



## Town lands Green Communities grant

BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The state Department of Energy Resources last Friday awarded Winchendon a \$250,000 grant from the Green Communities program, which is overseen by DER. The town had been awaiting word on its application since it was submitted in February. The quarter-million-dollar request was the largest communities can seek under the program, which is designed to encourage cities and towns to reduce energy consumption at municipally-owned facilities.

The monies will be used to reduce annual energy costs at Beals Memorial Library and throughout the Winchendon school district by more than \$52,000 a year.

Weatherization projects at Beals and at Murdock Middle-High School would also result in a reduction of heating oil consumption of some 5,200 gallons annually. In addition, it is estimated the weatherization projects, coupled with a change to LED exterior lighting at all Winchendon schools and a BAS expansion at Murdock, would decrease electricity consumption by nearly 200,000 kilowatts per year.

The town's first grant application – for \$176,000 – was automatically approved when Winchendon was accepted into the Green Communities program last year. This year, however, grants were awarded on a com-

petitive basis. Winchendon Planning and Development Director Tracy Murphy said this will be the case from now on.

Winchendon was accepted into the program after developing a five-year energy savings plan. To qualify, the town pledged to cut energy consumption by 20 percent during that timeframe. A DER spokeswoman said over half of the state's 351 cities and towns, representing about two-thirds of Commonwealth's population, have signed up.

In an earlier interview with The Courier, Murphy said, "The projects applied for this year will keep us right on track to reach our 20 percent reduction after five years. That doesn't include the energy reduction we'll experience from the round we got (last year). This is a reduction in energy use from prior to those projects."

While the retrofitting of all streetlights in Winchendon with LED lights were not included in the town's five-year plan, Murphy said the resulting energy savings can still be counted toward achieving the town's 20 percent goal.

Weatherization work at Beals, which includes improvements to the building's windows, will eat up just over \$3,100 in grant monies, while similar work at Murdock will cost around \$41,400. A changeover to LED lighting



Courtesy photo

Last Friday several town officials went to Boston, where they received official notification that Winchendon had received a \$250,000 Green Communities grant. (l-r) Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, Winchendon Planning and Development Dir. Tracy Murphy, Chairman of the Winchendon Board of Selectmen Audrey LaBrie, and Land Use/Planning Clerk Nicole Roberts. Roberts holds a list of those communities that had successfully applied for grant monies under the energy saving program.

Turn To **GRANT**, page **A3**

## Accident victims recovering

There was updated news posted by the Winchendon Fire Department Wednesday morning on the conditions of just-retired deputy chief Ricci Ruschioni and girlfriend Terri Gouslin, who were seriously injured last Saturday when their motorcycle collided with a car on Route 202 in Baldwinville.

A release from WFD reported, "They are both beginning the long healing process they have before them. Terri is now in a regular room after surgery and Ricci is mending well in ICU with a regular room coming soon. Please continue your support and prayers from them while allowing them some privacy."

"Cards and well wishes for both of them can be sent to the Winchendon Fire Department at 405 Central St., and the family will take them to the hospital. Your continued support is appreciated by both Ricci, Terri and their families."

Police are continuing to investigate the incident, which occurred around 2:20 p.m. last Saturday. The couple was headed from Winchendon towards Baldwinville when they collided at Elm and Bridge streets with a 2007 Chevrolet operated by Irene Stacy of Baldwinville. Ruschioni and Gouslin were transported to UMass in Worcester while Stacy was treated for minor injuries at Heywood Hospital in Gardner.

Winchendon Town Manager Keith Hickey told media outlets, "The town is concerned about making sure Ricci and Terri are able to recover in a healthy manner and continue what was a very short retirement at this point. We are hopeful he will get back to 100-percent soon and continue to enjoy his retirement moving forward."

## Discover New England stone walls at Beals



Courtesy photo

Kevin Gardner will make a presentation on stone walls next week.

Author, radio host, actor, director, teacher and stonemason, Kevin Gardner will be presenting a talk entitled, "Discovering New England Stone Walls" at the Beals Memorial Library in Winchendon on Friday, August 3 at 7:00 pm.

Gardner's presentation will cover a few of the main topics of his book, *The Granite Kiss*, and touch on the history, technique, stylistic development and aesthetics of our region's ubiquitous stone walls. He explains how and why we came to acquire thousands of miles of stone walls, the ways in which they and other dry stone structures were built, how their styles emerged and changed over time, and their significance to the famous New England landscape.

Other topics may include the differences in approach between historical and contemporary wall-builders, a discussion of restoration tips and techniques, and information about design, acquisition of materials, preservation, and analysis. There will be a generous question-and-answer period, during which participants are encouraged to bring up specific problems or projects on their own properties.

Along the way, Gardner occupies himself building a miniature wall or walls on a tabletop, using tiny stones from a five-gallon bucket. He often brings along his collection of books about stonework, and copies of his books will be available for sale.

Gardner is a lifelong resident of

Turn To **WALLS**, page **A2**

## Ballot canvassers in town

BY JERRY CARTON  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

Perhaps you haven't heard much if anything about Freedom for All Massachusetts. Or perhaps you've vaguely heard about a group coming to knock on Winchendon doors on Mondays through Wednesdays. Let's unravel the story.

Come Election Day in November in addition to races for a long list of elective offices, there will be a trio of referendum questions on the ballot, and one is already stirring debate about door-to-door canvassing here in Winchendon.

Freedom for All Massachusetts is a bi-partisan coalition created "with the goal of updating Massachusetts long-standing civil rights laws to include nondiscrimination protections for transgender people in public places." Such laws took effect in October 2016 but voters are being asked to reaffirm the statute this fall.

Listed as Question 3 on the November ballot, a "yes" vote will keep protections in place while a "no" vote would roll back the legislative guarantees passed two years ago. FFMA claims support from Governor Baker, the state's entire congressional delegation and all five professional sports teams (Red Sox, Patriots, Celtics, Bruins, Revolution) as well as that of statewide law enforcement groups.

"The campaign has aimed to add gender identity as a protected category in the Commonwealth's public accommodations law alongside age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, religion and marital status."

That's FFMA's message and as the group brings it to Winchendon, there are some residents who aren't real happy.

Last week, the local police department posted a notice on its Facebook page explaining "the non-profit organization will be going door-to-door performing canvas outreach in Winchendon now through November 2018. They will be canvassing 2 pm-9 pm Monday through Wednesday; 9 am-6 pm weekends."

That triggered a slew of responses, some from people complaining about the hours, arguing 9 pm was too late while others expressed support and opposition for the actual measure. By early this week, nearly 80 comments had been posted on WPD's Facebook page.

Two other referendum questions are

Turn To **BALLOT**, page **A3**

## Committee rehashes Summit privacy rules

BY JERRY CARTON  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

The School Committee met last week and heard the search for an interim superintendent has begun and received Summit and summer school updates.

Search committee Chair Dawn Fronte said her group plans to recommend three candidates to the full school committee at the Aug. 16 meeting. In the meantime, current Superintendent Steve Haddad, who plans to retire at the end of August, will be returning to work on Monday.

Middle School Principal Jess Vezina noted a summer school has been opened

this year because "there's been a pattern" of students "not being prepared" in some cases.

"We took a hard look in the mirror and asked ourselves, 'what can we do?'" to help kids enter the next school year with better chances of success.

As for the ongoing debate regarding the Summit learning program, SC Chair Greg Vine said he, fellow member Larry Murphy, Vezina and acting Superintendent Rich Ikonen held a conference call with the district's law firm of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane, represented by attorneys Kevin Bresnahan and Felica Vesudevan.

The discussion reaffirmed Summit is "in compliance with the Children's Online Privacy and Protection Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act," an issue which has been repeatedly raised by critics of the program. Additionally, the committee reported, "Summit's use of California's student privacy statute as a model for its own privacy policy provides greater protection than those provided by Massachusetts. In other words, Winchendon students in the Summit curriculum would be provided fewer

Turn To **PRIVACY** page **A2**



LOCAL

PAGE 2



SPORTS

PAGE 8



WEEKLY QUOTE

Laws made by common consent must not be trampled on by individuals.

George Washington

# Home improvements with High ROI

If the ultimate goal of your home improvement project is aesthetic, the greatest benefit may come from your personal enjoyment of the new space. However, if you're looking to add true value to your home, it's important to consider which projects are likely to bring the greatest return on your investment.

**Flooring**  
Flooring speaks volumes about a home. Replacing and updating worn floors can instantly add value. A timeless selection like wood flooring, par-

ticularly in heavy traffic areas, is durable enough to withstand wear and complements a wide range of interior designs. If you already have wood floors that are in reasonably good condition, whether in use or under carpet, go ahead and refinish them for a budget-friendly alternative to installing new flooring. Another option that holds or even increases the value of your investment is tile, particularly in spaces like kitchens, bathrooms and laundry areas.

**Roofing**  
Re-roofing a home gives it an instant value boost, but it's a job that needs to be repeated periodically. One longer-term and on-trend alternative to traditional roofing is metal. Performance is the big selling point for metal roofs, but not only does the roof itself increase the home's value, the safety benefits and peace of mind that come with know-



HOME MATTERS  
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ing strong, fire-resistant metal roofs can last forever only add to the benefits. With a variety of styles available, you can find a metal roof to match nearly any home style.

**Landscaping**  
Curb appeal often counts for a lot, whether it's for your own enjoyment or a potential future buyer. Enhancing your home's exterior can pay off handsomely when you add vegetation and hardscaping that improve the overall aesthetic. Keep in mind that more unconventional styles are better reserved for private spaces like the backyard; for the street view, stick to a motif with broad appeal to garner the strongest return on your investment.

**Entryway**  
An outdated entry point isn't just an eyesore; it can pose a security risk and even be the source of significant energy loss for your home. Replacing

front doors and even garage doors can both bring a return on your investment and potentially start saving you money right away on heating and cooling costs. A new, properly installed entry door is likely to fit more snugly and allow for fewer air leaks. In addition, a heavier door and frame is more likely to stand up against forced entry.

**Insulation**  
It may not be glamorous, or even anything that you'll see on a regular basis, but many experts agree that upgrading your insulation is a sound investment. In addition to adding value in terms of comfort and reduced energy costs, it's an attractive selling point should you choose to list your home.

If you're still uncertain about the right investments for your home, it may be wise to consult a local real estate expert who can provide insight on the features that bring the most value in your market.  
Source: CertainTeed

## REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

- WINCHENDON**  
\$400,000 15 4th St, Couture, Ruth A, to Leslie, Brian B, and Leslie, Cassandra L.  
\$280,000 106 Converse Dr, Tonelli, Antonio J, and Tonelli, Nancy E, to Luiz, Ricardo Kk, and Luiz, Christiane.  
\$204,000 Russell Farm Rd, Dorsey, Alice, and Seitz, Irene, to Commonwealth Asset Group.  
\$199,900 83 Pearl St, Paquet, Keith, to Raymer, Bernard L, and Pickard, Kaitlyn R.  
\$160,000 101 Highland St, Letoile Mary C Est, and Pineo, Jane N, to Pineo, Andrew P, and Pineo, Danielle L.  
\$31,507 30 Cross St, FNMA, to Couture, David M.

## CAN CAN CAMARADERIE



Mat Plamondon photo

On the third Saturday of every month, a large yellow box truck is parked in the lot in front of the Rite Aid pharmacy and a bevy of youngsters gathers. They are gathering cans and bottles for a cause. 'Cause they want to be part of a program at Murdock Middle School. For several years, the school has held two programs every spring, taking seventh graders for a bonding event at a local camp, and the eighth graders for a field trip to Boston. To help students pay for these events, the can drive has been an ongoing fundraiser. The local populace is urged, even if you don't usually recycle, bothering to take back those cans and bottles yourself to a local outlet, to gather them and drop them off for this; it will be appreciated.

