A memorial fund was created to support Roy's family. He had been a member of the Worcester Fire Department for nearly three years.

Coleman. "Like Worcester, we train

Meanwhile, support poured in over social media and at memorial events throughout the week. Locally, December has repeatedly brought tragic reminders to all departments of the dangerousness of the job.

"This has been very hard for everyone in our department. When it happens this close to home, it really hits

you hard," Parsons said. In a tradition reserved for all fallen firefighters, Roy's body was transport-At Al's we are Thankful for our Loyal Customers... Wishing Happy and Healthy Holidays from our Family to Yours Shrewsbury's Own **LOWEST PRICES • FULL SERVICE** 24-HOUR EXPERT BURNER SERVICE National Heritage Corridor! (508) 753-7221 SERVICE 860-774-3300 ~ thelastgreenvalley.org We accept most major credit cards www.alsoil.com





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December Real Estate Market Update



REALTOR'S REPORT

> **JAMES BLACK**

According to Bankrate.com as of 12/16/2018 the rate on a 30 year fixed loan was 4.57%. Which is lower than it has been the last couple months. The market is still extremely strong but all the numbers are showing us going towards or more stabilized market.

Today we have 1642 single family homes for sale in Worcester County which down from 6 months ago where we had 1785 single homes for sale. 12 months ago we had 1488 homes for sale which shows a more than 10.3% increase in inventory compared to the same day 12 months ago.

Every month lately has shown a higher inventory than the same month in 2017. The good news is the inventory is still lowering as normal going into the winter months. The average days on market is currently 117 days which is creeping higher every month however last year at this time it was at 132 days. If we look at homes sold over past 12 months compared to the same time for the previous year there is a small decrease in sales of 2.2% and a 5.9% increase in average sales price while it is taking 13.3% less time to sell the homes this year than last year in Worcester County. The big difference I noticed this month is that the amount of sales has decreased while our active inventory has increased from last year. Again this is a sign of stabilization in the market.

I would not recommend making a buying or selling decision based on these changes in the market. However, if you are

thinking of moving soon I would suggest you meet with a Realtor that is familiar with your area and the economics of Real Estate to guide you on where you market is and where it will most likely be going. It is never too early to consult with a professional to understand the market and your steps to getting your home on the market.

ROYCEWICZ

continued from page 1

When Keith took the opportunity to thank everyone for attending, he let it be known that Life Care provided a place for him to be himself. He considered Life Care to be a judge free zone. He overcame difficult challenges both socially and academically and always felt welcome when at Life Care.

In closing the event Carrie Cross, marketing director for the Auburn facility, told Keith he is always welcome at Life

"Keith is being honored today, but in reality it is us who are honored to know him. Keith lights up a room the minute he enters it with his smile. I hope he continues to do so wherever life may take him," said Cross.



DONATING TO A CAUSE

Courtesy photo

Knowing the importance of helping families in need, the All Saints Academy National Junior Honor Society students organized and accomplished a very successful school-wide non-perishable food drive. On Dec. 6, the members donated 1,537 items to the Saint Vincent De Paul Society beating their goal of 1,000 items!

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Hot antiques and collectibles for 2019

In 2015, I wrote a top 10 list of some of the antiques and collectibles you may have in your home that are bringing great prices at auction. As 2019 approaches, I have a slightly modified list. I have also included some other things that didn't make the top 10 but are also selling very well. Here is the list for 2019, with number onr being the most desirable, in my opinion.

10. Arts and crafts and art deco design furnishings

Mid-20th century Scandinavian and other modern design art and furnishings 8. Advertising signs, posters and displays

7. 1960s comic books, toys and other collectibles

6. 1960s and earlier baseball and other sports memorabilia

5. Gold coins and jewelry: silver coins, flatware and hollow ware

4. Important historical mem-

3. Antique paintings and other artwork by listed artists

2. Antique and classic automobiles and motorcycles

1. Early Chinese and other Asian antiques

These items continue to sell well, but there are plenty of rare antiques and collectibles that didn't make the list. Here are some examples of rare finds that have made their way to auction.

ANTIQUES,

COLLECTIBLES

& ESTATES

A circa 1880 ten WAYNE TUISKULA point stag copper patinated (showing natural wear and oxidation) weathervane that came from a Massachusetts estate sold well at auction. It brought \$60,000

> A rare "The Manila" 5¢ trade stimulator was named to honor Admiral Dewey. The quarter sawn oak base held a bubble top dome. A pistol would shoot the players coin into different slots that held different prizes. It sold for \$70,000.

According to askart.com, John Brewster Jr. was a deafmute itinerant artist. He traveled along the New England coast advertising in local newspapers to paint portraits for \$15 and miniatures for \$5. One of his portraits identified as "Louella J. Bartlett" sold for \$77,500 in 2016.

The only know example of a Frankenstein insert poster from 1931 was auctioned in 2013. Larger posters had been found, but this was the only to have been found in this size. It fetched \$220,000.

A rare Marblehead vase recently sold at auction, according to the Antiques and Arts Weekly. It was one of four known examples designed by Annie Aldrich, decorated by Sarah Tutt and made by John Swallow. A 19 year old picker found it at a yard sale. It sold for \$307,500.

A map considered by many as the most important in American cartography sold for auction in 2017. The first edition, first issue of the 1755 Mitchell Map depicts the French and British Dominions in North America. 21 versions of the map were printed between 1755 and 1781. It brought \$400,000 at auction in 2017. Hopefully you find a rare map or other treasures in your



home that can help chart your way to a great 2019.

It was nice meeting readers of this column who attended the appraisal event at the Shrewsbury Historical Society on December 12th. Our winter live auction date will now be February 28th. My next "Evaluating your Antiques" class will be held on March 12th at the Bay Path Evening School in Charlton. The last classes sold out, so sign up early. See www.centralmassauctions. com for details on these and other upcoming events.

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

Keep holiday plants looking their best



GARDEN Moments MELINDA **MYERS**

The holiday season has arrived. That means you will be on the giving or receiving end of a poinsettia, Christmas cactus, cyclamen, amaryllis or other holiday plant. Extend the beauty and longevity of these holiday

beauties with proper care. And that starts the minute vou leave the florist or garden center. Always protect your gift plants from the harsh outdoors. Professional florists and garden center staff will provide a care tag and wrap your plants in a

plastic or paper sleeve. Remove the wrap as soon as you arrive home. This is especially important when caring for poinsettias. The upturned leaves emit ethylene, a ripening hormone, that can shorten the longevity of your poinsettia's colorful display.

Rewrap your holiday plant anytime you move it outdoors and never leave it sitting in a cold car while running errands. A chilled plant looks fine until it thaws. By the next day, the plant turns grayish-green, wilts and may die. Not such a nice gift after all.

Once your plant arrives

home, place it in a cool, brightly lit location. The cool temperatures and indirect light help the blooms last longer. Avoid drafts of hot and cold air. These can dry or chill the plant, resulting in leaf and blossom drop. Fold down the foil wrap to allow sunlight to reach all the leaves.

Keep the soil moist, like a damp sponge, but not wet. A quick touch of the top inch or two of soil will let you know when it is time to water. Water thoroughly whenever the top few inches of soil are crumbly and just slightly moist.

Pour out any water that collects in the foil, basket, decorative pot or saucer. Or place pebbles in the bottom of the container or saucer to elevate the plant above any sitting water.

Plant your amaryllis bulb in a container that is slightly larger than the bulb and has drainage holes. Set the bulb in a well-drained potting mix with 1/3 of the pointed end exposed. Water the potting mix thorough-Iv and place the container in a cool sunny location. Continue to water thoroughly, but only often enough to keep the soil barely moist.

Or go soilless. Place several inches of pebbles in the bottom of a glass vase or watertight container. Cover the pebbles with water. Set the bulb on top of the pebbles, adding more stones around the bulb to hold it in place. Leave the top one third of the bulb exposed. Add water as needed to maintain the water level just below the bulb.

Now relax and wait the month or more needed for your amaryllis bulb to wake up and start growing. Water more often once sprouts appear.

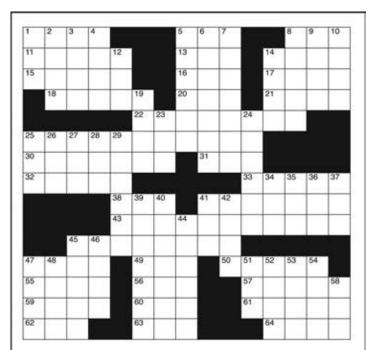
Keep your floral display looking its best by removing spent flowers from azaleas, Christmas cactus, cyclamen and kalanchoes. This keeps the plant looking fresh and often encourages more blooms. Remove the true flowers, those yellow knobs in the center of the colorful leaves of the poinsettia. This extends the longevity and beauty of the

poinsettia plant. And once the holidays are past, keep enjoying these plants through the gray days of winter. Move the plants to a sunny window, fertilize with a dilute solution of complete or flowering plant fertilizer and water as

Add some artificial berries, cut flowers in water picks or silk blooms to replace the faded flowers. Use colorful stakes or natural twigs for added beauty and to support floppy leaves and stems.

Be sure to add a few holiday plants to this year's gift list. They're guaranteed to brighten everyone's holiday celebrations.

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



CLUES ACROSS

1. Thick piece of something 5. Engine additive

8. Anticipated arrival time

11. French commune 13. Cigarette (slang)

14. Nobleman

15. Ghana capital 16. Adam's wife

17. Most popular student

18. Where you currently are 20. Increase motor speed

21. Queen of Sparta

22. North, South and Central

25. Churchgoer

Russian empress

31. Female daredevils organization 32. Relating to music

33. Female body part

38. Tyrion Lannister 41. Honored

43. Argentine footballer 45. Novices

47. Wings 49. Doctors' group

50. Packers' QB

55. Qatar capital

56. Unpleasant noise 57. Lovable elephant

59. Sleeping

60. Lute

61. Weight of a liter of hydrogen 62. Crimson

63. Returned material

authorization (abbr.)

64. Employee plan

CLUES DOWN

1. Helps little firms

2. Type of curtain 3. Online stock exchange

4. Irish castle

5. Audio-system

6. Places to grab a drink

7. What's coming

8. Designed chairs

9. Stepped on

10. Genus of birds

Consume 14. Ancient Syrian city

19. Australian brewery

23. Not present 24. Necktie

25. What part of (abbr.)

26. Type of compound

27. Jogged quickly 28. Roth is one type

29. Mineral

34. Purpose Financial term (abbr.)

36. Orange is the New Black

character

37. Used to cut and shape wood 39. Bullfighter

40. Top of the line 41. Hill

42. Greek mountain

44. Angola's capital 45. Expressed pleasure

46. Fermented honey beverage

47. Month in the Jewish calendar 48. Frontal is one type

51. Basics 52. Uncommon

53. Broad kimono sashes

54. European defense organization

58. Box score term

8 8 A O 3 M 3 3 O W 3 3 Я 1 Я A

Photo credit Melinda Myers, LLC

Poinsettia and other holiday plants should be kept in a cool, brightly lit location.

REVIEW

continued from page 1

essary arrangements.

Within approximately 60 business days after the onsite visit, the review chairperson will provide

the Auburn Public Schools with a report with information about areas in which the Auburn Public Schools meets or exceeds regulatory requirements and areas in which the Auburn Public Schools requires assistance to correct or improve practices. The public will be able to access the report at www.doe.mass.edu/pqa/review/cpr/reports/.

"Every Town Deserves a **Good Local Newspaper**"

A day at the Auburn craft fair

AUBURN - Local craft fairs are always well attended during the holiday season, but Auburn residents are taking the tradition to new heights.

Hosted by the town's Recreation and Culture Department, the annual holiday craft fair at the high school continues to expand. This year's fair on Dec. 15 saw hundreds of vendors, and there was even a visit from Santa Claus. Guests and families from throughout the area attended to get some last-minute Christmas shopping



Cindy Petraw, of Ware, and her 8-year-old daughter Laylana show off their Christmas spirit.



Renee Delorge, of Oxford, is ready for a successful day at the fair.



Jeramy Sechrist, of Auburn, welcomes guests to her table.



Maris Vanvlack, of Mansfield, shows how to produce unique creations on a loom.