## COURIER CAPSULES

### PLAN FOR OWC

Summer Drive for Our Troops! Saturday, August 18 from 9-10:30 a.m. at the American Legion Post 193 on School Street in Winchendon. Looking for monetary donations towards the postage, and items to send to our military members worldwide- especially quick meals, drink mixes, home baked goodies, snacks and letters/cards/pictures/notes (great activity for your children this summer) to be included with their packages. Please do not donate anything that may/ will melt.

See the full list on our website...  
Operation Winchendon Cares  
OLD MURDOCK ANNUAL INDOOR SALE

The Indoor Yard Sale at the Winchendon Senior Center is now ongoing. Everyone is welcome to come Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. The tables are set up nicely with a variety of items in the upstairs auditorium. Come see what is available this year!

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**NEWS STAFF DIRECTORY**  
EDITOR  
RUTH DEAMICIS  
(978) 297-0050 x 100  
ruth@stonebridgepress.news

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

**PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER**  
FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
508-909-4101  
frank@stonebridgepress.news

**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**  
RON TREMBLAY  
508-909-4102  
rtremblay@stonebridgepress.news

**OPERATION DIRECTOR**  
JAMES DINICOLA  
508-764-4325  
jdinicola@stonebridgepress.com

**EDITOR**  
RUTH DEAMICIS  
508-909-4130  
ruth@stonebridgepress.news

**ADVERTISING MANAGER**  
JEAN ASHTON  
508-909-4104  
jean@stonebridgepress.news

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
JULIE CLARKE  
julie@villagernews.com

### PRIVACY

continued from page A1

protection under the laws of the Commonwealth than they are under the Summit agreement."

But that didn't impress parent Renee Eldredge, who continued to hammer away at the privacy issue, though her family has opted to school choice out of the district. While acknowledging "no system is perfect,"

Murphy responded, "if the Russians can hack the CIA..."

The committee also said the lawyers reaffirmed the SC has only an advisory role and "cannot implement or suspend curriculum decisions."

Sports user fees, including those for football, ice hockey and swimming were announced. While most sports charge either \$160 or \$120 for the first sport, the latter being the

base price for students eligible for free/reduced lunches, hockey will be \$400 and swimming \$200.

No family will ever pay more than \$500.

"We want students to be involved in as many activities as possible," said MHS Principal Thad King, reminding arrangements are always available for families who can't afford the fees.

"There are always ways to work things out," assured Fronte.

### WALLS

continued from page A1

Hopkinton, NH. Like a lot of independent rural Yankees, he's been a jack of many trades, a builder, logger, writer, teacher, radio voice, even an actor and director.

For more than 40 years he has been a stone wall builder in a family business widely known for traditional New England stonework, particularly for historic restoration of antique structures. In 2001 Kevin published The Granite Kiss: Traditions and Techniques of Building New England Stone Walls. His second book, Stone Building: How to Make New England Style Walls and Other Structures the Old Way, was published in May of 2017. He has also published poetry, songs, and essays, including "Land of Stone", an examination of several historic sites

also an award-winning performance critic, feature writer, and producer for NH Public Radio. His pieces on arts, history and culture have aired on National Public Radio and the Christian Science Monitor broadcast network. In 2004, he was a co-host of the nationally syndicated radio series Storylines New England, an interview and call-in program about our regional literature. He has written and produced other special programming for NHPR as well, including a 45-minute radio drama adapted by NH poet Julia Older from her own long poem, Tales of the Francois Vase.

Kevin is also a longtime professional actor, director, and teacher of theatre. He has taught at the New Hampton School, the NH Institute of Art, and at St. Paul's School. Since 1999 he has been the Master Teacher of the course Shakespeare for Performance in St. Paul's summer Advanced Studies Program. He is also a regular guest director at Plymouth State University, a former performance evaluator for the NH State Council on the Arts, and a frequent adjudicator of local, regional, and national theatre festivals. New Hampshire Magazine named him the state's Best Theatre Critic in 2008.

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# Nutrition initiative moving forward

BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

More than two dozen Winchendon residents, town officials, and representatives of community service organizations met Monday to continue their efforts to develop a strategy for meeting the nutritional needs of the community. The effort is being coordinated by the Community Health Network for North Central Massachusetts (CHNA9) Healthy Food Access Committee. Monday's meeting was organized by Ayn Yeagle, executive director of Leominster-based Growing Places, an organization with the goal "to inspire and connect the North Central Massachusetts community to create equitable access to healthy food and environmental sustainability through education, collaboration and advocacy."

The issue of food insecurity gained center stage in Winchendon with the closing in January 2017 of the Central Supermarket IGA, the town's only grocery store. While several stores in Winchendon do offer a narrow range of grocery items, most residents now find it necessary to travel to Rindge to do their food shopping at Hannaford or Market Basket, or head to Gardner, where several stores are in operation.

Yeagle said CHNA9 has posted a survey online which asks respondents to

rank, in order, what they feel should be the focus areas for meeting the town's nutritional needs. The survey link is <https://polley.com/chelseypatri136>.

"We were pleased that we had new stakeholders from additional community sectors at Monday's meeting," said Yeagle, "including five youths who are working on health food access in Winchendon."

"Part of the process," she continued, "is to identify who is already at the table versus key stakeholders who are critical to strategy implementation that are not there yet. We began to prioritize focus areas through online voting, which we will continue until the end of this week. Once we identify the top focus areas around healthy food access the community would like to work on, we will know who needs to be engaged."

Asked if the elderly and children from low-income families are most at risk for food insecurity, Yeagle told The Courier, "Food access and insecurity are complex issues and part of the social determinants of health. The survey will allow us to better understand food access, food security, and food quality in each community in the CHNA9 region. This data will inform us which populations are the most food insecure."

So-called Tier 1 communities in the region include Athol, Clinton, Fitchburg, Gardner, Leominster, and

Winchendon.

Yeagle said a broad range of people must become involved if a successful strategy for meeting the nutritional needs of the community is to be developed.

"Successful strategies that impact individuals' health at the community/public health level require public and private - government and non-profit - partnerships with a policy, system, and environmental focus supported by education and programs to increase opportunities that support healthy eating."

Anyone filling out the online survey form is being asked to take several criteria into consideration when establishing a ranking, including: impact on healthy food access; feasibility of follow-through (on nutritional initiatives); availability of resources needed (volunteers and funding, for example) to be successful; readiness/willingness of people and organizations to do the work necessary to better meet the community's nutritional needs; potential for collaboration between various organizations, and; compatibility with efforts currently under way.

Results from the online survey will be compiled before the next meeting of the network is scheduled. At that time, participants will begin to prioritize steps to be taken and hammer out strategies for completing those steps.

## ACCURACY WATCH

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

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# Walsh: no real changes due to 'Red Flag' legislation

BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

On July 3, Gov. Charlie Baker signed legislation that allows for temporary removal of firearms from people who are considered a danger to themselves or to others. The law allows a relative or someone else with close ties to a legal gun owner to petition a court for an extreme-risk protection order if the that person is exhibiting unstable or dangerous behavior. The order could remain in effect for up to a year. The court's decision is subject to appeal.

The law went into effect once Baker signed the legislation.

In a statement, Baker said at the time, "Massachusetts gun laws are a model for the nation, and creating an additional pathway to keep guns away from people unfit to possess them will make our laws even stronger."

The law, he said, "creates a responsible way to help prevent gun deaths and suicides while protecting individuals'

second amendment rights."

Winchendon Police Chief David Walsh said the new law allows police to act in a manner similar to the issuance of harassment prevention order or an extreme risk protection order.

"This doesn't allow us to just burst through someone's door and start confiscating firearms," he said. "When someone contacts the authorities with concerns about the danger someone may pose to themselves or to others, the court has 10 days to hold a hearing."

"It won't really change anything," Walsh continued. "We can act as petitioners, also. It doesn't have to just be the family. But it really is best if it's the family. In a town like Winchendon, we might know some of the people who may be a risk, but family members know much better than we do."

The confiscation of weapons can last for up to a year, but families or authorities can request that it be extended.

"I think this is probably a good idea,"

said Walsh. "Anything that helps prevent a suicide, or violence against someone else, is a positive. And, again, the family knows better than the police whether a threat of suicide or violence is believable. A lot of the time we're truly dealing with a real mental health issue. Other times, however, it may be alcohol putting words into the mouth of someone making the threat. Sure, suicide may sound like a great idea right now, but how's it going to sound once you're sober. The family's involvement really is key."

Walsh said officers won't need to go through any additional training to ensure they know how to abide by the new law. He also said police departments won't face any additional liability.

The bill also created a licensing procedure for stun guns. The provision was added after the state Supreme Judicial Court ruled that a blanket ban on the devices violated the state constitution.



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## GRANT

continued from page A1

around the exterior of Murdock will cost \$18,500, Memorial School lighting upgrades will run slightly more than \$85,000, and improved lighting at Toy Town will run just over \$21,400. Murdock Middle-High School BAS expansion will cost more than \$80,400.

BAS, or the building automation system, allows the school to heat only those areas of the building that need heat at any given time. This means the district won't have to pay to heat rooms that don't need it.

"There's a BAS expansion on their heating system for the gym area," Murphy explained. "It kind of just segregates out their hearing system so they don't have to run it all at once. They can separate it out into zones."

As for the windows at Beals and Murdock, Murphy noted, "Our energy audit brought up a lot of the windows. A lot of windows had breaks in the seal, problems like that. So mostly all of the weatherization work is for windows."

Nicholas Connors, director of the Green Communities Division of DER, said in a letter to Town Manager Keith Hickey that it was determined Winchendon's proposed initiatives "are

viable projects that meet the eligibility requirements of our competitive grant program. We congratulate you on your grant award and applaud your efforts to create a cleaner energy future for your community and the Commonwealth as a whole."

## BALLOT

continued from page A1

on the ballot and the Courier will be taking longer in-depth looks as November draws closer. Question 1 will limit the

number of patients permitted to be assigned to RN's in hospitals and other health care facilities.

Question 2 would create a commission to investigate spending on political campaigns and potentially recommend changes.



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## VIEWS

Opinion and commentary from Winchendon and beyond

## EDITORIAL

*Civility vs. the Uncouth*

Civility comes from the base word that means citizen.

If we are good citizens, it should extend that we are therefore civil to one another.

That seems to be harder and harder to do these days.

We have to choose our battles.

Uncouth is exactly the opposite: uncivilized, unrefined, common, lacking in good manners.

Leveling that epithet at someone is pretty darned derogatory.

It's the equivalent of chewing with your mouth open and talking.

Ugh.

As we watch the talking heads, especially the Sunday morning brains, as they strive to overtalk one another in their fury to make their points; we see the behavior and miss the words.

As we watch the incredible behavior of our representatives in all branches of government (we are equal opportunity here, none of them are making much of an impact for integrity at the moment to us) we certainly don't see any civility, a lot of the uncouth-ity.

We see a lot of self protection; a lot of defensive posturing, a lot of insane, and frightened, men and women who aren't certain whether they know exactly what their jobs entail any longer.

When people are frightened, they lash out.

When they feel threatened, whether

it is because they might be in physical danger, in danger of losing their livelihood, might be caught out for behavior, bullied, or just uneasy, they may defensively strike out first to keep themselves feeling safer.

We are seeing a lot of that.

And yes we are also seeing a lot of bullying.

It works. It works whether you are seven years old or seventy years old. And if you have the chutzpah to do it with whole nations? Why not.

But the bullying isn't one sided, despite what you might have thought of first.

And that uncouth behavior can be very, very sneaky at times too.

So before you become justified in your own complacency, thinking yeah, those other guys, aren't they something? Stop. Stop and think of how you describe those "other guys." Those are your neighbors. Your children's friends' parents. Their teachers and coaches. The policemen who serve you. The firefighters down the street. That nice guy who fixes your car.

They aren't some faceless "guys" who don't know what they are doing. They are us.

They think about things differently, yes. And after the next election, you may be on the same side on an issue.

That's what makes a good citizen.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Garden Club: can you help

To the Editor:

Is there an area in town that annoys you? Somewhere you drive by and say to yourself 'why doesn't someone do something with that area?'

Why can't you be that someone?

The Winchendon Garden Club is implementing a program where residents of Winchendon may appeal to the club to enhance unsightly areas in town.

Are you willing to commit to cleaning, planting and maintaining an area for a minimum of 5 years? The Winchendon Garden Club might be willing to design and purchase what is necessary to 'Pretty Up That Spot'.

Interested? If you are willing to make a minimum 5 years commitment to enhance an area in town, then send us a photo of the area. Be specific about the area that needs a bit of sprucing up. If you have an idea of what you would like there then send us that info also.

Mail photos and site information along with any ideas you might have to The Winchendon Garden Club, PO Box 32, Winchendon MA 01475 or email to WinchendonGardenClub@Mail.Com. Remember to include your name and telephone number. Recipients will be notified by phone when a project has been approved and funds are available.

Of course, there are rules. The rules are simple but must be adhered.

There is no end date. Applications are reviewed and considered all during the gardening season.

Project Rules:

The recipient must commit to the project for a minimum of 5 years.

The Winchendon Garden Club's One Spot at a Time Committee will monitor and take photos during the year

that may be published on Facebook or used when marketing the Winchendon Garden Club.

Applicants must be a resident of Winchendon or Winchendon group such as a town club, a neighborhood group, a Scout troop, a local family or Winchendon Garden Club member.

Selected area must be in the town of Winchendon.

The project may be container or bedding of annuals, perennials or shrubbery.

The said committee will work with recipients to design the area. We will purchase plants, give direction on planting and care of area i.e.: mulch and fertilizer.

The said committee will purchase plants, compost, mulch and fertilizer as deemed necessary.

The recipient will keep area clean of trash and weeds, keep plantings moist by watering as needed, replant and replace annuals at the discretion of the club i.e.: dead plants or change-over of annuals to fall plantings.

The recipient will do physical work such as planting and spreading of mulch.

The recipient will ONLY be reimbursed upon proof of purchase receipt AND PRIOR club approval for purchase.

The club will NOT reimburse cost of water

Decisions made by the Winchendon Garden Club's One Spot at a Time Committee are final.

Questions may be sent to our email address: WinchendonGardenClub@mail.com.

WINCHENDON GARDEN CLUB

*A lens on the Stamp Shop*

IN THAT GREAT TIME  
.....  
PATRICK MOON

my younger sisters could answer the question "What does your father do?" with an explanation of parasitology. Jody, the five year old, would proudly repeat my father's words: "And we are his favorite parasites!"

I often accompanied my father to the 406th Medical General Laboratory on Saturday mornings. He would check on his Petri dishes and I was free to examine the collection of internal parasites in the medical archive. When he was not recording data, my father would explain the life cycle of the malaria plasmodium or the various methods that researchers used to try and intervene in the spread of these deadly diseases. By age nine, I could use an oil immersion lens on a microscope, and feed my father's mosquitoes

on rabbit ears for his malaria studies. I grew used to the foul smelling lab in Japan, but how did just handling the lens cause such a rush of memories?

The mind is such a puzzle.

And here was a small packet of used commemorative stamps.

Michael!

Michael lived in the officer housing behind us in Washington Heights. He was older, an only child, and he "adopted" me as a younger brother. Once he pulled his stamp collection onto his large dining room table. He showed me the Scott's Stamp Catalog, explaining patiently as he matched stamps to their catalog image that you could learn about history and famous people from stamps.

"FDR was a stamp collec-

tor," he said solemnly.

Later that day, I accompanied Mike and his mother to a Japanese stamp shop off the base. I memorized the route. When I had accumulated enough Japanese yen a few weeks later, I rode my Schwinn to the guarded camp gate and waited until the guards were busy with a truck delivery. I flew out the gate, ignored the guard's yelling at me to return, and made my way to the stamp shop.

There followed a routine repeated every other weekend for the next year. Yoroki-san would bow when she saw me in her store and I would smile and bow back. I would show her my money. She would glance at it and bring me to a section of the wall that was covered in glass line envelopes displaying stamps. She out-

lined a section in pantomime, and anything within the specified range was a potential purchase. Eventually I could calculate the yen equivalence to the colorful military script used on base and began to barter with her as I had seen other customers do. Thus began my slow but steady accumulation of triangular stamps from Monaco, oversized stamps from the Vatican, and many stamps commemorating the history of the United States.

The stamps were one of my first forays into the world without parental oversight. I was eight years old, had a business relationship with a Japanese shopkeeper, and I had learned how to dodge authorities in uniform. With my increased baseball skills under Mike's tutelage, I was a man of the world.

## Giddy-up

When I was growing up, we had a very large extended family. Although most of us lived in a small town, we enjoyed some acres in the country where we built a small house, a very large covered picnic table, a required outhouse, and sitting areas. We had hammocks scattered in out-of-the-way places for napping.

I had a young friend, both of us probably ten years of age, who lived across the road. His family raised goats. So while I did not have every kid's wish for a horse, I did have a goat named Chocolate assigned to me. My friend's goat was named Lightning. We had bridles for our goats, rode bareback, and had many enjoyable years riding around the farm pretending to be cowboys as seen in movies.

Years later, when I was courting the woman who would become my wife, I found her childhood involved riding horses with her friend. She loved horses. So when she asked me to join in, I thought, "How hard can it be?" After all, I had mastered a goat.

I got up in the saddle; my girlfriend and her friend were already on their horses, and I imagined a nice idle walk through the pastures.

Didn't happen.

My horse took off at breakneck speed. I hastily looked for a brake pedal. With none to be found, I yelled "Whoa!" As far as my horse was concerned, I was speaking another language. I pulled hard on the bit. Still didn't stop. Finally the girls caught up with me and slowed the horse.

On that day, on that spot, I said I would never get on another method of transportation that did not have a brake and a key.

Years later, after our wedding, we took two jobs at Culver Military Academy. I was to be the counselor of the Fourth Naval Company, and my wife was to work at the School of Horsemanship. Culver had a large and impressive Riding Hall. Cadets would ride in a circle, two by two. Instructors were present, so I was cajoled into giving it another try.

I mounted my steed and was paired up with another rider and his horse, and we began nice slow circles around the vast arena. I was feeling pretty good



NOTES OF CONCERN  
.....  
JACK BLAIR

until my horse reared up, nostrils flashing, and hoofs lashing out at the horse beside me. Not one to miss a good fight, the other horse defended itself. It took two instructors to stop the fight and get me off the horse.

Later I learned these two horses had always been enemies and never should have been placed close to one another.

With renewed commitment, I repeated my vow to never again ride a horse.

A few weeks later, I was called in my office and told that my wife had been riding and that her horse decided to buck and to take a jump, and she was thrown. She was in the infirmary. When I arrived at the infirmary, I was told she had been taken by ambulance to the hospital. When I got to the hospital, I was told she was OK but had to stay under observation until they were certain her spleen would not rupture. Fortunately, she recovered and continued to love horses. By now I was pretty certain she knew I would not be buying her a horse. Ever.

My sister-in-law also loved horseback

riding. She was out one day, something frightened her horse, and it reared up and fell backward, pinning my sister-in-law. I don't remember the exact injuries, but I think it fractured her pelvis.

As life moved on, I almost didn't buy my first car because someone mentioned how many horses it had under its hood.

This subject came to mind as I was recently watching an old movie. Hundreds of cavalry tore across the plains in pursuit of equally fast riding Apaches. I have a renewed appreciation for those old movies. I cannot imagine how anyone could ride like that, and act at the same time, falling off their horse, taking an arrow in the shoulder, not to mention the scalping.

Now that I am in the age group with the big ear lobes and hair growing in nose and ears, I do not think I will be confronted with the need to ride a horse. A walker maybe, or a wheelchair one day. In the meantime, I intend to keep my feet on terra firma.

As long as I'm walking above ground and taking nourishment, how bad can it be? The only nag I expect in my future will probably be a grumpy nurse.

## LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor are always welcome, and may be sent to to ruth@stonebridgepress.news, or The Winchendon Courier, 91 Central Street,

Winchendon, MA 01475. Be sure to include a name and residence. Please refrain from sending letters via fax, and be sure to supply a home address and phone number to allow for confirmation. Allow at least 48 hours for a response. Letters must be submitted by noon Friday to ensure publication in the

following week's issue. Every effort will be made to accommodate late submissions, but inclusion can not be guaranteed. The rules of good taste and libel will, of course, apply to all submissions. Personal attacks will not be published. The editor retains the right to edit all letters.



# Some reality please



JOURNEY OF THE HEART  
.....  
JERRY CARTON

Yeah, it's crazy out there. I mean, it's never-ending, the constant drumbeat. I'm as much of a political junkie as anyone but even I have had to shut some of it off. Here's what I did:

I began blocking a lot of anti, yes, anti-DJT sites. I did so because I don't need a million people telling me on a daily, no, on an hourly basis, why DJT is an unmitigated disaster. I already know that. Even more to the point, it felt like all I was reading were repetitive screeds with no actual policy ideas which might address real-life problems of real-life people.

I'm a pragmatist. One of the

reasons I told Courtney two years ago after she had found the first candidate she really liked because of ideology that while Bernie Sanders might have had idealistic and utopian ideas, they were beyond unrealistic because even if he had somehow won, there was not going to be a Congress willing to write blank checks to turn those ideas into policy. The last time a Democratic President had that kind of leverage was Lyndon Johnson in the aftermath of the Kennedy assassination and his own landslide victory in 1964 in a very different time. She of course shrugged and voted for him anyway. Young idealism. Jerry circa 1972 for sure. Anyway, too many of these hysterical anti-DJT sites offer nothing pragmatic and in most cases, no ideas at all.

I grant that a lot of my outlook comes from having worked for a big city mayor where city hall was inundated with contact about trash

in the alleys, potholes on the streets, unplowed roads and non-functioning traffic lights. Sexy? Not at all but those were and remain issues regular people want and need resolved on a local level. Those are the things we dealt with on a daily basis, and trust me, under Don Schaefer, they were dealt with. Immediately. Presidents, of course, don't get down and dirty on such grimy issues but on a broader scale voters also want to hear what a prospective commander-in-chief plans to do about disappearing industries and making college more affordable. Far too often far too many folks on my side find it much easier to bash DJT than articulate real-life solutions to issues keeping people awake at night.

This is what worries me, and worries me a lot, as we prepare to head into the stretch of these midterms. I want to hear Democratic candidates everywhere do more than just tell us how dangerous DJT

is, no matter how true it is. District by district, I want to hear Democratic nominees for Congress, for governor, for everything down to school boards and library committees talk in realistic terms about what they'll try to do in the real world to make people's lives a little bit easier. For all the often soaring rhetoric of more than one Democratic President, solving real-life problems is what we've always been best at from the White House to county councils. Maybe we got away from that a little bit during the last presidential cycle. Yes, the Russians interfered and undoubtedly colluded with the Trump campaign. Yes, there were Facebook and Google bots. But you know what? HRC never went to Wisconsin. She took Pennsylvania for granted and in the closing days she ran an anti-DJT race rather than hammer away at traditional Democratic themes about economic fairness.

I've been covering the Third

District congressional race for several months now. There are about a dozen candidates on the Democratic side and a couple on the Republican side. The GOP campaign has been all but invisible because the district is overwhelmingly Democratic so the action is on the D side. It's encouraging to hear dialogue about bread-and-butter issues.