Gina Doyle, of the Department of Children and Families, talks with guests about the impor-

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

24 Rockland Road, Premises:

Auburn, MA 01501 By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Cynthia A. Goguen and Edward Goguen to Ameriquest Mortgage Company, and now held by U.S. Bank National Association as Legal Title Trustee for Truman 2016 SC6 Title Trust, said mortgage dated July 16, 2005 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36891, Page 33, said mortgage was assigned from Ameriquest Mortgage Company to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association by assignment dated December 12, 2008 and recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 43657, Page 40; said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association to JPMC Specialty Mortgage LLC by assignment dated April 26, 2016 and recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 55268, Page 386; said mortgage was assigned from JPMC Specialty Mortgage, LLC f/k/a WM Specialty Mortgage, LLC to U.S. Bank National Association as Legal Title Trustee for Truman 2016 SC6 Title Trust by assignment dated March 27, 2017 and recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 57389, Page 152; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on

That certain parcel of land, known as 24 Rockland Road, with all the buildings and structures not or hereafter standing or placed thereon, situated inAuburn, in the County of Worcester and Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

January 18, 2019 at 10:00AM Local

Time upon the premises, all and sin-

gular the premises described in said

mortgage, to wit:

on the easterly line of Rockland Road, being on Lot #34 on Pan of Lots of Whitaker-Irish-Perry Realty Company dated May, 1920, S.H. Pitcher Company, C.E. and bounded and described as follows:

On the North by Lot #33 on said plan, one hundred fifty (150) feet;

On the East by Lot #15 on said plan, sixty (60) feet;

On the South by Lot #35 on said plan, one hundred fifty (150) feet:

On the West by the Easterly line of Rockland Road, sixty (60) feet;

Containing nine thousand (9,000) square feet of land.

Being the same premises conveyed to the herein named mortgagor (s) by deed recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 25082,

Page 171. Address - 24 Rockland Road Auburn, MA

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated July 16, 2005 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36891, Page 31.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC 1080 Main Street, Suite 200 Pawtucket, RI 02860 Attorney for U.S. Bank National Truman 2016 SC6 Title Trust Present Holder of the Mortgage 401-217-8701

December 21, 2018 December 28, 2018 January 4, 2019

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 Georgios D. Mantalvanos to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated December 28, 2016 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 56540, Page 269 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on January 4, 2019 at 17 Appleton Road, Auburn, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit: The land, with the buildings thereon, situated on the easterly side of Appleton Road in Auburn, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner of the premises herein described at a point 482.26 feet south of Southbridge Street and the southwesterly corner of land, now or formerly, of Place; THENCE, easterly by the southerly line of said Place land, 250 feet to land, now or formerly, of Benoit; THENCE, southerly by the westerly line of the said Benoit land, 60 feet to land, now or formerly, of Fox; THENCE, westerly by the northerly line of said Fox land, 250 feet to the easterly line of Appleton Road; THENCE, northerly by the easterly line of Appleton Road, 60 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 15,000 square feet, more or less. Being all and the same premises as conveyed by Quitclaim Deed dated 5/24/2011 and recorded with Worcester South District Registry of Deeds on 3/29/2011 in Book 47233, Page 132. 56540-266

The premises are to be sold subject to

Association as Legal Title Trustee for and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attor-

ney's fees and costs.

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.

PNC Bank, National Association Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys, **ORLANS PC**

PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 18-009647 December 14, 2018

December 21, 2018

December 28, 2018



Jen Rudzinski, of Leicester, left, spends the day with Auburn's Nicole Bolt.



Southbridge's Kelly Lincoln offers several items that are perfect for holiday shopping.



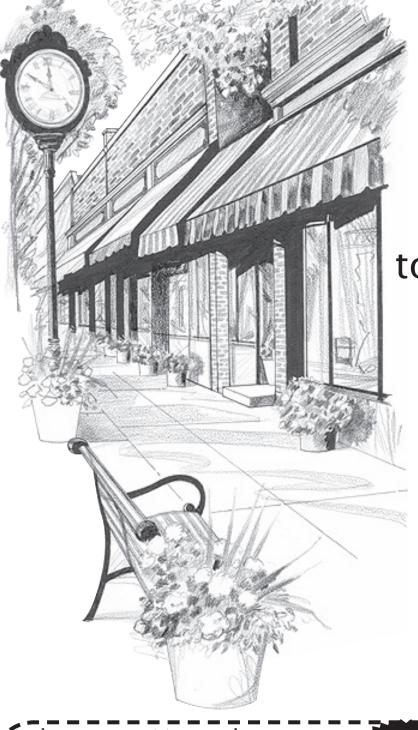
Authors Tracey Ryan, of Sturbridge, left, and Gail Ward Olmsted, of Charlton, team up to write a successful crafting script.



From left, Ty Gage, Angela King, and Kayda King, all of Whitinsville, spend a day at the fair.

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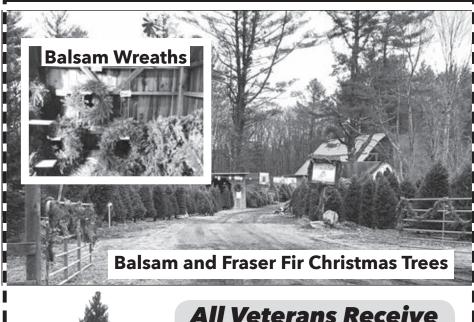
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Frank G. Chilinski STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

EDITORIAL

Happiest holidays

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

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

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

Thank you.

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

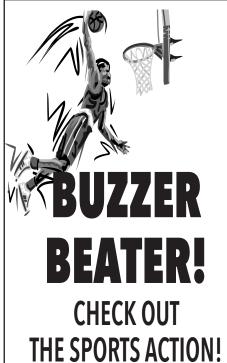
Thank you to those who volunteer. Whether it is by running for unpaid political office in a small town or working with a church or a service group such as Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis or another organization; they are unsung heroes in every one of our towns. The programs they run, the shelters, the meals, the food banks, the afterschool programs, the Scout troops...the list goes on and on. We are all better for their hard work and they are often not noticed. Yet if they weren't there, if these programs were to disappear, we would all be much worse for it.

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

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

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

Happy Holidays, and thank you all.



Training on the devices is a benefit

In the winter/spring of last school year, a CPR-AED Team was created which includes school and Town representatives, along with a representative from each of the Town's athletic youth organizations. During the intervening months, numer-

ous meetings and discussions have been held, all of which have focused on equipping all of our Town and school fields will an AED, along with training our coaches, staff members and as many people from across the Auburn community in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automatic external defibrillator (AED). We agreed from the outset that if such an effort helps to save even one life, it will have been well worth our time and energy.

As you may know, Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas equipped all school and municipal buildings with an AED nearly a decade ago. Dr. Arthur Pappas, along with being a career orthopedic surgeon and former team doctor for the Boston Red Sox, was an incredible philanthropist, along with his wife Martha who continues that same generosity to this day. Building on what they started, a goal of the CPR-AED Team is to ensure that every school and Town field in Auburn has an accessible AED so that if anyone goes into sudden cardiac arrest, that life-saving device will be available to extend the individual's chance of survival until Auburn's expert first responders and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) can arrive to take over the required care.

But equipping our fields with AEDs will only be beneficial if we have people trained to use them, along with people who can administer CPR, further extending the victim's potential chances of survival. To that end, we have a training effort underway, the most recent event having taken place at the Annual Holiday Craft Fair at Auburn High School on Saturday,



ROCKETS REVIEW Dr. Maryellen BRUNELLE UPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

December 15th. At that event, 185 people were trained by AHS and AMS students in hands-only CPR, with members of Auburn's Fire Department viding training in the use of an AED to those individuals

who stopped by the booth as they did their holiday shopping.

Auburn's Fire Department has long provided CPR training and if you are interested in taking that training, you are encouraged to contact them at 508-832-7800 or Auburnfirecpr@town. auburn.ma.us to sign up. They offer Heart Saver CPR with AED training (complete sessions offered on 2/16/19, 5/2/19 or 9/10/19 from 6-8 pm); CPR with Pediatric First Aid training (3/23/19 or 11/16/19, 9 am-2 pm); or CPR with Adult First Aid training (6/8/19, 9 am-2 pm). The District, working in collaboration with our trained staff from Auburn High and the Auburn Fire Department, has CPR-AED trained teams at each of our schools, with the majority of our coaches having been similarly trained.

Won't you consider being trained in hands-only CPR and how to use an AED or perhaps in the full certificate program? As the American Heart Association website states, the efforts underway are intended to "help give families the gift of more time together." And who doesn't think that's a good idea?

To learn more about this initiative, please read part two of this article which will be published in next week's edition of The Auburn News.

To contact me to share an idea, a concern or to ask a question, I can be reached at 508-832-7755 or via e-mail at mbrunelle@auburn.k12.ma.us. Thank you for your continued interest in and support of the Auburn Public Schools!

What's paying off debts or investing?



FINANCIAL Focus

DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

It probably doesn't happen as much as you'd like, but you may occasionally have some extra disposable income. For example, perhaps you have recently received, or will soon receive, a year-end bonus. Or maybe you will get a sizable tax refund in just a few months. Wherever this money comes from, you will want to put it to good use. Should you use the cash to pay down debts or should you invest it instead?

There's no simple answer, and everyone's situation is different, but here are a few suggestions for helping you make a good choice:

Evaluate your cash flow. If you already have enough cash to meet your daily living expenses, you might lean toward investing the money, but if you are just getting by, possibly due to heavy debt payments, then you might be better off using your newfound funds to reduce your debt load. Another way of possibly reducing your debt load is to build an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account. Once you have such a fund, you could use it, instead of going into debt, to pay for unexpected costs, such as a new furnace or a major car repair.

Evaluate your debts. Some of your debts are actually more "expensive" to you than others. This expense level doesn't necessarily refer to the size of the debt, however. You might have a large mortgage, for instance, but because your interest payments are typically tax deductible, your "after-tax" interest rate may be relatively modest. Therefore, might consider using your excess cash for investments, rather than paying down your mortgage. But if you have consumer loans or credit cards that carry a high interest rate and whose interest payments are not deductible, you might be better off paying down this debt.

Evaluate your investment opportunities. You may have heard that one season or another is a "better" time to invest – but there's really no strong evidence to support this claim. However, now that we are nearing the end of the calendar year, and only a few months away from the tax-filing deadline on April 15, you may want to take advantage of at least one time-related investment

opportunity.

Specifically, you could use whatever extra money you have to fully fund your IRA, if you haven't done so already. For the 2018 tax year. you can contribute \$5,500 to a traditional or Roth IRA, or \$6,500 if you are 50 or older. (Depending on your income, you may not be able to contribute the full amount to a Roth IRA.) You've got until the April 15 deadline to fully fund your IRA, but if you have the money sooner, why wait? The quicker it's in your account, the faster it can go to work

One final suggestion: If you have a company match as part of your 401(k) or similar retirement plan at work, consider contributing enough to get your employer's full matching contribution before you pay down debts - don't leave this "free money" on the table.

Your year-end bonus, tax refund or other source of beyond-the-paycheck money can help you make progress toward your financial goals – so evaluate your situation and options carefully before making any moves. It will be time well spent.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert Street, Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@ edwardjones.com.

Considering possibilities of being vegetarian...and why

Have you ever considered becoming a vegetarian or vegan? First, let me define what these terms

mean. A vegetarian is

someone who does not eat meat. The vegetarian spectrum

begins with partial vegetarians. They might not eat red meat, but they eat fish and chicken. Then there are lacto-ovo vegetarians. They don't eat meat, fish. or chicken, but they eat eggs and other dairy products. When someone says they are a vegetarian, but not a vegan, that is usually what they mean.

Finally, there are vegans (pronounced vee-gun). They don't eat meat, fish. chicken, eggs, or other dairy products. They usually don't wear any animal products such as leather. Some vegans don't even eat honey. I've heard stories of extreme vegans who go to great lengths to avoid bringing any harm to any animals including insects.

People become vegetarians and vegans for different reasons. Some do it for health reasons. Many recent books and videos have come out in favor of a Whole Foods Plant Based diet. Studies have shown that this diet slows and can even reverse heart disease. It also reduces cancer and diabetes, and other degenerative diseases. Caldwell B. Esselstyn Jr., MD, who helped save Bill Clinton's life, wrote the book, Prevent and Reverse Heart Disease. I heartily recommend this book. YouTube has countless videos on the subject as well.

Others, like me, become vegetarians or vegans for animal rights reasons. Many like me believe that activities such as hunting and fishing are barbaric and amount to animal cruelty. We believe, and scientific studies recently confirm, that animals feel pain, have emotions, bond with their families, and communicate with each other.

I first became a lacto-ovo vegetarian on Nov. 25, 1975. I was visiting my mom for Thanksgiving. I was walking up the stairs of my mom's six-floor apartment building for the exercise. I have a very sensitive nose. Suddenly, the scent

THE VEGETARIAN TROUBADOUR

> **ANDREW TARGOFF**

of all the turkeys being cooked hit me like a cannonball. It occurred to me, "Why do all these turkevs have to die for Thanksgiving?'

I decided right then and there that after eating what

mom cooked for me, I would no longer eat meat, fish, or chicken. A year or two later, I stopped wearing leather as well.

Two years after arriving in Massachusetts to attend Berklee College of Music, in 1987, I went on my first date with the woman who later became my wife. When I arrived at her house to pick her up, she was wearing a fur coat! I told her that I would not go on a date with her if she was wearing that. She proceeded to throw it out entirely. That's when I knew she must really like me. We are still deliriously happy together today.

Fast-forward 30 years and I discovered Facebook, when I was told through a music business course which I had purchased online, that Facebook is a great way to promote oneself. I came to find out that a second cousin of mine was a vegan. Every day she kept posting about the poor conditions for the animals at dairy farms, and how many of the males are still killed. Also, I had already read the books about the harmful effects of eating dairy products. So on June 11, 2017, I decided to go totally

One day I got a Roku, and started watching health videos on YouTube on my TV. I adopted the Whole Foods Plant Based diet, and combined it with a bit of intermittent fasting and exercise, and I dropped 40 pounds. Now I feel great at the tender age of 64.

So if you want to become a vegetarian or vegan, start with You Tube and Facebook. You can find recipes, join vegan Facebook groups, learn all about getting proper nutrition on the Whole Foods Plant Based diet, watch TED talks with the most eminent nutritionists in the world, find fellow animal rights advocates, and even find great restaurants which serve vegan food.



Painting with 'personality' perks her up



BY GUS STEEVES TIMES CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER – Dogs and more dogs. That's what visitors to Booklovers' Gourmet's latest art show will see.

But they're definitely not your typical canines, since painter Annie Spear generally tries to avoid painting animals naturalistically, although she can.

"I paint these crazy animals to make people laugh," she said.

That came from her own need to laugh at a world that seemed to be throwing her a lot of curveballs. She said she got "really sick" about 12 years ago and experienced six major organ failures since then, but is still walking. Since she can't work, she took up painting, taking classes at Silver Circle Gallery in Putnam, where she lives

Teacher Karen Reid initially tried to teach Spear to paint realistically, but quickly saw it wasn't going that way, Spear recalled.

"She brought me a long way," Spear said, noting Reid and others have greatly encouraged her creativity. "You find the nicer people in life when you're down and out. You find either the best or the worst."

They started with real photos (something she still does), but let the work go wherever it wants – animals that are abstractly curved like "Gus" or wearing clothing like "Murray" or "Cleo," Spear's favorite in this show. When asked why "Cleo" is her favorite, she said "because she's a hippie dog," and that's one of several adjectives Spear uses to describe herself.

"You can't force it in a certain direction," Spear noted, adding that the names come to her to suit the personality of the animal. To her, "It's just like naming people," and she feels humans tend to under-

estimate animals' intelligence, among other things.

Although dogs dominate the current show, she said her favorite subjects are actually cows. About a year ago, her art inspired a notable lifestyle change – she became vegetarian

"I found a few years ago I really liked painting animals and found I couldn't eat them anymore," she said. "Cows are my friends. I created my own world of fun friends."

It's not the first time Spear has painted; she took art classes in high school (Blackstone Valley Tech). Back then, "I'd come home with these crazy paintings and [my mother] would say "Those can go in your room"."

Her mom, she said, was also a painter, but far more traditional, so her art ended up in their living room.

Beyond that, Spear spent several years working in the auto body field, painting cars and even houses. But she hated it.

"This is my personality," she said of the show's art style. "I despised doing body work because you have to stay in the lines, can't have any imperfections. I love imperfections."

Among other things, she noted, she likes adding quirky random hairs, hats, moles, and other features to her animals. Although they come off as a little cartoon-like, Spear said she's particularly inspired by artists like Georgia O'Keefe and Frida Kahlo.

Most recently, though, inspiration is coming in the form of a squirrel in her pantry. Spear named him Franklin and said she plans to write a children's book about him.

Her art will be on display through December.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

Gus Steeves photos

Annie Spear give her niece Molly a hug overlooked by two of her paintings. Her favorite, "Cleo," is the one at left.



"Mabel" and "Murray" gaze out from the Booklovers' Gourmet wall.



A goofy dog named "Gus."

* * Triday's Child * * *



Photo by Shana Griffin.

Zoey ~ Age 11

Hi! My name is Zoey and I love animals so much!

Zoey is a very friendly girl of Hispanic and Caucasian descent. Zoey has a strong yet bubbly personality. She likes to be social and to make new friends. She is very caring of others around her. Zoey is excelling in school and is especially great at math. In her free time, Zoey loves to listen to music, sing and dance. Zoey shows an interest in art and fashion and loves to design and do arts and crafts. Zoey has a really big heart when it comes to animals and she even volunteers at her local animal shelter. Zoey is legally freed for adoption however she will benefit from having an open adoption with visits to her biological siblings and mother. Zoey will do best in a family where there is at least one mother figure present. Zoey will do well in a

family which is childless or has children who are older. Zoey will thrive in a home where she receives a lot of one on one attention and consistency.

Who Can Adopt?

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ singles and couples.

The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have "a permanent place to call HOME."





To sponsor Friday's Child call Tia at 508-909-4110 or email tia@stonebridgepress.news

SPORTS

Rockets top North Middlesex for Dana Willard Christmas Tournament title



Photos courtesy Mark Seliger, www.SeligerPhotography.com

Auburn's Dillon Winkelmann takes control of the puck and moves down the ice.

BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Editor's Note: The accompanying photos are from Auburn's first round victory versus Worcester, played on Wednesday, Dec. 12.

AUBURN — The Dana Willard Memorial Christmas Tournament has opened the Auburn High boys' varsity ice hockey team's season for 33 straight years at Horgan Arena, but it had been a long time since the Rockets last hoisted the trophy in celebrative.

Auburn, with tournament titles in 1997 and 2004, had the chance to win it again this season after defeating the Worcester co-op team, 3-0, on Wednesday, Dec. 12. They advanced to the finals, played Saturday, Dec. 15, versus North Middlesex Regional. The Patriots made it to the championship by beating Agawam High.

In the title game, North Middlesex scored first but the Rockets came roaring back with a pair of second period strikes to claim a 2-1 victory.

strikes to claim a 2-1 victory.

"It means a lot because we haven't won it since 2004," explained Auburn head coach Glen Bombard. "It shows that we are capable of winning big games. It means a lot to these guys and it's a good kickoff to the year, to set the tone for the season."

As any coach would do, though, Bombard found areas of improvement to work on going forward.

"We played a period and a half. The first period and half of the second we weren't very good, then we got one [goal] and it kind of woke us up," he said.

The first period was slow and sleepy, and appeared to be headed into intermission scoreless. But with 31 seconds to play until the Zamboni resurfaced the ice, Ethan Freeman of North Middlesex stole the puck in the neutral zone, broke into the Rockets' defensive end and zipped a shot up and over the glove of goalie Mike Sosik.

Sosik then rebounded nicely in the second period when the Patriots were looking to add to their lead. There, he turned aside six tough shots in the first seven minutes of play. In all Sosik made 10 saves in the second period and finished the game with 24 stops.

"Mikey's been solid, he always has," Bombard said of Sosik, who through 90 minutes of play has allowed just the one goal. "He's a little under the weather but he fought through it."

Auburn — whose co-op team features student-athletes from Millbury High, Shepherd Hill Regional and Tantasqua Regional — finally found the back of the net with 5:02 to play in the second. Ryan Lempicki took control of the puck following an offensive zone faceoff and the right-handed shot used his backhand to fire a shot to the near side left portion of the goal and past North Middlesex's Thomas Kelly, who also made 24 saves.

Lempicki, a defenseman, now has three goals through two games (forward Adam Lanier scored the Rockets' other goal in the win versus Worcester).

"We kind of give him the green light," Bombard said of Lempicki, an offensive-minded defenseman.

Auburn then scored its second goal in 1:11 of game time with 3:51 to go in the second period. Caleb Bartlett dumped the puck down the ice and Joe Valone — a freshman — did the dirty work, winning possession of the puck along the wall. Valone then fed a centering pass to Nick Spanos, who deposited the puck past Kelly and into the net.

"He's going to be a great hockey player — he works very hard and he has talent. He went out tonight and worked his butt off," Bombard said of Valone.

Bombard was impressed with the play of his team's third line, which included the four-man rotation of Valone, Spanos, Billy Erikson and Zach Schirm.

"That line, I really liked what I saw from them," the coach said.

Auburn then held the Patriots scoreless the rest of the way, where Sosik needed to make a pair of saves in the final minute to preserve the victory.

Lempicki was awarded the tournament MVP, while Worcester defeated Agawam in the consolation game for third place, 5-1.



Joel Miller of Auburn glides into Worcester's zone with possession of the puck on his stick.



Auburn's Adam Lanier attempts to maneuver the puck around a Worcester defenseman.



Goalie Mike Sosik of Auburn gets into the butterfly position to make a save.



Auburn's Caleb Mackin stretches to gain possession of the puck.

SPORTS

Pirates preserve lead to get past Auburn, 68-43



Auburn's Cam Bolduc spots up to shoot the ball from close range in front of Oxford's Elijah Williams.



Jason Mckay photos

Nick Gonyea of Auburn attempts a 3-pointer from the corner of the court.

BY KEN POWERS SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN — Well, you can say this about the Oxford High boys' varsity basketball team: they're quick learners.

Five days after squandering a second half lead in a double overtime loss at Millbury High, the Pirates went to Auburn High and preserved one, defeating the Rockets,

68-43, Wednesday, Dec. 12 at Pappas Gymnasium.

McAddai Owusu, Oxford's senior co-captain, scored 14 of his game-high 23 points in the first half, after which the Pirates led, 35-29. Junior Elijah Williams (17 points) drained one of his five 3-pointers in the opening minute of the second half to push the Oxford lead to nine, 38-29. Auburn, much like Millbury did in the previous game, called a quick timeout and regrouped. The Rockets then came out and scored seven straight points — a 3-pointer and foul line jump shot by junior Cam Bolduc (a team-high 15 points) and a layup by freshman James Whittemore — to pull within a basket, 38-36, with 5:41 remaining in the third quarter.

It was now Oxford's turn to call a timeout and head coach Dave Aldrich's message to his team was a simple one.

"Coach told us to close our eyes and take two deep breaths," Owusu said. "After that we were back to normal. We stayed focused and composed and continued what we were doing."

Indeed they did, as the Pirates (1-1) finished the quarter on a 15-5 run to take a 53-41 lead into the final frame. In that fourth quarter Oxford ratcheted up its defensive effort, allowing the Rockets to score just one basket while netting 15 points of its own to account for the 68-43 final.

"The most important thing we did tonight is what we didn't do—crack under pressure," Aldrich said. "They made a little run so we called timeout and told the team to focus on what we needed to do, not what they were doing.

"From a basketball standpoint what we also did coming out of that timeout was to execute our second trap on defense; we didn't do that against Millbury," Aldrich continued. "Tonight we second-trapped and it made all the difference."

Owusu said the Pirates worked on the second trap a lot heading into the game.

"We focused on the second trap all week in practice," Owusu said. "Once they passed the ball a second time in the backcourt we would trap a second time and then we tried to steal the ball or intercept a pass coming out of the second trap."

"We stress intelligence and intensity. We always play with intensity but we don't always play with intelligence," said Aldrich, who was frustrated by his team's inability at times to see the big picture. "With two minutes to go we're up 14 and we're out at midcourt trying to steal the ball and instead we commit a foul. It's about getting smarter. But we did play much better defense tonight."

Also scoring in double figures along with Owusu and Williams was junior Alex Duval, who pumped in 19 points and canned a pair of 3-pointers.

"We're playing pretty well, but it's not our best basketball yet. The best is yet to come," said Owusu, who added that the team is starting to mesh into a cohesive unit. "Alex and I have been playing for eight years now, so it's all good. We're just trying to build the team around us; trying to get the best chemistry going that we can and keep it going."