Democrats succeed when we relate to the guy who lives down the street, when we talk about the things he thinks about. To be sure there are enormous national and international issues at stake and whomever our '20 nominee is will address them but he or she is still more likely to become President not by simply bashing DJT but by laying out a coherent policy strategy, one from which voters can see how they'll benefit. That's not just for next cycle. It's a strategy we need to follow the next three months or so, too. Agree? See you next week.



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## TRYING FOR A LOBSTAH!



State Rep. Jon Zlotnik waits for the third card to be called for a chance to win his lobster supper.

The Sons of the American Legion hosted a Lobster Shoot Sunday, always a successful fundraiser for any local nonprofit. And sure enough,



Mike Antonellis at the microphone, where he is often. He does a good job of keeping the crowd entertained, the afternoon moving along, and putting up with the hecklers, who just can't understand why their last card isn't the one pulled from the deck!

the American Legion Post was full of eager people waiting patiently for a chance to win a couple of crustaceans for supper.

## SUDOKU

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

### Fun By The Numbers

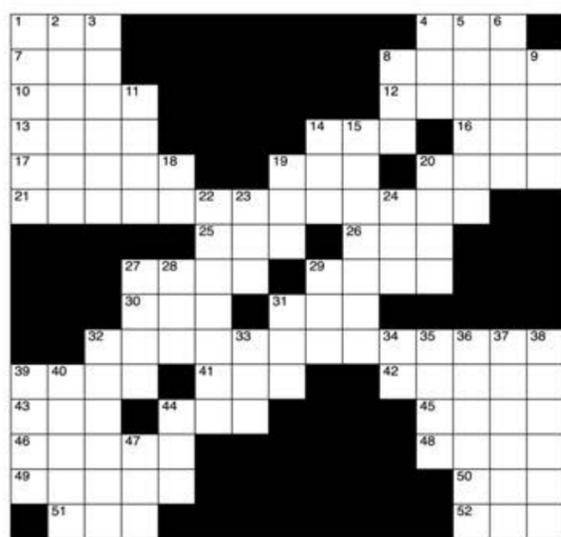
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

### Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:



### CLUES ACROSS

- Rated horsepower (abbr.)
- What a cow says
- Snake-like fish
- Spiritual leader
- Catch
- Car part
- Extremely small amount
- Nucleic acid
- The Greatest of All Time
- Lustrous
- India's least populated district
- Muckraking journalist Jacob
- Medicine
- S. American plant
- Small amount
- Dry or withered
- Where construction takes place
- Russian river
- Supervises flying
- "City of Brotherly Love" native
- Greeting at meeting
- Common gibbon
- Type of TV
- Corpuscle count (abbr.)
- Scottish port
- Computer company
- One from Asia
- Former significant others
- Woven fabrics or garments
- One's sense of self-esteem
- The Science Guy
- Monetary unit

### CLUES DOWN

- "The Leftovers" actress King
- Epic
- Missouri county
- Chinese revolutionary
- Get
- Ancient Greek coin
- Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- Part of the human eye
- A fisherman's accessory
- Brazilian state
- Of a wedding
- Prosecutor
- The main constituent of chromosomes
- Advice
- Principles of right and wrong
- Decorate a cake with frosting
- Headgear
- New York art district
- Lilly, drug company
- Car mechanics group
- Influential U.S. president
- Quell the anger
- Swiss river
- Personal computer
- Incline from the vertical
- Wild goats
- Assert that someone has done wrong
- Anti-apartheid leader \_\_\_ Mandela
- Crop of a bird
- "A Doll's House" playwright
- Autonomic nervous system
- Consumed



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## POLICE LOG

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

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

### TUESDAY, JULY 17

12:20 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:23 a.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), written warning; 12:34-1:15 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:21 a.m.: info/general (Central Street), info taken; 1:23 a.m.: building checked, secure; 9:15 a.m.: summons service (Front Street), served; 9:29 a.m.: summons service (Polly's Drive), unable to serve; 10:01 a.m.: mv stop (School Square), verbal warning; 10:12 a.m.: harassment (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 10:17 a.m.: wires down (West Street), removed hazard; 10:26 a.m.: fire/box alarm (Ash Street), services rendered; 11:04 a.m.: officer wanted (Eagle Road), spoken to; 12:34 p.m.: fire/mutual aid (Main Street, Rindge), assisted; 12:46 p.m.: burglar alarm (Willoughby Road), secure; 1:41 p.m.: tree down on wires (Baldwinville State Road), services rendered; 2:09 p.m.: assist other agency (River Street), assisted; 2:12 p.m.: assist other PD (Central Street), referred; 3:55 p.m.: burglar alarm (Willoughby Avenue), secure; 6:29 p.m.: suspicious person (Maple Street), spoken to; 7:26 p.m.: FD call (Pearl Drive), services rendered; 7:33 p.m.: mv stop (Pearl Drive), spoken to; 7:36 p.m.: fire alarm (Woodlawn Street), services rendered; 7:55-8:18 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 8:21 p.m.: annoying phone calls (Maple Street), report taken; 8:47-9:31 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:43 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

12:30-1:22 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:59 a.m.: burglar alarm (Gardner Road), secure; 3:04 a.m.: tree down (School Street), removed hazard; 3:47 a.m.: lift assist (Sunny Cove Road), assisted; 7:39 a.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), report taken; 8:55 a.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), citation issued; 10:07 a.m.: harassment (Central Street), report taken; 10:41 a.m.: mv stop (Chestnut Street), verbal warning; 11:29 a.m.: summons service (Banner Place), served; 11:33 a.m.: trespass entry notice (Central Street), info taken; 12:54 p.m.: officer wanted (Ipswich Drive), spoken to; 1:00 p.m.: assist citizen (Royalston Road North); 1:27 p.m.: investigation (Pond Street), spoken to; 1:39 p.m.: mv stop (Railroad Street), citation issued; 1:51 p.m. ambulance (Hospital Drive), transported; 2:56 p.m.: larceny (Baldwinville State Road), report taken; 4:35 p.m.: assist other PD (Central Street), referred; 5:26 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), no cause for complaint; 6:13 p.m.: burglar alarm (Spring Street), secure; 6:49 p.m.: unwanted party (Spring Street), spoken to; 7:26 p.m.: DPW call (Beech Street), referred; 7:35-8:08 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 8:53 p.m.: mv stop (Maynard Street), spoken to; 9:14 p.m.: suspicious mv (Alger Street), spoken to; 9:49 p.m.: fight (Winchendon Road, Royalston), assisted; 11:21 p.m.: suspicious person (Lakeshore Drive), unable to locate; 11:57 p.m.: building checked, secure.

### THURSDAY, JULY 19

12:24-1:37 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:56 a.m.: missing person (Brown Street), canceled; 3:02 a.m.: intoxicated

## POLICE RELEASE INFO ON SEX OFFENDER

Winchendon Police Department announces the following: Ralph Cram, age 56, a Caucasian male approximately 5 feet 11 inches tall and 210 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes, has been released from prison and is now living at 25 Walnut St. #1D and is working at 202 Spruce St.

Cram is identified as a Class 3 sex offender; having been convicted in April 1964 of two counts of aggravated rape.

The Sex Offender Registry Board has determined this individual has a moderate or high risk to reoffend and the degree of dangerousness posed to the public is such the public safety issue is served by making the public aware of the information.

Sex offender registration information shall not be used to commit a crime against an offender or engage in illegal discrimination or harassment of an

offender. Any person who uses sex offender registration information for such purpose shall be punished by not more than two and one-half (2 ½) years

in a house of correction or by fine of not more than \$1000.00 or both.



Ralph Cram

M.G.L. c. 6, § 178N.

Any person who uses sex offender registration information to threaten to commit a crime may be punished by a fine of not more than \$100.00 or by

imprisonment for not more than six months. M.G.L. c.275, § 4.

person (Central Street), unable to locate; 7:18 a.m.: animal complaint (Spring Street), referred to ACO; 8:17 a.m.: power outage (Spring Street), referred; 9:30 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (River Street), no service necessary; 9:45 a.m.: accident (Old Gardner Road), report taken; 9:48 a.m.: assist other PD (Central Street), referred; 10:13 a.m.: keep the peace (Front Street), assisted; 11:28 a.m.: missing person (Mill Glen Road), report taken; 1:20 p.m.: erratic operation (Royalston Road North), info taken; 1:23 p.m.: accident (School Street), report taken; 3:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Front Place), referred to ACO; 4:53 p.m.: parking violation (Central Street), citation issued; 4:59 p.m.: mv stop (Spring Street), verbal warning; 5:02 p.m.: fire alarm (Whitney Street), referred; 5:20 p.m.: harassment (School Street), spoken to; 5:41 p.m.: officer wanted (Mill Street), spoken to; 7:14 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Glen Road), citation issued; 8:37 p.m.: burglar alarm (Front Street), secure; 9:47 p.m.: disturbance (Grove Street), dispersed gathering; 9:50 p.m.: fire alarm (Ash Street), false alarm; 10:11 p.m.: ambulance (Old Centre), transported.

### FRIDAY, JULY 20

2:29-3:08 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:29 a.m.: suspicious/other (Ash Street), transported; 5:25 a.m.: FD call (Toy Town Lane), assisted; 6:34 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street), verbal warning; 8:58 a.m.: smoke (Glenallan Street), unable to locate; 9:51 a.m.: ambulance (Glenallan Street), transported; 10:11 a.m.: officer wanted (Mill Street), spoken to; 10:22 a.m.: ambulance (River Street), transported; 10:49 a.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 11:01 a.m.: ambulance (Hyde Park Drive), transported; 11:12 a.m.: assist other PD (Central Street), referred; 11:23 a.m.: accident (Central Street), report taken; 11:54 a.m.: animal complaint (Baldwinville State Road), referred to ACO; 12:15 p.m.: animal complaint (Metcalf Street), referred to ACO; 1:09 p.m.: summons service (Laurel Street), served; 1:48

p.m.: summons service (Willoughby Avenue), serviced; 2:26 p.m.: property lost (Beachview Drive), info taken; 2:53 p.m.: ambulance (Pearl Drive), transported; 2:59 p.m.: accident (East Grove Street), info taken; 3:18 p.m.: suspicious person (Central Street), secure; 4:00 p.m.: mv stop (School Street), citation issued; 5:16 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 5:29 p.m.: mv stop (Maple Street), verbal warning; 5:47 p.m.: extra patrol, secure; 6:02 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 6:55 p.m.: accident (Mill Glen Road), info taken; 7:00 p.m.: disturbance (Goodrich Drive), spoken to; 7:06 p.m.: fire/unknown type (Oak Street), false alarm; 7:32 p.m.: mv stop (Goodrich Drive), info taken; 11:41 p.m.: burglar alarm (Elmwood Road), secure.