Junior Coleman Picard also scored in double figures for Auburn (0-3); he dropped in 10 points. Senior Nick Gonyea added seven points while junior Justin Skaparas chipped in five.

"I thought throughout the game Oxford definitely dictated the pace on offense and defense. They were clearly the more physical team and that definitely showed," Rockets' head coach Dan Koen said. "We couldn't get any offensive sets going and we struggled on defense keeping kids out of the paint and keeping kids in front of us. All the credit goes to Oxford, they played really hard and really together."

Auburn was clearly a

frustrated team in the

fourth quarter. We need to learn to get over that mental hurdle. We make one mistake and turns into two and then two mistakes turn into three instead of just focusing on the next play and making that the best play it could possibly be,' Koen continued. "We still have a relatively young team in the sense that some of the kids didn't play last year. And for the ones that did, now it's a new year with a new coach and a new system and they're adjusting.'



Jason Henry of Auburn focuses on the rim before attempting a free throw.



Auburn's Nate Judice drives the ball into the lane versus Oxford.



Auburn's Justin Skaparas turns the corner and dribbles toward Oxford's basket.



Coleman Picard of Auburn dribbles in tight on an Oxford defender.

SPORTS

Defense fuels Bay Path's offense to get past Pioneers



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Jamie Rodriguez elevates to win the game-opening jump ball.



Cory Cotton of Bay Path follows through upon the release of a 3-point attempt.

BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS STAFF WRITER

SOUTHBRIDGE — When noticing that the Bay Path Regional boys' varsity basketball team poured in 76 points versus Southbridge High on Tuesday, Dec. 11 — the Minutemen defeated the Pioneers, 76-56 — some may think that Bay Path shot exceptionally well en route to the win. But head coach Al Greenough was quick to point out that it was actually his team's defense that stood out and that's what led to easy transition baskets.

"I was really, really impressed with our team defense this evening," he said. "It's something we've been stressing to start this year. Last year we had a lot of really talented offensive players that graduated; this year we know that our defense is going to lead more to our offense. That's kind of our game plan, to play our best sound man-to-man defense that we can, create some turnovers and get into the open court."

On the other side of the court, Southbridge head coach Victor Colon wasn't pleased with his team's defense.

"Defensively we just weren't there," he said. "We got outworked, outhustled to every single ball. They were playing very aggressively and we just had to work through it. We took our time getting through it, so they got up on us.

The Minutemen led, 17-10, after the initial eight-minute quarter and, after the Pioneers had cut the deficit down to four points on two occasions in the second quarter — on baskets from Brandon Valentin and Eury Mateo



Bay Path's Dan Keefe dribbles on Southbridge defender Jose Colon.



Joe Starr of Bay Path feeds a pass down low into the paint.



Bay Path's Ben LaPointe launches off the floor and into the air during an attempted layup.

Bay Path increased the lead to 10 points at halftime, 32-22.

Greenough then preached the importance of playing more impressive defense during his halftime talk.

"We really stressed defense at halftime in the locker room. It's what we started the game with and I said the game will go one of two ways," he explained of either Southbridge mounting a comeback or the Minutemen making a run early in the half to put the game away.

The latter happened, as Bay Path scored the first 10 points of the third quarter to increase the lead to 20, 42-22. Cory Cotton drained a 3-pointer and Jamie Rodriguez provided a steal and coinciding layup during the run.

With two minutes to play in the third the Minutemen got the lead up to 30 points (56-26) following a Joe Starr layup, and they were ahead, 59-31, entering the final frame.

Rodriguez (22 points, 13 rebounds), Cotton (22 points) and Starr (16 points, 6 rebounds) were Bay Path's leaders.

"That was probably the best game I've seen Jamie play in his career,' Greenough said of Rodriguez, a senior. "Last year he kind of played a little bit in the shadows of the other kids we had on the team, but he knows it's his turn to step up and I challenged him with that in practice. He stepped up and he attacked the basket so strong and so well — he was really the difference in the game.

Cory, normally our high scorer, really, really struggled tonight shooting the ball... [but] he probably played the best defensive game I've ever seen him play," Greenough added of Cotton.

Southbridge then won fourth quarter scoring, 25-17, to trim the deficit down to a 20-point loss. Mateo led the team with 16 points, while Garret Lazo chipped in

9 points and 10 rebounds. "I had a lot of guys step up," Colon said, pointing out the play of Valentin, a freshman. "We had a lot of positives

to build off of, so we'll be fine. Southbridge dropped to 1-1 in the early season, while Bay Path improved to 2-0 as they hope to accumulate 10-plus wins and advance to the Central Mass.

Division 4 Tournament. "That's what we're aiming for," Greenough said of District play. "We're setting the tone early with defense and that's what we're going to ride all year long and hopefully that's good enough to get us to where we want to get at the

SPORTS BRIEF

Worcester State University to hold baseball clinics

Worcester State Baseball Indoor Clinics are now held in the \$52 million gymnasium and wellness center. The second floor multipurpose gym allows for live practices with plenty of storage for the six indoor mounds, bats and balls, etc. Hitters will use the double-barrel cages on the first floor. Here kids will bunt/ bat off the Hack Attack pitching machines (uses real balls; speed adjusted for ages), hit close-range BP, use soft toss nets, tees, and utilize slow-motion video analysis.

There are multiple upcoming clinics to choose from. For questions, please call (508) 929-8852 or (774) 230-3872, or email dbaker1@ worcester.edu. Also, please visit wsulancers.com/camps-clinics for more information.

Switching gears from bunting to ice fishing



THE GREAT **OUTDOORS RALPH TRUE**

As the last segment of the Massachusetts deer season slowly comes to an end on Dec. 31, many sportsmen have their sights on ice fishing. Although a few small ponds had safe ice on them last week, anglers are hoping for a good freeze that would make larger bodies of water safe. My brother Ken caught a few trout on a local club pond last week, and reports of anglers fishing ponds in Milford was good news.

Jig fishing is one of my favorite forms of ice fishing, and can be extremely exciting when a school of yellow perch and other pan fish go into a feeding frenzy.

Ice fishing with tilts or fish traps as many anglers call them today with a group of friends, can also be rewarding, and can have anglers racing over the frozen ice, attempting to be the first one to the fish trap when a fellow angler shouts out "FLAG." It is best to observe the spool of line in the water prior to picking up the trap to see if the line is being pulled from the spool. If the spool is spinning, it is a good sign that you have a nice fish on the other end. Carefully picking up the trap and grabbing the line to set the hook is the start of landing a possible lunker fish! Slowly retrieving the line and laying it on the ice, you will soon realize how big the fish may be if the line tightens and you need to allow the fish to take some line back. Allowing the line to slip back through your fingers until the fish ends his run, you will need to start all over again retrieving the line. That is why it is very important to lay the line carefully on



Captain Mel True Jr.'s daughter Lexie on one of her first ice fishing adventures with her dad.

the ice as you try to retrieve the line. If the line becomes tangled, you could lose the big fish to broken line.

Most anglers fishing with ice traps prefer to use shiners, although some prefer worms or crawlers. The latter need to be changed every half hour, as the cold water can take its toll on the live bait. Fishing for trout, some anglers prefer salmon eggs or grubs for bait which is fished close to the

Prior to setting up bait when ice fishing with fish traps, each hole should be checked for depth using a heavy weight. This will give you an idea of the depth at which you will set your bait. If no bites are realized in a half hour, try bringing the bait up a few feet. Sometimes it is necessary to move your traps 50 ft. or more trying a new location. It can make a big difference! Some of the best local ponds and lakes are Wallum Lake, Meadow Pond, Arcade Pond, Manchaug Pond, and Webster Lake.

Cape ponds can produce some real nice fish and they include Hamblin Pond that produce some real nice trout including huge bass and yellow perch. Peters Pond, Cliff Pond and Sheep Pond are also great ice fishing spots on the Cape.

A bit North of the valley is Comet Pond that produce some impressive fish in the winter months.

Some more serious ice fishermen also use an electronic portable fish finders to locate fish. Setting the unit over the hole can show you the bottom and fish that are suspended or feeding at the proper depth. Just because you find fish with the unit it does not always produce fish. Using the proper bait and method of fishing can make a big difference. Using a fish finder can show the fish actually biting the bait, giving the angler the precise time to set the hook.

Be sure to take the family along and enjoy a great day in the outdoors. Building a fire and cooking some venison, hamburgers, and hotdogs over an open fire provides some of the best eating and family fun. Always be sure of the safe ice you are fishing on, and do not let the kids wander away from the group. Dangerous ice can be only a few feet away.



Courtesy photos

Mickey Deane with a 10 point buck taken in the Valley.

This week's picture of a 10 pt. 189 lb. buck taken in the valley by Mickey Deane, was a once in a life time deer for any sportsman, although he stated that another buck was spotted in the same area carrying a similar set of antlers. I am sure he will be hunting with his black powder gun in hopes of taking the huge buck. He still has a few days to hunt for the monster deer. The huge antlers that local deer are sporting in the valley are indeed impres-David Stainbrook, sive. Mass Fish & Wildlife moose and deer biologist, recently wrote a great column in the Massachusetts Wildlife mag-

azine on the whitetail deer in

Massachusetts!

One of the most important parts of the column was the controversial issue dealing with local residents feeding deer corn to the deer that are visiting residents back yards. Deer are now feeding on their winter diet of browse and grass, and feeding corn to them at this time could prove to be fatal to the deer, as their digestive system cannot properly digest corn at this time of year! I would recommend that residents and sportsmen get a copy of Stainbrooks indepth report on the Massachusetts deer habits.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Picking, preserving and perfecting the holiday evergreen

A holiday tree is the center of the yuletide celebration. Decked out in garland and adorned with ornaments, the stately Christmas tree is not only a tradition but the source of both merriment and sentiment. It's no wonder choosing a special evergreen is a task not to be taken lightly. Whether fresh-

ly cut, balled and bagged, or artificially constructed, the choices are pleasantly plentiful.

Read on for ways to ensure this year's pick is truly trim worthy!

Oh Evergreen!: Selecting a fresh Christmas tree is a fun family tradition, but getting caught up in the festivities, one can overlook the requirements of a successful pick. The first thing to remember is in a lot or on a farm, a tree can look much smaller than it will in your home. Rule number one is to always bring a tape measure to ensure a proper fit.

When choosing a freshly cut evergreen, look for nice, even coloring throughout the tree with no signs of browning. Also, beware of brittle branches, which are another sign of an old tree that may not last the season in a heated home. Look for flexibility in a bough.

To test freshness, pick a needle and bend it. A fresh fir needle will snap; a fresh pine needle will bend, but not break. The old "shake tip" really reveals a tree's freshness. Simply shake from the trunk, or wave a bough and observe how many needles fall off. If it is more than several, keep looking.

Live trees balled with the root and wrapped in burlap or containers (a.k.a. balled and bagged trees) are a great choice if you plan on planting the tree after the holidays. The most important consideration with a balled and bagged tree is to make sure the tree species can thrive in your climate zone.

Faux Forest: If a fresh cut tree is impractical, an artificial tree can be a good investment - if you choose wisely. When evaluating artificials, buy the best you can afford as skimping on such a purchase will shorten its lifespan.



Did you know a well made artificial tree can last a decade or more? Choose trees with many branch tips and multiple needles, thus creating a "fullness" that rivals the real deal.

Look for easy to set up models with

hinged branches for quick and easy set up. High end trees often come equipped with an abundance of lights. Make sure the tree stand is sturdy enough to hold a tree laden with heavy ornament and garlands. Lastly, consider a tree that can easily refold into a box or bag, for hassle free storage.

Evergreen Elixirs: Evergreen branches and boughs take center stage this season, but if you're adding sparkle with lights, you may be fretting about fire hazards. Here's a thrifty solution to make your evergreens more fire resistant: Mix together five tablespoons borax and four tablespoons Epsom salts in two quarts of water. Fill a spray bottle and spritz the tree or wreath completely, then allow to dry. Make up a double batch and spritz your tree too! Remember, this doesn't fireproof the greens, so always use standard fire prevention.

Tree preservatives are pricey. Mix up this homemade potion and pocket the difference: Combine one quart of fresh warm water, a half cup of light corn syrup, and a teaspoon of liquid chlorine bleach in a two-gallon bucket. Fill the water reservoir with this solution.