### SATURDAY, JULY 21

12:00 a.m.: assist other PD (Central Street); 12:11 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:31 a.m.: ambulance (Ready Drive), transported; 12:34-12:55 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:55 a.m.: assist citizen (Hale Street), spoken to; 12:55 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:25 a.m.: keep the peace (Sibley Road), assisted; 7:27 a.m.: sex offender registration (Walnut Street), assisted; 9:39 a.m.: fraud (Congress Road), report taken; 10:26 a.m.: suspicious mv (Lakeview Drive), unable locate; 11:13 a.m.: animal complaint (Island Road), referred to ACO; 11:26 a.m.: erratic operation (School Street), unable to locate; 11:54 a.m.: 911 non-emergency (Glenallan Street), assisted; 1:22 p.m.: info/general (Lincoln Avenue Extension), info taken; 1:29 p.m.: sex offender registration (Lincoln Avenue), assisted; 1:39 p.m.: info/general (Benjamin Street), referred; 2:04 p.m.: burglar alarm (High Street), false alarm; 2:19 p.m.: animal complaint (Ash Street), referred to ACO; 2:28 p.m.: (Elm Street, Baldwinville), transported; 2:58 p.m.: fire/mutual aid (Ashburnham), canceled; 3:01 p.m.: 911 hang up (Alger Street), spoken to; 3:06 p.m.: traffic hazard (Glenallan Street), removed haz-

ard; 3:09 p.m.: erratic operation (Spring Street), referred; 4:26 p.m.: suspicious mv (Center Lane), secure; 5:41-5:46 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 6:26 p.m.: FD call (Goodrich Drive), referred; 6:51 p.m.: ambulance (East Street), transported; 7:13 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 8:02 p.m.: deliver message (West Monomac Road), delivered; 8:29 p.m.: 911 hang up (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 8:32 p.m.: public drinking (Pearl Drive), dispersed gathering; 8:47 p.m.: 911 non-emergency (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 8:47 p.m.: mv stop (Central Street), verbal warning; 9:07 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:10 p.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), spoken to; 9:45 p.m.: noise complaint (North Ashburnham Road), unfounded; 10:11 p.m.: officer wanted (Walnut Street), report taken; 11:31 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:31 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), verbal warning; 11:35 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:41 p.m.: mv stop (Gardner Road), spoken to; 11:45-11:57 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

### SUNDAY, JULY 22

12:02 a.m.: 911 hang up (Beaman Court), spoken to; 12:13-12:29 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:40 a.m.: investigation (Glenallan Street), report taken; 1:01 a.m.: fire alarm (River Street), assisted; 1:28 a.m.: ambulance (Chestnut Street), transported; 2:24 a.m.: mv fire (Robbins Road, Rindge), extinguished; 6:57 a.m.: DPW call (Hale Street), referred; 8:47 a.m.: assist citizen (Central Street); 11:01 a.m.: erratic operation (Elmwood Road), info taken; 11:18 a.m.: assist citizen (Elmwood Road), services rendered; 1:04 p.m.: assist citizen (Spruce Street), info taken; 1:38 p.m.: threats (Central Street), info taken; 2:02 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), unable to locate; 3:08 p.m.: burglar alarm (Central Street), secure; 4:01 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 4:36 p.m.: ambulance (Banner Place), transported; 6:34 p.m.: ambulance (Glenallan Street), referred; 6:43 p.m.: suicide threats (Cummings Road), transported to hospital; 7:21 p.m.: assist other PD (Central Street), services rendered; 8:07 p.m.: ambulance (Old County Road), transported; 9:02 p.m.: officer wanted (Walnut Street), advised civil action; 9:18 p.m.: erratic operation (Gardner Road), referred; 10:05 p.m.: officer wanted (Walnut Street), report taken; 11:55 p.m.: disturbance (Front Street), mv impounded.

### MONDAY, JULY 23

1:27 a.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 1:58-2:41 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:12 a.m.: disturbance (Walnut Street), Kimberley D. Bartlett, 53, 22 Walnut Street, Winchendon, arrest based on warrant, transported to hospital; 4:31 a.m.: trespass notice entry (Royalston Road South), info taken; 5:50 p.m.: ambulance (Central Street), transported; 6:38 a.m.: DPW call (Spring Street), referred; 10:41 a.m.: investigation (Chestnut Street), services rendered; 12:53 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), Devinjair Marsu Bernier, 23, 127 Pleasant Street, #1, Gardner, op w/suspended license/subsequent offense, arrest based on warrant, possession Class B drug, no inspection sticker, arrest; 4:13-4:33 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 4:36 p.m.: mv stop (Glenallan Street), verbal warning; 5:24 p.m.: lift assist (Ipswich Drive), services rendered; 5:32-5:36 p.m.: extra patrols, secure; 7:53 p.m.: ambulance (Glenallan Street), transported; 8:08 p.m.: fire/mutual aid (South Street, Westminster), assisted; 10:34 p.m.: assist other PD (Central Street), referred.

## Ashburnham woman charged in death of Westminster man

BY GREG VINE  
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

An Ashburnham woman is being held without bail

following her arraignment in Gardner District Court Tuesday on a charge of murdering Brandon Chicklis of

Westminster. The body of Chicklis, who would have turned 21 on Tuesday, was found July 10

by a jogger off Route 119 in Rindge. The victim's car was found in the Hannaford supermarket parking lot on June 29.

Notices seeking information as to Chicklis' whereabouts were posted in the area shortly thereafter. His body was found about six miles from his car.

Julia Enright, age 21, was arrested Monday night after Massachusetts State Police determined that blood found in a treehouse near Enright's home at 171 Packard Hill Road belonged to Chicklis. An extensive search of the premises had been carried out last week.

The victim and the suspect knew one another and both graduated from Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School in Fitchburg in 2015.

Chicklis left his home in Westminster on June 23, reportedly telling his family he planned on going to visit relatives in New Hampshire. Authorities said records from his cellphone led officers to Enright's home in Ashburnham. Police records further indicate his cellphone was at that address on June 23. The phone was not used after that date, meaning it was either shut off, destroyed, or disposed of.

Enright reportedly told state police detectives assigned to the officer of Worcester County District Attorney Joe Early Jr. that she and Chicklis were drinking alcohol at her home on June 23. She said he left to buy some drugs but never returned.

Assistant DA Terry McLaughlin said Chicklis blood was found in and around the treehouse and on stairs leading up to the treehouse. Blood was also allegedly found in Enright's car. A new rug, said McLaughlin, has been placed over the floor in the treehouse where blood had been found.

Enright will be back in court August 29 for a pretrial hearing. Authorities have not disclose the cause of Chicklis' death and the motive remains unclear.

In addition to Massachusetts State Police detectives assigned to Early's office, Ashburnham and Westminster police, State Police Crime Scene Services, the State Police Dive Team, the State Police Special Emergency Response Team, State Police civilian forensic scientists and New Hampshire State Police, and the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office assisted in the investigation.



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# OBITUARIES

## Rachel L. (Russell) Chapman, 98

RINDGE — Rachel L. (Russell) Chapman, age 98, of 246 4th St., died peacefully at her residence Friday, July 20, 2018 in her residence, with her family at her side.



She was born in Winchendon on April 25, 1920, daughter of the late Elmer J. and Flora M. (Ricard) Russell and lived in Rindge for many years.

Rachel worked for many years as an assembler at C.R. Bard Inc., Fitzwilliam until her retirement. In earlier years, she had worked at the former Dress Shop. She was a member of Eugene M. Connor Post #193 American Legion Auxiliary for 80 years. She was also a

member of Little Monadnock Post VFW Auxiliary of Fitzwilliam.

Her husband, George W. Chapman, died in 1981. She leaves a daughter, Sandra L. Dionne and her husband Dan of Simpsonville, SC; a son Steven W. Chapman and his wife Sharon of Plaistow, NH; one grandchild Jeff Dionne; 3 great grandchildren, Rachel, Ethan and Jillian. She was predeceased by sisters, Ruth D. Chase and Jean E. Roberts, and a brother Elmer Russell.

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

There are no calling hours.

Memorial donations may be made to the Wendell Clark Memorial YMCA, 155 Central Street, Winchendon, MA 01475.

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

## James M. 'Mickey' Fuller, 88

BOLTON — James M. "Mickey" Fuller, age 88, of 220 Vaughn Hill Road and of Winchendon, died peacefully Wednesday morning, July 18, 2018, at the home of his daughter, with his family at his side.



He was born in Clinton on August 27, 1929, son of the late John F. and Clara (Hall) Fuller and was a graduate of Bromfield Academy, Harvard. Mickey also attended University of Massachusetts, Amherst and proudly served his country as a Private 1st Class in the United States Army Military Police.

Mickey was a master mechanic and worked many years ago on large construction projects, including the New York

Thru Way, Massachusetts Turnpike and Route 495. He owned several businesses, most notably the JM Fuller Company in Bolton. One business accomplishment was the dismantling of the railroad bridge at the Clinton Dam. He was a partner in Fitchburg Aviation and owned and operated his own air charter business and was a certified flight instructor. He also owned a commercial fishing boat and trapped stone crabs and lobsters while spending winters on Big Pine Key, Florida. He loved to travel and would take his family and friends on day trips in his plane.

He loved country and cowboy music and would sing and play accordion with his late brothers and friends at family

events. Mickey was a volunteer firefighter, a member of the Finance Committee in Bolton and an active member of the Bolton Federated Church in years past. His grandfather built Fuller Field in Clinton, which is the oldest continuously used baseball field in America and he was honored to throw out the first pitch at a vintage baseball game a few years ago.

His wife, Lorraine M. (Hermanson) Fuller, died in January. He leaves a daughter, Cynthia L. Carvill of Winchendon, with whom he lived; four grandchildren, Raymond E. Carvill Jr., his wife Mara Jimenez of Gloucester; James Carvill, his wife Valerie and their daughter Alaina Allison Carvill of Winchendon; Adam Carvill, his wife Margot of Milwaukee, WI and their son Leo James Carvill and Amanda Lawler and her husband Peter of New Ipswich, NH; sisters-in-law, Nancy Fuller, Sally Fuller, Edith Fuller and Phyllis Lorrain; a brother in law Roy Hermanson and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his wife, he was predeceased by his brothers, John Fuller, William Fuller, Richard Fuller, David Fuller, Nancy Dickson, Robert Fuller and Joseph Fuller; a daughter Judith Ann Fuller and a great granddaughter, Harper Grace Lawler.

Calling hours in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central Street, Winchendon were Sunday, July 22, 2018.

Burial, with military honors, will be later this summer in West Cemetery, Bolton.

Memorial donations may be made to the National Key Deer Wildlife Refuge, Big Pine Key, Florida or to a charity of your choice.

## Bernard J. 'Benny' Gronowicz, 43

WINCHENDON—Bernard J. "Benny" Gronowicz, age 43, of Winchendon died Saturday, July 14, 2018, from injuries sustained in a car crash.

Calling hours were Friday, July 20 with a funeral service at noon at the Mack Family Funeral Home, Lamoureux-Smith & Poliks Chapel, 105 Central St., Gardner. Burial followed in St. John's Cemetery, West Street,

Gardner.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

To send an online condolence, visit: mackfamilyfh.com

Mack Family Funeral Home, 105 Central St., Gardner, is assisting the family with arrangements.

## Ida Laflamme, 86

Ida L (Brousseau) Laflamme, known to many as Ma, passed away peacefully after a long courageous battle



with cancer, on July 18, 2018, at the home of her daughter in Athol, Massachusetts. She was born on August 5, 1931, in Maspeth, New York, to the late Eva Fortier Brousseau and the late Henry Brousseau,

of Leominster.

Ida graduated from Leominster High School in 1949. She was a seamstress/tailor from the age of 30 and continued sewing in her store, Ida's Odds and Ends until retiring in 1992. Ida was the loving wife of the late Francis Laflamme. She is survived by her five children; her sons, Robert Laflamme and his wife Mary of Winchendon and Joseph

Laflamme of Hubert NC; her daughters, Eva-Marie Laflamme and partner Richard LaBelle of Lancaster; Ida (Sis) Caban and her husband Joseph of Ocala, FL; and Anne-Marie Beauregard and her husband James of Athol. She also will be greatly missed by 14 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-granddaughter. Ida loved to dance. Above all she loved spending time with her family especially during the holidays. She had a passion for book reading, attending flea markets and auctions. She enjoyed jewelry making, and watching the Boston Red Sox. In her younger days she enjoyed playing guitar, piano, and French horn. She was a member of St. Leo's Church, and she organized Senior Citizen Trips.

In lieu of flowers those who wish may donate in Ida's memory to Boston Children's Medical Center. The grave-side service will be private.