How does it work? This mixture helps keep trees moist because fresh-cut trees, which absorb and digest corn syrup as an energy source, don't have to waste as much energy converting stored sugar. Therefore, they can focus on staying green and beautiful!

Christmas Tree Preservative: If your family loves decorating a real tree, but you hate the mess of fallen needles, and the fear of sparking branches - don't despair! And don't spend big bucks on commercial preservatives either. This

Turn To TRAINOR page A14



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OBITUARIES

Michael R. Regis, 50



A U B U R N ,
MASSACHUSETTS
- Michael R. Regis,
50, passed away on
Wednesday, December
12, 2018 at Rhode
Island Hospital. Born
in Putnam, he was the
son of Robert Regis
and Patricia (Renaud)

Regis of Brooklyn. In addition to his parents, Michael is survived by his sister, Brenda Cotnoir and her husband Jeffrey of Putnam, brother, Gary Regis and his wife Bonnie of Woodstock, Godchild and niece, April Regis, Godfather Uncle Rick, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Mike attended St. James and Killingly High School in his youth. Mike's passion in school was gymnastics where he would excel in winning several State competitions in vaulting and floor exercise. His love for gymnastics after graduation would take him to Deary's Gymnastics of Danielson where he would become instructor and coach. Mike's passion for coaching and teaching would later take him

to the Gymnastics Learning Center of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. He took special interest there with children with autism and the deaf in which Mike taught himself sign language to aid in helping his deaf students; he loved working with kids. Later in life he worked as an I.T. technician for Vision Appraisal as a computer software specialist

Michael's other loves and hobbies were being the life of the party, animal lover, cooking, skiing, and water sports with his sister and brother on Webster Lake. He enjoyed traveling, especially abroad to Greece and Turkey. He also loved the art of flight, ballooning and hang gliding.

Services were private and entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, Connecticut. Memorial donations may be made to Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine to support small or large animals, 200 Westboro Rd. N. Grafton, MA 01536 or The Learning Center for the Deaf, 848 Central St., Framingham, MA 01701. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Cole W. Victor 25



SPENCER- Cole W. Victor 25, of 266 Main St., Spencer, passed away Friday, Dec. 14th. He leaves his father

George J. Victor. III and his wife Melissa (Boisjolie) Victor of E.Brookfield, his mother Lynn E. (Garneau)

Victor and fiancé Craig Bylund of Auburn, his brother Zachary Victor and his wife Brittany of Spencer, his triplet brother Jake Victor of No.Brookfield and triplet sister Mikaela Victor of E.Brookfield, brothers Shawn Cote of Norfolk, VA, Michael Cote of E.Brookfield, sister Stephanie Ahearn and her husband Jean Paul of Spencer, paternal grandparents John and Ellie Spangler of E.Brookfield, Nancy Boisjolie of Rochdale, maternal grandmother Judith Garneau of Auburn, nephews Blake Grenier and Hunter Ahearn, many uncles, aunts, and cousins. He also leaves his beloved longtime girlfriend Toni Doldo of Spencer with whom he lived.

Born in Worcester, he graduated

from David Prouty High School in 2012 and went on to work in the construction business for his father and most recently was a carpenter for Greenleaf Construction Co. in Leominster.

Cole was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting and working out He will always be remembered for his contagious smile and genuine loving hugs. His family, friends, and pets meant the world to him and he always made sure they knew that. Funeral services were held on Thursday, Dec. 20 at 11 a.m. in the E.Brookfield Baptist Church, 262 Main St., E.Brookfield. Calling hours at the J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple St., Spencer were Wednesday, Dec. 19 from 3 to 7 p.m. in the funeral home. Please omit flowers, contributions in Cole's memory can be made to the Cole W. Victor Memorial Scholarship Fund c/o D.P.H.S. Permanent Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 172, Spencer, MA 01562 or the National Wild Turkey Federation, Webster First Federal Credit Union, 118

W Main St, Spencer, MA 01562. www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Isidro S. (Ed) Acenas, 91



WEBSTER- Isidro S. (Ed) Acenas age 91 died at Christopher Heights, Webster, MA, Tuesday, December 11, 2018, surrounded by his beloved family. He was the loving husband of the late Marion

E. (Ryan) Acenas who passed away in 1990. He leaves two sons, Richard Bofill of Winthrop, MA and Keith Acenas of Watertown, MA, four daughters, Donna Dunnell and her husband Jeff of Port Orange, FL, Ronda Chipman and her husband Bob of Attleboro, MA, Charlene Maniates and her husband Nick of Pomfret Center, CT and Kim Stewart and her husband John of Upton, MA. He was the adoring grandfather of twelve grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. He also leaves a brother Tuton Acenas & anoth-

er brother and three sisters that predeceased him. He was born in Mindanao. Phillipines son of the late Librado Acenas and Matilda (Sabal) Acenas. Ed became a US citizen over 60 years ago. He served in the US Army and US Navy. He was a long time resident of Cambridge MA until retiring to West Palm Beach, FL with his companion Ann Moy. Ed was a very kind, sweet, loving & thoughtful gentleman. He was a Boston sports enthusiast & also enjoyed ballroom dancing, tennis and bowling, but more than anything; time spent with his family was his greatest joy. Services will be private. Donations may be made in his memory to the Salvation Army. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle

TRAINOR

continued from page A13

recipe will save the tree, some money, and maybe even a few frayed nerves:

Ingredients: one gallon water; one cup ammonium sulphate (available from garden supply store); two tablespoons borax (available from grocery or hardware store); a few aspirins or three tablespoons glycerin, or three tablespoons sugar.

Instructions: Mix first three ingredients together well. Pour into a spray bottle. Spritz on tree and pour the remainder into the tree stand instead of in water.

of in water.

Saw off the bottom of the trunk, one to two inches and use a drill to bore a narrow hole up through the middle of the trunk. Then fill the hole with cotton, and pack tightly. Put the base in warm water as soon as possible. Warm water will melt the sap, allowing the tree to drink more easily.

Tree Talk

*Want your fresh tree to last longer? The lower the temperature and the higher the humidity, the longer your tree will last.

*Placement is also important. Avoid setting up a tree near a heat source or in front of a window that gets direct sun.

*Keep in mind miniature lights, which produce lower heat, do not dry out the tree as fast as larger, hotter lights.

*Did you know? A freshly-cut tree can consume a gallon of water in 24 hours!

*Want to avoid a trail of fallen needles to the back door? Before you set up your tree, place a tree disposal bag around the base of the trunk prior to placing it in the stand. At the end of the season, simply pull the bag up over the entire tree.

*Check with your local transfer station or recycling center to find out if they offer a tree pick up.

*Going artificial this year? You can still mimic the fresh scent of balsam, simply by sprinkling your carpets with a pine scented carpet freshener before vacuuming. Since smell is the most potent of our senses, visitors to a house that smells like the holidays will feel doubly welcomed!

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press newspapers? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint! c/o the Southbridge Evening News, PO Box 90; Southbridge, MA 01550. Or E-mail KDRR@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.



Story Idea?





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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sunday December 30

RETIREMENT RECEPTION: Rev. Gordon Merten, minister of the First Evangelical Congregational Church of Uxbridge is retiring. His last service, following 50 years plus in the ministry, will be held on Dec. 30 followed by a closing service and reception. The Worship Service will be held at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary of First Evangelical Congregational Church, Court Street, Uxbridge. The community is also invited to a reception and open house from noon to 3 p.m.in the Community House next door to the church.

ONGOING EVENTS

12 STEP PROGRAM: Christian 12 Step Program for Men and Women 7-8:15 p.m. every Tuesday at Faith Baptist Church, 22 Faith Ave, Auburn. Do you feel your life/relationships/habits are spinning out of control? A Christian 12 Step Program is the key to Christ and life providing abundance, blessing and grace. Come as you are or contact (508) 832-5044 x 155 for information.

SUICIDE PREVENTION: Attempted Suicide Prevention Group. Held each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at St Bernard's Church, 236 Lincoln St., Worcester Gym Entrance Side, second floor meeting room. Parking & T services. Weekly facilitator, inspirational speaker, founder Dan Pelly, two time attempted suicide survivor. Your life matters, never give up. No charge. More info at (617) 592-5081.

STORY TIME: Have a little one in the house? Looking to get out and do something? The Auburn Public Library may have just the thing for you. Mother Goose Story time is for children ages 6-15 months. It's a great place for children and their grownups to listen to stories, share nursery rhymes and have time to connect with others during musical free play. Mother Goose Story Time is held Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Please stop by and join us. For information, you call the library at (508) 832-7790.

MUSEUM HOURS: The Auburn Historical Museum, 41 South St. is open Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon, and Saturday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Admission is free to see a variety of artifacts and memorabilia concerning Auburn as far back as when it was known as the town of Ward. All are welcome to come. For more information contact Sari Bitticks at sarilb@verizon.net.

NEW GROUP FORMING: If you're separated or divorced, you don't have to go through it alone. DivorceCare meets weekly, you'll receive practical support and find healing and hope for the future in a friendly, confidential setting. We meet Thursdays, 6:30-8 p.m., beginning Feb. 1 at Faith Church, 22 Faith Ave., Auburn, Call (508) 832-5044 or email divorcecare@faithauburn.org for more information.

NUMISMATICS: Looking for a new hobby? Come learn about the hobby of Coin Collecting. Or maybe you are an old time collector. Our club, the Nipmuc Coin Club, has both. We learn from each other through our monthly guest speakers, show and tell presentations, monthly coin auctions and free attendance prizes. Our group loves to share their knowledge with each other. About half of our members also like to eat. Each month we have a simple dinner with dessert and refreshments just prior to our meeting, which allows us time to socialize too. We meet the fourth

Wednesday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Oxford Senior Center located at 323 Main St. in Oxford. It is the building directly behind the Oxford Town Hall building. For more information, please contact Dick Lisi at (508) 410-1332 or lisirichard15@yahoo.com.

STORY TIME: Open Story Time will be held 4:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Auburn Public Library. No registration required. Please drop in. Open to all ages. For information, call (508)

BOYS' GROUP: Chuck wants boys in the 6th through 10th grades to join The Man Cave. The Man Cave is a boys' group that meets from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. Thursdays at the AYFS, 21 Pheasant Court, Auburn. This is where members will learn that peers their own age share similar concerns. Group members will be able to discuss ways to cope with their concerns as well as receive positive feedback. Each week will center around a particular topic for discussion. No cost to join. For information, call Brandon Pare (508) 832-5707 x 16 or Dan Secor (508) 832-5707 x 14. Free food available.



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For advertising information:

Call Patricia at (508) 909-4135 if your business is in the Blackstone Valley Call Tia (508)909-4110 if your business is in Webster or Auburn



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Announces Roast Prime Rib Of Beef CALL 508-478-0871

Full Boneless Prime Rib Feeds 14 People With mashed Potatoes, Au Jus And Desert.

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ALL ORDERS MUST BE IN BY DEC 22ND AND PICKED UP ON DEC 24TH BETWEEN 1PM & 3 PM neless for your convenience. Includes: Prime Rib Cooked or Uncoo Mashed Potatoes AU JUS and Dessert. Note please order Early!!!!!

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Daily

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Happy Holidays!

Now through the end of 2018, enjoy 5% off your order, when you bring in a non-perishable donation for our local food pantry

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(508) 909-4135 if your business is in the Blackstone Valley

Call Tia (508)909-4110 if your business is in Webster or Auburn

The Valley Bean



Breakfast & Lunch

Daily Specials

Thank you to our customers for a terrific 2018

Happy Holidays!

Now through the end of 2018, enjoy 5% off your order, when you bring in a non-perishable donation for our local food pantry

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3.6L V6 24-valve VVT engine 6 spd auto, FWD, front dual zone a/c, remote keyless entry, 3rd row seats - #843732

NEW



2018 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE

4x4, 2.4L I4 M-Air engine, 9 spd 948TE auto, parking rear cam, keyless entry, wireless phone - #321811



2019 JEEP CHEROKEE ALTITUDE

4x4, 2.4L I4 M-Air engine, 9 spd auto, Velvet Red Pearlcoat, parking sensors, keyless entry - #294544





2018 DODGE JOURNEY CROSSROAD AWD, 3.6L V6 24-valve, 6 spd auto, nav, back-up cam, popular equipment group - #269533



2018 RAM 1500 TRADESMAN 4X4

regular cab, 5.7L v8 hemi, 8 spd auto 8hp70, popular equipment group, bedliner - #176232.





2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

3.2L V6 24-valve VVT engine, 9 spd auto, Ski Gray/Black, radio Uconnect, nav- #335782

\$31,931



2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO

3.6L v6 24-valve VVT engine, 8 spd auto, heated front seats & steering wheel, remote start - #488479

\$34,249



2018 RAM 2500 TRADESMAN

Reg. Cab 4x4 8' Box, 6.4L Heavy-Duty V8 HEMI w/ MDS, 6 spd auto, Bright White, chrome appearance group, radio Uconnect,

& more packages - #260468



2019 RAM 1500 BIG HORN/LONE STAR

Quad Cab 4x4 6'4 Box, 5.7L V8 HEMI MDS VVT engine, 8 spd auto, Maximum Steel, premium lighting group, radio Uconnect, & more packages -#518155

\$39,500

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I've had the pleasure of representing so many wonderful businesses this year; many of their Ads have enlightened and educated us. Thank you, advertisers, for your business, trust and confidence in our community newspapers. I look forward to continuing to work with you in 2019.

To our readers: Thank you for your continued support of our papers and for supporting all of these wonderful, local businesses - keep watch for what they bring to you in the new year!





















































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Warmest thoughts and Best Wishes to all for a Wonderful Holiday and a Very Happy New Year!

> Tia Paradis, Advertising Executive 508-909-4110 Tia@StonebridgePress.News





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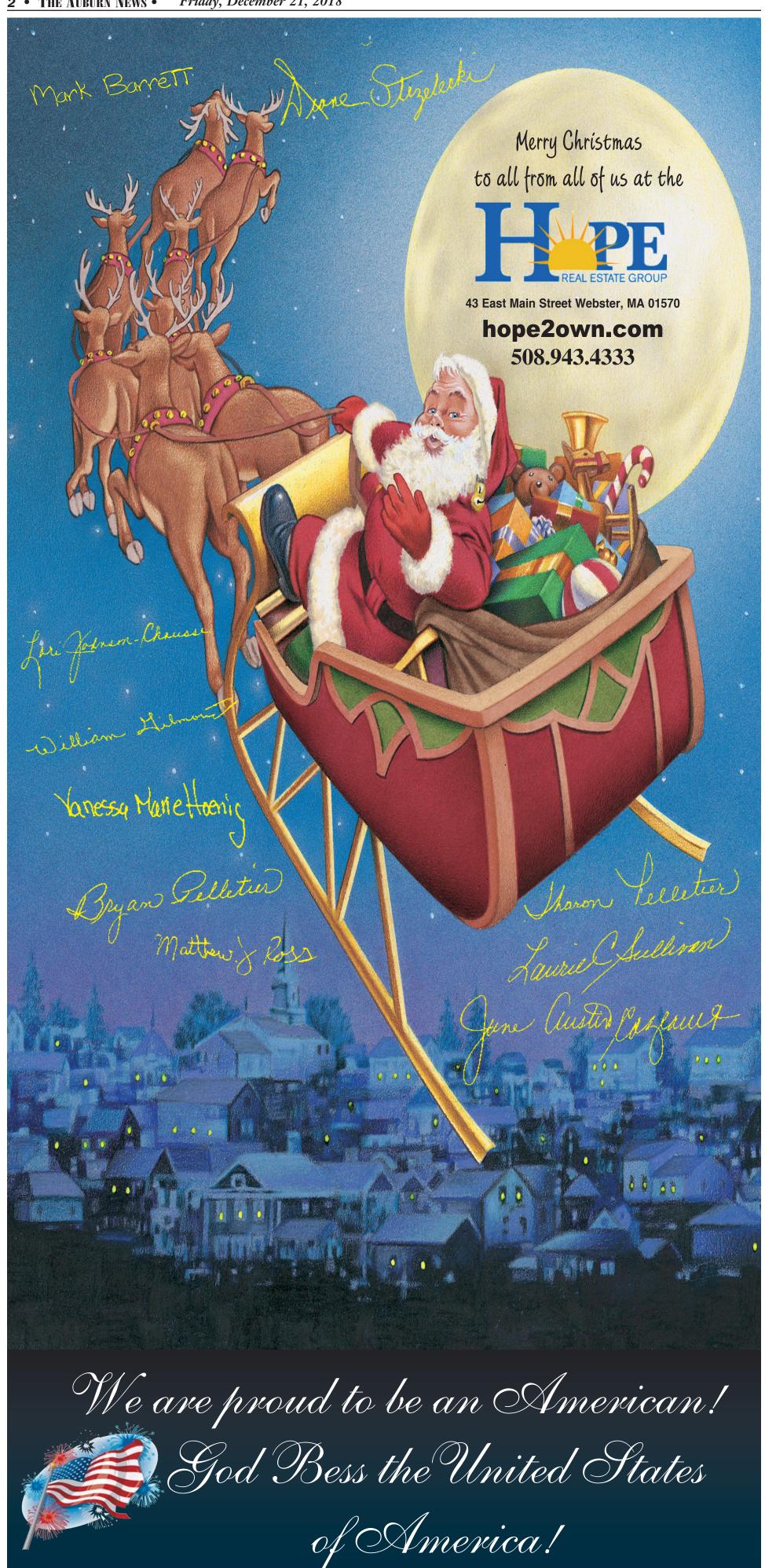






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THOMPSON — 854 Thompson Rd! Appealing 9 Room Split! Beautiful 63 Acre Lot! upplianced Granite Kitchen! Dining & Fireplaced Living Rm wHardwoods! 17x18 Cathedral Ceiling Great Rm wTile Floor! 3 or 18 dedrooms, 3 wHardwoods! Fireplaced Family Rm! Updated Full Bath! 1.5 Baths Total! 2 Car Garage! Recent Furnace! 18x24 Deck! Shed!

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WEBSTER - 26 Spring St! 5 Rm Ranch on Oniet Side Street! Walk into the 3 Seasons

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Seasons Greetings & Happy Holidays to All



NEW LISTING

WEBSTER - 23 Lincoln St! 3 Family w/

Great Curb Appeal! Owner Occupied or Investor! 5/5/4 Rooms! 2/2/2 Bedrooms!

Harwood Floors in Most Rooms! First

Floor Apart Freshly Painted! Replacement Windows! Off Street Parking! 2 Car Garage!

Easy Highway Access! Conveniently

Located! \$239.900.00





NEW LISTING

THOMPSON - 48 Smith St! 2 Family! 3/8

Rooms! 1/4 Bedrooms! 1/1 Baths! Major

Rehab 2005 - Roof, Gutter & Downspouts

Vinyl Siding, Windows, Entry Doors! 2018 Electric Heat Conversion! Gas Hot Water! Off Street Parking! Garage! Town Services! \$139,900.00

DUDLEY - 5 Corbin Road! Welcome Home! Beautiful Tri-Level Home Set on 4.5 Acres! 9 Finished Rooms, 3-4 Bedrooms, 2 Full Baths! Huge ak Cabinet Packed Kitchen w/Gorgeous Granite & Pella Slider to Enormous Trex Deck & In-ground, Heated Pool! Dining Room w/Bay Window Hardwoods, Wainscot & Crown Molding w/French Doors Leading to the Sunroom which has Heat & AC where You Can Enjoy Your Morning Coffee Watching the Wildlife Around Your Pond or Take a Walk Across the Bridge to Check on Your Blueberry Bushes! Fireplaced Living Room wLarge Bow Front Window, Custom Built-ins & Hardwoods! 3 Large Bdrms wiLots of Closet Space! Office Could Be Easily Made into 4th Bdrm!
Master has Private Balcony Over Looking the Pool! Master Bath has WD Hookups, Double Vanity & Walk-in Closet! Finished Walk-Out Lower
Level Would Make a Great Game Room! 2 Car Grange which Leads to Rest of Basement which Houses the Utilities, another W/D Hook-up and
Storage Galore! Too Many Updates to List Here! A Must See House! \$459,900.00

NEW LISTING

WERSTER - 7 Oak St! 2 Family! 5/5

Rms! 2/2 Bdrms! Both Flrs w/Eat-in

Kitchens! Liv Rms w/Wall to Wall! Bdrms w/Wall to Wall! 3 Season Porches! Gas

Heat w/Recent Buderus on 1st! Electric Heat on 2nd! Recent Roof, Siding & Windows! Off Street Parking! Owner

Occupied or Investment! \$169,900.00



WEBSTER - 5 Chestnut St! 6 Rm Ranch,

3 Bdrms, Remodeled Bath, Finished Lower

Level! Corner Lot! Frolc Liv Rm w/Cathedrals

Hrdwd FIr, French Drs to 16x24 Deck! Din Rm w/Hrdwds! Remodeled Kit w/Cherry Cabinets & SS Appliances! Solar Hot Water! 1 Yr Old

Roof! A/G Pool! Shed! \$269,900.00

DUDLEY — 73 Tracy Rdl Majestically Perched on a Knoll, 1.47 Acres Beautifully Landscaped, Spacious 2,252 *8 Rm. Colonial! Stainless Applainced Eat-in Country Kit wCenter Isl, Pantry Closet, Recessed Lighting, Tile Pr. & French Dr to Deedt Formal Dir Rm wHrdwd Fr. & Caissa: 3 Windowed Bumped-out Wall! Entry Foyer! Formal Living Rm wHrdwd Fir! The Fireplaced Family Rm wWide Plank Hrdwd Fr. will Keep the Family Close! Side Entry Hall Dole Closes, Hall Bath wLaundry Close! Upstairs 4 Comfortable Bdrms, WHrfdwd, 2 wHrfdwds, 2 wWild to Wall all wPfenty of Close! Space! 18 Master Bdrm wHrdwds, Ceiling Fan, Walk-in Closest, Master Bath wGranite Vanity & Tile Fir! Off the Hrdwd Hall the 2nd Full Bath wDible Sinks, Granite Vanity, Tile Fir & Linne Close! Breezeway Attached 2 Car Garage! Quick Closing Possible, Start Packing! \$369,900.00





Car Garage! \$389,900.00



WEBSTER - 21 Spring St! 6 Rm Ranch! Eat-in Applianced Kit w/Mahogany Cabinets & Tile Flr! Liv Rm w/Carpet over Hrdwd! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdwds! Master w/Walk-in Closet! Full Tile Bath! 14X40' Fam/Game Rm! 2nd Bathrm w/Laundry! Workshop! Utility Rm! 2 Z Oil Heat! C/ Air! 2 Car Garage! Porch! Don't Miss Out! \$219,900.00



DUDLEY - 13 Pineview Rd! 7 Rm Colonial! Tiled Fover! Kit w/Din Area & Slider to Composite Deck! Din Rm! Liv Rm/Den! 1/2
Bath w/Laundry! 2nd Fir w/3 Carpeted Bdrms &
Full Hall Bath! Master /Walk-in Closet & Bath!
Finished Lower Level w/Gas Frplc! Patios! Fire Pit! Roof 2017! Attached 2 Car Garage! Town Services! \$359,900.00





Natural Woodwork! Eat-in Applianced Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Hardwoods! Fireplace Living Rm! 4 Possible Bedrooms w/Hardwoods! 2 Bathrooms! Detached Garage! Cosmetics & Updating Needed! \$141,900.00



ON DEPOSIT

DUDLEY - 9 Progress Ave! 6 Rm Cape

Move In Ready! Applianced Eat-in Kit! Dir & Liv Rms w/Hrdwds! 1st Flr Master w/

Hrdwds & 2 Dble Closets & Ceiling Fan! 3 Season Porch! ½ Bath w/Laundry! 2nd Flr w/2 Bdrms w/Hrdwds & a Full Bath!

WEBSTER LAKE - 15 South Point Rd Waterfront Lot! Middle Pond - Panoramic Views! Conservation Approval! Build Your Dream! 100+' of Shoreline! 53.94' Road Frontage! Land Area 8.147'! Town Services Available! 2 Docks! Lots on Webster Lake a Rarity, Don't let this Slip By without Your Consideration! \$199,900.00



Frpled Liv Rm w/48" Smart TV & Hrdwds! Master Bath w/Recent Skylight! 2.5 Tile Baths w/Recent Vanities & New Toilets! 2013 A/C & Heat! Garage! Great Lakeside Pool! Sandy Beach! \$284,900.00



SUTTON - 30 Jones Rd! 9 Room 2,156' Colonial! 5.31 Acres of Privacy! Long Circular

NOTION — 30 JONES KOL'S KOOM 2,150 COIOMAIL 3.31 ACTES OF PTWACY! LONG LITCUIS Drive! New Granite Kitchen! Dining, Living & Fireplaced Family Rooms w/Hardwoor Floors! Year Round Sunroom w/2 Skylights! 3 Bedrooms! 24' Master w/Master Bath! 2.5 Bathrooms Total! 12x24 3 Season Porch w/3 Skylights! Expandable Attic!