## Fred Ellsworth Putney, 86

WINTER HAVEN FL — Fred Ellsworth Putney, age 86, of Winter Haven passed away Saturday, July 14, 2018, at his home.



Fred was born on January 30, 1932, in Franklin, NH, to Charles Henry and Elizabeth Rachel (MacNutt) Putney. After graduation from Andover High School in 1949, he attended the University

of New Hampshire for two years and married Betty Lou Evans from Wilmot Flat, NH in 1951. He enlisted in the Air Force during the Korean War, and after serving four years he returned to UNH. Upon his graduation in 1957 with a degree in accounting, Fred went to work for Montgomery Ward, then found teaching to be his true calling. He taught high school business classes in Cocksackie, NY, Nashoba, NH, and Winchendon, spanning seven years, and every cold winter he thought fondly of his Air Force years at Eglin Air Force Base in Ft. Walton Beach, FL.

After a particularly cold and expensive winter, Fred was hired to teach at Winter Haven High School and moved his family, Betty and six children aged 3 to 14, to warm Florida.

Fred had a lifelong passion for sports, particularly baseball. While still in New England, he studied to become a certified Little League umpire, then youth leagues, high school and college baseball and softball. He umpired in city leagues, regional and state tournaments and playoffs, and in the 1970s he umpired at the National Women's Slow Pitch Softball championship in Cincinnati. Fred was instrumental in starting the Winter Haven Softball Association.

Fred gave up umpiring when he became a part-time sportswriter for the Lakeland Ledger. He covered high school sports of all kinds and initiated a weekly bowling column. When he retired from The Ledger, the bowling column continued with other writers over the years and is still running today.

When the Boston Red Sox came to Winter Haven for their spring training, they brought a Class A minor league team, the Winter Haven Red Sox, with them. In 1969, Fred was the general manager of the Winter Haven Red Sox, and the whole family got involved with both the major and minor league teams

- as batboys, babysitters and fans.

In the early 1990s, Fred became a member of the Elks and 'worked his way through the chairs,' eventually becoming Exalted Ruler of the Winter Haven Elks Lodge, then serving as the Southwest Florida Vice President.

Once retired from teaching in 1992, Fred joined Kiwanis and served as nearly every officer before becoming president of the Winter Haven Kiwanis, then Lt. Governor of Division 15. When the Haines City Kiwanis was in danger of folding, Fred and Betty both transferred their memberships. Fred served the Haines City group as treasurer, secretary/treasurer and president twice for a total of 25 years of service to Kiwanis.

As his 80th birthday approached, Fred decided that if President George H.W. Bush could skydive at 90, he could do it at 80. He turned the adventure into a fundraiser for the Kiwanis International Eliminate Project, the goal of which is to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus, which takes the lives of more than 34,000 mothers and babies annually in mostly third-world countries. More than 500 lives were saved with the funds raised by the birthday skydive.

In recent years, Fred served on the Winter Haven Board of Adjustment and the Winter Haven Planning Commission.

Fred was preceded in death by both parents, his sister Louise (Putney) Remington, and his daughter Shirley Anne Putney.

He is survived by his wife Betty Putney and his six children, Linda (Robert) Campbell of Lake Placid, Cathy (Michael) Feltes of Troy, VA, Charles Putney of Lake Mary, Carole (Eduardo) deCastro of Winter Haven, Jonathan (Jeri) Putney of Palm Coast, Mary (Steven) Westgate of Winter Haven; his brother William Putney of Birmingham, AL; 15 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, July 21, 2018 at Grace Community Church located at 553 E. Bridgers Ave., in Auburndale.

Fred's last generous act was to donate his body to medical research. The family has requested in lieu of flowers, in honor of Fred's long service and passion regarding education, to please bring a backpack and/or school supplies to the memorial service. They will be donated in Fred's name to students who need assistance with school supplies.

## Damian G. 'DJ' Kuchta Jr., 30

WINCHENDON — Damian G. "D.J." Kuchta Jr., age 30, of Winchendon, died Thursday, July 19, 2018.



He was born in Gardner on July 23, 1987 and grew up in Winchendon, attending Winchendon schools. He worked for Northstar Construction Services in Shirley. Damian always brought a

smile to people's faces and was loved by his many relatives and friends. His passion was music, playing his guitar and sharing his knowledge of music with others. He had a tremendous love of his family. Damian was a lifelong diabetic.

He leaves loving parents, Damian and Mona Kuchta; two children, Aviana

Kuchta and Mia Kuchta; a brother, Andrew Kuchta of Gardner; a sister, Lindsay Kuchta of Gardner; grandparents, Nancy LaBarge and Richard LaBarge of Athol and Betty Kuchta of Winchendon; a great grandmother, Dorothy Norris of Baldwinville; one nephew, Nolan Carrier and several cousins, aunts and uncles.

A Mass of Christian burial was held Thursday, July 26, 2018 in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 52 Spruce St., Winchendon.

Calling hours in Stone-Ladeau Funeral Home (stone-ladeau.com), 343 Central St., Winchendon were Wednesday, July 25, 2018.

Memorial donations may be made to Kuchta Children Education Fund, care of Fidelity Bank, 330 Main St., Gardner, MA 01440.

## Barbara F. (Tenney) Watson

Barbara was born on April 29, 1942 and passed away on Friday, July 13, 2018.

Barbara was a resident of Winchendon, Massachusetts at the time of passing.

Barbara graduated from Murdock High School of Winchendon with the Class of 1960.

Funeral Services are private and will be held at the convenience of the family in the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 111 Glenallen Street, Winchendon. There are no calling hours.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Winchendon Fire and Rescue, 405 Central Street, Winchendon, MA 01475.

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

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# SPORTS

## The Open... singular

Francesco Molinari, who's been a fine golfer for years and has been the hottest one on the planet for the last month, and I know this because I watch, won again on Sunday. He won the oldest major — an event that used to be called the British Open but now in all its regal snootiness is simply "The Open," and the winner is declared "Champion Golfer of the Year," even though there are many years when the victor doesn't get another W all season and he beat a bunch of TV stars in the process.

That uppitness (such a word?) aside, it was a great finale. At one point there was a six way tie for the lead with seven others within a couple shots. For some 25 minutes, one guy was alone in the lead — even though many have written him off as a bygone relic from another era. Not so fast. For a 42 year old who's endured who knows how many back/knee surgeries, finishing two shots back was actually quite impressive for an allegedly aging Tiger. When Woods briefly grabbed the lead, the roars that

rolled across the links were reminiscent of those dating back almost 20 years. There's no sound in golf quite like the Tiger roar.

More than one mega name was in the mix Sunday. Spieth. McIlroy. Rose. They all came up short but too often we equate even top-five, top-ten finishes with losing. They played superbly. Molinari, the better of the brothers, simply played better turning in a clean card with no bogeys. Congrats to him. But looking down the road a couple months, if you're the US Ryder Cup captain and Tiger wants to be on the team, Tiger's on the team, right? And Phil too?

Let's talk about a kid from the suburbs of Baltimore named Josh Hader. Thing is though, Hader's not a kid He's 24. He was, legally at least, a kid when at 17 he tweeted out racist and homophobic slurs, all of which came



TALKING  
SPORTS

JERRY  
CARTON

to light last week when Hader was representing the Milwaukee Brewers at the All-Star Game. To his credit, Hader took responsibility and said what he tweeted in high school doesn't reflect who he is now. People change and while he wasn't raised in the most open-minded of neighborhoods I think for the moment it's fair to give him the benefit of the doubt, especially since such clemency was granted by African-American teammates. How many of us would want to be judged on who we were at 17?

Let's talk too about the NFL and the NFLPA who are finally showing some rational common sense by ignoring the latest rantings coming out of DC (wouldn't you think a POTUS has better things to do than tweet about the National Anthem no matter how well it plays with his base?) and say-

ing they'll figure out a policy together presumably before Week 1. From the outset, this whole thing has been mis-handled, exploited, and misunderstood by many who actually thought kneeling was somehow unpatriotic. Or maybe it wasn't misunderstood at all. Maybe it was hijacked to curry favor with a certain demographic whose ideology has never been, ahem, progressive. The NFL brought this mess on itself by signing up with the military in '09. Greedy. And absurd. Besides, when was the last time you heard the Star Spangled Banner when you went to the movies? You know?

The truth is, football has become way too much of a civic religion anyway. I really haven't followed the off-season hardly at all and don't have any particular interest in the approach of a new season. Every polling number suggests I'm far from alone. I bet you the number of those of us pretty much turned off will keep growing. See you next week.



HIT THE DEKS!



Last weekend a tournament was held at the dek hockey rinks at Mylec. Teams from across the area competed, both mixed teams and women's. Results were not available, but as can be seen from the photos, competition was fierce.



Mat Plamondon photos

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And for those of us trying to lose weight, add 30 minutes of gardening to your daily or weekly routine to help shed some extra pounds. A half hour of raking burns 162 calories, weeding 182, and turning the compost pile a whopping 250 calories. Gardening sev-

eral times a week will help keep you and your landscape looking its best. Anytime I can receive double or triple the benefit from my time and energy, the more likely I am to complete the task.

Protect your joints and muscles while gardening. Warm up, just as you would for any workout, with a few simple stretches. Protect your knees by using a stool, kneeling pad or one legged kneel (keeping your other foot flat on the ground and back straight) instead of squatting.

And no matter what shape you are in, drink lots of fluids to stay hydrated during and after you finish gardening. This is especially important with the extreme temperatures we are experiencing this summer. Try gardening early in the morning or evening when temperatures are a bit cooler. And time your work in garden beds when they're blanketed in shade.

Protect both your eyes and skin from the sun's intense rays by always wearing sunscreen, a hat and sunglasses. And consider regular checkups with a dermatologist to monitor for skin cancer.

Pace yourself so you can enjoy the process and smell the roses, heliotrope, daphne and alyssum along the way. Gardeners have been into aromatherapy long before its recent rise in popular-

ity. A few strategically placed fragrant flowers can create a delightful welcome home, soothing scent in your secret garden or aromatherapy as you weed and tend your landscape.

Include some edible flowers and fruit for you, the birds and the butterflies. Nothing beats the flavor or nutritional value of fresh-from-the-garden fruit and vegetables. Plus, watching the butterflies and hummingbirds sip on nectar from a fuchsia, coral honeysuckle, verbena or salvia as the finches feed on coneflower seeds will provide added beauty while the squirrels' acrobatic antics on giant sunflowers are sure to entertain.

If the task is too big or your time is limited, ask for help. Gardening can also be a great team sport. Or make it a round robin as you take turns gardening in each other's gardens. You'll all enjoy a day filled with gardening, conversation and laughter. What was once an overwhelming task suddenly becomes a chance to spend time with friends, enjoy the garden and create new memories. Sharing your knowledge, plant divisions or other talents like cooking or pet sitting may be the perfect trade for your friends' time and energy.

And as a wise person once said "Planting a garden is a way of showing you believe in tomorrow."

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally syndicated



Photo by Melinda Myers, LLC

Heliotrope, nicotiana and other fragrant flowers can provide aromatherapy at the end of a stressful day.

Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers' web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).



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# Paicos, Paicos, Palaia and Kane: up the mountain and down again

KIMBERLY MASCHI  
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

A group of volunteers strapped on 20-40 pounds of gear as they ascended the very steep and treacherous North Tripyramid Mountain. This snow topped mountain resides in the White Mountain range in New Hampshire and reaches an elevation of 4,000 feet. While the length of the trail up the mountain is an 8-mile roundtrip, the hikers found the inner strength to handle the environmental conditions. The trail was steep enough to cause an icy surface complete with waist high snow. Thankfully the hikers each sported

crampons to make for easier traction as reaching the summit was important for all on this epic journey.

Those brave enough for this journey were Kevin Paicos, medic and semi-retired town manager; Tom Kane, Winchendon finance committee member and retired school superintendent; Nick Paicos, former police officer and exercise specialist; and former town manager of Oxford Brian Palaia. At the base of the trail, there to provide logistical and safety support, was Stanley Bates, police chief. This trek up the mountain was to join together in comradery and generous spirit for a very important goal, a thermal imaging cam-

era for the Oxford fire department.

A thermal imaging camera can be a vital necessity to the Oxford Fire Department in any upcoming battles with structural fiery blazes. This specific type of camera can detect temperature differences to miniscule degrees. It will be able to provide access inside the inferno from the outside. In a smoke-filled room the fighters would be able to view if there was a victim on the floor suffering. With this knowledge, they can make the necessary movements to ensure a safe recovery. The team of firefighters can enter a burning building, scan the area with the thermal camera and discern hot spots. This will prevent

the fire from spreading by acting upon the hottest areas within the blaze.

Chief Paul Ford states on the importance of this \$1,400 camera, "Having this tool available can be crucial when searching for someone trapped in a structure fire or preventing the structure from being a total loss."

On July 10, the Oxford Board of Selectman voted to accept the donation achieved from this hike. The goal was to raise \$500, instead these amazing adventurers raised \$1,070. Kudos to the brave explorers who raised funds for such an important cause.

## New bill protects the disabled from caregivers

BOSTON — The Massachusetts State Senate took action to protect individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities from caregivers found to have substantiated charges of abuse.

Known as Nicky's Law, the legislation was filed by Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) to address a gap in protections for the most vulnerable members of our community. The bill establishes a registry of individuals found to have committed substantiated abuse of individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Providers serving these populations would be required to screen potential employees during the application process, and prohibited from hiring any individual who appears on the registry.

"Almost four years ago I was contacted by a constituent, whose son Nicky was tragically abused by a Commonwealth licensed service provider," said Moore. "When criminal prosecution did not result in a conviction, the family was shocked and

devastated to learn no existing state law would prevent the abuser from gaining employment with another provider. The Commonwealth has an elevated responsibility to protect the most vulnerable members of our community, and this legislation will disrupt a cycle of abuse that has already affected far too many families in Massachusetts. The passage of this bill is a victory for Nicky, and hundreds of individuals and families across the Commonwealth."

Research shows that individuals with disabilities, like other vulnerable populations, are more likely to be abused. Additionally, cognitive or speech difficulties, physical barriers to the judicial system, and lower rates of police follow-up and prosecution make criminal convictions extremely difficult. Despite these challenges, a criminal conviction is currently the only way to prevent an abusive caretaker from being hired by an unknowing provider in Massachusetts. The registry will instead rely on the findings of the Disabled Persons Protection

Commission (DPPC), which already investigates all allegations of abuse against individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

"When I first took office, a concerned mother reached out and shared with me a story about how her son, Dana, had been mentally and physically abused by his caretakers. That caretaker continued to seek out new jobs in the same field, but individuals with histories of abusiveness must be kept far away from this field of work," said Senator Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth). "The Senate came together to pass common-sense legislation to protect those who are most vulnerable in our society. It must be a basic standard that all caretakers are compassionate, responsible, and respectful."

"Those who abuse individuals with developmental disabilities must be held to account. Today, the Senate has acted to close the gap in protections for persons with developmental disabilities and help deny abusers the chance to abuse again. I want to

thank Senator Moore for championing this legislation," said Senate President Harriette L. Chandler (D-Worcester).

Nicky's Law emerged from a collaborative process that included significant input from disability advocates, relevant state agencies, and legislators. The final language includes robust due process protections, including the option for a full appeal hearing before the Division of Administrative Legal Appeals (DALA). Service providers who fail to check the registry will be subject to fines, and the potential termination of licenses and state contracts. The DPPC is also mandated to conduct an annual audit to ensure all applicable names are added to the registry, and providers fully comply with reporting requirements.

The legislation, which passed the Senate unanimously, has now been referred to the House of Representatives for consideration. To continue tracking the bill, S.2606, please visit the Legislature's website, [www.malegislature.gov](http://www.malegislature.gov).

## Easy backyard garden tips

It's officially summertime and New Englanders are celebrating the long awaited season. While you're enjoying "fun in the sun" there are a few hassles that come with the season — thankfully there are chances are there's a simple solution to common garden and other warm weather dilemmas. The following tips are geared toward helping you spend less time doing chores and more enjoying the outdoors!

Flower gardens and birds complement each other naturally. Here are a few ideas to keep feathered friends happy throughout the season.

\*To lure birds into a new bird bath, simply fill the bottom with some sand and float some birdseed on top of the water.

\*On hot days, toss a few ice cubes into a bird bath that's located in the sun to cool off the water and attract chirping bathers.

\*Pesky ants seem to love the hummingbird feeder's sugar solution as much as the tiny birds do.

Here's how to halt an invasion of ants: Wrap a fabric softener dryer sheet



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

around the hanger with a rubber band. Or simply coat the hanging string of the feeder with petroleum jelly to prevent curious ants from crawling in.

Did you know if you plant your lettuce near tall growing vegetables, the big plants will give off shade, allowing the lettuce to keep its cool and prevent bitter leaves?

To keep bugs off tender lettuce leaves, sprinkle cayenne pepper on growing lettuce. Repeat after each rainfall. And don't forget to rinse thoroughly before serving!

Since azaleas thrive on acidic soil, they benefit from an occasional cocktail of two tablespoons white vinegar diluted in a quart of water.

Here's a fact you might not know: White azaleas bloom longer than any other color of the plant.

Do you have leftover garden seeds? If so, they will likely sprout again next year if you store them in the refrigerator in a tightly closed jar with a packet of silica gel. The gel packets can be recycled from vitamin bottles or even new shoe boxes.

Here's a quick tip to scale the tallest plant in an island flower bed: Choose plants whose mature height is equal to about half the width of the bed. Place these plants in the center of the bed so they can be viewed from all sides.

Be sure to soak your plants when you water them. A little bit of water here and there will weaken the roots by forcing them upward. So when it comes to irrigating the garden, it's better to water them thoroughly less often than to give them a sparse sprinkling daily.

Believe it or not, a chrysanthemum plant in the vegetable garden is a good water gauge. Because the flower wilts before other plants during a dry spell, it'll act as a red flag to tell you to irrigate.

Rule of thumb: Plants need an inch of water weekly during hot weather, either from rain or watering.

\*\*

Win Dinner for Two  
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 com-

mon 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 publications? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint! c/o Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or e-mail [kdr@stonebridgepress.com](mailto:kdr@stonebridgepress.com). Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.

## LEGALS

(SEAL)

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TO:

Barry P. Devanna AKA Barry Devanna

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

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Winchendon, numbered 78 Spruce Street, given by Barry P. Devanna to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., dated September 25, 2014 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 52872, Page 1 has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before August 20, 2018 or you will be forever barred from claiming that you are entitled to the benefits of said Act. Witness, JUDITH C. CUTLER Chief Justice of this Court on July 3, 2018

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder

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July 27, 2018

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# Gobi secures reimbursement for regional school transportation

BOSTON – Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) has announced a unanimous vote by the Massachusetts Senate to increase regional school transportation reimbursement funding during Tuesday’s budget debate. The amendment, filed by Senator Gobi, raises the reimbursement rate to 80 percent of full funding, at a total of \$68,878,679 - a \$7,357,679 increase over FY18 funding.

“This 80% reimbursement is a positive step towards the 100% promised by the state when schools were encouraged to regionalize,” said Senator Gobi. “There are 107,000 students in 170 regional schools across the state and this funding helps to assure they receive other critical services.”

Ellen Holmes, chair of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, had this to say, “Anne’s

advocacy for regional school district issues has been greatly appreciated. The unanimous support in the Senate today for her Regional School Transportation reimbursement amendment moves us closer to the legislative promise to the voters in these regions. We look forward to the members of the Senate Conference Committee working with the House to secure this essential funding.”

“Regional school transportation costs represent a significant portion of the Wachusett Regional School District’s annual budget,” said Margaret Natowicz, Rutland town administrator. “The state’s year-on-year regional transportation reimbursement underfunding has resulted in increased assessments to member communities. If funded, Senator Gobi’s amendment to

increase regional transportation reimbursements from 68% to 80% would provide much needed relief to the town of Rutland and other municipalities challenged with sustaining an array of public services. We express our sincere appreciation to the Senator for her tireless work to assure that the state allots its committed share of aid to municipalities and school districts.

State Auditor Suzanne Bump released a study on October 18, 2017 making recommendations to modernize laws and regulations within the regional school district structure. The report made sure to point at that state laws passed in 1949 entitle regional school districts to full reimbursement for school transportation expenses, but this is subject to annual appropriation. In fiscal 2016, the reimbursement rate from the state was

just 73 percent, the auditor reported, creating a collective shortfall of \$14.4 million in this category for regional districts.

Regional school districts often have higher student transportation costs since they cover larger geographic regions. There are currently 58 regional school districts in Massachusetts with 171 member schools. The transportation money that is not reimbursed by the state comes directly out of their school budgets. Senator Gobi has advocated each year for an increase in funding with a goal of 100% reimbursement.

The House of Representatives approved \$63,521,000 and the two amounts will be negotiated by the conference committee.



## CLYDE’S CORNER

### Friday July 27

Winchendon.

**SUMMER CONCERTS ANNOUNCED:** The Winchendon Recreation Committee hosts its annual concert series at GAR Park every Friday from June 15 to July 29. All shows run from 6:30-8:00 p.m. In case of rain, shows go on at Winchendon Town Hall Auditorium, same date and time. July 27: The Keith McLinden Project: Original rock band with eclectic style.

### Saturday July 28

**MARKET IS OPEN!** Toy Town Outdoor Market open for the season. Produce, baked goods, crafts and more! Thursday’s 4-7 p.m. and Saturday’s 10 a.m.-1 p.m. next to the bike path parking lot at the corner of Rt. 12 and Rt. 202, Winchendon.

### Thursday August 2

**TYE DYE:** Thursday, August 2 brings Neon Tie-Dyeing to the Beals Memorial Library lawn at 2:00 pm. Have a boring white shirt or pillowcase? Put some neon zing into them. Everyone is welcome to join in this wearable fun! Please wear clothes that you don’t mind getting messy.

**MARKET IS OPEN!** Toy Town Outdoor Market open for the season. Produce, baked goods, crafts and more! Thursday’s 4-7 p.m. and Saturday’s 10 a.m.-1 p.m. next to the bike path parking lot at the corner of Rt. 12 and Rt. 202,

### Friday August 3

**STONEWALLING:** Friday, August 3 at 7:00 pm, brings author and stonemason, Kevin Gardner, to talk on the subject of the stone walls of New England, touching on the history, techniques, stylistic development and aesthetics of our region’s ubiquitous stone walls. He explains how and why we came to acquire these structures and their significance to our famous landscape. At Beals Memorial Library, Pleasant Street.

### Saturday August 4

**ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY:** and Massachusetts State Chili Cookoff! It’s the 34th annual event right here in the Winch! Featuring music by the Mychael David Project, kids’ games, craft vendors, the famous Kiwanis food tent and more. Bentley Field on Grove Street, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Adults: \$8, kids \$1.

### Saturday August 18

**OWC:** Operation Winchendon Cares will be held on Saturday, August 18 from 9:00-10:30 am for drop off of donations!

### Thursday August 23

**PICNIC!** The Beals Memorial Library celebrates with a family picnic and movie on the library lawn. Bring you blankets, picnic baskets and your loved ones to a fun and relaxing night of music, munching and a movie. We’ll be watching the film, A Wrinkle in Time, and free popcorn will be served.