Wraparound Deck! 2 Car Garage! Central Air! Generator! Super Easy Access to Rte 146! \$464.900.00

WEBSTER LAKE -54 West Pt Rd1 North Pond - Külldeer Isl - West Expo - Beautiful Lake Views & Sunsets! 2002 Built 6+ Rm Colonial! Ideal 2nd Home or Yr Rd Living! Applianced Kit wCenter Is!! Lake Facing Din Rm wPanoramic Water Views & Recent Wood FIr! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/LP Gas Frplc, Recent Wood Flr & French Door to Deck! 1st Flr Laundry & Half Bath! 2nd Flr w/3 Spacious Bdrms! Lake Facing Master Suite w/Fantastic Lake Views Frplc, French Dr to its Deck, Dressing/Office Area & Full Bath wWhiripool Tubl A2nd Full Bath off the Hall! Huge Lake Facing Walk-out Lower Level w/Gas Stove & Slider to Stone Patio is Ready for "Finishing"! Additional Lakeside Deck! Dock! \$559,900.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 209 Beacon Park! Sandy Beach! Fantastic Lakeside Pool!



DOUGLAS WATERFRONT! 36 Cedar St! Badluck Pond (110Acres) aka Cedar Lake or Laurel Lake! Western Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 2.74 Acres! 633' Waterfront

471' Road Front! Beautiful Private Setting! Huge 28X96', 2,688' Custom 6 Rm Cedar Ranch w/Hrdwd Flrs Throughout! Spectacular, Open Din Rm & Great Rm w/Stone

Frple, Soaring Beamed Cedar Cathedral Celling, 6 Sky Lights, Recessed Lighting, 1/2 Bath & 3 Sliders to 96 Lake Facing Screened Porch! Custom Kit w/2 Skylights Recessed Lighting, Slider to Porch, Wall Oven & Center Island w/Triple Bowl Sink, Cooktop & Dishwasher! Mud Rm Entry w/2 Dble Closets, Tile Fir, Door to Kit &

Door to Full Bath! 2 Lake Facing Bdrms w/Walk-in Closets, Skylights & Sliders to Porch! Full Tile Bath w/Separate Shower & Whirlpool Bath w/Door to Master & Hall!

Office w/Dhle Closet! 2.5 Baths Total! Cedar Lined Closets! Full Basement! Plus 36X72' 2 Story Heated Boat House/Garage/Work Shop w/Half Bath! Upper Level 5 Rm

WEBSTER LAKE – 130 Killdeer Island - North Pond! West Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 6 Rm 3 Season Home! Add Heat & Use Yr Round! Great Potential! 4 Bdrms wHrdwds, 2 Lake Facing! Frplc Liv Rm w/ Lake Views! Spacious Kit & Dining Area! 2 Baths! 55' of Sandy Beach! \$475,000.00



Grantie kit wilsland, Stamtiess Appilances, Gas Kange, Soft Close Cabinets & Recessed Lights!
Spectacular Lake Facing Great Rim, Xlone Gas Fipte Surrounded by Usation Cabinetry, Recessed
Lights & Ceiling Fan Dining Area wCustom Ceiling! Full Bath wGranite Vanity & Custom Tile
Shower! Laundry Rim! "Wood Look" Tile Floors throughout the First Floor? Jaff Fir Features 3
Comfortable Barms w2 Being Waterfront! Lake Facing Master wSlider to Deck. Hridwis, Recessed
Lighting, Walk-in-Closet & Bithrin Access! Lake Facing Barm wHridwis, Dibe Closet & Dord Look 3rd Bdrim wHridwis & Dibe Closet! All Dist May Dibe Granite Vanity & Tile Firl Clair Gas arage! Dock! Get Packing! **\$789,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 37 Bates Grove Rd! South Pond! As a Second Home, Getaway or Expand it into Your Dream Home – Have Possible Plans! 4+ Rooms! Open Floor Plant Applianced Kit! 2 Bedrooms! Bathroom!



Island! North Pond Views! Sandy Shore! 6 Rm Cape! Open Liv & Din Rm w/Newly Restored Fireplace! New Lake Facing Windows! 2 1st Flr Bdrms, 1 Lake Facing! 3 Bdrms! 2 Updated Bathrms! Huge Composite Deck w/Vinyl Rails! Walk-out Lower Level to Courtyard! Garage Under! \$559,000.00



WEBSTER LAKE - 104 Treasure Island! 1,874' Townhouse! Oak Cabinet Kit w/Breakfast Counter! Formal Din Rm! Frplc Liv Rm! Screened Porch! 1st Fir Master w/Walk-in Closet & Bath! 2,5



South Pond! 5 Rm Ranch! 80' Waterfront Completely Remodeled 10 Yrs Ago! Kraftmaid Cabinet Kit w/Island & Sileston Counters! Bamboo Wood Flrs Throughout Open Flr Plan! Composite Deck! Lake Facing Master! 2 Bdrms! Full Bath! Fam Rm! **\$399,900.00**









WEBSTER LAKE - 202 Killdeer Island Rd! Panoramic View of North Pond! Natural Sandy Shoreline! Complete Rebuild Since 2002! Custom Center Island Applianced Granite Kitchen w/Walk-in Pantry, Recessed Lighting, Hardwoods & 1/2 Bath! Open Floor Plan! Dining Rm w/Window Seat, 2 Closets & Hardwoods! 19X19 Lake Facing Living Rm w/Hardwoods & 2 Sliders to Deck w/Recent Awning! Upstairs to 4 Bedrooms or 3 Plus Office! Lake Facing Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Walk-in Closet & Master Bath w/Tile Floor wer w.Seat. Double Linen Closet! Full Hall Bath! Hallway Laundry Closet! Lake Facing Walk-out Lower Level Famil

Room, 2 Sliders to Patio! Full Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! 4 Zone Heat & 2 Zone C/Air only 2 Years Old! Start Packing! \$629,900.00





WEBSTER LAKE - 8 Reid Smith Cove Road! Panoramic Lake Views! West Expo! Super Sunsets! WEBS LER LARE—S Reld Simili. Over load rainformer laze views west 2500 Super Sinseys (1986) Edit Granty Sloping! 2254 'Custom Contemp Cape, Built 09 as 2nd Home, Like Newl Open Fir Plant Spectacular Lake Facing Great Rm w17 Ceiling, Recessed Lights, Silders to Trex Deck, Stone Gas Frplc, Surround Sound & Gleaning Hrdwds (1981) Edit, Stone S



Ceilings, Recessed Lights, Ceiling Fans, Stone Gas Frplc, Surround Sound, Wet Bar & Slider Bath w/Tile Flr! Utility Rm w/Laundry & Storage! Nice Docks! Get Packing! **\$724,900.00**



Covered Deck! Ideal Gradual Sloping Lot w/ Panoramic Lake Views! \$399,900.00



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TRIVIA SATURDAY NIGHTS

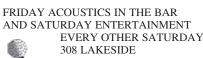
7:30 p.m. start up HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB 325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA



WISE GUYS TEAM TRIVIA Every Tuesday, 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. CADY'S TAVERN 2168 Putnam Pike (Rt. 44) Chepachet, RI 401-568- 4102

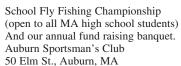
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT HEXMARK TAVERN AT SALEM CROSS INN

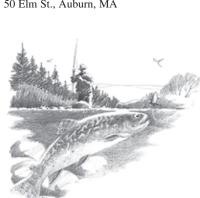
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THE CENTRAL MA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED meets the first Monday of every month from September through May. We discuss a variety of conservation programs to improve the local cold water fisheries, local fishing opportunities. our annual High

















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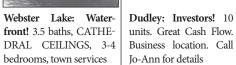
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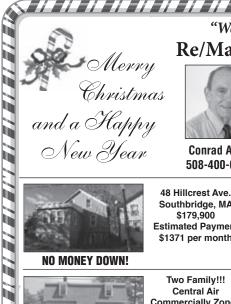


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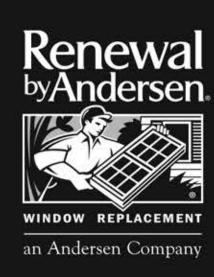


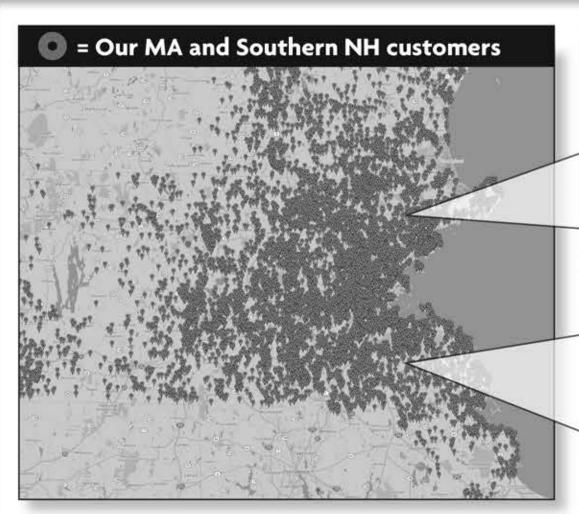


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CHURCH PILGRIMAGE

Pilgrimage to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje

St. Joseph's Church in Charlton is sponsoring a Pilgrimage Sept. 29- Oct. 9, 2019 to Italy, Holy Land, and Medjugorje with Fr. Robert Grattatori. The cost is \$4,599; 11 days includes 4-5 star hotels, airfare, luxury transportation, and breakfast/dinner daily. A \$500 deposit is due at the time of registration. Please contact parishioner Dr. Karen Zaleski for trip details at karenzaleski42@gmail.com or you may call Proximo Travel directly for information and to

BRIMFIELD SENIOR CENTER

register at 1-855-842-8001, or 508-340-9370.

CHARLTON SENIOR CENTER

Call Elaine or Debra for more info at (508) 248-2231 \sim Sign up sheets & flyers available at the Senior Center. Flyers are available on webpage www.town-ofcharlton.net: click on Departments then click on Council on Aging/Senior Center. Pick up is generally from St. Joseph's Church, 10 H Putnam Road Extension, Charlton.

March 12: Celtic Angels of Ireland & Celtic Knight Dancers at Venus De Milo.

Be transported to Ireland with some of the sweetest voices under heaven! The Celtic Angels: Victoria Kenny, Emily Carroll, Tammy Browne, Amy Penston and Ellie Mullane are Irish to the core and seasoned entertainer all.

The Celtic Knight Dancers feature two lead dancers of Riverdance. Their rhythm and artistry are astonishing.

The Trinity Band Ensemble of Dublin round out the show with flawless interpretations of authentic Irish traditional instrumental and their backing of both singers and dancers is perfection. \$92 includes: lunch, show and transportation. (Driver gratuity not included). Payment due Feb. 12, 2019. Make check payable to: Best of Times

April 25: Dancing Dream an ABBA tribute band!

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DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

For reservations contact Jan Caouette at (508) 887-2215. Make checks payable to Bernadette Circle #709 and mail to Bernadette Circle #709, PO Box 201, Webster MA 01570. The Daughters of Isabella is a nonprofit and charitable Catholic women's organization

DUDLEY SENIORS

For information and reservations contact Evelyn Grovesteen at (508) 764-8254

The next trip being offered is to Mackinac Island, next June 2-8. It includes transportation, lodging, 10 meals, tour of Mackinaw City, Mackinac Island with guided carriage tour, a boat ride through the Sault Locks, sight seeing in Sault Saint Marie, a visit to Mackinaw Crossings, Admission to Colonial Michillmackinac and the Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse. Tips for driver and step-on guides are included. Games, drinks and snacks will be provided on travel days. Cost is \$650 pp/double occupancy. Call Evelyn Grovesteen for info at (508) 764-8254.

Also next year, Sept.13-21, we will be going to Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Included is transportation, lodging, 14 meals, guided tours of Acadia National park, Halifax, Peggy's Cove, Lunenburg, Prince Edward Island including Anne of Green Gables' home, admission to King's Landing Historical Settlement. admission to Hopewell Rocks, and a visit to St. John. Tips for driver and step-on guides are included. Games, drinks and snacks will be provided on travel days. Cost is \$1065 pp/ double occupancy. Call Evelyn Grovesteen for info at (508) 764-8254

EAST BROOKFIELD SENIOR CENTER

For information and reservations, please contact Judy Shute (508) 867-9224

LEICESTER SENIOR CENTER

Contact Leicester Senior Center, Joan Wall, (508) 892-3967 for information and reservations.

Friday, January 18: Trip to Foxwoods Casino. Bus leaves at 8 a.m.; cost is \$30. Free buffet and \$10 in free slot play.

Friday, February 15: Trip to Foxwoods Casino. Bus leaves at 8 a.m.; cost is \$30. Free buffet and \$10 in free slot play.

Friday, March 15: Trip to Foxwoods Casino. Bus leaves at 8 a.m.; cost is \$30. Free buffet and \$10 in free slot play.

MARY QUEEN OF THE ROSARY PARISH

SPENCER — Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish, 60 Maple St., Spencer, is offering the following trips. For more information, call Bernard Dube at (508) 885-3098.

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SOUTHBRIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon Senior Center Monday, Wednesday, or Friday 9-10 a.m. or call (774) 922-4049 or e-mail jimtrips@yahoo.com.

Trips are open to the public! Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association, payment due at sign up:

SOUTHBRIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS 2019 TRIP SCHEDULE OPEN TO PUBLIC

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Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon senior center Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings from 9-10 a.m. or call (774) 922-4049, or email jimtrips@yahoo. com

Tuesday, March 12, 2019: Foxwoods \$25 8 a.m. bus.

For \$25 You get a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have five hours at the casino to gamble or PLAY BINGO as the bus will leave Foxwoods at 3 p.m. You will receive \$10 for gaming and \$15 meal voucher.

Tuesday, April 30-Thursday, May 2, 2019: Atlantic City

You will get two nights on the boardwalk. You also get a \$25 in slot play and \$60 food credit and see two stage shows. Trolleys available. For details call Jan at 508 887 2215

Sunday, May 19, 2019: Newport rail tour.



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HOME

Get your home fall- and winter-ready with 5 simple projects

(MS) — If boots, a warm hat and a tuned-up snow blower are the only items on your winter preparation list, your home maintenance plan may need a makeover. These simple home maintenance projects can help lower your energy bills, prevent more costly repairs and/ or increase the lifespan of your home.

Heating Ventilation — Examine your fireplace and chimney system to ensure that no soot or creosote has collected. Any cracks or voids could potentially cause a fire. Before you turn the furnace or boiler on, replace the air filter and hire a professional to inspect the unit more thoroughly. These steps will improve the efficiency and life of your furnace and will ensure stable indoor air quality.

2. Seal Windows and Doors — If not properly sealed, windows and doors can be a major culprit for heat loss. To keep the warm air inside, inspect the weather-stripping around your home's windows and doors for leaks, rot or decay.



Repair or replace structural framing, and caulk inside and out, if neces-

3. Insulate well — One of the easiest and most effective defenses against heat loss is proper insulation. Prevent cold drafts

from entering and the loss of heated air through basement headers, which, when left exposed, can make your furnace work harder. Look for a moisture-resistant product offering high thermal performance, such as Roxul Comfortbatt insulation. This type of mineral wool insulation makes installation simple. All that's needed is a serrated blade or bread knife. Cut the batt to fit the cavity and press into place. The insulation will help improve energy efficiency as soon as it's in place and provide savings over the lifetime of your home. Comfortbatt can also be used to top or replace old attic insulation. Aim for an R-50 or a depth of 16 inches.

4. Backyard Care — Save your property from potential damage by trimming overgrown trees and shrubs to prevent ice-laden branches from thrashing against electrical wires and your home's exterior. Drain/ shut off any exterior faucets and sprinkler systems to prevent freezing. Ensure rain or snow drains away from the house to avoid foundation problems.

5. Roof and Gutters - Inspect your roof for shingles that are warped, damaged or even missing to prevent a future leak. Use roofing cement and a caulking gun to seal joints where water could penetrate, such as around the chimney, skylights or vent pipes. Make sure that your gutters and downspouts are securely fastened. Downspouts should extend at least five feet away from the home to prevent flooding.

When it comes to preventative maintenance, a little time and effort can save thousands in energy costs and repair bills over the lifetime of your

Keep on going green this winter

Each season presents its own unique set of challenges. From summer heat waves to spring rainstorms to snowfall in winter, the planet throws a lot at its

Living an eco-friendly lifestyle is often simple. But sometimes the weather can make it hard to maintain a commitment to going green. Winter weather can be particularly challenging, as it can be hard to sacrifice convenience and comfort in the face of harsh weather. But there are ways to stay true to your eco-friendly roots even when winter weather is at its most unpleasant.

· Save your fireplace ashes. If your home has a fireplace that you like to cozy up next to in winter, you can make great use of the ashes left behind when the fire goes out. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, ashes from wood-burning fireplaces can be added to compost heaps. Once added, these ashes help to create a soil amendment that can deliver valuable nutrients to your garden. After each fire, collect the ashes rather than sweeping them up and discarding them. Then add the collected ashes to your compost pile when the weather permits.

· Install a programmable thermostat. If you don't already have one, install a programmable thermostat in your home. The Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy notes that homeowners can save as much as 10 percent a year on heating and cooling costs by turning their thermostats back 7° to 10° F for eight hours per day. Set the thermostat to drop 10°F when the family leaves for work and/or school in the morning, programming it to return to a more comfortable level when the family returns home at night. This saves you from sitting in a cold home

while also saving you money by making sure you are not paying to heat an empty house.

 Have your home heating system inspected before winter hits full swing. Home heating systems, including boilers and furnaces, should be inspected by a professional each year, ideally before the arrival of winter. Heating systems that are not operating at peak efficiency will cost homeowners money and waste energy. If you notice yourself frequently increasing the temperature on your thermostat just to keep your home warm and comfortable, call a local HVAC professional to inspect the system. Scheduling such an appointment prior to the arrival of winter can save you the cost and discomfort of living with an inefficient system.

• Choose an electric snowblower. Many homeowners now use snowblowers instead of shovels to remove snow from their properties. While snow shovels are the most eco-friendly snow removal tool, even the most eco-conscious homeowners recognize how snowblowers make snow removal easy and more efficient. But gas-powered snowblowers consume substantial amounts of fuel. If you must use a snowblower, choose an electric one instead of one powered by gas. Even though electric snowblowers consume electricity, the EPA notes that such products leave a smaller carbon footprint than gas-powered snowblowers because they do not emit greenhouse

Harsh winter weather can make it challenging to live in an eco-friendly way. But there are many ways to withstand winter and do so in a way that does not hurt the planet.

Seeing green: How to help your lawn bounce back from winter



Winter weather, including snow, can damage lawns, leaving homeowners with some work to do when spring arrives.

Lawns are exposed to the elements throughout the year, and each season brings its own unique set of challenges. Summer heat waves can make it hard for lawns to maintain their lush green appeal, while the falling leaves of autumn can threaten root systems if not handled properly. Winter frost and snow also can pose a threat to lawns, leaving homeowners with some work to do when spring arrives.

Spring is a season of revival, and that spirit of rejuvenation extends to lawns. When the last vestiges of winter begin to disappear, homeowners can dust off their gardening gloves and start taking steps to revitalize their lawns for the months ahead.

· Look for signs of damage. Winter can be hard on lawns, so it's important for homeowners to look for signs of damage before they begin planning any springtime landscaping projects. Salt damage can occur in areas that received heavy snowfall over the winter. Many communities use rock salt to de-ice snow- and ice-covered roads, and that rock salt is largely made up of sodium chloride, which can draw moisture from grass and cause it to brown. Salt trucks used during winter storms often spit salt out onto lawns, so don't be surprised if you notice brown spots on your grass, especially in those areas closest to the road. Winter lawn damage may also be caused by voles, burrowing mouse-like rodents that make paths beneath the snow to hide from predators and feed on grass blades and roots. Lawns with distinctly matted areas may also have been damaged by snow mold that can weaken turf.

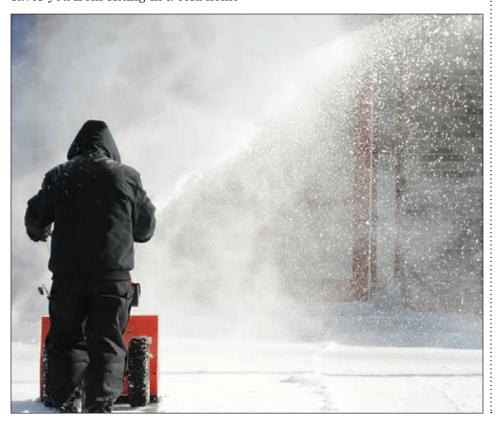
· Consult a professional landscaper. Homeowners with considerable experience tending to damaged lawns can no doubt identify and address problems on

their own. That's because many problems are a result of the weather, which tends to be similar and produce similar problems from one year to the next. But inexperienced homeowners should consult professional landscapers before attempting to address problems on their own. Winter lawn damage may be caused by a variety of factors that can produce similar symptoms, and professional landscapers can identify the culprits behind such damage and provide the most effective solutions to restore

Remove debris. A light raking can help remove any debris that accumulated over the winter. Such debris, which may include fallen branches and fallen leaves left behind from the final days of fall, can prevent lawns from getting the sun and water they need to thrive. Remove this debris, but make sure the grass is not frozen when you do, as walking on frozen grass can cause further damage.

• Let the grass grow. Mowing the lawn is a chore that's reserved for spring, summer and maybe early fall, but it's important that homeowners don't jump the gun and mow too early after winter. A patient approach allows the grass to reestablish itself, so let it grow a little higher than you normally would before the first cut. When the grass is roughly 4.5 inches high, you can cut it down to three inches and then maintain your normal mowing routine throughout the rest of spring and summer.

Revitalizing lawns in springtime is a priority for many homeowners, who should always consult landscaping professionals if they feel uncertain about addressing any damage they discover during their post-winter lawn inspec-











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WHOLESALE \$

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\$43,880

#H8550A · GT HATCHBACK, WHOLESALE 💲 HEATED SEATS, 17" ALLOYS PRICE:

SAVE \$13,300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 HYUNDAI ELANTRA NEW Retail Price: \$22,305

2017 HYUNDAI SONATA NEW Retail Price: \$28,775 #H0523 · SPORT TRIM, TURBO, HEATED SEATS, BACK-UP CAM

WHOLESALE S PRICE:

SAVE \$11,400 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 HYUNDAI SANTA FE

NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$40,335 WHOLESALE PRICE:

Sport 2.0L Turbo Trim, Moonroof, Heated Leather, Alloys, Navigation.

SAVE \$13,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

SAVE \$9,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

HEATED SEATS, 17" ALLOYS

WHOLESALE 💸 SAVE \$9,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

NEW Retail Price: \$28,440 2016 GRAND CARAVAN #D9170L · SXT TRIM, ALLOYS, WHOLESALE 😽 BLUETOOTH, 3RD ROW SEATS

SAVE \$14,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2015 CHEVY TAHOE



NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$63,400

Moonroof, Navigation, DVD, 4x4, Heated Leather, MyLink, 20" Alloys.

SAVE S18,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

WHOLESALE PRICE:

4x4, 5.7L V8 Hemi, Tow Hitch. SAVE \$11,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

WHOLESALE PRICE: Bedliner, 20" Alloys, iPod Input,

SAVE \$11,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2015 RAM 1500 EXPRESS

SALE ENDS 12/26/18. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNT OR PROMOTION AND MUST USE DEALER SOURCE FINANCING. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY, SEE US FOR details. New retail price based on msrp of new models. Not valid with prior sales. Selling price including our \$1,000 imperial trade assistance bonus for A QUALIFYING 2007 OR NEWER TRADES. SEE US FOR DETAILS. ADVERTISED PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE TAX, TITLE, REGISTRATION OR DOCUMENTATION FEE. VEHICLE MUST BE PAID IN FULL AND TAKE SAME DAY DELIVERY, NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS, CALL 1-800-526-AUTO TO SEE WHICH INCENTIVES YOU QUALIFY FOR.

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