**TRIVIA NIGHT:** Sons of the American Legion host Trivia Night beginning at 8 p.m. at the American Legion. Gather a team and challenge your friends. Hosted by questions master Ryan Murphy.

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

**MARKET IS OPEN!** Toy Town Outdoor Market open for the season. Produce, baked goods, crafts and more! Thursday’s 4-7 p.m. and Saturday’s 10 a.m.-1 p.m. next to the bike path parking lot at the corner of Rt. 12 and Rt. 202, Winchendon.

#### ONGOING PROGRAMS

**THURSDAYS & SATURDAY MARKET IS OPEN!** Toy Town Outdoor Market open for the season. Produce, baked goods, crafts and more! Thursday’s 4-7 p.m. and Saturday’s 10 a.m.-1 p.m. next to the bike path parking lot at the corner of Rt. 12 and Rt. 202, Winchendon.

#### THURSDAYS

**OPEN HOUSE:** come sit on the porch and relax at the Murdock Whitney House museum 6-8 p.m. Tour the house, walk across the street

and get ice cream at Seppi’s. Free evening, every Thursday throughout the summer.

#### SUNDAYS

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

#### MONDAY

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

#### TUESDAY

**WINCHENDON RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP:** For all who are in recovery or want to be. Not a 12-step group or a “program”, this is an open, peer-led group for discussion, support, sharing practical information and resources, and helping each other with the day-to-day challenges of life in recovery. Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., UU Church of Winchendon, 126 Central St., downstairs in the parish hall.

**LEARN:** Computer classes for adults are offered on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at Beals Memorial Library and are open to adults ages 18 and older.

**CRAFT FOR ADULTS:** On Tuesday nights at 6:30 Beals

Memorial Library has an adult craft hour providing a place to meet and do crafts. People bring in things they are working on, and can get help on knitting, crocheting, quilting and discuss different ideas.

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

#### WEDNESDAY

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

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

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

#### THURSDAY

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

## OLD MURDOCK AUGUST ACTIVITIES

Please find below the activities listed for the month of August 2018 for the Old Murdock Senior Center. Please call the Center at 978-297-3155 for information on any program or to join us for lunch! Lunch is served daily (unless otherwise noted) starting at

11:30. A reservation must be made one day prior for lunch by calling the Center at 978-297-3155.

August 1 Market Basket 9:15 (Wednesday); Wii Bowling 9:30; ZUMBA 9:30; Yoga 10:00; BINGO 12:30; Pool, Card Games, Shuffleboard

August 2 Wii Bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard

August 6 Wii Bowling 9:30; Chair Exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00 Market Basket 12:15 (Monday)

August 7 Wii bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard

August 8 Market Basket 9:15 (Wednesday); Wii Bowling 9:30; ZUMBA 9:30; Yoga 10:00; BINGO 12:30; Pool, Card Games, Shuffleboard

August 9 Wii Bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard

August 10 Peanut Auction 10:30

August 13 Wii Bowling 9:30; Chair Exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00

August 14 Wii bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard

August 15 Market Basket 9:15 (Wednesday); Wii Bowling 9:30; ZUMBA 9:30; Yoga 10:00; BINGO 12:30; Pool, Card Games, Shuffleboard

August 16 Wii Bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard

August 17 Picnic in the Park – leaving at 10:30

August 20 Market Basket 12:15 (Monday); Wii

Bowling 9:30; Chair Exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00

August 21 Wii bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard

August 22 Market Basket 9:15 (Wednesday); Wii Bowling 9:30; ZUMBA 9:30; Yoga 10:00; BINGO 12:30; Pool, Card Games, Shuffleboard

August 23 Wii Bowling 9:30; Fallon Rep 10-12; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard

August 24 Picnic in the Park – leaving at 10:30

August 27 Market Basket 9:15 (Monday TODAY ONLY); Wii Bowling 9:30; Chair Exercise 9:30; Yoga 10:00

August 28 Wii bowling 9:30; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard

August 29 Market Basket 9:15 (Wednesday); Wii Bowling 9:30; ZUMBA 9:30; Yoga 10:00; BINGO 12:30; Pool, Card Games, Shuffleboard

August 30 Wii Bowling 9:30; Fallon Rep 10-12; Pool/Card Games/Shuffleboard

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# Chamber announces appointment of Jacobson

The Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Carol Jacobson to the position of president & CEO effective July 9.

She will replace Jim Bellina, who left the Chamber in early June due to a family illness.

Jacobson comes to the Chamber with comprehensive experience in marketing, public relations, management, fundraising, and event planning. Her varied background includes working for large corporations, non-profits, and educational institutions.

Jacobson is actively involved in the community and has volunteered her time on several boards and committees including the United Way of North Central Massachusetts, past chair of the Chamber's WOMEN2Women

Committee, and past membership chair for the Gardner Rotary Club. She currently serves on the LUK, Inc. board of directors and Alternatives North County advisory council.

"Carol's familiarity with the greater Gardner community and her volunteer experience with the Chamber will prove to be assets in remaining focused on the mission of the organization. The Board of Directors and staff look forward to working with Carol as we continue to be the voice of business for our members and enhance the quality of life in the seven communities the Chamber serves," said Caroline Chellis, chair of the Board of Directors.

"I am excited to be a part of furthering the Chamber's mission to advance the economic vibrancy of its members and our region," Jacobson commented.

"I look forward to working closely with our members and the Board to build upon the Chamber's existing strengths, and spearhead innovation around new programs and services that encourage a broader base of membership and support."

Jacobson is a central Massachusetts native and currently resides in Templeton.

A date for a meet and greet reception will be announced soon.

The Greater Gardner Chamber includes the communities of Ashburnham, Barre, Gardner, Hubbardston, Templeton, Westminster and Winchendon.

For more information, contact the Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce (978) 632-1780 or at [info@gardnerma.com](mailto:info@gardnerma.com)



Carol Jacobson

## Water Authority earns award

The Ashburnham-Winchendon Joint Water Authority received a top quality award from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), recognizing the Authority for its "outstanding performance" in supplying safe, high quality water to residents in the Ashburnham-Winchendon region. The Authority received the award for achieving one of the top scores in the large and medium Community System category in the Department's 2018 Public Water System Awards Program. Shown here at the

2018 Water Quality Awards Luncheon, held at the Massachusetts Statehouse, are, from left: Purnachander Rao, DEP Central Office Drinking Water Program representative; Adam Testagrossa, chief operator for Veolia North America, which operates the plant on behalf of the Authority; Veolia North America vice president Darlene Domingos; Authority Board Chair Valerie Daigle; Veolia North America Operator Bret Forest; and MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.

Courtesy photo



# Winchendon Homescape



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# Local antique news update

Thank you to all of you who asked about my column and me during my recent hiatus. All is well, and my columns will continue to run again, on a bi-weekly basis.

There has been lots of local antique news since my last column. All of the Brimfield dealers that I've spoken with told me that the May show was a good one. One dealer told me that he didn't see the usual rush when the show opened, but that there were steady crowds throughout the week. Another told me that he saw traffic jams on Route 20 for the first time in many years. Hopefully the July 10th through 15th show will be another good one. Your last chance to attend a 2018 show will be Sept. 4th through 9th.

Remember to continue to support local antique shops during the summer. The warm weather offers many buying opportunities for dealers. In turn, dealers regularly bring new inventory into their booths during the summer months.



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES  
WAYNE TUISKULA

Outdoor flea markets are also in full swing. Locally, the Grafton Flea Market and Rietta Ranch in Hubbardston offer a wide selection of antiques and newer merchandise. If you are willing to travel a little further, you can visit the Wellfleet Flea Market, Olde Hadley Flea Market, the Providence Flea in Rhode Island, the Davisville Flea Market in Warner, NH, the Hollis Flea Market in Hollis, NH and Elephant's Trunk in New Milford, CT.

There are also many more estate sales taking place during this time of year. An estate sale website (estatesales.net) lists 19 estate sale companies in the Worcester area alone. Along with the online estate sale listings, you can find other sales listed in this newspaper and other publications.

More companies have been offering online estate sales. Sales terms such as pickup times and additional fees can vary greatly between companies offering online estate sales. Be sure to review the terms before bidding.

Live auctions are still taking place throughout the summer. You can find antique auction information on auctionzip.com and antiquesandthearts.com.

Previous columns contained information on items that would be included in our upcoming auctions. Here are some results from previous auctions. The 1826 dated leather fire buckets from a Woodstock, CT estate that were attributed to Lebaron Putnam of Sutton sold for \$19,550. The 1950s and '60s baseball card collection with a 1959 Mickey Mantle card brought nearly \$26,000. The NASA patches, astronaut photos and other memorabilia in our last auction rocketed to over \$7,400 at our May auction.

July will be a busy month for us, with estate sales on July 7th and 8th in Spencer, July 21st in Holden and July 28th and 29th in Spencer again. We are planning a live coin auction and a live antique estates auction for the Fall. My "Evaluating your antiques" class will run again on October 15th at the Bay Path Evening School in Charlton. I'm looking forward to meeting those of you who read this column in the Winchendon Courier at the upcoming appraisal event at



Gemini 8 Patch

the Whitney Murdock House Museum. The event takes place on October 28th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. See [www.centralmassauctions.com](http://www.centralmassauctions.com) for details on these and other upcoming events.

Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services [www.centralmassauctions.com](http://www.centralmassauctions.com) (508-612-6111) [info@centralmassauctions.com](mailto:info@centralmassauctions.com)

Contact us at: Wayne

## 5 tips to successfully sell your car

Selling a used vehicle does not have to be a complicated process. But too often private sellers struggle to sell their vehicles because they are unsure of how to do so. A little information on the selling process can make it easy to unload vehicles quickly and at the prices sellers desire.

### 1. KNOW THE MARKET.

The experts at

Edmunds say sellers should research the market before putting their vehicles up for sale. Compare the prices of similar makes and models, and track whether those vehicles are moving quickly. Cars that are hot commodities will sell relatively quickly. Even though these may not be the flashy vehicles, family sedans, trucks and vans tend to turn over fast. Convertibles, classic cars or those with special features may take longer

to move and will have to be priced accordingly.

### 2. DETERMINE THE VEHICLE'S WORTH.

Just because sellers want to get predetermined amounts for their vehicles doesn't mean those figures are the going rates for their cars and trucks. Using resources like Kelley Blue Book, NADA Guides and Autotrader.com can help sellers determine

the value of their rides according to factors such as mileage, age, model, and condition of the vehicle.

### 3. GATHER RECEIPTS AND OTHER PAPERWORK.

Sellers should dig through their files to unearth maintenance receipts and other documentation on their vehicles. For those who can't find receipts, ask for such receipts where the vehicle was serviced. According to Kelley Blue Book, proof of regular oil changes and other services can be a good selling point because it shows that the seller maintained the vehi-

cle to the best of his or her ability. It could be worth the investment to pull the CarFax® report on the vehicle as well to see how it measures up. Some buyers will request that information as well.

The Department of Motor Vehicles also suggests gathering a release of liability form to keep sellers from being liable for any damages incurred after the vehicle is sold; warranty documents if the car is still under a manufacturer's warranty; and the vehicle's title.

### 4. PREPARE THE VEHICLE.

Prior to selling, give the car a facelift and a good wash. Vacuum floors, floor mats, seats,

and the trunk. Clean the interior, and wash windows inside and out. A fresh wash and wax can improve the appearance of the vehicle and help it to photograph well for sale pictures.

### 5. ADVERTISE THE SALE.

Advertise the vehicle in a variety of different formats. Opt for the classifieds section of a local newspaper, post it online and share through social media. A sign on the vehicle is also smart. This will improve the chances of it being seen.

Selling a car can take some effort, but with the right tactics, cars can be sold quickly and at prices that make sellers happy.

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Buyers may be waiting in the wings to purchase used vehicles that have been well-maintained.

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